

QUESTING HEIRS GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY *Newsletter*

Volume 40. ✦ Number 4 ✦ April 2007

Questing Heirs Genealogical Society, Inc., P. O. Box 15102, Long Beach CA 90815-0102
<http://www.qhgs.info/>

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

✦

SUNDAY, APRIL 15, 2007

12:30	Class	BASIC: Beginning Family Research
	Period	conducted by Rellen Owen
1:15		INTERMEDIATE:
		Ohio, Gateway to the Nation
		presented by Liz Myers
2:00	Break	Time for chatting, browsing, and refreshments
2:15	Business	
2:30	General Meeting	SPEAKER:
		<i>John McCoy</i>
		BAD HANDWRITING DAY: Why Every Genealogist
		Needs to be a Paleographer!

IN THIS ISSUE

<i>Reports</i>	26
<i>"Along Those Lines..." by George G. Morgan</i>	27
<i>Questing Heirs News</i>	28
<i>On the Web</i>	29
<i>Articles continued from pp. 27 & 28</i>	30
<i>News</i>	31
<i>Calendar</i>	32

“ALONG THOSE LINES...” by GEORGE G. MORGAN

How to Build a Great Genealogy Reference Resource

There are scores of great (and mediocre) genealogy “how-to” books on the market. I was persuaded by McGraw-Hill to write one, “How to Do Everything with Your Genealogy,” and I have a new book coming out in late March, “The Official Guide to Ancestry.com” (being published by Ancestry, of course) that all users of Ancestry.com will want to have as a primer and reference.

There are certainly specialized “how-to” books that relate to individual record types (census, military, courthouse methodology), geographical areas (United States, Canada, United Kingdom, Germany, France, Australia, Italy, Poland), ethnic and religious groups (black, Jewish, Catholic, non-conformists to the Church of England), as well as maps, gazetteers, surname and forename books, cemetery research, and many more.

I’ve been building my own genealogical reference book collection for decades and just recently did an inventory to see how extensive the collection in our house has become. My estimate is that we have about 2,000 books related to genealogy and history. That means that there’s a lot of money tied up in a library of printed materials. I easily recognize that most people can’t afford the money and/or space to support a collection of that size.

One of the things that I have done, and that I heartily recommend to other genealogical researchers, is to start a collection of “how-to” sheets from libraries, archives and specific places on the Internet. In “Along Those Lines...” this week, I want to provide some excellent examples for you.

Libraries, archives, and their pathfinders

In the library profession, librarians refer to the handout “how-to” sheets they produce for their users as “pathfinders.” In other words, the idea is to show patrons how to use the physical collection or to access specific resources,

perhaps in subscription databases or on the Internet. Libraries and genealogy librarians are placing more of their pathfinders on their Web sites in PDF format to make them continually available. Whenever I visit any library or archive, I immediately seek out any printed pathfinders and collect a full set. They will help me while I am in the facility, and they become part of my at-home collection, as I will explain a little later.

Internet Resources

I often visit the Web sites of libraries with genealogical collections just to see what online pathfinders, usually in PDF file format, are available. One of my favorite collections is that of the Indian River Public Library in Vero Beach, Fla. Librarian Pamela J. Cooper has written excellent pathfinders and placed them online. Visit the Web site for her collection at <http://www.rootsweb.com/~flindian/ircl/> and click on the Pathfinders link. Another favorite collection is that of the Allen County Public Library in Ft. Wayne, Indiana. Visit its Web site <http://www.acpl.lib.in.us/genealogy/index.htm> and click on the pathfinders on the lower left side of the screen. Many of the pathfinders available in libraries and archives will guide you to books, periodicals, and other resources in that facility’s collection. Others, however, may include step-by-step instructions for getting started or continuing your research.

The LDS FamilySearch Web site at <http://www.familysearch.org> is a great place to find “how-to” materials. From the main page, click on the search tab. Once there, there are two important links:

- **Research Guidance** – Select a location, click on it, and there will be categories of records – usually births, marriages and deaths – and links for year ranges. These guides will help you determine

continued on page 30

QUESTING HEIRS NEWS

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Hello again.

Good News! The basic "How-to" class, taught by Rellen Owen, will be starting early. That way you can learn new procedures, or refresh your skills, and still attend the rest of the day's program. So, if you have a problem Rellen can help you with, plan to come early to our next meeting.

The Intermediate Class will be on Ohio, as John roped me into doing it. It will be half of my recent talk on Ohio that I gave to the South Orange County Genealogical Society in Mission Viejo. This part of the talk is more generalized and focuses on research in other states as well.

