



**British Isles Family History Society-U.S.A.**

# Newsletter

Mar/Apr-2006

Editor: Jim McNamara

## **GENERAL MEETINGS:**

**This Month** – Sunday, Mar 26, 2006, 1:00 to 3 PM

*BIFHS-USA - General meeting & Special Election*

Protect and Maintain your PC & Some Useful Applications for your PC  
Jim McNamara

Welsh Group, 3:30 to 5:00 PM

You have a copy of an obituary of your great-grandfather. Aunt Jane has sent you a copy of what was written on his tombstone. Trouble is - its written in Welsh and you can't read Welsh. So what do you do when you are 5,000 miles away from Wales and do not speak Welsh? Come to the Welsh Study Group meeting and listen to Annie Lloyd tell you what you should do.

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**Next Month** - Apr 23, 2006 Saturday – 1:00 to 3:00 PM

*BIFHS-USA - General meeting.*

Main Program - British Records in the FHLC – Lisa Schumacher

**SCOTTISH STUDY GROUP**, 3:30 to 5:00 PM

*led by: Don Hirst*

Don Hirst was one of the founders and first President of BIFHS-USA. He was a former Director of the Los Angeles Family History Center (now called Los Angeles Regional Family History Center). A professional genealogist, Don is also a retired Colonel in the U. S. Air Force.

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### **Notice:**

All classes and monthly meetings are free. There is plenty of free parking. Everyone is welcome. You are welcome to do your own research at any time. Unless otherwise stated, all events are held at:

**Los Angeles Family History Center** (310) 474-9990  
10741 Santa Monica Blvd  
Los Angeles, CA 90025

Please contact a board member if you have any other questions.

Visit BIFHS-USA Website at: <http://www.rootsweb.com/~bifhsusa>

**Editor's Note:**

Its two days past the official deadline for this newsletter, and I remember the past few months poorly. The world rushes by and I with it. There have been more than six work related seminars I attended in those previous few months, some at hotels, some on-line, others elsewhere. Most were applicable to both office and home life. The two I will not soon forget had to do with 'communications', and 'organization and time management'. There are always extra resources offered. In some cases it is about money, but for most part the offerings have a real benefit. The methods require practice and are very understandable. Everyone came away with something to work on.

I look around my home office and realize what a great place to begin practicing some of these new principles, just as soon as the newsletter is done, just as soon as the next two presentations are prepared, just as soon as my taxes are filed, just as soon as I renew my driver's license. It is always something, and still, there is an opportunity here. Everyone has a chance to make a difference, to be a positive influence in the world, to chance thinking patterns, to accomplish more and more.

One thing I will not soon forget is the Scottish Festival I attended this past President's Day weekend at the Queen Mary. In some regards it is a giant costume party, with very high stakes, high ticket prices, no bargains. And in other regards it is an excellent opportunity to meet and network with people. Everyone is so approachable. There was good music too, and a few of the musicians impressed me greatly. They had obviously learned their lessons in communications well. One musician made time to talk to a 'simple' person who being disruptive, who did not realize the effects of their actions. A simple way of changing his thinking without any upset, resentments, or ill feelings. Another musician I spoke with had just the right words for me. It is such a settling experience.

Another great opportunity is just ahead, the upcoming Jamboree. There will be many opportunities to learn new things, to meet people from other societies, to compare notes, buy a few books. There is still time to volunteer to staff our booth. I will be there and hope to see you too. Stop by our booth and say hello to your fellow members.

Best regards to all,

Jim McNamara - Any and all comments welcome – [JPMTCC@yahoo.com](mailto:JPMTCC@yahoo.com) (please note new email address)

**NOTICE OF SPECIAL MEETING**

The general meeting on March 26, 2006, will be a special meeting for the purpose of electing two Board members: a recording secretary and one member-at-large. See page 8 (SPECIAL ELECTION) for additional information.

**BIFHS-USA Sends Condolences**

We are saddened to learn that three treasured BIFHS members have died. We send our deepest sympathy to family and friends.

- Rita Boyland passed away on 1 Jan 2006. Rita and her husband Joseph have been family members for many years. Rita's husband Joseph is continuing as an individual member.
- Marge Warmuth died 9 Feb 2006 at her home in Oxnard, following a bout with pneumonia.
- Luella Zinn Christopher passed away, 12 Feb 2006 at her home in Sun Valley after a valiant struggle with cancer.

