



QUESTING HEIRS GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY NEWSLETTER

Volume 37 ♦ Number 5 ♦ May 2004

Questing Heirs Genealogical Society, Inc., P. O. Box 15102, Long Beach CA 90815-0102



**MONTHLY MEETING: third Sunday of the month at 1:15 p. m.
Resurrection Lutheran Church Parish Hall, 1900 East Carson Street, Long Beach**

SUNDAY, MAY 16, 2004

1:15	Classes	Basic (by request)	Getting Started
		Intermediate	Have You Documented The Twentieth Century?

2:15	Break	Time for chatting, browsing, and refreshments	
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2:30	General Meeting	SPEAKER ELAINE ALEXANDER <i>Naturalization Records 2</i>
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~IN THIS ISSUE~

<i>May Meeting Information – Committee Reports</i>	34
<i>President's Message: The Mail Bag, by John McCoy</i>	35
<i>Society News</i>	36
<i>Of Interest – Gene the Genealogical Church Mouse</i>	37
<i>On the Web</i>	38
<i>Events</i>	39
<i>Calendar</i>	40

~ M A Y M E E T I N G ~

SPEAKER: ELAINE ALEXANDER

Our May speaker will be Elaine Alexander, author, consultant, instructor, lecturer, and specialist in naturalization records and passenger lists.

Elaine has served at the Los Angeles Family History Center (LAFHC) since 1992 as Teacher, Supervisor, Assistant to the Director of Passenger Lists, and Head of the Naturalization Records Project.

She has been an instructor of Basic Genealogy and an Instructional Materials Developer at The University of California at Los Angeles: Extension Division, California State University at Northridge, and Los Angeles City College.

In addition to her work at the LAFHC, Elaine makes presentations and conducts seminars and workshops throughout Southern California. On a broader level, she presented four seminars at the 14th Annual British Isles and Ireland Family History Society, an international three-day conference aboard the Queen Mary at Long Beach. She has four texts in process and will begin work on two series of instructional videos in 2004.

Before entering the field of genealogy, she served as State of Connecticut Mentor Teacher, Teacher Training Supervisor for the University of Connecticut, Grant Developer, and Reading Consultant. She also worked as Research Assistant at the UCLA NeuroPsychiatric Institute.

Elaine's theme will be "Naturalization Records II." She will also share information from her new book "How To Find Naturalization Records."



**INTERMEDIATE CLASS:
Have You Documented the Twentieth Century?**

John McCoy will present an examination of the foibles of daily life from the century just past which might be lost unless we include them in our family history. Without documentation, who would believe some of the odd concerns of that era: poodle skirts, Cheez-Whiz, the Mouseketeers, and "Who shot J.R.?" Who

would remember the Spanish Flu, bomb shelters, or the draft lottery?



BASIC CLASS: Getting Started

A basic class will be given by request; that is, we will ask at class time if anyone would like to learn about how to get started in their research.

~ M E M B E R S H I P R E P O R T ~

Jeanette (Marcus) JONES (562) 421-5610

APRIL MEETING ATTENDANCE

Members: 22

NEW MEMBER

Charlotte LLEWELLYN Individual to 9/04

RENEWALS

Bernadette KEANE Contributing to 9/04
George W. LIENESCH Contributing to 9/04
Jackie RILEY Newsletter to 9/04

~ R E F R E S H M E N T S ~

Georgie (Peterson) LYONS (562) 432-4908

Double thanks to our hosts for the April meeting:

Aaron DAY
Hazele (Thresher) JOHNSON
Georgie (Peterson) LYONS
Mary (White) SMITH

Our hosts for the May meeting will be:

John FOORD
Richard HOOVER
Tina YANIS



*I find it helps to organize
chores into categories:
Things I won't do now,
Things I won't do later,
& Things I'll never do.*

~ P R E S I D E N T ' S M E S S A G E ~

T H E M A I L B A G

Everyone knows I'm terrible about writing letters. By the time I have collected my thoughts, lined up the envelope and the stamp, and fought with my printer a few times, the occasion has passed. The letter I had planned to write no longer seems appropriate. My handwriting is too messy to inflict on anyone, so I adopted the electric typewriter and then the word processor at the earliest opportunity. But even now, after years of experience with Microsoft Word, I still struggle to get my words untangled sufficiently so that I know what I was trying to say. I'm sure at least half of the letters I intended to write never saw the light of day.

