



QUESTING HEIRS
GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY
Newsletter
Volume 43 ✦ Number 3 ✦ March 2010

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, MARCH 21, 2010

**1:15 Class INTERMEDIATE: Putting It All Together
by Linda Serna**

2:00 Business

2:15 Break Time for chatting, browsing, and refreshments

**2:45 General SPEAKER: Linda Serna
Meeting What Does It Really Say?**

**4:00 Class BEGINNING: "Records," presented by
Mike Powers**

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MARCH MEETING

BEGINNING CLASS

This month Mike Powers will be discussing what types of records are most helpful to you in learning more about your ancestors.

SPEAKER:

LINDA SERNA

Linda has loved genealogy since 7th grade when she wrote about her family for a school project. However, researching was put on hold while she raised her six children. She has been actively researching and involved in genealogy for the last fifteen years. Her favorite part of this pursuit is seeing how individual family stories fit in and make up the fabric of history. She has always had a fascination for putting together puzzles and solving mysteries, and now she uses these interests for genealogy. She has given several presentations for the Orange County California Genealogical Society, as well as speaking to other genealogy groups in Southern California. During the past several years, she has also spoken at her Church and for other faith-based organizations on pro-life and Bible-based topics. In fact, she is currently helping to facilitate a Women's Bible study at her parish. Her loves, in addition to public speaking, are history, writing, and traveling. Linda is the oldest of five children. Her parents are still living and full of stories, and she and her mother have researched their family together for many years.

INTERMEDIATE CLASS

“Putting It All Together” looks at ideas for organizing our data, addresses the necessity of citing sources and how to do it, and shows how to determine the relationships with all those names we collect.

MAIN PRESENTATION

“What Does It Really Say?” shows that foreign language records need not be a stumbling block in our research but rather are more easily understood than we realize, as well as providing a wealth of information about our families.

REFRESHMENTS

Georgie (Peterson) LYONS (562) 432-4908

Thanks to our February hosts:

Patti DAVIES Cynthia DAY-ELLIOTT
Kathy LATHAM Fred SPECKMEYER

Our March hosts will be:

Linda DONALDSON Frances LIEBZEIT
George & Polly JOHNSON Linda RYAN

MEMBERSHIP REPORT

Terry HAMILTON (562) 596-9382

FEBRUARY MEETING ATTENDANCE

Members: 34 Guests: 6

NEW MEMBER

Ron JANUS Individual 9/10

FINANCIAL REPORT

David WERTS (562) 431-7790

January Income	\$ 136.61
January Expenses	\$ 627.56
Operations Account	\$1,314.40
Special Projects Account	\$5,744.50

SUBMISSIONS FOR THE APRIL

NEWSLETTER ARE DUE BY

MARCH 28, 2010.

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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.



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GPS FOR YOUR FAMILY by Connie Moretti

The genealogical GPS can help you to navigate the maze of history, just as that GPS on your dashboard helps you to navigate unfamiliar streets.

Our family history GPS is the Genealogical Proof Standard, and its careful use can help us to be sure that we have compiled a reasonably correct family tree. We start using our GPS by deciding where we want to go. For family history this is identifying our research goals; what question do we want to answer or what statement do we need to prove?

Then we are off to the step-by-step directions. For the genealogical GPS, these are

1. Search and Cite
2. Analyze
3. Resolve Conflicts
4. Proof Argument

Let's examine these genealogical compass directions:

1. Search and Cite - we need to conduct reasonably exhaustive searches in *reliable* sources for all pertinent information. These sources may include copies of official documents, collections of abstracts by respected researchers, extracts from official records made by competent extractors, and well documented genealogies. It is important to create a complete citation for each of these sources. Complete citations give our work credibility and allow others to place confidence in our results.

2. Analyze - we need to analyze our collected information in order to determine its quality as evidence to answer our question. Is it an original record made at or very near to the time of the event recorded or is it a derivative report based on someone else's memory or conclusions? Is it primary information supplied by a participant or secondary, second-hand information from a non-participant? The results of our analysis

allow us to determine how much value to place on each item.

3. Resolve Conflicts - when the information we have collected seems contradictory, we must arrive at a resolution of these discrepancies. We rely on our analysis to assist in this process. Generally we go with primary information from original sources; however, a collection of indirect evidence may be just as valuable. At times primary information can be in error, as when a name is misspelled on a document or the familiar error of writing the wrong date after the turn of the year. Your resolution will take into account all these facets of data.

