



QUESTING HEIRS
GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY
Newsletter
Volume 43 ✦ Number 11 ✦ November 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, NOVEMBER 21, 2010

**1:15 Class INTERMEDIATE: Icebreaker
led by Liz Myers**

2:00 Business

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

**2:45 General SPEAKER: Rich Archbold
Meeting History of the Press-Telegram**

4:00 Class BEGINNING: Classes will resume in January.

IN THIS ISSUE

<i>Reports</i>	82
<i>Commentary: Preserving Your Family History Records Digitally</i>	83
<i>Questing Heirs News</i>	84
<i>Sept. Meeting in Review: Researching the History of Your House</i>	85
<i>Of Interest</i>	86
<i>On the Web</i>	87
<i>Calendar</i>	88



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NOVEMBER MEETING

SPEAKER
Rich Archbold

From the time he was a paper boy delivering Chicago dailies on his bike in suburban Lombard, Archbold has had a love affair with newspapers. He got his first taste as editor-in-chief at *The Glenbard*, his high school newspaper in Glen Ellyn, IL. That was followed by his being named as editor of *The Daily Illini* at the University of Illinois in 1959-60.

Archbold started his professional career as statehouse reporter for United Press International in Lincoln, NE, followed by public affairs reporting for *The Omaha World-Herald*. He moved to the *Miami Herald* in 1965, working as a public affairs reporter, city editor and managing editor of *The Herald's* Fort Lauderdale bureau. He joined the *Press-Telegram* in 1978 as managing editor and was appointed executive editor in 1997. Last month he was appointed to the new position of Community Liaison Director and will be responsible for building relationships with community organizations and civic and business leaders.

Archbold has been active in several professional organizations, most notably the Associated Press Managing Editors Association to which he was named president in 1994. He has also taught public affairs reporting at California State University Long Beach and is an evaluating team member of the Accrediting Council on Education in Journalism and Mass Communications. He is a passionate and enthusiastic spokesman for strong journalistic values and the role of a newspaper and its website in a community.

In his non-journalistic spare time, Archbold is a passionate, diehard Chicago Cubs fan, which means he also has lots of patience. Rich is married to Pat, an art teacher and past chairman of Rick Rackers, an auxiliary of the Assistance League of Long Beach. They have two daughters, Kelly and Katie, and live in East Long Beach.

REFRESHMENTS

Georgie (Peterson) LYONS (562) 432-4908

Thanks to our October hosts:

Robert COLLINS Cynthia DAY-ELLIOTT
S. HOLLANDSWORTH Georgie LYONS

Our November hosts will be:

Laurie ANGEL Terry HAMILTON
Linda IVERS Kathy LATHAM

MEMBERSHIP REPORT

Terry HAMILTON (562) 596-9382

OCTOBER MEETING ATTENDANCE

Members: 37 Guests: 0

NEW MEMBER

Maxine PITTS Individual 9/11

RENEWALS

Please see page 84 for Renewals.

FINANCIAL REPORT

David WERTS (562) 431-7790

September Income	\$ 251.47
September Expenses	\$ 396.36
Operations Balance	\$ -67.67
Special Projects Balance	\$ 5,308.00

**Submissions for the
December Newsletter
are due by November 28.**

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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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PRESERVING YOUR FAMILY HISTORY RECORDS DIGITALLY

by Gary T. Wright

October 2010

If you are considering digitizing your family history records, you should read Mr. Wright's article in its entirety. It was published on the FamilySearch wiki at:

https://wiki.familysearch.org/en/White_Paper:_Preserving_Your_Family_History_Records_Digitally.

Why Digital Records?

“There are compelling reasons for embracing digital records. To begin with, once a treasured but very fragile historical document has been captured digitally, you'll no longer worry about damaging or soiling it from handling, nor will you ever grimace again over a photograph's fading colors and diminishing contrast. You'll also find that the 999th digital copy you make is just as bright and sharp as the original. And printing records will be simpler than ever before.

