

QUESTING HEIRS GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY *Newsletter*

Volume 42 ✦ Number 4 ✦ April 2009

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, APRIL 19, 2009

1:15	Class	INTERMEDIATE: "Getting to Know You,"
	Period	presented by Liz Myers

2:00	Break	Time for chatting, browsing, and refreshments
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2:15	Business
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2:30	General Meeting	SPEAKER: Gerrie Schipske
		Rosie the Riveter in Long Beach

4:00	Class	BEGINNING: "Getting Started,"
		presented by Mike Powers

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APRIL MEETING

BEGINNING CLASS

Starting with our April meeting, *Questing Heirs* will once again be offering a series of basic classes to help those new to researching their family history. Even those not so new to genealogy may benefit from this survey of methods to get the most out of their research. Mike Powers has agreed to lead this class, which will start about 4:00 p.m.—after the main speaker’s presentation.

INTERMEDIATE CLASS

Getting to Know You

Come and be surprised!

SPEAKER:

GERRIE SCHIPSKE

Gerrie Schipske is the Councilwoman for the 5th Council District of Long Beach. She was elected in 2006 to a four-year term and maintains a blog to keep her constituents aware of her activities

Our speaker has also written a book, titled *Rosie the Riveter in Long Beach*, that chronicles the work of local women during World War II. Affectionately and collectively called “Rosie the Riveter” after a popular 1943 song, thousands of these women came to the U.S. Army-financed Douglas Aircraft Plant in Long Beach, the largest wartime plane manufacturer, to help produce an astonishing number of the aircraft used in the war. They riveted, welded, assembled, and installed, doing man-sized jobs, making attack bombers, other war birds, and cargo transports. They trained at Long Beach City Schools and worked 8- and 10-hour shifts in a windowless, bomb-proof plant. Their children attended Long Beach Day Nursery, and their households ran on rations and victory gardens. When the men came home after the war ended, most of these resilient women lost their jobs.

NOTE: Submissions for the May 2009 Newsletter are due by April 26, 2009.

REFRESHMENTS

Georgie (Peterson) LYONS (562) 432-4908

Thanks to our March hosts:

Frena DOMINGUEZ Terry HAMILTON
Penny NUGENT Linda RYAN

Our April hosts will be:

Marilyn BRASHER Mike OWENS
Sandy HOLLANDSWORTH Cheryl TARDIFF

MEMBERSHIP REPORT

John McCOY (562) 423-4962

MARCH MEETING ATTENDANCE

Members: 36 Guests: 3

NEW MEMBER

Renée MARTIN Individual 9/09

FINANCIAL REPORT

David WERTS (562) 431-7790

February Expenses	\$ 413.61
February Income	*\$2,060.25
Operations Balance	**\$8,305.87

*Income includes \$2,000 taken from Betty Marr’s gift, held in 2 CDs at Downey Savings.

**This amount includes the \$2,000 mentioned above and Priscilla Nielsen’s \$5,000 gift.

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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

TACKLING YOUR BRICK WALLS HEAD-ON

by Gena Pilibert Ortega

We all have them. I have them; you have them. For some, they are minor annoyances and for others the challenge might become so frustrating that they quit genealogy altogether. I will caution you that you will have some family lines that you will get stuck on and may be stuck on for long periods of time. This can happen because resources aren't available or maybe the records you need can only be found through a research trip to your ancestor's hometown. Don't get discouraged; just put that research away and tackle a different family line. Go back to that brick wall research at a later date and see if, by accessing new databases or ordering a different microfilm, you are able to find out even more information.

Field Trip

Although I believe that you should always start your research at home, via the Internet, the LDS Family History Center, and other local sources, you really may get to the point where a field trip to your ancestor's hometown is in order. Now, I realize this is not always possible; but if you can and you have exhausted most of your resources, a field trip might be in order.

If you absolutely can't travel anytime in the near future, then consider hiring an on-site genealogist for a certain number of hours; contact a local genealogy society; or consult an online help source like Random Acts of Genealogical Kindness at <http://www.raogk.org/>. Also, make sure that you post messages to Rootsweb message boards, <http://rootsweb.com/>, for the surname you are researching and the locality. I have found that in some cases, local historical or genealogical society members read the locality message boards and look up items.

Read, Read, Read

Because genealogy sources are always evolving and being discovered, it's important to keep up to date. Consider reading genealogy magazines

or genealogical/historical journals each month. Try to read books that will increase your understanding of research, sources, and history.

There's one book that I would recommend that can help you break down brick walls. The "Family Tree Problem Solver" by Marsha Hoffman Rising is an excellent book that provides ideas for solving problems frequently encountered in genealogy, including what to do about missing records and researching a person with a common surname. This book isn't a beginner's how-to book but a book for those who have some genealogical experience and have run out of ideas.

