

Anson County Writers' Club Minutes for June 28, 2009

The Anson County Writers' Club met June 28, 2009, at the Chamber of Commerce in Wadesboro. Vice President Randy Tarlton called the meeting to order.

Ruth Hickman gave the treasurer's report. Beverley Getzen made a motion that the report be accepted as presented; the motion was seconded by Karen MacMurray and passed unanimously.

There were no minutes.

Randy reported that all of Robert Macomber's books are in the library and that library director Phoebe Medlin had given a report on his books at the Sandhills Regional Library System's regional meeting June 26. There is a notation in the books that Macomber participated in the 2009 Carolinas Writers Conference. The books were donated by Rufus and Beverley Getzen.

Karen reported that the writers conference is registered with two official writing conference lists and on some writing forums. She has received a positive response from author Ellen Bache about appearing at the 2010 conference.

The nominating committee reported on its slate of officers for 2009-2111: Rufus Getzen, president; Randy Tarlton, vice president; Sandy Bruney, secretary; Elbert Marshall, treasurer; Catherine Crandell, school liaison; and Sandy Bruney and Carla Marshall, contest co-chairmen.

Beverley nominated all names on the list; Betsy Haskell seconded. The nominations were carried unanimously.

NOTE: Elbert Marshall, who was not present, later declined because of a conflict of interest: Marshall Bruney Media Consultants maintain the ACWC Web site.

Guest Neil Jones made a presentation to the club. He said the Anson County Historical Society had contacted him to write a history of the county. He has been working on it eight hours a day for the last four months and anticipates it will take 24-36 months to complete.

Neil said that Mary Medley's narrative (*The History of Anson County*) went to the 1820s, with not much written about the Civil War, Reconstruction and the Great Depression. He suggested that the period from 1950-2000 could be a second book and said that he has about 80 anecdotes people have volunteered to him. A pure narrative would not have room for these, which tell about the life of the county and probably wouldn't be used by a historian. The job is to be dispassionate, but accurate, she said. The anecdotes could possibly be used in a less formal book.

The biggest issue in the period 1950-2000 was integration and it needs to be written fairly and honestly. Neil said he needs oral histories, which are easy to do nowadays.

Neil has published papers at Duke University contending that the turning point of the Civil War was in Charlotte. He asked the ACWC's opinion on organizing the project and said he anticipates finding grants to help fund it. He said he felt the work on the oral histories should come first, and then work on the Civil War. He shared several anecdotes and asked for help in suggesting people who might be interviewed.

Following the presentation, Mary Garris played her CD, *I Imagined*, and Barry Bunn read excerpts from his book, *Time on My Hands and Mud on My Feet*.

The August meeting will be held on August 23, 2009.

Members present were: Mary Garris, Rufus Getzen, Beverley Getzen, Karen MacMurray, Sandy Bruney, Ruth Hickman, Randy Tarlton, Barry Bunn, Betsy Haskell and Carla Marshall. F. O'Neil Jones was a guest.

Respectfully submitted,

Sandy Bruney, acting secretary