

QUESTING HEIRS GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY *Newsletter* Volume 41 ✦ Number 10 ✦ October 2008

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, OCTOBER 19, 2008

1:15	Class	INTERMEDIATE: "Publishing Your Family Genealogy Electronically," presented by Loran Bures
1:45	Period	HERITAGE SOCIETY: Sons of the American Revolution (SAR), presented by Harry Holgate, Registrar – Harbor Chapter
2:00	Break	Time for chatting, browsing, and refreshments
2:15	Business	
2:30	General Meeting	SPEAKER: Connie Moretti <i>Diving Into Census Research</i>

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OCTOBER MEETING

BASIC CLASS

The basic class to help beginners get started in searching for their ancestors has been postponed until next month.

**INTERMEDIATE CLASS
Publishing Your Family Genealogy
Electronically**

Loran Bures will present the final part of our three-part class series on publishing your family genealogy—this month the how-to of publishing it electronically.

SPEAKER: CONNIE MORETTI

Connie Moretti, a third-generation Californian, developed her love for genealogy from a storytelling grandmother who enrolled her in Knott’s Berry Farm’s Covered Wagon Club at age nine. After thirty years as an educator, she started her own consulting business and now works as a professional genealogist. Connie teaches genealogy classes for South Bay Adult School and also served as editor of the South Bay Cities Newsletter for five years. She is the co-author of two genealogy books: *Stepping Stones to Genealogy* and *On the Road: Day Trips to Local Genealogy Research Sites*. Connie is also the author or co-author of *Around the South Bay with Kids*, *Dixie Manor Days*, and *Tyree H. Bell: Forrest’s Fighting Lieutenant*. She is a member of APG, NGS, NEHGS, VGS, NSDAR, USD1812 and was Historian General of the United Daughters of the Confederacy 2004-2006.

PROGRAM

Diving Into Census Research

Connie will expand on the Ce part of the ViCe Principle in our new monthly column, **Climbing Your Family Tree** on page 75.

**MEMBERSHIP REPORT
Sally DAVIS (562) 429-7803**

SEPTEMBER MEETING ATTENDANCE

Members: 36 Guests: 2

NEW MEMBERS

Dorothy AHRENS Family 9/10
Penny NUGENT Contributing 9/10
Jeannie SUKOW Individual 9/10

RENEWALS

Please see page 76 for the list of Renewals.

**FINANCIAL REPORT
David WERTS (562) 431-7790**

August Income \$ 195.15
August Expenses \$ 316.52
Operations Balance \$1,284.25

**REFRESHMENTS
Georgie (Peterson) LYONS (562) 432-4908**

Thanks to our September hosts:

Cynthia DAY-ELLIOTT Linda IVERS
Jeanette JONES Carole OWENS

Our October hosts will be:

Laurie ANGEL Tricia BURES
Frena DOMINGUEZ Barbara LOURTIE

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This newsletter is published monthly as a benefit for members of Questing Heirs; it is not meant to be sold. Those who are unable to attend our meetings but wish to subscribe to the newsletter may purchase a newsletter-only membership for \$12.00 a year. To join, please use the membership application on the outer cover of this newsletter.

CLIMBING YOUR FAMILY TREE

THE VICE PRINCIPLE

by Connie Moretti

While we were in school, the Vice Principal's office was certainly a place to be avoided, but for our genealogy research, the two parts of the Vice Principle are important in our research. Once you have rounded up the information you have at home, you are ready to start collecting other documents and data.

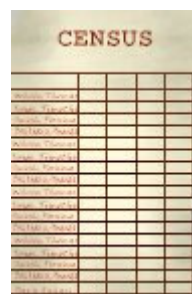
First be sure you have Vital records, the first part of the Vice Principle, for as many family members as possible. In this day of concern over identity theft, the access to past vital records can vary greatly by locality. Some states have restricted any records less than 100 years old, while other jurisdictions are making them available online. A useful web site for death records is <http://www.deathindexes.com> which has links to online records and information about ordering copies. At <http://www.linkpendium.com> you will find links for each United States county which includes vital records and ordering information.