“Furthermore, you'll realize how much easier it is to organize, find, and use records by letting a computer do most of the clerical work for you. And you'll be delighted to see how easy it is to share your family history records with others. A digital record can be emailed anywhere in the world in just seconds. If the computer file that contains the record is too large to email, you can get it to your intended destination almost as fast by using a free Internet service.

“Digital record storage has other advantages. For example, it doesn't require much physical space, so you won't need to consume your precious real estate storing bulky boxes and costly containers. And if you use the archival storage media recommended in this paper, you won't have to worry about factors like mold and humidity destroying your historical records.

“Accessing digital records is extremely easy, and doesn't require climbing a rickety step ladder to hunt for dusty boxes in the attic or hobbling downstairs to a musty, dark

basement and brushing away cobwebs to search for something you *hope* is there. In fact, all your family history records can literally be just a few clicks away—at any time of the day.

“Perhaps more importantly, you're probably facing the need to preserve digital family history records anyway, since most photographs and documents are now being created digitally. ‘Born-digital’ is a term coined for records that originate in a digital form, such as a personal history written with a computer or a family photograph taken with a digital camera.”

Mr. Wright goes on to discuss the requirements for digital records, as well as the challenges and solutions of archival storage media and of obsolete storage technologies. In summary, these are the steps he lists for preserving your family history records digitally.

- Step 1—Develop a scheme to organize your digital records.
- Step 2—Use a computer with a DVD drive.
- Step 3—You need an Internet connection.
- Step 4—Acquire the digitizing equipment you need, a digital camera or scanner.
- Step 5—Decide if you want to write your own archive-grade storage media or use a service.
- Step 6—Decide on a file format.
- Step 7—Experiment with a few digital records you already have.
- Step 8—Test writing the text files you've created to the archive-grade storage medium.
- Step 9—Develop a plan for completing the work for all the physical records you want to preserve.
- Step 10—Develop a plan for tracking your storage media and migrating it when technologies change.
- Step 11—Prepare someone to carry on the work you've started.



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PRESIDENT’S MESSAGE

Hi everybody,

Well, the end of the year is almost here. Now is the time to enjoy our families, warts and all!

We will be having election of officers at our next meeting. Thank you to the new and returning officers for stepping up and helping to continue the work of our society!

If you are not able to make it to our monthly meetings because you need a ride, please contact any Board member; and we will try to find someone living near you who would be willing to pick you up.

I want to tell you how much information is on <https://beta.familysearch.org>. I have found so many wonderful new sources PLUS copies of the original documents. Go to the above website and then, below the fill-in section for ancestors, you will see “Browse by Collection” or “All Record Collections.” When you see a camera icon besides the title, you will be able to see a digital copy of the original record!. I have found so many originals of Ohio Death Records that I will be able to include in my family book. It is better than having to go to Ohio to get the originals in person.

Liz

CANDIDATE ELECTION

John McCoy announced the following slate of candidates at our October meeting.

- President—Jeanette Jones
- First Vice President—Suzanne Boyles
- Second Vice President—Terry Hamilton
- Director at Large—Connie Williams

The membership will be voting for them at our November meeting.

DID YOU KNOW?

If you click on “Links” on the home page of our QH website at <http://www.qhgs.info>, you will find an extensive list of websites for many societies, organizations, libraries and repositories—both local and distant. This is a quick way to find a URL you may be looking for.

REMINDER

Dues are due! Our society’s membership year runs from September through the next August. If you haven’t renewed yet for the 2010-2011 year, please do so—and remember our new schedule of membership categories. Thanks.

