

# QUESTING HEIRS GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY *Newsletter*

Volume 41 ✦ Number 11 ✦ November 2008

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 16, 2008**

<b>12:30</b>	<b>Class Period</b>	<b>BASIC: No Beginning Class this month.</b>
<b>1:15</b>		<b>INTERMEDIATE: "Newspaper Research" presented by Liz Myers</b>
<b>2:00</b>	<b>Break</b>	<b>Time for chatting, browsing, and refreshments</b>
<b>2:15</b>	<b>Business</b>	<b>Amendment to Bylaws and Election of Officers See page 84 for details.</b>
<b>2:30</b>	<b>General Meeting</b>	<b>SPEAKER: Colleen Fitzpatrick, Ph.D. Investigating a Dead Horse and More: Forensic Photo Analysis</b>

## *IN THIS ISSUE*

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**NOVEMBER MEETING**

**INTERMEDIATE CLASS**  
**Newspaper Research**

Liz Myers will explain the whys and wherefors of conducting research in newspapers.

**SPEAKER: COLLEEN FITZPATRICK**

Colleen Fitzpatrick, Ph.D., is the author of two of the best-selling books in genealogy. *Forensic Genealogy* has been widely recognized for its innovative forensic science approach to genealogical research. She has been featured on NPR's Talk of the Nation radio program (July 2005) and has written cover articles for *Internet Genealogy* (June 2006), *Family Tree Magazine* (April 2006) and *Family Chronicle* (October 2005). Colleen writes a regular column for *Ancestry* magazine.

*DNA & Genealogy* was commissioned by Family Tree DNA for its Second Conference on Genetic Genealogy in November 2005 and has been called by readers "the ideal handbook for anyone starting out in genealogy using the DNA tools available" and "the book to get for someone starting or running a surname project." Colleen consults with television and documentary production companies on *Forensic Genealogy* and *DNA & Genealogy*.

Colleen's day job is as a recognized expert in high resolution optical measurement techniques, with many years' experience working for NASA and the National Science Foundation. But, in *Forensic Genealogy* and *DNA & Genealogy*, Colleen shows that you don't have to be a rocket scientist to get the most from your genealogical materials.

**PROGRAM**  
**Forensic Photo Analysis**

Colleen's presentation will be based on her newest book, *The Dead Horse Investigation: Forensic Photo Analysis for Everyone*, which was published earlier this year. She will be available to autograph any of her books after her presentation.

**NOTE: Submissions for the December 2008 Newsletter are due by November 23, 2008.**

**MEMBERSHIP REPORT**  
**Sally DAVIS (562) 429-7803**

OCTOBER MEETING ATTENDANCE  
Members: 41    Guests: 0  
RENEWALS  
Please see page 85 for the list of Renewals.

**FINANCIAL REPORT**  
**David WERTS (562) 431-7790**

September Income	\$1,051.41
September Expenses	\$ 410.04
Operations Balance	\$1,925.11

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

Thanks to our October hosts:  
Laurie ANGEL    Tricia BURES  
Frena DOMINGUEZ    Barbara LOURTIE  
Our November hosts will be:  
Sally DAVIS    Cynthia DAY- ELLIOTT  
Cheryl TARDIF    Connie WILLIAMS

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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.*

## CLIMBING YOUR FAMILY TREE

### Your DNA Autobiography – Part 1 Colleen Fitzpatrick, PhD

Genealogists are familiar with the value of reference materials such as biographies and online databases. A will or probate record, for example, can provide detailed information that is important in researching a family tree. However, written records are not always accurate. Census records can contain misspelled names, mistaken family relationships and wrong ages.

DNA is a relatively new tool for genealogists. A DNA test can tell you if two people are related, and provide an estimate of how far in the past their common ancestor lived. It cannot tell the exact relationship, or the name of that common ancestor. However, DNA is never “wrong”, so that it can be used to confirm information provided by written materials. DNA and written documentation complement each other very well.

But just what *is* DNA?

