

QUESTING HEIRS GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY *Newsletter*

Volume 40, † Number 12 † December 2007

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, DECEMBER 16, 2007



*Join with your Questing Heirs friends to celebrate
the holidays at our Annual Potluck Dinner
and Installation of Officers.*

See pages 90 and 92 for details.

IN THIS ISSUE

<i>Reports</i>	90
<i>"Along Those Lines..." by George G. Morgan</i>	91
<i>Questing Heirs News & Genealogy and Christmas</i>	92
<i>Sources</i>	93
<i>Of Interest</i>	94
<i>On the Web</i>	95
<i>Calendar</i>	96

DECEMBER MEETING

THRIVING ON DIVERSITY

More diversity just means we have more to share! Join us on December 16 for a celebration of our roots. Our ancestors came from all over the world. They spoke many languages. As genealogists, we have the privilege of discovering and exploring the many cultures of our ancestors. Have you ever visited one of your ancestral villages? Brought back souvenirs to remind you where your ancestors came from? Learned a new language in order to pursue your research? Cooked some of the traditional foods of your ancestors? Tracked down relatives in a foreign country? If so, tell us about your experiences!

MEMBERSHIP REPORT
Sally DAVIS (562) 429-7803

NOVEMBER MEETING ATTENDANCE

Members: 32 Guests: 1

NEW MEMBERS - None

RENEWALS

Jeri EVERETT	Individual	9/08
Yvonne FOSTER	Individual	9/08
Terry GILLES	Individual	9/08
Sandra HOLLANDSWORTH	Individual	9/08
Nancy PERLATE	Individual	9/08

FINANCIAL REPORT
David WERTS (562) 431-7790

October Income	\$ 613.62
October Expenses	\$ 285.18
Operating Balance	\$3,931.99

NOTE: Submissions for the January 2008 Newsletter are due by December 23, 2007.

REFRESHMENTS
Georgie (Peterson) LYONS (562) 432-4908

Thanks to our November hosts:

Cynthia DAY-ELLIOTT Jeri EVERETT
Sandra HOLLANDSWORTH Liz MYERS

For our December Potluck, the main course and beverages will be supplied, but we would appreciate it if those who attend could bring other food items according to the alphabetical plan outlined below.

- Surnames A-F – Hors d’oeuvres, relishes, rolls
- Surnames G-L – Dessert
- Surnames M-R – Salad
- Surnames S-Z – A hot dish (potatoes, vegetables, or a casserole)

We could also use a couple men to come an hour or so early to help set up the tables! Thanks.

*Merry
Christmas
to All!*

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This newsletter is published monthly as a benefit for members of Questing Heirs; it is not meant to be sold. Those who are unable to attend our meetings but wish to subscribe to the newsletter may purchase a newsletter-only membership for \$12.00 a year. To join, please use the membership application on the outer cover of this newsletter.

“ALONG THOSE LINES...” by GEORGE G. MORGAN

Look to the Other Side of the Pond

It's easy to get lost in the trap of simply looking at or for “the other side of the pond.” The desire to trace our ancestors back to the place of origin is one of the primary motivations for family history researchers.

Your search will include a wide variety of media, ranging from traditional paper documents to microform to digitized images in online databases and on the Internet. Diligence and patience are the major tools you will require, along with an understanding of what is available and where to look.

You have to understand that for each migration there were forces responsible for the “push” and the “pull” of immigration to a new location. Personal circumstances, historical events, social and financial influences, and natural disasters are all causes for our ancestors' decisions to migrate.

These were the driving forces—the “push”—that compelled them to abandon the familiar in search for something different. Yet not everyone migrated of their own volition. Here are some reasons for migrating:

- Religious or ethnic persecution
- Natural disasters
- Famine
- Economic problems
- War or impressed military service
- Political strife/turmoil/oppression
- Following family and friends
- Adoption
- Slavery-forced relocation/resettlement
- Criminal incarceration/deportment
- Not a first son
- Great financial opportunity

Other reasons for migration could include the desire to reunite with family members who lived in or had previously migrated to another location—or maybe even to escape from other relatives and family members. A father may even have banished a son for some misdeed.

Another reason to migrate might have been to serve in a military operation, as did thousands of European men who flocked to America to serve as mercenaries in the American Revolution and the U.S. Civil War.

Remember too that migration was sometimes done in multiple steps. The Pilgrims first immigrated to the Netherlands and became more organized as a community before sailing to America. Our ancestors likewise may have immigrated to Canada because the ship's passage was less expensive to Halifax than to Philadelphia, and then moved south into the United States at a later date. It is important to study the history of both the place of departure and the destination in order to better understand the rationale behind your ancestors' decisions to move.

All of these and more are reasons to make the move. However, you also must consider the draw to a new place. Historical and social timelines can often reveal details you may never have expected.

