

QUESTING HEIRS GENEALOGY SOCIETY

SEPTEMBER QHGS MEETING

Sunday, September 16, 2018

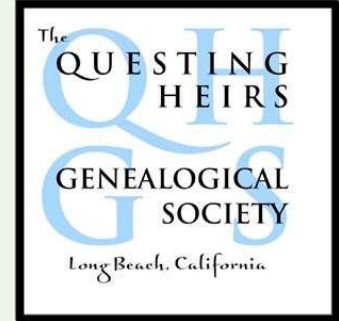
Donna Railsback-Braly

1:15 PM Findagrave.com and Billiongraves.com

2:45 PM Vital Records and How to Cite Them

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Monthly Meetings

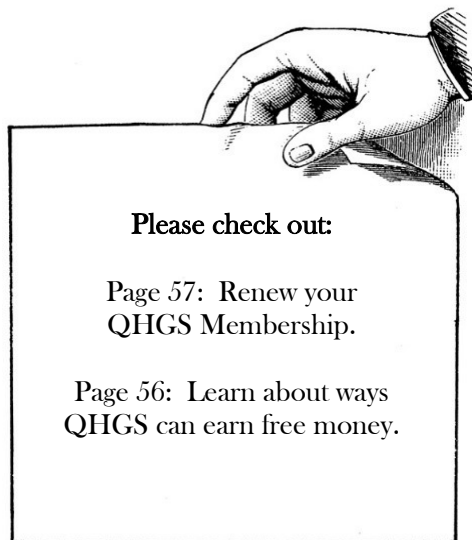
Our monthly meetings are held on the third Sunday of the month at 1:15 p.m. at the Lakewood Masonic Center, 5918 E. Parkcrest Street, in Long Beach California. See map on the last page.

Membership Levels

Individual: \$30.00
 Family: \$45.00

QHGS is an IRS recognized 501(c)(3) nonprofit corporation. Donations are tax-deductible.

QHGS is a member of the Federation of Genealogical Societies



Our September Speaker: Donna Railsback-Braly

Donna caught the genealogy bug in junior college when the class assignment was to write down what you know about your family. That was 30+ years ago. She has documented her ancestry for DAR, UDC, FFTT, and DUVCW 1861-1865. Her favorite genealogy office was Registrar for her Long Beach UDC group.

Findagrave.com and Billiongraves.com

Come see and hear how these sites can help you with your research, preserve it, hopefully hook some cousins and engage the next generation!

Vital Records and How to Cite Them

A plan of attack for finding them: where to look, what's available, what's in them, how to cite them and how to stay organized.

DAR: Daughters of the American Revolution

UDC: United Daughters of the Confederacy

FFTT: First Families of the Twin Territories

DUVCW 1861-1865: Daughters of Union Veterans of the Civil War 1861-1865



Blog Stories to Read this Month

Dick Eastman's Blog: 'The Genetics of Cousin Marriage'

<https://blog.eogn.com/author/eogn/>

FamilySearch Blog: 'Italy Emigration - The Who, Why, and Where'

<https://www.familysearch.org/blog/en/>

Lisa Lisson's Are You My Cousin Blog: '31 Days of "Out of the Box" Genealogy Tips'

<https://lusalisson.com/2018/07/01/volunteer-31-days-genealogy-tips/>

Save the Dates - Upcoming Genealogy Conferences and Seminars

February 27 - March 2, 2019 RootsTech <https://www.rootstech.org/>

Hosted by FamilySearch, Salt Palace Convention Center, Salt Lake City, UT

May 30 - June 2, 2019 SCGS Jamboree 2019 <http://genealogyjamboree.com/>

50th Birthday Bash - Los Angeles Marriott, Burbank Airport Hotel, Burbank, CA

August 3, 2019 One Day Seminar with Dr. Thomas W. Jones www.gsnocc.org

Genealogical Society of North Orange County, Yorba Linda, CA

Have You Looked Everywhere for Your Missing Ancestors?

