

The monthly meeting of the Lafayette Genealogical Society was held on Thursday, March 17, 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. A moment of silence was observed in honor of our ancestors and also of those serving in the military, past and presence. This was followed by the Pledge of Allegiance and welcoming remarks by our President. Guests were asked to introduce themselves. They included Clo Broussard, Linda Bourque, Elaine Bourque, Emery and Connie LeBlanc. They were warmly welcomed. Brenda Fuselier motioned that we dispense with the reading of the minutes and accept the minutes posted on our website. It was seconded by Judy Trahan. 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 February, 2016.

<b>Beginning Balance</b>	<b>\$3,863.10</b>
Dues	520.00
Books Sold/Donations	185.00
Supplements Sold	
Acadian Project	
Banquet	
Publication Expense	
Speaker Meals	
Banquet Expense	
Office Expense	-9.80
Other Expense/Rent	
Library Book	
Project	
<b>Ending Balance</b>	<b>\$4,558.30</b>

New Members for 2016	22
Members with dues unpaid	56

The Treasurer's Report was accepted.

At this time President Breaux asked Brenda Fuselier to give a report on the 1<sup>st</sup> Bayou Celtic Festival which we participated in on Saturday. She said that even though it rained a good part of the day, the festival went on. Our table was moved to the front porch. Chase Manual provided two computers and we had access to ancestry.com. The volunteers were busy all day with people stopping by to ask questions and to ask us to look up their relatives. Quite a few wanted to know if their name was Irish. Henry Peterson was there with his data base and he helped quite a few people. All in all, it was a successful venture for our group. Thank you to all who volunteered.

Everyone who has not paid their dues was reminded that they are due. Only people who are current with their dues will have access to the member's only page on our website. The password will be changed by the end of the month.

This ended the business part of the meeting.

President Breaux then introduced Suzanne Chaillot Breaux who is one of the participants in the making of the documentary film *Cotton jaune, Acadian Brown Cotton: A Cajun Love Story*. Suzanne introduced Sharon Gordon Donnan who filmed this documentary which shows the tradition of handspun and handwoven cotton blankets. This film tells the story of how these Cajun women grew the cotton, ginned it, spun it and then wove the thread into warm blankets, hand towels, coverlets and many other household items. It also explained the origin of yellow cotton which came from South America by way of Mexico. It was grown away from the white cotton because if grown together, the two cottons would meld together. White cotton was sold as a cash crop. The film also documented the stories of the women who wove these treasures from the remembrances of their grandchildren. Elaine Bourque then demonstrated how the cording and spinning was done. She is documenting as many of these heirloom blankets as she can find. We were then shown the film. In the film we learned just how self-sufficient our ancestors were. A mother began, almost from the birth of a daughter, to create these items for her daughter to have when she married and set up a household. After the film was shown, Elaine demonstrated the art of weaving and Gerald Thibodeaux, a master weaver-spinner, showed items from his collection and items he had made himself. Member of our group also had some of their personal items on display. It was a very informative evening and it was well received by everyone.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Kathy Pellerin  
Secretary