RENEWALS

Laurie ANGEL	Individual	9/11
Patricia BOWERS	Individual	9/11
Robert BRASHER)		
Marilyn BRASHER)	Patron	9/11
Barbara CARY	Individual	9/11
Cynthia DAY-ELLIOTT	Individual	9/11
Doris DRAGAN	Individual	9/11
Christine ELIA	Individual	9/11
Carmen GROSS	Individual	9/11
Frances LIEBZEIT	Individual	9/11
Douglas JORDAN	Individual	9/11
Joanne KEENAN	Individual	9/11
Gerald LUNDERVILLE	Individual	9/11
John McCoy	Patron	9/11
Rose PLESEK	Individual	9/11
Michael POWERS)		
Charlotte LLEWELLYN)	Family	9/11
Gary REID	Individual	9/11
Thomas SANFORD	Individual	9/11
Frances SMITH	Individual	9/11
Fred SPECKMEYER	Individual	9/11
Louise WORTHY	Individual	9/11

DIRECTORY UPDATE

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

Maxine Pitts
 3020 Petaluma Ave.
 Long Beach, CA 90808-4236
 Phone: 562-429-2844
 Email: travelfar77@yahoo.com

TREASURER’S COMMENT

As you can see on the Reports page, we are currently running a deficit in the Operations Account. To compensate, we are borrowing from the Special Projects Account until the dues come in. Eventually, we will need to take some money from the Betty Marr CDs. This will probably occur in February. We are very fortunate to have this gift to fall back on.



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HOW TO RESEARCH THE HISTORY OF YOUR HOUSE

Summary by Linda Artuso

We spend a lot of time researching our family history, but houses have histories, too. Our October speaker, Maureen Neeley, is experienced in researching homes in many areas of Long Beach, having helped over 50 clients in the past five years. She is the owner of a business called HouStories, and you can visit her website at www.HouStories.net. Maureen's handout included specific details on resources you can use to research the history of your home.

You need to learn about the context of the time your home was built. Who built the house? Who has lived in it? What was the neighborhood like? City, county and other public records can provide the answers to these questions.

The House and Neighborhood

You can learn about the house and neighborhood by consulting the following sources.

- City Building Permits, noting owners and builders, are available through the Long Beach Development Services Department.
- Tax Assessment Records are available at the Los Angeles County Assessor's Office and record the date built, original and current owners, size and accessory structures, and current zoning.
- The Kenneth Hahn Hall of Administration in downtown L.A. has ownership and tax assessment records from the mid-20th century through 1983. Records from 1984 are in a database.
- Copies of residential grants and deeds for Long Beach are only available at the Los Angeles County Registrar-Recorder's Office in Norwalk
- At City Hall you can find street maps of neighborhoods and the name and date of the original tract recording.
- Sanborn Fire Insurance maps (1888-1950) are on microfilm in the Long Beach

History Collection at the Main Library and the Historical Society.

- Trade Magazines such as *Builder and Contractor* (March 1893-June 1917) and *Southwest Contract and Manufacturer* (1908-1917) combined in 1917 to form *Southwest Building and Contractor*. These weekly magazines list permits, owners, architects and builders of various dwellings in the Los Angeles Area.

The People

To learn about the people who have lived in your house, consult the following sources.

- City Directories—Long Beach City Directories began in 1899 and were published until 1969. They are available on the Long Beach Public Library website under "Digital Archives."
- Telephone Directories—These are on microfilm in the Periodicals Department at the Main Library from 1916. They have to be searched by resident's last name. Some Criss-Cross Directories are available, too. They must be searched by street address.
- Long Beach History Index—This is a selectively indexed online database which contains Long Beach history-related citations. It is available online only on-site at a Long Beach library. It is best searched by keyword. Ask a Librarian to show you how to search it.
- Newspapers—Long Beach newspapers and the L.A. Times can be accessed electronically with a Los Angeles Public Library card.
- The Historical Society has a database called "Past Perfect" that is only available on-site. It provides access to their collection of photographs, biographies, etc.

Maureen Neeley may be contacted by phone at (562) 438-4687 or by e-mail at Houstories@att.net.



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LIBRARY NEWS

Los Angeles Family History Library

As mentioned on the Calendar page, the Los Angeles Family History Library has finally reopened as of Monday, October 25. They will be having an Open House on Saturday, November 6, from 9:00 a.m. to 9:00 p.m. and Sunday, November 7, from 3:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. to introduce patrons to the renovated facility. Attendees can participate in free 20-minute mini-classes, see the new state-of-the-art technology available, as well as the large collection of resources. There are new classroom facilities and the ability to provide video conferencing.

