

**British Interest Group of Wisconsin and Illinois
Board Meeting of 24 June 2006**

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The meeting was held at 10:00 A.M. at Nippersink Public Library. President Peggy Gleich presided. In attendance were Daniel Kane, 1st Vice President; Jackie Torrance, Treasurer; Kathy Brady-Blake and Susan Sincere, Directors.

Bigwill got a total of 6 new memberships due to our booth at the NGS conference, 3 at the conference and 3 more by mail. At the conference, we sold 10 Scottish books, 2 Irish books and 6 of the *British Genealogist's Library*.

The September Bigwill meeting will have Kathy Brady-Blake's Irish program from about 10:15-11:15, followed by a 15 minute break. Then Roger Redfearn will give his talk beginning at 11:30. Mr. Redfearn says he needs a slide projector and can use either a straight box or carousel one.

Peg mentioned the possibility of having Greg Peck of Janesville, author of *Death Beyond the Willows*, give a talk on writing.

The Sherry Irvine workshop will be on 29 September 2007. The Clock Tower Inn in Rockford is a possible location. Peg will look at 1 or 2 other places for comparison. A chairperson is needed for this project. Susan Sincere who worked on it last year is not available to do so again. Dan Kane suggested that Maureen Brady might be available for this assignment. Peg will contact her.

Jackie's treasurer's report indicated that the society's income for the first quarter was \$2,516.05, expenses were \$1,189.27, leaving a balance of \$1,326.78. Total income in 2005 was \$6,741.22. Jackie does not have all of the society's financial records. She hasn't received the account book from Joan Georgick

It was decided that the society should publish a financial report once a year in the newsletter. Jackie will send the information to newsletter editor Dave Dexter. The current balance as of May 26, 2006 is \$1,268.71.

Peg indicated that the Illinois Annual Report paperwork has been going to Karen Morrisson. Susan will handle it this year and it will go to her in the future.

Susan stated that the society needs to request from the state of Illinois that we be exempt from charging and paying sales tax.

The board approved providing Margaret Zook with a one year membership for 2007 in recognition of her volunteer work for Bigwill at the NGS conference.

Several copies of the society's newly published book, *The British Genealogist's Library* were sold at the NGS conference. The book is a collection of most of the book reviews written by Paul Milner that have been published in the Bigwill newsletter. The retail price for the book is \$27.95. It was sold at the conference for the special price of \$25.00. Members can purchase the book for \$20.00. The book was printed by Dave Dexter's company, Citizen Printing, at a cost to the society of \$359.00. A charge of \$3.00 for postage and handling will be added to books that are mailed.

Peg will ask Grace DuMelle if she would review *The British Genealogist's Library* for our newsletter. Peg will also send a review copy to *Genealogical Helper*.

The board discussed the issue of how to handle inquiries for members who do not have their email addresses listed in the Bigwill Register. The board decided that the inquirer

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would be contacted for their postal address, which would be given to the Bigwill member to initiate contact. This would protect the privacy of our members.

The board discussed access to the Bigwill Register. All members have been entitled to receive a printed copy in the past. However, if members receive their newsletter by email, perhaps they could receive the Register by email also. The cost to the society to produce a printed copy is about \$4.00 each for printing and \$2.00 each for postage. Printed copies can be available at meetings for those without computer access and for libraries.

Dan made a motion that Peg be authorized to finalize wording with Rollie regarding access to the Bigwill Register. Access will be by email and hardcopy, with an appropriate charge for postage and handling being assessed. Jackie seconded the motion. It was approved unanimously.

Dan suggested having a book exchange at a meeting. Members could bring in 2 genealogy-related books to exchange. In return, they would be able to choose one book to take home and the library would receive the remaining books.

Susan was authorized to spend up to \$75.00 for the society at ancestorstuff.com.

According to Ann Wells, the society needs a "deed of gift" form to document donations. Acknowledgments of cash donations should also be issued to donors for their tax records.

Susan is developing a form to be used to document purchased or donated books, which will be entered into an MS Access database.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at about 12:15 pm.

Kathy Brady-Blake
Acting Secretary