



**QUESTING HEIRS**  
**GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY**  
*Newsletter*  
Volume 44 ✦ Number 1 ✦ January 2011

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, JANUARY 16, 2011**

**1:15 Class INTERMEDIATE: Scanning & Photo Retouching Basics, by Tom Underhill**

**2:00 Business**

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

**2:45 General SPEAKER: Tom Underhill**  
**Meeting Digital Photography for the Family Historian**

**4:00 Class BEGINNING: Genealogy Adventures—First Steps by Linda Ivers**

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### JANUARY MEETING

#### SPEAKER;

#### TOM UNDERHILL

Tom Underhill is the publisher and senior designer at Creative Continuum, a book design and publishing company specializing in high-quality, short-run books. During the last several years, Tom and his company produced more than 400 family history heirloom books, printed more than 9.75 million pages and scanned more than 12,000 photographs.

Creative Continuum has published several award-winning books. Among them, *The California Missions as Art* won a Davey Award in 2007 for design. *A History of African-American Families and Slaveholders in Cass County, East Texas* was awarded the Best Genealogy in Texas in 2005.

Tom is the lead architect for **My Life Story**, an initiative to find a fun and easy way to help people record their personal and family memoirs. Tom is the author of nine books. His latest book, *Hypergratification: Teens, Porn and Online Addiction, helping youth survive online life* is co-authored with Dr. Craig Georgianna. This comprehensive book helps teens and their parents deal with and work through the harsh reality and consequence of porn and video game addictions.

#### INTERMEDIATE CLASS

Quality scanning is more than just pushing the “scan” button. Learn tips and tricks used by the pros to make a marginal scan good and a good image great. Topics covered include proper resolution, file types, image enhancement and basic photographic techniques.

#### MAIN PROGRAM

Digital cameras don’t work quite the same way as film, and understanding the differences ensures you can capture precious moments. This class goes beyond the point-and-shoot basics and extends to research techniques you can use from the genealogical library to the graveyard. Among other topics, attendees will learn methods to use a camera in place of a scanner, capture microfilm images, and maximize graveyard photography.

### REFRESHMENTS

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

Thanks to our December hosts:

All of you did a great job of providing a tasty and varied menu for our annual potluck.

Our January hosts will be:

George & Polly JOHNSON    Jeanette JONES  
Kathy LATHAM                      Frances LIEBZEIT

### MEMBERSHIP REPORT

**Terry HAMILTON (562) 596-9382**

#### DECEMBER MEETING ATTENDANCE

Members: 25                                      Guests: 0

#### RENEWALS

Dawn ALVAREZ                                  Individual    9/11  
Terry GILLIS                                      Individual    9/11

### FINANCIAL REPORT

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

November Income	\$	722.51
November Expenses	\$	480.59
Operations Balance	\$	741.24
Special Projects Balance	\$	5,308.00

**Submissions for the  
February Newsletter  
are due by January 23.**

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*This newsletter is published monthly as a benefit for members of Questing Heirs; it is not meant to be sold. In order to receive the monthly newsletter, one must be enrolled as a member of the Society. To join, please use the membership application on the outer cover of this newsletter.*



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### HOW DO YOU RESEARCH ONLINE? by Dick Eastman

I participated in a conference call today sponsored by FamilySearch. The purpose of the call was to describe several recent changes as well as changes to be made in the near future. However, one statement about search techniques stuck in my mind.

Employees of FamilySearch (and probably all the other major online database providers) spend a lot of time and effort watching how users perform searches on the site and analyzing the results. The purpose is to learn and to make future adjustments to the site to improve search capabilities. Those who monitor and analyze users say they have noticed that genealogy newcomers typically perform searches in a very different manner than do the “old pros.” I suspect the experienced users typically end up with more productive results although no statistics are available to prove that assumption.

Genealogy newcomers typically search everything at once. For instance, when looking for records on a particular ancestor, newbies typically enter the person’s name into the search field and then search through everything on FamilySearch at once. If the person has a rather unusual name, that might work. However, most of the time, the newcomer receives hundreds or even thousands of “hits,” can’t filter out the ones of interest, loses interest, and then goes elsewhere.

