



QUESTING HEIRS
GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY
Newsletter
Volume 44 ✦ Number 9 ✦ September 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, SEPTEMBER 18, 2011

**1:15 Class INTERMEDIATE: My English Research -
Primarily in London, by Suzanne Boyles**

2:00 Business

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

**2:45 General SPEAKER: RACHAEL RIFKIN
Meeting Your Story Matters Too-
From Family History to Personal History**

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

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SEPTEMBER MEETING

**INTERMEDIATE CLASS
SUZANNE BOYLES**

Suzanne has been researching her English ancestors for about ten years. She has found many of her French Huguenot emigrants to London with some success. The social history of Victorian London has become a second area of interest for her, and she is currently taking a genealogy class from The National Institute for Genealogical Studies.

Besides her family's research, Suzanne will discuss what can be found on certain types of documents (birth, marriage, death certificates and census records) and how to get the best out of some of the many English websites.

**SPEAKER:
RACHAEL RIFKIN**

Rachael Rifkin was inspired to become a personal historian by her grandfather. When he passed away, she found a large collection of letters he had written to her grandmother while serving as a medic in the Korean War. He was 27 when he wrote the letters, and Ms. Rifkin was 26 when she discovered and read them. This experience deeply affected her as a granddaughter and writer, motivating her to concentrate on personal history.

Rachael has helped people write memoirs about their war experiences, love stories, pregnancies, and full life journeys. She is also a journalist and freelances for the *Signal Tribune*. On Fridays, she teaches a life stories creative writing class at the Willow Wellness Center (2799 Temple St., Signal Hill). For more information, visit lifestories2day.wordpress.com, email lifestories2day@aol.com, or call (562) 424-2362.

TOPIC

In the search for familial roots, we often neglect our own stories. Yet we're part of our family heritage, too. Rachael Rifkin will guide us through the beginning stages of the life-story-writing process. Learn how to transform memories into lively and engaging vignettes that can be shared with our families now and for generations to come.

REFRESHMENTS

Penny NUGENT (562) 290-0416

Thanks to our August hosts:

Linda ARTUSO Suzanne BOYLES
Linda RYAN

Our September hosts will be:

Marilyn BRASHER Cynthia DAY-ELLIOTT
Terry HAMILTON Jeanette JONES

MEMBERSHIP REPORT

Terry HAMILTON (562) 596-9382

AUGUST MEETING ATTENDANCE

Members: 34 Guests: 0

FINANCIAL REPORT

David WERTS (562) 431-7790

July Expenses:: \$ 497.25
July Income: \$ 35.21

Submissions for the
October Newsletter
are due by September 25.

Patriot Day
September 11

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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.

**US MILITARY UNIFORMS AND RECORDS
1776—PRESENT
by Chris Hansen**



Chris Hansen's presentation included photos of a variety of US Military Uniforms used for the past two centuries during which time 42 million Americans served in our military. He also noted that, from the Revolution through the Civil War, many ordinary soldiers didn't wear regulation uniforms. They wore their own hunting clothes or borrowed something from a dead enemy.

You may find evidence of an ancestor's military service from the uniform he's wearing in a photograph, from his discharge papers, from his qualification for a bounty land grant, or just from the fact that he was of military age during the time of a war.

You want to determine whether the person served in a state- or federal-level unit and in what branch of the service.

Much of Chris's presentation related to the wars in which the United States has been involved and where you can find information and records for each.

The National Archives has military service records, pension records, and bounty land records for the earlier wars. Request forms may be found at <http://www.archives.gov/contact/inquire-forms.html>. The National Archives also has an interesting site about more recent wars, called Access to Archival Databases (<http://aad.archives.gov/aad>).

The National Personnel Records Center in St. Louis is the repository for millions of military personnel, health, and medical records of discharged and deceased veterans of all services during the 20th century. See <http://www.archives.gov/st-louis/military-personnel> for information on ordering records.

State archives, too, kept records of those who served in military units recruited for state

defense. Organizations like the Daughters of the American Revolution (DAR) and Sons of the American Revolution (SAR) have records of men who served on that conflict.

The National Gravesite Locator may be found at the Department of Veterans Affairs website (<http://www.va.gov>). You may find a veteran listed in a census residing in a National Home for Disabled Soldiers. Also, the 1910 and 1930 censuses asked about past military service. Veterans organizations like the American Legion or Veterans of Foreign Wars may be helpful.

Information on the Spanish American War is available at <http://www.spanamwar.com> and on the Philippine Insurrection at <http://www.u-s-history.com/pages/h830.html>.