I sometimes just use an Internet search engine and type in either the word “timeline” or “history” (or both) and the name of the country, region, state, or province I'm researching. The search results often give me a great overview or specific details to help put my ancestors into perspective. Try it yourself and see what you find.

Put yourself in your ancestors' shoes. There are great advantages to studying the geography, history, sociology, and anecdotal materials about the areas from which your ancestors emigrated and the places to which they immigrated. The perspectives you gain are immeasurable.

**Happy Hunting!
George**

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QUESTING HEIRS NEWS

NEW BYLAWS

Members attending our November meeting unanimously approved the changes proposed to update the society's Bylaws, copies of which were included with your October Newsletter. The new Bylaws will soon be posted on our website at <http://www.qhgs.info>.

NEW OFFICERS

Also at the November meeting, members approved the slate of officers as presented by the Nominating Committee at our October meeting and required by the new Bylaws. No nominations were made from the floor; so, the following officers will be installed at our December meeting:

- First Vice President – Loran Bures
- Secretary – Sandra Hollandsworth
- Treasurer – David Werts
- Director at Large – Linda Artuso
- Director at Large – Tina Yanis
- Director at Large – Rellen Owen

The members of Questing Heirs would like to express their appreciation to all the officers for their willingness to spend the time and effort necessary to fulfill the responsibilities of their various positions. Not all genealogical societies are so fortunate.

FINANCE COMMITTEE

Treasurer, Dave Werts, is in the process of forming a Finance Committee. Its functions will be:

- ✓ To develop and make recommendations to the Board for long-range financial objectives,
- ✓ To use those objectives to guide the annual budget process, and
- ✓ To establish budget-tracking and reporting standards.

If you would like to serve on this committee, please contact Dave at the telephone number or e-mail address listed on the blue page of this newsletter or talk to him at the next meeting.

GENEALOGY AND CHRISTMAS

THE TWELVE DAYS OF CHRISTMAS (Genealogy Style)

My true love gave to me
Twelve census searches
Eleven family bibles
Ten e-mail contacts
Nine headstone rubbings
Eight wills and admons
Seven miners mining
Six second cousins
Five coats of arms
Four GEDCOM files
Three old wills
Two CD-ROMs
And a branch in my family tree.

--Author Unknown

This poem appears at <http://genealogy.about.com/library/blchristmas-twelve.htm>.



FAMILY HISTORY CHRISTMAS TREE by Betty Rose Gregory

I have had a family history Christmas tree for a number of years, and it is always interesting to hear the comments. When I did the first one, we didn't have the extra money to buy ornaments, so I used construction paper (a different color for each surname) and pasted the copies of photos on the paper. The size of the background depended on the size of picture I wanted to use, but most of them are about 2-1/4" by 3". I used a larger piece for a picture of my husband and me and placed it at the top of the tree. His ancestors are on one side of the tree and mine on the other side. When the children come for Christmas, they look to see if I have added any pictures.

A Quick Tip from The Ancestry Weekly Journal of 19 Nov 2007. Copyright © 2007. The Generations Network, Inc.

SOURCES

Books We Own: Using Other People's Personal Libraries to Find Your Family

by Jana Lloyd – Previously published in *RootsWeb Review*: 26 Sep 2007, Vol. 10, No. 39

Sometimes, amid all the links on RootsWeb's homepage, useful resources get lost. We continually tout the advantages of adding your family tree to WorldConnect, posting queries about your family on message boards, or joining a mailing list to keep updated on an area, name, or topic of interest to you. But what about some of the other resources available on RootsWeb?

This week, I'd like to highlight a very useful, but often overlooked, resource on RootsWeb: "Books We Own."

What is "Books We Own?"

Simply put, Books We Own is a list of genealogical books owned by different volunteers who are willing to do look-ups. 1,500 volunteers contribute to the project and all are willing to look up genealogical information in one or more of their family history books.

More than 1,000 surnames are represented in the books, which include family histories, town and county histories, atlases, gazetteers, directories, and more. There are books on the U.S., multiple Canadian provinces, and forty-nine other countries.

How Do I Find Out Whether There Is a Book of Interest to Me?

To find out if there is a book that might have details you're looking for about your family, click on the "Books We Own" link under "Hosted Volunteer Projects" on the RootsWeb homepage; or, go here: <http://www.rootsweb.com/~bwo/>.

Scroll to the bottom of the page where you will see a search box and a Master Index. Enter a term you are looking for or browse through the index. It is divided into regions and other categories. To find a book on a particular surname, click the "Family Genealogies" link.

How Do I Request a Look-Up?

If you find a book of interest to you, request a look-up by clicking on the link at the end of the book citation.

A form will appear where you can fill out your information, the name of the book, the surname(s) you want looked up, and any additional information that will help the volunteer in his/her search. Some but not all volunteers will provide photocopies or scans of pages. If this is the case, you will need to reimburse the volunteer for the cost of copies and postage.

