

ALBUQUERQUE GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY
BOARD MEETING
Virtual Meeting via ZOOM
November 11, 2020

November 11, 2020, a 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*
- Bob Harper, *Treasurer*
- Linda Koch, *Past President*
- Stuart Murray, *Secretary & Military SIG Facilitator*
- Susan Johnston, *Member-at-Large (1st consecutive term)*
- Louise Rosett, *Member-at-Large (1st consecutive term) & Online Book Sales*

Appointed Committee Moderators and Volunteers:

- Phil Spivey, *DNA Program Education Coordinator*
- John Farris, *DNA SIG Facilitator*
- Victoria Sullivan, *Education Coordinator*
- Rosemary McNerney Winkler, *Newsletter and Bookkeeper*
- Lynda Katonak, *Tuesday Research Days*
- Frankie Ewing, *Programs*
- Lark Robart, *Saturday Research Days*
- Tiffani Loiacono, *Hospitality*
- Michael Wilson, *Webmaster*

Guests:

None

The following persons were absent.

Elected and Appointed Officers:

Appointed Committee Moderators and Volunteers:

- Carole Everton, *Celtic SIG Facilitator*
- Charlotte Green, *Used Book Sales*
- Mike Blackledge, *Writing & Publishing SIG Facilitator*
- Dal Jensen, *IT Team*
- Patricia Harris, *Public Relations*
- VACANT, *Historian*

Marty Brady (President):

Additions/changes to the Agenda: Rosemary asked to add a budget item to the agenda. She asked if everyone had received a copy. The Agenda was accepted as corrected.

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Approval of the November Minutes (Motion :):

Stuart asked if the minutes should reflect the membership list to be sent out as mentioned in the last meeting. The Board discussed sending out the membership list to the members. Lark will print out a half dozen copies for those who request them by mail. Bob Harper made a motion to send a digital membership version list out by eBlast to the AGS members and Lark shall keep a ½ dozen printed copies to be mailed when asked. John Schlue: 2nd the motion. The motion passed unanimously. 6 Ayes, 0 Nays. The Board further discussed the membership list and removing sensitive information. Minutes are approved with the clarification about the membership list.

Marty reported two people will serve on the Audit Committee (Karen Gmyr and Sharon Hagenbuck). They did it last year and agreed to do it this year.

Most of the position changes will be discussed by Linda Koch. John Schlue agreed to be the bookkeeper, Shirley Atkinson will take over the membership director. Shirley has been in contact with Lark.

Marty sent out an email from Mike Blackledge about money for the book publication (\$600) for the 50th Anniversary. Action: Bob Harper moves that Mike Blackledge be approved \$600 for book publication. John Schlue: 2nd the motion. Motion passed Unanimously, 6 Ayes, 0 Nays.

Job Descriptions: Marty got feedback back on job descriptions. He will finalize them within a week. Marty talked about putting the job descriptions on the website. It was suggested to put a date on the job description as to when it last updated. Marty will send the corrected job descriptions to the Board. Marty is looking by the December Board meeting for approval, then put on the website by Mike Wilson.

Marty reported a couple of interesting postings. Marty wanted send a shout out to the Veterans Ad in today's paper. Thanked Mike Blackledge and Pat Eker for pushing that along. There is a \$50 possible cost. Marty asked if anyone had a problem with paying the cost. The Board is ok with that.

Marty reported there is a posting for Victoria's classes for Bernalillo County on their website. Mike Wilson has posted a link on the website to the classes. ZOOM during the pandemic is a little weird but may help with attracting new traffic.

John Schlue (Vice-President):

John Schlue reported Rosemary has been working hard to get John up to speed as a bookkeeper. Rosemary is very happy.

Stuart Murray (Secretary & Military SIG):

Stuart reported about Robert Burch for February's African-American Research program.

Bob Harper (Treasurer & Publicity):

Bob reported, "We got money". We have lotsa money. Bob commented AGS has almost \$32k earning more than we are spending.

