

**Norman County Genealogy Society**  
Meeting Minutes  
September 20, 2008

**Opening:**

The regular meeting of the Norman County Genealogy Society was called to order by Roland Carpenter, President, at 10:32 am on September 20, 2008 at the LogMuseum in Ada, MN.

**Present:**

Roland Carpenter, Ardis Horn, Deb Jacobson, Shirley Rockstad, Pat Thompson and Marijo Vik.

**Approval of Minutes:**

The reading of the minutes for August meeting was dispensed with since everyone present had received them by e-mail from Pat Thompson. August minutes were approved.

**Treasurer's Report:**

Ardis Horn, Treasurer, stated that the balance in the checking account is \$815.08. Ardis reported that she deposited \$5 from copies and \$5 from a new associate member, Barbara Carlson from Wilmer, MN to reach this total.

**Correspondence:**

- Shirley discussed a request we had received on August 8<sup>th</sup> from Carl Fjeld, Twin Valley, for information on the Herringer Building in Ada. Fjeld asked when it was built and what it was first used for.
- Ardis received a request from Barbara Carlson (our newest member) concerning her grandmother's sister, Laura Rieck nee Rositzke, from Twin Valley. This had been sent to Margit for response. We are not sure if Margit responded.

**Ongoing Projects:**

- Norman County School Project – **Update:** Marijo brought a sample of the form she created and showed how it will contain names of pupils as well as teachers, with the ability to attach digitized photos. In July, Roland brought a box of school memorabilia and photos belonging to the Norman County Historical Society. He indicated that there are many boxes of such information. Marijo will contact someone from the Historical Society to see if we can look for anything that might pertain to the school project. Roland brought in several envelopes with information for several schools which were given to Marijo. Shirley asked where all the record books went when the schools closed in the 1940's but no one knew for sure.
- Oral Histories Project – **Update:** It was felt that we need a form to ask the same questions of everyone we interview. Deb Jacobson found three possible family questionnaires on the internet and Marijo brought copies for everyone. It was suggested that the group decide on which questions to use, but there was no consensus because there were "good" questions from each questionnaire. Marijo will "test" this with her mother who is in Bridges Care Community and come back with a report on how it worked. It was agreed that we should get a family member, i.e. a power of attorney, as well as the person being interviewed to sign a permission form and a copy of the interview would be provided to the family. It was suggested that a list of the questions (in large print) be provided to the person being interviewed ahead of the interview. No one would be required to answer any question which makes them uncomfortable. As well as residents of local nursing homes, it was suggested that we should also interview Edna Rude, Rodin Salverson, John Pfund, and Willy Germoulus. All interviews would be recorded, then transcribed. Marijo suggested that the MN Historical Society might be contacted to help with costs, such as the purchase of more recorders.
- Obituaries - **Update:** It was found that names were missing from the master index. Deb contacted Roger and he forwarded the master files to her, which she has been working on. Deb brought three copies of an updated Volume 12 index which included 2006 obituaries. She questioned whether Shelly and the Ada Library had the 2006 obituaries. Shirley will take one index to the Ada Library and check to see if their copy of Volume 12 includes the 2006

obituaries. Deb also updated the master index through 2007 and it is now 160+ pages. This will not be printed at this time because we are so close to the end of the year but will be printed in January 2009. This master is in alphabetical order. Everything will then be put on one CD with one kept at the LogMuseum, one to Margit Bakke and one with Deb. Deb is now the only person working on the obituaries, which is unique to our Society. Deb is scanning the obituaries for 2008, using the new software. She talked to Roger to see if he will still be involved in the project, but since he is at a new job, he feels it would be difficult to ask his new employer for help that his previous employer provided. Shirley made a motion and Pat seconded that Deb be allowed to remove Volume 12 from the Log Museum over the winter so she could use it for scanning and other work. Carried.

#### **Possible Future Projects**

- Index the Norman County township books – **No action taken to date.**
- Obtain and digitize the records from Grace Lutheran Church – **No action taken to date.**
- Obtain missing information about confirmation classes from area churches – **No action taken to date.**

#### **Old Business:**

- Roland was to contact Colleen to ask the question about whether or not we will continue to “log” the newspaper articles that are clipped and filed. Colleen had wanted to put the names on the internet for people searching for information. Those people who work on these clippings felt that it’s tedious. Shirley made a motion which was seconded by Pat that we no longer list or “log” the newspaper articles, but continued to cut and save them. Carried.

#### **New Business:**

- Roland presented family histories and several books donated to the Society by Edna Rude. Marijo will send a “thank you” to Edna.
- Marijo brought a book from Halstad that updated their history for the past 25 years from 1983 to 2008. This may be a duplicate copy of a copy already donated at the Log Museum, in which case it may be given to the museum at Shelly.
- A discussion ensued concerning genealogy records such as Norwegian farm books, ship lists, census, etc. kept at Concordia College, Moorhead, MN; University of North Dakota, Grand Forks, ND; and Church of the Latter Day Saints (Mormons), Fargo, ND and Grand Forks, ND.
- The Shelly Museum had 236 visitors this summer. The weaving looms seem to be an attraction.

#### **Adjournment:**

- Shirley made a motion and Deb seconded to adjourn the meeting. The meeting was adjourned at 11:50 a.m. by Roland Carpenter, President.
- The next meeting is scheduled for 10:30 a.m. on Saturday, October 18, 2008 at the Log Museum, Ada, MN

Minutes submitted by:

*Marijo Vik, Secretary*