

QUESTING HEIRS

NEWSLETTER

Vol. 9, No. 11

November 1977

DEEDS & WILLS & THEIR USE IN GENEALOGY

On Sunday, November 6, at 2:30 p.m., Mrs. Billie LeBlanc will give a talk on Deeds and Wills. Understanding the interpreting these documents can many times lead a researcher to a wealth of information. The meeting of the Questing Heirs will be at 101 Pacific, in the auditorium of the Long Beach Public Library. The business meeting will be at 2:30 p.m. and the guest speaker will follow.

EARLY BIRD

The third lesson in a series of ten will be on "Preliminary Library Research (what to look for: quarterlies, family histories, etc.). By better understanding the sources, one saves much of time in researching. Molly Molyneaux will be the instructor.

SAVE THE DATE--JAN. 16th

Starting in January, the Questing Heirs will be changing their meeting date to the third Sunday of each month. This is due to the library being closed on a number of first Sundays of each month--three times in 1977. We hope that this change will work out for everyone.

HOSTESSES

November--

Martha Hess

Ruth Parsons

WORKSHOPS, WORKSHOPS!!!

In the coming months, there will be many workshops in the Los Angeles area. Below is a listing of some. For further information, contact the number listed for the workshop.

- Oct. 29 - Ron Bremer will be the speaker at 1307 S. Orange, West Covina, from 9-5:30. For information, call 337-9617.
- Oct. 29 - The District X, California State, DAR, is holding its third free genealogical workshop from 10-noon at Lamanda Park Library. Mrs. Chester Cleveland will discuss basic research methods.
- Nov. 4-6 - The 14th Annual Workshop of the Conference of California Historical Societies will be held in San Diego. There are various fees for the workshops. Contact John Sneed, 3768 Tennyson, San Diego, CA 92107 for information.
- Nov. 19 - The Pomona Valley Genealogical Society will present a seminar from 9-3 at the LDS Church, 785 San Antonio, Upland, CA. One of the speakers will be Mary Schwartz, our October speaker. Tickets are \$7. For information, call, 714-629-5664, or 714-628-7593.

NEW ENGLAND FAMILY HISTORY SEMINAR

by Chita O'Connor

(Ed. note: Chita and Ruth Dowty attended this two week seminar in July. This brief outline of what happened cannot possibly tell all but it is to give people an idea of what is available in learning possibilities. Chita will be glad to share "hand-outs" with other members of our society.)

The Seminar on New England Family History, July 4 to 11 at Harvard, was held at a very different University from the one my husband and I left fifty years ago. In 1927 my husband graduated from Harvard Law School--no women then; today women everywhere. Fifty years ago I worked in Widener Library where today we were doing our research. Copy machines today, but we still used the old catalogue cards. Today I was living in a Harvard dormitory, with the irrespressible Ruth Dowty and eating at the Union with all the undergraduates. There were ninety men and women enrolled in the Seminar, with fourteen from California.

Our morning lectures covered the following subjects:

Key Books on New England Families - John L. Coddington

The Historical Background - The Great Migration - John L. Coddington

Public Records (Vital, Census, Church, Probate, Land) - Ralph Van Wood, Jr.

Legal Terms and Their Meanings in 17th and 18th Century Documents -
David W. Dumas

The Expanding Search - A Discussion on Research Strategies, with a
Postscript on History and Genealogy - Robert Anderson

New England Migration to the Maritime Provinces - Milton Rubincam

The Nature of Biography - James B. Bell

Heraldry: History and Practice - Henry L. P. Beckwith

Weighing the Evidence and Writing Your Story - Gilbert H. Doane

Afternoons and evenings were for research at Widener Library and the library in Boston, of the New England Historic Genealogical Society. In both libraries we had full access to the stacks and the help of a cooperative staff. Sometimes the researchers went to records directly in the towns, driving their cars. After all, distances are short in New England. Widener Library has a fine collection on American history -- state, county, and town histories and vital records. It has some family genealogies. The New England Historic Genealogical Society has the oldest genealogical library in the United States and has over 200,000 volumes and manuscripts. Their holdings are mainly on New England, but they have some volumes from other areas. Both are private libraries, of course. However, one may arrange for an inter-library loan from Harvard for a fee, or one may join the New England Society for an annual fee of \$25.00 and use their book rental service. In case one cannot get to a library or where he has many New England lines, it is worth the fee.

