

Notes from October 24, 2013 Meeting

General Interest

Posted by: Linda Cottrell Liss

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The Roane County Historical Society met for their regular monthly meeting on Thursday, October 24, 2013 at the Roane County Library at 7 p.m. Rick Greathouse, President, called the meeting to order. Carol Board-Westfall opened the meeting with prayer and the pledge to the American flag was recited by all. Those present were: Rick Greathouse, Melissa Swisher, Carol Board-Westfall, Peggy L. Starcher, Reva Paxton, Bernard and Patty Wyatt, Linda Liss and guest, James Bennett.

In the absence of the Recording Secretary, the minutes of the September 26th meeting were read by Linda Liss. Minutes approved with one correction: September Treasurerâ€™s report balance should have read, \$16,700.51

Treasurer, Carol Board-Westfall made report showing a current balance as: \$16,497.26 Copy filed for annual audit.

Linda Liss, Corresponding & Membership Secretary reported current membership at 207, an increase of four [4] since the last meeting. There are still eleven [11] members who have not paid their 2013-14 annual dues which were due July 1st. After discussion, motion was made by the Membership Secretary and duly seconded that those persons be removed from the roll if not paid by the time of the printing of the next Membership Directory in December 2013. Motion carried unanimously. All have been contacted two times.

Linda also reported that she sent a congratulatory letter to Mr. Denver R. Gandee for his being nominated and approved as a life-time honorary member of the RCHS.

Carol reported that she had recâ€™d in inquiry from a Mrs. Gladys Casto regarding the Jones Cemetery on Paxton Ridge. Carol also reported that she had researched and located the family property & the Jones Family Graveyard in response to a letter from a Mr. Tom Jones of FL. She has sent her findings to Mr. Jones.

Carol also made available a set of photos donated to the society by the Keith Wolfe family. The collection contained photos of the Keith family and the cemetery.

Book Purchases include: Spencer Newspaper Obits complied by David Boggs through 2013, the Ritchie Co. Map Book, and the new Jackson Co. WV Births/Deaths book. Also, a small book was donated to our library titled Early Marriages of Botetourt Co., VA.

Old Business:

The September 28th Annual Genealogy Fair sponsored by the RCHS was deemed a success. All went well and vendors, as well as those visiting the fair, seemed to have a good time. There were over 130 persons who registered. Motion was made by Linda and seconded that we again sponsor the fair on Saturday, September 27th, 2014 at the Heritage Park Community Building in Spencer. Motion carried unanimously.

Linda announced that it was again time to initiate the Annual "Scholarship Essay." This will be the fourth year for the Essay Scholarship in association with Roane County High School. In order to perhaps increase interest, Linda made motion to increase the Annual Scholarship from \$750 to \$1,000. Motion carried unanimously. Linda will deliver the needed guidelines to the school's guidance counselor on Fri., Oct. 25th.

Computer for RCHS Library. Still need estimates for a new desk top computer. Rick will check on this & get prices for a Dell system w/Windows 7 & report back at our Nov. meeting.

Spencer Railroad Museum Building:

The society's Executive Committee still needs to meet to draw-up guidelines, expectations, hours, etc. and whether it is actually feasible that we take over management of the Museum. Tabled for future discussion.

Carol reported that, by way of Theresa Parker, that the Museum had over 700 visitors during this year's Black Walnut Festival.

Rick read the press release for the upcoming program to be presented at our November 21st, 2013 meeting.

Ostenaco (ca.1703-1780), Cherokee warrior leader, aka "Mankiller" & "Judd's Friend", will be portrayed by Mr. Doug Wood of Nitro, WV, at 7 p.m. on Thursday, November 21, 2013 at the Roane County Library in Spencer before the regular meeting of the Roane County Historical Society, Inc. The presentation is part of the History Alive! program and is made possible by the West Virginia Humanities Council. As part of his portrayal, Mr. Wood will present findings on the Solomon & Jeremiah Carpenter Family who were captured by the Shawnees. The Carpenter Family played an important part in the settlement of central West Virginia. Presentation is free & open to the public. Motion was made by Linda and duly seconded that the society pick-up Mr. Wood's travel expenses. Motion carried unanimously.

2014 History Hero nomination: Nominee's name and all related paperwork must be completed & sent to the Division of Culture & History by December 31, 2013. Past recipients include: Jack Nida, Carol Board-Westfall, Carol Cronin and Linda Cottrell Liss. Do you have a nominee for this honor?

Meeting adjourned.