May they rest in peace.

## President's Message:

The first two meetings of 2006 were most informative and well attended. It's been good to see so many members participate. We can all learn much from the presentations — both the main program and our study groups. I hope many of you will avail yourselves of the study groups. They each have very knowledgeable leaders. They are: England — Janet Thomas; Ireland — Jim McNamara; Scotland — Donald L. Hirst; Wales — Annie Lloyd; and Colonial Connections — Nancy E. Carlberg. The groups will be meeting on a rotating basis after our regular meetings, and everyone is invited.

There are two important events to which I would like to alert you:

1. The annual Jamboree of the Southern California Genealogical Society takes place on Friday and Saturday the 5th and 6th of May 2006. This is always the largest get-together of genealogists in the Southern California area. Our Society will have a booth at this event for the purpose of publicizing our society, attracting new members, and selling books. It offers one of the few opportunities that our membership has to peruse the books that we have for sale. I hope many of you will be able at least to attend the event, but more than that, we are asking for volunteers to staff our booth. At our next two meetings, we will have flyers and sign-up sheets, and we hope that as many as possible will be able to participate in our efforts.

2. Our annual Seminar will take place on Saturday, July 15th 2006, at the Veterans Memorial Complex in Culver City. This will be a one-day event with four lectures following the same format as last year. The speaker will be one of the premier genealogists in North America: John M. Kitzmiller II. Mr. Kitzmiller is an expert in all aspects of British and Irish research, and is one of only eight North American genealogists to be elected a Fellow of the Society of Genealogists. I hope that many of you will be able to attend our only major seminar of the year.

As is pointed out elsewhere in the newsletter, our next General Meeting is being designated a Special Meeting as we will be holding an election for a Recording Secretary and one Member-at-Large, so as to rectify anomalies on our Board. I hope that you will be able to attend and cast your vote.

**Ivan C. Johnson** - [icj@socal.rr.com](mailto:icj@socal.rr.com)

## EXCHANGE JOURNALS:

Thanks to Membership chair Terry Brown and Webmaster Bruce Hamilton for their joint project to make the table of contents of the Exchange Journals available on the society's site. The following is the introductory excerpt from the BIFHS-USA site at: <http://www.rootsweb.com/~bifhsusa/journal/exchange/index.html>

BIFHS-USA exchanges journals with other genealogy societies, in the British Isles and around the world. These societies are usually location-oriented, typically focusing on a county or set of counties. Their journals can be a great resource, but they are sometimes overlooked or forgotten by our members. This page is a service of the Society to make available online the latest table of contents for each journal received. Now you can browse the contents at your leisure, noting any articles you want to read.

The Society's exchange journals are housed at the [Los Angeles Regional Family History Center \(LARFHC\)](#). Once you have identified articles of interest, you can find the journals in the new bookshelves (partially funded by BIFHS-USA) at the back of the FHC. The shelves are organized by country, then alphabetically. For example, the Welsh publications are near the back exit door (as of early 2006). The Welsh exchange journals are shelved alphabetically with the other Welsh books and publications. The English exchange journals are with the English books, etc. If you can't find a certain journal, ask at the information desk.

**Editor's Note:** *There are TOCs of 32 journals from England, Ireland, Scotland, Wales, and other miscellaneous places. You just never know where that one bit of information will come from that will advance your research. Don't miss this great opportunity.*

**CALENDAR OF EVENTS:**

**Sunday Mar 26, 1-3 PM - BIFHS-USA - General meeting.** Program How to Protect your PC and properly maintain your PC, how to deal with viruses, mal-ware, spy-ware, and ad-ware. And some New Uses for your PC  
By Jim McNamara

**Saturday, 8 April 2006 - The next London Cornish Association Family History Day Conference** will take place at: Bloomsbury Central Baptist Church,  
235 Shaftesbury Avenue, London  
WC2H 8EP

Garry Tregidga: *How's the Family? Kinship & Society in Cornwall*

Peter Christian: *Finding Genealogy on the Internet*

**Sunday Apr 23, 2006, 1-3 PM**  
*BIFHS-USA - General meeting.* Main Program – British Records in the FHL, by Lisa Schumacher  
**SCOTTISH STUDY GROUP** led by Don Hirst  
Don Hirst was one of the founders and first President of BIFHS-USA. He was a former Director of the Los Angeles Family History Center (now called Los Angeles Regional Family History Center). A professional genealogist, Don is also a retired Colonel in the U. S. Air Force.