NEW ENGLAND PROBLEMS? READ ON . . .

by Ruth Dowty

At the Long Beach Library you will find thousands of 3x5 inch filing cards-- 44 file drawers of them--on New England families. They are pasted-up clippings, filed alphabetically, from the question-and answer (or "query") pages on genealogy which appeared for many years in the old Boston TRANSCRIPT and the Hartford TIMES. Some of the ablest genealogists in the country contributed, asked, answered and argued on facts and theories there. Clippings from both papers are interfiled for more than a 20-year period.

This goldmine had been in storage for many years for lack of space but is now completely available for search. Just tell the reference librarian in Literature and History department what family or families with New England roots you are researching and ask for the "Boston TRANSCRIPT card file."

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NEW BOOKS AT LONG BEACH PUBLIC LIBRARY

- YOUR IRISH ANCESTORS--Black, J. Anderson,. Pub. 1974. Chiefly history, some family material.
- BLACK GENEALOGY--Blackson, Charles L. Pub. 1977. Circulates.
- FAMILY RECORDS--Burke, Ashworth P. Pub. 1965. Supplement to Peerage & Baronetage and the Landed Gentry.
- DIRECTORY OF U. S. CEMETERIES--Vol. 1.
- PENNSYLVANIA NOTES & QUERIES--Egle, William H. Reprint. 12 v. and index. Much information on Central Pennsylvania families.
- WILLS AND WHERE TO FIND THEM (British)--Gibson, Jeremy, ed. Prior to establishment of Principal Probate Registry in 1858.
- MAYFLOWER INDEX--Revised edition. Vols. 1-2 and Vol. 3. Useful in tracing ancestral families' connections to Mayflower, 1620.
- HERALDRY--Neubecker, Ottfried. Pub. 1976. Beautifully illustrated.
- AMERICANS OF GENTLE BIRTH AND THEIR ANCESTORS--Pittman, Hannah, ed. On several "use with care" lists; still an extensive work.
- RHODE ISLAND CENSUS, 1774, --Rhode Island Colony General Assembly. Published long before the first U. S. Census of 1790.
- ARMORIAL GENERAL--Rietstap, Johannes. A 14-vol. set, including index volume and illustrations. Basic in French heraldry.
- FINDING OUR FATHERS--Rottenberg, Dan. Jewish ancestry. Circulates.
- DICTIONARY OF SCOTTISH EMIGRANTS TO THE U. S.--Whyte, Donald, ed. Pub. 1972. Extensive compilation.
- BUILDING AN AMERICAN PEDIGREE--Wright, Norman E. Used as textbook at B. Y. U. Much material. Two copies circulate.
- NOTABLE SOUTHERN FAMILIES--Armstrong, Zella. Reprint 1974. 6 vols. in 3. Innumerable families.
- WHO DO YOU THINK YOU ARE? --Hilton, Suzanna. At child's level.
- CENSUS TABLES FOR FRENCH COLONY, LOUISIANA, 1699-1732.--Maduell.
- ILLINOIS CENSUS RETURNS, 1810-1818--Norton, Margaret. Publ 1969.
- STATE CENSUS, NORTH CAROLINA, 1784-1786--Register, A. K., ed.
- 1850 FEDERAL CENSUS OF CARTERET COUNTY, N. C.--Simpson, Thelma P. Pub. 1972.

TORRANCE PUBLIC LIBRARY

- Civic Center Library -

by Mary Biddlecomb

A library worth investigating is the six-year old Torrance Civic Center Library at 3301 Torrance Boulevard (Near Madrona). This two story modern building has a relatively small, but well-varied and most-helpful genealogical collection in the reference section and seems to have a new addition every time I visit there (see partial list of holdings at end of article).

This library's "card catalog" is now on microfilm (there are machines exclusively for this and are ready to use). The problem is that the machines are at stand-up desks. However, you may request use of their microfiche copy of the catalog if you wish to sit down.

The genealogical reference section is located within a few feet of the centrally located reference desk. The attendants are most helpful and there are seats for you while you talk to them. They also will answer questions by phone (328-2251). However, there is no one specifically trained in genealogy. The genealogy books that circulate are located on the second floor, reached by elevator or stairs. This section is rather small, containing mostly the standard "How-to" books. Long Beach does not have a reciprocal agreement with Torrance so if you are a resident of Long Beach, you cannot check out books from that library. If you live in other areas, check at the information desk to see if you are eligible for a library card. Card or not, you are welcome in the library.

