



# QUESTING HEIRS GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY *Newsletter*

Volume 45 + Number 6 + June 2012

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, JUNE 17, 2012**

<b>1:15</b>	<b>Class</b>	<b>INTERMEDIATE: Methodology of Genealogy Research, by Linda Ivers</b>
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<b>2:00</b>	<b>Business</b>
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<b>2:15</b>	<b>Break</b>	<b>Time for chatting, browsing, and refreshments</b>
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<b>2:45</b>	<b>General Meeting</b>	<b>SPEAKER: Elyse Doerflinger Conquering the Paper Monster</b>
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<b>4:00</b>	<b>Class</b>	<b>BEGINNING: Led by Linda Ivers</b>
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### JUNE MEETING

#### MAIN PRESENTATION

##### Conquering the Paper Monster

This talk is meant to help genealogists create a custom paper organizational system that works for an individual's unique research style and family tree. Using a step-by-step approach, attendees will be able to create a system that suits them instead of trying to make their unique situation and needs fit someone else's system.

#### SPEAKER:

#### ELYSE DOERFLINGER

Our speaker writes a blog (<http://elysesgenealogyblog.com>) to share her genealogy knowledge and information about her family. She has been researching her family tree for nearly eight years and admits that most of what she has learned, she has learned by making mistakes. She hopes to keep others from making the same mistakes.

Since 2010, Elyse has spoken at many societies in Southern California, as well as at the 2010 Southern California Genealogy Society's Jamboree. She loves interacting with other genealogists.

Elyse has also written articles for Internet Genealogy Magazine, Family Chronicle, and been featured in Family Tree Magazine. And she works for a family-tree-building website called WikiTree.

Outside her genealogy life, she is a full-time college student studying to become an elementary school teacher.



*Happy Father's Day*

### REFRESHMENTS

#### Penny NUGENT (562) 290-0416

Thanks to our May hosts:

Linda IVERS                      Kathy LATHAM  
Frances LIEBZEIT                Kathy SHERMAN

Our June hosts will be:

Kathy AKAU                        Red COLLINS  
Penny NUGENT                    Connie WILLIAMS

### MEMBERSHIP REPORT

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

#### MAY MEETING ATTENDANCE

Members: 33                              Guests: 2

### FINANCIAL REPORT

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

April Income:	\$ 124.85
April Expenses:	\$ 305.24
F&M Bank balance:	\$ 3,978.35
Operations balance:	\$ 210.33
Special Projects balance:	\$ 3,768.02

**Submissions for the July Newsletter are due by June 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.



MEMBERSHIP

### DAR ONLINE RESOURCES

<http://www.DAR.org>

Our speaker, Connie Moretti, pointed out that DAR records online are now available free to anyone—not just members of the Daughters of the American Revolution.

They consist of records of all patriots who are proven ancestors of DAR members; so, not all those who served in the American Revolution are represented. The information you seek is found on a member's application.

Select "Genealogy" after entering the website, then "Online Research" from the drop-down menu. In the new window, choose "DAR Genealogical Research System" to access that part of the site. There you will find tabs for Ancestor, Member, Descendants, the Genealogical Records Committee (GRC), Resources, and the Library Catalog.

Ancestor files include the ancestor's number and that of the member. With the ancestor's number, you can order a copy of the application and download it for \$10. Take a look at the lineage and the proof submitted for it. You can locate contact information for the member who submitted the lineage by using their National Number.

Volunteers are also working on a database that includes all the names that appear on approved applications. You can purchase a copy of supporting documentation from this database with a request form on the main page.

The GRC contains data collected by DAR members over the years, such as cemetery transcriptions. You can search by surname, state or year. Many of these materials have been microfilmed by the LDS church; so, check the FamilySearch catalog. (For an author search, type out Daughters of the American Revolution in full.)

Don't forget to check out the index to Revolutionary Pensions, following up at Heritage Quest or Fold3. You may be able to locate books found in the Analytical Index of books in the DAR Library on Google, or you can order photocopies from the DAR.

