



QUESTING HEIRS GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY *Newsletter*

Volume 44 ✦ Number 7 ✦ July 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, JULY 17, 2011

**1:15 Class INTERMEDIATE: Research in Protestant Canada
by Penny Nugent**

2:00 Business

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

**2:45 General SPEAKER: JOAN RAMBO
Meeting Land and Tax Records**

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

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JULY MEETING
INTERMEDIATE CLASS
PENNY NUGENT

Penny Nugent has been “doing” genealogy for ten years. After the March meeting where French Canadian (Catholic) ancestors in Quebec were discussed, she decided to organize her family’s story into a presentation that would be of interest to those members with Scottish, Irish, and English Canadian (Protestant) ancestors in Quebec. Because older (pre-1994) Quebec vital records are not held in a central government agency but are found in a variety of places, Penny’s talk will focus on strategies one can employ to find births, marriages, and deaths, as well as land grants, ship lists, and local histories. She will provide five handouts that will direct you to useful web sites; give you information about the 1831 and 1842 censuses; and provide two excellent articles written by Marlene Simons: “How Quebec Collects Vital Records,” and “Using Quebec’s Notarial Records.”

SPEAKER:
JOAN E. RAMBO

Joan is the past president of the Orange County California Genealogical Society. She has worked as co-chairman for the past 18 years on putting together week-long package trips for the Society to Salt Lake City. Once there, she helps those with U.S. research. Joan presents classes, speaks to other societies, and philanthropic groups, also. She helped with cataloging the sizeable genealogy collection to the online catalog for the Huntington Beach Public Library

TOPIC

Land records can be so important in your research. Where did your ancestor obtain his land? Did he sell any of it to blood kin? What happened to it after he died? Who was on the tax record at the same time? When he disappears off the tax record, did he move or die? Are you familiar with the numbering system on Township and Range land records? Metes and bounds land records usually name a waterway. Who else was on that stream? Are the witnesses on land transactions important?

REFRESHMENTS
Penny NUGENT (562) 290-0416

Thanks to our June hosts:
Terry HAMILTON Kathy LATHAM
Maxine PITTS

Our July hosts will be:
Jeanette JONES Barbara NICHOLSON
Penny NUGENT

MEMBERSHIP REPORT
Terry HAMILTON (562) 596-9382

JUNE MEETING ATTENDANCE
Members: 36 Guests: 2

NEW MEMBERS
Patricia MILLER Individual 9/11
Dianna RANDALL Individual 9/11

FINANCIAL REPORT
David WERTS (562) 431-7790

May Income: \$ 117.23
May Expenses: \$ 425.75
Operations Balance: \$ 10.67
Special Projects Balance: \$5,158.00

**Submissions for the August
Newsletter
are due by July 24.**

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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.

GENEALOGY RESEARCH ONLINE

Dave Werts reported on a project he had carried out to determine which of six online services provided the best results when he looked for information on six of his New England Buell ancestors who lived in a range of time periods.

The online services he used were:

- Footnote
- Genealogy Bank
- World Vital Records
- Ancestry.com
- Google
- Google Books

Dave described the content and difficulty or ease of use of each site. He noted that those that provided access to newspapers usually didn't have the papers for all the years they advertised; and you won't find many primary documents online (most are transcribed). He found Ancestry.com difficult to search, but it has the added feature of letting you develop your own family tree online. Google Books has the most books.

In the end, Dave found that each site was the best in different ways, and the "winner" varied for different ancestors.

RESEARCHING IN CALIFORNIA

Alice Volkert pointed out that where you research in our state depends on whether you are looking for information about California and Californians or whether you are looking for a good facility in California that provides information on other topics and places.

In California, she recommended looking first at the California State Genealogy Alliance website at www.csga.com, the Southern California Genealogy Society website at www.scsgenealogy.com, and the Historical Society of Southern California website at <http://www.socalhistory.org>. In general, to see what is available in your county or area of interest, check for "Historical Societies," "Archives," "Libraries," and "Genealogy Societies."