**April 29 – Orange Family History Fair**  
At the Orange Regional Family History Center at:  
674 S Yorba Street, Orange, CA, Phone: 714-997-7710

**April 30 - London, England:** The Society of Genealogists' annual Family History Show will include free beginners' lectures; an advice centre; computer software demonstrations and a wide range of exhibitors, including family history societies, booksellers, and local record offices and repositories. A special pre-show afternoon conference suitable for beginners will be held on April 29. This is the UK's largest family history show, probably the largest in the world. Details are available at <http://www.sog.org.uk/events/fair.html>

**May 5 & 6, 2006 - SCGS Presents 36<sup>th</sup> Annual Genealogy Jamboree and Resource Expo,** (at Hilton Airport Hotel and Convention Center in Burbank, California). See: [www.scsgsgenealogy.com](http://www.scsgsgenealogy.com)  
BIFHS-USA will be selling books. Please stop by to support your society. Volunteers are still needed to staff our booth.

**Sunday May 21, 2006, 1-3 PM - BIFHS-USA – General Meeting, Main Program:** Beginning Colonial American Research - *Speaker:* Nancy Ellen Carlberg

Learn what Colonial American research is and how to do it

most effectively: Prove that what you have is right, trace it back to the other side of the ocean, and still save money, time and effort.

Nancy Ellen Carlberg is an author of 54 books. She is currently working on *Frugal, Thrifty, and Sometimes, Downright Cheap Living*. Nancy is a past President of BIFHS-USA. She likes to travel to the British Isles as "often as possible."

**July 15, 2006 - Hold this date!** The BIFHS-USA presents their 18th annual Seminar with JOHN KITZMILLER at the Rotunda Room of the Veterans Memorial Complex, 4117 Overland Avenue, Culver City, CA. More details later.

**September 25-30, 2006**  
Join us in a fantastic celebration in Northern Ireland! It is the 50th anniversary of the Ulster Historical Foundation and there will be a five day celebration at the end of September.

Join myself and others as we gather for the lectures, discussions, fun and celebration. Our trip will include the all the festivities and you will have the opportunity of meeting incredibly friendly people from around the world. All will be interested in Northern Irish Genealogical Research and Irish History.

Details are still in the works and for further information contact Nancy Bier at email [nbierirish@aol.com](mailto:nbierirish@aol.com) or Ginger Aarons at Time Travel at [www.timetraveltours.com](http://www.timetraveltours.com) after December 10. 2005 Dates? Ulster Historical Foundation September 25-30. Our Research trip? September 25 through Oct. 15 (dates are approximate at this time) will include the celebration, time for research in PRONI, and a week in Ireland for research in Dublin and sightseeing. We will also endeavor to provide individual research needs as we have done in the past.

You might want to ask those who have been on previous trips if they found them to be productive and fun.

**Sunday, Oct 22, 2006, 1-3 PM - BIFHS-USA General meeting.** Sharing Your Family History Experiences – Traditionally, this program has been one of the best of the year. Come prepared to share keepsakes, successes and other uplifting experiences in your family history and in your research. In the past, we have seen wonderful family photos, documents, quilts, and many other items. Perhaps you have recent research success story to share with the group. Start thinking about what you would like to present now. Everyone has something to share.

**Many thanks to Nancy Bier for the following letter and articles:**

Well, I will finally be on my way before you get to read this. I do, however, want to take an opportunity to say thank you to all of the members for the past 18 or so years we have known each other. It has been my great pleasure to be a part of such a wonderful group of people for so long.

I will miss each of you and of course, will miss the activities. I hope to carry on in my new home in Texas but it will surely be a learning curve for me in such a different place. However, I am content, as the society is in all of your most capable hands and I know I will hear interesting things along the way.

My email [nbierirish@aol.com](mailto:nbierirish@aol.com) will stay the same for the foreseeable future although I will be out of touch from the 1st of March for about a week. New address for those who would like to have it is N. Bier, 1020 Kiowa Drive West, Lake Kiowa, TX 76240.

