



QUESTING HEIRS
GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY
Newsletter
Volume 44 ✦ Number 11 ✦ November 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, NOVEMBER 20, 2011

1:15 Class INTERMEDIATE: The Swiss Settlement of Vevay, Switzerland County, Indiana, by John McCoy

2:00 Business

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

2:45 General SPEAKER: Hal Horrocks
Meeting British Research—Parish Registers and Census

4:00 Class BEGINNING: Genealogy Adventures—Military Records, by Linda Ivers

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NOVEMBER MEETING

**INTERMEDIATE CLASS
The Swiss Settlement of Vevay,
Switzerland County, Indiana**

John McCoy, past president of the Questing Heirs Genealogical Society, has over 40 years of experience in genealogy. For the past 15 years, he has concentrated on research in French-speaking Switzerland and has discovered documents that take his Swiss ancestry back at least as far as the 14th century. His latest undertaking is a study of the history and origins of the "Swiss" settlement of Vevay, Indiana, in preparation for the bicentennial of that city in 2013.

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SPEAKER:

HAL HORROCKS

Hal Horrocks is a professional genealogist and lecturer. He has been doing family research for 15 years and is a member of the Association of Professional Genealogists, the Genealogical Speakers Guild, and the Orange County California Genealogical Society (OCCGS), of which he is currently President.

In addition, he has developed a website for the Horrocks surname that includes a one-name study, a DNA study, and family trees for Horrocks researchers.

TOPIC

**British Research—Parish Registers
and Census**

Learn the important dates necessary for proper British research and how they relate to church records and the census. Baptism, marriage and burial registers will be explored in detail with many examples given and also how to find them. The British census will be explored in detail from 1841-1911 with examples of each, along with their anomalies. How to search the online census records will also be explained in detail. Finally, an example of tracing an individual through the census records from 1841 onward, using only the information given in a will as the clue, is shown using online resources.

REFRESHMENTS

Penny NUGENT (562) 290-0416

Thanks to our October hosts:

Larry AKAU Chris ELIA
Linda IVERS Kathy LATHAM

Our November hosts will be:

Kathy AKAU Sandy HOLLANDSWORTH
Frances LIEBZEIT Penny NUGENT

MEMBERSHIP REPORT

Terry HAMILTON (562) 596-9382

OCTOBER MEETING ATTENDANCE

Members: 32 Guests: 2

FINANCIAL REPORT

David WERTS (562) 431-7790

September Expenses:	\$	185.99
September Income:	\$	1,387.19
Nine Months Expenses:	\$	3,377.71
Nine Months Income:	\$	2,919.96
F&M Bank Balance:	\$	5,365.77
US Bank Balance:	\$	26,546.06

(F&M balance includes \$5,158.00 earmarked for "Education.")

**Submissions for the
December Newsletter
are due November 27.**

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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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BRICK WALL BREAKTHROUGHS

Jeanette Jones had found Isaac E. Harris, her g-g-grandfather, in the censuses of 1860-1900 indicating that he was born about 1831 in Indiana. She knew he had married in 1856 in Appanoose County, Iowa. In an attempt to identify his parents, she looked for Isaac in Indiana in 1850, but she found two men, Alfred and Evan Harris, with sons Isaac about the same age. By 1860 Isaac was in Missouri, but when she compared that census with one for Alfred in 1850, she discovered a John A. Tindal in both families and concluded that Alfred was Isaac's father.

Linda Artuso outlined her seven-year search to unravel the story of her paternal grandparents' lives when they returned to their native England in 1938 after residing in the United States from 1911. There was a name change involved, and the puzzle was finally resolved with the help of a researcher in London, a newspaper reporter in Maidenhead, Berkshire, and the wife of her father's first cousin in Basingstoke, Hampshire.

Terry Hamilton was just *casually* looking at military records on Ancestry.com when she ran across the name of her grandfather, Harry Horsey, who had joined the army about 1900 at the age of 19. At the time of WWI, he was living in Spokane, Washington, and had to register for the draft. From that record she learned that he was ineligible because of having lost part of his leg.