A useful request will include the name of the book you want a look-up performed in, full names of the people you are looking up information for, relevant dates, and any other information that may help the volunteer distinguish your ancestor from someone else. A good sample request, taken from the "Helpful Tips" section of the site, looks like this:

Subject: BWO Look-up of Fingerhut in Ohio
Please look in your books *Early History of Coshocton County, Ohio* and *Cemeteries of Paulding County, Ohio* for John, James, Sarah and Lucinda Fingerhut who lived in Coshocton County from 1820-1850 and Paulding County from 1850-1900.

Here are a list of other helpful tips for effectively filling out a request form: <http://www.rootsweb.com/~bwo/tips.html>.

Have a Book You Want to Contribute?

If you have a book you think would be of value to others, and you would be willing to volunteer your time to do look-up requests, you can register to become a volunteer for "Books We Own" by going to the contributor's page: <http://www.rootsweb.com/~bwo/contrib2.html>.

Continued on page 94

OF INTEREST

**RESTORING THE CLOCK
FROM KNOTT'S**

by Glenn Frank

My Great-Grandfather Andrew Dreger Sr., an early resident of Anaheim, Buena Park and Long Beach, was a mechanical tinkerer and a watch-maker in his later years. He built a multi-faced town clock when he lived in Long Beach, CA, reminiscent of the fancy town clocks of Europe, with clock faces that told the solar time of cities from all around the world.

The clock spent 50 years being proudly displayed to the public at Knott's Berry Farm in Buena Park, CA...but recently was sold and removed from public view.

With the help of the Buena Park Historical Society, I am working to restore the Dreger Clock and place it in the city's historical park. The society was able to buy the clock and save it; now we are asking the community to help get it restored to its former glory.

I just thought that some of you might be interested in reading about this bit of local Southern California History that we are trying to save for the future.

<http://www.dregerclock.org>

Posted on socal@rootsweb.com 18 Nov 2007 and forwarded by former Questing Heir Pat Bowers.

CIVIL WAR UNIONISTS

by kycady

We are engaged in an on-going genealogical and historical research project focused on the Civil War Unionists of Alabama. Two volumes are completed, a third is soon to be released, and nine more volumes are planned. Family Indexes to the first two volumes can be searched at <http://www.civilwarunionistsofalabama.com>.

Our research has shown that many of the Alabama Unionists originated in Tennessee or migrated there both during and after the Civil War.

If you have genealogical data, local history, photographs, etc., related to the subject, we would like to hear from you at jsmbooks@comcast.net...

Gatewayered to the TNHAMBLE-L@rootsweb.com mailing list, 16 Nov 2007.

**WHO GETS GRANDMA'S
YELLOW PIE PLATE?**

Have you thought about who you want to leave your non-titled personal property to? "Almost everyone has personal belongings such as wedding photographs, a baseball glove, or a yellow pie plate that contain meaning for them and for other members of their family," says Marlene S. Stum, Ph.D. She explains the importance of planning ahead for the distribution of such possessions for your own peace of mind and to prevent hurt feelings among family members later. For ideas, visit this website:

<http://yellowpieplace.unmn.edu>



Books We Own

Continued from page 93

Make sure to read all the instructions for contributors. You will want to pay special attention to the copyright laws. If your book was published before 1923, you can freely transcribe or photocopy from it. If it was published after 1923, you will only be able to say whether you found an individual in the book and provide brief excerpts of it, unless you have permission from the author or publisher or the book contains a copyright-waiver clause.

And the Moral of the Story Is...

"Books We Own" is one of many great services provided by RootsWeb volunteers. It breaks down research barriers and allows us all to enlarge our genealogical libraries. Take a few minutes to browse the library of available books and see if any are of interest to you; or, choose to give back by listing your own book and making your resources available to us all.

ON THE WEB

LOS ANGELES DIRECTORIES

The Los Angeles Public Library has a new online database which may be of interest to the readers of the *Questing Heirs Genealogical Society Newsletter*.

Selected years of the Los Angeles City Directories and Los Angeles Street Address Directories are now available on the Los Angeles Public Library's web site. The digitization project was completed with a generous grant from the John Randolph Haynes and Dora Haynes Foundation. The database can be found by going to the library's home page at <http://www.lapl.org>. Once there, click on Library Resources at the top of the left-hand column. Then click on Regional History Resources. Here, under the section labeled The Databases, you will find the words Los Angeles City and Street Directories. Click on the hypertext link to get to the database. Alternatively, you can get to Regional History Resources directly at: <http://www.lapl.org/resources/en/index/html>.

When you first go to the database, be sure to click on and read the section labeled Information on the Directories. Some of the street address directories are arranged by Telephone Exchange Service Areas which is explained in this information section. The Printing Suggestions section should be read as well.

