



QUESTING HEIRS GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY *Newsletter*

Volume 45 + Number 7 + July 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, JULY 15, 2012

1:15	Class	INTERMEDIATE: Finding Images to Tell the Story of Your Ancestor, by Gena Philibert-Ortega
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2:00	Business
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2:15	Break	Time for chatting, browsing, and refreshments
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2:45	General Meeting	SPEAKER: Gena Philibert-Ortega Using Google for your Genealogy
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4:00	Class	BEGINNING: Led by Linda Ivers
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JULY MEETING

INTERMEDIATE CLASS

Finding Images to Tell the Story of
Your Ancestor

Didn't inherit the family photo album? That's ok, neither did I. A world of images exists on the Internet and in special collections that can help you tell the story of your ancestor. We will explore different types of websites, including those that have photograph collections, maps and postcards.

MAIN PRESENTATION

Using Google for your Genealogy

Sure Google is a great search engine, but do you know all the ways it can be used to research, document, share and enhance your genealogy? Join us as we explore services such as Google Books, Google Scholar, Google Docs, Google Maps and, of course, Google the search engine.

SPEAKER:

GENA PHILIBERT-ORTEGA

Our speaker holds Master's degrees in Interdisciplinary Studies (Psychology and Women's Studies) and in Religion. Presenting on various subjects involving genealogy, women's studies and social history, Gena has spoken to groups throughout the United States. She is the author of hundreds of articles published in genealogy newsletters and magazines, and her writings can also be found on her blogs (Gena's Genealogy and Food. Family.Ephemera). She is the editor of the Utah Genealogical Association's journal *Crossroads*. An instructor for the National Institute for Genealogical Studies, Gena has written courses about social media and Google. She serves as Vice President for the Southern California Chapter of the Association of Professional Genealogists, as a Director for the California State Genealogical Alliance, and as a board member of the Utah Genealogical Association. Her current research interests include women's social history, community cookbooks, signature quilts and researching women's lives using material artifacts.

REFRESHMENTS

Penny NUGENT (562) 290-0416

Thanks to our June hosts:

Kathy AKAU Red COLLINS
Penny NUGENT Connie WILLIAMS

Our July hosts will be:

Kathy AKAU Marilyn BRASHER
Cynthia DAY-ELLIOTT Jeanette JONES

MEMBERSHIP REPORT

Terry HAMILTON (562) 596-9382

MAY MEETING ATTENDANCE

Members: 26 Guests: 2

FINANCIAL REPORT

David WERTS (562) 431-7790

May Income:	\$ 80.17
May Expenses:	\$ 271.49
F&M Bank balance:	\$ 3,787.03
Operations balance:	\$ 69.01
Special Projects balance:	\$ 3,718.02

**Submissions for the
August Newsletter
are due by July 22.**

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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.

HOW TO TRAVEL IN TIME

QH member Linda Ivers discussed the methodology of genealogy research, which she thinks of as traveling in time.

Start with yourself and your family; then work backwards in time. Using pedigree charts and family group sheets, fill in the information you know and what you find as you research.

You'll find on a pedigree chart that if you are No. 1, your father will be No. 2, his father No. 4, and his father No. 8. The numbers on your mother's side also double. She is No. 3, her father is No. 6, his father No. 12. When you reach the right side of the chart, No. 8's line will continue on chart 2, No. 9's on chart 3, and so forth.

Fill in a family group sheet for each married couple. Only basic stats are recorded on the front, but you can make notes on the back of other information: schools attended, occupations, nicknames, military service, stories, etc.

Then take stock to see what information is missing, and prioritize the records you need to search to fill in those blanks. Talk to older family members, and copy any family documents or photos other family members may have. You'll also find that more and more states are putting their birth, marriage, and death records online.

On the internet you can also look for other helpful databases, such as those containing family histories and genealogies, county histories, city directories, census records, etc. Cyndi's List can help you find them.