- Nancy Lee Bier

**IRISH** - The Centre for Migration Studies is located in the Ulster American Folk Park and helps with Irish migration from all parts of Ireland to various places in the world. It is extremely useful to Americans trying to make their Irish connections.

Their reference and research library is a collection of materials including the main interests of the museum: Migration History, History of Ireland and America in the 18th and 19th Centuries, The Irish World-wide 1600 to present, Agriculture, Industry and Crafts, Social Customs and Religion, Biographies and Autobiographies, and Native Americans.

The collections includes, books, periodicals, maps, micro-forms and audiovisual materials. The IRISH EMIGRATION DATABASE is open for public use and is a computerised collection from various sources in both Ireland, Northern Ireland and America (U.S.A. & Canada). It concerned chiefly with the 18th and 19th centuries of Irish migration and includes emigrant letters, articles, ads, passenger lists (not ours) family papers and more. It is an ongoing project and anyone who has letters or who finds them in sources is encouraged to send COPIES for inclusion in the database. This can be accessed only in Northern Ireland at various places.

They also have a two year course with a Degree in Irish Migration Studies.

It is my pleasure to include this vital Centre on our next trip to Northern Ireland in September. In addition, they have invited my group to be there for the Irish Blue Grass Festival including musicians and dancers from around the world.

If you cannot come with us, please put it on your list of "NEED TO SEARCH" and either arrange to go yourself or hire someone to look into the materials for you at the Ulster American Folk Park, Mellon Road, Castletown, Omagh, Co. Tyrone Northern Ireland, BT78 5Qy or email: [centremigstudies@ni-libraries.net](mailto:centremigstudies@ni-libraries.net)

Website can be found at: [www.qub.ac.uk/kk/cms/](http://www.qub.ac.uk/kk/cms/) and also at: [www.folkpark.com](http://www.folkpark.com)

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**SCOTLAND** - Soutra was one of the most important hospitals in Scotland and was founded in 1164 A.D. Archaeologists recent discoveries include medicinal finds from all over the world such as hemlock, opium poppy and black henbane. For an interesting article read *Medieval Medical Waste Uncovered in Scotland in Renaissance*, Vol. 11 #1. \$5.95 at your bookstore.

**ENGLAND** - In the same periodical is a note about an 85 year old amateur historian who has petitioned the British Home Office to formally pardon Anne Boleyn. She was the second wife of Henry VIII and was beheaded in 1536 on charges of adultery, incest and witchcraft. The case is currently under review by the Criminal Cases Review Commission. They have been asked to declare her not guilty rather than granting a pardon for crimes she did not commit.

Melville Jackson would also like her remains to be removed from her criminal's grave in the Tower of London to Westminster Abbey to lie beside her daughter, Queen Elizabeth I.

**AND** - Have any of you ever wondered why you can't find further information on English ancestors living around 1539 (has anyone gotten back that far?). A short article in the same magazine may well have the answers you are looking for. In 1999 a crypt was rediscovered in London due to some excavations for an office complex. In England, almost all excavations

must have an archeological survey as part of the building process.

This discovery is a charnel house that was closed after Henry VIII closure of monasteries in 1539. The chapel was then demolished about 1700 and the crypt was filled in with dirt. It is one of only four charnel houses surviving in England. It was used for more than 200 years as a repository for the bones that were taken up when new bodies were buried in the cemetery of St. Mary Spital Priory. Often this was done to allow the graves to be reused. Records of the persons so buried? Non-existent as far as names and data are concerned. However, what is left, such as foundation walls and decorative chevron vaulting are now on display to the public in the basement of the new building.

Both articles were written by Judith Kane

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**ENGLISH SPOKEN WILLS** - Until 1837 spoken or nuncupative wills were common in England. As long as there were at least three witnesses in the room and the person had been resident in that place at least ten days such wills were legal. The witnesses would write down what the person had said and present it as a will. When you are reading wills, you will be able to identify a nuncupative will by it beginning with the word "memorandum".

A newly arrived little book with genealogical tips called "101 Family History Tips" is included with the latest edition of the periodical FAMILY TREE.

