

October 2006

Meeting Minutes: October 19, 2006

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October 19, 2006
UNL East Campus Union

President **Irv Omtvedt** called the meeting to order at 12:15 p.m. He noted an error on the postcard sent to Lincoln area Emeriti that stated the meeting would begin at 12:30 p.m.; the correct time is 12:00 noon.

Deanna Eversoll offered comments on the OLLI program. She had the opportunity to meet with the founder of the adult learning concept, Mr. Osher. This is the third year of the Osher grant process wherein funding is granted to selected sponsors of OLLI (Osher Lifelong Learning Institute) programs. Deanna noted increasing evidence that active learning by seniors (aging adults) may delay the onset of Alzheimer's disease. An Osher grant of \$1 million could be provided to UNL if there is evidence of the program being sustained with at least 500 members. The \$1 million endowment would be used to support the program on a long-term basis in the College of Education and Human Sciences. Omtvedt encouraged Emeriti to participate in OLLI and reminded the members that the Emeriti Assn. had approved paying a one-year OLLI membership for all Emeriti faculty the first year after being granted Emeritus status. Eversoll hopes that Osher funding support will keep the OLLI program going in Nebraska, and challenges seniors and other participants to participate in OLLI sponsored classes.

Omtvedt called for approval of the minutes of the most recent Emeriti Assn. membership meeting, held in April. Moved by Howard Ottoson, seconded by Max Clegg for approval as presented; carried.

The ad hoc committee charged with clarification of the process leading to certification of Emeritus status of retiring UNL faculty and administrators, and reconciliation of various rosters resulting in an accurate and current list of Emeriti was asked for an update on progress to date. It was noted that at least two Emeriti were not invited to the recent NU Foundation sponsored luncheon.

Ad hoc Committee chair David Brinkerhoff said the committee has not met but hopes to do so in the next 10 days. The committee will review the process within UNL in which retiring faculty and administrators are recommended by unit heads and recommendations move through a complicated process, culminating with final approval by the Board of Regents. A known flaw is that some retiring faculty are not recommended and forwarded by unit heads.

It was decided that a previously planned reception to be held this fall for newly retired faculty would be postponed to a later date to allow the committee to move ahead on its charge

Treasurer's report: The report has been posted on the Emeriti Assn. website. Treasurer Walter Mientka asked for any comments. Hearing none, it was moved by George Tuck, seconded by Loyd Fischer for approval of the report. Carried.

Benefits Committee: Chairman Jack Goebel said a committee meeting will be held in the near future, with a report to follow. Parking policy issues which would affect Emeriti will be discussed.

Wisherd Fund Committee: no report.

Procedures for election of one director and the vice president/president-elect were reviewed. Details were included in the October 4 board meeting minutes. Jerry Petr will be leaving the board and the election will determine his successor.. Max Clegg and Delivee Wright will continue as board members for another term, beginning January 1, 2007.

Omtvedt also noted that Howard Ottoson will automatically move to the President position and that he (Omtvedt) would move to the Immediate Past President position. He also thanked Dan Lutz and Walter Mientka for their willingness to each continuing to serve as Secretary and Treasurer, respectively, during the coming year, and that Anita Leininger was willing to continue as Assistant Secretary as a back-up to Dan Lutz during 2007.

Omtvedt identified 13 Emeriti reported as deceased since May, 2006 in Memory Moments. Following is the listing: Gail Butt, Jr., Art & Art History; Earl Dickinson, Veterinary and Biomedical Sciences; Vincent Dreeszen, Conservation & Survey Division; Hall Gildersleeve, Libraries; Catherine Indra, Education and Family Sciences; Larry Lusk, Music; Jane Munson, Cooperative Extension; Emery Nelson, School of Natural Resources; Keith Newhouse, Mechanical Engineering; LeRoy Peters, Entomology; George Rowe, Family & Consumer Sciences; Richard Tyler, Modern Language and Literature; Eugene Wright, Construction Management. .

Dan Lutz will present a program on trains at the November 16 membership meeting.

The program was focused on ***Genealogical Research Resources Located in Lincoln, Nebr.***

Panelists were: Emeritus Dewaine Alcorn, vice president/programs, Lincoln-Lancaster County Genealogical Society; Sharon Sawyers, spouse of Emeritus Keith Sawyers; and Ed Hirsch, Emeritus, NU Foundation.

Sawyers said “Family Tree DNA” is at the forefront of family tree genealogical research, and results in identification of distant relatives that other methods and approaches cannot confirm.

The speakers distributed a comprehensive listing of organizations which can aid persons exploring their family tree, including the Lincoln-Lancaster County Genealogical Society and Archives located in the Union College Library; the LDS Family Life Center, located inside the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints building, 3000 Old Cheney Rd., The Nebraska State Historical Society, 1500 R St.; The American Historical Society of Germans from Russia, 631 D St.; the Catholic Chancery Office, Diocese of Lincoln, 3400 Sheridan Blvd.; Lincoln Journal

Star Newspaper Library, 926 P St.; Lincoln City Public Libraries, main library, 136 South 14th St.; Union College Library, 3800 South 48th St.; UNL City Campus, Love Library, 13th & R Sts.; Nebraska Geological Survey, Conservation & Survey Division, Hardin Hall, UNL East Campus. There are also many on-line resources,

Hirsch discussed his project of compiling a scrapbook chronicling ancestor/genealogical findings.

Ideas for family research contained in the reference booklet distributed during the program::

1. Complete an ancestor chart.
2. Complete a family group chart for each couple (mother, father, children).
3. Examine U.S. Census data – these go back to 1790.
4. Search family papers for obituaries, wake cards, family bibles, marriage and baptismal certificates, death certificates, etc.
5. Examine county and state records, historical and genealogical societies may provide: marriage, death, land, military, probate (wills), county and church records, naturalization papers, old newspapers, phone books or directories.
6. Contact churches local to the area for records of baptisms, marriages, deaths, and church histories.
7. Visit the Family History Center of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints (Mormon); they have filmed vital and church records all over the world.
8. Explore alternative spellings of the surnames you are researching.
9. Join the Nebraska or Lincoln-Lancaster County Genealogical Society and/or the Genealogical Society in other states if applicable to find the roots of your family tree.
10. Take a genealogy class or a class in genealogy software from community college of city recreation
11. Visit state Vital Statistics Section, 301 Centennial Mall South, Lincoln.

Respectfully submitted,
Dan B. Lutz, Secretary