

QUESTING HEIRS GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY

# NEWSLETTER

MAY 2017 • VOLUME 50 • NUMBER 5

## QHGS Meeting on Sunday May 21 Our Featured Speaker Will Be Carol Rolnick, Genetic Genealogy Consultant

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**OUR MONTHLY MEETINGS**

are held on the **third Sunday** of the month at **1:15 p.m.** at the Lakewood Masonic Center, 5918 E. Parkcrest St., in Long Beach, California (**map on page 40**)

**MEMBERSHIP LEVELS**

Individual: \$25.00  
Family: \$37.50  
Life (Individual): \$600.00  
Life (Family): \$900.00

**QHGS**

is an IRS recognized 501(c)(3) nonprofit corporation

**Donations are tax-deductible**

**QHGS**

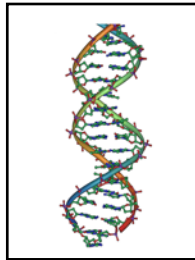
is a proud member of the Federation of Genealogical Societies



# Genetics, DNA, and Family Trees: Finding YOUR Bio-Family

## MEETING AGENDA

**MAY 21, 2017**



## ABOUT OUR SPEAKER

**CAROL ROLNICK**



**Starting at 1:15 p.m., Carol Rolnick** will present, **“Negotiating the Basics of Ancestry DNA.”** This talk will include tips and tricks that Carol’s learned through her work as a genetic genealogist: attaching a tree to your DNA results, understanding and organizing your DNA match list, interpreting ethnicity estimates and genetic communities, and using DNA circles and new ancestor discoveries. **During our break,** we will offer seven gently-used books about DNA, each for a small donation. Read the “QHGS Book Sale” article on page 35 for a list of book titles which will be available. **After our break, at 2:45 p.m.,** Carol will return to present her second lecture, **“Using DNA to Identify Bio-family.”** In this talk, Carol will explain some basic methodology used to identify biological family through DNA. Follow along as she reviews two short case studies which demonstrate some real life examples of DNA Detective work in action. **You will be sure to learn something new about DNA at this month’s meeting!**

Carol Isbister Rolnick is a Genetic Genealogist who works both independently and as part of CeCe Moore’s DNA Detectives team. She is a member of the International Society of Genetic Genealogists, the North San Diego County Genealogical Society and the Association of Professional Genealogists. Carol earned her BS in Business from Purdue University. Bitten by the genealogy bug from an early age, she discovered an even greater passion for genetic genealogy beginning in the very early days of testing. The field satisfies her love of science, big data, and an insatiable desire to help others solve personal mysteries. Carol has helped many adoptees and others of unknown parentage to find their biological family through autosomal testing. She is also focused on helping those with rare inherited diseases to identify genetic family who are potential carriers to reduce risk and expedite treatment and support. Learn more at Carol’s website <http://www.rolnickresearch.com/home.html>.

## Questing Heirs Genealogical Society Announcements and Reports

### RANCHO LOS CERRITOS

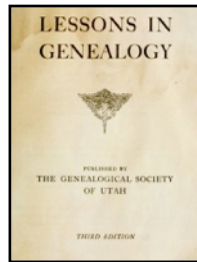
MAY 20, 2017



The courtyard at Rancho Los Cerritos will be transformed into a plain air playhouse this spring and summer. On **Saturday, May 20 from 7:00 to 9:00 p.m.**, Rancho Los Cerritos will present the first in a series of three **living history performances** when Chuck Kovacic “channels” **Will Rogers** in a staged one-man show brimming with comedy. He will portray the cowboy philosopher and riff on politics, the economy, and California history. After a brief intermission, theater-goers will step further back in time when **John Muir** will come to life, portrayed by equity actor and conservationist Michael Oates who will tell the story of Muir’s life. Tickets to each *History Comes Alive* performance cost \$25 per person and can be purchased online. For more information go to the Rancho’s website at <http://www.rancholoscerritos.org/things-to-do-hub/special-events-hub/lectures-and-performances/> or call (562) 206-2040.

### QHGS USED BOOK SALE

MAY 21, 2017



Seven “gently-used” volumes highlighting genetic genealogy will be available at our May meeting for a **donation of \$2.00 each** (or more if you are feeling generous!):

*Trace Your Roots with DNA*, by Megan Smolenyak and Ann Turner.

*Mapping Human History: Genes, Race, and Our Common Origin* by Steve Olson.

