

QUESTING HEIRS GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY *Newsletter*

Volume 40. ✦ Number 9 ✦ September 2007

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

Questing Heirs is a member society of the California State Genealogical Alliance and the Federation of Genealogical Societies.

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

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 16, 2007

12:30	Class	BASIC: Beginning Family Research
	Period	conducted by Rellen Owen
1:15		INTERMEDIATE:
		Family Atlas and Personal Historian
		presented by Michael S. Reagan
2:00	Break	Time for chatting, browsing, and refreshments
2:15	Business	
2:30	General Meeting	SPEAKER: Michael S. Reagan
		Michael's Live Internet Show

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

An historic photo from the Georgia archive

Those of you who read my columns and blog on a regular basis already know that I have a special affection for my maternal great-grandfather, Green Berry Holder. He is perhaps my favorite ancestor.

Born near Lawrenceville, Georgia, in 1843, the youngest of two sons, he was determined to enlist with his older brother in the Confederate Army in 1862. They served together until 1865 and both attested to having seen General Robert E. Lee ride his horse, Traveller.

Green Berry and his brother walked home to Lawrenceville, and a short time later the brothers and their parents moved westward to the area near Lindale, Floyd County, Georgia.

It was there that Green Berry began a remarkable series of entrepreneur [sic] ventures. He began to farm. He exploited the output of bats living in a cave on his property and founded the North Georgia Fertilizer Company. He was appointed first postmaster of, first, Lindale, and later of Silver Creek.

He and his wife, Penelope, produced 12 children: 6 sons and 6 daughters.

He moved the family north to Rome, Georgia and established the Rome Mercantile Company, a very successful wholesale and retail business.

In future years, Green Berry continued to speculate in real estate and other investments. He was on the boards of directors of two banks in town.

Ultimately, his attention turned to politics. In April 1904, he won one of two seats to the Georgia House of Representatives. He served two years and returned home. Then in 1908, he was reelected to another two-year term.

Taking My Research Further...

You know how it is when you think you have a lot of evidence of certain facts, but then you

decide to take your research further? Well, those elections started to interest me. I wanted to know to what political party Green Berry Holder belonged and on whose ticket he ran.

Well, I went online to the Georgia Archives Web site at <http://sos.georgia.gov/archives>, and decided to use the “Ask an Archivist” service. I crafted an e-mail inquiring whether the Georgia Archives had legislative records going back to the terms during which Green Berry Holder served.

After a week, I received an e-mail with two PDF links attached. The e-mail told me that Green Berry was a Democrat, and the two PDF files were from the digitized *Atlanta Constitution*. The two documents contained the images of the reports of the election results for Floyd County. Here was contemporary proof of my great-grandfather’s elections!

As if that wasn’t enough, I received a call from the images archivist. She informed me that in the Vanishing Georgia collection, she had discovered a compiled photograph of the Georgia House of Representatives for 1905 and 1906. For \$10 plus \$5 out-of-state shipping, the archive would scan a TIF image of this large, 18” x 24” photograph for me.

My order was in the mail the next morning! Less than a week passed and a CD arrived.

The moral of this story is to never give up. There are some amazing pieces of information and evidence in many places that you just haven’t yet discovered. What a great find this photograph was, and my heartfelt thanks go to the wonderful people at the Georgia Archives in Morrow, Georgia.

Happy Hunting!

George

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QUESTING HEIRS NEWS

REMINDER

September is membership renewal month for Questing Heirs members. You can pay your annual dues at our next meeting, or you can complete the form on the back of this newsletter and mail your check to the Society's Post Office Box. Membership levels are also listed on the back of the newsletter. If you have any questions, please contact the Membership Chair, Sally Davis (phone 562-429-7803). Thanks for your continuing support.

The following members have already renewed for the 2007-2008 year.

Dawn ALVAREZ	Newsletter	9/08
Linda ARTUSO	Individual	9/08
Marilyn BRASHER	Patron	9/08
Robert BRASHER	Patron	9/08
Jean CHAPPLE	Contributing	9/08
Robert COLLINS	Individual	9/08
Frena DOMINGUEZ	Individual	9/08
Dorothy DUNNING	Individual	9/08
Marie HEGWER	Individual	9/08
Patrick HORAN	Individual	9/08
Virginia HUMPHRIES	Individual	9/08
Linda IVERS	Individual	9/08
Douglas JORDAN	Individual	9/08
Donald KROKUS	Contributing	9/08
Jacqueline SPOHR	Individual	9/08
Connie WILLIAMS	Individual	9/08

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Six of us were at the Long Beach Main Library to stamp exchange newsletters and put them into magazine binders for the shelves. Thank you to Tina Yanis, Linda Artuso, Jeanette Jones, Linda Ivers and Laurie Angel. We got the job done in no time!

