

BEAUFORT COUNTY GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY

The Beaufort County Genealogical Society met at Brown Library on 9-2-08. At 7:00 p.m. President Jean Gurkin welcomed 16 members and Guests. Visitor Donald O'Neal is researching the O'Neal family. Helen Eckman is researching Burns, Hirshtritt, Tepfer and Wilkinson.

Albert Everson motioned, Shelia Cantine seconded to accept the minutes of the previous meeting as read.

Mary Disharoon gave the treasurer's report in Louise Cowell's absence. Mary presented registration forms for upcoming symposiums/conferences: (1) The Mid-Atlantic German Society Conference 11 October 2008 in Bowie Maryland. DNA testing will be featured. (2) The Old New Hanover Genealogical Society Symposium 27 and 28 March 2009 in Wilmington, N.C. (3) NCGS workshop and annual meeting, 14 and 15 November 2008 in Raleigh. (4) National Genealogical Society and NCGS as Host Chapter, 13-16 May 2009 in Raleigh. Volunteers are needed. Watch the NGS website for more information. The June, July and August Tyrrell Tides: The July issue has an article on forwarding E-mails successfully; and August issue has an article on the Lost colony DNA project and lists surnames of locals associated with the project. The Durham-Orange County Journal reports on NCDAH: The Forum, Journal of the Federation of Genealogical Societies; The martin County Newsletter, and information about the National WWII Museum in New Orleans offering membership criteria, premiums for purchase to support the Museum and offering opportunity for placing a family member who served in WWII on the Veterans Roll of Honor.

Old Business: No progress on the Cemetery Book. No report on the Bible project. Mary Disharoon and Louise Cowell are working on the WDN Obituary project preparing it for indexing. A number of pictures were presented to Jean for inclusion in the Schools project. No update on the Weyerhauser project. No new cemeteries previously unreported. No report on the 2008 John Oden History Awards.

Jean reported after all required steps were taken she and Louise erected the sign at the Beaufort County Home Cemetery on 8-30-08. There are over 100 graves none of which is marked for identification. A notebook at Brown Library was prepared utilizing death certificates and cards for each person placed in the cemetery file. A copy of the record will be sent to NCDAH, Craven Regional, ECU and the City of Washington.

Jean reiterated any/all articles for the December journal should be in Louise's hand by 1 November 2008.

Willene Brinn reported that research conducted reflects the Black Bottom Cemetery in Belhaven isn't privately owned consequently refurbishing/restoration can resume. Once completed the town of Belhaven will assist in its upkeep.

Of special interest: WRAL-TV in Raleigh sent a cameraman and a writer to Belhaven and did a documentary (of sorts) which they televised. The owner of a monument company saw the program and came to Belhaven. As a result he will prepare and provide a monument for the gravesite of "Little Eva". His generous donation was well received.

Willene presented a well researched notebook listing all Beaufort County Postmasters complete with copies of cancellation stamps for the various time periods from 1712 forward.

Vernetta presented a list of all principals having served Bath School. A few pictures were included. Deborah Waters will work on listing principals serving Pantego School(s). Russell Tyson is still working on the listing of Sheriffs.

New Business: Jean has an E-mail from Alabama resident offering 3 volumes from her aunt's high school days in Pinetown, N.C. The books will be of interest to all studying social history of the area. She will respond thanking her for the donation to BCGS Archives. Jean reminded us again of the NCGS conference in Raleigh 14-15 November 2008.

Janice Tyson invited everyone to attend the Martin County Genealogical Society Meeting on 9-9-08, at 7:00 p.m.

Willene motioned, Mary Disharoon seconded to adjourn at 8:15 p.m.

The meeting was reopened at 8:16 p.m. Albert Everson suggested we do something as a memorial for deceased member Jo Ross. Albert and Shelia Cantine will serve with Willene as chairman of the committee to organize ideas and efforts.

A trip to NCDAH was suggested for 18 or 25 October 2008. Further consideration will be given at our October 7th meeting.

Shelia motioned, Deborah Waters seconded to adjourn at 8:25 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Vernetta Lange