There were three draft registrations during World War I, and each contains slightly different information. They are available at Ancestry.com, the National Archives, and the Family History Library.

Approximately nine million men served in World War II. You can Google individuals' names and/or units to locate pertinent websites and published histories. Gena Philibert Ortega has a list of APO (Army Post Office) numbers and locations on her blog at <http://philibertfamily.blogspot.com/search?q=APO>. Most veterans and their next-of-kin can obtain free copies of their DD-214 (Report of Separation) forms from WWI to the present by requesting a form at <http://www.archives.gov/veterans/military-service-records>.

Information about the Korean War can be found at the Korean War Project (<http://www.koreanwar.org>).

For the Vietnam War, look at <http://www.militaryindexes.com/vietnamwar/index.html>.





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PRESIDENT’S MESSAGE

Good news for researchers who are interested in the past history of Long Beach and for the Historical Society of Long Beach. Recently the *Press-Telegram* announced in their August 14, 2011, issue that they are going to loan their huge collection of 1400 bound volumes of actual copies of newspapers published in Long Beach from 1897 into the late 1980’s. The collection includes the *Press*, which started publishing in 1897 and was the forerunner to the *Press-Telegram*. The *Press-Telegram* began publishing in 1924 and merged with the *Independent* in 1952, becoming the *Independent Press-Telegram*. The *Independent* name was dropped from the masthead in 1984.

This material was, and still will be, available on microfilm at the downtown Long Beach Public Library. There is nothing like “looking and touching” the real thing. Cranking those microfilm readers is not always the “experience of choice,” either. However, the newspapers will not be made available to the public for several months because they have to be inventoried and catalogued. I will let you know when they are available and the pertinent information about visiting and researching this collection at the Historical Society of Long Beach, located at 4260 Atlantic Ave., Long Beach. I have used the Historical Society’s collection of old City Directories. I did phone beforehand, and they had them waiting for me. I am curious as to how they intend to make this huge collection available to the public.

Jeanette Jones (J.J.)

SURPRISE RELATIONSHIP

After Joan Phillips gave her presentation on French-speaking Canada at one of our recent meetings, I went to visit her in Burbank. In helping me do research on both my mother’s maiden name of Jolivette and my Lunderville branch, I found out that Joan and are related. In recent correspondence, I mentioned to her that I had a relative named Mathurin dit Landreville. In Joan’s return e-mail, she said she has two daughters-in-law and a

granddaughter-in-law who also have that connection. Therefore, Joan and I are cousins!

Gerald P. Lunderville, Long Beach

BETTY BELL BRYANT FELDMAN

As mentioned last month, Betty Bell passed away on 27 June 2011. Besides being a beloved sister, wife, mother, grandmother and great-grandmother, during her life she was also a teacher, aeronautical engineer, public speaker, mentor, and world traveler. Betty Bell was a member of Questing Heirs from 1993, leading the Beginning Class at one time and serving as Historian for our group. The following excerpt from a message she left to her heirs summarizes her deep interest in genealogy.

“I have few luxuries to leave to my heirs. My business is gone, items of value gone, sentimental things are worthless without their history known. About the only thing of any interest to the children (Baby Boomers) or their children (my blessed grandbabies—now emerging adults) is to acquaint them with their roots—their family history that’s my legacy to my family...We’ve got royalty and workers, fighters and military figures, inventors, designers, writers, musicians, talented and unskilled people behind us—whatever their faith, qualities, concerns, health or happenstance—because they lived and bore children we are alive. That’s where we came from. That’s who we are besides what we have made of ourselves.”

IT’S THAT TIME AGAIN!

Dues are due on September 1, the beginning of our new membership year. See the back of this newsletter for the current levels.

And another September reminder. That’s the month when you have to annually re-register with Ralphs to participate in their Community Contribution program by which Questing Heirs receives money for your purchases. (Our number is 84877.)



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ORDER YOUR OWN FILMS

As of 2 August 2011, patrons in California can place orders for microfilm rental from the LDS Family History Library in Salt Lake City, Utah, online themselves.

To access FamilySearch Microfilm Ordering, go to <https://film.familysearch.org>. If you do not already have an account, you will need to register. Then you can sign in and place an order. For instructions, just click on "Ordering Help." You can pay by credit card or PayPal.

There are only two loan types for film now: Short-Term (good for 90 days) and Extended. You choose the Family History Center where you would like your film delivered. That Center still receives the film, you view it there, and the Center returns the film when it is due.

FOOTNOTE IS NOW FOLD3

On August 18, 2011, Footnote announced its intention to create the finest and most comprehensive collection of U.S. Military records available on the internet and changed the name of its site from Footnote to Fold3. The name Fold3 comes from a traditional flag-folding ceremony in which the third fold is made in honor and remembrance of veterans for their sacrifice in defending their country and promoting peace in the world.