But e-mail is another matter entirely! I've had the same e-mail address for years, and all the queries I have posted on the Internet are still out there in cyberspace, just waiting to be found by eager genealogists. I've posted data on thousands of people connected to my research. Now I'm seeing the results: at least one e-mail every day from someone interested in my research!

Just this week, for example, I had a message from Argentina about Swiss immigrants. I've watched conversational Spanish programs on PBS for years, so I found it easy to translate the message into English. Another recent message was in Italian, revealing that a person in my Swiss database had left records at Livorno, Italy, where there was a British Chaplaincy in the 18th Century, the only Protestant church in Italy at that time. Then there was a message from The Netherlands, several from England, and numerous messages from various parts of the USA. A Swiss immigrant in Sacramento put me in touch with a researcher in Switzerland. It is exciting to discover new angles for my research!

One particularly tireless correspondent works in the archives of the Roman Catholic Diocese of Pittsburgh, where she has been turning up more and more records of people from a small French village near the border with Germany. I had investigated the records of this village for a friend, and posted some of the data on the Internet. Now we have identified at least thirteen families who left the tiny village of Hottviller between about 1825 and 1880, sailed to New York, and settled near Pittsburgh. This research would be almost impossible without contributions from people on both sides of the Atlantic who have access to various documents. This particular

project has been helped immensely by Ancestry.com's new indexes for censuses and passenger lists.

It is not unusual to receive a response to a query that I posted on RootsWeb or Genforum many years ago. I just wish those queries could have been answered sooner! My mother and I had searched for any other living descendants of Daniel Moore, who died in 1829 in Fayette County, Indiana. He left ten children, but we failed to find any descendants except ourselves for about thirty years. Finally, I got an e-mail from someone whose grandmother joined the DAR on the basis of Daniel Moore's father! Whether the father's name is correct, we're still not sure, but at least we are no longer searching alone. The additional information allowed us to locate census records for two of the heirs who left the county before 1850. Curiously, or perhaps inevitably, the Moore family claimed for the DAR lived in Morris County, New Jersey, so some of my mother's ancestors would have known some of my father's ancestors. Further, this same Moore family is in the background of a few of the past presidents of Questing Heirs!

The same process works for other people. When I get a brilliant idea, I head for the Google.com search page as soon as possible. If I don't find anything, the next stop is RootsWeb, then the LDS Family Search website. What I'm looking for is information that seems to have come from actual family records or original research. When I find a good clue, I send an e-mail to the person who posted the query or data. It is amazing how often I connect. Often, the person at the other end of the query has waited for years before receiving any response!

I still spend far too long composing my messages. Still, e-mail works better than old-fashioned letters for me. People seem to accept the informality of the medium, and it is possible to reach people whose postal addresses would be very difficult to find. The only drawback that I have noticed is that it is now possible to get so much genealogical information through e-mail and the Internet, that it is no longer possible to keep up. If my correspondence grows by very much, there will not be enough time to answer it. Think of it, we may soon find out what it is like to have too much genealogical information!

– *John McCoy*

~ SOCIETY NEWS ~

**RECEPTION PLANNED FOR NEW
GENEALOGY DEPARTMENT AT LBPL**

The Genealogy Department will be moved to a new location on the first floor at Main Library. Two very important support groups for the library will co-host a reception of the grand opening at the Main Library, 101 Pacific Avenue, Long Beach, California 90822. The program is scheduled for Monday, June 28 from 6:00 to 7:30 pm. There will be a short program, light refreshments, and a tour of the Genealogy/History area.

