
MORRIS AREA GENEALOGY SOCIETY

General Meeting

February 9, 1999

Glad to see Ruth Grimm back at our meeting. Don and Jan Huth substituted for her along with Antoinette Breitenkam so we could all enjoy delicious refreshments before the meeting started. Regina Springer, Morris Area Genealogy Society President, opened the meeting and welcomed people who were there for the first time.

Claire Kissil announced they are looking for copies of June 1992 National Genealogical Society Quarterly Volume 80 # 2. If anyone has it and would like to donate it to the collection at the Morristown Library they would welcome it. Henry Weis, Treasurer, informed us we have \$3,529.00 in our treasury as of 4 days ago. Bogert Holly, who was not at the meeting due to bad cold, will be going to New York as soon as he recovers. Bo, hurry and get well. If you are interested in going please contact him.

Our Genealogy Day with Meldon J Wolfgang III ,set for April 10, has 39 people signed up already. Since there is limited seating make sure you get your reservations in as soon as possible if you are interested in attending. It is now being opened up to the general public. Any questions about this seminar can be answered by calling the Morristown Library. A member of the audience asked about Meldon Wolfgang and his background. He is a member of numerous genealogical societies. His background is German research. We had 10 topics to choose from for this seminar and three were picked.

Kevin Elliott will not be able to fulfill his position as Interest Group Coordinator in the fall. If anyone is interested in this position please speak with Regina. We also need help with correspondence and research. We usually have two people to fill this position. It is not an over whelming job and Maria is handling it but we would prefer two for this position.

Roger Conover, Vice President, introduced our speaker of the evening, John Pecoraro. He is Surrogate of Morris County and gave an interesting talk on HOLDINGS OF THE MORRIS COUNTY SURROGATE'S OFFICE. This is an elected position but Governor Christie Todd Whitman appointed him in January 1994 when there was a vacancy because of a retirement. He only held this until the end of the year. In November 1994 he was voted in. This position is an elected position for a five-year term. He feels his goal is to take the mystery from the courts. This is why he tries to do a lot of public speaking to groups such as ours.

John spoke about wills and what happens if you do not have one. He also discussed the various places people leave them. If it is left in a safe deposit box the bank seals it and the executor who needs this will can have a very difficult time getting it to settle the estate. If the attorney keeps it problems can arise if he retires, moves or dies. If it is left at the house often no one can find it. John also talked about two types of taxes. New

Jersey taxes and Federal taxes. We learned wills can be very complicated and take years to settle the estate or they can be very simple and done in less than an hour and cost less than \$100.00. I did not know that the power of Attorney ends with death. Than the executor takes over.

Respectfully Submitted,

Emily Svenson
Recording Secretary