An example was the Orange County Courthouse in Santa Ana that has a Registry of

Voters, Sanborn maps, newspapers, and land records. Other buildings mentioned were the Yorba Linda Library, the Hemet Museum, and the San Diego History Center.

Always call in advance for location, hours, and whether the facility has the type of information you're looking for.

Outside of California, Alice's handout listed a number of facilities in Southern California.

NARA, at its new home at 23123 Cajalco Road in Perris, CA (Phone: 951-956-2000), is a much friendlier place than it used to be when it was located in Laguna Niguel.

The Immigrant Genealogical Society Library at 1310-B West Magnolia in Burbank (phone: 818-848-3122) has information on Germany, Scandinavia, and the British Isles.

The Los Angeles Central Public Library, 630 W. Fifth St. (213-228-7000) has any excellent collection of directories, among other things.

The Huntington Beach Public Library at 7111 Talbert (714-842-4481) has an extensive genealogical collection, as well as being a really beautiful building.

The Huntington Park Library & Ethnic Resource Center at 6518 Miles Ave. (323-583-2794) specializes in Native American history.

The A. K. Smiley Public Library at 125 Vine Street in Redlands (909-798-7565) has a large Civil War collection and the Lincoln Memorial Shrine, as well as many local newspapers and other information about San Bernardino County.

The Georgina Cole Library, 1250 Carlsbad Village Drive in Carlsbad (760-434-2870) has a good collection of 17th, 18th, and 19th century U.S. materials, as well as manuscripts, journals, and family histories.

The Santa Barbara County Genealogical Society & Sahyun Library at 316 Castillo St. (805-884-9909) has information on California, New England, Pennsylvania, Virginia, and the British Isles. It is currently closed for construction, however—but due to re-open by Christmas.

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

I, along with several other members of our club, attended the SCGS Jamboree in Burbank. We all had a great time and will be sharing our new knowledge and renewed enthusiasm for genealogical research with all of you.

Some of the sessions I attended were to learn things that would better my personal genealogical quest—like information about Civil War records. (I had 2 g-g-grandfathers who were Civil War veterans). Two other sessions were on DNA. One session was a great review of the basic tenets of DNA and the other outlined all the tremendous new knowledge that has been discovered about the science in the last few years. Last but not least, the Friday morning sessions about the organization, workings, and future of genealogy clubs were very interesting. I brought back new ideas and ways we can improve some of our general organizational policies; but overall, I found out we are doing pretty well in most respects.

Genealogy research has changed tremendously in the last several years because of all the information that is at our fingertips due to the Internet. However, we still have to learn which are the best sites and how best to search them. We still have to learn about all the information that is NOT ON the Internet and develop our research skills to find it. Two presenters on the future of genealogy clubs were Dick Eastman and Jana Sloan Broglin, and they provided lots of ideas about how genealogy clubs can provide tangible benefits for their members. However, they stressed that the future is not “Doing it the way it has always been done,” but harnessing new technology to provide the best programs and club organization.

Jeanette Jones (J.J.)

ELECTRONIC NEWSLETTERS

Questing Heirs plans to join the trend of other genealogical societies that are providing their newsletters electronically. In order to do this, we need some feedback from our members.

Specifically, we need to know:

- which of our members do not have access to the internet;
- of those who do, who uses a dial-up connection to access it; and
- for those who do have internet access, we would like to verify your current e-mail address.

Please let Terry Hamilton, our Membership Chairman, know the answers to these questions. You can contact her at a monthly meeting or by phone at (562)596-9382.



Continued from page 53...

- 1) Was sufficient data found to reach your objective? If not, have all of the available resources been exhausted? Or should this objective be put aside in favor of a new objective?
- 2) What is the logical next step to become the objective for a new plan?
- 3) Did anything found suggest other approaches that could be used in a new plan toward the same objective?