### UNDERSTANDING LAND RECORDS

Connie started out by answering the question, "Why would you want to research land records?" They will help you identify relatives and neighbors. Tax records may be the only surviving records in a locality, and they were compiled every year. Land was very important to our ancestors, as 90% of them owned land from 1700-1860 and 75% between 1860 and 1900.

Historically, people first acquired land by a grant process from the Crown, Colony or State. This involved Entering the land, acquiring a Warrant, having a Survey made, and then receiving a Patent for the land. The federal and state governments often gave "bounty land" as payment for military service. The person receiving the bounty often sold his right to someone else, rather than settling on it himself. Land may have been surveyed into ranges and townships according to the rectangular survey system (Public-Domain states) or by metes and bounds (State-Land states).

Once land was owned by an individual, it was transferred to someone else by way of a deed. Deeds include the following information: date and place of the transaction, the parties involved and where they lived, the price, a description of the land, names of witnesses, the signature or mark of the seller (and possibly his wife's name if she had to relinquish her dower right), and the date of recording in the county record book. Also the type of deed can be informative. Was it a Gift, a Sheriff's Sale, a Partition, a Trust, a Quit Claim, or a Dower Release?

You can learn where your ancestor's land was located by consulting tract books (compiled by a government agency), books of abstracts (prepared by an individual), and deed indexes (which are arranged by many different systems). County atlases or land ownership maps may be helpful. They can be found in libraries or on websites. You can make a search on the Bureau of Land Management website at [www.glorerecords.blm.gov](http://www.glorerecords.blm.gov).

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*Below are proposed revisions to our Society's Bylaws. Page numbers refer to the last revision, dated November 2008. They may be found at our website by clicking on "Legal" on the front page and then clicking on the link "bylaws.pdf." They will be read again at our June meeting and then voted on.*

**Article I, Section 2 (Page 1)**

Current: The Society will cooperate with the Long Beach Public Library and other local libraries with the intent to supplement their collections of genealogical and historical materials.

Proposed: Delete "the Long Beach Public Library and other."

**Article IV, Section 1 (Page 3)**

Current: Subscription—Persons, societies, and institutions shall receive the Society's publications upon payment of two-thirds (2/3) of the active member dues. This class of member shall not have the privilege of voting or serving as an Officer/Director.

Proposed: Delete this item, as we no longer have this class of membership.

**Article V, Section 4 (Page 5)**

Current: Notice of the annual meeting and all regular meetings shall be mailed to members by way of the Society's Newsletter.

Proposed: Change "mailed" to "given," as most members now access the newsletter online.

**Article VI, Section 3 (Page 7)**

Current: (E) Register their addresses with the Secretary of the Society, and notices of meetings mailed to them at such address shall be valid notices thereof.

Proposed: (E) Register their **home and email** addresses with the Secretary of the Society, and notices of meetings **given** to them at such addresses shall be valid notices thereof.

**Article VI, Section 6 (Page 8)**

Current: The Secretary of the Society, or other person designated by the President, shall deliver notice of the time, place, and general nature of the business to be transacted, to each member of the Board personally three (3)

days, or by First-Class Mail® at least seven (7) days, prior to the day of the meeting.

Proposed: The Secretary of the Society, or other person designated by the President, shall deliver notice of the time, place, and general nature of the business to be transacted, to each member of the board personally three (3) days, or by First-Class Mail® **or email** at least seven (7) days, prior to the day of the meeting.

**Article VII, Section 2 (Page 10)**

Current: (E) Term of office for the elected Officers/Directors shall be for two (2) calendar years, with one-half (1/2) of the officers (President, First Vice President, Second Vice President, and one (1) Director at Large) elected in the even years and the other one-half (1/2) (Secretary, Treasurer, and two (2) Directors at Large) elected in the odd years.

Proposed: (E) Term of office for the elected Officers/Directors shall be for two (2) calendar years. The President, Second Vice President, and two (2) Directors at Large shall be elected in even-numbered years. The First Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer, and one (1) Director at Large shall be elected in odd-numbered years.

The reason for changing the years in which some Officers/Directors are elected is to avoid the possibility of the President and First and Second Vice Presidents being newly elected in the same year.