Know Your Sources

It can be frustrating to find out that the birth certificate you need burned in the great fire of 1906. But it can help when you are more familiar with all the different types of documents that can possibly answer a particular question. For example, when researching a death, newspapers are an excellent source; but there is more to finding the death of your ancestor than looking for an obituary. Deaths can be recorded in the newspaper through a death notice, funeral notice, probate notice, sale notice, or memorial. And for those that were caused by a crime, articles about the death and the subsequent trial may go on for months or even years.

William Dollarhide's two-volume book "Census Substitutes and State Census Records" is a resource to help you learn about additional "name lists" to check when the census or other sources aren't working for you.

Fresh Eyes

I think once in a while it is a great idea to have someone else look at your genealogy. Ask someone else to look at your research—whether it's a fellow genealogist, a professional, or even

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QUESTING HEIRS NEWS

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Hi There,

I love this time of the year! My wisteria is blooming, the first roses have appeared, and flowers are showing up everywhere.

I have noticed that we are all creatures of habit! We like to sit in the same seat at meetings all the time. My husband, Karl, and I like to sit in the same area of the pews when we go to church. We like to pop in at the same restaurant, time and time again. We always shop at the same stores because we usually know where everything is. It is a safe, comfortable way to act.

Well, it is spring—time to change and try something new! So, instead of a lecture during the Intermediate Class time this month, we are going to get to learn something about each other. I am not sure what we will be doing, but please come and find out!!

The Beginner's Class will meet from about 4:00 to 4:45 p.m.—AFTER the regular meeting. Please let us know how this works out for you. It seemed by starting before the meeting, it was hard for people to get from church to *Questing Heirs* in time. Mike Powers will meet in the far corner of the Social Hall with those who need help with their genealogy research.

Our Treasurer, Dave Werts, reports that in the four years (thru Dec 2008) we've had Betty Marr's money it has earned \$3,699.10 for our society. That's a big help in keeping us solvent.

A big thank you to Frena Dominguez, as she will be helping Tina Yanis with Hospitality.

Liz

!!NOTICE!!

The last day the Los Angeles Regional Family History Center will be open before closing for an extended period for renovations is **April 25, 2009.**

DUES ARE PAST DUE

Reminder! Check the label on your newsletter. If you see "Sep-08" above your name, that means we haven't received your dues for 2009. We need your support; so, please mail your renewal check to our society's Post Office Box or give it to Membership Chairman, John McCoy, at the April meeting. Thanks for your cooperation.



**HISTORICAL SOCIETY
OF LONG BEACH**

Winter hours for the Historical Society of Long Beach, located at 4260 Atlantic Avenue, are as follows:

Thursdays	1:00-7:00 p.m.
Fridays	1:00-5:00 p.m.
Saturdays	11:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m.

For those who are not yet members, conducting research at the HSLB costs \$25—a fee that supports the research center. The fee will be credited toward any photograph reproductions purchased on the day you conduct your research.

By choosing to invest in the HSLB and become a member, you may access historical materials free for an entire year during our public hours. Membership begins at \$40 annually.



SOURCES

REPOSITORIES OF QUAKER RECORDS

Compiled by Wendy Elliott

NEW ENGLAND
Rhode Island Historical Soc.
52 Power Street
Providence, RI 02906

New England Historic
Genealogical Society
101 Newbury Street
Boston, MA 02116

MASSACHUSETTS
Harvard University Library
Cambridge, MA 02138

NANTUCKET
Nantucket Historical Assoc.
Old Town Building
P. O. Box 1016
Nantucket, MA 02554

NEW YORK
Haviland Records Room
15 Rutherford Place
New York, NY 10003

NEW JERSEY
Haviland Records Room
15 Rutherford Place
New York, NY 10003

Woodstown Meeting
Box 13
Woodstown, NY 08098

Glassboro State College
Savitz Library
Stewart Collection
Glassboro, NJ 08028

PENNSYLVANIA
Haverford College Library
Haverford, PA 19041 ↗

Friends Historical Library
Swarthmore College
Swarthmore, PA 19081

Pendle Hill Library
Wallingford, PA 19086

MARYLAND
Haverford College Library
Haverford, PA 19041

Friends Historical Library
Swarthmore College
Swarthmore, PA 19081

Morgan State College
Soper Library
Spring Lane and Hillen Road
Baltimore, MD 21212

VIRGINIA
Valentine Library
Richmond, VA 23219

CAROLINAS
Friends Historical Collection
Guilford College Library
Greensboro, NC 27410

Wrightsboro Quaker
Community Foundation
633 Hemlock Drive
Thomson, GA 30824

TENNESSEE
Friends Historical Collection
Guilford College Library
Greensboro, NC 27410