Linda Ivers' search involved her Snyder family that lived in Johnson County, Tennessee from the late 1700s. It was complicated by children being given the same first name and wives with the same given name. Since censuses were not available that early, Linda used land, court, and marriage records as sources. She also found Peter Snyder Jr.'s War of 1812 pension file to be helpful. Her advice is to make a list of the documents you find and what they say to help analyze your problems.

We hope these experiences will give you ideas of how you may be able to break through your own brick walls.

**RESOURCE DOCUMENTATION:
SOURCE CITATION**

Our speaker, Nancy Huebotter, stressed that you should use a scientific approach in your genealogy research. Gather information, organize it, reach a conclusion based on it, verify it, record your findings, and make the results known in some way.

In analyzing the evidence you find, consider its source (Is it original or derivative?), the information it provides, and whether it adequately answers your question. Then you can consider what to do next.

In citing a source, besides listing the title, author, publication information, page/image number, etc., it helps to include comments on its condition and its location. To make your notes even more useful, you can include your opinion as to the reliability of the record (or the person providing the information) and your interpretation of the data. This citation can be kept in a Research Log.

It's best to photocopy your source if possible. Otherwise, note whether you abstracted or transcribed the information. If you transcribe it, leave all spelling, punctuation, etc., as you find them. When you quote from a source, be sure to attribute it to its author. Be aware of "fair use" as it applies to copyright law.

Nancy particularly mentioned Elizabeth Shown Mills' books on how to cite various sources. Her most recent book (2009) is entitled *Evidence Explained: Citing History Sources From Artifacts to Cyberspace*. This is an 885-page book, but shorter "Quicksheets" are available in laminated form for about \$8.00. They are titled *Citing Online Historical Resources* and *Genealogical Problem Analysis -A Strategic Plan-Evidence! Style*.

Nancy also mentioned a website that will create citations for you in the MLA (Modern Language Association) style or others. It is located at <http://citationmachine.net>.

One page in her handout provides general rules for judging the reliability of genealogical evidence.

NOMINATING COMMITTEE REPORT

As I am in Tacoma, Washington, ‘til the first of November, Cynthia Day-Elliott announced at the October meeting the following slate of candidates to fill expiring Board positions for the 2012-2013 term.

- Secretary –Penny Nugent
- Treasurer—David Werts
- Director at Large—Linda Artuso
- Director at Large—Tina Yanis

Members attending our November meeting will vote on the slate at that time.

Since Suzanne Boyles has asked to resign from her position as First Vice President/Program Chairman, we also need someone to replace her. That person will be appointed, rather than elected, to serve for the remaining year of Suzanne’s term. So, if you are interested in that position, please notify anyone on the Nominating Committee.

We are also looking for members to help out in the following non-elective positions.

John McCoy has been setting up the digital projector for our speakers each month, but he would like to travel. So, we are looking for a couple people to learn how to do that and how to set up a new sound system we’ll be buying.

Tina Yanis makes the coffee and sets up the snack table before meetings and then puts food away, as well as washing and putting away the church’s serving dishes afterwards. A couple people have volunteered to help, but we could use a couple more before and after every meeting.

The Publicity Committee needs a chairman and some helpers. We try to send notices of our meetings to several newspapers and on-line Long Beach neighborhood groups. It takes time; so we are asking for volunteers to send out e-mails individually to each one.

The Program Chairman sometimes needs help with setting up speakers and subjects for our meetings. A couple people could help with that and also with follow-up, etc.

Our Membership Chairman has to keep track of members and visitors at meetings; so, we would like to have Greeters at the door, especially for our guests.

Let Liz Myers, Tina Yanis or Cynthia Day-Elliott know in which way you would like to support our Society—Right Away!!!!

