

Notes from R.C.H.S. April 25, 2013 Meeting

General Interest

Posted by: Linda Cottrell Liss

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The Roane County Historical Society met on Thursday, April 25, 2013, 7 p.m. at the Roane County Library. President Rick Greathouse called the meeting to order. The pledge to the American flag was led by little Miss Madison Parker, granddaughter of Theresa, and the opening prayer was led by Linda Liss.

The minutes from the March 28th meeting were read by Susan Tucker, Recording Secretary. They were approved with corrections.

The financial report was presented by Carol Board-Westfall, Treasurer. Ending balance: \$18,516.87. Copy filed for audit.

Corresponding Secretary, Linda Liss, reported that she had remailed the newsletters and directories that had been returned with address changes. She sent cards where needed and as Membership Secretary she reported that membership is 204 with two renewals and one new member.

Committee Reports:

Book purchases "None"

September 2013 Annual Genealogical Fair "No report."

Newsletter: Vol. 20 #3 should have been recorded by those on mailing list.

Old Business:

A lengthy discussion, continued from our March meeting, regarding the B & O Railroad Museum, owned by the City of Spencer. Theresa Boggs Parker, Museum Caretaker, related that the museum was cleaned by a 4-H group but needs persons for regular cleaning, routine and long-term maintenance and to staff it during "open" times. [1st Saturdays monthly, May-Oct.]. Is this something the society could do as a project? It was still recommended that the Executive Committee meet to see the condition of the museum and report back at the next meeting.

Carol Board-Westfall reported that she had gotten a price, \$245. for the commemorative plaque for the Flat Fork Community Baptist Church. She will order the plaque when she gets the consent form back from the church trustees.

Susan Tucker reported that the first order of digitized microfilms of local newspaper reels have been received and that the rest of the microfilms will be sent to the Florida-based firm, Digital Solutions, to be put on CDs. She has not received an invoice for the first order.

Annual Essay Scholarship: Linda Liss reported that the committee met before this meeting and read the submitted essays. It was the committee's decision that Miss Katie L. Snodgrass receive the \$750. scholarship. Katie's excellent essay reflected the life & times of her great grandmother. Linda will present the scholarship on behalf of the society at the Roane County High School's awards assembly on Tuesday, May 21st.

Carol Board-Westfall had copies of two advertisements promoting the society recently published in the Charleston Newspaper "Spencer" Business is Booming & Blooming" section and the

2013 WV Travel Guide. Copies were circulated for those present to see.

New Business:

Carol Board-Westfall announced that the society had received a large book order request from the St. Louis County Library in Missouri. They want approx.. 32 of the society's different publications for their library. Motion was made and properly seconded to send the requested books at a 10% discount and charge the actual cost of postage. Motion carried unanimously.

Melissa Swisher reported that she had attended the 2013 Hoot Owl night at the History & Archives Library in Charleston on April 5-6. She toured all floors of the library, learned about the inner workings of the facility, and was able to do research of their files at no cost.

Melissa also reported that she has been researching the McKown Burying Grounds in Spencer. She said that in 1899 the Legislature proposed to move the cemetery. Who was buried there and was it actually moved? Some of her information revealed that the cemetery was also called the Old Town cemetery.

Linda Liss reported that society member & WW II veteran Denver R. Gandee was awarded the French Legion of Honor Medal on Sat., April 13, 2013. Articles about this presentation appeared in the Parkersburg News and Sentinel newspaper and in the Roane County Times Record newspaper. Mr. Gandee has also been nominated by County Delegate Bob Ashley to have a Roane County bridge on Rte. 14, named the "Denver Ray Gandee, Sr. Bridge."

Meeting adjourned with refreshments being served by Phyllis Counts.

Members present were: Carol Board-Westfall, Rick Greathouse, Brenda Whited, Phyllis Counts, Reva Paxton, Janet Drake Robinson, Linda Liss, Theresa A. Boggs-Parker, Susan Tucker, Melissa Swisher, Hazel Gandee, Mike & Shirley Hill, and guests, Carl Paxton and Madison Parker.