4. Proof Argument - an often overlooked step that gives greater value to our work. In a computer genealogy database, this can be an excellent use of the notes feature. Take the time to explain why you have come to the conclusion presented, list the known resources, and explain your resolution of conflicting information.

Using GPS for genealogists will help all of us to compile valuable and reliable family histories. For a useful roadmap of Genealogists' GPS, visit Mark Tucker's web site: www.thinkgenealogy.com/map/

Women's History Month

March is Women's History Month. The overarching theme this year is "Writing Women Back into History."

Have you written your female ancestors into your family history? Did they travel alone from one country to another, raise children on their own, or take in a sister's orphaned children? Did they travel westward in a wagon or on foot, attend college, write poetry, or give up marriage to care for elderly parents? Did they live without plumbing or electricity?

Maybe you could transcribe old letters or a diary written by a female ancestor.

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Hello everyone!

Congratulations to Tina Yanis who has been elected President of the Parish Council at Resurrection Lutheran Church where we have our meetings. Others of our members are also active in other organizations. Sandy Hollandsworth is President of the Dramatic Allied Arts Guild, which gives scholarships to students in the "arts" at Long Beach City College and Cal State Long Beach. Chris Elia holds an office with the Polish Genealogical Society of California. Gerald Lunderville teaches Spanish at OASIS in Lakewood, and I will be teaching Genealogy at OASIS starting in August.

Now I want to tell you the story of the rocks. Linda Artuso picked up a package at the post office that was supposed to be the 1890 Register of California Voters (3 vols). Instead, the box contained rocks!!! Someone had replaced the books with rocks, and between Nov. 4 when it was mailed from San Diego until Nov. 24 when it finally arrived in Long Beach, the box traveled to Bell CA, Atlanta GA, Memphis TN, back to Bell CA, then Forest Park IL, and back to Bell once more.

Dave Werts, our Treasurer, said: "That is STRANGE! Did you check the rocks? Maybe they're valuable." (Actually, they weren't just plain gray rocks. A couple were quite colorful, and one even had a fossil bug in it.)

John McCoy, our Past President, said: "I think we should post a picture of the rocks on our web site! Whatever was inside is probably being sold on e-Bay, the best way to fence stolen merchandise today!"

Fortunately, in the end the California State Genealogical Alliance replaced the books for us, and we will be adding them to our collection at the Long Beach Public Library.

For those of you who weren't at our February meeting, I just want to mention that Bob Brasher, our long-time Library Liaison, has had another stroke. We wish him a speedy recovery and hope to see him back at our monthly meetings soon.

Liz

ROSTER CORRECTIONS

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If you spot any other errors in the new roster, please let Terry Hamilton know.



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FINDING MARRIED NAMES by Juliana Smith

Last week, we talked about finding maiden names for the women in our families. However discovering the married names of women who suddenly disappear from family records is every bit as challenging. As she marries and moves away from the family, a woman's identity is disguised under her husband's surname. If she was married more than once, the puzzle is all the more complicated. And by the way, it's sometimes easy to forget that older generations of widowed and divorced women did marry more than once. Don't give up hope. There are some surprisingly good places where you can find married names.

Home sources. If you're working with relatively recent generations, ask family members what they know. Pore over old correspondence, photographs, or other memorabilia for clues. Overlooked clues can sometimes jump off the pages of old family address books.

Sponsors, witnesses, and family associates. Just as in the search for maiden names, check out those names that keep popping up in records as witnesses, sponsors, neighbors, and business associates. Ethnic communities were often close-knit groups, full of extended family. In some cases you may find multiple siblings marrying into the same family. Also look at the names of informants on the death records of other family members. You may find that the woman you're seeking provided the information for the death record.

Court records. Be sure to seek out probate records on all family members, especially probate records that include the names and relationships of living and dead family members, including married names of female siblings or offspring.

Newspapers. Traditionally, obituaries are the richest source of biographical information in any newspaper. Don't forget to search for all family members. They can be one of the best ways of finding those elusive married names of female relatives. While the obituary section

is naturally the first place a family historian searches, other sections of the newspaper—especially old newspapers—can yield some surprising details. Engagements and marriage announcements were important popular features in hometown papers, and you will find them to be great places to look for maiden names and married names. Social pages often recount the comings and goings of visiting family members and are a wonderful source for married names.

Use technology. These days, we have some powerful tools at our disposal in the form of searchable electronic databases. Try searching, using just a given name, and then include information like place of birth and birth date, relationship (wife), race, residence, and any other field available for that particular database in order to narrow your search to a few candidates. Then do a little digging on those that closely match what you know and see if you can find a connection.