**IRELAND** - One of the big events for historians and genealogists alike is to be present to experience the Winter Solstice at Newgrange. This is a medieval site open to visitors but to be present for the winter solstice when the light comes through the structure and focuses on a small area in the most inner room is truly wonderful. In order to participate in this event one must fill out a lottery application form and the names are drawn. Applications are valid for one draw only. You must be over 18 or accompanied by an adult. Only applications on the official form can be entered. (The only place I could find an official application form was in the gift shop at Newgrange itself).

**BOOKSHELF** - Scots Irish or Ulster Scots researchers should enjoy *Living Like a Lord*, The

Second Marquis of Donegal. 1769-1844 by W. A. Maguire. Donegal owned much of Belfast, Co. Antrim and other places. This is a story of George Augustus Chichester, Second Marquis of Donegal, owner of one of the greatest landed estates in all Ireland, nearly a quarter of a million acres.

Read about his marriage, children, the extent to which he ravaged the estates and the family fortune and you will have an idea of how the English-born families devastated some of the Irish lands. Available from the Ulster Historical Foundation on-line.

**ALSO** - The second edition of *Atlas of Irish History* tells the story of Ireland in easy to understand maps and prose. Beginning with the *Origins of Ireland* and continuing through *The Conquest of Ireland, the Reformation to Restoration* period, *From Splendour to Famine*, into Modern Day Ireland the maps are wonderfully done. Each is in color and the book includes various pictures and graphs as well. The arrival of Christianity chapter is opened with a picture of the earliest OGHAM stone (the earliest Irish writing), and a map of 1732 showing the percentage of Catholic households in the four counties. The national percentage was 73%.

I purchased my copy at a bookstore in Ireland but I believe it can be ordered from Borders or another store on-line. ISBN 0-7171-3093-2.

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**Thanks to Fran Smith, our new recording secretary for the following:**

**Surname Profiler Project Website**

<http://www.spatial-literacy.org/uclnames/Surnames.aspx>

A recent research project based at University College London (UCL) has investigated the distribution of surnames in Great Britain, both current and historic, in order to understand patterns of regional economic development, population movement and cultural identity. This website allows users to search the databases that we have created, and to trace the geography and history of their family names. There are maps of surnames groupings.

See also: [www.spatial-literacy.org](http://www.spatial-literacy.org).

**Editor's Note:** From the BBC News site. Calling all wealthy US Slade males who would like a free mansion. Just prove you are related to Sir Benjamin Slade of Somerset, and have the financial resources:

### **£1m Stately Mansion Up For Grabs**

An eccentric aristocrat plans to give away his £1m mansion complete with 1,300 acre estate to a stranger - and move into a council house. Slade Somerset Manor is up for grabs (Maunsel house).

Sir Benjamin Slade, 59, has no heir and is desperate to find a distant US relative - preferably wealthy - to take over his stately pile in Somerset. Sir Benjamin plans to give a DNA sample and hopes a close match can be found among 5,000 Slades living in the US.

The chosen person - it must be a man, he says - will inherit Maunsel House. The 13th Century 16-bedroom home boasts a library, a dining room for 80 guests and a staff of five.

Sir Benjamin said: "I'm hoping it won't be some cowpoke or someone who lives on a trailer park surrounded by rattlesnakes. I would have a screaming fit if I found out it was some chap like that. I want someone with a bit of money and a couple of yachts."

Sir Benjamin - who has a multi-million pound business empire and a house in Chelsea - says he is ready to swap the home in North Newton for a local council house.

For the rest of story, see:

<http://news.bbc.co.uk/1/hi/england/somerset/4551756.stm>

And more on this story at:

<http://u.tv/newsroom/indepth.asp?id=68520&pt=n>

And on Maunsel House:

<http://www.maunselhouse.co.uk/>

And:

<http://www.statelyhomes.com/areas/details.asp?HID=590&ID=461&path=12,23,98,461>

### **For all you long term planners:**

#### **Sep 22, 2007 - FIFE FAMILY HISTORY FAIR**

Yvonne Boni, Library Supervisor (information)

Fife Council, Cupar Library

Cupar, Fife, KY15 5AS

### **Thanks to Annabelle Farago for the forwarding the following poem:**

#### **Pappy's Gal**

Suzy Lee fell in love.  
She planned to marry Joe.  
She was so happy bout it all,  
She told her pappy so.

Pappy told her, "Suzie Gal"  
You'll have to find another.  
I'd just as soon yo maw don't know,  
But Joe is yo half-brother.