FamilySearch.org provides free access to data as well as "how to" articles, a Wiki, and a free genealogy program you can download (PAF or Personal Ancestral File). RootsWeb is free and also parts of Ancestry.com.

Remember to:

Document all facts you find;

Organize your records in a way that is simple, consistent, convenient, accessible, and safe;

Share your findings with family members.

Then decide on your next research goal!

CONQUERING THE PAPER MONSTER

Congratulations are due to our guest speaker, Elyse Doerflinger, who has just received a \$500 award as a recipient of the Suzanne Winsor Freeman Memorial Student Genealogy Grant. This money is awarded to students to assist them in pursuing their genealogy goals and was given to Elyse at the SCGS Jamboree.

In her presentation at our June meeting, Elyse suggested that the first thing you have to do in order to conquer the paper monster is to admit that you have an organization problem—no need to feel guilty or make excuses about it.

Create a plan. You will need to find a place to store forms, photocopies and printouts from books and websites, letters and emails with genealogy information, and original records. The plan should work for you.

Some people prefer to use binders stored in bookcases. She recommends using binders no larger than 2" for portability, and using page protectors that have the holes on the left side so you don't have to punch holes in your papers. Some people prefer to use hanging folders in file drawers. These folders hold different sizes of papers, are easily portable, and are flexible and expandable.

Put your papers into piles based on how you think of your ancestors: by surname, location, or record type. Then subdivide the piles by individuals, or couples, or smaller geographic areas or different record types. In order not to feel overwhelmed, break big tasks into smaller ones, schedule time to organize, and reward yourself for progress along the way.

You'll have to go out and buy supplies. She suggests buying good quality products that last longer. Archival supplies will prolong the life of your papers. Label everything.

Once you've got your collection organized, schedule time for catching up on your filing; and have a backup plan. Scan documents into your computer in a computer filing system and then back up the computer files. Organization requires Dedication, Commitment, and Persistence.

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

I am now the proud owner of an iPad. It has been a mixed blessing. I don't have a laptop computer or an iPod. With an iPad I can now sit at the table in my family room, or go absolutely anywhere with my iPad, and listen to information about how to develop my genealogical research skills and hear some very interesting genealogical research stories. This is via the "Land of Podcasts." At this point I am only concentrating on audio—not video. Podcasts have just become another facet of my genealogical addiction. Of course, I could have previously been downloading them onto my computer, but I would have spent the rest of my life in my office in the back of my house listening to them. I have managed to avoid that.

A podcast is a multimedia digital file made available on the internet for downloading to a portable media player, such as a computer or iPod or iPad. About the time that I got my iPad I was reading in Dick Eastman's free newsletter (which I read very faithfully on the internet). Eastman has all the up-to-date genealogical news, as well as some interesting human interest stories. The particular article that really caught my attention was about the GeneaBlogger radio show. Eastman had written before about the show, but this time I was more alert when the word "podcast" was referred to. At this point I knew I wanted to download some genealogical podcasts to my iPad. Thomas MacEntee (a genealogist who is an expert in the field of technology and social media that is used to improve genealogical research) had over 60 previous radio shows in the form of free podcasts ready to download. MacEntee was the M.C. of a radio show called Geneabloggers. I have now downloaded about twenty shows—each one a podcast. I have listened to about five shows so far. They have been very interesting and informative.

To feed my addiction further and see what other podcasts were available, I went to Cyndi's List on the internet. There I went to her category of Podcasts, which led me to Podcasts for Genealogy, which contained nine

separate listings—all free. Most of these listings could be downloaded from iTunes, or some could be downloaded right from the list itself. What a wealth of material! I am hoping that all of you take advantage of these free podcasts, either on your computer or iPod or iPad. This supplemental material will aid you greatly in developing your genealogical research skills.

J.J.

NOTICE

It will soon be seven years since yours truly became the Editor of the *Questing Heirs Newsletter*. With the recent passage of the amendments to the Society's Bylaws, my current term as a Director at Large will end this December 31. I do not plan to run again for this office and would like to find a replacement for the position of Editor.

