



QUESTING HEIRS GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY *Newsletter*

Volume 43 ✦ Number 5 ✦ May 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, MAY 16, 2010

1:15 Class	INTERMEDIATE: Effective Use of L.D.S. Family History Centers, by Beth McCarty
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2:00 Business

2:15 Break	Time for chatting, browsing, and refreshments
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2:45 General Meeting	SPEAKER: Beth McCarty Reference Tools & Indexes for English Research
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4:00 Class	BEGINNING: Records and Repositories, presented by Mike Powers
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MAY MEETING

SPEAKER:

BETH McCARTY

Beth McCarty, a native Californian, holds a Bachelor's Degree in Education from California State University at Long Beach and a California teaching credential. She has been doing genealogical research for over forty years and has taught genealogy for over thirty years. For more than twenty-five years she has been researching English records, her ancestors having come from England and Ireland as well as Denmark and Norway.

Beth has served as president of the Southern California Chapter of the Association of Professional Genealogists and for eighteen years as the director of a Family History Center. She is currently director of the Orange Regional Family History Center.

INTERMEDIATE CLASS

This discussion addresses the effective use of L.D.S. Family History Centers to discover records compiled by others and to locate primary records for research. The use of major indexes and data bases available at the centers is discussed, and information about the availability of some of these resources on the FamilySearch internet site is also included.

MAIN PRESENTATION

This lecture acquaints the English researcher with the major reference aides and indexes used in English research. Included will be atlases and gazetteers as well as aides for using specific records such as civil registration, census, church, probate and military records, and some general indexes such as the British & Irish Biographies.



MEMORIAL DAY

May 31, 2010

REFRESHMENTS

Georgie (Peterson) LYONS (562) 432-4908

Thanks to our April hosts:

Frena DOMINGUEZ Terry HAMILTON
George & Polly JOHNSON Penny NUGENT

Our May hosts will be:

Kathy & Larry AKAU Suzanne BOYLES
Sandra HOLLANDSWORTH Linda IVERS

MEMBERSHIP REPORT

Terry HAMILTON (562) 596-9382

APRIL MEETING ATTENDANCE

Members: 42 Guests: 3

NEW MEMBER

Terry GILLIS Individual 9/10

FINANCIAL REPORT

David WERTS (562) 431-7790

March Income	\$ 221.32
March Expenses	\$ 437.92
Operations Account	\$ 1,004.04
Special Projects Account	\$ 5,594.50
CD Accounts:	\$26,352.57

(On which we earned an amazing \$21.77 in the first three months of this year!)

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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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GOOGLE NEWS ARCHIVE by Gena Philibert Ortega

Newspapers can provide rich details about our ancestors' lives. Whether it is information about an ancestor's death in an obituary or articles that marked celebrations in their lives like births, marriage and anniversaries, newspapers covered all aspects of our ancestors' lives.

There are many places to locate newspapers for family history research whether digitized online, preserved on microfilm or transcribed in books. Increasingly, different organizations and groups are digitizing newspapers and making them available on the Internet. If it's on the Internet, then you can bet that Google has found it; and digitized newspapers are no exception.

Google News Archive, <http://news.google.com/archivesearch>, provides a one-stop place to search for newspapers. Now, like many of Google's other services, these are not newspapers that Google has digitized; these are newspapers available through other websites. Google News Archive is just the search engine that allows you to find newspaper articles more easily.

Conduct a search on Google News Archive just as you would search on Google, the search engine. Utilize quote marks to find exact phrases such as "John Smith" or "John Smith" and "Mary Smith." You can also use the Advance Search link found to the right of the search box to customize your search even more.

When you conduct a search on Google News Archive, your results can be shown in a Timeline view. After you type in your search term, you can click on the button next to Search Archives to see your results organized by year. If you just click on Search Archives, you will also see a timeline at the top of your results; and you can click on a time period and see results from that era. This feature is helpful in narrowing down a search to your

ancestor and doing away with other similarly named people from different historical time periods.

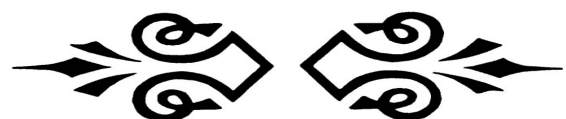
Your search results will provide you a little bit of information about the context of the article. It will also provide you with a link to the article and an indication if there is a cost to view the article. Remember, these are not articles from Google. They are from various newspaper websites; so, there may be a cost associated with looking at an article.

For free articles, you will be able to view the newspaper right on the Google screen with the left larger area allowing you to move around the page and the smaller screen shot of the newspaper, on the upper right side, showing a blue box highlighting the portion of the page you are looking at and your search term in yellow highlights.