While you wait for the vital records you have ordered to arrive, you are ready for the second part of the Vice Principle, the US Census records. Start by making a list of all your family members that were living in 1930, and if possible include their locations. Censuses taken after 1930 are not yet open to the public due to a 72 year privacy law. Armed with your list of relatives, you are ready for a census web site. Ancestry.com is available at the Long Beach and Cerritos Family History Centers and Heritage Quest is available via the Long Beach and Los Angeles public libraries. You can use it from home with a current library card. Linkpendium includes a section for census records. There are also free sites such as <http://www.censusfinder.com> and <http://www.census-online.com/links> that can help you locate census information.

Be sure to print a copy of the census page where your family is listed. If they are enumerated near the very top or bottom of the census page, print the one before or after, in case other family members are living nearby. Before you leave the page, be sure to collect all the identifying information - State, county, roll number, page or sheet number, dwelling and family number. Sometimes you can turn your copy over, and run it through your printer again to capture those facts. It can also be helpful to mark an arrow next to your family, since some of these old hand-written documents can be difficult to decipher.

Keep searching back from 1930 to 1920 to 1910 to 1900 and printing each census. It can be very important to find your family in every census year; you never know when a widowed mother-in-law may be living in the household and will help you learn a woman's maiden name. Different questions were asked in each census year, and by compiling them you can learn a great deal about your ancestors and their lives.

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QUESTING HEIRS NEWS

ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP RENEWALS

Dawn ALVAREZ	Newsletter	9/09
Laurie ANGEL	Contributing	9/09
Linda ARTUSO	Contributing	9/09
Marilyn BRASHER & Robert BRASHER	Patron	9/09
Barbara CARY	Individual	9/09
Evelyn COLES	Individual	9/09
Robert COLLINS	Individual	9/09
Linda DONALDSON	Individual	9/09
Terry HAMILTON	Family	9/09
Marie HEGWER	Individual	9/09
Harry HOLGATE	Individual	9/09
Linda IVERS	Individual	9/09
Jeanette JONES	Sustaining	9/09
Charlotte LLEWELLYN & Mike POWERS	Family	9/09
Barbara LOURTIE	Individual	9/09
Georgie LYONS	Individual	9/09
Christina McKILLIP	Individual	9/09
Harriet MILLER	Newsletter	9/09
Priscilla NIELSEN	Patron	9/09
Beverly PLANK	Contributing	9/09
Joy PROUST	Contributing	9/09
Gary REID	Individual	9/09
Elizabeth REIDY	Individual	9/09
Jackie RILEY	Individual	9/09
Linda RYAN	Individual	9/09
Lynn SHARP	Contributing	9/09
Mary SMITH	Individual	9/09
Lucille STROHBEEN	Individual	9/09
Marjorie TARBELL	Sustaining	9/09
Cheryl TARDIF	Individual	9/09
David WERTS	Sustaining	9/09
Connie WILLIAMS	Individual	9/09

NOMINATING COMMITTEE

At our November meeting, Questing Heirs members will elect a President, First Vice-President (program chair), Second Vice-President (membership chair), and one Director-at-Large. These positions are all for two-year terms. The Nominating Committee—consisting of John McCoy (chairman), Jeanette Jones, and Cynthia Day-Elliott—will offer a slate of candidates at our October meeting. Members who are interested in serving on the Board of Directors should notify John as soon as possible. He may be reached by phone at (562) 423-4962 or by e-mail at RealMac@aol.com.

NOTE: Submissions for the November 2008 Newsletter are due by October 26, 2008.

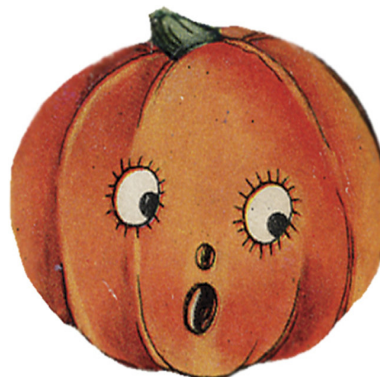


RIPLEY'S TOMBSTONE

by Joy A., Santa Rosa, CA

Robert Ripley, the cartoonist who created Ripley's "Believe It or Not" cartoon series featuring unusual facts from around the world, is buried with his mother and father in Santa Rosa, California. His tombstone reads, "Believe It or Not." Every year I take my class to do tombstone rubbings of famous local people and his is one of their favorites.