That's all there is to it. For repeated research of the same kind, it may not even be necessary to list the sequence on paper since it can be easily remembered. However, you should never neglect committing to paper or hard drive an explicit statement of your objective. Without a written objective, anyone runs two risks that can consume productive time—being led into non-productive by-ways, and failing to stop when the research is done and it's time to take stock and analyze what was found and select an objective for the next phase of research.

A few minutes devoted to planning an efficient order for searching available sources is time extremely well spent. An effective plan can double or triple the research you can complete within any given period.

This article appeared on 8 Apr 2006 and may be found in the Ancestry Archive. ©Ancestry.com



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PLAN THE ATTACK
by **Donn Devine, CG, CGI**

There's never enough time to check all of the sources that might contribute to our family history, so the only solution is to check them out in some sort of logical order that uses our time most effectively. In other words, follow a plan.

In the past, research planning was largely a matter of deciding which libraries or repositories to visit first, so we wouldn't have to return a second time for something we missed on the first visit. To avoid overlooking significant sources, we placed heavy emphasis on indexes and finding aids that would shorten our search.

Today, the availability of online search engines and CD-ROM indexes lets us do much of the legwork from home. However, the results we get when we check for a name in hundreds of databases may give us a flood of possibilities with little that indicates which might apply to the problem at hand.

Just as in pre-computer times, we need to check these available sources in a planned and logical order to make the most efficient use of our time. We need to develop our own order of searching the available databases, beginning with those most likely to yield positive results. We need to create a research plan.

Planning the Plan

Plans can be just a few notes jotted on the back of an envelope or lengthy works that require several feet of shelf space. Although your plan doesn't have to be committed to paper, even when it is, a genealogy research plan seldom requires more than a single page.

A plan consists of four basic elements:

- 1) **Objective.** A brief statement of what you want to discover. A written objective can help you focus your efforts and keep your research from wandering off course, even when those side paths that open up are very interesting.

- 2) **Resources.** Sources of information that may contribute toward reaching the objective. First among the resources is any information already collected, the conclusions drawn from that information, and books and publications that are at hand—family records and other sources found in the home. Additional sources will require more traditional methods of research. Today, fortunately, a number of these sources can be accessed from our homes via e-mail and through databases available online.

- 3) **Sequence.** A list of the sources to consult in the order in which they will be used or applied. Creating the sequence requires the identification of published compilations, databases, and series of original records that are most likely to contain information relating to our objective. Creating a sequence that begins with sources that have indexes, finding aids, or online search capabilities will also help you narrow your search.

- 4) **Arrangements.** Tools that need to be assembled and contacts and commitments that must be made before a search can begin. For example, you'll want to note required fees, hours of operation, transportation schedules, parking, advance requests or permissions, services available, and equipment necessary if you'll be conducting research away from home. This attention to detail can make the difference between success and frustration...

Rejuvenating the Plan

Planning isn't a one-time effort. It's a cyclical process that needs to be analyzed, updated, and modified each time a step is completed. Each time after you have the results from an original plan, you should analyze these results for the following:

Continued on page 52



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**New Website Brings Together
Genealogy and Technology**
<https://www.familysearch.org/techtips>

Genealogy has been a popular hobby for over a century, but the pursuit of one's ancestors is now a decidedly technology-intensive endeavor. To help family historians take advantage of the latest technology, FamilySearch has launched a new section on its FamilySearch.org website called FamilySearch TechTips.

The goal of TechTips is to continue building a bridge between the developing worlds of technology and genealogy, according to FamilySearch product marketing manager Jim Ericson.

“For someone who is already excited about family history, FamilySearch TechTips can introduce them to technologies that will help them climb their family tree,” Ericson said. “Those who may not be familiar with genealogy, but are technology enthusiasts, can learn how products can be applied to family history.”