For those newspaper articles that are free, there is a feature at the top right side that allows you to save a link to the article. I have also used a "screen shot" to save a copy of the article to my computer. You can do this by using the print screen button on your computer keyboard and then pasting the image into a word processing document. Google News-Archive does not feature a way to download or save articles.

To learn more about searching Google News Archive, check out their Search Help at <http://news.google.com/intl/en/googlenewsarchives/partner.html>.

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PRESIDENT’S MESSAGE

Hi everybody,

I am so sorry that I had to miss the last couple of meetings. I had a cold in March and a very important meeting at my Church in April. I am glad that Suzanne Boyles could step in for me.

We will put up a display in September for the Renovation Faire like we did last year. I have not heard any date set for the Iowa State Picnic, but am looking forward to it.

I start teaching a Beginning Genealogy class at the Long Beach State Elder University on Wednesday, April 28, for the next eight weeks. For additional information, go to: <http://www.csulb.edu/colleges/chhs/centers/olli>.

Liz

DIRECTORY UPDATE

Please add the following new member to your copy of the Membership Directory.

Terry Gillis
4111 E. 5th Street
Long Beach 90814-1739
Phone: 562-434-3341
Email: lvnnetg@earthlink.net

**Submissions for the
June Newsletter are
due by May 23, 2010.**

WDYTYA RENEWED

Paul Telegdy, Executive Vice President of Alternative Programming for NBC, announced on 5 April 2010 that the network has renewed “Who Do You Think You Are?” for the 2010-2011 season.

LOS ANGELES PUBLIC LIBRARY

Michael Kirley, the library’s genealogy specialist, has retired after 39 years of service. Mary McCoy, who is temporarily overseeing the genealogy collection, sent the information that the 1923 Los Angeles city directory has been added to the library’s digital collection of Los Angeles city directories and street address directories. You can access these directories by going to <http://www.lapl.org/resources/en> and clicking the link for “Los Angeles City and Street Directories.”

She also reported that, due to staff reductions resulting from the city’s budget deficit, hours will have to be reduced. Starting April 11, the Central Library’s hours are Monday, Wednesday, Friday and Saturday 10 a.m.-6 p.m. and Tuesday and Thursday 10 a.m.-8 p.m. Hours at Branch Libraries (such as Wilmington) will be Monday, Wednesday and Saturday 10 a.m.-

6 p.m., Tuesday and Thursday 12 p.m.-8 p.m., and Friday 1:30 p.m.-5:30 p.m. The Library’s web-based resources are available 24 hours a day at www.lapl.org.

NEW BILL TO PRESERVE RECORDS

“WASHINGTON—Sen. Orrin Hatch, R-Utah, wants to create a grant program to help libraries, universities and local and state governments to preserve their records for future genealogists.

“He and Sen. Carl Levin, D-Mich., introduced on Monday the ‘Preserving the American Historical Record Act.’ It would authorize spending \$50 million a year for five years for grants to governments around the country to help preserve records, whether in paper, electronic or other form.

“ ‘This legislation will allow state and local governments to make more historic documents—birth, death and marriage certificates, among many others—available to researchers and citizens. It will also provide employment opportunities in communities across the country,’ Hatch said.”

An extract from an article in the Deseret News of 19 April 2010.



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ADDING TIMELINES TO YOUR GENEALOGICAL TOOLKIT

Summary by Christine Elia

The speaker at our April meeting was Nancy Huebotter who spoke, in one of her presentations, on how timelines can help when doing genealogy research. This is a topic that is a “natural fit” for her as she likes to make all kinds of lists.

Most of us have been collecting genealogy data in the context of family relationships and events within the family (births, marriages, deaths, etc). But how many of us have determined the relationship of our family to what was going on in the world? Why did they do the things they did? What is our ancestors’ place in history?

Other purposes for developing a family history timeline are:

- Help you think like your ancestor
- Point out any holes or inconsistencies in your research
- Prove or disprove family stories
- Understand migration patterns
- Realize what you do not know (what you are missing)
- Distinguish between your ancestor and others with a similar name
- Build a “to do” list of new records to research

Nancy never met any of her grandparents but often wondered about them. In particular, she wanted to understand what her grandfather was like; so, she has collected data and related it to other events in an effort to know him better. She also showed us a completed timeline of her father’s life.

Nancy presented different ways to build a timeline. The first method uses a stack of index cards (they can be color-coded if that will help you organize or sort your data). Since each card represents one event, start by putting a date and place of the event at the top of each card. You can start by using the dates of events for one family in your genealogy research. Add notes or other information you have about the event to each card. Sort the

cards by date. Then using other sources, research what else was going on in the world during the same time period and make cards for other events. Some of the events may or may not impact your family; but when starting, you may not know if/what impact other events have on your family. Then “brainstorm” about how your ancestors might have been influenced by those events.

