

QUESTING HEIRS GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY  
LONG BEACH, CALIFORNIA

**MARCH QHGS MEETING**  
Sunday, March 17, 2019, 1:00 p.m.

**Our March Speaker is  
David Flint**

‘Overview of Genealogy Research in England’

‘Location Finding Aids: Maps, Gazetteers and Websites to Find  
Your Places in England’

MONTHLY MEETINGS

Our monthly meetings are held on the third Sunday of the month at 1:00 p.m. at the Lakewood Masonic Center, 5918 E. Parkcrest Street, in Long Beach California. See the map on the last page.

MEMBERSHIP LEVELS

Dues are \$30 per year for an individual or \$45 per year for a family.

Look for us on the Web:

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

or on Facebook:

[https://www.facebook.com/](https://www.facebook.com/QuestingHeirs/)

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

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• MARCH QUOTE •

‘If you don’t know history, you don’t know anything. You are a leaf that doesn’t know it is part of a tree.’

– Michael Crichton

## • Our March Speaker – David Flint •

David Flint has been doing English genealogy research for the past 15 years. He was born in England, where he lived until the age of ten, when his family moved to Canada, and then to the United States. He currently lives in Irvine with his wife, Nancy.

David devotes time to genealogy research, attending lectures and seminars, teaching genealogy classes, and occasional speaking engagements. He is Past President, Vice-President and Treasurer of the South Orange County California Genealogical Society (SOCCGS) where he currently serves on the society's executive board.

David retired after working for the County of Los Angeles for 40 years, ending his career as Assistant Director of the Los Angeles County Public Library. He began his interest in genealogy at a library conference in Phoenix, Arizona in 2002, where he met two British Isles research specialists from FamilySearch. He likes to say that genealogy found him because he wasn't looking for it at the time. He enjoys cooking, good wine, travel, and likes to read history and historical fiction. In addition to working on his family history, David is developing a specialized collection of British Isles reference books in his home library. He and his wife Nancy have made trips to England to keep in touch with family and visit the country where he spent his childhood.



At his home society in Mission Viejo he leads a monthly England special interest group, and a monthly Legacy Users Group for SOCCGS members using the Legacy Family Tree genealogy program. He also teaches a beginners class for Legacy, and a class in computer basics. He leads an annual week-long research trip to the Family History Library in Salt Lake City for SOCCGS, and is currently planning their 2019 trip. [davidflint@cox.net](mailto:davidflint@cox.net)

### **Overview of Genealogy Research in England**

This program reviews the three main record groups you are likely to use when doing genealogy research in England: Census records, Civil Registration records and Church parish records. Each of these record types covers a different time period ranging from 1538 to the present, and each can provide key information about your ancestors in England. The program will compare the different types of records with illustrations of the content, historical context, and some websites to access them online. A printed handout, with bibliography, is provided.

### **Location Finding Aids:**

#### **Maps, Gazetteers and Websites to Find Your Places in England**

This presentation will focus on location finding aids to help you find the places in England where your ancestors lived, including maps, gazetteers and websites. The talk will include demonstrations for using specific websites that are helpful in researching place names and counties in England. A printed handout, with bibliography, is provided.



#### **MEMBERSHIP REPORT** by Cynthia Day-Elliott

At the February meeting there were 38 members and 2 guests in attendance.

#### **REFRESHMENT REPORT** by Sandy Hollandsworth

Our March hosts are: Terry Hamilton, Melanie Heath, Pat Prager and Shirley Terry

## • In Memoriam • David Werts •

It is with great sadness that we announce that David Werts, long time QHGS treasurer, passed away February 14, 2019. Many of our members remember him and had lovely things to say about him at our February meeting.

David loved jazz and genealogical research. His family suggested that donations could be made to either the Jazz Angels or to the Historical Society of Long Beach. David's wife, Melanie, is the current President of the Historical Society of Long Beach. QHGS will be making a donation to the Historical Society of Long Beach. If you would also like to include a donation in David's name, we will be collecting those at the March meeting. We will have a card available at the March meeting if you would like to write a message to his family.

