

ALBUQUERQUE GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY  
BOARD MEETING  
Virtual Meeting via ZOOM  
July 8, 2020

**July 8, 2020**, regular AGS Board meeting was called to order by Chair Marty Brady at 1:00 PM conducted through the internet using the ZOOM conferencing app.

**The following persons were present.**

**Elected Officers:**

- Martin Brady, *President*
- John Schlue, *Vice-President*
- Stuart Murray, *Secretary & Military SIG Facilitator*
- Bob Harper, *Treasurer*
- Linda Koch, *Past President*
- Susan Johnston, *Member-at-Large (1<sup>st</sup> consecutive term)*
- Louise Rosett, *Member-at-Large (1<sup>st</sup> consecutive term) & Online Book Sales*

**Appointed Committee Moderators and Volunteers:**

- Philip Spivey, *DNA Education Coordinator*
- John Farris, *DNA SIG Facilitator*
- Victoria Sullivan, *Education Coordinator*
- Rosemary McNerney Winkler, *Newsletter and Bookkeeper*
- Tiffani Loiacono, *Hospitality*
- Lynda Katonak, *Tuesday Research Days*
- Frankie Ewing, *Programs Coordinator*

**Guests:**

**The following persons were absent.**

**Elected Officers:**

- Carole Everton, *Celtic SIG Facilitator*
- Charlotte Green, *Used Book Sales*
- Lark Robart, *Saturday Research Days*
- Mike Blackledge, *Writing & Publishing SIG Facilitator*
- Michael Wilson, *Webmaster*
- Dal Jensen, *IT Team*

**Appointed Committee Moderators and Volunteers:**

- VACANT, *Historian*

**Marty Brady (President):**

Additions/changes to the Agenda: Approved as read.

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Approval of the June Minutes (Motion :): Stuart reported the minutes from June will be ready by August.

Marty reported on the Public Relations Position – Bob has reached out to Patricia O’Connor but she hasn’t responded. Marty will reach out again to Patricia this week. It may be quite a while given the current environment so we may not take advantage of the PR position for a while. Marty did contact Mike Wilson about the president’s email address on abqgen.org web site and allowing persons to contact Marty via the website. Lynda Katonak commented on most organizations' websites where Lynda belongs to have officers listed by the office and not by name. Marty wants to know if more email addresses should be created in this manner. Yes was the response by most members. Victoria commented we should including committees too.

**John Schlue (Vice-President):**

Nothing to report.

**Stuart Murray (Secretary & Military SIG):**

Nothing to report.

**Bob Harper (Treasurer & Publicity):**

Bob reported he has a problem with regular mail service. He is not receiving all the mail. Bob reported AGS has almost \$33K in the various accounts in the bank.

Membership or advertising? (Bob’s audio was garbled)

**Linda Koch (Past-President & DNA SIG):**

Nothing. Linda commented on a personal note, she is staying at home this summer. The family decided not to go to Michigan.

**Susan Johnston (Member-at-Large):**

Nothing as a member at large. Sue is taking a 3-day workshop on the New England Historical Society workshop. Sue likes the one on one consults on DNA. She would like to see more members participate. She commented we should expand the time from ½ hour to one hour. Marty commented he participated for one week on GRIP. Started on Sunday and went on through the week. GRIP was very informative and with Zoom easy to participate. He said he saved a bunch of money not traveling. Marty will send out the email soon on info with the ZOOM options. Phil has already suggested the DNA Consults go to an hour and they are doing that.

**Louise Rosett (Member-at-Large & Online Book Orders):**

Louise reported eBay sales are strong. She sold 11 books in June. There are 217 books in the eBay store. She paid \$250 for the American Ancestors computer subscription for the library. There is \$2089.30 for Lisa to spend. Victoria thought the subscription was reasonable for the library.

## Appointed Committee Chair Reports & Discussion:

- Phil Spivey, *DNA Education Coordinator*  
Phil reported they came up with 26 DNA topics to cover and will go through those to see what can be planned for the rest of the year. He had looked at this month to do a DNA Q&A session but there was such a demand in the survey to do other stuff and decided against it. This month's session will be on "**How to identify your many DNA matches**". In August the session will be on GEDmatch, in September – on DNAPainter, in Oct – Ancestry.com go through all the DNA tools. In Nov – do the same for MyHeritage DNA tools. Dec – Nothing Scheduled. He will be looking in the next few months for next year's schedule and that is what he has laid out for this year. Marty asked Rosemary if she could put this information into the upcoming Quarterly. Phil will send an email to Rosemary with the schedule. He said the one on one is great and would like to get more participation. Marty is looking to improve DNA advertising.
- John Farris, *DNA SIG Facilitator*  
John reported had the DNA SIG and it was the smallest group meeting in history. He said he had only 11 people. John said there was a healthy exchange between the members. John is pleased with the format and ZOOM working well.
- Lynda Katonak, *Tuesday Research Days*

