

BIGWILL March 15, 2008 -- Meeting Minutes

Meeting was called to order at 10 AM by President Roger Higgs, with recitation of the Pledge of Allegiance. There were 21 members and 3 guests present. Available on each table were agendas, minutes of the last meeting, a flyer about the British Institute offered at the Salt Lake City library October 6-10, 2008, and articles.

Maureen Brady has agreed to become Librarian, assisted by Margaret Zook. A Historian/Archivist is still needed.

Board Meeting will follow the regular meeting, at Heuer's Restaurant just north of town. All are welcome.

A request was made for members to submit articles to the BIGWILL newsletter about their personal experiences in genealogy: notes on a meeting/seminar/conference attended; a brick wall solved; a visit made somewhere. They can be short; and need not be "perfect". Queries are also always welcome.

A financial review of our records was completed in February; as expected our books are in good order. Treasurer Jackie Torrance was absent; detailed Treasurer's report was unavailable.

It was announced BIGWILL will not sponsor a Conference in 2008. Thoughts and ideas for 2009 are solicited.

Rollie Littlewood will be attending the NGS Conference, and possibly Peg Gleich. BIGWILL is an Associate Member. Rollie will take membership brochures for placement on the "freebie" table. Our Membership brochure needs updating, to correct Library information, etc.

Next meeting will be Saturday, May 17th. NGS is being held in Kansas City; FGS will be in Philadelphia September 3-8, 2008. Samford University in Birmingham, AL has an excellent Irish Research course. An Irish Fest is planned for just outside Madison, WI.

Committee Reports -- Secretary's minutes, as distributed, were accepted on a motion by Peg Gleich, Mary Robinson seconded.

Treasurer's Report -- not available due to last minute absence of Treasurer. We are solvent.

Library -- Our collection of books is rapidly appearing on the open shelves at McHenry Library; about 3' of books are done; more are being cataloged and added daily. We anticipate the complete collection will be fully shelved by the end of April.

Membership -- Nancy Holder reported that 99 members are fully paid up, including 4 brand new members.

Newsletter -- Dave Dexter was not present. Information and ideas for inclusion in the newsletter are always sought.

Website -- Local area meetings are up on the website; includes Illinois/Wisconsin, and other major nearby events. The books we have available for sale will be listed on the website

OLD BUSINESS: New Library Chair: Maureen Brady Publicity Chair: Marilyn Romani

NEW BUSINESS: Maureen Brady was nominated for Second Vice President by Peg Gleich; Seconded by Kathy Brady Blake. Accepted by voice vote; there were no nay votes.

Our NEXT MEETING will be held May 17th; our guest will be Jeff Bassett, speaking on Genetic Genealogy/DNA. There will be a drawing to select one person for testing. Plan to join us for this presentation on cutting edge technology today.