The city directories included are 1929, 1936, 1938, 1939 and 1942 (the last city directory published for Los Angeles). The street address directories cover May 1956, March 1960, October 1961, July 1962, July 1963, April 1964, April 1965, July 1965, April 1967, April 1968, January 1969, July 1973, and July 1987.

Michael Kirley
Genealogy Librarian
Los Angeles Public Library
630 West Fifth Street
Los Angeles, CA 90071

UK NEWSPAPERS ONLINE

The Guardian and Observer Digital Archive

“This archive will eventually contain the digital reproduction of every page, article and advert published in the *Guardian* (since 1821) and the *Observer* (since 1791—the oldest Sunday paper in the world). For this launch the archive covers the period of 1821-1975 for the *Guardian* and 1900-1975 for the *Observer* as we are still working on digitising the remaining material. From early 2008 onwards the entire archive up to 2003 will be available—more than 1.2m pages covering all major historic events over 212 years as reported at the time.

“This is the first time a UK national newspaper's print archive has been available through its website. Previously, the only way to explore newspaper archives was by laboriously searching newsprint pages, stored on microfilm and in bound copies. Our ambitious digitisation project involved scanning every page from microfilm, segmenting each page into article clippings and then making them searchable.

“As a result you are now able to search, browse, save and print articles and adverts from the Digital Archive. Searching is free of charge. However, if you want to view in full or print out material, you will need to subscribe to a timed access pass. We offer 24 hours, three days or a month. During the purchased time periods you will be able to search and print as much as you like—there are no restrictions on downloads...”

For more information, visit the Archive at <http://archive.guardian.co.uk>.

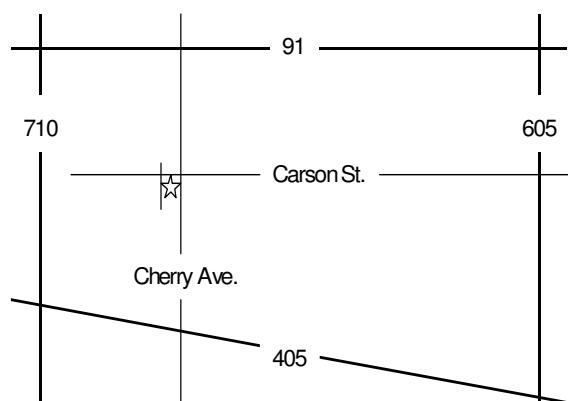
GEORGIA DEATHS

In October the Georgia Archives added Death Certificates from 1919 through 1927 to their online collection, the Genealogical Society of Utah having partnered with them in scanning and indexing the records. Users may download the images for personal or educational use. The collection can be searched at <http://content.sos.state.ga.us/cdm4/gadeaths.php>.

CALENDAR

Sunday, December 9, 2:00 p.m. Immigrant Genealogical Society monthly meeting, 1310 W. Magnolia Blvd., Burbank. Program: Jean Wilcox Hibben “Byproducts of Battle: War Inspired Christmas Songs & Their Stories.”

Sunday, December 16, 1:15–3:30 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 90.



Saturday, January 5, 2008, 11:00 a.m. Orange County, California, Genealogical Society monthly meeting at Huntington Beach Central Library, 7111 Talbert Ave., Huntington Beach. Main speaker (Rooms C&D): Beth McCarty, “Effective Use of LDS Family History Centers—Including New Databases Available.”

* * * *

Celebrate the happiness that friends are always giving, make every day a holiday and celebrate just living!

Amanda Bradley quotes on Thinkexist.com

**BIFHS-USA
20th Annual Seminar**

August 7-9, 2008
Queen Mary Hotel
1126 Queen’s Highway, Long Beach

“Sail Into Your Past Aboard the Queen Mary”

Speakers will be:

- Nancy Lee Bier (Scots-Irish)
- Michael Gandy (England)
- Linda Thompson Jonas (Colonial & DNA)
- Annie Lloyd (Welsh)
- Fintan Mullan (Irish)
- Judith Eccles Wight (Scotland)

The schedule calls for 14 lectures in five time slots on Thursday 8/7 and 12 lectures in each of four time slots on Friday 8/8 and Saturday 8/9. Vendors’ tables will be located in the Windsor Salon.

For more detailed information, a Registration Form, or to register online, you can go to: <http://www.rootsweb.com/~bifhsusa/seminar>. If you have questions, you can contact:

Lydia Jeffrey (626) 359-1729 or
Sharon Pyrdeck (909) 621-3366

*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 Regional FHC are Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday, 10 am to 9 pm, and Friday and Saturday 9 am to 5 pm. The LARFHC 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.larfhc.org>> provides details of their extensive collection. There are smaller FHCs locally, 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. It is advisable to call ahead to the local centers, as their hours may change from time to time.