

2010 Genealogy Fair a Success

News

Posted by: Linda Cottrell Liss

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The Roane County Historical Society, Inc., sponsored the 16th Annual Roane County Genealogy Fair on Saturday, September 25, 2010 at the Heritage Center Community Building in Spencer, 9 am. ? 3 p.m.

The fair was deemed a success with registrars receiving over 150 guests. Everything went well and the weather cooperated with a beautiful sunny day. The vendors and others having display tables reported a good day with a steady flow of genealogists searching for clues to their family history.

As always, the American Legion Auxiliary delighted taste-buds with their baked goods, hotdogs, coffee and cold beverages. Yum, yum!

Rick Greathouse, RCHS President, introduced Mr. Joe Gieger, Jr., Director of WV Division of Culture & History Archives in Charleston, as the 10 a.m. guest speaker. He brought those present up-to-date on resources available to budding or long-time family genealogists. He related that the State Archives & History department was instrumental in replacing & refurbishing state highway historical markers; that the department had first-hand input in researching the 11,427 names for the Veteran's Memorial at the State Capitol Complex; that the Archives has a good Civil War Soldiers & Sailors database available; that the department offers grants for historical preservation projects and that genealogical in nature workshops are being held on Tuesdays at the Archives Library. He shared many other ideas and food for thought not covered in this article. We thank him for sharing his Saturday morning with us.

Johanna Nutter, Fair Chairperson, drew numbers for the hourly door prizes. Richard Griffith of near Las Vegas, NV traveled the farthest to attend. He received the quilted wall-hanging. Tom E. Cottrell, of Xenia, OH won the genealogy bag and Patty Wyatt of Spencer won the raffle for the 5-volume set of books: Cemeteries of Roane County, WV.

Linda Liss, Membership Secretary, reports that two renewals and six new society memberships were received during the fair.

Carol Board-Westfall, treasurer, thanks the Hur Herald, Spencer Newspapers and the WVRC radio station for advertising the fair free-of-charge. We extend our thanks to Jim Cooper of the Times Record newspaper for the follow-up article in the Sept. 30, 2010 paper. Also, special thanks to Richard Griffith, society member and webmaster, for the collection of fair photos posted to this site.

We extend our special thanks to all those who helped in any way to make this year's fair a success.

The 17th Annual Roane County Genealogy Fair is tentatively scheduled for Saturday, September 24, 2011, - exact time and site to be announced.