*Liz Myers
Past President/
Nominating Committee Chair*

WEBMASTER’S REPORT

We have been working on distributing the newsletter electronically and hope to have it all set up by next month. If you are a current member and have not yet given our Membership Chair, Terry Hamilton, your email address, would you please send it to me at lunalaque@pobox.com. This is going to help our society save quite a bit of money, which we can then use for programs and improvements.

Be sure to check out our Shop page at <http://www.qhgs.info/shop.html> for other ways you can contribute to Questing Heirs without it costing you one cent. For example, if you shop at Amazon.com and start at our web page, they will send us a check for a percentage of your purchase.

Finally, Questing Heirs now has a Facebook page! You can find it at <http://www.facebook.com/pages/Questing-Heirs-Genealogical-Society/252881878055512>. The easy way to find it, once there, is to type “Questing Heirs” into the search bar at the very top of the page. For those of you with Facebook accounts, please click on the “like” button to help spread the word. That is, of course, *if* you like it! If you have any photos you’d like to upload, let me know; and we will work out how to do that. I am also looking for a couple of people who would like to be co-admins of the page with me.

Mike Powers, QHGS Webmaster





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GENEALOGY WITHOUT SOURCES IS MYTHOLOGY!

Lorine McGinnis Schulze

How can you tell if the information posted by individuals on Internet genealogy sites is valid? Some sites have sources, others don't. How do you know what, and when, to believe what you read online??

A good rule of thumb is...

Don't trust anything you find on the 'net' (or elsewhere) if it doesn't have sources.

Without sources you can't verify it, and you don't know whether the information came from a reliable source or whether it came from Great Aunt Martha who may have some of it right, but may have mixed up a lot too.

Maybe the info came from a book written by someone 100 years ago who didn't have access to sources we have now, or who just plain got it wrong.

Perhaps the information was transcribed for a webpage from a book source. That book source was transcribed from a microfilm record which was itself transcribed from the original. The chance of human error is greatly increased with each succeeding transcription.

Even if the information has a source, you should double-check it personally, either from the original source or from an independent source.

VERIFY, VERIFY, VERIFY!!!

You also want to think about the source itself. Is the source a good one? After all, if Great Aunt Martha gives me information on the birth or baptism of my 3rd great-grandpa and I put it on the 'net', and source it as "Remembrances of Great Aunt Martha", that's not necessarily a reliable or accurate source. After all, Great Aunt Martha did have that fall from a horse when she was a child and she IS 97 years old....

However if I source the birth or baptismal dates with full details on the church where I saw the original record, or the published

transcript of those church records, that's much more reliable.

When in doubt, remember....

Genealogy without sources is mythology."

©Lorine McGinnis Schulze of The Olive Tree Genealogy at <http://olivetreegenealogy.com/index.shtml>. Article may be copied as long as identifying information and link to website are left intact.



Continued from page 82

The town of Vevay, in Switzerland County, Indiana, was founded in 1813. A group of French-speaking Swiss settlers had settled there about 1802 with the intention of establishing vineyards. They were soon joined by other immigrants from Switzerland, France, Germany, and Italy, as well as English-speaking settlers. Over the years, lack of familiarity with the native languages and customs has led to confusion about the origins of many of the settlers.

In preparation for the bicentennial of Vevay, John was asked to provide some historical background and began searching the Swiss records for information about the settlers. The origins of over 150 of them have now been established. For some of them it has been possible to locate family documents relating to their emigration from Switzerland and other facets of their personal stories. There are still many families whose origins are not well documented. If you have a Swiss, French, or German ancestor who settled near Vevay, Indiana, before 1830, John wants to hear from you (RealMac@aol.com).



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GENEALOGY IN THE CLASSROOM

www.victoriags.org/school

The Victoria (British Columbia) Genealogical Society has an interesting website designed to introduce young people to the world of genealogy. It is free and requires no registration—so no passwords to remember. Although it was intended for teachers and students, it can be used by anyone with access to a computer and the internet.

Designed like a schoolhouse, it has the following rooms: Classroom, Library, Computer Lab, Supplies, and a Playground. There is also a Teacher’s Corner and a Family History Club.