Lynda thought the One on One went great but she needs to get participation out earlier. She said she only had two participants and they were happy with results. All four of the volunteers were pleased with how it went. So they doubled up the consultants on each participant and she agrees to increase the time to one hour. Sue and Lynda took an hour with the person. Victoria commented she got crossed upon how it was supposed to work. Victoria wanted to know how to contact Lynda. Lynda said she got her message, but wants to limit the number of volunteers depending on the number of participants. Victoria said she is available but wants to know how to do it. Lynda said she can go out to break-out rooms and go to a separate screen. Volunteers can share the screen, etc. to show the participant where to go. Lynda explained how the breakout sessions work. Volunteers can show anything on the computer screen to be shared. Lynda reported extra complications that Sue had with their participant. Lynda found out later, the person was using a MACmini, it had an old monitor with no audio and video capabilities. She could see the screen, so she used CHAT to communicate. It was limiting and Sue did well communicating to the person. Sue said she was putting links into chat and saving the chat as a text file and emailed it to her. It went well considering the complication but they worked it out. That applies to all members, including board members. Send in a question and the volunteers will try to help find answers. Stu said we should stipulate the requirements for ZOOM for participants and if they don't have the audio/video capabilities, offer an alternate method. Lynda said the person didn't know they didn't have audio and video on her MACmini. The discussion continued about hardware and software for several minutes. Lynda thought it went successfully. Linda Koch said she got tapped locally with a person over the phone and helped her with Ancestry.com. Linda said she got 3 phone calls from her over the phone in one day. Phil said you can do a one on one on ZOOM. It's free and you can do that with people. Lynda wanted to ask Tiffani how it worked for you with a rank beginner. Tiffani said it went pretty well. Tiffani said you can start teaching good habits and try to set them before they become bad habits. Lynda said

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we should build the tree foundation before going back to look for ancestors. Tiffani was able to share some good links and resources. The person was a beginner and hadn't started their tree yet. Tiffani commented she told the person to talk with cousins and gather information.

50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary on Marty's agenda. Lynda Katonak put together a general outline she has created and is trying to follow the AGS stated mission. Lynda read the mission statement. She commented some of her ideas are volunteer committees and want to find people to promote publicity. She would like to connect AGS with speakers to talk to groups throughout the year. Lynda's goal is to double the number of people who might know about AGS and what we do. AGS needs to promote the organization about what we are and what we do. She commented we should make the anniversary all year long event in 2022. Linda Koch commented it is a great idea. Linda Koch said it is something beginners could use. Linda said when you share a personal story and how to connect to AGS it gets exciting. In addition to using speakers to promote AGS during the year, AGS should have an open special event day, publicized and schedule times for tours, children activities, and informational booths from AGS, HGRC, NMGS, and other ethnic groups. The question is where to hold it? The last time it was held at the special collections library but parking was problematic. The last event would be a scheduled program about the history of AGS and the services, the role of genealogy, AND a party in the community room. Phil volunteered as did Stu. Lynda said we have been here for 50 years and here's what we are doing and how it applies to you. Lynda has it written down and will send out an email to the Board. Louise asked is Lynda looking for committee volunteers. Louise commented is it too early to put an article in the newsletter in the Quarterly to ask for volunteers? Stu said we should put in the November Quarterly about the general plans and looking for participants. Lynda reiterated the idea to put the article in the November Quarterly.

- Victoria Sullivan, *Education Coordinator*  
Victoria reported she is preparing a note for the August Quarterly. She had a bit of a delay due to an accident in the house and has fallen behind on her tasks. The Beginner's classes begin in August. She said she has to make arrangements before the classes start and they are due in another month. She will get the publicity out this week.
- Carole Everton, *Celtic SIG Facilitator*  
Not Present
- Lark Robart, *Saturday Research Days*  
Not Present. Marty reported for Lark AGS has 3 new members. Lark sent out a membership list. Linda Koch contacted a recent person who has been doing genealogy for 25 years. She is looking to start a genealogy business. Linda did give her info about the AGS meeting today and research days. Her name is Chris Burk, Rosemary says she did join. She will be a good resource for us because she is a well-experienced genealogist.
- Charlotte Green, *Used Book Sales*  
Not Present
- Rosemary McNerney Winkler, *Newsletter and Bookkeeper*