The Questing Heirs Genealogical Society is promoting its latest Genealogy Collection, entitled "The Questing Heirs Honor/Memorial Books Collection."

The African American Genealogical Council of Long Beach is promoting its latest Genealogy Collection, as well. It is entitled "The Roots Collection of African American Genealogy."

Members and friends are asked to consider donating a book or books, in honor or memory of someone, to one or both of the collections. A bookplate will be added to the book with the name of the collection, the donor's name, and the name of the person being honored.

For additional information, please contact Aaron Day by email at <adaydec@aol.com>, by phone at (562) 634-6708, or by mail at P. O. Box 5903, Long Beach, CA 90805-0610.



NEWS ON JANET TAYLOR

It was announced at the April meeting that Questing Heirs member Janet Taylor is now permanently confined to a nursing home with no hope of recovering from the effects of a severe stroke. Cards or calls are not necessary as, unfortunately, she is not aware of her surroundings.

Janet joined Questing Heirs in April of 1998 and was active on the board and was Publicity Chairman for some time. We will miss Janet and her striking red hair and especially her super intelligence.

Sometimes no matter how intelligent we are we do not follow one very important genealogical rule: organize and write out the results of your research.

While cleaning out Janet's home, much genealogical material was found that had never been organized. Too bad -- we can be sure that Janet did good research and could have put it all together better than anyone else. Now this material will be sent to The Family History Library in Salt Lake City for evaluation and organization. However, it would have been so much better if Janet could have done this herself.

Doing the research is only half of the job. For most of us the research is the best and fun part, while the dull and hard part is putting it in some form that can be used by others. Maybe one of the best services that Janet rendered to Questing Heirs was to remind us all to finish the second half of the job.

-- Submitted by Jeanette Jones



NEW QUESTING HEIRS BOARD MEMBERS

At the April board meeting, a few changes were made to the Questing Heirs board.

Liz Myers, who has been doing such a fantastic job with publicity as Member-at-Large, was named Publicity Chair, in light of the news about Janet Taylor.

Since Priscilla Nielsen has not been able to attend regularly, Tina Yanis was nominated and accepted to take her place as Member-at-Large. She will act as liaison to the church.

Chuck Mitchell was also elected Member-at-Large. Among other things, he will be working to keep our scrapbook up to date.

We thank everyone for their willingness to serve Questing Heirs!



QUESTING HEIRS ANNIVERSARY PLANS

Don't forget that our 35th anniversary is coming up in July. As we reported in previous issues, we would like to put together a commemorative video for this special occasion. If you have anything to add to the video, such as pictures, memorabilia, or memories, please contact Aaron Day at (562) 634-6708.

~ O F I N T E R E S T ~

**VERSES FROM
YEARBOOKS AND OLD
AUTOGRAPH ALBUMS**

The following verses were submitted by Liz (Stooksberry) Myers, who found them on the RootsWeb mailing list <GenHumor-L@rootsweb.com>. For instructions on how to subscribe to this or another RootsWeb list, or to search the archives for this or any other list, visit the RootsWeb home page at <<http://www.rootsweb.com>>.

Posted by Richard D. Reddick on 7 February 2004:

The world is wide
And full of ditches.
_____ wants you
To patch his britches.

Life is like a deck of cards:
When you're in love it's hearts,
When you're engaged it's diamonds,
When you're married it's clubs,
When you die it's spades.

Some friends may wish you
happiness.
Others may wish you wealth.
My wish for you is better yet:
Contentment blessed with health.

From A to B,
Or from C to D,
Forget the alphabet
But don't forget me.

By hooks and by crooks,
I'll be the last one
To write in this book.

Away back here,
Out of sight,
I'll sign my name
Just for spite.

When you get old
And have nothing to do,
Remember me while
We were going to school.

When you get married and live by
the river,
Send me a piece of your old man's
liver.

'Tis sweet to be remembered.
'Tis sad to be forgot.
So let me whisper, "Dear Friend,
Forget-me-not."

