

## **The Society for German Genealogy in Eastern Europe (SGGEE)**

Agenda and Minutes of the Board of Director's Teleconference Meeting on Monday, September 13, 2004. Number of Directors required for a quorum is 5.

Participating Directors: Dick Stein, Earl Schultz, Ken Schultz, Karl Krueger, Ursula Bachman and John Marsch (Past President).

### Agenda Items:

1. Election within the Board of a President and Vice President (1year term)
2. Assignment of Committee positions on the Library, Journal and Village/Regional Coordinator Committees.
3. Approve the purchase of the Oracle software.
4. Approve cheque signing authorities and other banking arrangements as required by the Treasurer, Ken Schultz.
5. Confirmation of convention site at Minneapolis, MN jointly with FEEFHS in September of 2005 and the selection of a SGGEE representative to work with FEEFHS 2005 Convention Committee.
6. Where to use the newly approved SGGEE logo.
7. Discuss the requirement of a German language email translator (from German to English and the replies from English to German).
8. Explore alternatives to getting membership fees from Germany.

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The teleconference was called to order by President John Marsch at approximately 9.10 PM CST.

1. No volunteers were forthcoming. Since Carol was not able to attend the meeting, John will email Carol to see if she is interested in fulfilling the role of President. The Vice President role will be dealt with in email conversation as well.

2. Volunteers for the following Committees:

Library Committee:	Dick Stein
Village/Regional Coordinator:	Ursula Bachman
Research Committee:	Karl Krueger
Journal Committee:	Miles Ertman

3. Due to the increasing problem with doing searches in the pedigree database it has been suggested that the SGGEE purchase software to remedy this problem. Gary and Matt Warner have recommended the purchase of the Oracle software in the amount of approximately \$5,000 US. Some concern was expressed regarding the possibility of an upgrade fee in the future. John wasn't aware of any upgrade fees. There is no duty paid on the software as it will be purchased and installed in the United States. Gary and Matt

are still in negotiations with the software company regarding the exact purchase price. The group discussed the amount of capacity that the new software would provide. Presently there is a capacity in the pedigree reports for 38 gigabytes. With the purchase of the software this would increase to 500 gigabytes.

**Motion** – by Ursula Bachman that the SGGEE purchase the Oracle software for approximately \$5,000.00 US.

**Seconded** – by Dick Stein

**Approved**

4. Since a new President was not appointed it was decided that at this time Ken Schultz, Dick Stein and Earl Schultz will have cheque signing authority for cheques over the amount of \$2,000.00 and other banking arrangements for the time being. The banking procedure at present has been working for everyone and will continue.

5. Everyone agreed that the convention site at Minneapolis, MN jointly with FEEFHS in September of 2005 is a good idea. The logistics of set up however will be difficult since we have few members in Minneapolis. Earl Schultz volunteered to work with FEEFHS on the 2005 Convention Committee.

6. The new logo was discussed relative to it's use. John indicated that Gary is reluctant at this time to be adding this to website. John is going to ask him to add it to the home page initially. Bill Fife is going to use it in the Journal and the SGGEE letterhead, envelopes, etc will have this new logo printed on them.

7. John indicated that Sandra Hartfiel – who presently volunteers as the German language email translator, is often away on travel and therefore not available to do the translations promptly. Jan Textor has offered to do this service as a last resort. Karl Krueger is also not always available to provide this service but asked John to be placed on the list as a German contact.

8. The expensive and difficult matter of getting membership fees from Germany has been discussed before with the Treasurer Ken Schultz. However a new avenue has been opened to SGGEE.

While at the convention in Calgary, John had occasion to discuss this problem with a woman from Luxemburg by the name of Jutta Missal. She is a Marketing Assistant with a firm called Astron Buildings S.A. She has offered to be SGGEE's representative in Europe and as such would deposit membership fees in Luxemburg and also forward the membership correspondence to SGGEE. Her stated fee for this would be nothing. The money she received would be transferred to our bank in large amounts whenever requested by SGGEE. The advantage being that the bank transfer fees for anything under \$50,000 is no more for than they are for \$30.

Some members expressed concern that there would be no control of the money. This woman is not even a member of the SGGEE. It was suggested that she only have control

of the depositing of the fees but it still would be difficult to match members with amounts.

Using a website service as an alternative was discussed. Ken will examine this option and report back to the Board.

Following the conclusion of the set agenda items, John brought up a situation that arose at the Calgary Conference with a fellow who would like to trade his extensive (20-25 year) research database on Volhynien Germans for the SGGEE pedigree database. His reason for wanting to do this is to compare ours with his. Since then another fellow has asked for a copy as he pays for on-line time and doing a search on the website is very time consuming. John told both gentlemen “no” at this time. A policy may be needed in future.

The teleconference adjourned at approximately 9:54 PM CST

Signed:

Ursula Bachman  
Recording Secretary