DNA is the *biochemical* equivalent of your autobiography. If someone reads your autobiography, he will know all about your life. In analogy, if someone could “read” your DNA, he’d know all about your *biochemistry*.

A book is written using symbols we call letters of the alphabet. In English, there are 26 letters that are grouped together in words to convey meaning. DNA is composed of four letters of a biochemical alphabet known as adeline (A), guanine (G), thymine (T) and cytosine (C). The letters of this bio-alphabet are actually large molecules that combine to form words that convey meaning in a biochemical sense.

Just as an autobiography may be divided into sections called chapters, DNA is divided into sections called “chromosomes”. And just as each chapter tells a different part

of your life story, each chromosome tells a part of your biochemical story.

The analogy between a book and DNA breaks down here. If a typo appears in a chapter, a reader will usually not be prevented from making sense out of the text. A book need have only one copy of each chapter. But a typo or mutation in a chromosome can be fatal to an organism. Fortunately, chromosomes come in pairs, so that if there is a mutation in one member of the pair that endangers the well-being of the organism, it has a second chance for survival if the other chromosome of the pair is healthy.

Mutations can be useful to genealogists, however. When a book is copied, either by hand or by retyping it with a typewriter or into a word processor, copy-errors are made. Likewise, when a cell divides and DNA must copy itself so that the two daughter cells each has her own copy of the genome, a typo might occur causing a copy to differ from the original. Fortunately, just as the spell-check of a word processor corrects most of the typos in a text, DNA has a biochemical “spell-check” that compares the copied DNA with the original, and in most cases repairs any mutations.

However, spell-checkers are not foolproof, and sometimes typos do make it into the copied version of a text. For example, a spell-checker will not catch the use of *block* in the place of *black*. If a mistake is left uncorrected, it will be present in any future copies of the manuscript.

Part 2 next time.

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**QUESTING HEIRS NEWS**

**ARTICLE IV. MEMBERS**

**SECTION 1. DETERMINATION AND RIGHTS OF MEMBERS**

The Society shall have ~~three (3)~~ five (5) classes of members, as follows:

- (A) Active – The active member shall pay full dues as specified and shall be eligible to full privileges of the Society.
- (B) Family – Family memberships are open to two (2) persons residing at the same address. This class of member shall have all privileges of the Society, except they shall receive only one (1) copy of the Society’s publications. The second member in this classification shall pay one-half (1/2) of the active member dues.
- (C) Life – The life member shall pay twenty-four (24) times the active member dues over a twelve (12) month period, with no further liability for the payment of dues, and shall be eligible to full privileges of the Society.
- (D) Family Life – Family life memberships are open to two (2) persons residing at the same address. This class of member shall have all privileges of the Society, except they shall receive only one (1) copy of the Society’s publications. The second member in this classification shall pay twelve (12) times the active member dues over a twelve (12) month period, with no further liability for the payment of dues.
- (E) 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.

No member shall hold more than one (1) membership in the Society. No member shall have any property, voting, or other interest in the assets or affairs of this Society except as expressly provided in these Bylaws.

**NOVEMBER ELECTIONS**

Above you will find proposed additions to our Bylaws that provide for two new membership levels: Life and Family Life. These additions will be voted on by the members attending our November meeting.

Nominating Committee Report

We are pleased to announce the slate of candidates for our annual election at the November meeting:

- President: Liz Myers
- First Vice President: Loran Bures
- Director at Large: Suzanne Boyles

We still lack a candidate for Second Vice President. This officer is in charge of membership. Our current Second Vice President, Sally Davis,

notes that keeping the membership list up to date takes only one or two hours per month. Some of the duties can be delegated or shared. Please consider volunteering for this important position! We can’t get by without a Second Vice President! Call John McCoy (562)423-4962 for more information.