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Rosemary commented she is confused about the program descriptions. On September 9<sup>th</sup> she has via interactive Skype and the other ZOOM teleconference. Which is correct? Frankie said it is about Sunny Jane Morton and we had someone on the program committee contact her and we said it would be the remote presentation. It will probably be via ZOOM now. But we can just leave it as remote. Victoria says we need to find out how it will be offered. Lark may have been the contact. Rosemary commented she needs to know by Friday. Rosemary needs to know whether Patricia O'Connor should be listed as Publicity Chairperson by Friday, July 10. Stu reported Military SIG is on hiatus. Rosemary asked if Celtic was also on hiatus. Yes, to both groups. The Military and Celtic SIGs are on hiatus until notified otherwise. Victoria said she will send beginning class info by Friday. Lisa will need to send the Library hours for the Quarterly. Victoria commented she wanted someone to write a statement as to what equipment they should have for ZOOM. Stu said AGS could put a link on the AGS website to ZOOM tutorials. Discussion continued about how to use ZOOM. Phil said he would put together a 300-400 word article for inclusion in the Quarterly and will communicate with Mike Wilson about including it on the website. Rosemary agreed to put the article in the Quarterly and Website. Victoria would like to keep the article simple for people to use.

- Michael Wilson, *Webmaster*  
No

- Frankie Ewing, *Programs*  
Frankie reported that she hoped everyone enjoyed hearing Lee Black's presentation. It was excellent. He is so knowledgeable and a great asset to our organization. She thanked Rosemary for the suggestion. John Farris commented it brings up the fact for the speaker to test out ZOOM before the meeting to become familiar with it. Frankie said she and Marty rehearsed last week and it went well. Marty did switch to posting the video for Lee and it worked well. Marty commented he didn't remember the lag time from the rehearsal though. John Farris commented he posted a question in CHAT, but didn't get asked. Marty apologized he didn't remember seeing it. Frankie said next month Stu and Mike Dietz will do the End of WW2. Linda Koch said she has a four-page essay written by her son about her father. She has offered to read it. Linda offered little anecdotes from the essay. Stu can show pictures and let Linda read the letter. Linda asked if there a way to show photos and let Linda read the letter. Marty said Stu can put the pictures into PowerPoint and let Linda read the letter. Linda said it would be just her father's photos and show some pictures of his unit. Stu said we can work something out. Frankie reported the program committee is working on a Survey Monkey. Frankie put out an email to the program committee and has received some feedback. The Program Committee is still working on the format to send out next year's schedule requests to the entire membership. Mike Blackledge will put it together and give it to Marty to send out to the membership. Victoria asked if she is keeping track of all the classes people are attending. She said we have resources. Phil said the Dallas Genealogical Society on the 25<sup>th</sup> has a session you can sign up to attend.

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- Tiffani Loiacono, *Hospitality*  
Sent out a couple of cards this month and that is it.

**New Business**

Marty wants to know the best way to advertise webinars. Lisa has offered to advertise on the library website. Stu commented said we should advertise in the Alibi. Maybe put out to the libraries. Linda Koch wanted to know how many people attended today's meeting. Marty reported said we had 30 folks on the program today. Good turnout. Tiffani thought we should use the Facebook groups. Phil thinks that is a good idea but worried about the ZOOM capacity. Marty says we can get a 100 persons with 25 panelists. Do we feel comfortable to do this? (Our current Webinar subscription is for a 100 persons). ZOOM offers subscriptions of 100, 1000, 3000, etc. ZOOM may not be enforcing it. Marty said that we had 27 attendees today along with our 3 panelists and that was a good number.

Marty said Phil asked a question why we have two Facebook pages. Discussion continued about the difference between the two. Victoria said AGS is not enforcing a strict member only on the closed FB AGS group. John Farris wanted to know the difference. Tiffani offered the explanation comments remain within the AGS FB "Group" and are not visible to other FB members outside the group. On the Open AGS FB page, everyone with a regular FB account can see them and comment. (From our AGS FB Group – The setting is "Private"-Only members can see who's in the group and what they post. The setting is "Visible"-Anyone can find this group.)

Marty asked if we needed to revise some other person's job description to fill in as Secretary when the Secretary is absent. Linda said when she was Vice President she was the substitute Secretary. It was decided that we didn't need to revise the Vice President job description because John said it already says something to the effect 'Other duties as assigned by the Board'. John Schlue did volunteer to fill in as Secretary in the future, but Louise suggested that we just record the meeting for later transcription by the Secretary (after we stop having Zoom meetings, this would entail having someone record on a phone or such device). So, it was decided that we would handle the situation in that manner in the future.

Meeting adjourned at 2:22 PM.



Secretary

12 Aug 2020

Date