Kiss me cute,
Kiss me cunning,
Kiss me quick
For Mother's coming.

Some love once,
Some love twice,
But I love you
As a cat loves mice.

Posted by Liz Parkinson on 7 February 2004:

I eat my peas with honey.
I've done it all my life.
It makes the peas taste funny
But it keeps them on the knife.

As I was going up the stair
I met a man who wasn't there.
He wasn't there again today.
I wish to goodness he'd go away.

~ G E N E T H E G E N E A L O G I C A L C H U R C H M O U S E ~

This month we present a new feature in our newsletter: Gene the Genealogical Church Mouse. Gene has something to say from a slightly different point of view.

- ♦ My compliments to all the refreshment providers – you have been doing a very good job. However, it seems that some people provide the goodies over and over. If some of you haven't signed up lately, please do it. I do have one complaint, though: you all eat too neatly. Let's have a few more crumbs on the floor!
- ♦ There is so much talking among the members while our presenters are speaking that many times I miss the main point of the presentation. Because of the rapid proliferation of mouse generations and the large number of my ancestors, I need all the help I can get!

-- Gene

Clothes make the man -- naked people rarely have any influence on society.

Mark Twain

~ ON THE WEB ~

**ALLEN COUNTY PUBLIC LIBRARY
ELECTRONIC NEWSLETTER**

The Allen County Public Library Historical Genealogy Department in Fort Wayne, Indiana is pleased to announce our electronic newsletter, "Genealogy Gems: News from the Fort Wayne Library."

Each month, learn about new collections, department special events, source highlights, new acquisitions, Web sites, and much more! Learn what is going in the Genealogy Department of the Allen County Public Library.

We will keep you up to date on our outstanding temporary location, where the books are on open stacks, available for your perusal. Information about the construction at the old library site, and our plans for moving back in two to three years will also be included.

To subscribe to this mailing list send a message to <kspears@acpl.lib.in.us> with "ACPL Newsletter Subscribe" in the subject line. You will not receive a confirmation message; you will just begin to receive the newsletters, which are scheduled to be published approximately once a month.

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**NEW YORK CITY
DEATH INDEX DATABASE
<<http://www.italiengen.org>>**

The Italian Genealogical Group has just posted the index to New York City deaths from 1891 to 1911, over 1,400,000 records. This is one of several projects by our organization which we have posted on our website www.italiengen.org for everyone to use at no cost. This project is continuing and later years will be posted in the future.

We are also indexing the brides (for Brooklyn, Queens and the Bronx) and grooms for all boroughs of New York City. These are only some of the projects we are doing

and will publish them as they are completed. Any volunteer help or donations to defray the costs of these projects are always welcome. Please contact John Martino at <JohnM16881@aol.com> for any help you can give. Many of you and/or your organizations have been helping and we thank all of you for your past contributions.

Posted on the Association of Professional Genealogists mailing list <APG-L@rootsweb.com> on 4 Apr 2004.



**DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS
NATIONWIDE GRAVESITE LOCATOR**

<<http://www.cem.va.gov>>

The Department of Veterans Affairs has put 3.2 million records of the V. A. cemeteries online -- almost all of their interment records.

From the main page, follow the link that says "National Gravesite Locator." I tried it out by doing a simple search for Victor Sanchez, the father of a friend of mine, whom I knew was in the Bataan Death March in the Philippines in World War II. The following information came up:

Sanchez, Victor F, Sgt US Army
Veteran Service Dates: 03/11/1941 – 11/01/1946
Date of Birth: 04/02/1915
Date of Death: 04/10/2001
Date of Interment: 04/16/2001
Buried at: Section 10, Site 933
Santa Fe National Cemetery

I searched for my friend's mother, whom I knew was buried with his father, and got the following information:

Sanchez, Jesusita Susie
Date of Birth: 01/08/1925
Date of Death: 09/06/1999
Date of Interment: 09/09/1999
Buried at: Section 10, Site 933
Santa Fe National Cemetery
Wife of Sanchez, Victor F, Sgt US Army

This database should prove very useful to genealogists!