Our Board of Directors is planning some new and exciting activities that you will be hearing about in the future. I don't know about you, but I'm looking forward to the future of *Questing Heirs*! Will you join us on Sunday, April 15?

Liz

CORRESPONDING SECRETARY

We regret to say that Jeri Everett, our new Corresponding Secretary, has been too ill to attend meetings recently. Until she is able to resume her duties, Jeanette Jones has been temporarily appointed as Assistant Corresponding Secretary. Our best wishes go out to Jeri for a speedy recovery.

BASIC CLASSES

Rellen Owen, who has kindly consented to take charge of the Basic Class period at our monthly meetings, anticipates that two types of people will attend these classes: the very beginner and one who has been doing genealogy for awhile but needs to get organized.

Discussion topics for beginners will start with an introduction to the Family Group Sheet and the four-generation Ancestor Chart, followed by the home inventory so the person can find out what he/she already knows. They will then be able to

see what they need to find out, and that provides the basis for future research.

For a person who needs to get organized, topics will include the need for documentation, keeping track of research, and knowing how to record and file the information found.

Rellen suggests that anyone interested in attending the basic class might send him an e-mail beforehand to help him prepare for the session. He will be dealing with "how-to" questions, not research help. His e-mail address is:

relowen@ca.rr.com

**All members are encouraged to submit articles for publication in our Newsletter. Upcoming deadlines are as follows:
May submissions by April 22, 2007
June submissions by May 27, 2007**

LINNA YOUNG

Linna Stevenson Young passed away Saturday, February 24, 2007 at age 90. She attended Long Beach schools graduating from Poly High School in 1934. She received a B.Ed., UCLA 1938 Cum Laude and a M.Ed. USC 1948 Cum Laude. She was a teacher in Manhattan Beach 1938-1949 and from 1949-1977 Linna was a principal in the Los Angeles Unified School District. She received many honors including PTA Life Membership and PTA Continuing Service Award. Preceding Linna in death was her daughter Eva Jeanne Campbell in 1959. Linna's first husband was Gordon Campbell (1943), second husband was Ralph Welsh (1963) and third, Harry Young (1973). Surviving Linna is her sister, Eva Austin who lives in Cerritos and several cousins in California and in other states. Linna lived in Long Beach until she retired, then she moved to Cerritos to a larger home so she could take care of her elderly mother. Linna enjoyed many interests and hobbies such as family, crafts, oil painting, needle point, travel, reading, music and

continued on page 30

ON THE WEB

FINDING LOST COUSINS

<http://www.lostcousins.com>

Here's a tip from our old friend Linda Jonas on the best way to locate long-lost cousins. I spotted this on the Genealogy-DNA mailing list at rootsweb.com (March 9, 2007). Linda's logic is flawless, as usual! Except that, by the time you read this, Ancestry.com may no longer be available at your local Family History Center. But that's another story. [See p. 31.]

Linda says, "The best sites are currently ancestry.com and familysearch.org (especially Pedigree Resource File). Although ancestry.com is a subscription service, you can use it free at many public libraries and Family History Centers. Even if you don't find a descendant at either site, one of the advantages to ancestry.com is your ability to use 'Post-em' notes in its Ancestry World Tree database...When I find an ancestor in one of the pedigrees on Ancestry World Tree, I put a post-em note on the ancestor's record...The person who submitted the pedigree is sent immediate notice of my post-em note, and the post-em note remains on the record for other people who are researching the family.

"Another site that has great potential is [website above]. There is no cost to register. The purpose of the site is to find living descendants...At this website you enter all of your ancestors who were in the 1880 U.S. Census. You enter the information exactly as you found it in the census search even if it was indexed incorrectly. There is then a section for you to make corrections or additions such as adding maiden names for women, etc. When someone else enters the same census record you have a match, and you can contact that person. Lost Cousins was originally set up for the 1881 British Census, and the 1880 U.S. census is a new feature. You probably won't find any matches there yet, but enter everyone you can find including all of your grandmother's sisters' census records, etc. I

entered every possible collateral family member I could find on all of my lines. I have no matches so far, but as more people start using it, we may all begin to find living descendants of our family."

I went straight to the Lost Cousins website and found it easy to use. The only real difficulty is that so many of my relatives were misread during the indexing of the 1880 Census. My great-grandfather's family was indexed as "McCagy" instead of "McCoy"! As time permits, I will add more of the distant relatives that I find in the 1880 Census, especially the ones whose stories are especially strange. How I have wished to find a descendant of Phebe Jane McDougall, separated from her family at age 9, and only reunited with her sisters 62 years later in 1911. Is there anyone else alive today who knows that she was a McDougall?

by John McCoy

NEW ON THE WEB

The Burke's Peerage online service has been redesigned by the Origins Network at:

www.burkes-peerage.net

Ancestry.com has added Kansas State Censuses, 1865-1915 and voters' lists for the years 1855-1859 to its database.