Nowadays one does need to be able to produce the newsletter on a computer, but you don't have to be a computer whiz to do it. I will be happy to help anyone get started with the job; so the sooner someone steps forward, the smoother the transition can be.

If you are interested in this position, please contact me or our President.

Linda Artuso





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RACIAL CLASSIFICATIONS REFLECT TIMES
by Sharon Tate Moody

Racial classification is an emotional issue for many Americans. A study of censuses over time shows that these records reflect society's attitudes and do little to clarify issues for those of mixed racial ethnicity.

In the first census (1790), the head of the household was the only person listed by name. Everyone else—whites and free persons of color—was numerated according to age and sex but without names.

In the next two censuses (1800 to 1810), whites were individually counted in various age and sex categories, but free persons of color were all counted as a group. A household that consisted of 10 free persons of color would not list them by age and sex but simply as a household of 10 persons.

From 1820 to 1840, free persons of color were listed with age and sex categories.

In 1850 and 1860, individuals within households were listed by name showing the age, race and sex of each. Race was to be distinguished as white, black (free, not slaves) or mulatto (free, not slaves). The term "mulatto" was not defined in the instructions. Slaves were listed in a separate slave schedule by age and sex under their masters' names. No slave names were given.

Congress in 1850 and 1860 told census takers they could leave the "race" column blank if the individual was a white person. But in 1870, instructions specifically said "it must not be assumed that where nothing is written in this column white is to be understood. The column must be filled."

The government also cautioned census takers to "be particularly careful" in reporting the mulatto class. "The word here is generic—includes quadroon, octoroon, and all persons having any perceptible trace of African blood." The terms quadroon and octoroon were not defined.

In 1880, the government wanted to know whether citizens were white, black, mulatto,

quadroon, octoroon, Chinese, Japanese or American Indian. It cautioned enumerators to be "particularly careful to distinguish between blacks, mulattoes, quadroons or octoroons" and defined the terms. It said that the word "black" meant those with three-quarters or more black blood, mulatto was from three-eighths to five-eighths black blood; quadroon was one-quarter black blood and octoroon was one-eighth or any trace of black blood.

I would suspect that a large portion of the population had no clue how to determine fractional blood. Using the ancestry.com census search engine for a test supports my suspicions.

That tool allows a search strictly on "race." I inquired about quadroons and octoroons and got no individuals so classified. But I got 1,016,233 individuals classified as mulatto and 5,571,769 as black. So about all we can believe is that individuals were listed as 100 percent black, 100 percent white, or as mulatto if they looked or said they were of mixed race.

The government also must have seen the futile attempt to determine degree of blackness, because in 1900, race was restricted to "White, Black (for Negro or Negro descent); Chinese, Japanese and [American] Indian."

In 1910 and 1920 races were white, black, mulatto, Chinese, Japanese and [American] Indian. Anyone who did not fall into one of those classifications was listed as "other." Black included all those of full-blooded Negro descent, and mulatto included all other persons having some proportion or "perceptible trace of Negro blood."

In 1930, a person of white/black mixed blood was to be returned as Negro no matter how small the percentage of Negro blood. A white and Indian mix was to be returned as Indian, unless the Indian blood was "very small" and the person was regarded as white in the community.

Continued on page 55



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REGIONAL DATABASES

<http://sddigitalarchives.contentdm.oclc.org/cdm>

The South Dakota Digital Archives is making the collections of the South Dakota State Archives available and searchable online. The government and manuscript collections are being digitized and cataloged by staff archivists and include items such as publications, brochures and audio files. The largest collection, however, consists of photographs.

www.genealogyandfamilyhistory.com/?p=812

If you have Swedish ancestry, you will be interested in the above website. It will take you to an article on Swedish genealogy research written by Jill Seaholm who is Swedish and works at the Swenson Swedish Immigration Research Center located at Augustana College in Rock Island, Illinois.

