

BIGWILL BOARD/PLANNING MEETING

22 August 2009

Beloit College

Members Present: Roger Higgs, Rick Dexter, Maureen Brady, Nancy Holder, Margaret Zook, Pat Fellner, Rollie Littlewood, Sandee Michaels.

Thank you to Rick for arranging use of Alumni House at Beloit College.

1. Program 2010 - Tentative Schedule:

January 16 – Panel Discussion/Show and Share. Limit Questions/Answers at each table – not private consultation time.

Dan Kane/Ireland?; Ann Wells/England?; Maureen/Scotland, or Linda Robertson; Photos/Computer/Fran Rollie bring computer for live hook up; Verizon router – Computer Search strategies. Short film – Reading Old Handwriting

March 20 – Ginger Frere, Newberry Library : Cobbler, Tailor, Trunkmaker; How My Grandparents Made A Living – British Isles occupations. For March Maureen will bring back up digital projector.

May 15 – Day Workshop with Paul Milner 9 AM – 3 PM - 4 topics -- Possibly:

Probate (British Isles)

Something for Beginners

British Isles military

U.S. research focus

Does Paul have any suggestions? He has penciled in this date for us.

Follow up on lunch: Sandwich trays from Panera? Jimmy Johns? Subway? Box lunch?

July 17 - Internet Search Strategies - Maureen

Sept 18 - Nancy Emmert – Back to Basics and More with U.S. and British Isles examples.

Nov 20 - Richard Ammann – Migration to Upper Midwest? Or Susan Anderson/New From Salt Lake; or Digital Revolution in Genealogy Research

It was agreed meeting topics should focus on British Isles interests 4 meetings/year; general interest

topics could be 2 meetings/year. Focus should primarily be British Isles.

2. Possible 2011 Programs:

January – Round Table

March – Susan Anderson – Digital Revolution (free)

May – Maureen Brady – All Day Workshop

July – Kathy Brady Blake – Ireland; or Paul Milner

September - David McDonald – Old Northwest Territory, or English/Scots Research

November – Marian Richter Schuetz – Citizenship and Your Immigrant Ancestor

3. 2010 Workshop - Maureen agreed to arrange this workshop.

4. 2011 Workshop – Maureen will be speaker = details tabled to 2010

5. BIGWILL will submit newsletters for judging to FGS and NGS.

6. Membership - Our flyer needs updating. Dues: Keep Charter Member at \$15; eliminate “Charter Family Membership”.

MOTION: All members requesting mailed newsletters shall pay \$5 for postal mailing. Dues shall be: Charter \$15; Individual \$20; plus \$5 for mailed newsletter.

Passed on motion by Maureen; seconded by Sandee Michaels.

Public Relations: E-mail yearly program calendar to local Illinois/Wisconsin Genealogy Libraries; e-mail meeting announcements, with “flyers available”. Also; send mailing of calendar, and meeting announcements, to 20 or so WI/IL Family History Centers. Maureen will provide lists. Area: Greater Chicago/Milwaukee area. Postage approved – approx. 120 pieces at .45 cents.

7. BIGWILL Library - Suggested: at each meeting circulate 2 envelopes marked with names of two specific books our Library would like to acquire, requesting donations to meet that goal. An immediate possibility: Migration from Ulster 1718-1798. Solicit suggestions from Paul Milner and Kathy Brady Blake. Also solicit member requests.

8, Historical Files – Sept. 2012 will be 20th Anniversary. We have had 4 Presidents.

An Index of our Newsletters is planned. It is hoped we will be able to scan the complete (intact) collection of our newsletters, and create a CD of them. An Every Name index may be attempted.

9. Mission Statement - The web site should have the Objectives as stated in Article III with one change: Objective 1 shall list the individual countries, rather than 'British Isles'.

MOTION made by Rich; seconded by Nancy; motion passed.

10. Rollie stated Vickie needs copy of newsletter. Pot Luck Social – members will be encouraged to bring a dish to share, preferably ethnic in origin, or a handed-down favorite and the recipe/story associated with it. BIGWILL will provide paper goods (most already in stock). Margaret will bring Sloppy Joe for a crowd as a base/starter. Everyone present will be encouraged to stay for the potluck and story sharing. A board member will 'monitor' each table to facilitate sharing. Members will be encouraged to NOT sit with well known friends by drawing table numbers.

11. Passed over – was actually on-going.

12. Other Items: Elections in November: President, First Vice President, Treasurer, and 1 Board member. Nominating Committee: Maureen Brady, Chair; Fran Higgs, and Pat Fellner.

Rollie spoke on Live Broadcast; and Digital Projectors.

Meeting closed with a Box Lunch delivered; and general discussion of current research projects/progress.

Alternative meeting locations were again discussed to encourage attendance by some of the more distant members and increase membership from Chicago and/or Milwaukee-Wisconsin.

Possibilities included McHenry (Library?)

Lake Geneva area

Beloit area