*The Seven Daughters of Eve: Science that Reveals Our Genetic Ancestry*, by Bryan Sykes.

*Reflections of Our Past: How Human History is Revealed in Our Genes*, by John H. Relethford.

*How Healthy is Your Family Tree?* by Carol Krause.

*Saxons, Vikings, and Celts: The Genetic Roots of Britain and Ireland*, by Bryan Sykes.

*The Scots: A Genetic Journey*, by Alistair Moffat and James F. Wilson.

If any of these titles intrigue you, please come prepared to buy one or more of them!

### FINANCE REPORT

Mike Powers

March Income  
\$136.09

March Expenses  
\$550.00

F & M Bank Balance  
\$5,202.72

of which \$1,824.06  
is restricted to  
educational expenses

### REFRESHMENT REPORT

Sandy Hollandsworth

#### May Hosts

will be

**Terry HAMILTON,  
Tina MCKILLIP,  
Maxine PITTS,  
and  
Shirley TERRY**

We  
hope  
you  
had  
happy  
holiday  
snacking  
in  
April!

### MEMBERSHIP REPORT

Cynthia Day-Elliott

No  
QHGS  
meeting  
was  
held  
in  
April

# Online Learning Opportunities

## WEBINARS TO WATCH

### Minnesota Genealogical Society

“What Is Social History and Why Should a Genealogist Care?” presented by Annette Burke Lyttle on **Wednesday, May 3, at 5:00 p.m. PDT**. Register: <https://attendeegotowebinar.com/register/5537380630871849987>.

### Illinois Genealogical Society

“Cause of Death: Using Coroners’ Records for Genealogy,” presented by Lisa A. Alzo on **Tuesday, May 9, at 6:00 p.m. PDT**. Coroners’ records are an excellent resource to research for details about an ancestor’s untimely demise. Register: <https://attendeegotowebinar.com/register/1471706587473686019>.

### Legacy Family Tree

Go to <http://www.familytreewebinars.com/upcoming-webinars.php> to learn more about the following **webinars which will be presented between May 3 and May 31**: “Transportation Records of the Freedmen’s Bureau,” “Introduction to Danish Genealogy,” “New York City and State Governmental Vital Records,” “MAXY DNA: Correlating mt-at-X-Y DNA with the GPS,” “Lifestreaming and the Modern Genealogist,” “WikiTree: Free for All without a Free-for-All,” and “Researching Your World War I Ancestors.”

### Southern California Genealogical Society

Go to <http://www.scsgenealogy.com/webinar/jes-index.html> to register for the following webinars: “Analyzing and Capturing Genealogical Data,” presented by Nicka Smith on **Saturday, May 6, at 10:00 a.m. PST** and “Location, Location, Location: One Place Studies in North America,” by Tessa Keough on **Wednesday, May 17, at 6:00 p.m. PDT**.

### Wisconsin State Genealogical Society

“Misbegotten Children: Tracing the Family Lines of the Illegitimate” by Peggy Clemens Lauritzen on **Tuesday, May 16, at 5:00 p.m. PDT**. Illegitimacy in our family’s history can be both a surprise and an embarrassment, but treated with care and sensitivity we can use many resources to help us in our research. Register: <https://attendeegotowebinar.com/register/1827781229875918081>.

## FAMILY HISTORY LIBRARY WEBINARS

### FamilySearch Learning Center Information:

On the Family History Library Classes and Webinars page at [https://familysearch.org/wiki/en/Family\\_History\\_Library\\_Classes\\_and\\_Webinars](https://familysearch.org/wiki/en/Family_History_Library_Classes_and_Webinars) you will find a list of all the FREE webinars that will be taught.

**Important Reminder: all FHL classes are scheduled in Mountain Time.**

### May 2017 Schedule:

- 2 Overview of FamilySearch.org
- 3 Understanding Places in Ireland
- 4 Starting Family Tree: Attaching FamilySearch Sources to your Tree
- 9 Norwegian Emigration: The Experience
- 15 Finding German Places of Origin
- 15 Spelling Variations in German Given and Place Names
- 15 Meyers German Gazetteer Now Online, Indexed and Fully Searchable
- 15 German Church Records and Beyond
- 15 Elusive Immigrant: Methods of Proving Identity
- 16 Finding Your French Ancestors Online 1, 2, 3
- 16 Research in Alsace-Lorraine
- 16 Out of the Ashes of Paris
- 17 Calendar Changes in France, Germany, Switzerland, and the Low Countries
- 18 Names in Belgium and the Netherlands
- 18 WieWasWie, Past the Index: What to do Next
- 18 Dutch Provincial and City Research
- 18 Dutch Research Before 1811
- 18 Finding Your Family in the Amazing Online Amsterdam City Archives
- 19 Beginning Swiss Research 1 and 2
- 19 Swiss Archives Online Records
- 19 Swiss Census Records
- 19 Swiss Chorgericht Records
- 23 Tracing Scottish Ancestry Online
- 24 Databases for Swedish Genealogy
- 25 Tracing Elusive Ancestry in England’s North Country