I had fun working at the Orange County Fair. We had copies of our flyer and gave them to several Long Beach area residents. Several people did not have any idea how to start, though many of them had played around on the computer looking for their names. This year they

improved the air conditioning; so it was not hot inside the Orange County Building. I also had fun talking to fellow family searchers from other societies.

One of the other booths in the Orange County Building was sponsored by the Orange County Clerk-Recorder's office. They opened a South County Branch office in Laguna Hills. I was interested in it because of the free parking! I get lost in the Santa Ana facility.

Questing Heirs' fall schedule needs input from all our members. In October our new Bylaws will be presented, and in November the membership will vote on them. The Bylaws have not been reviewed or revised for several years, and some items are out of date. We hope to have your support in looking at where this Society is going and how we are going to get there!

John McCoy has agreed to head this year's Nominating Committee, which will present a slate of candidates at our October meeting—nominations also being accepted from the floor at that time. Please consider becoming more active in our society by volunteering for a position where your talents are needed. Voting for the candidates for the 2008-2010 term will take place at the November meeting.

Happy Hunting!

Liz

RESEARCH HELP

Liz Myers has offered Questing Heirs' help in locating information about the following people:

VENA – John J., Jennie, Joseph
BRADFORD – Ambrose, Isabell
WILLIAMS – Lucy J.

If you know anything about these individuals, please contact Liz so she can pass your information along to the interested searchers.

NOTE: Submissions for the October Newsletter are due by September 23, 2007.

PERSONAL DISCOVERIES BY QH MEMBER KENNETH SAW

Dedicated to my daughter, Linda...

My earliest memories are of events that took place, according to Mom, on Osborne Street in Winnipeg, Manitoba, when I was 18 months old. The next thing I remember is riding across the prairie in a one-horse buggy, in the rain, with Mom and a man driving the horse. She said I was 3½ years old then, and we were just arriving from Winnipeg at the village of Bield. We were on our way to the farm of Mr. Albert Saw, whom she later married.

When I was about 4 years old, other kids began to tease me about being adopted. Although I didn't know what that meant, I didn't like being teased and told my mother about it. She explained that she was my real mother but that my real father had died, and Pop was my stepfather. When I started school, I was also teased a lot about my last name, which was Saw. As I grew older, Mom told me more things: that I was born in London, England, on May 9, 1921, and that my name was really Kenneth Arnold. When she married Pop, they changed my name to Kenneth Arnold Saw. And that's the name I have today.

Life for all three of us was very hard on the farm. It was a harsh environment with freezing cold winters and hot summers. Pop was very strict with me. Up until I was about 11 or 12, I was treated to many beatings for things I didn't do right or quickly enough. They weren't called beatings; they were lickings—with a leather belt or a stick. But I was never hit on the head or the face, just on my poor little backside! I was expected to do chores such as carrying water from a well, 50 or so yards from the house. I fed the chickens and gathered their eggs all year round. I weeded a large vegetable garden in the summer. I was very small—so small that I didn't start school until I was 9½ years old.

Although I was brought up on a farm in Manitoba, I later learned that Mom had a brother and several sisters and parents, all of whom lived in

Winnipeg, the capital of the province. So I had a whole raft of cousins, aunts, an uncle and grandparents in Winnipeg. Pop had one sister, several brothers and a mother who all lived in Warwickshire, England, where he was born.

Pop was a WWI veteran and had several debilitating ailments. In 1938 he had to sell the farm and move to Winnipeg where he could get treatment at a veterans' hospital. I was 17 before I was able to get my first bicycle, a used one for \$10.00.

In June 1940 I graduated from tenth grade with honors and started looking for a job. I wanted to be a locomotive engineer (a boyhood ambition), but at 19 I was too old for an apprenticeship and likewise for a chartered accountant. Since Canada and England were then at war with Germany, I decided to enlist in the Canadian army. I had to show the army my birth certificate, something I had never seen before. Mom gave me this little slip of paper. It had my correct birth date, but the name on it was Peter Kenneth Arnold. I asked her what that was! She then confessed that she wasn't really my mother; my birth mother had died when I was a year old, and my father had given me to her to raise. He had then gone to the States, never to be heard from again.

