

Randolph County Genealogical Society
NEWSLETTER
December, 2012

Eighteen of our members met last Tuesday evening for our Christmas dinner party, at a restaurant in Chester, where we usually go. We enjoyed a traditional dinner of Ham and Turkey, and all the trimmings along with a lot of conversation. Following the meal, we took a little time to discuss some things concerning our Society and our Library.

Augie Braun brought up that too many people, even in Steeleville where we are located, do not know where the Library is located. We have a nice sign on our building, but it sits back from the main street and not seen by many. He suggested that a sign, with an arrow, along the main street will catch the eyes of more people. We had looked into it before, but the main street is a state highway, we would need permission from the state before we could put up a sign, and that involves time and paperwork. Augie felt we could get permission to attach our sign to an existing sign, already in place along the highway, and he offered to look into the possibility. A motion was then made, seconded, and carried, to have a sign made, treated to withstand weather, and hung below the existing sign, if permission could be obtained. The next day, Augie came by the library and told us that permission was granted for us to hang a small sign below the "Clinic" sign, where our street turns off the highway, with an arrow directing the way. He left then, to talk to the man who is going to make the sign for us.

Janice Zang, also brought up a way to get our name, and information about our society, and what we do, out to the public. She had recently been waiting in our hospital waiting room, and in talking with people there, found that none of them knew that Rand. Co. Gen. Soc. existed and what we do. She suggested that we put our Quarterly magazines in the magazine racks in the waiting rooms of the hospitals and Doctors' offices in the County.

Janice has put together a number of articles about what was happening in Randolph County in the early years of its' history. She has gotten this information from early records on microfilm. The County Journal newspaper has been publishing these articles and we have been getting some favorable feedback on these articles from people who've read them and find them interesting.

Emily Lyons asked for volunteers to help with articles and stories for our Quarterly, "The Trails". Virginia Mansker has been the editor of the quarterly since about 2001, but is stepping down from that position. We want to continue in the format and quality that we've had. And so we ask you, our members, to submit stories of interest and historical articles for our quarterly. If you have suggestions for articles, please let us know. We, the office volunteers, will be typing and putting together the quarterly, starting in the New Year, and we welcome your input.

We will be closed for a short "Holiday Break", giving us a chance to prepare for Christmas and have some time with our families. Our last day will be Tuesday, Dec. 18th. We will be closed **Wed. Dec. 19---Jan. 6, 2013**
We will re-open Monday, Jan. 7, 2013.

We will have our January meeting on Tuesday, Jan. 8, 2013. We will meet in the afternoon, at 2:00pm, after the library closes for the day. We meet in the afternoon during the winter months. June will take care of refreshments.

We will be having a "Research Open House" on **Saturday, Jan. 19th**, beginning at 9am. There is a rising interest in Genealogy and researching family history, but newcomers to this fascinating hobby may not know where to start, or how to go about it. At our "open house" we will have volunteers there to help—to work with you and guide you in the process.

Those of you who are reading this newsletter, are members, and most likely know how to research, and have been doing it for years, but do you have a friend or neighbor who may be interested and would like help to get started on their research? Spread the word and encourage them to come to the work shop—no charge for researching.

We wish you all a very MERRY CHRISTMAS and a healthy and happy NEW YEAR !

June James, Pres.
Rand. Co. Gen. Soc.