Do thorough census searches. Seek the census records for all family members and don't forget to search forward. Sometimes we find the siblings or parents of our ancestors in census records and continue backward, without remembering to search forward too. You may find a widowed sister living with a brother or moving back in with parents later in life. Beginning in 1880, U.S. Censuses will list the relationship to the head of household and are a huge help in locating women who moved in with family under their maiden names.

This article appeared in The Weekly Discovery of 9 March 2009. Copyright © The Generations Network, Inc.





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TURN WEB PAGES INTO PDFs

<http://www.pdfmyurl.com>

Dick Eastman wrote about this web site on his blog (<http://blog.eogn.com>) of 22 January this year.

It provides an easy way to copy a web page of interest to you to share with friends or to preserve it for future reference just as it looks at the time. You've probably experienced the frustration of returning to a site only to find that it has disappeared.

To use [PDFmyURL.com](http://www.pdfmyurl.com), just open the web page you're interested in and cut its URL; then go to [PDFmyURL.com](http://www.pdfmyurl.com) and paste the URL in the space provided. Click on the "P" at the right side of the space, and a File Download window will appear. Just click on "Save" and store the web page wherever you want it on your computer.

THE FREE GENEALOGY GUIDE

<http://geneawiki.com>

Here is another web site that provides free genealogical information. Their "Genealogy Guide" covers topics such as Calendars, Family History, Genetic Genealogy, Heraldry, Tools, etc. The site also has information about Computer Software and Online Databases. You can participate by writing or editing its articles if you like.

To access the site, go to the URL above and choose the English version.

TIMELINE APPLICATION

<http://www.TimeGlider.com>

The following is from the TimeGlider site.

Piecing together a family history is one of the most rewarding and important endeavors anyone can undertake. Hours of research need to be painstakingly pieced together in a straightforward manner. Conducting research in libraries, at home, records offices and in all manner of other locations, it would be helpful to have a tool that allowed you to record vital facts and findings wherever you are working.

TimeGlider is a free web-based timeline application. It represents an entirely new, yet completely intuitive, way of visualizing historical information. An axis of time runs across the screen, around which you create, import and categorize events. It requires no specialist software and can be accessed on any machine with a web browser. TimeGlider also makes sharing and collaborating on your research with family and friends simple.

TimeGlider is a data-driven interactive timeline application built on the (Adobe) Flash platform. You can "grab" the timeline and drag it left and right, and zoom in and out to view centuries at a time or just hours. TimeGlider allows you to create event-spans so that you can see durations and how they overlap. Being web-based, TimeGlider lets you collaborate and share easily.

You can create timelines about the last year of your family, the last century of world events, or about pre-historical (bce/bc) times.

TOP TEN MOST POPULAR ONLINE GENEALOGY MAGAZINES

This list was prepared by Alexa, the world's leading company for measuring internet traffic, as of December 2009.

1. Eastman's Online Genealogy Magazine
2. Family Tree Magazine
3. Family Chronicle Magazine
4. Journal of Genetic Genealogy
5. The Global Gazette
6. Genealogy In Time™
7. Genealogy Roots Blog
8. Georgia Genealogical Society Quarterly
9. Genealogy Magazine
10. Family Research

Some of these sites are free, while others have some free content but also sell subscriptions and items in their stores.

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SUVCW National Graves Registration Database

The Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War (SUVCW) National Graves Registration Project was established in 1996. Since then, hundreds of dedicated people from within and without our Order have graciously devoted thousands of hours of their time and energy visiting cemeteries, recording, verifying, researching and entering the final resting places of Civil War veterans. From the beginning, one thing was missing: the means for the SUVCW and the general public to search and view the results of our labor on the Internet. As the number of registrations grew, it was also apparent that duplication of effort and waste of time was reaching an unacceptable level, without knowledge of what was completed and what needed further investigation.

The National Graves Registration Database (<http://www.suvcwdb.org/home>) is now available to all. The database was activated February 22, 2005. This will make all original registrations available for viewing by the general public, as well as allowing for new registrations to be entered through our online program.

It is our hope that this online database program will promote increased interest in the SUVCW National Graves Registration Project and take us to an entirely new level of achievement. Depending on the source referenced, there were between 4.2 and 4.8 million Union Civil War Veterans. Due to mass burials, unreported battlefield losses, burials at sea and other circumstances, we can never expect to register all Union graves, but with your assistance we will succeed in honoring the "boys in blue" to the best of our ability.