John McCoy, Cynthia Day-Elliott,  
and Jeanette Jones

**HOLIDAY CELEBRATION!**

The annual Questing Heirs Holiday Party is almost here! Join us to celebrate another great year of genealogy and fellowship the afternoon of Sunday, December 21. Celebrate the fact that your shopping is done; or if not, celebrate the

*Continued on page 85*

**QUESTING HEIRS NEWS - continued**

*Holiday Celebration!.....continued from page 84*  
 fact that your fellow genealogists will surely have some ideas for those last-minute presents. Celebrate the friendships that have sustained us over so many years. Celebrate new friendships. Celebrate the new friends and new discoveries that await us in 2009.

We will have a potluck dinner, supplemented by a big ham, roast, or turkey provided by the Board of Directors. It is not too early to think about what you might want to bring. Is there a special dish that your family enjoys for festive occasions? Is there a particular dish that you always wish someone would bring to these events?

The program will include installation of our new officers. There will be time to share our favorite discoveries and research problems. There will be a slide show and music. The December newsletter will have more details about what to bring, how to help out behind the scenes, and the program.

John McCoy

**PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE**

Hello out there!

Our year is wrapping up. Can you believe that? Last year's list of things I wanted to get done in genealogy is longer for next year!!!

I was able to fly to Philadelphia and attend the FGS (Federation of Genealogical Societies) Conference and do some research. I found that my direct ancestor had a warrant out for his arrest in Bucks County, PA, in the 1700's. We could not find out why???

I also visited a couple research facilities where they would only let us bring in pencils and papers. My laptop was OK, but I couldn't use a digital camera. At least those facilities were being careful with their records.

In order to keep our membership list up to date, please let Sally Davis know what surnames and localities you're researching.

As John mentioned, we will be having election of officers at our November meeting, and they will be installed at our December party. We will be asking for a show of hands in November as to how many plan to come to our Holiday Party. If you can't make it to the meeting in November, but plan to attend the party, please let me know by phone or e-mail. That will make planning for food and table arrangements much easier.

Enjoy November!

*Liz*

**ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP RENEWALS**

Suzanne BOYLES	Sustaining	9/09
Betty Jean BRANDT	Newsletter	9/09
Loran BURES &		
Tricia BURES	Family	9/09
Cynthia DAY-ELLIOTT	Individual	9/09
Floyd FARRAR &		
Sherry LOPEZ	Family	9/09
John FOORD &		
Kathryn FOORD	Contributing	9/09
Carmen GROSS	Individual	9/09
Charles HORTON	Sustaining	9/09
John McCOY	Patron	9/09
Walton McNULTY	Sustaining	9/09
Rellen OWEN	Individual	9/09
Carole OWENS &		
Michael OWENS	Family	9/09
Susan STUDEBAKER	Individual	9/09
Tina YANIS	Individual	9/09

**UPDATE ON RALPHS REWARDS CARD**

Ralphs at [www.ralphs.com](http://www.ralphs.com) has recently become a secure website, and that means there are new procedures in place to enroll your "Rewards" card. You will now have to Sign In, providing your e-mail address and a password, when you access the site.

If you registered for the current term between 4 Aug and 22 Sep, then you don't have to do anything now, but flyers explaining in detail how to register for the first time will be available at our next meeting. If you don't have a computer, Liz Myers will help you get registered.

## METHODS

### GOOGLE ADDRESSES FOR IMAGES

A Quick Tip from Frances Lee

I would recommend searching for every ancestral address and company you come across using Google. You could find that there are photos online. I have found numerous photos of the churches my ancestors got married in or were christened in by doing this.

Sometimes you can even find photos of the houses in which they lived. To my surprise I found the farmhouse where my grandfather was born by using Google. Grander than I imagined, it is now a school. I e-mailed the school and they sent me a leaflet with photos of the original house.

Also search for places where your ancestors worked. You can often find out more about the companies or government branch your ancestors worked in, and may find photos. For instance, my grandmother told me that she had been an “overlooker” at Woolwich Arsenal during the First World War. Both her father and grandfather had also worked there. I searched for Woolwich Arsenal using Google and found pages and pages of information and photos about it. I found out that women worked there during the First World War because the men had all been called up. The girls who did this work were called “Canaries” because working with TNT turned their skin yellow. And there were photos showing the Cartridge Packing Shop where my grandmother worked, as well as the laboratory where my grandfather worked.