Your Board of Directors has created a flyer to advertise Questing Heirs to anyone interested in researching their family history. It includes the Society's contact information, a map and the time/location of our monthly meetings.

A supply of these flyers will be available at our meetings; so please help make QH known by picking up one and posting it on a bulletin board where you live or in a local library, store, etc., in your neighborhood.

*The palest ink is better than the best memory!*



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### Primary Records are NOT always Accurate Lorine McGinnis Schulze

We all want our genealogy to be accurate.

We search and search for that primary record, the one that we've been told is "THE" record to find—a death certificate, a church baptismal record, a marriage record...

But - beware! Not all primary records are accurate. As good genealogists we must consider that there can be errors. The informant (person giving the information) may not know the answers and may thus provide incorrect details. The clerk recording the information may not hear the response correctly and may enter it incorrectly. The person giving the information may lie, especially about their age.

In my own family tree, my great-grandmother's official government death registration is incorrect. Her parents' names are wrong. Since I already knew who her parents were (Isaac Vollick & Lydia Jamieson) from other genealogy sources, I was completely bewildered at first by seeing her parents given as Stephen Vollick and Mary.

Then it dawned on me - Stephen was my great-grandmother's husband's name (Stephen Peer). Mary was my great-grandmother's own name (Mary Vollick).

So I looked at the informant's name. AHA! The informant was Mary's 17 year old son.. Her husband having died long before Mary, and her older children married and gone, the task of answering the official questions fell to her 17 year old son who had cared for her in her final days.

It is easy to see how the young boy, when asked by a government clerk "Father's name?" (meaning father of the deceased), would have replied "Stephen", for in fact Stephen WAS his own father's name.

The question "Mother's name?" referring to the mother of the deceased, would be answered by the boy "Mary" which was HIS mother's name.

And thus the official death registration for parents of Mary (Peer) Vollick daughter of Isaac and Lydia Vollick, is forever rendered as Stephen and Mary Vollick.

So be cautious when you encounter a primary source that simply doesn't match other reliable sources. Investigate! Think! Don't just accept the new "facts" without further legwork to prove or disprove them.

©Lorine McGinnis Schulze of *The Olive Tree Genealogy* at <http://www.olivetreegenealogy.com>. This guide was copied as is and with identifying information intact.

### NICKNAMES

*The following was an introduction to this subject in an article written by Christine Rose, C.G., in The Genealogical Helper of Mar-Apr 1987.*

"Often researchers miss records that are indexed under nicknames, especially in states such as Pennsylvania where the system of sub-indexing by first name is prevalent. The searcher who looks in the "A" sub-section of the "J" surnames for Alexander Jones but fails to check the "S" sub-section for Sandy Jones may miss important records! A lack of knowledge of nicknames can also add years to a search. Compiler can recall as a novice twenty-five years ago spending almost two years trying to find a second marriage for a man whose wife was called Martha in one court document, and Patsy in another, before discovering that the latter was a nickname for Martha. In another case, time was lost trying to find a "missing" son by the name Peter in a family, before finding that it was a nickname for the son Patrick...

"Some nicknames are unique to their surname, for instance, many Rhodes are nicknamed "Dusty," many surnames starting with Mac or Mc are nicknamed "Mac," etc..."

Christine Rose also warns against being too hasty in assigning a given name. Is "Willie" really William, or Wilfred, Willard, Willis, Wilmer, Wilton—or maybe Wilhelmina?



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### 1940 CENSUS UPDATE

<http://www.familysearch.org/1940census>

You can follow the progress of the indexing of the 1940 census at the above site. As of May 25, the following 14 states had been fully indexed and were ready to be searched: Alaska, Arizona, Colorado, Delaware, Florida, Idaho, Kansas, Nevada, New Hampshire, Oregon, Utah, Vermont, Virginia, and Wyoming.

### SULTANA DISASTER RECORDS

<http://www.fold3.com>

“When the boiler exploded aboard the steamer Sultana on April 27, 1865, more than 1,700 people lost their lives. Most of those aboard were recently released Union prisoners from Confederate prisons in Cahaba, Alabama, and Andersonville, Georgia. They were en route from Camp Fiske in Mississippi to Camp Chase, Ohio, but the explosion occurred only a few hours into the journey...

