

The monthly meeting of the Lafayette Genealogical Society was held on Thursday, April 21, 2016 in the meeting room of the South Regional Library, 1601 Johnston Street at 6:30 P.M. The meeting was called to order by President Calice Breaux. After a few opening remarks by our President, the Pledge of Allegiance was recited. This was followed by a moment of silence observed in honor of our ancestors and also of those serving in the military, past and present. Our one guest was recognized. Her name is Linda and she named the Schuster family among others that she is researching. James Bourque motioned that we dispense with the reading of the minutes and accept the minutes posted on our website. It was seconded by Lona Bourque. There was no objection and the motion passed. Everyone is encouraged to read the minutes on the website.

Warren LeBlanc was called upon to give the Treasurer's Report for March, 2016.

<b>Beginning Balance</b>	<b>\$4,558.30</b>
Dues	100.00
Books Sold/Donations	185.00
Supplements Sold	
Acadian Project	
Banquet	
Publication Expense	
Speaker Meals	
Banquet Expense	
Office Expense	-480.00
Other Expense/Rent	
Library Book	
Project	
<b>Ending Balance</b>	<b>\$4,178.30</b>

New Members for 2016	26
Members with dues unpaid	41

The Treasurer's Report was accepted.

At this time Warren LeBlanc reported that the rent on our storage building went up from \$40 to \$50 a month and that the budget would have to be amended. Martha Landreneau inquired as to what exactly was stored in the building. It is used to store donated papers which are being gone through. Old books, our publications and our banner are also stored in this building and it is too much for members to store at their personal homes. Pete Lavergne motioned that the budget be amended to reflect this increase in rent. It was seconded by Judy Trahan. The motion was approved without opposition.

Everett Thompson was called upon to give an update on the DNA group. The advanced group will meet this Saturday at the library in Youngsville at 10 am. He also stated that Brenda Thibodeaux was contacted by Devin Melancon who is planning a class on DNA for people interested in getting the basics. It will be limited to 10 or 11 people and will be open to the general public. It was also announced that Ancestry.com is offering their DNA kit for \$79 until Tuesday of next week.

President Breaux reminded members that contributions for our annual publication are needed. This can include pictures and family trees. Please submit a hard copy. Warren will scan it.

Brenda Fuselier announced that this year's annual banquet will be held on Friday, December 2, 2016 at the Petroleum Club. It will be downstairs in the large room. It will start at noon and it will be buffet. The cost should be around \$20.00. No speaker has been found for this event. More information will be forthcoming.

Shirley Thibodeaux has photocopies of several families which she printed from Fr. Hebert's books during her research. Please see her after the meeting if you are interested. She also submitted a letter of resignation as President-Elect due to personal reasons. President Breaux read the letter aloud. Pete Lavergne motioned that we accept Shirley's resignation. It was seconded by Judy Trahan. It was approved. We are sorry to lose Shirley's leadership. President Breaux stated that we are looking for someone to replace her and asked everyone to consider taking this position.

This ended the business portion of the meeting.

President Breaux then introduced our speaker of the evening, Jean Kiesel, Librarian in the Louisiana Room of the Edith Garland Dupre Library. The subject of her talk was her grandfather, Dr. Francis J. Broghammer and his legacy. Jean's family is primarily from Iowa. After the death of her uncle, the old family homesite was being cleared and an old trunk belonging to her grandfather was found. It contained papers her grandfather left behind. Dr. Broghammer was born in 1888 and died unexpectedly in 1934. He left behind his widow, Margaret Leahy and 4 children. One of the children was Jean's mother. Mrs. Broghammer was forced by economic reasons to return to her family home in Iowa where she reared her children and became housekeeper for her brothers. The trunk went with them and was found in an old shed. Jean became caretaker of these papers and spends time reading and categorizing them.

Some of the most interesting items she found are correspondence that her grandfather had with many of his 64 first cousins. He was evidently a great letter writer and the return letters give a lot of information of daily life and family facts, such as births with names and locations of where family members were living. She learned about economic conditions such as weather conditions for crops and how her family grew crops for the Army fighting overseas in 1918. One of the most important things she found were married names of cousins which makes genealogy easier. This was truly a treasure. It made her grandfather more real to her. It was a most interesting talk. She then answered questions from members.

Shirley Thibodeaux then told us about her visit to Whitney Plantation. It is located on Highway 18 in Wallace, Louisiana. This plantation is devoted to the history of enslaved people in Louisiana and tells their story unlike any other plantation tour in Louisiana. She encouraged all of us to make the trip. She said that a visit there is worth the effort.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Kathy Pellerin  
Secretary