Do you have an ancestor that seems to have disappeared? Did they die? Did they marry and you can't find any records after their last census appearance? They may have been sent away, never to return home again.

Most families have an ancestor who was a resident of an institution for a period of time. It could have been an almshouse, asylum, or a home for orphaned children and/or older citizens. In some families, you might find that your ancestor served time in a prison.

In a census record people may appear as an inmate. Merriam-Webster defines inmate as 'any of a group occupying a single place of resident; especially: a person confined (as in a prison or hospital)'. Other terms commonly used were prisoner and patient.

There are many reasons that people found themselves in an institution. A list was compiled from the log book at the West Virginia Hospital for the Insane during the late 1800's. Some of those reasons were laziness, egotism, jealousy, superstition, political excitement, domestic trouble, novel reading, and opium habit. To review the full list, see:

<http://www.appalachianhistory.net/2008/12/125-reasons-youll-get-sent-to-lunatic.html>

Alice Elisa Ostwald was born April 19, 1895. Sadly, her mother died while giving birth to Alice. In 1899 her 38-year-old father married 24-year-old Elsie Boerith. In the 1900 census this blended family was living together in the Chicago area.

In 1910 Alice and her sister Esther, ages 15 and 17, were working in separate homes as servants.

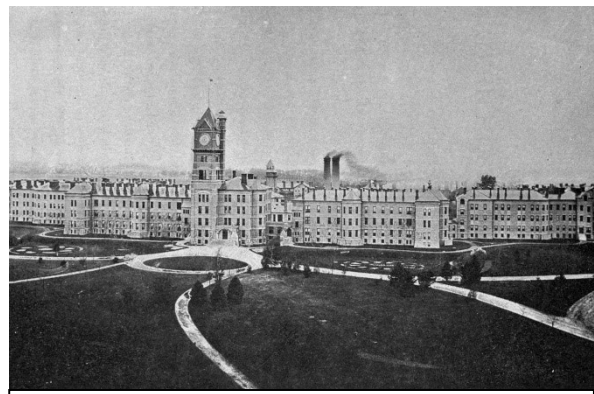
Before the next census, there was a notice in a Chicago Newspaper, *The Day Book* in 1915. Under the heading of News of the Day Concerning Chicago it states:

**Alice Ostwald, 3826 Ward st.,
found on corner at 5 a. m. reading
novel. Sent to insane asylum.**

We find Alice in the 1920 census as an inmate at Kankakee State Hospital in Kankakee, Illinois. Ten years later when the census was

recorded in April 1930, Alice was a patient at the Peoria State Hospital in Limestone Township, Illinois.

Twenty-three days later, Alice's death was recorded in the Burial Register at the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Peoria, Illinois. Her father and sister were listed as mourners. Alice Ostwald was buried at the Chicago State Hospital in Limestone, Peoria, Illinois.



Kankakee State Hospital in 1893

A hundred years ago, state hospitals were called Asylums. Asylums cared for more than just the mentally disabled. Women were especially vulnerable to being committed to asylums by their husbands or male family members in the late 1800s and later. If they were disobedient, depressed, or different from the social norm they might find themselves living in an asylum and removed from their family.

Some families were embarrassed when a loved one was admitted to a hospital, prison, or asylum. Their absence was explained away by a fabricated story. And that is still true today.



Huntsville Prison Circa 1870s

My great grandfather disappeared for a few years after his father died and his step mother abandoned the family. My grandmother told everyone that her father was taken in by a Texas Marshall, learned a trade and rode all over the Indian territory.

It is true that he learned a trade. He learned that trade in the Huntsville Prison while serving a term for forgery. Later in their lives, my grandmother and her sisters still maintained that their father and his brother were never served time in prison.

Since our access to medical records of ancestors may be limited, we might have to rely on newspapers or oral family history. Looking for records of ancestors who found themselves in asylums or prisons can be difficult. Whatever the reason for their confinement, any records on a commitment would be a very interesting addition to your family's story. Some of your ancestors may appear on the census as living at an asylum or hospital but were there as an employee.