This article was previously published in RootsWeb Review: 28 Nov 2007, Vol. 10, No. 48.



*It was a sunshiny day in winter,
the snow was raining fast,
a barefooted boy with shoes on
stood sitting on the grass.
There was a crowded streetcar
But no one was in it,
Except for a bald-headed man who was
combing his hair.*

From an old autograph album

OF INTEREST

HIBBEN DISSERTATION

You may recall Jean Wilcox Hibben, who has spoken to our group in the past. She has now completed her dissertation and recently received her PhD. If you would like to take a look at the dissertation, which is titled “Family Folklore: The Effects on Family Members over Generations,” you may do so at <http://drop.io/HibbenDissertation>.

ANNIE MOORE’S MARKER

by Ray O’Hanlon

“A dedication of a headstone for Annie will take place at Calvary Cemetery in Queens on Saturday, October 11, Annie’s great-granddaughter, Julia Devous, told the *Echo*...

“Commissioner of Records for New York City, Brian Anderson, whose genealogical detective work helped uncover the true life story of Annie, and Ireland’s Consul General in New York, Niall Burgess, will be taking part in the dedication.

“ ‘The steering committee has also extended invitations to genealogist Megan Smolenyak Smolenyak, who unveiled the Annie Moore mystery in September 2006, and to Cardinal Edward Egan, or a representative of the Archdiocese of New York, to preside over the ceremony,’ said Devous...

“The headstone that will mark Annie Moore’s grave, and that of five of her children, is being carved from Irish Blue Limestone. It’s currently being finished in County Clare by master carver Francis McCormack of Irish Natural Stone and will be imported by the company’s Boston affiliate...

“Annie Moore made history on January 1, 1892 when she became the first recorded arrival at Ellis Island in New York Harbor. A statue of the teenage immigrant now records the event at the Ellis Island Museum.

“For years it was thought that Annie had moved west from New York but two years ago it was

revealed that she had never in fact left the city and was resting in the unmarked grave in Calvary, this despite her fame and the statues depicting her on both sides of the Atlantic.”

The excerpts above are from an article that appeared in the Irish Echo Online on August 13, 2008.

WORLD ARCHIVES PROJECT

Ancestry.com has established a program named the World Archives Project. In order to preserve fragile records in digital form, Ancestry.com is partnering with agencies like the National Archives, with genealogical societies, and with other organizations to achieve this goal.

In order to make the information in the digital versions readily available to researchers online, it needs to be indexed. So, Ancestry.com has established a Volunteer Indexing Program. If you would like to help, you can sign up at www.ancestry.com.

Juliana Smith reported in the 12 Sep 2008 issue of *24/7 Family History Circle* that “the indexes created through the World Archives Project will be free to everyone. Images will remain behind the paid subscription wall to cover the costs of digitization, but active contributors to the project who key 900 records or more per quarter will have access to all of the images that are part of the World Archives Project—not just those that they have helped index. In addition to that, they will receive a 10 percent discount on the renewal of their Ancestry.com U.S. Deluxe membership and 15 percent on the renewal of their World Deluxe membership.”

She also points out that a society’s ability to choose indexing projects from relevant areas of interest means that its indexers, being familiar with the names and locations in that particular area, can create more accurate indexes. Another factor is that the indexes will be keyed by two separate individuals and then sent to a third party for arbitration of any differences. The society will receive digitized copies of the indexes and images to use as they see fit.

METHODS

DO THE MATH

[Genealogists often make mistakes if they don't do the math!]

Fuzzy math occurs when you estimate a birth date from the age given in the census.

Bogus math occurs when you have an exact birth date for the first child and you adjust the estimated birthday of the mother to match it.

Destructive math occurs when a death date is taken from a tombstone or will for the wrong man in the wrong generation because the surname matches or the cemetery is located in the right county. The fact that the man lived 150 years is ignored.