A database of Indentured Servants, Redemptioners, and Transported Convicts may be found at www.immigrantservants.com. Those arriving in Virginia have been added first; Maryland and Pennsylvania will follow.

If you'd like to create a catalog of your genealogical book collection, take a look at Library Thing (www.librarything.com). When you enter words from the titles, the authors, or the ISBNs of your books, the site will provide full bibliographic information and then create a catalog for you. If you want to, you can share your information with others on the site—or you can keep it completely private.

“ALONG THOSE LINES...” & QUESTING HEIRS NEWS (continued)

“Along Those Lines...” continued from p. 27
what is and is not available, how to approach locating and accessing them, and how to work with them.

- **Research Helps** - Again, find a location about which you want to conduct research. This time, however, there are many “how-to” documents from which to choose. Always look for the “Research Outline” for the place. It is one of the most complete overall references you will find online.

Regardless of whether you find the pathfinder at a library, archive or on a Web site, the pathfinder will usually include references to printed, microfilm and/or online resources to help you continue your reference.

You can also use your favorite Internet search engine to search the words “genealogy library pathfinder” and, if you like, add the name of a place or record type you’re researching. Check the search results for quality pathfinders.

Building and using your reference collection

I don’t recommend just creating a pile of these pathfinders or throwing them in a drawer. Rather, what I’ve done is create a “Pathfinder Binder” and insert tab dividers for the different categories of materials. For example, I have a tab for U.S. Census and another for U.K. Census; there’s one for U.S. Military and then sub-dividers for American Revolution, Civil War, WWI, WWII, etc.; there’s another for Native American; and so forth. The tabs are organized alphabetically for easy reference. At this juncture, my pathfinder collection occupies three binders.

Use your collection in several ways. First, use it as instructional material to learn the basics and more of specific resources, records and methods. Second, refer to the bibliography for other references that you can access at or through your library. Third, use pathfinders to plan trips to

specific libraries or archives and to optimize your use of their collections.

This is really an inexpensive and effective way to get started in building your own reference collection. Later, if you like, you can purchase books on the more specific type or area of research on which you want to focus. The pathfinders’ bibliographies will help you locate possible printed sources.

Happy Hunting!

George

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Linna Youngcontinued from p.28
computers. She was a member of Delta Kappa Gamma – Eta Delta Chapter; Alpha Delta Chi – Alpha Chapter; National Society of the Daughters of the American Revolution – Western Shores Chapter; Daughters of the War of 1812 – U. S. Frigate President Chapter; Daughters of the American Colonists – Hannah Hatch Chapter; Colonial Dames of the XVII Century – Nantucket Chapter; many Genealogical Societies such as OCCGS, LB Questing Heirs and many other state and county genealogical groups. Educational Organizations Linna belonged to are ARTLA; Assoc Administrators LA; LBRTA and CRTA. Linna’s kindness and positive attitude will be sadly missed.

Linna had been a member of Questing Heirs since 1988. Her obituary appeared in the Press-Telegram on 4 March 2007. Her sister Eva also sent us a copy.

Family History: It is not just a hobby. It is a vitally important preservation mission for future generations of our family.
George G. Morgan

N E W S

NARA FEE INCREASE

Rules proposed in the Federal Register on February 26, 2007, provide for raising fees for the reproduction of documents by the National Archives. The proposed fees are as follows:

- Passenger Arrival Lists - \$25.00
- Federal Census - \$25.00
- Eastern Cherokee Applications - \$25.00
- Land Entry Records - \$40.00
- Full Pension File (Civil War period) \$125.00
- Full Pension File (Non-Civil War period) - \$60.00
- Selected Pension Documents - \$25.00
- Bounty Land Warrant Files - \$25.00
- Military Service Files (more than 75 years old) - \$25.00

In most cases this is an increase from \$17.50 to \$25.00. Land Entry Records would increase from \$17.75 to \$40.00, Selected Pension Documents from \$14.75 to \$25.00, Full Pension Files (Non-Civil War) from \$14.75 to \$60.00, and Full Pension Files (Civil War period) from \$37.00 to \$125.00!