On the home page you will also find a link to information on Memorial Day ceremonies at all the national cemeteries, as well as more information on Department of Veterans Affairs services.

~ E V E N T S ~

*Several genealogical events are coming up in our area in the next few weeks.
Here are the details on some of them:*

**United Daughters of the Confederacy
Meeting featuring Joan Rambo**

Saturday, May 15, 2004, 12:00 noon
Laguna Hills

The Emma Sansom Chapter of The United Daughters of the Confederacy will have their last meeting of the year at Laguna Hills, California at noon on May 15. Our guest speaker will be Joan Rambo of the Orange County SCGS. She will talk about genealogy of the Civil War and the Orange County mission to "Adopt a Civil War Veteran." We will have a delicious lunch at Mandarin Terrace Restaurant served for \$13.00 donation per person.

We invite you to join us. Seating is limited, so be sure to RSVP by May 9, 2004. Contact Linda Rushing Day, email <flygalindy@hotmail.com>, phone (949) 425-1150.



**National Genealogical Society
Conference in the States: A Golden Prospect**

Wednesday, May 19 – Saturday, May 22
Sacramento Convention Center, Sacramento

The NGS Conference in the States is ready and rarin' to go! Registration is over 900 now and going up every day. Everyone behind the scenes is working full tilt to put on a wonderful conference in the heart of California's gold country. Information and registration available online at <<http://www.eshow2000.com/ngs>>.

Here is a sampling of some of the workshops:

- ♦ Westward Ho! But How?
- ♦ Three Females 10-16...Making Sense of Pre-1850 Censuses
- ♦ Did Your Ancestor's Siblings Take *Your* Family Papers to California?
- ♦ Mapping Software Tracks Migration
- ♦ Federal Census Records: Going beyond the Population Schedules
- ♦ Tracking Your Genes in Genealogy: DNA Testing
- ♦ Hands-On Land Platting Workshop

- ♦ Keeping up with the Neighbors - Learning about Your Ancestors from People They Knew
- ♦ In a Rut? 7 Ways to Jumpstart Your Research
- ♦ Thinking Geo-Logically: Topographical Maps & the Geographic Names Database
- ♦ Found: One Ancestral Address, The Poor Farm
- ♦ Federal Land Records: Getting a Federal Land Case File
- ♦ German Gothic Handwriting: Anyone Can Read It
- ♦ Neighborhood Reconstruction: Using Land Records Effectively
- ♦ No Ring? No License? Are They Married? Applying the Common Law to Marriage
- ♦ When There's Not a Will There Is a Way
- ♦ There's More Than Corn in Indiana: Finding Your Hoosier Ancestor
- ♦ Getting Organized: A Genealogist's Greatest Challenge
- ♦ Research for Treasures in State Archives
- ♦ Extra, Extra! Your Ancestors Are in the Newspaper
- ♦ Why You Might Have Missed Your Soldier: Basic Military Records at the National Archives
- ♦ With a Little Help From My Friends and a Significant Number of Strangers
- ♦ Research Facilities in the Golden State
- ♦ Separating Fact from Blarney in Irish Oral Tradition
- ♦ NUCMC - A Genealogist's Goldmine!
- ♦ Writing Your Family History in Small, Manageable Pieces