ILLINOIS
Yearly Meetinghouse
Plainfield, IN 46168 ↗

Friends Historical Library
Swarthmore College
Swarthmore, PA 19081

IOWA
College Avenue Friends
Meetinghouse
Oskaloosa, IA 53577

KANSAS
Friends University Library
2100 University
Wichita, KS 67213

CALIFORNIA
Wardman Library
Whittier College
Whittier, CA 90608

OREGON
George Fox College
Shambaugh Library
Newberg, OR 97132

WASHINGTON DC
Florida Avenue Friends
Meetinghouse
Florida Avenue
Washington, DC 20008

OTHER
Friends Bookstore
101 Quaker Hill Drive
Richmond, IN 47574



ON THE WEB

SAN FRANCISCO eCARD REVISITED

Last month we told you about the possibility of applying for a free eCard from the San Francisco Public Library; however, the following message was received from the eCard program.

“...Due to electronic vendor licensing agreements, San Francisco Public Library is suspending issuing e-cards immediately. As an existing e-card holder you must validate your current address by bringing in person appropriate identification and address verification to any branch of the San Francisco Public Library. If this is not done by April 10, 2009, your e-card will no longer be valid...”

IMMIGRATION EXPLORER

www.nytimes.com/interactive/2009/03/10/us/20090310-immigration-explorer.html?hp

On March 10 the *New York Times* introduced an interactive map that shows where different ethnic groups settled in the United States. You can access it at the above web address.

The overall map displays where the largest foreign-born groups settled in each county by gradations of color. You can also select an individual foreign-born group by country. The Asia and Middle East category includes China, Korea, Japan, Vietnam, India, the Philippines or “All Middle East.” The Americas include Mexico, Cuba, the Dominican Republic, El Salvador and Canada. Central and Eastern Europe includes Russia/U.S.S.R., Germany, Poland and Czechoslovakia. In Western Europe you can choose England, Ireland, France, Italy, Norway and Sweden. “All Africa” is another category.

FREE E-BOOK

“Family Tree Magazine is giving away a free e-book to those who sign up for the magazine’s free, weekly e-mail newsletter. The book is the 42-page *Best of the Photo Detective*, a step-by-step guide that helps you examine old family photos for hidden clues to when they were taken and who’s in them. It includes an exclusive

excerpt from *Uncovering Your Ancestry Through Family Photographs* by the Photo Detective, Maureen A. Taylor.

“I’d suggest this is a rather attractive offer. You can sign up at <http://www.familytreemagazine.com/enews>. After you submit your registration, you’ll get a link to download the book as a PDF file. You can then view it on your computer’s screen or print it on your local printer.”

The above comments appeared in Dick Eastman’s Online Genealogy Newsletter of 9 March 2009 at <http://blog.eogn.com>. Copyright 2009 by Richard W. Eastman.

Call it a clan, call it a network, call it a tribe, call it a family: whatever you call it, whoever you are, you need one.

Jane Howard

Continued from page 27

a family member not interested in the dead. Letting someone else read what you have done already can help you get some fresh perspective. Sometimes when you are too close to your work you can make mistakes or overlook something.

So you don’t have a genealogy friend that can help you? Your local genealogy society is a wonderful place to seek help, get ideas, and gain new skills.

Whatever happens with your research, remember that genealogy is a process. It is not a short-term project. Learning about your family is a life-long pursuit that at times feels like it will take a few lifetimes; but in the end, whatever you find on your family is worth it.

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OF INTEREST

THE MEDIA CORNER

by Penny Nugent

Everyone likes a good “whodunit;” and if it’s a genealogical mystery, so much the better. If you like to listen to radio programs online, here’s one about DNA research that began with a daughter’s investigation of an old scrapbook that her great-grandmother made in 1912 and ended with a whole new branch of her family. The program is called “The Ghost of Bobby Dunbar.” It is episode 352, and it’s available free for listening at <www.thisamericanlife.org>. When you access this website you can read a synopsis of the hour-long broadcast, see a picture of kidnapped Bobby Dunbar, and learn how family stories sometimes skew the truth--leaving future generations to dig into the past and straighten things out.

GRAND VIEW MEMORIAL PARK

Tina Yanis keeps up to date on the status of area cemeteries as part of her effort to answer queries sent to our society by people living out of state. She wants to make our readers aware of the current condition of Grand View Memorial Park in Glendale.

Grand View, the oldest cemetery in Glendale, is located at 1341 Glenwood Road and currently doesn’t have funding for upkeep. The City of Glendale is not interested in taking it over. Volunteers help with cleaning headstones and helping visitors locate graves for their loved ones who are buried in this cemetery.

