

**MEETING OF THE
BOARD OF DIRECTORS
OF THE
IOWA GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY**

**Saturday, May 14, 2005
IGS West Wing**

The regular quarterly meeting of the Iowa Genealogical Society ("IGS") Board of Directors was held Saturday, May 14, 2005a Genealogical Society Library in Des Moines. The meeting was called to order at 9:58 a.m. by interim president George Giesler.

Present: LuAnn Folkers, Executive Director; George Giesler, interim President and Region 7 Representative; Rick McCubbin 1st vice president, Chuck Prickett, Treasurer and Region 6 representative; Peter Seaba, Region 2 Representative; Pat Border, Region 3 Representative; Al Miller, Region 4 Representative; Don and Toni Mulert, Region 5 Representative; Ted Lussem, Region 8 Representative; Ev Brightman, Region 9 Representative; Jane Briley, Region 10 Representative; Grace Hertz, Region 12 Representative; Stan Bastman, Region 13 Representative; Janice Danielson, Region 14 Representative; Adrian Brisee, Region 15 Representative, and Robert Aubrey, Secretary. Several members of the society were present.

Call to Order

George called the meeting to order at 9:58.

Approval of agenda (additions/deletions)

Motion to approve: Chuck Prickett, Second Ev Brightman. **Motion carried.**

Resignations and Appointments

Resignations: Joyce Brown as President

Fred DeVries, 2nd vice president

Ray Thompson, Region Eight

Linda Abercrombie, Region Sixteen

Loren Dake, region Fifteen

George Giesler – Region Seven

Motion to accept resignations: Chuck Prickett, Ray Senor second. **Motion carried.** George mentioned that Loren Dake is undergoing another round of chemotherapy.

Appointments:

Motion to move George Giesler from first 1st Vice President to President by Al Miller, second by Peter Seaba. **Motion carried.**

George asked the board to approve the following appointments:

Rick McCubbin 1st Vice President

Mel Armstrong, 2nd Vice President

Ted Lussem Region 8

Adrian Brisee Region 15 :

Motion by Al Miller that the board approve the appointments, Ev Brightman seconded. Discussion followed and the appointees introduced themselves to the board. **Motion carried.** All appointees will serve the existing term until 2006.

Minutes: **Motion** by Chuck Prickett to dispense with the reading of the minutes. Jane seconded **Motion carried.**

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President's report – George Giesler

Web hosting: When we opened the e-commerce part of the webpage in 2002, the webmaster at the time, Kevin, decided to go with bCentral at 50 a month. They will be raising their charges in a couple of months. We would like the board's approval to investigate changing from bCentral to Value Web or another web host which would be less expensive.

Credit cards: the current company we must use with bCentral, Credit Card Services, does not work with our bank, and we have had to maintain two accounts. We want to change to Hartland Credit Services, suggested by the VP of our bank. This would enable the purchases to go directly to our account at our bank. The current credit card service company is also raising their rates. Projected savings is about \$250 a month. Part of what has to be considered is that we have a shopping cart for all our publications, so we must have an e-commerce package.

Motion to give Chuck and Luann authority to investigate more economical web hosting and credit card service providers and make the necessary changes. Motion by Don Mulert, second by Al Miller. Discussion followed. Ev requested that Chuck notify the board by e-mail before the changes are finalized. **Motion carried.**

Committees: George announced the following committees for 2005.

Education: Linda Greethorst
 Building and Grounds: Ted Lussem
 Library: Rick McCubbin
 Research: Dale Gurwell
 Membership and Publicity: George Giesler
 Revenue Sharing: Phil Folkers
 Personnel: Rick McCubbin
 Website: George Giesler
 Publications and editorial: LuAnn
 Fund-raising: Robert Aubrey
 Marketing: Mary Herrick
 Nominating Committee: Norm Prince
 Elections: George Giesler
 By-laws: Helen Phillips
 Audit Committee: Tom McGarvey

Motion for approval of the above-mentioned 2005 committee chairs by Ted Lussem, second by Al Miller. **Motion carried.**

Pledge drive: raised over \$4000, about 150 pledges. Next pledge day is May 24th. Anyone willing to help call members, your help will be greatly appreciated.