**Southern California Genealogical Society
Seminar featuring Sabine Schleichert**

Saturday, May 29, 2004, 9:00am – 4:00pm
SCGS Library, 417 Irving Drive, Burbank

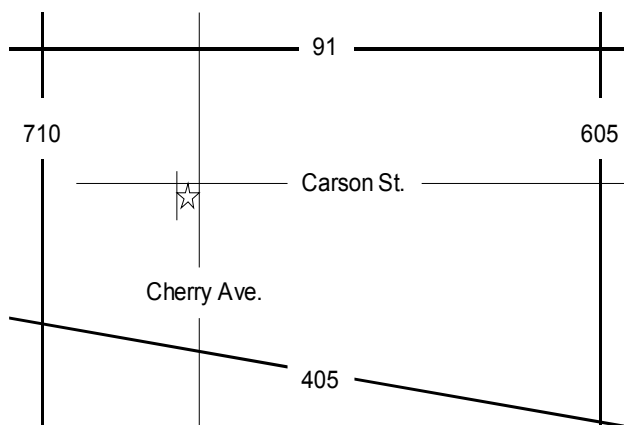
Topics: German Research from Remote; Filling the Frame with Color (Adding the Extras to your Family History); Mr. Meyer from Baden (Finding a Common Name in a City); What Is Where in German Archives.

For more information, email <scgs@earthlink.net>, visit <<http://www.scgsgenealogy.com>>, phone (818) 843-7247, or write Southern California Genealogical Society, 417 Irving Drive, Burbank CA 91504-2408.

~ C A L E N D A R ~

- ♦ Saturday, May 15, 12:00pm. Emma Sansom Chapter, United Daughters of the Confederacy meeting. Laguna Hills. Speaker: Joan Rambo. More information on page 39.

- ♦ Saturday, May 15, 1:00pm. Whittier Area Genealogical Society monthly meeting, Masonic Lodge, 7604 Greenleaf Avenue, Whittier. Beginner/Intermediate Class at 9:00 am; Computer Interest Group at 10:30 am.



- ♦ **Sunday, May 16, 1:15pm. Questing Heirs Genealogical Society monthly meeting.** Parish Hall, Resurrection Lutheran Church, 1900 East Carson Street, Long Beach. Parking and entrance on Gardenia Avenue, one block west of Cherry Avenue. See map at right. For program information, see page 34.

- ♦ Wednesday, May 19, 6:30pm. Genealogy Society of North Orange County California monthly meeting. Yorba Linda Community Center, corner of Imperial Highway and Casa Loma, Yorba Linda.

- ♦ Wednesday, May 19, 7:00pm. South Bay Cities Genealogical Society monthly meeting. Torrance Civic Center Library, 3301 Torrance Boulevard, Torrance.

- ♦ Wednesday, May 19 – Saturday, May 22. National Genealogical Society Conference. Sacramento. Theme: A Golden Prospect. See page 39 for more information.

- ♦ Sunday, May 23, 1:00 -3:00pm. British Isles Family History Society general meeting. Los Angeles FHC.*

- ♦ Saturday, May 29, 9:00am – 4:00pm. Southern California Genealogical Society Seminar featuring Sabine Schleichert., German genealogist. See page 39 for more information.

- ♦ Saturday, June 5, 9:00am – 1:30pm. Orange County, California Genealogical Society monthly meeting. Huntington Beach Central Library, 7111 Talbert Avenue, Huntington Beach.

- ♦ Wednesday, September 8 – Saturday, September 11. Federation of Genealogical Societies Conference. Austin Convention Center, Austin, Texas. Theme: Legends Live Forever: Researching the Past for Future Generations. See page 39 for more information.

*FHC stands for Family History Center of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints. FHCs are open free of charge to members of the general public interested in doing genealogical research. Volunteers are on hand and will gladly give you assistance. Regular hours for the Los Angeles FHC are Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday, 9 am to 9 pm, and Friday and Saturday 9 am to 5 pm. The LA FHC is located on the grounds of the Los Angeles Temple, 10741 Santa Monica Blvd. in West Los Angeles; their phone number is (310) 474-9990. Their web page at <<http://www.lafhc.org>> provides details of their extensive collection. There are smaller FHCs locally, in Long Beach at 3701 Elm Avenue in Bixby Knolls, phone (562) 988-0509, in Los Alamitos, phone (714) 821-6914, and in Cerritos, phone (562) 924-3676. It is advisable to call ahead to the local centers, as their hours may change from time to time.