Visitation is limited, but these are the remaining approved dates through June of 2009:

- April 10 (Good Friday), 12 (Easter), 24 (Armenian Genocide) and 26
- May 10 (Mother’s Day) and 24
- June 14 (Flag Day), 21 (Father’s Day) and 28.

Linda Mustion, a Burbank resident and Grand View volunteer, is making an ongoing effort to add grave site records to the “Find A Grave” website at <http://www.findagrave.com>. So far

there are 5,868 interments listed (of nearly 40,000 interments in the entire cemetery).

You can find more information by going to <http://www.grandviewmemorialpark.info>. If you would like to volunteer, you can call David Baum at (310) 990-3660 for details.

WDYTYA UPDATE

Last month we told you that the American version of the popular British television program, “Who Do You Think You Are?”, was scheduled to start airing on NBC on April 20, 2009. However, the Genealogy Gems Podcast blog indicates that NBC has postponed this premier date—probably until summer. Stay tuned!!

AS WEST VIRGINIA COAL COMPANIES EXPAND, GRAVES GO MISSING

Walter Young can’t find his great-grandmother’s grave. The coal company that had it moved doesn’t know where the remains ended up. “It always looked like a safe, good place nobody would bother,” the 63-year-old retiree said of the cemetery along Pigeon Creek where his relative, Martha Curry, was buried. “It was up on a hill.”

But that hill was in West Virginia’s southern coalfields, and over the years, it changed hands. The land around and under the cemetery passed from one coal company to another as mines grew up around it. Now, no one is sure where Young’s great-grandmother was ultimately laid to rest.

The loss is a problem that resonates across West Virginia as small family cemeteries and unmarked graves get in the way of mining, timbering and development interests. Advocates are asking state lawmakers this year to enact regulations that would require better tracking of the graves and protect families who believed that their loved ones wouldn’t be disturbed.

The above is an extract from Dick Eastman’s blog of 10 March 2009 at <http://blog.eogn.com>. Copyright 2009 by Richard W. Eastman.

CALENDAR

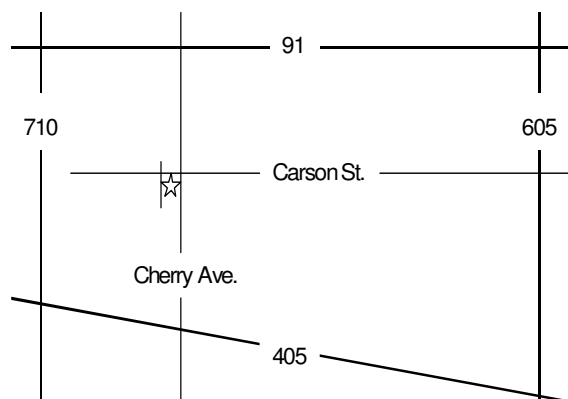
Saturday, April 4, 11:00 a.m. Orange County, California, Genealogical Society monthly meeting at the Huntington Beach Central Library, 7111 Talbert Ave., Huntington Beach. Main speaker (Rooms C&D): Kathleen Trevena on “Your Ancestors’ Economic Ups and Downs.”

Sunday, April 5, 2:00 p.m. Immigrant Genealogical Society monthly meeting at 1310 Magnolia Blvd., Burbank. Program: “Living in Pomerania until 1945” by Ilsa Nottrott Peetz.

Wednesday, April 15, 7:00 p.m. Genealogical Society of North Orange County, California monthly meeting. Yorba Linda Community Center (Imperial Room A), Imperial Highway & Casa Loma, Yorba Linda. Program: “Elizabeth, The Story of an Immigrant” by Jean Wilcox Hibben, Ph.D.

Wednesday, April 15, 7:00 p.m. South Bay Cities Genealogical Society monthly meeting. Torrance FHC, 22605 Kent Ave., Torrance. Program: “Second Annual Research Road Show.” A panel of experienced society members will make suggestions for overcoming brick walls.

Sunday, April 19, 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 26.



Sunday, April 26, 1:00-3:00 p.m. British Isles Family History Society-USA monthly meeting at the Los Angeles Regional FHC.* Program: “Using the British Records at the Orange Regional FHC” by Beth McCarty.



**FAMILY HISTORY FAIR 2009:
A NEW ERA**

Orange Family History Center
LDS Orange Stake
674 S. Yorba Street, Orange
Saturday, April 18, 8 a.m.-5:00 p.m.

Five sessions are scheduled with a choice of seven topics in each. Special focus will be on the New Family Search features—including the digital images that are online, indexing, and the Family Search Wiki. All classes are free.

A Box Lunch (\$7.75) and Syllabus (\$11.00) are available if pre-ordered. Pre-registrations must be received by April 8, 2009. If you didn’t pick up a flyer and registration form at the Questing Heirs March meeting, you can request one by calling (714) 997-7710.

*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.