## Local Learning Opportunities

### 48TH ANNUAL SCGS JAMBOREE



**When:** Friday, June 9 thru Sunday, June 11, 2017

**Where:** Los Angeles Burbank Airport Marriott

**What:** over 120 class sessions conducted by more than 60 top speakers covering Beginner to Advanced topics

**Ethnic tracks:** British Isles and Ireland, Armenia and the Caucasus, and African-American

13 specialized in-depth workshops (separate registration fees apply, limited seating)

One-on-one research assistance and MORE!

### 5<sup>th</sup> Annual Genetic Genealogy Conference



**When:** Thursday, June 8, 2017 All Day!

**Where:** Los Angeles Burbank Airport Marriott

**What:** over 25 courses by more than 15 speakers on Genetic Genealogy topics from Beginning to Advanced

**Information:** <http://www.genealogyjamboree.com/2017/schedule-dna.html>.

### JamboFree

**When:** Friday, June 9, 2017 from 8 a.m. to 12 p.m.

**Where:** Los Angeles Burbank Airport Marriott

**What:** A morning of genealogical outreach classes and research help

**Free** and open to the public

**Visit the SCGS Jamboree website** for more information.

To register go to <http://www.genealogyjamboree.com/>.

### SO CAL SOCIETY MEETINGS

#### Corona Genealogical Society

“The Daughters of the American Revolution,” presented by Lisa Howison on **Monday, May 1, 6:30 p.m.** <http://coronagensoc.org/meetings/>.

#### South Orange County Genealogical Society

“Cyndi’s List: Your Personal Internet Catalog for Genealogy,” by Francie Kennedy on **Saturday, May 13, 10:00 a.m.** <http://www.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~casocgcs/events.html>.

#### Immigrant Genealogical Society

Astrid Adlera, a bilingual German researcher and author, will present two talks at the IGS Library, 1310 W. Magnolia Blvd., Burbank, on **Saturday, May 13, 1:00 p.m. and on Tuesday, May 16, 7:00 p.m.** “Our Ancestors Were German,” discusses the history of emigration from Saxe-Weimar-Eisenach. “Goodbye Forever” tells about sixty years of emigration from her own village of Tiefenort. For more information go to the IGS website at <http://immigrantgensoc.org/?cat=4>.

#### Society of Hispanic Historical & Ancestral Research

“Mexican Indians: Conquest and Assimilation,” by John Schmall on **Saturday, May 13, 10:00 a.m.** <http://shhar.net/activities2017.htm>.

#### Conejo Valley Genealogical Society

“Birth, Marriage and Death Records and BMD websites,” on **Tuesday, May 16, 5:00 p.m.** <http://www.conejovalleygenealogicalsociety.org/meetings.html>.

#### Genealogical Society of North Orange County

“Jamboree For All: Fee, Free and Webinar,” by Barbara Randall on **Wednesday, May 17, 7:15 p.m.** <http://www.gsnocc.org/monthly-meetings.html>.

#### Whittier Area Genealogical Society

“Sticking to the Union: Labor Union Research for Genealogists,” by Jane Neff Rollins on **Saturday, May 20, at 1:00 p.m.** <https://wagswhittier.org/>.

#### Orange County Jewish Genealogical Society

“Crowdsourcing a Path to the 1950 Census,” by Joel Weintraub on **Sunday, May 21, 1:30 p.m.** at Temple Beth David, 6100 Hefley Street, Westminster.

## DNA Tests Solve a 100-Year-Old Mystery

### The Disappearance of Bobby Dunbar

Wikipedia tells us that “Bobby Dunbar was a boy whose disappearance at the age of four and apparent return was widely reported in newspapers across the United States in 1912 and 1913.