This library has ten microfilm readers (not the catalog readers previously mentioned) located in an alcove off the periodical section. At the entrance to this section, opposite the periodical desk, are four microfiche readers and several typing rooms. Also located in this area are two stacks of shelves of phone books, but these are only the "tip of the iceberg." On microfiche, they have phone directories for over 1300 major communities, including some foreign ones. Their copies of "The Genealogical Helper" (1968 to the present) are located in the genealogical reference section in binders. There are also several copy machines available.

The Torrance Library participates in the Inter-Library Loan System so you can request films to be sent there for your viewing, from the National Archives, etc. They have the Sutro shelf list on film.

There is a large free parking lot behind the building, but since this is part of civic center, do watch for the few limited or no-parking areas. Entrances to the parking lot are on both Torrance Boulevard and around the corner on Madrona. Del Amo Fashion Square Shopping Center is nearby to the southwest and Old Towne Mall is to the northwest.

As of this printing, library hours are: Mon-Fri, 9:30-9; Sat, 9:30-5:30; Sun, 1-5. (Sept. - June).

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Come of the books in the R929 section at Torrance Public Library are:

AMERICAN ANCESTRY - Munsell

COLONIAL FAMILIES OF THE UNITED STATES - Mackenzie

Torrance Library, cont.

...INTRODUCTION TO DOMESDAY BOOK
THE CALIFORNIA REGISTER - 1954, 1960, 1962, 1966
FOUNDERS AND PATRIOTS - Colket
THE COMPENDIUM OF AMERICAN GENEALOGY - Virkus
EMIGRANTS IN BONDAGE
A GENEALOGICAL REGISTER OF THE FIRST SETTLERS OF NEW ENGLAND -
Farmer
EARLY CONNECTICUT MARRIAGES - Bailey
EARLY MASSACHUSETTS MARRIAGES - Bailey
AMERICAN MARRIAGE RECORDS BEFORE 1699 - Clemens
LIST OF EMIGRANTS TO THE AMERICAN COLONIES - Faust & Brumbaugh
LOST LINKS - Francis & Moore
NATIONAL SOCIAL DIRECTORY - 13 volumes
NEW ENGLAND HISTORICAL & GENEALOGICAL REGISTER - 1970-1977
"The Genealogical Helper" - 1968 to present
SWEDISH PASSENGER ARRIVALS IN NEW YORK - 1820-1850
OVERLAND TRAIN PASSENGER LISTS (2 volumes) - Rasmussen
SAN FRANCISCO SHIP PASSENGER LISTS (4 volumes) - Rasmussen
LIST OF PENSIONERS ON THE ROLL - 1883 (5 volumes)
1790 Census (book form) for N.Y., CONN., R.I., VT., MAINE, S.C., N.H., PA.
THE EARLY SETTLERS OF MARYLAND - Skordas
HEADS OF FAMILIES - Virginia
GENEALOGICAL CLEANINGS IN ENGLAND - Waters (2 volumes)

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QUESTION: When other sources fail in New York State is there some little-known agency to write to?

ANSWER: **Yes.** New York State prides itself on its network of local historians, officially appointed. They are at the county, township (town) and village levels. They make no charge to the inquirer. Get their names from the state historian or write to the county or town clerk.

QUESTION: How can one go about getting information about a small town or area?

ANSWER: Write to the Chamber of Commerce of the area that you are interested in, asking for brochures on the town or area. Usually, historical points noted in this information, too.

QUESTION: What about vital records in England from 1837 to the present? Is there a new place and price in sending for them?

ANSWER: **Yes.** Certificates and indexes are now at St. Catherine's House, London, instead of at Somerset House. The cost, per certificate, by mail, is now about \$9.00.

PEDIGREE CHARTS

The Pedigree Charts are of our members and taken from the Pedigree Book of the Society. If you wish to have yours published in the future, turn in your sheets to Bonnie Ralston. Several pages will be published each month until all of the sheets are published.

To find the father of any person, simply double the number on any chart. The wife of any man is found by adding one.