Speculative math occurs when the age of the wife at first marriage is matched to the actual date stated in the marriage records—especially where the wife carries a common name—Mary, Elizabeth, Sarah, etc. A surprising number of men choose a second wife with the same given name as the first—sometimes a third wife with the same given name.

It is normal for pedigrees to have more than one discrepancy with dates. When all other parts of the Search Dimensions—name and naming patterns, date or period of time, place or locality, migration patterns, and relationships—match, a date discrepancy can be accepted.

This is especially true when you document a marriage. There are more than 16 *legal recordings* for marriage—some recorded before the marriage takes place and some recorded after the marriage occurs.

State the date you have. Identify the record or source which supplied the date. Do not adjust or shrink to fit or push the “make it fit button” on your computer. Let the records stand with their evidence. Then in a separate paragraph describe your own interpretation of the evidence based on all of the records you have researched...

From Arlene Eakle's Genealogy News Sheet of 8 Jul 2008 at <http://www.arleneeakle.com/wordpress>.

START COLLECTING EULOGIES

Sadly, funerals are a part of each of our lives, yet ironically, they provide a unique opportunity for all family historians. My 96-year-old Great-uncle Ezio Joseph Rigadini passed away last week. Unable to attend his funeral, I wrote a tribute and asked my younger sister to read it at his memorial service.

Before beginning, I pulled up a eulogy I had written for another uncle to get some ideas. I had woven the story of Uncle Lou's life for his grandchildren and great-grandchildren to help them remember him in future years. As I reviewed the eulogy, I recalled that at the time, I had referred to another eulogy written in 1992 by a family friend.

The moral of the story? Start collecting eulogies. Today, families celebrate the lives of their loved ones with creative memorial services, often including photo slideshows, video montages, and outpourings of loving memories shared by family and friends during funeral and memorial services.

Frequently these tributes include not only traditional timelines of a person's life, careers, and hobbies, but they also paint a picture of the deceased's personality, philosophies, and outlook on life. In short, they describe what made him or her unique.

Sometimes mortuaries can “tape” the services...If not, the person arranging the services may ask speakers for copies of their eulogies. And don't forget to print guest books included with online obituaries.

As difficult as these times may be, later they can lead to opportunities to discuss shared memories, review (and identify!) family photos, recall traditions, and help introduce a younger generation to the value of recording family history.

A Tip from the Pros by Denise Platt Stewart that appeared in The Ancestry Weekly Journal of 14 April 2008. Copyright © 2008, The Generations Network, Inc.

ON THE WEB

ONLINE AGBI TO MOVE

Godfrey Library publishes the American Genealogical Biographical Index (AGBI). The AGBI is a 226 volume every name index of hundreds of genealogies, including unindexed and partially indexed genealogies. The AGBI also indexes the Boston Transcript genealogical column that appeared from 1896 to 1941, the 1790 census, parts of the Pennsylvania Archives and various vital, church and military records. About 300 large libraries, in addition to the Godfrey Library, have print copies.

The only online addition [sic] appears on Ancestry.com. That is about to change. Beginning in January 2009 the AGBI will no longer be part of Ancestry.com. Instead the AGBI will be part of Godfrey Library's paid subscription service, Godfrey Scholar, and will also be part of World Vital Record's database offerings.

The American Genealogical Biographical Index is an invaluable first step in any genealogical research. Since the AGBI also sorts names by birthdate whenever available, it is also an important research tool when the same given name appears many times during a surname search. The AGBI also sorts by geographical location within a surname listing.

Godfrey Library owns all the material indexed in the AGBI.

Godfrey Library, a library of genealogy and family history, is located in Middletown, Connecticut. www.godfrey.org

This announcement, written by the Godfrey Library, was posted on Eastman's Online Genealogy Newsletter of 29 Sep 2008 at <http://blog.eogn.com>. Copyright © 2008 by Richard W. Eastman.

FAMILY SEARCH WIKI

<https://wiki.familysearch.org>

FamilySearch has created a wiki that contains thousands of articles on family history research topics and how-to instructions. You can search

for articles by country or topic and can access this information without registering. You can also browse the forum entries.

