

# WASHINGTON COUNTY PAF USER GROUP

Morningside Stake Center on 9th South and River Road

Group Meeting

19 May 2007

Welcome by President Fran Lightner at 10:00 a.m.

Opening Prayer: Betty Lewis

Announcements:

Fran Lightner:

Introduction of Board Members with appreciation for all they do to keep the user group up and running so smoothly: Curt Larsen - Membership Chairman, Denece Larson - Newsletter, Ron Coleman - Treasurer, Lynn Carlson - Web Advisor and Meeting Setup, and June Morton - Secretary. Bob Booth is our WebMaster and great accolades and appreciation to him and Lynn for all their work in getting the site up and running.

AND those of us on the Board give great recognition and tribute to Fran Lightner who is the pivot point that keep the user group running. THANK YOU FRAN!

Comments were made regarding the usage of FamilySearch.org and FamilyIndexing.com. July will bring Garth Gooch to our meeting for an overview of FamilyIndexing.

Note was made that FamilySearch.org is in contractual agreement with several genealogical pay web sites which will be added to the FamilySearch site free of charge in the near future, included in those agreements are: Footnotes.com, WorldVial Records.com, GodfreyLibrary.com, to mention just a few.

Elaine Booth will be adding a new column in the newsletter – 'Hint of the Month - Working in PAF' in coming newsletters.

WELCOME and Introduction of Speaker: Fran Lightner

Robert Paxton .... A Personal Historian who will presenting "Help You Tell Your Story".

Robert a playwright who yearned to learn more of the history of his ancestors and became involved in writing personal histories not only for his our ancestors, but also for friends and clients.

Robert encouraged each of those present to write their own life stories. Throughout his presentation he gave many quotes which emphasis vital life stories vs. personal histories.

'To forget one's ancestors is to be a brook without a source, a tree without a root.'

'An effective Life Story is: Accurate .... Engaging .... Illuminating' .. Chinese Proverb

'Sharing lessons from our life are couched in stories.'

Three Pillars of Good Writing: Audience .... Purpose .... Message.'

'If history were taught in the form of stories, it would never be forgotten' – Rudyard Kipling

'Who is my audience: Myself ... Children ... Grandchildren ... Friends ... Public ... Others?'

'Why Am I writing my Life Story?'

'What is my message? .... Need to find some common theme.'

'A great Life History is: Accurate ... Engaging ... Illuminating ... Inspiring!'

At the completion of his presentation Robert was Thanked by Fran and all those in attendance For further information his email address is: [robert@writemyhistory.com](mailto:robert@writemyhistory.com)

Fran listed the future presenters:

June: Bob and Joel Kroff will present a lively and entertaining presentation on 'Life in a Box'

July: Garth Gooch will be demonstrating the purpose and use of the church program, FamilyIndexing.

August: No meeting is held this month.

Sept.: Bob Booth - 'Keeping A Healthy Computer'

Closing Prayer: Sonny Konold

Meeting adjourned at 12:15 p.m.