Membership: 2800 members and holding steady. We just sent out renewal notices and are getting responses to that.

Building and grounds committee have done an excellent job in decorating the building. George invited people to check out the back of the building whose appearance has been improved dramatically. Thanks to Ted Lussem, Ardith Ortes, Dennis Gooch, Larry Solomon and all others who helped.

Roof: Kermit van Zee, our night librarian, has patched the roof. Materials purchased by an anonymous donor. Kermit worked a couple of days, and the last rain (several inches) produced only one minor leak. Ours are minor in comparison with the State Historical Building where the leaks are widespread.

Recognition of Special Contributions: Plaque will be presented October 9th at the reception for Charter Members.

Nominating committee: Thanks to Peter Seaba, Jane Briley, Ev Brightman, Grace Hertz and Janice Danielson who have served two full terms of service on this committee. Grace has served on the board for 10 years. There was sustained applause.

1915 Iowa State Census microfilm order. Billie reports that the first part has been received, Nine rolls of microfilm. George called, and the balance of the order is in their cue, and it will be five or six weeks before it will be mailed. This is from the Shirley Miller estate.

First Vice President's Report – Rick McCubbin. No report at this time.

Second Vice President's Report – Mel Armstrong not present. No report at this time.

Bylaws Committee's Report – Helen Phillips

Written report presented and attached. Helen commented and explained the rationale of the changes. Theresa Liewer mentioned that there are many changes in the IA Code for Non-Profits, some of which might affect us. They should be reviewed by the bylaws committee in the near future to make sure we are in compliance. George asked Bob to get the changes in the code as soon as possible and to make them available. **Motion** to accept the bylaws as presented by Grace Hertz, second by Ev Brightman. **Motion carried.** They will now be presented to the membership who will vote on them at the annual meeting.

Treasurer's Report – Chuck Prickett

Written report presented. All of the treasurer's reports are available at the librarian's desk for any who are interested in viewing them. Discussion and questions followed. **Motion** to accept treasurer's report as read by Al Miller, second by Ted Lussem. Point made that some of the terms are not obvious as to what they include. Perhaps a glossary? George asked Chuck and Bob to get together to provide this for next meeting. George suggested that Chuck send a monthly cash flow statement to the members of the board. **Motion carried.**

Executive Director's Report – LuAnn Folkers

Very successful spring workshop. Thanks go to all who put time and effort into it. Thanks to the Buildings and Grounds Committee. Looks best ever. Thanks go to Kermit for the help with the roof. Cookbooks are going out. Second printing. Thanks go Deb and her crew. Each cookbook brings in about \$11 each in profit. The webpage :Thanks go to Mary Herrick and Doug Price for the revision of the webpage. Phone Home: George and Mary made many calls. Lots of calls made and money brought in. Lords and Ladies – 22 people had a great time. George Morgan did a great job shepherding people. Things ran smoothly and everyone was very impressed. George Morgan has mentioned IGS on his Ancestry.Com daily column. We got great free publicity. LuAnn mentioned that she has kept track of the hours for April. The total hours for the month of April are over 302 hours.

Old Business:

Ev Brightman: Ev thanked George for his presentation. She said that we can't be supportive to the staff if the board is not kept informed. Revenue sharing is a neuralgic issue, and we can be in partnership if we know what's happening. The staff should not be left out to hang. If we are knowledgeable, we are able to support you. **Motion** by Ev that on decisions which impact the whole membership, if there is a problem, the board be notified so that we can support the staff. For example: If at the end of June we have not been able to meet our revenue sharing obligations, Phil will inform the board. The same would hold true for publications orders: Rick second. Toni mentioned that we got no communication from Darrell in the time that he was in office, that George had emailed continuously during his previous administration which kept us informed. **Motion carried.**

George is willing to take responsibility or apologize for matters from March on, but not for last year when he was not on the board. He says that he will rectify the communication. He will see to it that there is a notebook at the Librarian's desk with copies of records and reports available to the membership and the board. President@iowagenealogy.org.