<http://www.detroitpubliclibrary.org/wayne-county-death-record-index>

This database indexes original death records held at the Burton Historical Collection. The records are for deaths that occurred in Wayne County, but not the City of Detroit. You can search in four time periods between 1934 and 1953. To order a complete death record, you have to print a form online, then mail it in with \$15.00.

CIVIL WAR WIDOWS' PENSIONS

"A team of more than 60 volunteers led by professional staff at the National Archives has crossed the 100,000 mark in a project to digitize Civil War widows' pension files...

"The files are an astonishing compendium of Civil War history. Testimony in these files from fellow soldiers, widows, children, siblings and bereaved parents describe their deceased comrades, husbands, brothers and sons and often the circumstances in which they died. The effect of the war on family members left behind is also brought to light in great detail.

"Volunteers are painstakingly preparing the documents for digitization while creating a

searchable index. The index and images are available at www.Fold3.com, a research website in partnership with the National Archives. A second partner, FamilySearch, provides volunteers who create the digital images."

From a National Archives Press Release dated 27 Apr 2012.

WHAT WAS YOUR ANCESTOR'S PROPERTY WORTH?

"Genealogists often find references to money in old deeds and other documents. Even U.S. census records frequently recorded estimates of a person's real estate. The natural question is, "I wonder what that would equal in today's dollars?" There is a Web site that can answer this question.

"S. Morgan Friedman's *Inflation Calculator* can convert a U.S. dollar amount for any year from 1800 through 2010 into the equivalent amount, adjusted for inflation, in any other year of that range. In other words, if you find that your ancestor purchased land for \$400 in 1805, the *Inflation Calculator* will tell you that the money he spent is equivalent to a purchase of \$5,735.65 in 2010.

"The *Inflation Calculator* only goes up to the year 2010, the last year for which inflation statistics are available. This should be sufficient for genealogy purposes. The pre-1975 data comes from the Consumer Price Index statistics published in the Historical Statistics of the United States (USGPO, 1975). All data since then is from the annual Statistical Abstracts of the United States. You can access the *Inflation Calculator* at: <http://www.westegg.com/inflation>.

"Canadians will find a similar *Inflation Calculator* for the years 1914 through 2012 at the Bank of Canada's Web pages at: <http://www.bankofcanada.ca/rates/related/inflation-calculator>."

This article appeared in Eastman's Online Genealogy Newsletter of 3 Jun 2012, copyright by Richard W. Eastman. It is republished here with the permission of the author. The newsletter is available at <http://www.eogn.com>.

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ARLINGTON NATIONAL CEMETERY

This update on improvements at Arlington National Cemetery appeared at <http://www.firstcoastnews.com> on 7 Jun 2012.

“The system is a first for any federal cemetery and more accurate and up-to-date than anything in the private sector. It is a byproduct of Arlington’s effort to move on from a mismanagement scandal that broke two years ago. An Army Inspector General investigation reported double-booked grave sites, graves with no headstones, unidentified urns dumped in a mass grave and millions of dollars wasted on information management systems that were ordered but never delivered or installed.

“The modernization covers new equipment and procedures for everything from taking phone calls to burials and included a still-ongoing review of the 259,978 grave sites and urn niches.

“A high-tech system combines aerial photographic maps with digitized records to keep track of urns and grave sites, schedule an average of 27 burials a day, plan procession routes and other events, and give the public access to photos and maps with 3-inch accuracy for each of more than 300,000 individuals buried at Arlington.”

SORENSEN MOLECULAR

Those of you who may have taken DNA tests with Sorenson in the past will be interested in this reply from the Foundation that Steven Perkins posted on his blog on 2 Jun 2012.

“Yes, the databases have been transferred to Ancestry.com. GeneTree will not be continuing; they have stopped taking orders and in the near future www.genetree.com will be taken down. There are not plans to automatically ‘convert’ GeneTree accounts into Ancestry.com accounts, so GeneTree customers will need to move their information over to Ancestry on an individual basis.

“As far as the autosomal database is concerned, our autosomal tests were generated with older technology, making them incompatible with current industry standards.