Another way you can obtain photos of locations you are researching is by joining a RootsWeb county mailing list for the county your ancestors lived in. Ask if anyone who lives in the area is willing to take a photo for you and e-mail it to you. One very kind man took about half a dozen photos for me because someone had once done it for him.

Or you could try writing to the addresses directly if they still exist, asking if the occupants

could send you a photo of their house. They might be more interested if you sent them a photo of your ancestor who lived there or a copy of a census showing the address with the names of the people who lived there. Of course always offer to pay for their expenses.

*From the 24/7 Family History Circle of 20 Apr 2008. Copyright © 2008. The Generations Network, Inc.*

### “LAST RESIDENCE” IS NOT ALWAYS THE LAST RESIDENCE

A Quick Tip from Susan Dakin

The Social Security Death Index is a great resource, but keep in mind that the “last residence” shown may not be where the person died—or even where he or she ever lived! This lesson was driven home recently when I needed to look up my late mother’s Social Security number. Rather than dig through my files, I did a quick search of the SSDI and was startled to find her “last residence” listed as my own city, though my mother never resided in the city or even the state. However, since I was her representative payee during her final months, my zip code was recorded as her “last residence.”

*From The Ancestry Weekly Journal of 7 Apr 2008. Copyright © 2008. The Generations Network, Inc.*

### NAMING PATTERN

A Quick Tip from Kathy Strine

When I learned of naming patterns, I found it very helpful to find the ancestors of the family. There are other patterns, but here’s one pattern I’ve noted:

- 1<sup>st</sup> son for the father’s father
- 2<sup>nd</sup> son for the wife’s father
- 3<sup>rd</sup> son for the father’s oldest brother
- 4<sup>th</sup> son for the father
- 1<sup>st</sup> daughter for the father’s mother
- 2<sup>nd</sup> daughter for the wife’s mother
- 3<sup>rd</sup> daughter for the wife’s oldest sister
- 4<sup>th</sup> daughter for the mother

*From The Ancestry Weekly Journal of 3 Mar 2008. Copyright © 2008. The Generations Network, Inc.*

## ON THE WEB

### WASHINGTON STATE DIGITAL ARCHIVES

Washington State Digital Archives contain about 74 million records, all online. People can look up marriage licenses, birth and death certificates, census data, military service, election data, property deeds and even old pictures...

“And that’s just the beginning, the first baby steps,” said State Archivist Jerry Handfield, who was in Cheney on Saturday [4 Oct 2008] for an open house of the digital archives, which are housed at Eastern Washington University.

The 74 million figure represents about 3 percent of the historic and contemporary records state officials hope to eventually put online. Washington leads other states in its digital archives, Handfield said. The center received a \$1 million Library of Congress grant to help seven other states establish their digital archives. The center is currently working with Colorado, its eighth state. Delegations from other countries also visit the center, to see how the system is set up.

On Saturday, the four-year-old center was as hushed as a library. Open house visitors spoke in low, reverent voices as they toured climate-controlled rooms filled with computer equipment. The tour also took them into the stacks, where paper archives from 11 counties are stored at 68 degrees, with 24 percent humidity...

The museum-like ambiance in the building doesn’t reflect the digital center’s true use, officials said. About 1,000 visitors log on each day to [www.digitalarchives.wa.gov](http://www.digitalarchives.wa.gov).

“We’re one of the most visited archives in the world,” said Larry Cebula, assistant digital archivist. “Yet, it’s mighty quiet in here.”

*This information was posted on Eastman’s Online Genealogy Newsletter of 6 Oct 2008. You may read the complete article at <http://blog.eogn.com>. Copyright © 2008 by Richard W. Eastman.*

### MILLENNIA CORP. ADDS eBooks

SURPRISE, Arizona – Millennia Corporation, publisher of the popular family history software Legacy Family Tree, announced today [8 Aug 2008] that it is teaming with Genealogical Publishing Company to provide broader access to popular How-To books.

