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SEPTEMBER 1998 MINUTES

Data entry by Dianne Bordeaux Lenti. Edited by Donna Holt Siemiatkoski.

WE ARE OPEN TO ALL THOSE WHO PROVIDE GENEALOGY FOR OTHERS OR MANAGE COLLECTIONS OF RECORDS

SCHEDULED MEETINGS

OCT 1, 1998 - CPGC Meeting, Conference Room, lower level at CT State Library, 231 Capitol Ave, Hartford, CT. Speaker: Patricia L. Owens, Interim State Librarian - "Where We Are Today and Where We are Going in the Future, with regard to the CT State Library"

Nov 5, 1998 - CPGC Annual Meeting - Time, place and program to be announced in next newsletter.

Nov 10, 1998 - CSG Bus trip to New England Historic Genealogical Society [NEHGS], Boston, MA.

October 21-25, 1998 - New England Regional Genealogical Conference - Portland, Maine.

CPGC MINUTES - THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 3, 1998. **Attending:** Donna Siemiatkoski, Warren Buchanan, Susan Field-Burguiere, Lucille Shea, Priscilla Chatfield, Tom Howard, Betty Chapman, Jack Kuras, Dianne Lenti, Robert Rafford, Judith Plummer and Speaker, Gary Waite.

MEETING was called to order at 11:15 a.m. by President, Donna Siemiatkoski.

Secretary's report of July 2, 1998 was read and accepted. (1) Jack Kuras, (2) Tom Howard. **Correspondence:** Several pieces of advertising were received and reviewed.

Treasurer's report: was read and placed on file for audit with cash on hand of \$890.32.

OLD BUSINESS: Dianne Lenti reported that the CT Dept of Health, Vital Records, is in the process of microfilming CT marriage records (1897-1925). The filming of the death records (1897-1996) has been completed. Presently the later are undergoing quality assurance, but the index for the death records can be searched by Vital Records personnel. Anyone who would like to request a search may do so by mail or fax, giving the name of the deceased with an approximate year of death. A reply will be mailed giving the town of record.

Donna Siemiatkoski reported that the move of the History and Genealogy Unit and/or the State Archival materials to a facility in Newington (see July minutes) is still a possibility.

Pro bono work for legislators was discussed again. Tom Howard stated that rather than do research on a particular person or town, that CPGC develop a packet of information "Did You Know?," which can be distributed in December and will include good examples of documents that are available at the CT State Library. Everyone present thought this was a great idea and Tom is preparing an model packet to bring back to the next meeting. Anyone with ideas, or good examples that have come from the state library and/or the state archives - please send or fax to Tom at 59 Old County Road, East Granby, CT 06026, fax # 860-658-0523, e-mail tvhowssearch@snet.net. The original idea was to promote the state library to the legislators and it is felt that this type of handout would receive much wider coverage than previous ideas. Donna appointed Tom Howard and Robert Rafford as a sub-committee to bring ideas to the next meeting.

NEW BUSINESS: Donna Siemiatkoski reported that Kendall Wiggins has been selected as the new State Librarian for Connecticut. We are all looking forward to having him start his new position in November. Patricia L. Owens served as interim librarian and in doing so has obtained additional funding for the state library. Her continued efforts brought the library to the forefront during this past legislative session. Pat has always kept the genealogical community abreast of the latest happenings and we thank her for that. Warren Buchanan moved that we present a certificate of appreciate to Pat Owens for her work on behalf of the CT State Library during her tenure. Seconded by Betty Chapman. Motion carried.

Judith Plummer moved that CPGC participate in the 6th New England Regional Genealogical Conference to be held at Providence Rhode Island in the year 2000. Seconded by Robert Rafford. Motion carried. This conference will be cosponsored by NERGC and the National Genealogical Society. It promises to be a major event for New England!

Tom Howard stated that CPGC needs to have regularly scheduled business items [for the professional genealogist] on the agenda, such as contracts, billings, mileage charges, e-mail vs. written requests, etc. Anyone having any ideas of programs to further enhance our capabilities, please send to Tom at address listed above (s old business).

It was suggested that we mail our brochure and application to all town historians throughout Connecticut, as a way to increase membership. This needs to be discussed further.

Jack Kuras has resigned from the program committee. Still serving on that committee are Robert Storm and Robert Rafford.

MEMBER UPDATE: Member Robert Bamford reports that he and his wife are enjoying their move to Florida. Bob heads up the computer committee for the Citrus County Genealogical Society, plus he serves on the USGenWeb National Advisory Board and was recently elected to the Florida State GenWeb Advisory Board. Congratulations Bob, everyone wishes you the best and asked that you please stay in touch.