That was one of the greatest shocks of my life. She had been such a wonderful, caring mother to me, and I had such a hard time adjusting to what she had told me. I was heartbroken and deeply disappointed.

Anyway, that was really just the beginning of a long story with many twists and turns. I had just turned 19 when I was apprised of that dreadful turn of events, and I'm 86 now. One question that has always tormented me is what were the circumstances of my real mother's death and where is she buried?

Kenneth A. Saw

ON THE WEB

NEW RECORDS AT THE PENNSYLVANIA ARCHIVES

by Marie Robinson

In the last few weeks, the Pennsylvania Archives has added some remarkable and free scanned land records to their already-available Warrant Registers at <http://www.phmc.state.pa.us/bah/dam/landrec.htm>.

These pages include instructions on how to search the records and an abbreviated history behind the early process of recording the land transactions.

I've been ordering these survey maps from the archives for seven years for mapping purposes, and it is truly a wonderful addition to online research to be able to avoid the cost and time of waiting for search results and photocopies of survey maps, warrants, and patents to arrive by snail mail. In addition, the archives may, in the near future, accept volunteer help in transcribing the already easy-to-read records so in the future you can search a database rather than having to review hundreds (likely thousands) of pages.

Specifically, the resources are:

- Warrant Registers
- Patent Indexes
- Copied Survey Books
- Patent Tract Name Indexes
- East Side Applications (Register)
- West Side Applications (Register)
- New Purchase Registers

Previously published in RootsWeb Review: 22 August 2007, Vol. 10, No. 34.

HELPFUL WEBSITES

If you're looking for tutorials on genealogical subjects, take a look at:

<http://rwguide.rootsweb.com>

<http://www.genealogy.com/university.html>

<http://genealogy.about.com>

Want to know the meaning and origin of your surname? See <http://www.surnamedb.com>.

For a one-sheet chart showing birth years for various ages in the 1850-1920 censuses, see: <http://www.rootsweb.com/~inwashin/CensusCalculations.htm>.

To get an idea of the value of money in years past, check out The Inflation Calculator at: <http://www.westegg.com/inflation> or Measuring Worth at <http://measuringworth.com/calculators/ppowerus>.

Google "Genealogy Freebies" to see the many things you can find for free on the Web.

NOTE THE LOCATION OF SOURCES

by Michael John Neill

Tracking your research (the title of the book, page, publication date, publisher, etc.) has always been an integral part of research. However, sometimes there is more to it than that. The location of the reference is just as important.

While reviewing digital files I had saved to my flash drive while in Salt Lake City at the Family History Library, I realized that while I had the book title and page number, etc., I didn't have the name and location of the database that allowed me to search that book in the first place.

I had located the digital images using online databases that allowed for full-text searches. I was in such a hurry to download the image and the book's title, author, etc. that I neglected to track the larger database of which the book was a part.

Many scans of older books are now parts of larger digital collections. The name of the website or database provider is an integral part of the source. All scans are not created equally and tracking the provider would allow me to easily search the reference again if I realize there are names I overlooked in my initial searches. Don't overlook this step in your source citations.

A Tip from the Pros that appeared in the Ancestry Daily News of 10 August 2007. Copyright © 2007. The Generations Network, Inc.

NEWS

NEW NARA FEES

You may remember that in the April issue of this newsletter, we reported on proposed fee increases for copies of documents provided by the National Archives.

By the end of the public comment period on April 27, NARA had received a total of 1,281 comments on the proposed new rule. Because of these comments, some modifications were made. Effective October 1, 2007, the fees will be 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 & after, up to and including 100 pages) - \$75.00
- Full Pension File (pre-Civil War, regardless of page count) - \$50.00
- Selected Pension Documents - \$25.00
- Bounty Land Warrant Files - \$25.00
- Military Service Files (more than 75 years old) - \$25.00

As you can see, the cost for a Civil War Pension File has been lowered from \$125.00 to \$75.00 and pre-Civil War Pension Files from \$60.00 to \$50.00. If a complete Civil War file contains more than 100 pages, the customer will be notified of the total number of pages and given the opportunity to pay 65 cents for every page over 100. Since NARA received relatively few comments about the other fee changes, they were not adjusted in the final rule.