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Linda Koch (Past-President):

Linda reported a full slate for the nominating committee to report at the December general meeting. In January will report the nominations again and ask for nominations from the floor. Then vote on the slate.

The nominated slate is here today and they are:

Phil Spivey, President
Lark Robart, Vice President
Stuart Murray, Secretary
Bob Harper, Treasurer
Susan Johnston (Member-at-Large)
Louise Rosett (Member-at-Large)

Nothing else to report

Susan Johnston, (Member-at-Large)

Nothing to report

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

Louise reported she sold another 9 books in October. The PayPal account is up to \$2143.00 for Lisa to spend. Bob Harper reported Louise has been paying for online subscriptions through the eBay account. Bob asked if we want to continue in this manner. Louise said it doesn't affect the bottom line. Louise will continue to pay for subscriptions online.

Appointed Committee Chair Reports & Discussion:

- *Phil Spivey, DNA Education Program Coordinator*
Phil reported the ABCs group met and came up with topics for 2021. Phil reported on the list. Phil will send the list to Rosemary for Quarterly
January – Marty will host a program on recombination and segment analysis.
February – Phil will host a program on matrilineal research with X DNA and Mitochondrial DNA
March – Phil will talk about triangulation.
April - Lark will talk about clustering methodology.
May – John Farris – will talk about geographical mapping using DNA.
June – Phil – a case study for using DNA for Adoption.
July – Lark – a case study on proving relationships.
August - Marty, and Chip will talk about comparing 3rd party tools.
September – John Farris will talk about Y-DNA.
October – Marty and Phil – Do to the complexity of the topic, two presentations will be done. Part 1, Visual Phasing.
November – Marty and Phil – Part 2, a continuation talk about Visual Phasing

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December – Set aside for any new tools out there or a rehash of GEDmatch. They will determine that as the date gets closer.

- John Farris, *DNA SIG Facilitator*
John reported the DNA SIG continues to meet. He reported between 12 and 20 members with good round table discussion. Everyone is sharing constructive comments. The April 2021 two-day seminars and we have a Celtic subcommittee for April 10, and a subcommittee for DNA for April 24th. The Board should have received an email outlining the schedule and speakers (committed at this point). Speakers for Celtic are being refined summarized in the email John Farris sent. Phil commented it looks good. Louise wants to know how we are going to publicize. John Farris says we will need a major PR effort and with both printed and electronic flyers. John said the Dallas Genealogical Society does all their meetings on ZOOM with advertising. Several of us participated in their seminars and they did a good job. Phil will help Pat Harris to publicize the event. John Farris said that the speakers are internationally known and we could never afford to bring them to Albuquerque but yet we are going to have them on ZOOM. John thinks we will get a lot of activity across the USA and outside the USA due to the reputation of speakers. Subcommittees have done a good job contacting all these speakers. Lynda Katonak asked if there are national organizations in the USA for Celtic, Welch, and Scottish research to be a good target for advertising. John Farris responded we are getting the local chapter involved and Bob Harper had us speak with the Irish and Scottish groups in town. The Board discussed contacting national groups. Tiffani said if there are national groups we should hashtag them on Instagram. The Board continued discussion about national groups. Louise asked if the \$25 fee is for each Saturday or \$25 for both Saturdays. John F says \$25/day. Phil commented we all have friends around the country help us by promoting the seminar.
- Pat Harris – Public Relations
Not Present
- Lynda Katonak, *Tuesday Research Days*
Lynda reported she doesn't have much about research days. She is continuing to do one on one consultation on ZOOM. Lynda said she is still not utilizing all the volunteers although we get a few new participate every month. Lynda would like to work a little bit harder promoting that and in getting people to participate in it; or coming up with a new format. Lynda will entertain suggestions about promotions or a new format.

