

MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL MEETING

26 SEPT. 2009

Meeting called to order by President Gerry Savard at 3:05 p.m.

Minutes of the 26 Sept. 2008 annual meeting was read by Jeanne Boisvert, Recording Secretary. Motion to accept as read was made by Julie Smith and seconded by Anne Gleason. Motion carried unanimously.

President Savard highlighted the accomplishments for FY 09

- ACGS was an active participant in the New England Regional Consortium held in their 2009 conference at the Radisson in Manchester. Pauline Cusson and I served as officers of the consortium, and Pauline was one of the tri-chairs who spent many hours putting the conference together. The 700+ attendees are proof of the wonderful job that Pauline and her co-chairs did. Pauline has volunteered to co-chair the 2011 conference to be held in Springfield, MA. ACGS provided a well know speaker, Sylvie Tremblay to educate the masses on French-Canadian genealogy. We also staffed a booth that featured our publications and our holdings.
- Spending wise, this has been a relatively quiet year at ACGS. As the economy took a serious dive, we limited our spending to the necessities. Through the efforts of a great board of directors, we managed the affairs of our society in a fiscally responsible manner.

Building and Maintenance:

- My thanks to Herb Boyce for his devotion to keeping our building sound and safe.
- The new windows have made the library more comfortable, in summer and winter and in elimination a lot of the street noise.
- After consulting with National Grid, we decided not to install a drop down ceiling in the library. The expected energy savings did not justify the capital outlay.
- Herb is in the process of getting quotes to install a larger dry well to control flooding. The existing pumps have been able to handle the heavy rains but it's a delicate balance. A larger dry well would give us a substantial buffer against serious flooding.

Volunteers:

- Thanks to Mary Anna Paquette and her staff for doing a great job of keeping the library running smoothly. I'd also like to thank Denis Joyal who's provided extra library hours by

personally staffing the library on the first and third Sundays of the month.

Research:

- My thanks to Constance Hébert and her group of volunteers who comprise our research dept. Our research department has seen consistent increases in requests for Drouin images, family research and translations. Our researchers go the extra mile by sometimes heading off to the Maine archives or to Vermont or New York to help someone out with their research.

Publications:

- Pauline Côté and David Bonitatibus have copied over three quarters of a million records, transcribed, proofread and put to print.
- We have entered into a partnership with NEHGS. We have provided NEHGS with a database of our repertoire records that includes name, type of act (baptism, marriage or buriel) and location. Members of NEHGS can access this database online and request the full record either through NEHGS or through us. We anticipate this will produce revenue in providing this information and increased sales of our repertoires.
- Sales of publications have been very strong this year, thanks to Muriel Normand who sent out a small number of targeted mailings to libraries that had not purchased from us for a period of time. CD sales have been consistent, with over \$5000 in sales since we began selling them. The cost to produce and mail the CD's is less than \$5.

Shipping:

- Thanks to Jim Gaudet for his efforts in this area. Aside from doing the actual shipping Jim also manages the reprinting of our of stock repertoires.

Computer Committee:

- Thanks to Bob Paquette and his committee for maintaining our computers. We now offer wireless access to our patrons through a small investment in a wireless router. Six new flat panel monitors were purchased to replace the large, energy gobbling monitors that we had. We also purchased additional memory for many of the computers to improve their performance. We spent less than \$1000 dollars on equipment that extends the life and usability of our computers.

Genealogist:

- Thanks to Pauline Cusson for her untiring devotion to this publication. It's amazing how she can produce a consistently great journal four times a year.

- One of the decisions that the board made to manage our mailing costs for the Genealogist is to no longer mail out additional copies to members that have missed theirs because of an address change. When this occurs, we will now e-mail and electronic copy as a replacement.

Membership:

- Thanks to Jeanne Boisvert for managing the membership activities. This year we increased our membership dues from \$30 to \$35. This became necessary due to the increases in our expenses and was the first increase in over 7 years. Our members understood the need for the increase and there was very little negative reactions to it.

Web site:

- We averaged over 250 hits on our web site from NEHGS, and about 1800 messages on our Message Board.

Treasurer's Report:

- Income this year was \$98,900, Expenses was \$82,200 with a net income of \$16,700
- Membership income was \$50,700.
- Expense for Journal printing is around \$18,800 with Postage included is \$21,000.
- Building expense for Heating from Sept, 08 to Aug 08 was \$14,800. Gerry will negotiate with National Grid for monthly budgeting.
- Building expense for Electricity and A/C and Building maintenance was \$9000.

close enough
? closer to \$15,000 including elec.

Gerry thanked the Conference committee for the excellent speakers and for all those who participated in making another fall Conference a success.

Discussion from the floor:

- David Bonitatibus requested that he would like to treat his volunteers, approximately 15 people, to a dinner at ACGS expense as a show of appreciation for their hard work. A motion was made to allow David to treat his volunteers to a dinner not to exceed \$300, seconded by Anne Gleason.
- There was also an extensive discussion on how to reduce the cost of printing and mailing the Genealogist. David Bonitatibus made a motion that the Board of Directors reexamine the process of reducing to 3 mailings a year by making one issue a double issue. The

motion was seconded by Mary Anna Paquette.

Nominating Committee:

- The following slate was compiled by chair Julie Smith and Gerry Lalonde and presented by Jim Gaudet.

- **Officers**

President: Gerry Savard

Vice-President: Muriel Normand

Treasurer: Pauline Cusson

Recording Secretary Jeanne Boisvert

Corresponding Secty Lorette Leafe

- **Directors for 2 year term**

James Gaudet

John Cook

Denis Joyal

Bernadette Meunier

- Nominations from the floor.
- Jim Gaudet made a motion that we elect the slate of officers as presented, seconded by David Bonitatibus. Motion passed.

Motion made by Julie Smith to Adjourn at 4:15 pm and seconded by Anne Gleason.

Respectfully submitted

Jeanne Boisvert

Recording Secretary