Another method involves a spreadsheet in which each row is labeled with a year in the first column. The second column of the spreadsheet lists family events during that year. The third column lists national historic events. The fourth column lists international historic events. The final column is used to cite the sources you used, for both family and non-family events.

Another example we were shown was similar to the previous spreadsheet, but the rows became columns and the years were similar to column headers except that non-family events were displayed above the years. This example was harder to read since most of the cell contents were displayed using a 90-degree rotation.

The handout showed many web sites in which historic events can be researched, from Wikipedia to history sites to specialty sites that have a history of the specific topic (food, themes). You can also use a search engine and enter: TIMELINE + “Long Beach, California” to get the history of a locality, such as Long Beach. Newspapers and magazines of the time are also good sources.

To help consider whether specific events should be included in your timeline, consider these examples of things that are in today’s news that future researchers might consider as having an impact on us: the volcano eruption in Iceland (this is impacting travel in Europe and shipment of goods); the recall of Toyota vehicles (if you own a Toyota, you may be

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The Archivist's Take on Transparency, Collaboration, and Participation at the National Archives

...In this digital age, we have the opportunity to work and communicate more efficiently, effectively, and in completely new ways. This will require a change not only in our processes, but also in the culture of the National Archives and Records Administration. Working on the Open Government Plan [see <http://www.archives.gov/open>] has helped us take our first steps. It's an exciting time to be at helm, charting a new course for our agency

Where exactly are we headed?

To begin with, we are going to reclaim our records management leadership role.

We risk losing our memory as a country if we cannot meet the challenges of electronic records management. The fact is, without good records management, it is impossible for us to learn from the past and plan for the future. This concern is deeply American. At the conclusion of the Continental Congress, the Massachusetts delegate, Rufus King, advised that the records of the proceedings either be destroyed or given to the President. He feared that if the records were scattered or corrupted by those with an interest to do so, they could be used to distort history and deceive future generations. He understood the vital importance of records management.

We understand that electronic records are now a fundamental part of our documentary record. We will work to find and develop cost effective IT solutions needed to meet our electronic records challenges. We will bring together leaders in records management and information technology to collaborate on our most pressing issues. Toward that end, we are sponsoring the first combined meeting of the Chief Information Officers (CIO) Council and the Federal Records Council to discuss electronic records management issues. Additionally, we will explore incentives for rewarding agencies that best demonstrate

improvement, innovation, and use of technology in their records management.

At the same time, we intend to vastly improve our online capabilities in order to foster the public's use of our records. Included in the effort will be a redesign of Archives.gov, with streamlined search capabilities for the research section of our website. Further, we intend to explore ways to develop our current catalog into a social catalog that allows our online users to contribute information to descriptions of our records. And although we have developed a number of successful social media projects in the last year, we now need to develop a comprehensive social media strategy for the agency, which will include internal and external communication efforts using new media tools. In these efforts lie the seeds of change that will alter the course of our agency.

I expect the principles of transparency, participation and collaboration to change the way we do things, the way we think about things, and the way we deliver services to the public.

From the blog of David S. Ferriero, Archivist of the United States, dated 7 Apr 2010 at <http://blogs.archives.gov/aotus>.



Continued from page 37...

changing your transportation); the economy (if you lose your job or your house, you may end up moving); and passage of the health care bill. Will news items such as these impact our current family history and the choices we make?

Finally, the following genealogy programs can be used to create timelines: Family Tree Maker, Generations (Liberty Edition 8.5), Family Origins 9.0, Legacy 3.0, and The Master Genealogist 4.0d.

On a personal note, I used to mistakenly look for records of my ancestors before or after they lived in a given place. So I developed a timeline of addresses for them to avoid this problem.



**Gen. W. S. Rosecrans Camp No. 2
Department of California & Pacific
Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War
<http://www.suvpac.org/camp2.html>**

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Researching Your Civil War Ancestors ~ Family Stories

By Rev. Dr. Gary Alan Dickey, M.Div., Ph.D., C.G., Dip. English History (Oxford)

Researching one's Civil War ancestors is both interesting and historical. Interesting because they are our ancestors; historical because we learn so much more from history when we study the context in which they were involved in such a conflict as the Civil War.

Where do we start? The first place is to get a good history on the Civil War and read about it. Knowing the history helps us to know where to look when we begin researching our ancestors. After a few basics of the scope of the conflict is understood, it will get us excited about our ancestors to understand that they were part of such a pivotal moment in the history of our country.