Classroom activities include conducting a family interview, making a family tree, creating timelines, and writing about family heirlooms.

The Family History Club contains fun activities and projects like finding the origin of your surname on the internet, making a family history video, going on a genealogical treasure hunt, taking the youth write-in challenge and becoming a published author.

DECEASED ONLINE

<https://www.deceasedonline.com>

According to the above website, “Deceased Online is the first central database of statutory burial and cremation registers for the UK and Republic of Ireland—a unique resource for family history researchers and professional genealogists.

“Until now, to search these records you had to approach about 3,000 burial authorities and nearly 250 crematoria in the UK alone, each independently holding their own registers, mostly as old fragile books. No official central repository exists.

“Deceased Online is changing this. We are making it possible for burial and cremation authorities around the country to convert their register records, maps and photographs into digital form and bring them together into a central searchable collection.”

Deceased Online was launched in July 2008, the database holding records mainly from the 1850s onwards. Searching is free and can be restricted as required to country, region, county, or individual burial authority of crematorium. You must purchase credits to access more details, however. Since the database is growing, you will need to check back as new records are added.

HOME CHILDREN DATABASE

“Between 1869 and the late 1930s, over 100,000 juvenile migrants were sent to Canada from Great Britain during the child emigration movement. Motivated by social and economic forces, churches and philanthropic organizations sent orphaned, abandoned and pauper children to Canada. Many believed that these children would have a better chance for a healthy, moral life in rural Canada, where families welcomed them as a source of cheap farm labour and domestic help.

“After arriving by ship, the children were sent to distributing homes, such as Fairknowe in Brockville, and then sent on to farmers in the area. Although many of the children were poorly treated and abused, others experienced a better life here than if they had remained in the urban slums of England. Many served with the Canadian and British Forces during both World Wars.

“The Home Children database is being produced by the British Isles Family History Society of Greater Ottawa (BIFHSGO) ... in cooperation with Library and Archives Canada.” You can find the database at <http://www.collectionscanada.gc.ca/databases/home-children/index-e.html>.

AUSTRALIAN IMMIGRATION

The Australian Immigration Collection 1788-1923 is now available on Ancestry.com. This package includes passenger lists, musters, census information and other documents from the period, assembled from microfilm in state record offices and archives. You can search it at <http://www.ancestry.com.au/immigration>.



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eBOOKS AT LBPL

The following information comes from Glenda Williams, Director of Library Services at the Long Beach Public Library.

The Long Beach Public Library has expanded its services to offer down-loadable eBooks (electronic books), an exciting addition to its already popular down-loadable audiobooks collection, available 24/7 from the library's website. Library cardholders can browse the collection, checkout and download eBooks anytime, from anywhere, by visiting: <http://lbpl.lib.overdrive.com>.

eBooks can be read on a PC or Mac computer, and can also be transferred to popular e-reading devices like the Sony Reader, the Barnes & Noble Nook, Amazon's Kindle, the Apple iPad and other tablets, as well as smart phones. Titles will automatically expire at the end of the lending period, which can be either 7 or 14 days. There are no late fees!

This new service, powered by OverDrive, is free for patrons with a Long Beach Public Library card. To get started, access the Quick Start Guide and the My Help! Features for useful tips and step-by-step instructions at the website listed above. For smartphone and tablet users, visit your app store to download the OverDrive Media Console app for your device.

BRITISH LIBRARY & GOOGLE

www.bl.uk

The following excerpts are from an announcement made by the British Library on 20 June 2011.

The British Library and Google today announced a partnership to digitise 250,000 out-of-copyright books from the Library's collections. Opening up access to one of the greatest collections of books in the world, this demonstrates the Library's commitment, as stated in its 2020 Vision, to increase access to anyone who wants to do research.

Selected by the British Library and digitized by Google, both organisations will work in

partnership over the coming years to deliver this content free through Google Books and the British Library's website. Google will cover all digitization costs.