Chart of Bonnie Hilene Martin Ralston, 4707 Nipomo Ave, Lakewood, Calif 90713

(cont. from last month)

23. OWENS, Jane or Janet, B: 1796, D: 1878, Ohio.

24. RETTER, Emanuel, B: 1798, D: 1848, Ohio

25. HAWKER, Catherine, B: 1806, D: 1881, Ohio

26. SMITH,

27. Achsah, B: 1763, D: 1892, Ohio

50. HAWKER,

51. COY, ** ** ** **

Chart of Richard G Ralston, husband of above

1. RALSTON, Richard Grant, B: 9 Aug, Tulsa, Okla, D: 30 May 1945, Bonnie E. Martin

2. RALSTON, Grant, B: 25 Sep 1892, Missouri, D: 16 Aug 1907, D: 22 Sep 1937, Los Angeles, Calif

3. THORNHILL, Fay Helena, B: 13 Mar 1895, Denton, Grayson Co, Tex, D: 22 Aug 1968, Long Beach, Calif

4. RALSTON, Jeremiah, B: 1845, Butler Co, Pa, D: 28 Dec 1875, D: 3 Oct 1904, Wirth, Sharpe Co., Ark

5. COY, Emma K. B: 28 Dec 1901, Schuyler Co, Mo, D: 22 Apr 1939, Lawton, Oklahoma

6. THORNHILL, Samuel Pharis, B: 21 Sep 1891, Denton Co, Tex, D: 27 Nov 1938, Lawton, Okla

7. CHILES, Sarah Beaula, B: 6 Jan 1866, Grayson Co, Tex, D: 19 June 1946, Iowa Park, Texas

8. RALSTON, Jeremiah, B: 24 Apr 1816, Cumberland Co. Pa, D: 2 July 1876, D: 23 July 1876, Schuyler Co, Mo

9. BOSS, Elizabeth, B: 3 May 1813, Mercer Co, Pa, D: 5 May 1861, Pitchie Co, W. Va.

10. COY, Daniel, B: ca 1816, Ky?

11. Susan, B: ca 1816, Tenn.?

12. THORNHILL, Samuel, B: Va?

13. GLOVER, Sallie, B: Ky?

14. CHILES, Archibald Henry, B: 6 July 1838, Independence, Mo, D: 1919, Heber Springs, Ark?

15. SPELL, Margaret A. B: 2 Dec 1846, Corinth, Alcorn Co, Miss, D: 6 Apr 1931, Lawton, Okla.

16. RALSTON, Jeremiah, B: D: 1847, Butler Co, Pa

28. CHILES, Henry or Alexander

29. RICE, Levitia ?

30. SPELL, Elijah, B: Miss?

31. BEASLEY, Sallie, B. Miss?

56. CHILES,

57. BALLINGER, * * * * * *

Chart of GENEVA E. SALTER ODETT, 1520 Silva St, Long Beach, Calif 90807

1. SALTER, Geneva Elizabeth, B: 17 Mar, Roslyn, Long Island, N.Y., D: 29 Feb 1924, Clyde Charles Odett

2. SALTER, Thomas MacDonald, B: 18 Sep 1868, Bayonne Hudson Co, N.Y., D: 22 June 1901, D: 17 Oct 1910, Roslyn, L.I., N.Y.