Each state has had different record retention practices. Many were not required to keep records a hundred years ago. When looking for records, think about what entity had jurisdiction over the institution. Was it a government agency, a church or private organization? The records might reside with them or even a local genealogy society. Historical societies for towns and counties can also be a good source for information related to your family's stories and secrets.

There is a web site that has a limited number of convict lists, prison records, executions and insane asylum records. If interested in looking at these records, see www.blacksheepancestors.com.

QUARTERLY FINANCE REPORT by Christine Elia

April - June 2018

Income: \$155.21

Expenses: \$1,412.21

F&M Bank Balance: \$4,772.79

Of which \$1,184.06 is restricted to educational expenses

REFRESHMENT REPORT by Sandy Hollandsworth

Our August hosts are: Jackie Grandt, Bridget Dole, Cathy Rokicki, and Joan Zuckerman

Tune in to Podcasts this Month

In a prior issue of the QHGS newsletter we highlighted some of the great genealogy blogs out there. Are you listening to any podcasts right now? You can tune in and listen anywhere using your computer, tablet or smartphone. A few podcasts suggestions are listed below with some of their recent episodes.

Extreme Genes with Scott Fisher • <https://extremegenes.com/>

Episode 246: Fisher & Woodbury Talk 'How to Manage Your DNA Data and Accounts'

Episode 243: Blogger Amy Johnson Crow on '52 Ancestors in 52 Weeks' and more

Episode 239: CeCe Moore on 'Solved Cold Case Using DNA' and 'Ethics of Using Genealogical DNA for Solving Crime'

Genealogy Gems with Lisa Louise Cooke • <https://lisalouisecooke.com/podcasts/>

Episode 220: DNA specificity from your DNA Guide from Diahhan Southard and more

Episode 217: Golden State Killer Case and the investigator's use of genetic genealogy websites

Episode 214: Irish genealogy and finding your ancestors in the five branches of the U.S. Military

Family Tree Magazine Podcasts • <https://www.familytreemagazine.com/podcasts>

Episode 122: 'DNA and Adoption'

Episode 120: 'The New Family Tree Magazine'

Episode 119: 'All About Ancestry.com'

Genealogy Happy Hour • <https://genealogyhappyhour.com/podcasts/>

(A Genealogy Podcast with Two Blonds and a Bottle)

Episode 31: 'Sibling Research'

Episode 27: 'Delving Deeper into Birth Records'

Episode 26: 'Newspaper Research'

Episode 25: 'Organization'

Episode 24: 'Researching Coast to Coast'

Genealogy Learning Opportunities

FamilySearch

September 6 - 'German Civil Registration'

September 13 - 'United States Research: Mid-Atlantic'

September 20 - 'England and Wales Civil Registration'

September 21 - 'Finding Your Hispanic Ancestors on FamilySearch'

September 27 - 'Danish Emigration'

For more information

see: https://www.familysearch.org/wiki/en/Family_History_Library_Classes_and_Webinars

Family Tree Webinars

September 12 - 'Examining Migration & Researching Migrants in the British Isles' by Julie Goucher

September 18 - 'Using Lists to Find Proof' by Cari Taplin

September 19 - '25 Simple Research Hacks Every Genealogist Should Know' by Lisa Alzo

September 25 - 'Importance of Newspapers for Family Research' by Daniel Horowitz




For more information:

<https://familytreewebinars.com/upcoming-webinars.php>



Questing Heirs Genealogical Society Depends on
FREE MONEY

Did you know that less than half of the money we need to run Questing Heirs comes from member dues? That means that if we had to run the society without donations, we would have to more than double the dues. Since we have not promoted our fundraising sources for a long time, the only non-dues income we have had this year was a merchant donation for under \$20 and our Italian restaurant night. We need to do better than that. So this flyer shows you the options that you can select from to do your share.