Stan asked that the whole board be included (copied) in the e-mail communications. George requests that when you send e-mail to him, you copy all the members of the board. It will increase the communication.

New Business:

Capital Campaign: Bob Aubrey. Written report presented. Bob mentioned that we are making the transition from a rental-organization to an ownership-organization, and that we should expect that we will have rough spots in that process, the mortgage interest one of them. Last year we paid out over \$48,000 in mortgage payments, which was double what we were paying in rent. Of that \$48,000, \$36,000+ was interest. George asked Bob to get a committee together who met and discussed transferring the interest-bearing mortgage into non-interest-bearing debt (interest-free bonds) to be purchased by members and others.

Motion by Ted that the capital campaign committee continue working on the details to make the bonds available. Al second. **Motion carried.** George asks the committee that we have it finalized by the executive board meeting in July.

Long-range Fund-raising Committee: Ev Brightman. Al and Jane and Ev got together to look toward Business partnerships, and sponsorships etc, and would like to bring their proposals under the Capital Campaign Committee. One idea was to prepare and produce a packet to go to corporations, to be followed up by phone conversations. George said that Marketing Committee is already working on this idea and suggested that this committee and Mary Herrick's committee will work together.

George stated that the bylaws mandate a **program committee**, so he is recommending Rick McCubbin, Lu Ann Folkers, Mel Armstrong, Deb Chase, Chuck Prickett and himself to serve. **Motion** to accept committee as proposed, by Peter, Ted second. **Motion carried.**

Kermit has given notice to terminate as of June 2nd. He is moving to Colorado. His title is night librarian but he has done much more. He put the whole card catalog on line, indexed the family folders and put them on line, put the publications on shopping cart, and fixed the roof-saved us a bundle. Always willing to set up and tear down. He will be missed. We accept his resignation with regret. Question: do we want to hire a new night librarian? **Motion** by Ev and second by Chuck that we ask the personnel committee to hire. Discussion: Can we reduce hours or use volunteers? Ted suggested that we could use the opportunity to reduce staff without letting anyone go. We need to know some more details. He works 4 to 9 Tues, Wed, Thurs and he works alternate Saturdays with Sue. **Motion defeated.**

George suggested that we move it to the personnel committee to decide and inform the board. We are trying to attract the working group as new members, and most can not come in 10 to 4 or 9 to 5, and that is why the evenings are important. We will try to make interim arrangements. Peter suggests that we utilize volunteers.

Building and grounds: Ted Lussem. We need to raise money and cut expenses. We currently pay \$270 a month for the cleaning service. Ted proposes to front the money to buy the equipment and that the \$270 a month be used to pay him back for the equipment. **Motion** by Ted that we terminate our contract with the existing people, that we agree to repay him over time for the equipment purchased, and that he get the volunteers to provide the cleaning of the building. Al seconded. Discussion: We don't have a contract – they need reasonable notice. George said that those volunteering need to be dependable and that Ted will be in charge of the cleaning of the building. **Motion carried.**

Audit Committee's Report – Tom McGarvey :

Asked by Joyce to chair the audit committee, got help from Theresa, Chuck and LuAnn. Audit report for the year ending December 31, 2004 was mailed to board of directors, officers and Joyce and Darrell as immediate past presidents, and is considered submitted. George charged him to be thorough, complete and objective in the audit. He mentioned that there was no evidence of wrongdoing in anything he saw.

George said that a copy will be placed in the folder at the Librarian's desk for the benefit of the membership.

11:57 break for lunch

The board went into executive session at 11:58. The board went out of executive session at 12:19

The board reconvened at 1:10 pm.

Bylaws Committee: Helen Phillips. Helen presented a written report. She noted in her bylaws revisions that whom the librarian reports to should be named. **Motion** by Grace, second by Al Miller that the bylaws in section 7.4 would be that the librarian reports to the executive director by Grace. **Motion carried**

It was brought to the attention of the board that some chapters' information is not up to date. The regional reps must ensure that the county chapters fill out the forms so that our records can be updated. If the chapters have not been receiving publications, this is the reason.