In contrast, experienced genealogists usually FIRST search for the smallest subset of the many databases as possible. For instance, the more experienced user will generally enter the last name of interest [and] leave the first name blank, (first names are often different in the records from what we expect), and then perhaps specify only one database (such as the census records for one year), only one county, and any other parameters available to narrow the search as much as possible. If the search is unsuccessful and doesn’t produce the information needed, the experienced user then

expands the search just a little bit and tries again. For instance, he or she might add in the previous census or the following census and then search a second time. If unsuccessful this time, the experienced genealogist might start a third search by adding in the adjacent counties. And so on and so on.

Bit by bit, the experienced genealogist typically expands the search by a small amount each time. All of the search parameters are based upon what the genealogist already knows about the person of interest. Did he likely live in Monroe County? If so, there is no need to search the entire USA at once. Did he serve in the Civil War? If so, there is no need to search for records prior to 1820 and probably not prior to 1830 (on the first search) since he probably wasn’t born yet. (Very few Civil War soldiers were 40 years old or older.)

By focusing the first searches on as narrow a geographic area as possible and as narrow a time range as possible, you greatly increase the odds of finding the one person you seek. If unsuccessful in your search, broaden the search area a bit and the years of interest and try again.

I suspect the experienced genealogists have far better results with their online searches than do the newcomers who jump in and search everything, everywhere, at once. Which would you prefer: finding one or two men with your ancestor’s name, located in the area where he or she lived, in the years he or she lived there? Or will you find 100 men or women across the country with the same name?

*Dick Eastman posted this article in his Online Genealogy Newsletter of 15 Dec 2010 at <http://blog.eogn.com>. Copyright © 2010 by Richard W. Eastman.*



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**PRESIDENT’S MESSAGE**

Happy New Year everyone.

I hope all of you are still sticking to your New Year’s Resolutions for 2011. Certainly, there were some resolutions about your genealogical research, and you are especially favoring those with due diligence.

We had a fun meeting in December with lots of good food as those who were in attendance will readily testify. We considered what would be the perfect genealogical present we would like to find under our tree. What elusive ancestor or long-sought answer to a question would make a big breakthrough possible. Marilyn Brasher, a long-time member, was able to be with us. John McCoy brought us up-to-date on what is happening at Family Search in the re-organization of their website.

As you will note by who is writing this message, I was installed as President and Terry Hamilton was installed as Second Vice-President. Installed in absentia were Suzanne Boyles as First Vice-President and Connie Williams as Director at Large. I am looking forward to serving with all the talented people on the Board. We still need someone to be responsible for Publicity. (Read the want ad on this page.) Also I am very happy that Linda Ivers is going to take over the teaching of the Beginning Class that meets after our regular meeting. Linda is very knowledgeable about genealogy, as well as computers; so any of you beginners or anyone who wants to brush up on whatever subject she is teaching that month should plan to attend.

I am looking forward to the next two years. I plan to enjoy the challenge of being your President and helping you add to your genealogical knowledge. We will have the chance to enrich our genealogical researching with the help of great programs, material in the newsletter, and the stimulation and knowledge of our fellow members. I am especially looking forward to 2012 when the 1940 census results are made available. Also, 2012 marks the 150<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Civil

War. Many of the states that were heavily involved are planning special presentations and releases of pertinent records. I had two great-great grandfathers who served; so, I have a special interest in all that will be available. I am wondering how many Civil War veteran ancestors the club can claim?

See you in January to start the year off with a “BANG.”

*Jeanette Jones (J.J.)*

**BEGINNING CLASS**

As Jeanette mentioned, we are pleased to announce that Linda Ivers has accepted the challenge of conducting the Beginning Class after our monthly meetings.

Her first class, “First Steps,” focuses on how to get started in genealogy research using some basic tools. The participants will also discuss their expectations and goals for the class, as well as future topics in the series.

**TREASURER’S REPORT –Continued**

Preliminary Results for 2010:

Income	\$3,253.04
Expenses	\$5,153.49
Withdrawal from Special Projects	\$ 436.50
Withdrawal from Marr Legacy	\$1,462.95

The money taken from the Betty Marr Legacy amounted to approximately \$19 per member. Thus, had we not had that money, your dues would have had to double! Consider putting Questing Heirs in your will for future generations of genealogists.