In the first joint project, two significant how-to books are now available in digital format for the first time ever:

- *In Search of Your German Roots: a Complete Guide to Tracing Your Ancestors in the Germanic Areas of Europe*
- *Finding Italian Roots: The Complete Guide for Americans*

[You can purchase these books in PDF format by clicking on Software & Books at Legacy’s website: <http://www.legacyfamilytreestore.com>.]

*The above is an extract from the announcement written by Millennia Corporation that appeared on Eastman’s Online Genealogy Newsletter of 8 Aug 2008.*

### GOOGLE LIBRARY

Did you know you can create a personalized library on Google Book Search? Here’s how.

Step 1 Log in to your Google account.

If you don’t have one, you can register at: <http://www.google.com/accounts>.

Step 2 Add books to your library.

You can add a book from the Google Book Search index by clicking the ‘Add to my library’ link, or you can import a list of books.

Step 3 Customize your library by including reviews, ratings, and labels.

Step 4 Share your library with others.

Your library will be published online, so you can share it with others by passing along a direct link.

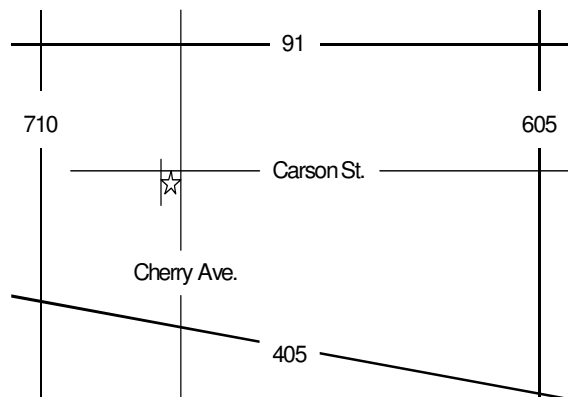
See My Library FAQ for more details.

**CALENDAR**

Saturday, November 8, Noon-4:00 p.m. Southern California Genealogical Society monthly meeting at 417 Irving Drive, Burbank. Program: An Afternoon with Barbara Renick Topics: “Making a List and Checking It Twice” & “How Computers Are Changing Genealogical Research”

Sunday, November 9, 2:00 p.m. Immigrant Genealogical Society monthly meeting at 1310 Magnolia Blvd., Burbank. Program: “North Germania—the Dutch, Flemish, etc., and the Circumstances of their Participation in the Establishment of Settlements from the Weser to the Memel” by Johannes Linning.

Sunday, November 16, 1:15–3:30 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.



Wednesday, November 19, 7:00 p.m. South Bay Cities Genealogical Society monthly meeting. Check at [sbcgs@hotmail.com](mailto:sbcgs@hotmail.com) this month for meeting place. Program: “Overcoming Brick Walls with DNA” by Cheri Mello.

For information about the 2009 Salt Lake Institute of Genealogy to be held at the Radisson Hotel Jan. 12-16, go to [www.infouga.org](http://www.infouga.org).

**WHITTIER AREA  
FAMILY HISTORY FAIR**

Presented by the LDS Whittier Stake  
and the Whittier Area Genealogical Society

Saturday, November 8, 2008  
10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.

The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints  
15265 Mulberry Drive, Whittier

Assembly (10:00-11:00) – Keynote Address by Tom Underhill on “The Forgotten Generation.”

Session I (11:00-12:00)

- A. Census Research – Nancy Carlberg
- B. Publishing a Family History Book in the Internet Age – Tom Underhill
- C. Effective Use of LDS Family History Centers – Beth McCarty

Session II (1:00-2:00)

- A. Overcoming Dead Ends – Nancy Carlberg
- B. Taking Your Photos from the Shoebox to the Digital Era – Tom Underhill
- C. After the Census, Then What? – Beth McCarty

This event is free of charge to all, and a complimentary lunch will be served.

\*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.