These options require that you shop or sign-up online. Sign-up instructions for each are found on our “Shop” web page at www.QHGS.info You can also ask friends and neighbors to participate as it will not cost them anything after they’ve signed up.

	<p>Amazon.com has more than books and music. You can buy your household supplies, gifts, food, and tech toys here. We get at least 4% of the price of each item, but you must click on the logo on our website <u>each time you shop</u>. If you already have items in your cart or move items from your “saved” list to the cart, they will not count. But you can make a list of what’s in your cart, empty it, and refill it from your list after you’ve clicked on our website link.</p>
	<p>Ralphs is now changing to a one-time sign up (but existing members still need to renew for this year). Once you create an account and sign up, you can use your card or phone number to shop and we will receive donations from them. Since Food4Less is part of the same chain, purchases there also count.</p>
	<p>If you like to show the world how much you love genealogy, use our Shop page link to access CaféPress and use our logo on t-shirts, mugs, notebooks, and tote bags. We will get a percentage of the sale.</p>

These options don’t require any sign-up or even a computer.

<p>Put an extra \$2 or \$3 in the donation basket each month when you visit the snack table. This spreads your increased donation out over many months.</p>	
<p>Add a donation to your yearly dues renewal. We automatically consider any amount over your dues to be a donation. Donations over \$250 will be recognized in a year-end letter you can use for tax purposes.</p>	
<p>Get a friend or neighbor to join. By increasing our membership, we have more people to share in our fixed costs. We will also be better able to build a diverse pool of volunteers. Many hands make light work!</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Join</p>

• Christine Elia, QHGS Treasurer •

**QUESTING HEIRS GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY
MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL FORM**

Name _____

Spouse's Name _____

Address _____

City _____

State _____ Zip+4 _____

Phone () _____

Member Type: Individual (\$30) \$_____

Family (\$45) \$_____

Donation \$_____

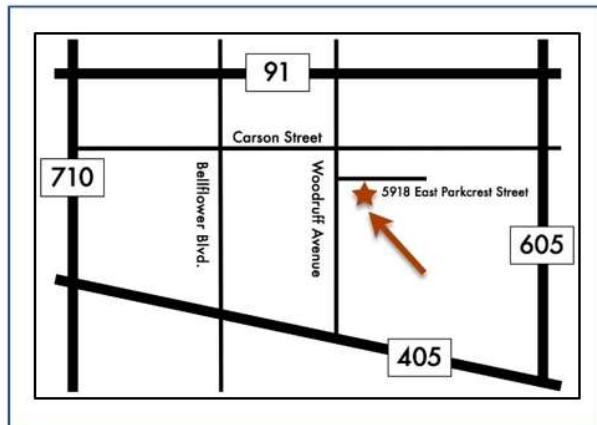
Total Paid \$_____

The membership year runs from September 1st through August 31st.

Please take a few minutes to list/update your surname research and location preferences so our Program Chairman can engage speakers who will interest you. Also, the information will be printed in the directory.

Surnames you are researching: _____

Areas of your research (countries/states/counties): _____



Lakewood Masonic Center Hall • 5918 E. Parkcrest Street • Long Beach, CA

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Submissions for the October Newsletter Must be Received by September 25

The newsletter has been published since 1969 by Questing Heirs Genealogical Society, Inc. Submissions, including queries, corrections, or any questions regarding the newsletter should be sent to: Janice Miller, QHGS, P.O. Box 15102, Long Beach, CA 90815-0102, or emailed to questingheirs@gmail.com. We are not responsible for the accuracy of material published, but will gladly print corrections. Newsletter illustrations: Page 53 Newspapers.com. QHGS logo designed by Mike Powers. All other illustrations are in the public domain and come from New York Public Library, Library of Congress, Wikimedia Commons, Dover Royalty Free Clip Art or as sited.

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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

Look for us on the Web:

<http://www.ghgs.info/>

Facebook:

<https://www.facebook.com/QuestingHeirs/>