Non-military content on the site will remain and can still be found through search, on the records list page and in browse under the "Other Records" category.

ESCONDIDO PANEL DISCUSSION

Saturday, September 24, 2011, the Escondido Genealogical Society and the Southern California Chapter of the Association of Professional Genealogists will present a panel discussion on professional genealogy, when to hire a professional, how to find a professional, what to expect and more. The moderator will be Jean Wilcox Hibben.

This meeting will be held at the Escondido Public Library, located at 230 S. Kalmia St. in Escondido, starting at 10:00 a.m.

1940 CENSUS

The National Archives will release the 1940 census on April 2, 2012. It will be available for online searching free of charge, but it will not have a name index at that time. In order to locate someone, you will need to know his or her address and the census enumeration district in which that address was located.

The National Archives has the following suggestions for what you can do now to prepare for the opening of the 1940 census.

1. Make a list of all the people you want to look for in the 1940 census.
2. Collect addresses for these people in:
 - City Directories
 - The 1930 census (if they didn't move)
 - World War II Draft Records
 - Naturalization Petitions or Declarations of Intent filed close to 1940
3. Identify the enumeration district (ED) in which each address was located.

To search the 1940 Census Maps for ED numbers, go to the Archival Research Catalog (ARC) at <http://www.archives.gov/research/arc>.

Enter 1940 Census maps + county + state. (You may be able to narrow the search by including a town name.)

If you have an address, find it on the map. (Click on the map to make it larger.) The ED number will be in two parts separated by a hyphen.

OR

To search the 1940 Census Enumeration District Descriptions, go to ARC. Enter 1940 Census enumeration district descriptions + county + state.

In the search results, click on the title of the description to see the full description.

OR

Use the Search Utilities at <http://stevemorse.org/census>.



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DMV PHOTOS

Did you know that you can get a copy of the driver's license photo of yourself, another family member, or a deceased person who was an immediate family member?

For details, go to www.dmv.ca.gov/forms/inf/inf70.htm. The cost is \$20; and for a deceased person, you must supply a certified copy of a death certificate. Completing the "Request for Record Information (INF 70)" form online and printing it is preferred, but you can print it and then complete it by hand or typewriter.

U.K. RAILWAY RECORDS

If you have an ancestor who worked for a railroad in England, you will be interested in the U.K. Railway Employment Records, 1833-1963 database that's now available at Ancestry.com, Ancestry.co.uk, and Ancestry.ca.

Your editor found the record of her great-grandfather who worked for the Great Western Railway from at least 1882 through 1912, as a Car Cleaner at Kensington Station, a Porter, Shunter, and Breaksman at Southall Station, and a Goods Guard at Trowbridge Station.

The most common record type in the database is a staff register. Records will typically list an employee's name, station, position, birth date or age, and such details as salary, date entered service, and transfer information. The records can be searched by name, birth year, event year, station, or company.

UK DIGITAL MICROFILM ONLINE

The National Archives in the U.K. has started digitizing its microfilms and making the data available online to increase its accessibility. Their Digital Microfilm program uses very large "pdfs," a download containing as much as 800 pages; so you'll need a broadband connection. You can search and download the records free of charge. They are not indexed, however; so you have to scroll through the pdfs. To see what is currently available, go to <http://www.nationalarchives.gov.uk/documentsonline/digital-microfilm.asp>.

DNA TESTING

If you're wondering whether or not you should take a DNA test, or if you have recently been tested and would like to know more about the subject, you might want to take a look at the "Genetic Genealogy Q&A for Beginners" page on the International Society of Genetic Genealogy website at <http://www.isogg.org/ggfaq.htm>.

NATIVE AMERICAN ANCESTRY

The U.S. Department of the Interior has a webpage dedicated to offering helpful tips and information on tracing Native American ancestry.

The Trace Indian Ancestry page (<http://www.doi.gov/tribes/trace-ancestry.cfm>) has seven subsections including Ancestry, Genealogical Research, Enrollment Process, Benefits & Services Provided to American Indians and Alaska Natives, Cherokee Indian Ancestry, Dawes Rolls and Contacting a Tribal Entity—The BIA Tribal Leaders Directory.

The Ancestry section describes how genealogical documentation is needed for tribal enrollment and that the Bureau of Indian Affairs does not conduct genealogy research for individuals.

In the Genealogical Research section (<http://www.doi.gov/tribes/research.cfm>), the Department answers five basic questions frequently asked by those who want to start doing genealogical research into their past. Interior suggests making use of digital records, but doesn't suggest any particular private websites.