Ericson said visitors to FamilySearch TechTips can read about a variety of subjects, such as how to store photographs for the long term, what mobile applications are available for family historians, how to share files and how to scan images. The site also contains step-by-step guides to help users accomplish a technology-related task, like how to join an online research community and why.

FamilySearch TechTips is a community effort that is a cross between a blog and an online technology magazine. Anyone can contribute articles and share their personal experiences. The TechTips articles don't endorse specific products, although they may mention what is available in the marketplace. There will also be content on new technology or trends that impact the world of genealogy.

“People can learn where genealogy technology is headed and how technology may evolve in the future to make life easier for family historians,” Ericson said.

The preceding information is from a Press Release dated 10 Jun 2011 posted by Michael Tvedtnes.

**AncestorSync™ To Bridge The Gap
Between Desktop and Online Family
History**

“Real-Time Collaboration has announced the release of their latest offering, Ancestor Sync™, which allows you to seamlessly download, upload, or synchronize your family tree from your online pedigree to your personal computer, and back again. AncestorSync™ is the first service on the market that allows you to easily move all of your family history work from a desktop genealogy program to an online pedigree without anyone or anything getting lost in the process...

“AncestorSync™ supports a variety of program formats including: Ancestral Quest, Legacy Family Tree, Personal Ancestral File, RootsMagic and GEDCOM. It will soon support The Master Genealogist and MacFamilyTree. AncestorSync™ will be available in June for a budget-friendly \$15 annual fee, and is PC and Mac compatible.”

For more information, you can contact info@ancestorsync.com or visit their website at www.ancestorsync.com.

This information was from a Press Release dated 10 May 2011 posted by Dick Eastman on his blog at <http://blog.eogn.com>.

CYNDI'S LIST UPGRADE

After fifteen years, the Cyndi's List website has been upgraded. It has improved navigation, a custom database, and a custom administrative interface that make it quicker and easier to use for both visitors and the site's owner, Cyndi Howells.

The front page has a rolling genealogy news feed and a link to The Cyndi's List Daily. The category and sub-category names are the same, but the sub-categories each have their own page now. The layout and format of the links are the same, and the site is still intended to be a free jumping-off point for your daily genealogical research.

AARP GENEALOGY CONTEST

AARP The Magazine is sponsoring a sweepstakes with a grand prize package including:

- Five hours of private consultation via phone with internationally-renowned professional genealogist, Megan Smolenyak
- Signed copies of her books—*Who Do You Think You Are?* and *Trace Your Roots with DNA*
- A one-time DNA ancestry testing through FamilyTreeDNA.com
- A one-year subscription to Ancestry.com
- A \$1,000 gift card

You don't have to be a member of AARP to enter the contest. Just register, and you'll be automatically entered in the Sweepstakes. Go to <http://aarp.promo.eprize.com/sweepstakes7>.

Google abandons master-plan to archive the world's newspapers

"...Google told partners in its News Archive project that it would cease accepting, scanning, and indexing microfilm and other archival material from newspapers...

"The five-year-old News Archive project was Google's attempt to do for old newspapers what Google Books has been attempting to do for the world's libraries. As part of the project, newspapers opened their morgues to Google, which promised to scan, index, and host the digital files it made from the archives. Google and the newspapers would then share revenue on the pageviews of those archives...

"Here's two wild guesses: the process may have turned out to be harder than Google anticipated. Or it may have turned out that the resulting pages drew far fewer eyeballs than anyone expected...

"The deal Google struck with partner newspapers stipulated that, somewhere down the line, a paper could purchase Google's digital scans of its content for a fee. That fee is now being waived, and Google is not only giving publishers free access to the scanned

files, but also the rights to publish them with other partners."

Excerpts from an article in The Boston Phoenix by Carly Carioli, published 19 May 2011.

RootsMagic SIG

Joan Rambo, our July speaker, sent us the following news item.

"We are putting together a new RootsMagic Special Interest Group (SIG) to meet once a month and want to invite everyone to attend, whether they already use RootsMagic or are just thinking about using it.