Audience Comments

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2024-2025

Regional Representative Reports:

- Region One: Ray Senor presented a written report. Report attached.
- Region Two: Peter Seaba presented a verbal report and followed up with a written report which is attached.
- Region Three: Pat Borders presented a verbal report
Scott County is very active and have quite a few people show up. Jackson County meets monthly. They don't have a lot of younger people. Jones County does not notify me of meetings and rotates meeting places. Clinton County has two chapters. The smaller one is having problems with finances.
- Region Four: Al Miller presented a verbal report. Things looking better in Dubuque. Fighting is lessening. He has three chapter meetings coming up in a week. Lynn county has contacted him, and Tama county has invited him back.
- Region Five: Don and Toni Mulert presented a written report. Report attached.
- Region Six: Chuck Prickett presented a written report. Report attached.
- Region Seven: George Giesler said he will not be able to represent this region because of his increased responsibilities.
- Region Eight: Ted Lussem: He has been representing region 8 for 2.5 hours, and has appointments to speak in Ankeny and Marshalltown.
- Region Nine: Evelyn Brightman presented a written report. Report attached. Included is the February report which was not attached to the minutes of the February meeting.
- Region Ten: Jane Briley presented a verbal report. She said that she is presently full time employed in looking for full time employment. She e-mailed cook book information to county reps and asked counties to invite chapter members who are not members of IGS to consider membership.
Clark Co has a newsletter series on farms of Clark County in their quarterly newsletter. Still transcribing records of the Murray funeral home.
Union co has completed and published the Graceland Cemetery Book in Creston; hardbound and less than \$25.00.
Adams Co has no new projects at this time. Decatur Co has no chapter.
Ringgold Co has an informal group that meets occasionally. They do have a wonderful genealogical library in Diagonal in Ringgold County.
Taylor Co chooses to have meetings when they have to work in the library.
Alvin McVey from Madison County recently died. He was very active in southwest and central Iowa.
- Region Eleven: Bill Lees not present. No report given.
- Region Twelve: Grace Hertz presented a written report. Report attached.
- Region Thirteen: Stan Bastman presented a verbal report, and sent a written report later, which is attached.
- Region Fourteen: Janice Danielson presented a written report. Report attached. In addition Janice has a contact for a supply of computers for non-profits, so if the chapters need one, please see her.
- Region Fifteen: Adrian Brisee. Brand new to the board - no report at this time.

Region Sixteen: Vacant.

Historian: Margaret Foster Completing history and plan to have it available in some form for the fall conference.

Motion by Bob that we as a board address our thanks to LuAnn and our appreciation for her hard work and show her our support. Chuck second. **Motion carried.**

George reminded everyone of the town hall meeting on the 20th at 7pm and asked board members to make it a point to attend. We have had four copiers donated in the last year, one of which is a large copier/printer that we don't need and would like to sell. Microfilm reader, microfiche reader also. Please contact LuAnn.

Next year's schedule

Spring Workshop April 15 2006

Fall Conference October 5 to 7, 2006

German trip: Northwest Germany, Hanover Hamburg, Schleswig/Holstein. We will have a genealogical guide and a tour guide, October, probably 10 to 22nd.

Next Board of Directors meeting: Aug 13, 2005

Executive Board meeting: July 9, 2005

Janice noted that we have not had a parliamentarian and asked if we could have one reinstated. George said he would take it under advisement.

Ted: two questions regarding audit: any purpose in securing a 2003 audit at this time? Probably wise. George concurred that it would be good to have the audit done since there were so many major items in 2003. Second: how will we handle the items brought up in the audit? George responded that the executive board will take up the items brought up in the audit at their next meeting.

Ev Brightman asked if we have a volunteer coordinator? Not at this time. Ev suggested that we revisit the question.

Revenue checks will hopefully be out by the end of June. George said that if they were not out by the end of June, he will notify the Board. Checks over \$100 will include proof of receipt.

Don Southwood's wife (Marietta) died suddenly recently. Don was a board member from 1990 to 2000, served as president for some years.

Meeting adjourned at 2:15 pm.

Respectfully Submitted
Robert J. Aubrey

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