**HELP WANTED PERSONALS**

Fun Questing Heirs Board seeks male or female good at e-mailing for Publicity Position. Work only once a month in the comfort of your own home. A plus is getting to attend all Questing Heirs Board Meetings. Contact Past-President, Liz Myers. (See her listing under Committee Chairs on the “blue” page.)



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### WHERE ARE THE MARRIAGE RECORDS FOR KENTUCKY?

Where are the marriage records for Kentucky? Is there more than one category you can expect to discover at the county level? The Kentucky Department for Libraries and Archives issued a short description of the records, based upon the laws passed by the state legislature:

1. The bond. A performance bond was filed by the groom and a kinsman or guardian of the bride. This bond assured the court that there was no lawful impediment to the marriage.
2. If either bride or groom were under age, a consent was required by the court from a parent or guardian. The bond, consent, and license became loose papers filed by the clerk in the early years. Later these documents were copied into a Marriage Record Book. The consent usually included relationship of the signer to the bride or groom.
3. The license was taken to the minister or judge who was to perform the marriage, as a permit that the couple paid their fees and had permission to marry.
4. A marriage certificate was filled out by the officiator and given to the bride.
5. Once the marriage was performed, the officiator was required by law to register the marriage or file a return of the event to the county where the marriage [took place]. In rural communities, the clergyman or justice was permitted to send in his returns once or twice a year. If he moved or died, the marriage may never be returned to the county.
6. 1852-1861, marriages were recorded by the County Assessor and sent to the State Auditor's Office. In 1862, the law was repealed because it put too much work on the Assessor's Office.
7. 1874-1878, marriages again recorded by the Assessor. Repealed in 1878, marriages

were recorded in a haphazard way until about 1910.

8. Since 1958, marriages are recorded by the state Vital Statistics Office consistently.

No wonder it is so difficult to build a family tree in Kentucky! Your family tree begins with the marriage of your ancestor (most of our ancestors were married).

*This article appeared in Arlene Eakle's Kentucky Genealogy Blog at <http://kyblog.arleneeakle.com> on 10 Nov 2010.*

### CONFEDERATE RECORDS FOUND

If you have a Confederate ancestor from Columbia (now McDuffie) County, Georgia, you will be interested in this new find.

A muster roll from the Thomson Guards, a McDuffie County company that had been part of the 10th Regiment of Georgia Volunteers, was found in a box of records from one of Georgia's original chapters of the United Daughters of the Confederacy. The box was discovered at the Augusta Genealogical Society, where it may have been sent for safe-keeping after an estate settlement.

"Many of the documents are member applications for the now defunct Ida Evans Eve UDC chapter in Thomson, which formed three decades after the Civil War. Also included are old UDC charters and scrapbooks of the group's activities during the early 1900s.

"To join the UDC, prospective members must prove direct lineage with someone who served in the Confederate Army. The Ida Evans Eve application records are thus interesting for genealogical reasons...Many applicants proved their heritage with letters from soldiers who had served with their relatives...

"The Thomson Guards muster roll says the company began its service May 11, 1861, and was made up of mainly planters and their sons from Columbia County and what is now McDuffie County."

*From an article in The Augusta [GA] Chronicle by Carole Hawkins on 26 Oct 2010.*



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### WDYTYR?

As mentioned in last month's newsletter, "Who Do You Think You Are?" will run on NBC at 8:00 p.m. starting January 21. Celebrities slated to appear in the program's second season are Tim McGraw, Kim Cattrall, Lionel Richie, Gwyneth Paltrow, Ashley Judd, Steve Buscemi, Vanessa Williams and Rosie O'Donnell.

### 2010 CENSUS RECORD

The National Archives and Records Administration asked on its blog NARAtions, on December 9, for comments from the public as to what will be permanently kept from the 2010 census. The appraisal and records schedule for this census are available for public review, and comments may be made by e-mail at [records.mgt@nara.gov](mailto:records.mgt@nara.gov) or by mail to NARA (NWML), 8601 Adelphi Road, College Park, MD 20740-6001 by December 30, 2011.