"Meetings will be held the fourth Saturday of the month, from 2:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. at the Orange Regional Family History Center, 674 S. Yorba, Orange, CA. Our first meeting is June 25th. Plus Barbara Renick will add one of her new presentations from 4:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. I've started an email reminder list and anyone who would like to be added, contact me at KinKatcher@aol.com. Please put RootsMagic in the subject box."

MORE UPCOMING EVENTS

Genealogy Adventures of Traveling in Time

Our own Linda Ivers will be making this presentation at the Iacoboni Library in Lakewood on Saturday, July 16, at 2:00 p.m. The event is open to the public at no charge and is intended for beginners and those who need a brush-up. You can RSVP to bbubbe@yahoo.com or by phone at (562)867-3593.

"**Old Ft. MacArthur Days,**" a living history event at the Ft. Mac Military Museum in San Pedro, will take place from 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. on July 9 and 10. Admission is \$10. For more information, call 310-548-2631 or go to <http://www.ftmac.org>.

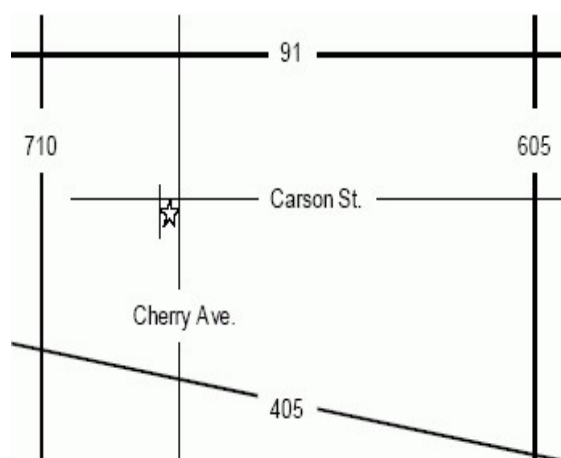
The annual Long Beach **Civil War Reenactment** will again be held at El Dorado East Regional Park, 7550 E. Spring St. this year. The event will be held on the weekend of July 30 & 31. Adult admission is \$12, Seniors \$10, and children 10 to 4 years old \$6. Parking costs \$7. For more information, you can call the park at 562-570-1773.



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Sunday, July 10, 2:00 p.m. Immigrant Genealogical Society monthly meeting at 1310 Magnolia Blvd., Burbank. Program: “My Pommeranian Research & Military Records,” by Kerry Bartels.

Sunday, July 17, 1:15-4:00 pm. 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 50.



Wednesday, July 20, 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: “Searching Ancestry.com Effectively,” by Randy Seaver.

Sunday, July 24, 1:00-3:00 p.m. British Isles Family History Society-USA monthly meeting at the Los Angeles Family History Library, 10741 Santa Monica Blvd., West Los Angeles. Program: “British Research—Parish Registers and Census Records,” by Hal Horrocks.

Saturday, August 6, 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): “The Many Facets of the National Archives Website—Parts 1 & 2,” by Kerry Bartels.

Upcoming Events

CORONA FAMILY HISTORY SEMINAR

Saturday, 6 August 2011
8:30 a.m.—12:30 p.m.
1123 S. Lincoln Ave.
Corona, California

Sponsored by the Corona Genealogical Society and the LDS Corona Stake, this seminar is free to the public and doesn't require pre-registration.

Five lectures are available during each of three one-hour sessions. The speakers will be Nancy Carlberg, Brenda Danielson, Len Enlow, Floyd Ferguson, Jean Wilcox Hibben, Jim Miller, Denise Spurlock, and Alice Volkert.

In the exhibit hall you can check out various genealogical resources in Southern California, exhibits on the Civil War, Pioneer Heritage, The Corona Genealogical Society, The Family History Center, the National Archives, scrap-books and more.

For more information, contact Jean Hibben at 951-780-1799 or jean@circlemending.org or visit www.CoronaGenSoc.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.