From Dick Eastman's blog at <http://blog.eogn.com> on 25 August 2011. Copyright © by Richard W. Eastman

GOOGLE ALERTS

If you make regular searches on Google for your ancestors, locations where they lived, etc., Google has a free feature called Google Alerts. Go to <http://www.google.com/alerts> to set up your search parameters, and you will be automatically notified by e-mail when results are found.



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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>

News Release

Contact: Loran Bures
(562) 426-9544

For immediate release

SUVCW Camp Spearheads Effort to Restore Desecrated Civil War Memorial at Sunnyside Cemetery

Long Beach – The Gen. W. S. Rosecrans Camp No. 2, Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War (SUVCW), has announced that they have willingly assumed responsibility to spearhead the effort to replace the missing plaques and restore the desecrated Civil War Memorial at Sunnyside Cemetery. The memorial's two bronze plaques disappeared from Sunnyside Cemetery at 1095 East Willow Street in late March and have not been recovered. Because of bronze's value, it is believed the plaques were taken to be recycled for cash.

"We were saddened to learn earlier this year about the theft of the plaques from the memorial at Sunnyside Cemetery," lamented Camp Commander Loran Bures. "The creation of that memorial took about 25 years of planning and effort by the Grand Army of the Republic (G.A.R.) and its Allied Orders, with support from the community, to bring it into existence. It took only one night to desecrate it."

As happened nearly 100 years ago, the local SUVCW Camp, along with its Auxiliary, has begun to collect funds necessary to restore this memorial to honor Civil War veterans who fought to preserve the Union between 1861 and 1865. The national organization of the SUVCW has a grant program to assist in the restoration of Civil War memorials. To qualify for a grant, the local SUVCW Camp must raise money with help from the local community. The SUVCW Charitable Foundation has a similar grant program. "Once we have met the requirements, we plan to apply for both grants," Bures said.

It is hoped that the community, especially during the Sesquicentennial of the Civil War, will step forward to support the restoration of the Sunnyside Civil War Memorial. For anyone wishing to make a monetary contribution, please make your check or money order payable to SUVCW Camp No. 2 and forward it to:

Sunnyside Memorial Fund
c/o Phillip L. Caines, PCC
704 Virginia Street
El Segundo, CA 90245-2123

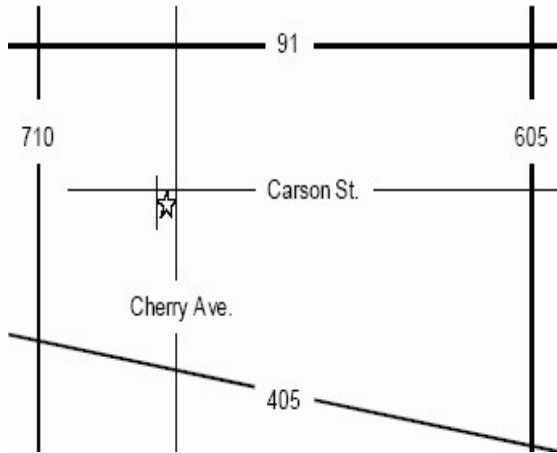
For more information, visit: <http://www.suvpac.org/camp2/sunnyside.html>



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Sunday, September 11, 2:00 p.m. Immigrant Genealogical Society monthly meeting at 1310 Magnolia Blvd., Burbank. Program: “Researching Your Catholic Ancestors,” by Pam Wiedenbeck.

Sunday, September 18, 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 66.



Wednesday, September 21, 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: “Ethnic Groups: They Came Into America,” by Linda Serna.

Sunday, September 25, 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: “Personal Data Storage and Organization on Computer,” Tom Underhill.

Saturday, October 1, 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): “Location, Location, Location,” by Paul Lipinski.

Upcoming Events

RESTORATION TRADE FAIR

Sunday, 25 September 2011
9:30 a.m.—4:00 p.m.
Luther Burbank School
4th Street & Junipero
Long Beach

The Restoration Trade Fair is an annual fundraiser of The Rose Park Neighborhood Association. It features workshops and demonstrations, as well as decorative arts and crafts. There will also be a silent auction for attendees to place bids on donated items.

Questing Heirs will have an exhibit at this event. We will need volunteers to help set up between 7:30 and 9:00 a.m. and to break down after 4:00 p.m. We will also need volunteers to man the exhibit during the duration of the fair to publicize our society and to help those who are interested in knowing more about their family history get started.

Jeanette Jones will have more details and sign-up sheets at our September meeting. Please consider volunteering.

*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.