"Here are some tidbits from the appraisal:

- 'Perhaps of most importance to genealogists, the proposed schedule provides that the 2010 decennial census forms will be preserved in the form of scanned images.'
- '...the proposed schedule provides that all permanently valuable records be transferred to the legal and physical custody of the National Archives within ten years of the completion of the census.'
- 'The transfer of electronic records that have value for genealogic research is even more expedited. For example, the digital images of the response questionnaires are to be transferred to the National Archives no later than August 21, 2011, and the Individual Census Record File is to be transferred no later than September 30, 2013.'
- "The appraisal also talks about the MAF/TIGER database and that the 'extracts from the database will be incorporated into schedules for the programs divisions responsible for those products.'"

Looking at some of the comments on the blog, many people complained about the scarcity of information requested on the census form, but that question has to be taken up with the Census Bureau, not NARA. There were also questions about whether the digital images will be transferred to the next storage format that comes along; the answer was Yes. One woman asked why married women aren't given the right to list their maiden name in the census.

You can read the complete article on NARAtions at <http://blogs.archives.gov/online-public-access/?p=3762>.

### ALL SOULS CEMETERY

QH member Floyd Farrar passed along the following information.

"I was informed by the office desk worker that very soon they will be charging a FEE for ALL marker location lookups. The unofficial reason was because most of their records are STILL on index cards and all lookups are manual and require a human's time and effort. Very little of their stuff is digitized as is Forest Lawn (except Long Beach). The rumor was the fee will be \$25 for EACH and every grave lookup. WOW! No idea if it will only be All Souls or others will join in."

### SCOTTISH GENEALOGY SEARCH FEES SET TO RISE

The cost of searching for Scottish family records will rise in a move officials say will result in a faster service. The registrar general of Scotland has announced that, subject to the agreement of the Scottish parliament, some statutory fees for registration services will change as of 1 January.

- A general search at the ScotlandsPeople Centre will go from £10 per day to £15.
- An internet search on ScotlandsPeople will go up £1 to £7, but valid for one year.
- An extract of a certificate from the GROS will go from £8 to £10.

*From Dick Eastman's blog (<http://blog.eogn.com>) of 7 Dec 2010. Copyright © 2010 by Richard W. Eastman.*



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### **LIBRARY & ARCHIVES CANADA**

**<http://www.collectionscanada.gc.ca>**

At the webpage above under “Highlights” you can access two new databases of interest to Canadian researchers.

One is the 1916 Census of the Canadian Prairie Provinces. “In order to track the high rates of population growth in western Canada during the early years of the 20th century, the Canadian government called for a special census of the Prairie provinces (Manitoba, Saskatchewan, and Alberta). The first census was conducted in 1906, followed by another in 1916.

“Access to the digitized images of the 1916 census is available online in two different ways:

- Through a database that is searchable by Province, District Name, District Number, and Sub-district Number. The database is available at: [www.collectionscanada.gc.ca/databases/census-1916/index-e.html](http://www.collectionscanada.gc.ca/databases/census-1916/index-e.html)
- Through the research tool ‘microform digitization,’ you can browse the microfilm reels page by page. The tool is available at: [www.collectionscanada.gc.ca/microform-digitization/index-e.html](http://www.collectionscanada.gc.ca/microform-digitization/index-e.html)”

The other is the Medals, Honours and Awards database. “Through this online database, researchers can access more than 113,000 references to medal registers, citation cards and records of various military awards. In addition to archival references, this research tool includes digitized images of some medal registers.

“The database is available at: [www.collectionscanada.gc.ca/databases/medals/index-e.html](http://www.collectionscanada.gc.ca/databases/medals/index-e.html)”

### **AMERICAN INDIAN ALLOTMENTS**

**<http://amerindianallotments.com>**

The Indian Reservation Allotment Era and Records Archives, “a treasure trove of information for Indian families, genealogists, historians, and academicians, was created during the allotment of lands to American Indians on reservations in the late 1800’s and

1900’s in western Oklahoma. The thousands of records that resulted in the process are now public and available to those looking for a tie to those allotments and are now available in the database prepared by the American Indian Allotment Research Center (AIARC). The records are available for search for your family by our staff upon request.

