

General Monthly Meeting Minutes

September 19, 2019

Call to Order

The monthly meeting of the Lafayette Genealogical Society was held Thursday, September 19, 2019 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 Henry Peterson, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance and a moment of silence.

Approval of Previous Minutes

President Peterson announced that the minutes for the August, 2019 meeting were online and available for review on the <http://lafayettegenealogicalsociety.org> website. A motion was made, seconded and voted on affirmatively to dispense with the reading of the minutes.

Treasurer's Report

LGS treasurer, Warren Leblanc, presented the current financials, noting a current, balance of \$5,789.15, which was approved.

It was further noted that the membership continues to increase, with a current total of 105.

Attendees were reminded that dues are \$20 per year.

Leblanc announced notable membership anniversaries.

Old Business

None discussed.

New Business

Brenda Fuselier announced various upcoming events:

September 25, 2019

Presented by Acadian Memorial Foundation Museum

Location: St. Martin Parish Main Library

201 Porter St., St. Martinville, LA

Time: 10:00

Speaker: Steven Cormier

Topic: His recent travel in France to his ancestral home

September 30, 2019

Vermilionville

300 Fisher Rd, Lafayette, LA

Time: 6:30

Topic: Les Vues Film Series, The film to be shown will be "Little Houses: A Small Film About Death."

September 28, 2019

Vidrine Reunion

North Side Civic Center, 704 N. Soileau St., Ville Platte, LA

Time: 10:00 – 3:00

Father Vidrine will be speaking at 11:00

October 9, 2019

New Iberia Main Library,

445 E. Main St., New Iberia, LA

Time: 2:00 – 3:00

Genealogy Show and Tell of Resources

October 12, 2019

New Iberia Genealogical Conference
Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints, 602 Bayard St., New
Iberia, LA. Preregister on Facebook @ New Iberia Genealogy / Family
History Conference.

Time: 8:30 – 3:30

16 various classes to select from

October 12, 2019

Louisiana Orphan Train Museum
223 S Academy St, Opelousas, LA

Time: 10:00 – 2:00

Museum is celebrating their 10th Anniversary with an Open House

Request for Publication Submissions

The LGS annual publication committee is requesting members' various contributions, such as 4-5 generational charts and/or family stories. A hardcopy will be placed in the library, as well as on our website. Warren Leblanc -- wvleblanc@bellsouth.net and Kathy Pellerin—Kathy.Pellerin@yahoo.com will continue to accept submissions until October 17, 2019.

Officer Nominations

Should anyone wish to be an officer for the coming year, please contact our President Henry Peterson HPeterJr@cox.net

Guest Speaker

Joan Labbe Boudeaux presented a PowerPoint presentation on "Courthouse Research for Genealogy Treasures." For over 20 year, she made a career of researching the various courthouse records throughout the state of Louisiana, as well as teaching others to do so professionally. The presentation focused on the possible treasures to be found in courthouse records, along with explaining the various types of records located within the Clerk of Court's offices.

All Louisiana Clerk of Court's offices, which maintain the records, have different policies and indexing systems. It was advised that the researcher call the specific clerk's office as part of the "prior planning stage," to --

- Confirm physical address
- Confirm hours/days of operation (not all observe the same holidays)
- Confirm if phones, computers are allowed (fyi- Lafayette Parish does not allow cell phones, laptops, smart watches or any device that records or takes pictures, while St. Martin allows these items)
- Confirm parking availability
- Confirm copy cost amount and accepted forms of payment

Reference is made to the following link to obtain contact information for all Louisiana Clerk of Court's offices. <http://laclerksofcourt.org/clerksofcourt.htm>

The change in parish geographical lines over the years will determine which clerk's office to begin your research.

An Interactive Map of Louisiana Formation History can be found at the following link: <https://www.mapofus.org/louisiana/>

Most offices utilize both book and computer indices. The group was told briefly how to utilize three of the most common types of "book indexes," noting there are other types as well. A more extensive explanation was provided in regard to one type of computer indexes (the "Cott system"). The powerpoint detailed that process and showed examples of searched findings. It was noted that other computer indexing systems can be found across the state of Louisiana, and other states, with some Clerk's offices utilizing the Cott system for some record types, and another computer indexing system for other specific record types. For example, Lafayette utilizes two separate computer indexing systems, as well as various types of books indexes.

Reference is made to the following link from the Calcasieu Parish Clerk's Office, for a "Users Guide" of the "Cott" system.

<https://calclerkofcourt.com/Images/Interior/it-search/gettingstarted.pdf>

A full copy of the Powerpoint presentation can be located on the LGS website under meetings, speaker handouts, or by clicking the following link.

<http://lafayettegenealogicalsociety.org/index.php/meetings/meeting-handouts>

Any specific questions regarding the topic of the presentation can be directed to BoudreauxJL@gmail.com

Next Meeting set for October 17, 2019

William J. Thibodeaux will be the guest speaker. He is a native of Rayne, a resident of Lafayette, and after forty-four years' service, a retired railroader. William has written articles in several newspapers and publications in the Lafayette and Acadiana area. With the aid of a PowerPoint presentation, he will talk about his newly released book: "Hidden History of Acadiana". William's book consists of 23 chapters (stories) about people, places, and events of long, long ago.

Adjournment

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Joan Labbe Boudreaux