

Pleasants County Historical Society
Minutes of November 20, 2025

The Pleasants County Historical Society met on Thursday, November 20th at the Pleasants County Senior Center at 209 2nd Street, St. Marys, WV 26170. The meeting was called to order at 7 p.m. by President Dan Boley who led the group in the Pledge of Allegiance followed by a prayer to begin the meeting.

SECRETARY'S REPORT

The minutes of the October 19th meeting were sent by email to the membership for review by Sue Waggoner. Any corrections or changes were to be sent to her so that she could amend the minutes. The amended minutes were approved on a motion by Pat Bills and seconded by Caryl Bishop. Motion passed.

TREASURER'S REPORT

The treasurer's report was provided by Treasurer Charley Elder with a motion by Dave Eddy to accept and second by Tom Bishop. Motion passed. The report will be filed with the minutes of this meeting.

DONATIONS

Michael Bowie had delivered to Charley Elder some items from the Crandall Strickland estate donated by Susie Rogers that included copies of minstrel programs and a variety of other papers & books. Patty Bills made a motion to accept the items with a second by Dave Eddy. Motion passed.

CORRESPONDENCE

There was no relevant correspondence.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

DAR & OBITUARIES – Patty Bills

Patty shared a list of the latest obituaries that will be filed with the minutes. The DAR was very pleased with the presentation by Mr. Ogden and thanked the society for use of the memorabilia. They had recently had a session on how to hook a rug and are in the process of planning their Christmas party.

RAISING HOPE TO PURPOSE – Caryl Bishop

Caryl & Dan shared that they are still transitioning.

MILITARY – Tom Bishop

Tom shared that they had a great turn out for their breakfast on November 8th. They provided the program at the Veteran's Park on the 11th to honor our veterans. They are finalizing planning to once again serve Thanksgiving Dinner on November 27th for the community at the Senior Center. Anyone wanting a meal needs to contact them. They

will serve at the center and deliver in St. Marys & Belmont but anyone in the county is able to pick up a to go meal at the center.

AV EQUIPMENT – Dave Eddy

Mr. Eddy shared that the equipment is Ok.

MUSEUM –

There was no activity at the museums since the end of October. Dave Eddy shared that he had examined the dehumidifier and it was still not collecting any moisture so he went to Lowes on October 23rd and purchased a new one for the Second Street Museum. He installed it and it was functioning well.

OLD BUSINESS

None

PROGRAM

Dave Eddy shared an article from the February 14, 1980, *Pleasants County Oracle*. It was entitled, Early County History Recounted in Oracle by Betty L. Smith. The group had a very interesting discussion concerning a variety of items including Vacluse, Northwestern Pike, Muses Bottom, slave cemetery, flood of 1852, and Billsville.

Dan Boley shared in depth details of the 1937 flood. He shared that the highest flood was in 1913 but the 1937 flood had followed a drought in the summer of 1936. He hoped someone might find information concerning the local impact in the old Oracles and share at a future date.

NEW BUSINESS

- 1) President Boley was looking for someone to pick a community and give some history of the place.
- 2) President Boley provided information about Colonel Ruby Bradley who was the most decorated woman in American Military history. Discussion ensued and consensus was she would be an excellent choice. Dan was going to check with the city to confirm our use of the Marina again with back up of the Spence Center in case of flooding.
- 3) Caryl Alderman Bishop requested assistance from anyone that had any history about the Alderman Parts Store that opened in September of 1945. She was trying to compile information in that regard about her family.

Adjournment

The group formally adjourned at 8:10 p.m. on a motion by Dave Eddy and second by Tom Bishop. Our next meeting will be on December 18th for our annual Christmas Party. Everyone is to bring finger foods and Dave Eddy said he would bring the Eggnog that Gerald Bills used to bring.

Those in attendance were:

Dan Boley, Charley Elder, Sue Waggoner, Dave Eddy, Caryl Bishop, Tom Bishop, Pat Bills, and Carol Statler.