Therefore, they are not included in the autosomal service offered by AncestryDNA. We also don’t plan on making them available via smgf.org.”

Steve added that the Y-DNA and mtDNA databases are still available at the SMGF site; and if you have tested there, you may want to download your results and matches. It was also his understanding that people will be able to remove their results from the Ancestry.com databases if they so desire.

ANCESTRAL FOODS

This month’s guest speaker, Gena Philibert Ortega, has published a new book titled *From the Family Kitchen: Discover Your Food Heritage and Preserve Favorite Recipes*.

Part One explores the social history of food; Part Two helps you understand the measurements and terms used in historical recipes; and Part Three is a recipe journal where you can record your favorite family recipes.

This book is available for purchase at www.ShopFamilyTree.com or as an ebook for the Amazon Kindle or Barnes&Noble Nook.

Continued from page 53...

Someone who was part Indian and Negro was to be listed as Negro unless the Indian blood predominated and the person was generally accepted in the community as Indian.

Census takers didn’t give blood tests so this had to be a subjective determination by a single person or by the community. This suggests that the census taker should ask others in the neighborhood how they perceived individuals when the census taker himself could not determine race.

Again, this classification was very telling. Those in the community by 1930 were willing to accept someone with Indian blood as “white,” but no matter how small the percentage of Negro blood, they were not classified as white.

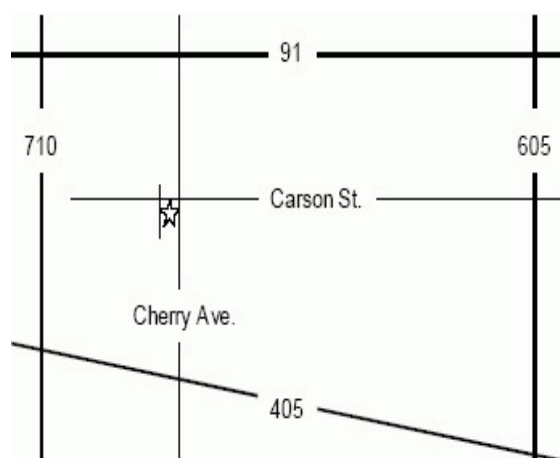
This article appeared at Tampa Bay Online (www2.tbo.com) on 29 Apr 2012 © Media General Communications Holdings, LLC.



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Sunday, July 8, 2:00 p.m. Immigrant Genealogical Society monthly meeting at 1310 Magnolia Blvd., Burbank. Program: “Recent Changes to the Family Search Webpages,” by Karl L. Weiler

Sunday, July 15 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 50.



Wednesday, July 18, 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: “Using the Internet to Track an Ancestor over Three Continents,” by Randy Seaver

Sunday, July 22, 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: “Cornwall without Tears,” by Erica Hahn

Saturday, August 4, Starting at 11:00 a.m. Orange County, California, Genealogical Society monthly meeting at the Huntington Beach Central Library, 7111 Talbert Ave., Huntington Beach. Main speaker (Rooms C&D): Dawn Thurston, “Resurrecting the Dead: Pt. 1 Moving from Data to Story; Pt. 2 Moving from Ho-Hum to Humdinger”

Upcoming Events

LONG BEACH CIVIL WAR REENACTMENT

July 21 & 22, 2012
10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

El Dorado Regional Park East
7550 E. Spring Street

Visitors can expect to see real live cannon fire, period costumes, historical figures, authentic battles (at 12:00 p.m. and 3:00 p.m. each day), meet with the soldiers in their camps, attend demonstrations and more. Civil War reenactment groups from all over California will attend.

Admission includes all events and a tour of the 400-acre park. Prices of admission are:

- Children 4 & under—Free
- Children 5-11—\$7.00
- Military with ID—\$7.00
- Adults—\$14.00
- Seniors (62+)—\$12.00

For a complete schedule, go to: <http://goldcoastfestivals.com>, or you can also get more information by calling Gold Coast Festivals at 805-496-6036.

*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.