Lynda said she has a new topic. Judy Rapping attended the Dallas seminar on African-American genealogical research. Lynda reported Judy Rapping came back with several recommendations on books we should have in the Library. Judy, Lynda, and Sheri Burr have been working on a list of books for the library. Lisa is already interested in doing this. Finding out about the February program it would be really good if some of these

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books were already in the library for our genealogy center. If we go to these different organizations and promote for them to attend our February program it would be wonderful to have them in the library. I am going to try to get Judy to work with Lisa about the list. The Board continued discussion about the purchase of books for the library. The Board needs to coordinate the list with Lisa and contact the February speaker for a book list for purchase.

50th Celebration – Lynda reported she is disappointed she didn't get any calls from the Quarterly article. She was hoping to get a couple of calls, but the only call was before the Quarterly published. Ellabell Eker was involved with a one-day event (30th) and she made a scrapbook of the event. Lynda picked up the scrapbook and it is quite nice with great pictures. It has a lot of information about the 30th Anniversary one-day event and what they did. It is a personal scrapbook and I cannot pass it around like in a normal Board meeting. Stuart suggested picking out pictures for the 50th Anniversary book. Lynda thought it is a great idea. Lynda still needs to get someone to volunteer as the 50th one-day organizer and organize the speaker's bureau. We have a committee working on the book and they are making a lot of progress. If you talk to someone or have someone in mind, Lynda would like to know that and who to call on. Phil said he had a couple of thoughts. We have a lot of new members that haven't been around for a long time. We say we are putting something together the new members may feel they don't have the context to help out because they might not know what to do. If we put out the specific tasks we need, folks might feel better about volunteering. Maybe the program committee can help with the speaker's bureau. The committee is already set up to do. Tiffani agreed. Tiffani said we should take pictures out of the book from the fashion show and put the pictures up on Facebook, we might get volunteers to help out. Lynda doesn't know how to get more people involved. It is hard to get some people involved because they don't talk with others like the Board does once a month. Phil says we need to let folks know they can contribute. Lynda said we need someone to organize things and make things happen. By January would like to have everything set up for planning the 50th Anniversary.

Linda Koch was thinking about the speaker's bureau to allow Pat Harris to head that up since she is the public relations person to contact the organizations around. Linda said it might be possible to allow her to schedule folks to speak to the community. Lynda Katonak says Pat will need a lot of help to do this. Lynda said we need to sit down and talk about it. The Board continued discussion about Library access. Discussion continued about the scrapbook and its contents. Victoria talked about maybe advertising the research days differently. The Board discussed changing the advertising approach. Lynda said instead of one on one consultation for research day, maybe have a group (4) to present questions and have the panel answer questions. The Board discussed consultations and research days. Lynda thinks the eBlasts sent out the past month have been inviting and she has used them. She doesn't think it's the invitation is the problem.

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It may take a one on one solicitation. Tiffani asked has the Board done a phone tree. It is a way to contact folks and let people get engaged. Phil asked how many people are on the eBlast. Rosemary commented about 225 members are on the eBlast list, but Mike is maintaining it now. Mike responded it is based on the membership list.

- Victoria Sullivan, *Education Coordinator*
Victoria reported a 4 part beginner's class for Bernalillo County. Victoria asked about sending out an eBlast. John Schlue should send out an eBlast. I am not setting this up because Bernalillo County is setting this up. Bernalillo County sent her a flyer and would like members to see the flyer. Marty said he sent it to all Board members. Victoria thought we should send membership an eBlast. Lark asked if we could post it to Facebook, Victoria thought it was fine as long as Bernalillo County is OK. Bernalillo County requires a class registration which requires connecting to the County Website. Mike Wilson said it is already posted on the website. Lynda Katonak asked is it a requirement to live in Bernalillo County? Victoria said she is not sure. The discussion continued about how it will be posted on the BernCo website. Victoria will check out the process after the meeting about the procedure and she will pass it on. She didn't see anything on the flyer requiring a person to live in Bernalillo County. Victoria will be doing the Library class in the spring on ZOOM.
- Carole Everton, *Celtic SIG Facilitator*
Not Present
- Lark Robart, *Saturday Research Days*
Lark reported sent three monthly reports. Something she wants to do is take a look at where we are for new members for the year. We may be down related to COVID but will take a look. Lark commented she likes the phone tree idea. She feels some folks may be intimidated by ZOOM. If so, we can do a one on one to help folks set it up as we are going to be doing this for a while. It is better to try to catch folks now instead of in another year. Marty said this is an Action item and who would do it. Tiffani can help with the phone tree. Louise asked how many would pick up the phone. Lynda Katonak said you can leave a message if they don't pick up the phone. Tiffani talked about how to contact people. The Board discussed how we can keep in touch with members and keep them involved with genealogy. Tiffani will create talking points and email everyone. Phil thinks it is a good idea. If 5 people reach out to 5 other people, that is 25 people and could go through the membership list pretty fast. Lark has been worried about the one on ones. If you reach out by the phone tree, members might be more likely to respond. The Board discussed upcoming events that are free to members. Marty talked about how a lot of people don't go to Facebook and eBlast response. Marty thinks this is a good way to reach out. Victoria asked about Facebook membership, do we continue to allow non-members to join? Stuart responded that he is in favor to allow non-members to join because we can broadcast what we are doing. Victoria has been following your lead and

