

Lafayette Genealogical Society  
Meeting Minutes  
21 January 2016  
<http://lafayettegenealogicalsociety.org>

The monthly meeting of the Lafayette Genealogical Society was held on Thursday, January 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. A moment of silence was observed in honor of our ancestors and also of those serving in the military, past and present. This was followed by the Pledge of Allegiance and welcoming remarks by our President. Guests asked to introduce themselves. Michelle Young was our only guest. She is researching the Gillespie family from Michigan. Pete Peterson motioned that we dispense with the reading of the minutes and accept the on-line minutes posted on our website. It was seconded by Brenda Fuselier. A vote was taken and the motion passed without opposition. Everyone is encouraged to read the minutes on-line.

Warren LeBlanc was called upon to give the Treasurer's Report for December, 2015.

<b>Beginning Balance</b>	<b>\$4,305.34</b>
Dues	40.00
Books Sold/Donations	
Supplements Sold	
Acadian Project	
Banquet	132.00
Publication Expense	
Speaker Meals	
Banquet Expense	-749.27
Office Expense	-49.97
Other Expense/Rent	
Library Book	
Project	
<b>Ending Balance</b>	<b>\$3,678.10</b>

New Members for 2015	68
Members with dues unpaid	0

Treasurer LeBlanc then gave the projected budget for 2016 which included:

Beginning Balance		\$3,678.10
Projected Revenues:		
Dues = 100 members @ \$20.00	2,000.00	
Book (CD) Sales	25.00	
Cemetery Book Sales	175.00	
Supplements Sold	20.00	
Total Income		\$2,220.00
Projected Expenditures		
Publication/Office Expense	-400.00	
Speaker Meals Expense	-100.00	
Storage Rent	-480.00	
Banquet Prizes	-50.00	
Office Expenses (Copies/Postage)	-300.00	
Other Expenses	-150.00	
Total Projected Expenses		\$1,480.00
Ending Bank Balance		\$4,148.10

Brenda Fuselier motioned that the project budget be accepted. It was seconded by Judy Trahan. The motion passed without opposition.

Everett Thompson was called upon to give a report on the DNA Group. There are two groups. One is a beginner group. This group discusses the types of DNA test, where to test and how DNA may help with research. This group will meet on January 30 at the Youngsville Library at 9:30 A.M. The advanced group will meet Saturday, January 23 at the Johnston Street Library. This group comprises people who have tested and are interested in learning how to interpret results. Everyone is invited to attend either group. Locations of the meetings change based on the availability of library rooms.

President Breaux discussed the annual banquet. The Executive Committee moved the banquet from the Petroleum Club to Bailey's in hopes that attendance would pick up by having it on Saturday instead of a week night. Attendance has not picked up significantly and a discussion will be held later as to where to hold the 2016 Banquet.

The Lafayette Genealogical Society has been invited to participate in the first Celtic Bayou Festival. They will have a representative as our guest speaker next month. We will vote next month on whether we will have a genealogy research table.

President Breaux reminded everyone about Genealogy 101 on the 1<sup>st</sup> Saturday of the month at the downtown library at 9:30 A.M. He also reminded us about our facebook page.

This concluded the business part of our meeting. President Breaux then introduced our speaker for the evening, Bart Wild. Mr. Wild explained to us how he got involved in the Mervyn Kahn documentary project and gave us a short review of his personal genealogy which is a true "melting pot" of people from Opelousas and Illinois. It includes the Estorge, Robin and Fisher families among others.

He then gave us a short review of the Mervyn Kahn Legacy Project which included over 30 hours of video which had to be edited and so the documentary ended up being more than one part. He introduced Part 2 which is about the importation of accordions and the people who bought and played them

Joe and Cleoma Falcon were among the first to use this instrument in their music. The film also recorded testimony from such music greats as Jo El Sonnier, Ray Abshire, Wayne Toups and Steve Riley who were featured playing their music and the music of the past. Each one reiterated that in order to play the music they play, each of them had to go back and learn the early music first. That is where their music comes from. We also heard from Larry Miller who built accordions after the war when they were not readily available. We were fortunate that Randy Falcon was on hand and he explained that accordions were constructed to play in only one key. That is why so many musicians keep changing their accordion during a performance. Randy developed an accordion that played in 2 keys and had it patented.

Before the meeting was adjourned, Calice Breaux said that he had received an email from Annie Crenshaw who is looking for information on William Winford "Win" Hawkins for an article in the Butler County Historical Society Quarterly. It seems that Win Hawkins was born in Greenville, Butler County, Alabama in 1890. He married Mabel Roy from Lafayette in the 1920's and was an oil developer in this area. He has a nephew who lives in Lafayette named William Rucks, III. He died in 1987. If anyone has any information on him, please contact Calice Breaux.

A motion was made by Judy Trahan that the meeting be adjourned. It was seconded by Pete Peterson. The motion passed and the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Kathy Pellerin  
Secretary