This project will digitise a huge range of printed books, pamphlets and periodicals dated 1700 to 1870, the period that saw the French and Industrial Revolutions, The Battle of Trafalgar and the Crimean War, the invention of rail travel and of the telegraph, the beginning of UK income tax, and the end of slavery. It will include material in a variety of major European languages, and will focus on books that are not yet freely available in digital form online.

WDYTYA?

On 5 October 2011, EW.com (Entertainment Weekly) reported that Marisa Tomei, Martin Sheen, and Blair Underwood will be featured actors in the third season of Who Do You Think You Are? The television series will premier on NBC early next year.

RAOGK TO CLOSE

If you have ever taken advantage of the help provided by volunteers at the Random Acts of Genealogical Kindness website, you will be sorry to hear that it will cease to exist for "quite awhile." The Administrator, Bridgett Schneider, let Dick Eastman know that, after 11 years of helping genealogists get copies of documents, pictures of tombstones, etc., this service will have to close for various reasons.

From Dick Eastman's blog of 18 October 2011 at <http://blog.eogn.com>. Copyright © by Richard W. Eastman.

PHOTOS ON COMPUTERS

People used to take photos with their cameras, take the film to the drugstore to have them printed, and arrange the photos in an album for family members to see.

Nowadays, people are probably taking more photos than ever, but they're keeping them on their computers, or phones, or on Facebook. Will these digital images be around for future generations to enjoy?



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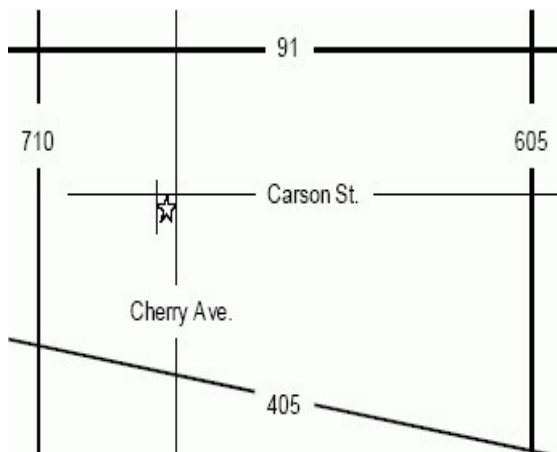
Saturday, November 12, 1:00 p.m. Southern California Genealogical Society monthly meeting at 417 Irving Dr., Burbank. Program: “Grand Army of the Republic” and “National Civil War Association,” by Kim von Aspern-Baker.

Sunday, November 13, 2:00 p.m. Immigrant Genealogical Society monthly meeting at 1310 Magnolia Blvd., Burbank. Program: “Crossing a Continent: Migration Between the Revolution and the Civil War (1783-1861),” by Kathleen Roe Trevena.

Wednesday, November 16, 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: “Adding Timelines to Your Genealogy,” by Nancy Huebotter.

Wednesday, November 16, 7:00 p.m. South Bay Cities Genealogical Society monthly meeting in the Meeting Room at the Torrance Civic Center Library, 3301 Torrance Blvd., Torrance. Program: “Overcoming Brickwalls with DNA,” by Cheri Mello.

Sunday, November 20, 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.



Upcoming Events

rootstech

Family History & Technology Conference
February 2-4, 2012
Salt Palace Convention Center
Salt Lake City, Utah

The goal of RootsTech is to bring together technology creators (like Dell, Microsoft, FamilySearch, Ancestry.com, and Archives) and technology users (like genealogists and family history buffs).

Attendees will discover emerging technologies and devices to improve their research, learn from hands-on workshops and interactive presentations, collaborate with technology creators to advance family history through technology, and educate technology providers about their needs.

To find out more details and see the full list of topics and sessions, go to <http://rootstech.org>. You can also register online. If you do so before 30 November, the cost is \$129 for the three-day conference. From 1 December, the cost will be \$189.

*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.