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allowing. Mike Wilson was wondering if we should use Facebook to allow AGS members to get to our website. Victoria thought it better to use the website rather than Facebook. The member paywall might be a better approach.

- Charlotte Green, *Used Book Sales*
Not Present
- Rosemary McNerney Winkler, *Newsletter and Bookkeeper*
Rosemary wants to talk about the budget. She made up figures for the various items and wants to talk about the budget. Rosemary reported she was only guessing at the cost of the speakers in the budget and wants to know if the Board wants to address it. Frankie commented about the budget. She said in the Speaker Seminar Income if we charge non-members \$25 for 20 people, that is only \$500 and we may need to increase that particular item in the budget for advertising. In the Expenses, speaker fees will cost more than \$800 in our budget. Frankie spoke about the cost of other speakers coming up next year for the conference. We need to increase the budget to allow more expenses. This \$800 will need to be at least \$2000. Frankie discussed the 4 speakers we are contracting with for the year 2021 and their costs. We are allowing \$450 for just next year's budget. A more realistic number might be \$2500. Frankie asked about another item under the Expense, is this for ZOOM? Rosemary said yes. Rosemary asked do we know what the suggested income should be for the seminars. Frankie responded she does not know. Victoria commented on the idea it was cheaper to join than pay for the conference. Mike said we have no idea how many will respond. Rosemary will increase the income by \$2000 for conferences. Louise asked about the \$600 for publishing? Rosemary does not have anything in the budget for this year. Stuart responded it will fall into the 2022 budget rather than 2021. Stuart said he didn't think the 50th Anniversary Book would be published in 2021. Stuart suggested putting the \$600 in the budget just in case. Marty thought it was for 2021. Mike Wilson said he thought it would be difficult to spend any money next year. Rosemary will send an update to Marty.
- Michael Wilson, *Webmaster*
Marty asked if Mike would contact Steve Pierce about the member paywall. Mike is concerned if we are worried about security, do we need a security expert. Stuart suggested contacted Dal Jensen. Tiffani commented she can contact friends at Southwest Cyberport about how to set it up. Lynda thinks Southwest Cyberport would be a good contact. Tiffani is willing to reach out. Lark wondered does the society's insurance cover being hacked. Mike said he doesn't know what losses we might incur. Lark discussed another member paywall and the need to check with the insurance company about what might happen if personal information gets out. Phil commented on cybersecurity and will ask a family member about cybersecurity. The Board discussed what content might be behind the member paywall. Marty said there are a lot of details to be discussed and Tiffani will reach out to Southwest Cyberport.

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Mike reported on the 50th Anniversary book and concurs with what Lynda said. After the article in the Quarterly, he hasn't received any contacts. We might need to scale back the book a little bit if we cannot get any volunteers.