Long Beach Public Library

The news from our city library is not as good. It will no longer be providing access to the Heritage Quest databases, and the Ancestry Library Edition is only available for use at the library.

U. S. SERIAL SET

UpFront with NGS printed the press release of October 3, 2010, announcing that the U.S. Serial Set Digital Collection is now online and fully text searchable at all NARA facilities nationwide.

The U.S. Serial Set is a collection of U.S. Government publications compiled under directive of the Congress. It contains comprehensive and often detailed information on an extremely wide range of subjects. The LexisNexis® U.S. Serial Set Digital Collection contains hundreds of thousands of documents and over 52,000 maps, ranging from 1789 to the present.

You can find more information about this resource at the Archives Library Information Center website:

<http://www.archives.gov/research/alic>.

Note that NARA facilities also have other online resources free, such as Ancestry.com, Footnote.com, HeritageQuest, Gale's Biography and Genealogy Master Index, and digital *New York Times* and *Washington Post*.

MANCHESTER RECORDS

"Findmypast.co.uk, the UK family history website, has been awarded the contract by Manchester Archives to digitize cemetery registers plus institutional (gaol, school, workhouse) records of Manchester and will work with FamilySearch International, the world's largest repository of genealogical records, to make them fully searchable online for the very first time.

"Findmypast.co.uk and FamilySearch will be digitizing an estimated 130,000 images and 8,000,000 records over the next two years. The records will cover all of Manchester and some parts of Lancashire, due to boundary movement over the centuries. The records will include entries going back to the sixteenth century. In the collection being released, the 19th century prison registers of the area will also be made available...

"FamilySearch will scan original images of the registers for findmypast.co.uk to then make available online at findmypast.co.uk with an index search on FamilySearch.org."

From Dick Eastman's Online Genealogy Newsletter of 6 October 2010 at <http://blog.eogn.com>. Copyright © 2010 by Richard W. Eastman.

NEW ZEALAND ANCESTORS?

<http://www.genealogy.org.nz>

The New Zealand Society of Genealogists' website has a number of books and CDs listed in its Shop that might be of interest to you. One such CD is for the 1911 General Election in New Zealand that saw 590,000 registered to vote. This CD contains the lists of citizens who were eligible to vote and includes electoral maps from Alan McRobie's Electoral Atlas.

FOOTNOTE.COM

On 23 September 2010, Ancestry.com Inc. announced an agreement to acquire iArchives, the parent company of Footnote.com. Upon completion of the transaction, iArchives will become a wholly-owned subsidiary of Ancestry.com.

Reported in UpFront with NGS on 23 Sep 2010.



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FOREIGN WEBSITES

A number of websites with data on foreign countries have come to my attention, and I thought I'd pass them along. One might be just what you need.

<http://www.census.nationalarchives.ie>

The National Archives of Ireland now has the 1901 census of that country online. It is the earliest surviving complete Census of Ireland, giving access to more than 4.5 million records. Some 850,000 households were covered on the night of Sunday, March 31, 1901. Information collected was first name; surname; relation to head of family; religious profession; education; age; sex; occupation; marriage status; where born; whether speaking English, Irish or both; and whether disabled.

<http://www.londonlives.org>

Titled *London Lives 1690-1800: Crime, Poverty and Social Policy in the Metropolis*, this site makes available, in a fully digitized and searchable form, a wide range of primary sources about eighteenth-century London, with a particular focus on commoners. It includes over 240,000 manuscript and printed pages from eight London archives and is supplemented by fifteen datasets created by other projects.

CANADIAN NATURALIZATION

The Library and Archives Canada provides a searchable database of Canadian Naturalization 1915-1951 at <http://www.collectionscanada.gc.ca/databases/naturalization-1915-1932/index-e.html>.

This database contains references to people who applied for and received status as naturalized Canadians from 1915 to 1951. During that period, the Government of Canada published the lists of names of those naturalized subjects in the annual reports of the Secretary of State (Sessional Papers) and in the Canada Gazette. You can search by name from 1915-1932 and by date from 1932-1951.