There is a wonderful article by Rich Archibold in the Press Telegram. You can read it at <https://www.presstelegram.com/2019/02/15/rich-archbold-dave-werts-was-a-wizard-a-rocket-scientist-and-a-friend/>

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## • President's Message •

When March comes around each year, I think of the color green, shamrocks and St. Patrick's Day. Many Irish emigrated to America and so it is that many of us have at least a wee bit of Irish blood.

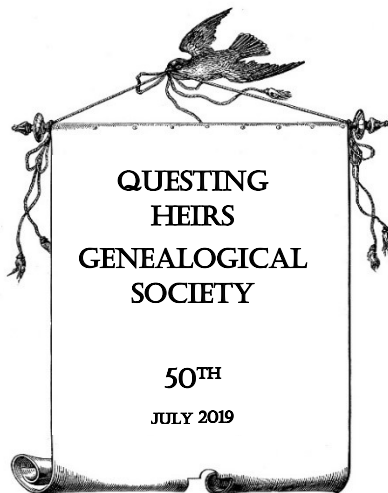
Last month Becky Moore and I told the story of Daniel. I hope it was more inspirational than you may have expected. His story is special to us and we thank you for listening.

Our meetings are open to visitors, so if you have a friend who enjoys genealogy as much as we do, invite them to join us. If you have any questions, concerns, ideas or suggestions, please let me know. You can find my contact information in the member directory.

Christina "Tina" McKillip

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## • QHGS 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary in July! •



We are counting down to July when we will celebrate the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Questing Heirs Genealogical Society. As we get closer to the event, we will reveal more details about the celebration. Look forward to joining us and feast on foods provided by members of the QHGS Board and the 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Committee.

This will be our biggest event this year. The list of items for our raffle is amazing. Proceeds from this event will help support our speakers and other activities. Help us make this a great success!

## • Marriage Records •

Should you find copies of marriage records? Of course. They often contain a wealth of information. Your first question might be, do records exist for the date and place my ancestor was married? Where are these records found? Remember that some couples may have married in another county where laws were less strict. Or they may have married in a family member's home in another town or county.

Depending on the time period and location, marriage records are sometimes easier to find than birth records. Marriage records have been kept in one form or another since early colonial times in the United States. It was important to be certain that couples could legally marry. And the issue of legitimate children was important for reasons of inheritance.

Should you look for the marriage license or for the certificate? Both are useful. A marriage certificate usually contains information about the ceremony, whereas a license contains more information about the participants. You can hope to see ages, birthplaces, marital status of the bride and groom, parent's names and sometimes occupations. The certificate is proof that the marriage occurred. Sometimes the license and certificate are combined on one form.



You can look for records at the department of health, vital records, state archives, court houses, religious institutions, or town hall offices. Before states began state-wide recording, marriage records might be found in probate court, orphan's court, clerk of the court, registrar of deeds or district courts. Ancestry.com and FamilySearch.org are the best places to start your search.

You might not be able to easily find a vital record. You'll need to expand your search and should consider looking at these substitute records:

Census records	Death records	Obituaries
Church publications	Divorce records	Pension records
Church records	Family Bibles*	Probate records
City directories	Newspapers	Property records

\*Family Bible entries may contain marriage information, but should always be validated using other records. The same is true with announcements of wedding anniversaries in church publications or newspapers.

## • Marriage Documents •

**Intention to Marry:** Earlier in time, people usually made a public announcement that they intended to marry. These announcements were made to the community a few weeks before they married so that any objections as to the legality of the marriage could be made. These were also known as **Marriage Banns**. These served to guarantee that there weren't any legal barriers like prior marriage, age or blood relation. These might be found in church bulletins, official records and other publications.

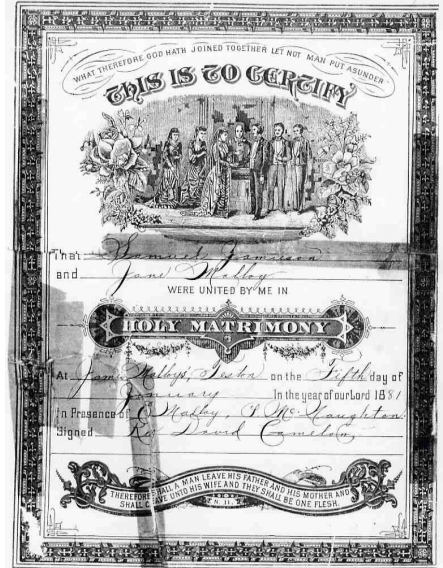


**Marriage Bonds:** This was a bond that was posted and was a guarantee that there wasn't any legal reason the marriage couldn't take place. The bond was usually paid by the groom, but sometimes a male relative of the bride paid the bond.