- Frankie Ewing, Programs

Frankie reported she was very pleased with Carl's Mayflower presentation. Carl was very good and professional. She said next month, Dec 9th we will do a show and tell. Normally we meet in the community room and we cannot meet there this time. We are relying on people to bring something to show and tell to talk about. If people want to share they will have about 3 minutes each. Frankie is encouraging everyone to bring something to share. Linda Koch will report on the nominating committee which should be exciting to find out about.

The Program Committee met on October 19th. A lot of you are on that committee. As Stuart reported a while ago, he is about to finalize the February meeting. It looks like we have a full slate. A lot of speakers are AGS members such as Victoria Sullivan, Sue Johnston, and Mike Blackledge to name a few. Frankie will put together the blurbs and all the descriptions. If everyone would send me your description with a few lines it would be helpful. Next year's programs will be presented at the January meeting.

In addition to our regular AGS presenters, we have a good selection of national and international speakers. You'll be happy to know Sunny Jane Morton (Adding Your Own Stories to Your Family History) will speak, Penny Walters who is British (On the Ethical Dilemmas of Genealogy), and Judy Russel (The Legal Genealogist – First Trip to the Courthouse). Research Monkey survey results show 35% is new membership in the last 4 or 5 years and some programs need to return to basics. Lark reported she talked with Judy Russell by email about a couple of issues. Lark read Judy's email to the Board. Judy allows members to view the presentation and handouts for 30 days, but the material must be behind a member paywall.

Linda Koch asked what is a member paywall. Lark reported it is a specific location on the website for members to go to and I am not sure how it is set up, but it only allows members to access it. It might bring in some new members if they wanted to see Judy's presentation. I think a lot of genealogy societies now have member paywalls and it is becoming a lot more common. Lynda Katonak commented she uses member paywall in other organizations to contact other members because the membership list is usually behind the paywall. The Board discussed the pros and cons of creating a member paywall. The posting of the video may require talking with Steve Pierce if he is OK with this. The discussion continued about the effects of the member paywall for AGS.

Linda Koch asked about posting Carl Malone's presentation on the Internet Archive. Marty said yes, it will be posted. Linda Koch reported for the December meeting, the VP

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has given a historical report for the year. Lynda Katonak said that is given in January. Every committee chair writes a report to the VP for historic reporting. The discussion continued about historical reporting. Frankie also said the new programs for 2021 will be reported. Louise asked if the summary goes into the Quarterly. Linda said it hasn't been written but given by the VP orally. Louise said not a lot of members attend the January meeting. Mike Wilson said it seems redundant to report it in the Quarterly. Victoria said sure, we have always done it this way.

Frankie reported a few months ago she asked Tiffani to swap positions. Frankie said we haven't taken advantage of Tiffani's gifts. Frankie read off Tiffani's resume. Frankie said Tiffani has agreed to take over the program committee lead beginning in 2021. Frankie will assume the Hospitality position.

- Tiffani Loiacono, *Hospitality*

Tiffani sent out one card this month. She did respond to Pat Harris yesterday and asked about eBooks or using Overdrive. Tiffani hasn't heard back yet. If it is only asking the author's permission, it might be easier. Louise said she went to the library and said that only 6 genealogy books exist on Overdrive. Louise asked if an author had a hardback book, might they donate an eBook. Victoria said there might be copyright issues. The discussion about authors and Overdrive continued. Stu asked what are the differences between a regular book purchase and licensing an eBook. Louise said she only looked on Overdrive. Victoria said she uses Oppla. Tiffani commented if authors donate eBooks, they go into Overdrive. We might be able to get the author's permission, but we need to clarify this. The library contract has to put eBooks on Overdrive.

New Business

Bob said he talked with Carol Everton about setting up a new computer. Carol is having difficulty setting up her email and Bob brought her a list of email addresses so she could start building up her email addresses. He has told her about ZOOM, but she not sure how to set it up. Lark said she will contact Carol to help her set up ZOOM. There was a discussion about helping people with older computers. Tiffani commented she might have some extra cameras if anyone is interested in helping people with older computers.

The next AGS Board meeting will be held on December 9, 2020, at 1 pm.

The meeting adjourned at 2:53 PM.



Secretary

December 9, 2020

Date