### Background

“Bobby Dunbar was the first son born to Lessie and Percy Dunbar of Opelousas, Louisiana. In August 1912, the Dunbars took a fishing trip to nearby Swayze Lake in St. Landry Parish, Louisiana. On August 23, while on that trip, Bobby Dunbar disappeared. After an eight-month search, authorities located William Cantwell Walters, who worked as an itinerant handyman, specializing in the tuning and repair of pianos and organs, and traveling through Mississippi with a boy who appeared to match the description of Bobby Dunbar. Walters claimed that the boy was actually Charles Bruce Anderson, generally referred to as Bruce, the son of a woman who worked for his family. He said that the boy’s mother was named Julia Anderson, and that she had willingly granted him custody. Nonetheless, Walters was arrested and authorities sent for the Dunbars to come to Mississippi and attempt to identify the boy. After bathing the boy, Lessie Dunbar said she positively identified his moles and scars and was then certain that he was her son. The boy returned to Opelousas with the Dunbars to a parade and much fanfare celebrating the “homecoming.” Walters was convicted of kidnapping, while the boy remained in the custody of the Dunbar family and lived out the remainder of his life as Bobby Dunbar. He married, had four children of his own, and died in 1966.

### A Genealogical Investigation

“Years after Bobby Dunbar’s death, one of his granddaughters, Margaret Dunbar Cutright, began her own investigation of the events, poring through newspaper accounts, interviewing the children of Julia



Anderson, and examining the notes and evidence presented by Walters’ defense attorney for his kidnapping trial and appeal.

### DNA Tests

“In 2004, Bob Dunbar, Jr. consented to undergo DNA tests to resolve the issue. The tests showed that Dunbar, Jr. was not related by blood to his supposed cousin, the son

of Alonzo Dunbar, the younger brother of Bobby Dunbar, Sr. Since DNA testing is conclusive, the fate of the actual Bobby Dunbar, who disappeared at Swayze Lake in 1912, remains unknown. In March 2008, Public Radio International’s *This American Life* featured “The Ghost of Bobby Dunbar,” a radio documentary about the investigation of the case by Margaret Dunbar Cutright. She revealed that the results of her research had brought joy to Julia Anderson’s family as vindication of her claims, as well as to William Walters’ family as an exoneration of the kidnapping accusation against him. However, she said that they had sown division within her own family, as the majority of her grandfather’s children and grandchildren considered themselves to be members of the Dunbar family.”

### To learn more:

Go to <https://www.thisamericanlife.org/radio-archives/episode/352/the-ghost-of-bobby-dunbar>, click on the “launch player” button, and listen to this fascinating story from the archives of “This American Life.”

An interview with Margaret Dunbar Cutright is at <http://dianerehm.org/shows/2012-08-14/tal-mcthenia-margaret-dunbar-cutright-case-solomon-bobby-dunbar-and-kidnapping-haun>. An excerpt from her book, *A Case For Solomon: Bobby Dunbar And The Kidnapping That Haunted A Nation*, is also posted on this page.

Read the complete Wikipedia article, “The Disappearance of Bobby Dunbar,” at [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Disappearance\\_of\\_Bobby\\_Dunbar](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Disappearance_of_Bobby_Dunbar).

## State Spotlight: Virginia and West Virginia

### Did your ancestors live in Virginia or West Virginia?

Here are some websites which have content beyond the bounds of Ancestry.com.

#### Virginia GenWeb Project

<http://vagenweb.org/>

What resources might you find here?

- Transcribed census records, tombstones, deed records, etc.
- Local courthouse and government offices information
- Local Genealogical and Historical Society information
- Local Historical Maps
- Surnames of others researching similar family names
- Possible ancestor photos and historical landscape photos

#### Virginia Chronicle

<http://virginiachronicle.com/>

This collection contains 111,236 issues comprising 906,407 pages and 122,203 articles from over 3,000 Virginia and West Virginia historical newspapers.

#### Virginia: FamilySearch WIKI

[https://familysearch.org/wiki/en/Virginia,\\_United\\_States\\_Genealogy](https://familysearch.org/wiki/en/Virginia,_United_States_Genealogy)

#### Virginia: Online Genealogy Records

[https://familysearch.org/wiki/en/Virginia\\_Online\\_Genealogy\\_Records](https://familysearch.org/wiki/en/Virginia_Online_Genealogy_Records)

A nicely arranged list of links.

