

Saturday, January 14, 2023, the Luxembourg Heritage Society of Northwest Iowa met at the Remsen Public Library meeting room. President Judy Stokesberry brought the meeting to order at 9:35 a.m. Introductions were made with two new guests. The minutes were read and approved as read. Mary Riedemann gave the treasurer's report. Opening balance on November 12, 2022, was \$5,486.30. Deposits were a check for the Eastern Iowa trip in the amount of \$4,011.52 and dues totaling \$60. Expenses were for the mail box fee of \$58. Ending balance is \$9,504.82. A bill for shelving and binders to be used at the Genealogy Research Room at the Plymouth Co. Historical Museum for the Robert Arens collection of the 1870 families that came from St. Donatus was presented by Jean Nilles in the amount of \$262.60. A motion to pay the bill was given by Joe Konz, seconded by Judy Stokesberry. Motion carried.

Jean Nilles explained the purchase of two shelves that were installed with help by Judy Stokesberry, Deb Schroeder, Jim Rohlf and Jean. The books were placed on the shelves with two unable to fit. In checking on some of the binders, it was decided to purchase smaller binders to make the books fit in the shelving. There are shelves in storage at the museum that we may use for other books in our archives that researchers may like to view.

Jedidiah Hansen, a descendant of Peter Hansen, one of the 38 pioneers from St. Donatus, asked for information needed to get his dual citizenship. A student in Mankato, MN, he is hoping to get on a Luxembourg track team for the Olympics.

Judy said that she will give a review of the Eastern Iowa trip in October at a meeting that will take place on Sunday, February 5, 2 p.m. at the museum. She will also discuss a 2023 trip to New Ulm, MN.

In old business, we tabled discussing updates to the By Laws. A sheet for members to sign up for programs and bringing refreshments in future meetings was passed to those present

The program was a Trunk Show on the lives of two female individuals that were involved with WWII. Judy Bowman introduced us to Georgette Louise Meyer whose desire was to be a pilot. Also wanted to be a photographer in spite of her parents suggesting she should be a journalist. Georgette was better known as Dickey Chapelle as she followed the troops, wearing fatigues, helmet and pearl earrings, so that she was known as a female. She covered stories for LOOK magazine. After the war, she and her husband documented war damage in Europe. She also covered conflicts in Algeria, Lebanon and Korea, then going on to Vietnam's war. She died in 1965 by shrapnel from a mine a marine stepped on in front of her.

Judy Stokesberry donned the uniform worn by Elaine Homan. Elaine grew up in Remsen along with her siblings. After graduating from St. Mary's High School in 1929, she attended Iowa State Teacher's College for a short time and began teaching in rural schools. She continued her education receiving a B.A. degree in English. In 1942 she entered the Women's Army Auxiliary Corps (WAAC), commissioned as a Second Lieutenant. She also spent 2 years in Intelligence, Frankfurt, Germany. She left the military after ten years of service, with the rank of Captain. After graduate school, she worked with the Legislative Council, Colorado General Assembly, and finally became the registrar for Regis College in Denver. Elaine retired in 1978, moving back to Remsen.

They also told of the life while men were in combat on the front lines. A table with artifacts from the Plymouth County museum's military room were on display.

Secretary, Jean Nilles