

Minutes for the December 7, 2017 Meeting of the SaddleBrooke Genealogy Club

President Carolee Tibor called the meeting to order at about 1:02 PM.

President Tibor welcomed the visitors and asked them to introduce themselves and tell us why they are interested in genealogy research. There were four visitors; Two were from Colorado, one was from Orange County, California, and one was from Michigan.

President Tibor introduced our speaker for the day, Michelle Goodrum, whose topic was information that can be obtained from the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) that may help genealogy research. Ms Goodrum described the various kinds of records the BLM has and the kinds of information we may find about our ancestors in those records. She encouraged us to order case files from the BLM for any ancestors that may have obtained land through the BLM, because these files can contain a wealth of information about ancestors and the land they owned.

Ms Goodrum described the rectangular survey system used in 30 states. The only states where this system is not used are the states that were part of the 13 original colonies, their extensions including Kentucky and Tennessee; Hawaii, and Texas and a few others.

Ms Goodrum also discussed doing wild card searches for names to account for misspellings and she talked about other ways to search.

Ms. Goodrum noted that when ordering a file, the cost for that file is \$50 whether the file includes many pages or very few. She suggested considering hiring a researcher for the purpose of obtaining files, especially if you want several files. The cost may be less if the researcher makes copies for you. Researchers can be found through the Association of Professional Genealogists. Pick one located in or near Washington, DC, and you may find that it is faster and less expensive to obtain files this way.

Ms. Goodrum's talk ended about 2:20 pm. President Tibor asked if anyone had any changes to the minutes of the November meeting. There were none.

Pat Rourke gave the treasurer's report. There were no questions about the report. The report was placed on file.

President Tibor asked if there was any unfinished business. There was none. She asked if there was any new business. There was none.

Members were reminded that the Irish Special Interest Group (SIG) will meet next Thursday at 10:00 AM at Bonnie's house. Members were also reminded that the Writing SIG led by Rondie Yance will meet on December 11th.

The door prize drawing was held. The winners were Donna Webber and Christine Nelson.

The meeting was adjourned at approximately 2:35 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Christine Nelson, Secretary