3. SMITH, Catherine E., B: 28 Mar 1886, Roslyn, L.I., N.Y.

4. SALTER, Paul, B: 1837-8, Salterville, N.J., M: 9 Sep 1859, D: 1907, Roslyn, L.I. N.Y.
5. ELLERSON, Jane Catherine, B: 1839, Salterville, N.J., D: Glenwood Ldg, L.I., N.Y.
6. SMITH, Valentine B., B: 7 May 1864, Roslyn, L.I.N.Y., M: 8 Oct 1884, D: 25 Feb 1912, Glenwood Ldg, L.I., N.Y.
7. LaTOURLETTE, Sarah Elizabeth, B: 8 Sep 1869, Mariner's Harbor, Staten Is., N.Y. 18 Nov 1936, Long Beach, Calif
8. SALTER, Thomas R., B: 1813, Salterville, N.J.
9. Rachel
10. ELDERSON, John j.
12. SMITH, Valentine Buck, B: Long Island, N.Y., B: 1906, Glenwood Ldg., L.I.,N.Y.
13. JARVIS, Phebe Elizabeth, B: L.I.,N.Y.
14. LaTOURETTE, Peter, B: 9 July 1822, Mariner's Harbor, Staten Is, N.Y., M: 12 Dec 1860, Staten Is.,N.Y., D: 7 Jan 1894, Roslyn, N.Y., Bur: Grandville Cem.
15. JOHNSTON, Sarah Catherine, B: 6 Jan 1849, Centerville, N.Y., D: 7 Jan 1879, Mariner's Harbor, Staten Is., N.Y.
16. SALTER, Paul
17. CUEBERLY, Bettisy
24. SMITH,
25. JARVIS, James
27. DeVOE, Amelia
28. LaTOURETTE, Paul, B: 28 Nov 1759, M: 20 Apr 1811, D: 5 Nov 1872
29. ZEELUFF, Mary, B: 21 Mar 1793, D: 15 Mar 1879
56. LaTOURETTE, John, B: 7 Jul 1752, Mariner's Harbor, L.I., N.Y. M: 1782, D: 7 Jul 1846
57. MERRELL, Elizabeth, B: 26 Apr 1753, D: 9 June 1847
58. ZEELUFF, Solomon,
59. McAilee,
112. LaTOURETTE, Paul, B: 1738, Mariner's Harbor, S.I., N.Y.
113. MERRELL, Sarah
114. MERRELL, Thomas
116. ZEELUFF, Peter. Early New York Dutch.
224. LaTOURETTE, John or Jean, B: 5 Oct 1695, M: 1725, D: 1793/4, S.I. N.Y.
225. MERCEFEAU, Marie, B: 16 May 1695, Bur: French Church, N.Y.C.
448. LaTOURETTE, Jean, B: 1651, France. M: 16 Apr 1693, French Church, N.Y.C., D: 1726, Staten Island, N.Y.
449. MERCEFEAU, Marie, B: 6 Nov 1670, France, D: 1733, S. I., N.Y.
450. MERCEFEAU, Joshua
451. CHADEAGUE, Marie
896. LaTOURETTE, David
898. MERCEFEAU, Jean
899. DUBOIS, Elizabeth

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Chart of ALICE NELSON FRANKS, 4356 Whitewood Ave, Long Beach, Calif 90808

1. NELSON, Alice Cecile, B: 20 Nov, Eohnerville, Calif, M: 12 Dec 1936, Danforth Wilson Franks
2. NELSON, Andreas Christian, (Nielsen), B:23 Aug 1862, Saedbeitonder, Schleswig, Denmark, M: 11 Oct 1887, D: 30 Aug 1950, Fortuna, Calif.
3. TEICHRABER, Marie Louise, B: 25 Mar 1864, Cizkowo,Hei Linde, Germany (West Prussia), D: 7 May 1928, Fortuna, Calif
- 4.NILSEN, Hansen Jensen,
5. MATHUESEN, Anna Christina, B: 1820, Lyonocloster, D: 1900, Saed., Schleswig, (then Germany)
6. TEICHRABER, Carl, B: 19 June 1825, D: 28 July 1889, Bear River, Calif
7. GIESE, Luise, B: July 1824, D: 31 Mar, 1883, Bear River, Calif

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Chart of DANFORTH WILSON FRANKS, 4356 Whitewood Avenue, Long Beach, Calif 90808

1. FRANKS, Danforth Wilson, B: 3 Jan, Peoria, Ill, M₁: 1915, M₂: 12 Dec 1936, Alice Cecile Nelson, D: 27 Aug 1970, Long Beach, Calif
2. FRANKS, Gerald Barrett, B: 8 Aug 1860, Chicago, Ill, M: 8 Dec 1891, D: 10 Jul 1928, Peoria, Ill

cont next month

The newsletter has been published since 1969 by the Questing Heirs Genealogical Society of Long Beach, California. The Society was organized in June 1969 for the purpose of collecting and preserving and publishing data relating to genealogy. Meetings are held on the first Sunday of each month at 2:45 PM in the auditorium of the Long Beach Library, 101 Pacific Avenue, Long Beach, California. We are not responsible for correctness of material published, but will gladly print corrections when submitted.

Membership in the Society includes the monthly newsletter. There are two types of annual memberships: Family - \$7.50, individuals - \$5.00. Membership applications should be addressed to Questing Heirs Genealogical Society, P O Box 15102, Long Beach, California 90815.

Material for publication in the newsletter or questions regarding it should be sent to Mrs Jackie Riley, 122 E 16th Street, Long Beach, California 90813.

Correspondence of a general nature should be addressed to:
Questing Heirs Genealogical Society
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Long Beach, California 90815

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