The second place to start is with our ancestors. No, not the one you think was in the Civil War. Rather, to start with yourself and work backwards. Don't make the mistake of making conclusions based on assumptions or you may end up in the wrong place with the wrong person. Most of us start with a family story told by a parent or grandparent: "Did you know that great-grandpa was in the Civil War?" True or not, family stories are the place to start. I was always told that my great-grandfather, William G. Dickey, was a Major in the Union Army and that he led his troops at the Battle of Gettysburg where he was wounded in the charge of his men. Well, yes and no. After I looked his Civil War record up, I discovered he was a Sgt. Major, was never at Gettysburg, and was wounded the last day of the war retreating from the enemy position when a cannon ball burst near him giving him life-long injuries from which he would die about 23 years after the war had ceased.

So, family stories are the beginning but not the ending for finding out the truth of your ancestor in the Civil War. Fading memories, a desire to "polish up" the story a little bit, and just plain confusion of facts can send one on a wild goose chase, but the family stories are a vital part of beginning the search. Most families have heard, "Grandpa was in the 121st Pennsylvania Volunteers and served for three years." Knowing that tells you two important things — a unit number and a place. That is the start for looking for records. Grandpa may have actually been in the 118th Volunteers but now you know to not look in New York records to start.

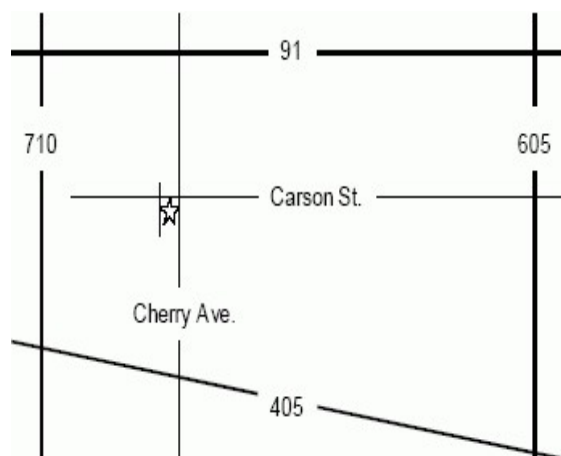
More to come.

(Dr. Dickey is a Certified Genealogist through the Board of Certification for Genealogists in Washington, D.C. in the area of English Research and a member of the Association of Professional Genealogists. He is Senior Pastor of the United Methodist Church of Westlake Village, California and serves as Chaplain of the Gen. W. S. Rosecrans Camp No. 2, Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War. Besides genealogy and research he enjoys traveling and playing the bagpipes.)



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Sunday, May 16, 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 34.



Wednesday, May 19, 7:00 p.m. **Genealogical Society of North Orange County California** monthly meeting at the Yorba Linda Community Center (Imperial Room A), Imperial Hwy. & Casa Loma, Yorba Linda. Program: “British Research: Census & Parish Registers,” by Hal Horrocks.

Sunday, May 23, 1:00-3:00 p.m. **British Isles Family History Society** monthly meeting at the Sculpture Studio, Highland Taffy Estate, 2025-2027 N. Highland Ave., Los Angeles. Program: “Locating Your Living Relations,” by Tom Underhill.

Orange County CA Genealogical Society—No meeting in June.



The 6th Annual Genealogy Conference and Cruise hosted by Wholly Genes, Inc., will take place this year from September 18-25. The Norwegian *Epic* will leave from Miami and cruise the Caribbean while you attend lectures by Lloyd Bockstruck, Stephen Morse, Hank Jones, Megan Smolenyak and others. Visit <http://www.whollygenes.com> for details.

Upcoming Events

TORRANCE CALIF. LDS STAKE & SOUTH BAY CITIES GEN. SOC.

Saturday, June 5, 2010
8:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m.

Torrance LDS Stake Center
22605 Kent St., Torrance, CA

Goldilocks and the Forebears Is Your Genealogy Fact or Fairy Tale?

Steve W. Anderson, Marketing Manager for FamilySearch, will be the Keynote Speaker. He will be discussing “FamilySearch 2010 and Beyond.”

Thirteen other speakers will lecture on various genealogical topics, attendees having a choice of one of five classes in each of four sessions.

Registration is only \$10.00 and includes lunch if received before Saturday, May 29. For more information or to obtain a registration form, you can call 310-791-6256 or 310-530-4736, email gforebears@gmail.com, or visit the following web site: www.gforebears.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 Family History Library are Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday, 10 am to 9 pm, and Friday and Saturday 9 am to 5 pm. The LAFHL 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.