



CAAO RESEARCH /HISTORIAN COMMITTEE

November 15, 2007

MINUTES OF THE NOVEMBER MEETING

Charles Agli opened the meeting at 9:15 a.m. at the Old Saybrook Pavilion Building at Saybrook Point. Present: Charles Agli, Francis Callahan, Walter Kent, Peter Marsele, Paul Slattery and Al Standish.

Correction to the October 2007 minutes of the Research and Historian Committee meeting: At that meeting Al Standish presented two books containing minutes of previous meetings that the committee did not have. Charles Agli has the books and will eventually make them part of the R & H Committee files.

The first order of business was to set meeting dates for the 2008 calendar year. Because the Old Saybrook Pavilion building is used by a number of organizations it would be in our best interest to tie-down certain dates for next year. It was agreed upon that the third Thursday of each month, would be the date of our monthly meeting. If a conflict arose, we could make an adjustment. The tentative date for the December meeting is December 13, 2007.

The reports on Interview Summaries and additional information from Adkins Printing Company were put on hold until next meeting.

Next order of business was the signing off on the "Interviewee Permission Forms" by the members of the Research and Historian Committee present. (The Interviewee Permission Forms are a prerequisite document for filing personal interviews in the Dodd Center at The University of Connecticut archives files.) There are approximately twelve more forms that the committee has to sign before the interviews can be filed.

Al Standish presented an article that appeared in Henry Smalleys' newsletter on February 1, 1956 written by Tax Commissioner William F. Connelly entitled "The Powers and Duties of Boards of Tax Review". Mr. Connelly was also the former Assessor of Bridgeport. The article will be put in our publication #2 file for future consideration.

Paul Slattery presented three books that outlined the instructor's courses for the Assessors School at The University of Connecticut for the years 1962, 1963 and 1964. They are original documents presented at that time, showing the instructor's name, date that the class was offered and an outline of the material presented. The information was sent to Marsha Standish, Stonington Assessor, and was part of the files of Howland H. Pell, Jr., former Chairman of the Westport, Board of Tax Review in the early 1960s. Also reviewed were class outlines from the 1964 Assessors School at The University of Connecticut on Public Act 490 presented by Alfred Calabrese, Westport Assessor and Dr. Irving F. Fellows of the State Department of Agriculture and Walter Birck, Assessor of Old Saybrook. The material will be filed in the Dodd Center at the University of Connecticut. Other material to be filed at the Dodd Center includes files on the history of CCAs, CEAs, Motor Vehicles, Assessor School rosters and brochures.

It was suggested that our committee put out a request through the CAAO web-site and the Assessorreporter asking for old class-room outlines and other material of historical value.

Paul Slattery mentioned that minutes of the CAAO Research and Historian Committee meetings will be sent to the CAAO web site.

Next, the committee reviewed Fran Callahan's suggestion on what the criteria will be for an oral interview. A statement was presented to the committee, Al Standish made a suggestion and an up-dated statement will be presented at the next meeting. It was also suggested that this criterion statement should be included in the "Forward" section of the first publication.

The next order of business was a review of Assessor School photo's that might be included in our first publication. Charlie suggested that we should have the proposed photos placed on a disk so that we could "crop" some of the pictures of these assessors that were instrumental in the development of our organization. It was suggested that some of the blank white spaces in the first publication could be filled with these photos.

Al Standish has been trying to contact members of the George Kinsella family, (First President of CAAO 1935-36), to get some background information.

Charlie said he will see when the CAAO Executive Board meets so that we can present our proposal to the Board.

Last order of business was a review of who and what might go into Publication #2. One of the suggestions was to interview people who were involved in early revaluation in Connecticut.

Meeting was adjourned at 10:50 a.m.

MEETING NOTICE

Next Meeting of the Research and Historian Committee will be