

BIGWILL MEETING MINUTES - MAY 19, 2007

Meeting was called to order by President Peggy Gleich at 10 AM.

BIGWILL was present at the Arlington Heights Genealogy Fair on May 5th. About 100 people attended, a smaller group than in previous years, with fewer vendors present.

BIGWILL is 15 years old this year; interest was shown for a 15th Anniversary gathering of some sort. A luncheon or dinner this Fall seemed like the most acceptable idea, and will be looked into.

Library status was updated - books and periodicals are now in storage, both McHenry and Woodstock libraries are being approached to discuss placing our holdings in their facility.

Sign ups to assist with the Irvine Conference on September 29th are going well; the volunteer sheet was circulated to fill the remaining slots.

Upcoming events include Walworth County on Saturday, June 16th from 1-3 PM in Delavan; and the Scottish Highland Games at the Oak Brook Polo Grounds on Friday, June 15th from 4-10 PM; and Saturday, June 16th from 9-7:30 PM. Also Monday evening after the Games, June 18th, Colleen Fitzpatrick will be speaking at the Scottish Home in Riverside on DNA and Genealogy; and on Saturday, July 14th the Genealogy Group of the Illinois St. Andrews Society will have a speaker on Heraldry at the Scottish Home.

A recent success story was related of a member receiving an e-mail from England; the connection was linked through the BIGWILL Register. Members are reminded to keep posting their interests to the Register. The current issue is now available, and has been distributed.

The next Board Meeting will be held on Saturday, June 23rd, at 10 AM at the Nippersink Library.

The Lake County Genealogical Society's Workshop is scheduled for the first Saturday in November, which is November 3rd.

A discussion was held on whether to re-subscribe to Family Tree Magazine. The subscription is approximately \$95, surface rate, from England. Availability of the magazine to members was discussed, and led back in to additional discussion of our Library collection. Current issues can be brought to the meetings for members to peruse.

The July meeting program on July 21st will focus on the Welsh.

Our Speaker was Mr. Greg Peck, who gave an interesting presentation on his book "Death Beyond the Willows" about a tragic Wisconsin wedding, which took place in Marshall WI (Dane County). The story tracks and connects members of the two families, and relates their memories of the sad event. Mr. Peck was available to speak with members after the meeting, and had photo albums and copies of his book available to members. A bus tour of the area featuring key locations in the book will be held in the Fall, marking the 80th anniversary.

Meeting adjourned at 11:45 AM.