“Records relating to the Sultana Disaster, April 1865, are now available on Fold3. They include lists of the former prisoners who survived the disaster, with military service information and brief comments on their injuries. There are also lists of those who perished, yet not of the civilian survivors or those died...

“The original publication was financed by The Abrams Foundation of Michigan through the Stern-NARA Gift Fund and the National Archives Trust fund.”

*From an announcement by Fold3 as reported by Dick Eastman at <http://www.eogn.com> on 4 May 2012, copyright by Richard W. Eastman.*

### OLD MAPS ONLINE

<http://www.oldmapsonline.org>

This site provides the capability of searching over 60,000 historic maps. Users can search based on modern map locations and zoom in on their location of interest. A list of historical maps for that area appears on the right. You can focus your search on a particular time period by using a timeline slider at the top of the browser.

Selecting one of the map results opens a window with more information and a link to the contributor’s website.

*Reported by Kimberly Powell at About.com Genealogy on 7 Mar 2012.*

### AFRICAN AMERICAN DATA

<http://unknownnolonger.vahistorical.org>

The Virginia Historical Society has launched a free database with 4,000 names initially. Many more will be added from the society’s collection of letters, diaries, ledgers, books and farm documents dating to the 1600s.

<http://www.Archives.com/Patriots>

The “Patriots of Color” database, containing information about some of the men and women of color who fought for American independence, is available at Archives.com. These individuals may have served as soldiers, skilled craftsmen, or servants.

Because people of African descent were often not well documented in census records and other traditional sources, this collection uses primarily original records such as pension and bounty land application files, muster and pay rolls, lists of troops, court records, legislative records, and more.

<http://www.dar.org/library/fp.cfm#Project>

For many years the National Society Daughters of the American Revolution has been carrying on research known as the “Forgotten Patriots Project” to identify the names of African Americans, Native Americans, and individuals of mixed heritage who supported the American Revolution.

The DAR has published several books with the information its researchers have found, the most recent being *Forgotten Patriots—African American and American Indian Patriots of the Revolutionary War: A Guide to Service, Sources, and Studies* published in 2008. This 874-page book, that identified 6,600 individuals, is now out of print; but it, as well as a 79-page 2008-2012 Supplement, is available as a PDF document that can be downloaded from the DAR website.



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### GUIDE TO SALT LAKE CITY

<http://thechartchick.blogspot.com/2012/01/chart-chicks-quick-insiders-guide-to.html>

Janet Hovorka is known as the “Chart Chick” because she and her husband run Family ChartMasters, a company that produces wall charts for genealogists.

Janet lives in Salt Lake City and, being aware of the need for visitors to the city to learn their way around in it, she has written *The Chart Chick’s Quick Insider’s Guide to Salt Lake City*. This guide describes helpful websites, methods of transportation, restaurants, libraries and archives, shopping, parks and other attractions.

You can download this 22-page booklet for free at the URL above or buy a printed copy for \$14.95 plus shipping.

*Thanks to Dick Eastman for reviewing this book on his blog (<http://www.eogn.com>) 20 May 2012.*

### BAY AREA IMMIGRATION RECORDS

“Photographs, letters, health records, interview transcripts and other historical documents were destined for a recycling bin or a remote Midwestern storage facility...The documents will be housed at the San Francisco National Archives in San Bruno and open to the public beginning Tuesday. [22 May 2012]

“The files are for people from more than 100 countries who arrived, legally or not, on American shores, including many affected by laws excluding Chinese immigrants in the late 19th and early 20th centuries. The Chinese Exclusion Act files were already housed in the archives, but the new collection includes supplemental documents.

“The roughly 40,000 files in San Bruno’s new collection are specifically for immigrants or foreign visitors who were processed by immigration agents in San Francisco, Reno, Honolulu or Guam. Only pre-1910 files are currently available, but others will be released later.”