To learn more about the public comments and NARA's rationale for the changes, see Rules and Regulations in the Federal Register, Vol. 72, No. 159 for August 17, 2007.

FamilySearch GENESIS PROJECT

In the June QH newsletter we listed a number of partnerships that FamilySearch has recently formed with various archives and records custodians to help digitize, index, publish and preserve their collections—e.g., World Vital

Records, Godfrey Memorial Library, Kindred Konnections Footnote.com, etc. Dick Eastman reported the following new development on August 15.

“Today, FamilySearch issued an RFI (Request For Information) to commercial and non-profit organizations that might be interested in joining forces to place genealogy-related information online...

“NOTE: A ‘Service Provider’ is a company that publishes information online. Examples of present-day service providers would include Footnote.com, Ancestry.com, the New England Historic Genealogical Society (a non-profit service provider), FindMyPast.com and many others...

“The RFI proposes to provide images of original records to genealogists around the world. All you need is a computer and an Internet connection.

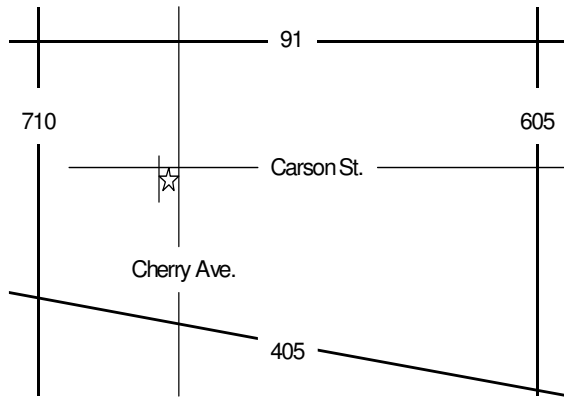
“The RFI states that FamilySearch will make these images of original records available at no cost to service providers although the publishing of the online information must conform to a set of guidelines. For instance, all records published under this project must be made available at no charge to patrons at the Family History Library in Salt Lake City and to patrons at local FamilySearch Family History Centers around the world. The information also must be available to members of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints at no charge. In effect, this is the ‘payment’ for obtaining easy access to the information. The information also must be published in a manner that allows for the index to be available on www.FamilySearch.org.

“In addition, the service providers are free to charge reasonable fees to anyone else who wishes to access the same information...”

The entire article is available at <http://blog.eogn.com> for 15 August 2007. Copyright 2007 by Richard W. Eastman.

C A L E N D A R

Sunday, September 16, 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 66.



Wednesday, September 19, 7:00 p.m. **Genealogical Society of North Orange County, California** monthly meeting. Yorba Linda Community Center (Imperial Room A), Imperial Highway & Casa Loma, Yorba Linda. Program: “OC Archives” by Phil Brigandi.

Wednesday, September 19, 7:00 p.m. **South Bay Cities Genealogical Society** monthly meeting. Torrance Civic Center Library, 3301 Torrance Blvd., Torrance. Program: “The Search for a Surname: Where to Go to Get Information” by Barbara Algaze.

Sunday, September 23, 1:00-3:00 p.m. **British Isles Family History Society-USA** monthly meeting. Los Angeles Regional FHC.* Program: “Comparing Genealogy Database Programs” by Lisa Schumacher.

Saturday, October 6. **Orange County, California, Genealogical Society** monthly meeting at Huntington Beach Central Library, 7111 Talbert Ave., Huntington Beach. The main speaker at 11:00 a.m. in Rooms C&D will be Nancy Carlberg on “Tracing Your Colonial Ancestors.”

CORONA GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY

Saturday, October 6, 2007
10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.
Corona Public Library
650 S. Main Street, Corona

“STONES, BONES & (ANCIENT) TOMES”
From 10:00 a.m. to Noon, **Millie L. McGhee** will present a video that she made during the pursuit of her family tree. She will be revealing details of her life, as well as a possible controversial connection to the late Director of the FBI, J. Edgar Hoover. She is an inspirational community leader of the Inland Empire as well as the author of two books.

From 1:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m., there will be six half-hour presentations on various genealogy topics. There will also be all-day displays, one-on-one help, and demonstrations of Family Tree Maker, photo restoration, scrapbooking, internet genealogy searching and more!

For questions, contact Len Enlow at:
Lenenlow@ca.rr.com

*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.