#### Library of Virginia Digital Collections

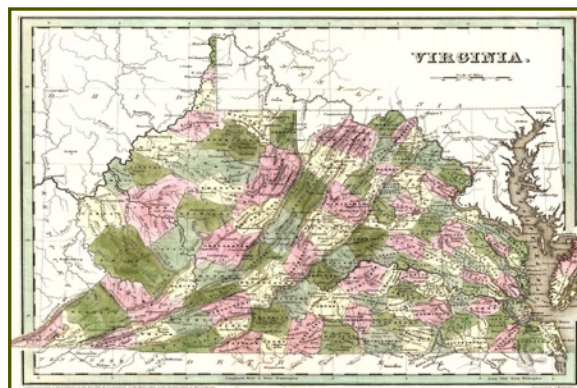
<http://www.virginiamemory.com/?ga=1.111972676.1530183375.1491616985>

Your gateway to documents, maps, photographs, letters and papers, and oral histories.

#### Virginia's Linkpendium Page

<http://www.linkpendium.com/va-genealogy/>

This page lists over 100 databases, and its subpages contain 35,364 links.



#### West Virginia GenWeb Project

<http://www.wvgenweb.org/>  
Many resources here.

#### West Virginia Historical and Genealogical Societies

<http://www.wvculture.org/history/linksoc.html>

State-wide links.

#### West Virginia: FamilySearch WIKI

[https://familysearch.org/wiki/en/West\\_Virginia,\\_United\\_States\\_Genealogy](https://familysearch.org/wiki/en/West_Virginia,_United_States_Genealogy)

#### West Virginia: Online Genealogy Records

[https://familysearch.org/wiki/en/West\\_Virginia\\_Online\\_Genealogy\\_Records](https://familysearch.org/wiki/en/West_Virginia_Online_Genealogy_Records)

Another nicely arranged list of links.

#### West Virginia Division of Culture and History

<http://www.wvculture.org/history/genealog.html>

A list of links to West Virginia genealogical databases that are searchable online.

#### West Virginia Digital Newspapers

<http://www.theancestorhunt.com/blog/west-virginia-online-historical-newspapers-summary#.WOHNdFPyvdQ>

A list of free links followed by sites that charge.

#### West Virginia's Linkpendium Page

<http://www.linkpendium.com/wv-genealogy/>

This page and its county subpages contain 12,966 links.

**Research Alert:** “Online family genealogies say he was born in Virginia in the early 1800s, but I can’t find him anywhere there!” is a common complaint of beginning genealogists. Remember—the state of Virginia included West Virginia’s territory for 85 years before West Virginia became a separate state in 1861, so locating records can be difficult in this area. Pre-1861 “Virginia” records may actually be in West Virginia now. Also, if your ancestors are listed as living in Virginia on the 1860 census and in West Virginia on the 1870 census, check a map—their address probably didn’t change, but the state’s name did!

# Questing Heirs Genealogical Society, Inc.



## QUESTING HEIRS GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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## FAMILYSEARCH CENTERS

FSC stands for FamilySearch Center of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints. FSCs are open and free of charge to members of the general public interested in doing genealogical research. Information about the **Los Angeles FSC** is available at [https://familysearch.org/learn/wiki/en/Los\\_Angeles\\_FamilySearch\\_Library](https://familysearch.org/learn/wiki/en/Los_Angeles_FamilySearch_Library). Local FSCs are in **Long Beach** at 3701 Elm Avenue in Bixby Knolls, phone (562) 988-0509; **Los Alamitos**, (714) 821-6914; and **Cerritos**, phone (562) 924-3676. Call before you visit as their hours may change from time to time.

## SUBMISSIONS FOR THE JUNE NEWSLETTER MUST BE RECEIVED BY MAY 22ND

The newsletter has been published since 1969 by Questing Heirs Genealogical Society. Submissions, including queries, corrections, or any questions regarding the newsletter, should be sent to: Penny Nugent, QHGS, P. O. Box 15102, Long Beach, CA, 90815-0102, or emailed to [questingheirs@gmail.com](mailto:questingheirs@gmail.com). We are not responsible for the accuracy of material published, but will gladly print corrections. Newsletter sources: page 34 courtesy Carol Rolnick; page 37 courtesy of SCGS Jamboree press release; page 40 Penny Nugent; QHGS logo designed by Mike Powers. All other illustrations are in the public domain and come from NYPL, LOC, Internet Archive, and Wikimedia Commons.

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In order to receive the monthly newsletter, one must be enrolled as a member of the Society. To join, please contact Membership Chair Cynthia Day-Elliott at 562-427-9663