In order to participate in discussions and create or edit articles, however, you do need to register. Registration is free, and instructions for doing it are provided. You will be asked to choose a user name and password and to enter your email address.

A number of links are provided to help you get started in using the wiki. Take a look at it, and see what you can find.

NEW WEB SITE MAPS SURNAMES WORLDWIDE

<http://www.publicprofiler.org/worldnames>

We all want to know where our ancestors came from but many of us are also curious as to where our distant relatives now live. A new web site can provide many such clues, if not definitive answers.

The Public Profiler site plots eight million last names using data from electoral rolls and phone directories. The site covers 300 million people in 26 countries, showing the origins of names and where families have moved to. The site also reveals which of the five million first names (forenames) are most closely associated with different surnames and lists the top regions and cities for each surname.

The Public Profiler web site was developed by a team of geographers from University College London...Most surnames originated in specific places in the world and remain most frequent in those areas, but have often spread to other countries because of migration, the research shows...

You do need to have JavaScript enabled on your browser and a recent version of Flash Player installed on your computer to see the maps.

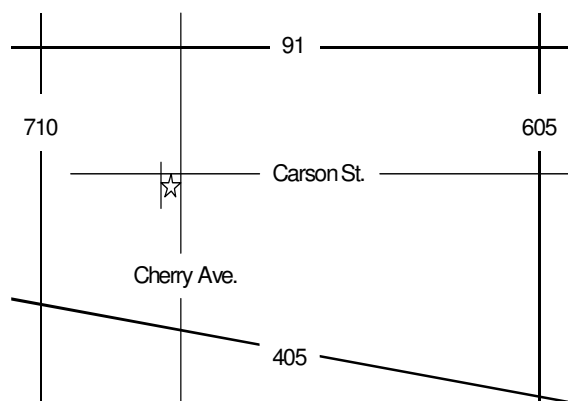
Excerpted from Eastman's Online Genealogy Newsletter of 1 Sep 2008 at <http://blog.eogn.com>. Copyright © 2008 by Richard W. Eastman.

CALENDAR

Saturday, October 11, Noon-4:00 p.m. Southern California Genealogical Society monthly meeting at 417 Irving Drive, Burbank. Program: "Scrapbook Techniques for Genealogists" by Pam Wiedenbeck.

Sunday, October 12, 2:00 p.m. Immigrant Genealogical Society monthly meeting at 1310 Magnolia Blvd., Burbank. (a joint meeting with The Pommern Group) Program: "Who Were the People of Pomerania?" by George Urnine.

Sunday, October 19, 1:15-3:30 p.m. 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 74.



Sunday, October 26, 1:00-3:00 p.m. British Isles Family History Society-USA monthly meeting at the Los Angeles Regional FHC.* Program: "Patronymics: Blessing or Curse?" by George P. Coulter, featuring Welsh surnames.

CAAGS HAS MOVED

The California African American Genealogical Society now meets at The Mayme Clayton Library and Museum, 4130 Overland Blvd. in Culver City. This is located at the corner of Overland and Culver Blvd., across from the VA Building. See www.caags.org for meeting info.

WHITTIER AREA GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY 26TH ANNUAL SEMINAR

Saturday, February 28, 2009
8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.
Greenleaf Masonic Temple
7604 Greenleaf Ave., Whittier

This seminar features Curt B. Witcher, Manager for The Genealogy Center of the Allen County Public Library in Fort Wayne, Indiana, and general curator for that institution's Rare and Fine Book Collection.

Mr. Witcher's topics will be:

- Doing Effective Genealogical Research in Libraries
- Using Periodical Literature for Genealogical Research
- Pain in the Access: Getting More from the Internet for Your Genealogy
- All That Other Stuff!: Other Census Records Beyond Population Schedules

Registration fee before Feb 21 is \$32, \$35 at the door. Box lunch available before Feb 21 for \$8. For more information, see the WAGS website: <http://www.cagenweb.com/kr/wags> or contact Judy Poole at (909) 985-6657 or by e-mail at judypoole@verizon.net.

*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.