DANISH RESOURCES

The Danish State Archives: http://www.sa.dk/content/us/genealogy/online_services

The Danish Demographic Database: http://www.ddd.dda.dk/ddd_en.htm

The Danish State Archives Filming Centre parish registers and population censuses: <http://www.sa.dk/ao/English/default.aspx>

The Danish Emigration Archives: <http://www.emiarch.dk/home.php3>

FRENCH GENEALOGY

If you speak French and are interested in these locations, you can find parochial and civil vital records and decennial tables at the following sites:

<http://archives.bas-rhin.fr> and http://www.archives.cg68.fr/Services/Actes_Civils.aspx

<http://beta.familysearch.org>

Have you checked out the FamilySearch beta site? In October, it published its first digital Chinese collection, along with additional digital image collections from Belgium, Germany, Guatemala, Mexico, Netherlands, Philippines, and Puerto Rico—as well as the 1851 Census for England and Wales.

An announcement from FamilySearch stated that, “An increasing number of ‘image only’ collections are being published on the FamilySearch.org website, signifying a new phase in the site’s digital pipeline. Rather than waiting until the index is complete for each collection, FamilySearch is releasing the digital images as soon as possible in a browsable format. This give patrons quicker access to records, which they can search in a similar way they would with a microfilm reader.”

I’m sure they’d like to have help from volunteer indexers to index those images, though. If you can help with indexing the records in a foreign language, please sign up at: <http://indexing.familysearch.org>.



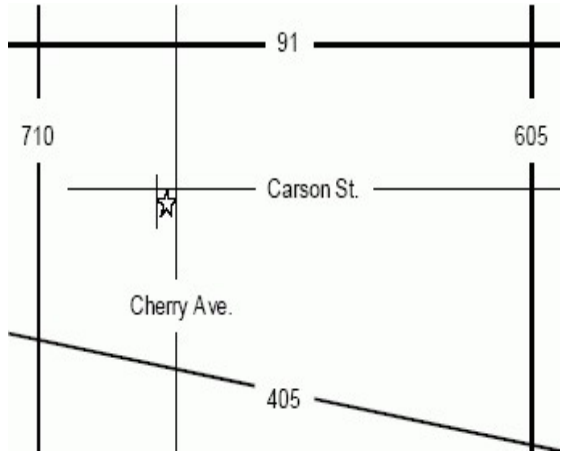
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Sunday, November 14, 2:00 p.m. Immigrant Genealogical Society monthly meeting at 1310 Magnolia Blvd., Burbank. Program: “Conquering the Paper Monster Forever,” by Elyse Doerflinger.

Wednesday, November 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: “Journals, Store Ledgers and Letters to Aunt Mary: Using Manuscript Collections,” by Gena Philibert Ortega.

Wednesday, November 17, 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: “Places You May Not Have Thought to Look,” by Liz Myers.

Sunday, November 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 82.



Saturday, December 4, 11:00 a.m. Orange County, California, Genealogical Society will not have a meeting in December.

Upcoming Events

WHITTIER AREA GEN. SOC.

Masonic Lodge
7604 Greenleaf Ave.
Whittier, California
Saturday, January 29, 2011
8:00 a.m.—4:00 p.m.

WAGS 28th Annual Seminar will feature Lisa Louise Cooke as its speaker. She is a well-known full-time professional genealogist, writer and producer of the *Genealogy Gems* podcasts. Her topics will be:

- Google Search Strategies
- Google Earth & Maps for Genealogy
- Genealogy Gems: Google Books & Google Toolbar
- Google Tools: iGoogle, Gmail and Google Alerts

The registration fee is \$32 before January 22, or \$37 at the door. A box lunch is available for an additional \$8. For more information or registration, you can contact Roger Mount at (562) 693-2674 or wags.seminar@gmail.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 Monday, Friday, and Saturday, 9 am to 5 pm, and Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday 9 am to 9 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.lafhc.org> provides details of their extensive collection. The LAFHL opened, following its lengthy closure for renovation, on Monday, 25 October 2010. 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.