

Sheldon Family Association
Minutes of the Annual Member Business Meeting
August 3, 2013, Oberlin Inn, Oberlin, OH

President Jeanne Jeffries called the meeting to order at 6:00 pm. Reverend Brian Wilbert offered an invocation prayer. There was a recognition moment for members who have passed. There was a recognition of Mary L. Stewart and Margaret Brosius Jones.

Rose Newton requested participants take the 75th reunion in Ft. Wayne brochures on their table to distribute in their home area.

President Jeffries announced Jim Russell made a proposal to the board that the SFA Quarterly be moved to the SFA website starting with the October 2013 issue. The board reviewed the proposal and moved that the proposal be adopted and further proposed the October 2013 and January 2014 issues and past issues remain on the website even after October and January.

Wayne Nelson presented three bylaws changes. The first change concerns the registration fee for new and reinstated members. The change strikes "reinstated" from the fee. The second change impacts how dues are paid. Currently dues for the next year are paid in advance by August 1. Annual dues will now be on the member's date of taking membership. The third change is Roberts Rules of Order, newly revised, will be the rule for SFA meetings when an issue is not covered by current bylaws. All three changes were unanimously approved.

Wayne Nelson read the board-approved slate of officers. The slate was unanimously approved.

Barbara Gomez read the treasurer's report. Jeanne Jeffries noted there will be an exploration of a new corporation status this year. The vote to approve the treasurer's report was unanimous.

Jeanne Jeffries noted the board decided as a group this year not to contribute at present to museums: Firelands museum and the Pocumtuck Sheldon museum in Deerfield or the Sheldon museum in Middlebury, VT.

Jeanne suggested members consider gifting a membership at holidays and birthdays to grandchildren over the age of 15 to encourage their interest in Sheldons and genealogy. She also proposed that members volunteer for committee work and that they encourage others to become new members.

President Jeffries introduced Marjorie Julian as the new membership chair. Marjorie asked members to gift grandchildren and consider life memberships. She also asked participants to place the SFA informational brochures in their local libraries, their church or places that are useful in spreading information about SFA.

President Jeffries reported on the strategic planning session. SFA members sent in a total of 155 responses. There is a lot of information from the session to study this year on increasing membership, creating greater financial stability, and other issues. There will be a report from the strategic planning committee in September after digesting the information. The board wants comments back from membership to that report.

Rose Newton gave a new membership report.

Participants were asked to complete the reunion evaluation sheet to help make the next meetings even better. Rev. Brian Wilbert said grace for the business meeting meal. Co-hosts, Debra Mohler and Brian Wilbert were applauded for the reunion planning. In appreciation, they were each given a certificate of achievement, a bottle of wine and a gift certificate for a local restaurant.

Sheldon Shindiggery Awards were presented for: coming the furthest, a three-way tie, to Wendy Black, Marvin Parsons, and Jeanne Jeffries; first reunion attendance to Jane Meyer; the eldest cousin in attendance to Mary Stewart; the longest membership attending reunion to Clara Gutermuth and most reunions attended to Wayne Nelson; newest membership in SFA to Ann Adriance Reidel; newest life-membership to Georgia Newman. Mike Mohler and Yoriki Encalada were awarded Super Sheldon Spouses certificate; the final award was to Debra Mohler as the Hostess with the Mostess.

Following the awards, Margaret Cheney presented: "Letters From the Boys, 1861-1865" - commentaries on where they were and sometimes on the politics of the Civil War. The annual reunion participants group photo was taken at the end of the meeting.

The meeting adjourned at 9:30 pm.