*From an article at MercuryNews.com by Matt O’Brien, posted on 18 May 2012.*

### INTERMENT SERIAL NUMBERS

Dennis Dufrene describes this source you may not have thought of in an article on the Top Secret Writers website at <http://www.topwriters.com>. He lists a number of places you can find information on the nearly 150,000 individuals who were captured as POWs by the Germans or Japanese during World War II.

The National Archives has a record of 140,000 military and civilian POWs that can be found online at Archives.gov, where you can search by name, serial number, detaining power, POW or internment camp, report date and unit.

GenTracer (<http://www.gentracer.org>) sells a CD-ROM series that focuses on Italian POWs in the continental United States during March 1945.

FamilyRelatives.com allows searches for a particular war using internment serial numbers and also has a user community where genealogists can network.

*For details on these sources, you can access this article at [www.topsecretwriters.com/2012/05/using-internment-serial-numbers-for-genealogy-research](http://www.topsecretwriters.com/2012/05/using-internment-serial-numbers-for-genealogy-research). © Top Secret Writers 2012*

### MIXED ROOTS FOUNDATION

<http://www.mixedrootsfoundation.org>

“In celebration of its one-year anniversary, the Mixed Roots Foundation today proudly announces the creation of the Global Adoptee Genealogy Project (GAGP) and the establishment of a Filling in the GAGP Fund to help adopted people and their families discover their biological and cultural roots through DNA testing....

“GAGP’s services will be provided by DNA Testing Partners, 23andMe based in Mountain View, CA and Family Tree DNA based in Houston, Texas. The Filling in the GAGP Fund will provide monetary support for DNA testing to adoptees and their families, based on financial need. The official launch of GAGP will take place later this year.”

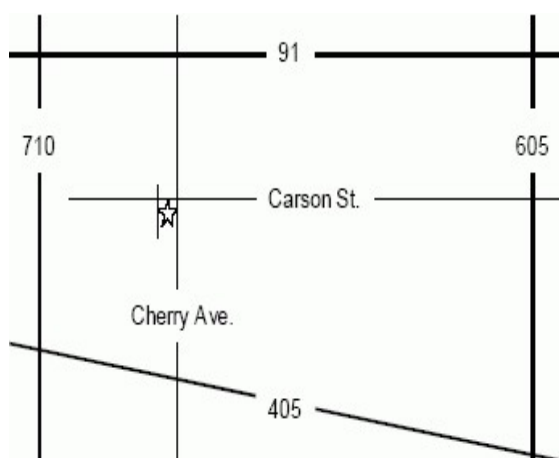
*From a Press Release datelined San Francisco, CA May 2, 2012.*



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Sunday, June 3, 2:00 p.m. Immigrant Genealogical Society monthly meeting at 1310 Magnolia Blvd., Burbank. Program: “Researching Mormon Family History Center Online Records,” by Kathleen Roe Trevena

Sunday, June 17 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 42.



Wednesday, June 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: Panel Discussion about Professional Genealogists

Sunday, June 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: “Duplicating the Titanic Journey without the Iceberg,” by Jill Kirby

Saturday, July 7, 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): “What’s So Special About Special Collections?” by Denise Spurlock

## Upcoming Events

Federation of Genealogical Societies  
2012 Annual Conference  
29 August—1 September  
Birmingham-Jefferson Convention Complex  
2100 Richard Arrington Jr. Blvd. North  
Birmingham, Alabama

This year’s theme is “Indians, Squatters, Settlers and Soldiers In The Old Southwest.”

You can register online at [www.fgs.org](http://www.fgs.org) or mail your completed form and payment to FGS/AGS 2012 Conference, PO Box 200940, Austin, TX 78720-0940. The e-mail address is [office@fgs.org](mailto:office@fgs.org). Early registration for the full conference is \$195 before 1 July.

A complimentary program syllabus that can be downloaded is provided with each registration. A printed syllabus costs \$30.

Ancestry.com will provide 15-minute sessions for attendees to have their family photos and documents scanned for free on their professional scanning equipment. Full details on all lectures, exhibits, and planned events are available at the website above, or pick up a brochure at our meeting.

\*FHC stands for Family History Center of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints. FHCs are open and 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. 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.