If you think some of these increases are exorbitant, please write to your Congressional Representative. **Public comment is open until April 27.** You can find the e-mail address of your Representative at:

<http://www.house.gov/writerep>

Discussion of these fee increases may be found at Eastman's Online Genealogy Newsletters dated 26 Feb, 27 Feb and 11 Mar 2007 (<http://blog.eogn.com>). Copyright 2007 by Richard W. Eastman.

CHANGES IN FAMILY HISTORY CENTER ACCESS TO ANCESTRY.COM

On March 16, 2007, an e-mail message was sent to all Family History Center Directors in English Language Areas titled Discontinued Access to Ancestry.com Databases. Following are excerpts from that message.

“For many years, Ancestry.com has provided free access to patrons of family history centers

around the world. Ancestry has informed the Church that as of April 1, 2007, it will discontinue this free access to the full Ancestry.com service.

“Free access through Ancestry.com to the following databases will continue:

1. Index and images for the 1880, 1900 and 1920 U.S. censuses
2. Full name indices for the British 1841-1891 censuses (England and Wales)
3. World War I draft cards indices as created and miscellaneous other databases.

“Free access is likely to be discontinued for the remainder of the Ancestry.com databases including:

1. Index and images for the 1930 U.S. census
2. Index and images for the 1901 British census (England, Scotland, and Wales).

“At this point, Ancestry.com is not offering an option for family history centers to independently purchase commercial or library site licenses. Patrons, of course, may choose to subscribe directly to Ancestry.com”

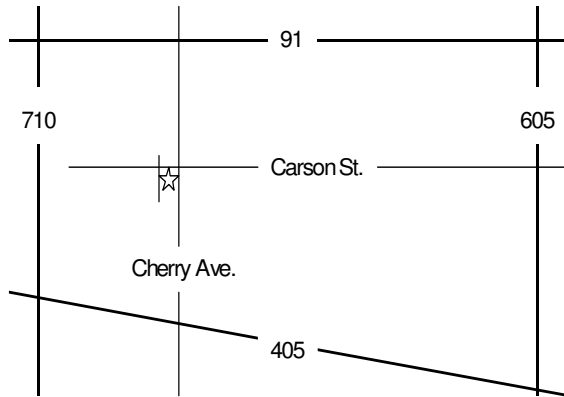
On March 17 Leland Meitzler posted a letter from Tim Sullivan, CEO of The Generations Network, explaining Ancestry.com's side of the story. It indicated that the company has provided free access to family history centers of the LDS Church to Ancestry.com for the last seven years, without any formal agreement or compensation. Several months ago, the Church was informed of the company's desire to establish a formal relationship whereby they would continue to provide access to their databases for a license fee, an arrangement they have with many public libraries. However, they have been unable to come to an agreement with the Church on the terms of such a relationship, but remain hopeful that the Church will reconsider its position at some time in the future.

Received by Liz Myers from APG@rootsweb.com dated 17 Mar 2007.

CALENDAR

Sunday, April 15, 2:00 p.m. Immigrant Genealogical Society at 1310 W. Magnolia Blvd., Burbank. Program: "Internet Genealogy for German Ancestors" by Eldon Knuth.

Sunday, April 15, 1:15–3:30 pm. 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 below. For meeting information, please see page 26.



Saturday, April 21, 1:00 p.m. Whittier Area Genealogical Society monthly meeting. Masonic Lodge, 7604 Greenleaf Ave. (at Mar Vista), Whittier. Program: "Handheld Genealogy" by Lisa Shumacher.

Sunday, April 22, 1:00-3:00 p.m. British Isles Family History Society-USA at the Los Angeles Regional FHC.* Program: "Irish Historical Primary Sources and Their Role in Irish Genealogy, 17th to 19th Century" by Nora M. Hickey.

Wednesday, April 25, 7:00 p.m. South Bay Cities Genealogical Society monthly meeting at the Torrance Civic Center Library, 3301 Torrance Blvd., Torrance. Program: "New Research Checklist Techniques" by Marlyce Chastain.

Saturday, May 5. Orange County, California, Genealogical Society monthly meeting at Huntington Beach Central Library, 7111 Talbert Ave., Huntington Beach. Main speaker at 11:00 a.m.: Kathleen Trevena, "Hard Times: Why Your 19th Century Ancestors Left Europe."

NEW ADDRESSES**

California Genealogical Society & Library
2201 Broadway, Suite LL2
Oakland, CA 94612-3017
510-663-1358

Tennessee Genealogical Society
P. O. Box 381824
Germantown, TN 38183-1824
(Location: 7779 Poplar Pike)

*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 Regional FHC are Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday, 10 am to 9 pm, and Friday and Saturday 9 am to 5 pm. The LARFHC 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.larfhc.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.