# SGGEE Society for German Genealogy in Eastern Europe

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# MINUTES OF THE THIRD ANNUAL MEETING La Quinta Inn, TACOMA, WA., USA August 11, 2001

There were 73 members in attendance and 7 represented by proxy. There were about 10 non-members in attendance.

President **Bill Fife** chaired the meeting and called it to order at 4:05PM, with **Rose Ingram**, Recording Secretary present.

Minutes of the Second Annual Meeting were distributed to those in attendance. After the membership had the opportunity to review them, it was moved by **Bob Keck** and seconded **by Jerry Frank** that the minutes as circulated be approved. Carried.

President Bill Fife asked for the reading of Committee Reports.

In the absence of **Irwin Feldcher** the Finance Committee Chairman, Bill Fife read the Auditor's report as at September 30, 2000. Total revenue being \$16,351.00 CDN and expenses being \$11,093.00 CDN resulting in net income of \$5,259.00 CDN and this added to the previous assets bring the total assets to \$14,094.00 CDN. (Copy of which report is attached to original Minutes.)

**Gary Warner**, co-Webmaster gave a Website report covering changes, additions and new links on the SGGEE Website.

**John Marsch**, Membership Committee Chairman, gave the Membership report. He reported a 73% renewal rate, and from the total roll of 405, there are 309 active members, and gave a breakdown of membership from various Countries. USA 211, Canada 182, Germany 4, Denmark 3, Australia 3, Mexico 1, Poland 1.

This membership includes 5 Honorary memberships given this year. Harold Bresch – 2 years; Michael Hucal – 1 year; Albert Muth – 10 years; Marcia Momose – 10 years; and Edith Riske – 5 years.

**John Marsch**, Research Committee Chairman reported that the annual limit for expense reimbursement for an individual volunteer has been increased to a maximum of \$1,500.00 CDN from \$500.00 CDN. He also stated that permission has been obtained to post the Volhynian Lutheran St. Petersburg files on the SGGEE website. He further reported on other projects in the works including the translation of some Zhitomir Church records from German to English by Garnet Marshall, and pending work on records from Lodz Trinity church transcribed by Michael Radke.

The Convention Report was given.

Bill Fife gave the Journal Report and also described the newsletter exchange with other societies.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

#### Amendments to By-laws

A copy of the Proposed By-Law Changes, revised May 18, 2001, which was previously forwarded to the membership in accordance with the by-laws, was circulated amongst the membership for review. It was moved by **Ron Akers** and seconded by **Dave Obee** to accept the By-Law changes as stated, and the motion was carried. (Copy of Proposed By-law changes attached to original Minutes.)

## Auditors.

**Bill Fife** called for the appointment of at least two auditors from the membership as Auditors of the Society books for the coming year, in accordance with the by-laws. **Ron Akers** and **Victor Gess** agreed to be the auditors, and it was moved, seconded and carried that they be the Auditors for the next year.

NOTE: After the Election of Directors Victor Gess removed himself as an auditor as he had been elected as a Director, and **Carol Burns** stepped forward and agreed to be an Auditor in his place, and her placement was approved by the membership.

# **Directors**

**Bill Fife** asked **John Marsch** from the Nominating Committee to list and speak briefly about the 5 candidates for the four positions of Directors for a period of 2 years each. The candidates being **Richard Benert, Rosemarie Ingram, Virginia Less, Jack Milner,** and **Gary Warner**. John Marsch then called for any candidates from the floor and **Victor Gess** stepped forwarded. After first ballot Rosemarie Ingram, Virginia Less and Victor Gess received majority votes with a fourth place tie between Richard Benert and Gary Warner. A second ballot put Richard Benert into the majority and being the fourth Director chosen.

Richard Benert, Rosemarie Ingram, Virginia Less, and Victor Gess would now join Jan Butler, Irwin Feldcher, Howard Krushel and Karl Lenz on the Board of Directors, together with Bill Fife as Past President.

The meeting adjourned at 5:30 PM

Rose Ingram, Recording Secretary