“Most American Indians can trace their lineage directly to an allotment on a former reservation. Further, the inevitable mixing of cultures over the past 100 plus years with the Native Americans that were finally located in the Indian and Oklahoma territories and later in the state of Oklahoma has resulted in a large group of people that have roots in the allotments of those lands.”

Information in the AIARC includes:

- Allotment Number
- English and Indian name on the Allotment
- Age
- Relation to head of family
- Legal Description of Allotment
- The Allotment recorded on a Township Map

### **COUNTY & TOWN HISTORIES**

**<http://www.learnwebskills.com/patriot/countyhistories1.htm>**

At this website you will find links to free county and town histories. Many counties have several volumes of histories; so be sure to review all those listed for the counties where your ancestors resided

### **ACPL GENEALOGY CENTER**

**<http://www.genealogycenter.org>**

The Genealogy Center at the Allen County Public Library in Fort Wayne, Indiana, has one of the largest genealogy collections in the country. Its website includes much helpful information. There are suggestions on Getting Started if you’re new to genealogy, an eight-page brochure introducing the Center and its resources, an Orientation Video you can view, and suggestions for planning a visit to the Center. You can also access their online catalog from this site.

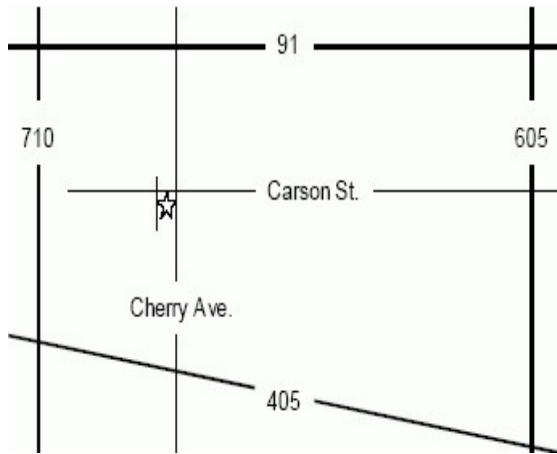


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Saturday, January 8, 1:00 p.m. Southern California Genealogical Society monthly meeting at 417 Irving Drive, Burbank. Program: “Genealogical Numbering Systems,” by Dennis McCarger.

Sunday, January 9, 2:00 p.m. Immigrant Genealogical Society monthly meeting at 1310 Magnolia Blvd., Burbank. Program: “Origin of our Baltic Coast Ancestors,” by Gene Maas, a Pommern researcher.

Sunday, January 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 2.



Wednesday, January 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: “Preparing for the 1940 Census,” by Joel Weintraub.

Saturday, February 5, 11:00 a.m.-12:30 p.m. Orange County, California, Genealogical Society monthly meeting at the Huntington Beach Central Library, 7111 Talbert Ave., Huntington Beach. Main speaker (Rooms C&D): Colleen Fitzpatrick on “Genealogy and the Six Degrees of Separation—How to Find Anyone in the World.”

## Upcoming Events

### HEMET-SAN JACINTO GEN. SOC.

Saturday, February 26, 2011  
9:00 a.m. to 3:45 p.m.

Hemet Public Library, Upper Floor  
300 E. Latham Ave., Hemet

**Curt Witcher**, Manager of the Genealogy Center of the Allen County, Indiana, Public Library, will be the speaker. Pre-Registration (before Feb. 20) is \$27, with lunch available for \$9. More info at <http://www.hsigs.org>.

### GEN. SOC. OF NO. ORANGE COUNTY

Saturday, March 12, 2011  
8:15 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

Brea United Methodist Church  
480 N. State College Blvd., Brea

**David Rencher**, Chief Genealogical Officer for FamilySearch.org, will speak at this seminar. Pre-Registration by March 5 for non-members costs \$30, with lunch available for \$9 additional. For more information, you can call (714) 777-2379 or check the society’s website at <http://www.gsnocc.org>.

\*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.