

Randolph County Genealogy Society

Newsletter January/February, 2013

2013 GREETINGS!

The new slate of officers is working to learn the management so aptly handled by June James and Virginia Mansker. We are learning to appreciate them more every day. Thank you, ladies, for all you have done and continue doing.

Our first big project was tracking down the password to the website so it could be maintained. Megan Heyl had been assisting with it and now is our new webmaster. Thank you, Megan, for all you're doing. Take a new look. It looks terrific. <http://www.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~ilrcgs>. For example, the Quarterly Section now has the Table of Contents for all quarterlies since 1990.

This change came about after learning that our former webmaster, Larry Rettinger, had passed away in August, 2012. Megan has been busy filling in the missing parts and new info.

In Memoriam, with sadness, we offer our sincere gratitude for all Larry's assistance through the years. "KERRVILLE - Lawrence (Larry) John Rettinger, Jr. passed from this life peacefully Friday, August 24, 2012 at the age of 71.

Larry enjoyed retirement very much and had many hobbies and interests. He was an avid bridge and tennis player and loved to dance. Up until the day he entered the hospital, he continued to regularly play tennis and bridge with his buddies and burn up the dance floor.

Larry had a passionate interest in genealogy and did an amazing amount of research on his "dead relatives", as he affectionately referred to them. He had just finished writing and publishing a book for his family on the family's history dating from 1847 to the present.

If desired, memorials may be made in his name to the American Stroke Association or the Dietert Senior Center of Kerrville.

The family invites you to send condolences at www.grimesfuneralchapels.com by selecting the "Send Condolences" link."

Betty Wagner, Treasurer and Membership Chair is busy typing the labels for all the members that will be receiving the mailings. If you have not sent in your \$25 renewal dues for 2013, please remember to do so. All LIFE members and those who have renewed membership will have L or 2013 on the label and will continue to receive the mailings after March 1. Thank you for being prompt. There is still time to send dues before March 1st.

After March 1, 2013, the list will be adjusted to include only those that are paid up. New Members are welcome at any time. Check your label for the last year that was paid. Please correct us if necessary. Postage has raised, as we know you are aware. We're checking over the budget and attempting to adjust.

With rent, utilities, Bulk Mail fee, insurance, we need approximately \$3500 for the year before counting the cost of printings and mailings.

Along with raffling the quilt, RCGS End of the Year Report shows we stayed in the black. Everyone is so thankful for all the dues, orders, donations, and volunteer time that enables RCGS to be of service to communities and genealogists.

January 8th meeting was "change of officers time" and explanations. There were eight members present. All enjoyed the refreshments that June James brought to celebrate a new year. Thank you, June. January 19th brought sunshine and a goodly number of visitors to the Open House. Those assisting included June James, Janice Zang, Betty Wagner, Midge Dobyns, Emily Lyons, and Joyce Davitz. Everyone was kept busy answering questions and assisting research. Two new members joined. A shout out Welcome to Carl Welge and Marvin & Genine Westerman.

Mondays, Tuesdays, and Wednesdays always finds much activity at the RCGS Library. Besides everyone helping visitors, cleaning, researching and miscellaneous duties, there are regular activities.

If you need genie information, keep in mind that Lottie Braun and Joyce Davitz take the weekly papers and save the obituaries, births, marriages, and military news for indexing. Presently Midge Dobyns is indexing that information from a set of 1951 through 1955 Randolph County newspapers.

June James does much indexing and preparing manuscripts for sale besides office management of inventory, etc. Janice Zang continues to research the microfilm. Need land records?

We're sorry to hear Augie Braun has been not feeling well. He and Leona are faithful newspaper clippers so important information can be indexed.

We were so happy to have Virginia Mansker on the mend and among the nine members attending the February 12th meeting. Virginia helped us with the procedure of preparing the Quarterly that she has been handling for over nine years. We loved the Red Velvet Cake and other refreshments that were brought and served by Lottie Braun. Thank you, Lottie.

Other discussions at the meeting: We hope to have a RCHS directional sign up along Hwy 150 in the near future. Watch for that. We are proceeding with publishing a book, "The History of Steeleville" prepared by Imogene Fiene. It will have lots of old pictures and many memories. Stay tuned. We'll let you know when it is available.

Emily brought in some maps and information for a short program. The Old Goshen Trail followed an old Indian Trail and/or Bison Trace. It meanders from Shawneetown on the Ohio to an area just south of Edwardsville sometimes called Goshen. A 1865 map shows Kaskaskia Point at the confluence of the Kaskaskia and Mississippi Rivers, before 1881 river change, just across from present day Menard Correctional Center and north of the Chester Bridge. This 1865 map shows Coles Mill in the town of Manard south of Chester. An 1919 Atlas map shows Dozaville on the west side of Kaskaskia Island, just across Kingshighway from the 3 acre Pujol School District. The former home of Governor Shadrach Bond is now located in Dozaville. Three miles to the east of Dozaville is the incorporated village of New Kaskaskia and almost three miles northerly on La Grande Rue is the site of Old Kaskaskia. Remember the dues and we'll see you in March. Next meeting is March 12th. Thank you, everyone!

REMEMBER the March 2nd Benefit BLUE GRASS CONCERT & Dinner.
Proceeds go to REBUILD FORT KASKASKIA SHELTER.

Emily Lyons, Pres.