Gen. W. S. Rosecrans Camp No. 2, SUVCW - <http://www.suvcw.org/camp2.html>



DNA TO AFRICA: THE SEARCH CONTINUES

by **AARON L. DAY**

Award-Winning & Best-Selling Author

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P. O. Box 5903, Long Beach, CA 90805 - (562) 335-8595

In **'DNA TO AFRICA: The Search Continues,'** the **'Day'** family research continues from North Carolina into the State of Virginia, with the discovery of four additional generations - to the 1660's. This report reviews the discovery of my seventh-great-grandmother, Rachell Day, and her twin brother, John M. Day. They were both listed as Mulattos in St. Stephens 1692 Church records. Rachell and John were born in Northumberland County, Virginia. Their mother, Mary Day, and their father, Daniel Webb, were also located. Included in this book is information on **DNA**, the latest technology in locating ancestors. The DNA and genealogical connection is outlined for those who may be interested in learning more about this type of research. Also included:

- The award-winning short story - **'Tracing My African American Ancestors.'**
- Review of 15 research steps and other tips.
- Resources that were used to trace the Day family are reviewed.
- There is an extensive review of **books that deal with free - African Americans.**
- Included, is a section on the link between **DNA and Genealogical Research**, and how it is used to further personal, family, cultural, and historical education. There is also a section on **Africa and the connection to America.**
- Through DNA testing, two families discover their connections to the KRU people of Liberia, the IBO people of Nigeria, and the Hausa people of Nigeria.



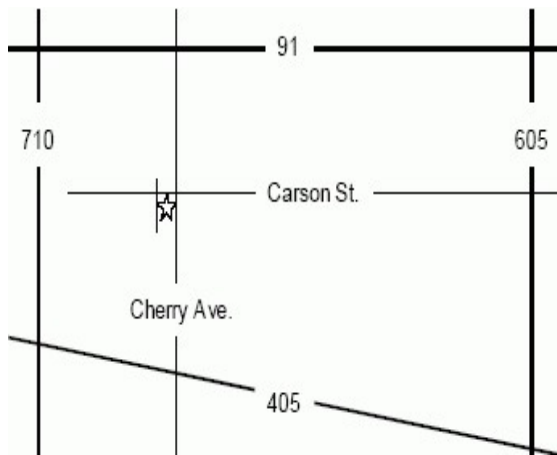
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Saturday, March 13. Southern California Genealogical Society monthly meeting at 417 Irving Drive, Burbank. Triple Bill: 1:00-1:45 “Researching Your Catholic Ancestors,” by Pam Wiedenbeck; 1:45-2:30 “Are You Lost in Louisiana Research,” by Charlotte Bocage; and 2:30-3:15 “Canadian Cousins,” by Joan Phillips.

Sunday, March 14, 2:00 p.m. Immigrant Genealogical Society monthly meeting at 1310 Magnolia Blvd., Burbank. Program: “Genes, Genealogy & Family History,” by Warren Weimer.

Wednesday, March 17, 7:00 p.m. South Bay Cities Genealogical Society monthly meeting in the Katie Geissert Meeting Room at the Torrance Civic Center Library, 3301 Torrance Blvd., Torrance. Program: “Appalachian Ancestors: Their Lives, Legends, & Lyrics,” by Jean Wilcox Hibben.

Sunday, March 21, 1:15-4:00 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 18.



Saturday, April 3, 11:00 a.m. Orange County, California, Genealogical Society monthly meeting at Huntington Beach Central Library, 7111 Talbert Ave., Huntington Beach. Rooms C&D: “Genealogy Collaboration: Past, Present and Future,” by Barbara Renick.

Upcoming Events

BLACK AUTHORS’ FESTIVAL DAY

Saturday, April 3, 2010 (1:00-5:00 p.m.)
Mark Twain Neighborhood Library
1401 E. Anaheim St., Long Beach

This organization is partnering with the Long Beach Public Library to celebrate National Library Month. There will be book-signings and a program from 2:00-3:30 p.m.

This event is free to the public. For more information, contact Aaron Day as listed on page 23.

IMMIGRANT GEN. SOC.

Sunday, April 11, 2010, at 2:00 p.m.
1310 Magnolia Blvd., Burbank

Arlene Eakle will be presenting a free lecture on “Genealogical Evidence in Emigration–Immigration Sources for Ancestors Leaving Northern Europe for America!”

Dr. Eakle is an expert in many state, ethnic, and country sources and is a prolific writer and editor. Contact Marilyn Deatherage at (818) 348-6444 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 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. [Note that this facility is currently closed for renovation. We will notify you when it re-opens.] There are smaller FHCs nearby—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. We recommend calling the local centers before you visit, as their hours may change from time to time.