So Suzie forgot about her Joe  
And planned to marry Will,  
But, after telling pappy this  
He said "There's trouble still"

You can't marry Will, my gal,  
And please don't tell yo mother,  
Cause Will and Joe and several mo  
I know is yo half-brother"

But Mamma knew and said  
"Honey chile, do what makes yo happy,  
Marry Will or marry Joe,  
You ain't no kin to pappy!"

### **Thanks to Terry McVeigh for the following:**

This site contains a *History of Brandon* in the era of the clearances. Among those mentioned in Chapter 9 is, Charles MacCarthy, who was transported "under pain of death by hanging" beyond the Shannon, even though he was considered an "innocent Catholic." So much for innocence . . . Also recommended here is a book along the lines of *To Hell or Barbados*, namely *The Forgotten Slaves: Whites in Servitude in Early America and Industrial Britain* by Michael A. Hoffman. On his mother's side are Morans from Aghagrana, Kiltoghert, Leitrim. He says his grandfather always used to claim that the Morans historically had good land elsewhere, perhaps in Mayo, and were pushed off it and into the mountainous and poor land of Aghagrana to make way for the transported settlers. Anecdotal, but interesting. We think, but are not sure, that some of those Aghagrana Morans eventually made their way to Mohill, Leitrim, and begat my mother.

See:

<http://www.paulturner.ca/Ireland/Cork/HOB/HOB%20Main.htm>

## SPECIAL ELECTION

When Ivan Johnson became president, he left an uncompleted term as Member-at-Large. The Board has the authority to appoint someone to complete that term, but we would like the membership to vote on a two-year appointment instead. This is so that the six members-at-large will have overlapping terms, with three elected each year.

We also need a recording secretary, which is an elected position that was overlooked in the last general election.

The nominees for the vacant positions are Fran Smith, Recording Secretary, and Aileen Harral, Member-at-Large.

The election will be held at the meeting. We realize that there are a number of members who are not local and are, therefore, unlikely to attend this meeting. Anyone is welcome to vote yea or nay for either candidate via email to the president at [icj@socal.rr.com](mailto:icj@socal.rr.com) .

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**The Montgomeryshire Genealogical Society** has just published their *Members' Interests Directory for 2005*. There are over 1700 entries in the book. For more information, see their website at: [home.freeuk.net/montgensoc](http://home.freeuk.net/montgensoc)

**Migration Trails of the United States:**  
<http://www.migrationtrails.com/>

**New Perspectives on the West (from PBS)**  
This interactive biographical dictionary provides concise profiles of the men and women featured in THE WEST, as well as information about many individuals who are mentioned only in passing. In most cases, the profiles offer additional details about the lives of these historical figures, together with some comment on their significance for historians.  
[http://www.pbs.org/weta/thewest/people/i\\_r/index.htm](http://www.pbs.org/weta/thewest/people/i_r/index.htm)

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**Some genealogically relevant Latin translations:**  
<http://www.wakefieldfhs.org.uk/latin%20terminology.htm>

**Scotland Free BMD:**  
<http://www.setbmd.com/>

**UK Free Census Main Site:**  
<http://www.freecen.org.uk/>

**UK Free REG Project:**  
<http://freereg.rootsweb.com/>

**Scotland/Mid Lothian Pages:**  
<http://www.users.waitrose.com/~census/>

**Scotland Free Census:**  
<http://www.freewebs.com/mmjeffery/index.htm>

**England and Wales Free BMD:**  
<http://freebmd.rootsweb.com/>

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From the Los Angeles Regional Family History Center:

You can now order films by mail using the form available on their website at: [www.larfhc.org](http://www.larfhc.org)

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## Order Microfilm By Mail

New

MICROFILM FEES INCREASE!

The microfilm circulation loan fees changed effective 14 January 2006.

- Loan fees for microfilm changed from \$3.25 to \$5.50
- Microfiche fees will remain at 15¢ per fiche
- All renewals, including films ordered at the \$3.25 fee, will be renewed at the new rate of \$5.50

These fee changes, the first since February 1997, are needed to keep pace with increasing costs.

