

BIGWILL MEETING -- NOVEMBER 17, 2007

President Peg Gleich opened the meeting at 10 AM with the Pledge of Allegiance.

It was announced that long time member Dorles McCarthy recently passed away after struggling with a brain tumor.

The January 2007 meeting will feature an "Ask Genie" panel. The panel will field questions from all present to help resolve brick walls, and highlight resources available. There will also be the annual Bring Two –Take One Book Swap to help you clear your library shelves, add a new book of use to you, and benefit our Library collection with the remainder.

Secretary's Report was distributed, available on each table.

The Treasurer's report indicated at the end of the third quarter our balance was \$679.44; with pending deposits the current balance is \$728.69. Several members paid their 2008 dues at the meeting.

Our Library collection has been accepted by the McHenry Library. Final negotiations are being completed; the collection will be available to members in early 2008. Bobbie Briggs has made a donation of the U.S. Genealogical Quarterly to our holdings.

Prudy announced today's refreshments included a birthday cake marking Bobbie's birthday on November 15th; she also thanked those who brought beverages and pastries, and requested volunteers for our next meeting January 19th.

Before and after the meeting a wide selection of books were available for purchase, tended by Paul Milner, from the stock of Maia's Books. Origins in Janesville has been bought by Maia's Books.

Following the meeting there will be a 15th Anniversary Luncheon at Heuer's Restaurant, just north of town. Paul Milner is the featured speaker at the family style dinner.

Rollie Littlewood brought up the idea of computer-based discussion groups, and the use of e-mail efficiently. Our own chat group has been markedly under-utilized thus far. It was agreed to discontinue the pre-meeting discussion groups. Meetings begin at 10 AM.

A slate of candidates for open offices was presented. President – Roger Higgs; Treasurer – Jackie Torrance; Directors for 2-year terms – Rick Dexter and Nancy Holder. There being no additions offered from the floor the slate was closed, and elected by show of hands, with no nay votes.

There was a brief discussion of the Samford Institute in Birmingham, Alabama. Members who have attended had very high praise for the offerings there, indicating it was a remarkable and eye-opening learning experience. Paul Milner indicated there will be a track on England in 2009 – a full 4 ½ days on the English and Welsh, starting on the second Sunday in June. Paul will be taking over from Sherry Irvine.

Meeting concluded with an interesting thumbnail sketch of the Settlement and History of Wisconsin, including resources available and where to find them; handouts were distributed.