

# Orangeburg German-Swiss Genealogy Society

## Annual Member Meeting

October 10, 2020

### Minutes of the Annual Membership Meeting

The membership of the **Orangeburg German-Swiss Genealogy Society** met on October 10, 2020, at 11:09 am in a virtual web meeting on Zoom at the 40<sup>th</sup> annual **Oktoberfest** gathering. Approximately 25 members of the Society were present during the meeting.

President Beth Guess presided, welcoming everyone, **calling the meeting to order** at 9:06 am.

The **minutes** from last year's meeting were read by the secretary, Mr Powell. Mr Rickenbacker moved a motion to accept with multiple seconds. A vote was called, and the motion to approve the minutes was passed.

President Guess called on Mrs Pam Johnson for the **Treasurer's report**. The checking account balance was about \$23,160 on September 30. The Vanguard balances reserve fund balances were \$16,522 and \$102,642 as of September 30, 2020. The PayPal balance was \$498.74. Mrs Johnson also gave the **Membership report** saying we have a total of 290 members, 112 life members, six honorary life and 22 complimentary members. Throughout the year, there were 11 new members, four new life members and one donation.

Mr Delk gave a short report on the **Vanguard fund**, saying that the investment portfolio generally remains the same, and so far, we have weathered the ups and downs of the volatile Covid-19 market well.

President Guess requested the **Newsletter report** from Mrs Hansen. Mrs Hansen thanked Lynn Teague for all her help with the newsletter production and Margaret Waters, Eric Powell, and the Salley Archives staff who helped with the mailing. She felt that the issues throughout the year had gone smoothly, and she looked forward to the upcoming year. She reminded everyone that the newsletter is open for content, and it should be forwarded to her for inclusion.

President Guess, before asking for the **Webmeister Report**, thanked Jim Rickenbacker for stepping back in and temporarily taking back over the webmaster. She especially thanked him for all his hard work helping make this Virtual Oktoberfest was a success, and several other members also commented their thanks. He reported that the website usage remains steady, with about 400 unique visitors each month, averaging two visits each looking at three pages. The top visited pages were Oktoberfest, the Migrations pages and the First Families in that order.

Ms Margaret Waters was not present for a report on the **DNA project**, but Mrs Teague commented that the project has been very active over the past year. She felt that it had helped a lot of people, and Ms Waters had helped a large number of people develop their lineages. Mr Rickenbacker commented that our total membership in the project is over 700 members.

Mrs Pam Johnson was called on for the **First Families/Facebook/Social Media report**: She stated there are 61/62 families online in the First Families program on <http://www.ogsgs.org>. The most recent new families are Zimmerman, with Staley and Zeigler pending. On Facebook, we have 948 followers, 919 likes. Publishing the Virtual Oktoberfest Event on Facebook significantly helped attendance and engagement for the event.

Mrs Hansen reported the **Facebook DNA project group**; we have about 107 followers, with membership limited to those who answer the entrance questions.

Mrs Hansen reported on the **Lineage Project**, stating that not much had happened

President Guess then called for any additional business.

Mr Powell made some announcements about the **Virtual Oktoberfest**, reminded people to follow along on the Oktoberfest page as the sessions become available throughout the day.

President Guess asked for a **motion to adjourn** at 11:29 am, which was given by Mr Powell, Mrs Teague made a second, and she requested a vote and the members approved with no dissent.

Respectfully Submitted,

Eric Powell  
Secretary  
October 9, 2021