As a result of the hard work on the Whitehall Cemetery issue in Stonington, CT [by member Betty Chapman's group], the developer altered his plans. Congratulations Betty for persevering!

Everyone who attended the CPGC picnic in July reported having a great time. Thanks to Bob and Joannie Rafford for donating their time, their home and their cooking expertise to make this a memorable event!

Meeting Adjourned: 12:30 p.m. *Dianne B. Lenti, Recording Secretary*

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- **SPEAKER: GARY WAITE** of the Connecticut Historical Society, gave a very informative presentation regarding the Quakers and their Records. We could not have had a more interesting speaker than Gary, who has had first hand experience with the Quaker religion. Some of the highlights were as follows:
 - Quakerism began in England in 1650 by George Fox.
 - First called "Friends of Truth" and later "Society of Friends."
 - Persecuted by both Anglicans and Puritans. They reject formal ministry and have no set clergy.
 - They affirm but not swear an oath; nor do they participate in military action.
 - Abandoned pagan ways of using days of the week. Rather, they use "first day" [Sunday], "second day" [Monday], etc. Thus, they write a date as "third day, 1st month, 1701."
 - All babies are considered to be born good and with no original sin, therefore they do not perform baptisms. Babies are considered to be part of the meeting from birth.
 - Weddings. The prospective bride and groom are counseled by the elders and then married within a regular meeting where they stand and exchange vows. All those present sign the marriage document.
 - Conversion is acceptable for teen years and up. A person must apply to the business meeting and if accepted, their name will be recorded in the books.
 - There are two types of meetings - business meetings and worship meetings.
 - In 1827 there was a split into two groups; "Orthodox" and "Hicksites."
 - No headstones in cemeteries.
 - Excellent record keepers. Very active in charitable organizations.

Note: William Penn, b. 1644 (gentry), converted to Quakerism in 1665 and by 1670 he began to formulate the idea of a colony of Quakers. He applied for land, later named Pennsylvania in honor of his father. By 1683 Penn traveled to Pennsylvania to form an organized colony.

Major repositories of Quaker Records:

Swarthmore College, 500 College Ave, Swarthmore, PA 19081

Haverford College, Haverford, PA 19041 Lilly Library, Earlham College, Richmond, IN 47374

Rhode Island Hist. Soc., Providence, RI 02906 Guilford College Library, Guilford, NC 27410

NOTICE: President Donna Siemiatkoski is currently battling some difficult medical problems and is expected to be undergoing surgery as this newsletter goes to press. We wish her the very best. Please send Donna a note and/or card at her home address: 33 Hillcrest Road, Windsor, CT 06095.

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APG MEMBER Gordon Remington is on the mend after being hospitalized with a fractured skull. He is currently undergoing therapy. Anyone wishing to send Gordon a card may do so by mailing c/o Jane Bramwell, P. O. Box 112195, Salt Lake City, UT 84147-2195.

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CONDOLENCES to member Anita Lustenberger in the recent loss of her brother. Anyone wishing to send a note or card may address it to Anita at: 86 Fargo Lane, Irvington, NY 10533.

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TIP: Canadian Border Crossing Records (1895-1952), formally called the records of the "St. Aitans District," are available on microfilm at Pittsfield and Waltham, MA National Archives. These underutilized records contain manifests listing many European and Canadian persons entering the United States during the above time period. They also contain persons who immigrated at a U.S. port, traveled to Canada and re-entered the United States in places such as Michigan, Minnesota, Idaho, Washington, etc. If you are wondering how someone traveled from Hartford, Connecticut to Seattle, Washington between 1895 and 1952, you might want to check the indexes for these records.

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INTERNET RESOURCES:

National Register of Archives (NRA) - England - <http://www.hmc.gov.uk/nra/abtnra.htm>
This site can be searched for personal or place names of England, Ireland and Scotland.

Michigan Death Records 1867-1874 - Contains over 80,000 Michigan death records from 1867 to 1874 and a portion of 1875. <http://www.mdch.state.mi.us/PHA/OSR/gendis/index.htm>

Connecticut Professional Genealogists Council

NEXT MEETING
AT
CONNECTICUT STATE LIBRARY
231 CAPITOL AVENUE
HARTFORD, CONNECTICUT

THURSDAY
OCTOBER 1, 1998

DYNAMIC SPEAKER!
Please plan to attend

FROM:
Connecticut Professional Genealogists Council
P. O. Box 4273
Hartford CT 06147-4273



Barbara J. Mathews CG
18 Blossom St
Lexington MA02173-8110

NEXT MEETING
Thursday - 10:00 A.M.
October 1, 1998
CT State Library Update
at: CT State Library
Hartford, Connecticut
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