

# Lafayette Genealogical Society

## Meeting Minutes

### November 16, 2017

The monthly meeting of the Lafayette Genealogical Society was held on Thursday, November 16, 2017 at 6:30 p.m. in the meeting room of the Johnston Street Library. The meeting was called to order by President Brenda Fuselier. After a few words of welcome, the Pledge of Allegiance was recited followed by a moment of silence honoring our ancestors and our armed forces. Visitors were asked to introduce themselves and tell us which families they were researching. They included Marian Dunbar who has completed research on her Noble family in Kentucky and his working on her husband's Dugas and Theriot ancestors; Robert Veitinger who is researching his German roots; Bellard researching the Fontenot, LeBlanc, Credeur and Lavergne families; and, Jeanette LeBlanc, a guest from Rayne.

Brenda Fuselier stated that our minutes are on our website. A correction was made to them. Henry Peterson was previously listed as incoming president and Brenda Thibodeaux was previously listed as incoming president-elect. The minutes were corrected to read Brenda Thibodeaux 2018 President and Henry Peterson 2018 President-Elect. A motion was made that we accept the change and we dispense with the reading of the minutes by Pete Lavergne. It was seconded by Henry Peterson. The motion passed without objection. President Fuselier stated that the minutes contain information about our speaker's topics. If you miss a meeting, you can keep informed by reading the minutes on-line.

Warren LeBlanc was called upon to give the Treasurer's Report. The October report is listed below:

<b>Beginning Balance</b>	<b>\$5,387.46</b>
Dues Collected	
Books Sold/Donations	
Supplements Sold	
Acadiana Project	
Banquet	
Publication Expense	
Speaker Meals	
Banquet Expense	
Office Expense	-132.00
Other Expense/Rental	
Library Book Project	
<b>Ending Balance</b>	<b>\$5,255.46</b>

New Members for 2017:	66
TOTAL MEMBERS	138

New member(s) for this month include: Sidney Bellard, Irene King, Elmo and Anita Petitjean, Wayne and Jeanette Roubideaux, Myra Varrelman and Robert Veitinger. The treasurer's report was accepted.

President Fuselier then stated that dues were being accepted by our treasurer for next year. They are \$20.00. Warren is also accepting payment of \$20.00 per person for the December 1<sup>st</sup> end of the year banquet at the Petroleum Club. The program begins at 11:30 and our guest speaker will be Sidney Bellard, an educator who is now a published author. His topic is also the title of his recent book, *Who Do You Think You Are*.

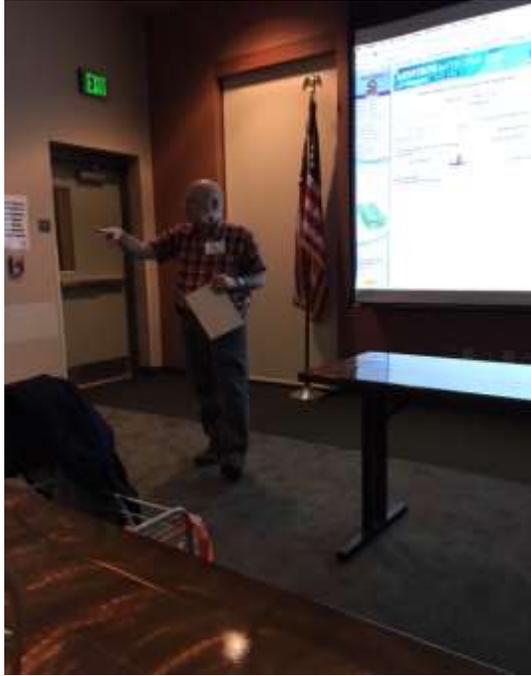
At our October meeting our speaker, Michelle LeBlanc, stated that she did not find copies of her grandfather's books in the library. Sam Lollard reported that he looked for these books and did find them in the library, however, the library is in the process of purchasing additional books on her topic.

Our annual publication of Les Memoirs is in production and you have until November 21 to contribute any bit of family history to the publication. The booklet will be published on our Members Only page of the website.

Henry Peterson will conduct the Legacy meeting on Saturday, November 18 at 1:00 p.m. at the downtown library on the 2<sup>nd</sup> floor. It generally lasts 2 hours and he has handouts and videos. He will answer questions and discuss resources regarding the Legacy software package. It is the program that he uses. Everyone is invited to attend but due to space the group can only seat 11 people. There will be no session in December but Henry will provide 1 on 1 time for individual meetings. Please contact Henry directly.

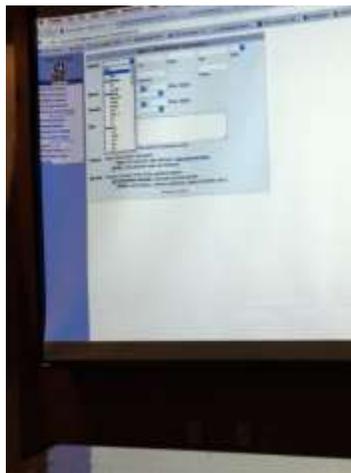
There will be a Genealogy 101 session on Saturday, December 2 at the downtown library. This is publicized by the library and open to the public so we will honor our commitment to be there.

This concluded the business section of our meeting and President Fuselier introduced our speakers for the evening, Warren LeBlanc and Brenda Thibodeaux. They are officers of our associations and are leading the effort to put the cemeteries the group inventoried on Find-A-Grave.



Warren LeBlanc speaking on Find-A-Grave

They began by handing our printed copies of what they would present on the screen beginning with how to search for a cemetery by name. After they explained about the different names a single cemetery could have, they talked about what type of information could be put on individual's page. An important factor was not to duplicate a person. If you locate a relative you can email additional information to the originator or you can ask for permission to maintain that particular site. Maiden names and names of additional spouses can be confusing and it is always important to check for spelling issue.



Input screen for Find-A-Grave

If you have a picture of the person, you can enter it onto the page along with other information. However, putting the obituary on is discouraged by Find-A-Grave although the obituary is public information. Brenda and Warren demonstrated how to enter this information. The location in the cemetery of the individual is usually on their page to help in visiting the gravesite. You can also request that the maintainer of the page provide a picture of the gravesite is none is found. Also, it was mentioned that not all dates are correct even in the cemetery, so some investigation may be necessary.



Brenda Thibodeaux speaking on Find-A-Grave

Find-A-Grave is changing their format so the information that Warren and Brenda provided may be a bit different as the old site is deactivated. They also demonstrated how to use the Excel Template if you are entering several people at one time. Warren and Brenda both stated that they did not have much success with this feature.

We then had a question and answer session.

After this was complete, President Fuselier thanked everyone who brought refreshments tonight and all throughout the year. Paul Manuel then motioned that the meeting be adjourned and it was seconded by Cynthia Guilbeau. The meeting was then adjourned.

The meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,  
Kathy Pellerin  
Secretary