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**Sources for Research in Irish Genealogy, Compiled by Judith P. Reid, at the Library of Congress site:**  
[http://www.loc.gov/rr/genealogy/bib\\_guid/ireland.html](http://www.loc.gov/rr/genealogy/bib_guid/ireland.html)

**Editor's Note:** Thanks to Membership Chair Terry Brown for the following:

## Heritage Creations

Heritage Creations Filing for Chapter 7 Bankruptcy Leland Meitzler has been forced to file for bankruptcy. Here's an excerpt from his blog post: "I didn't want to see Heritage Quest Magazine go away. Having founded the magazine 17 years previously, my life was wrapped up in its publication. So I set off on the journey that ultimately cost us everything we owned."

His full post is at:

<http://genealogyblog.com/public-records-in-crisis/heritage-creations-filing-for-chapter-7-bankruptcy-1528>

ProQuest will restate its numbers. ProQuest, through its HeritageQuest Online division, supplies images of U.S. census records, Revolutionary War Pension Applications, U.S. family and local history books and PERSI. It intends to restate its financial statements for 1999 through 2004 and revise its results for the quarters of 2005, due to material irregularities in its accounting. ProQuest's former CFO resigned in mid-2005. In addition, a class action lawsuit has been filed, alleging that ProQuest violated federal securities laws by issuing a series of materially false statements regarding their financial condition.

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**Editor's Note:** *While BIFHS-USA does not make any kind of endorsements, the following may be of interest to our members who are looking to hire a researcher in Ireland. This was received on 2 FEB 06 from Aoife McGonigle – [aoifemcgonigle3@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:aoifemcgonigle3@yahoo.co.uk)*

"Subject: Irish-based researcher

"My name is Aoife McGonigle and I am an historian in Ireland. I attended University College Dublin where I achieved a (2.1) B.A. Degree in History and Archaeology and then a (1.1) M.A. Degree in Early Modern History, my thesis title for which was *The Importance of the MacMahon Family of County Monaghan in the late Sixteenth Century*. I have a deep love for Irish heritage and have worked as an archaeologist. Historical research however, is my main passion. I have recently completed a large research commission on the entire history of an estate in Co. Monaghan – The Annaghmakerrig Estate, which is now an international artists retreat.

"I am writing to your website to offer my services as a professional historical/genealogical researcher based in Ireland to your members. For those who are interested in researching their Irish heritage but are unable to travel to Ireland, they could avail of my experience of the Irish archives and location in Dublin.

"Thank you for your time, I look forward to hearing from you. Yours Sincerely,

Aoife McGonigle M.A."

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Thanks to Lyn Nunn for the following:

### From the FHS Newsletter:

Looking for descendants of Irish convicts project. Dr Charles Page, lecturer in Photography at the Queensland College of Art, Griffith University, is undertaking a Photographic Project in Rathcoola, County Cork, Ireland in the second half of 2006. The project involves photographing relatives and descendants of people transported to Australia in the 1700s & 1800s who are still living in Ireland. He would also be interested in any artifacts that they may retain relating to their ancestors and of course Australia. The portraits will establish a dialogue and a conduit between contemporary Ireland and Australia while referencing the history of both nations.

Any members interested in participating in the project can contact Jacky Owens, the Administrative Officer for the Department of Photography, QCA, Griffith University on 61 7 3735 3203 or email [J.owens@griffith.edu.au](mailto:J.owens@griffith.edu.au)

Any assistance or information would be greatly appreciated.

### The SLADE story with a different slant:

A slightly different story to the other one - a bit more lively since Slade talks about all the claims from far flung places and the indiscretions of his ancestors: <http://observer.guardian.co.uk/focus/story/0,,1712999,00.html>

From:

**British Isles FHS – USA**

2531 Sawtelle Blvd., PMB #134

Los Angeles, CA 90064-3124

Mar/Apr – 2006 Newsletter

**“First Class”**

To:

Please look at mailing label for your membership expiration date. Renew promptly to save the Society money. Individual membership is \$25; family membership is \$30. Thanks, Editor

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**Director**, Welsh Study Group

- Annie Lloyd, [cardi2@aol.com](mailto:cardi2@aol.com)

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**Surname List**

- Sue Wilson, [105224.356@compuserve.com](mailto:105224.356@compuserve.com)

**Webmaster**

- Bruce A. Hamilton, [bhami@pobox.com](mailto:bhami@pobox.com)