**Consent Papers:** A parent or guardian would need to sign consent papers if a bride or groom was underage. The definition of "underage" was different from state to state. Sometimes the consent was written on the license or the bond.

**Marriage Record:** This is a public record and is considered a vital record. It contains the full names of the couple, the date and place of the marriage and is issued by the government.

**Marriage Certificate:** A certificate of marriage is given to the couple who married. The county clerk also may keep a copy. It often has a decorative border.



**Registers or Returns:** These may be the only evidence you will find of early family members' marriages. Sometimes there isn't a lot of information on these documents. The recording of names in a register or book was required by church or city officials. Registers or returns may not be the only records for a marriage, so continue to search for other documents. The person who officiated at the ceremony reported the marriage to the county or town clerk once the marriage took place. This was called the 'return'.

Lisa Lisson has a wonderful two-part article on her blog 'Are you My Cousin?'. It is entitled 'How to Confidently Research Your Ancestors' Marriage Record'. These articles go into greater detail that we can in our monthly newsletter. Each blog posting includes graphics that help illustrate each concept. They can be found at: <https://lialisson.com/2016/10/31/how-to-confidently-research-your-ancestors-marriage-records-part-1/> <https://lialisson.com/2016/11/07/how-to-confidently-research-your-ancestors-marriage-records-part-2/>

FamilySearch has a good page related to how to find marriage records in the United States. The web link is [https://www.familysearch.org/wiki/en/How\\_to\\_Find\\_United\\_States\\_Marriage\\_Records](https://www.familysearch.org/wiki/en/How_to_Find_United_States_Marriage_Records)

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## • This Month's Cup of Coffee Question •

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The groom in the photo on page 20 is Edward Abernethy. When was this photo taken? Use your skills analyzing the photo or use traditional genealogy research techniques to figure out the date of this month's photo.



- ✓ 1904 in Caddo, Louisiana
- ✓ 1911 in Welland, Ontario, Canada
- ✓ 1915 in Indianapolis, Indiana
- ✓ 1915 in Port Huron, Michigan

One lucky member will receive a Starbucks gift card donated by Craig Miller. The drawing will be made from the correct answers submitted. Submit your guess at the next meeting using the box on the sign in table. Good luck!

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## • Learning Opportunities •

### Family Tree Webinars

March 6 – ‘A Guide to Third Party Tools for DNA Testing’ with Michelle Leonard.

March 13 – ‘Reclaim the Records: Using Freedom of Information Laws for Genealogy’ with Brooke Ganz.

March 20 – ‘One African-American Family’s Story of Migration from the South: A Board House in Detroit’ with J. Mark Lowe.

March 22 – ‘A Terrible Malady: Disease and Epidemics in New England’ with Lori Lyn Price.

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

### Southern California Genealogical Society Webinars

March 20 – ‘One Touch Genealogy Research: How to Handle a Record Just Once’ with Thomas MacEntee.

April 6 – ‘US Colored Troops and Their Civil War Service’ with Karen Burney.

For more information: <http://www.scgsgenealogy.com/webinar/jes-index.html>

### March FamilySearch Webinars

March 12 – ‘Using the FamilySearch Research Wiki’.

March 19 – ‘Using the FamilySearch Mobile Apps’.

For more information: [https://s3.amazonaws.com/ps-services-us-east-1-914248642252/s3/research-wiki-elasticsearch-prod-s3bucket/images/d/d9/3-Mar\\_2019.pdf](https://s3.amazonaws.com/ps-services-us-east-1-914248642252/s3/research-wiki-elasticsearch-prod-s3bucket/images/d/d9/3-Mar_2019.pdf)

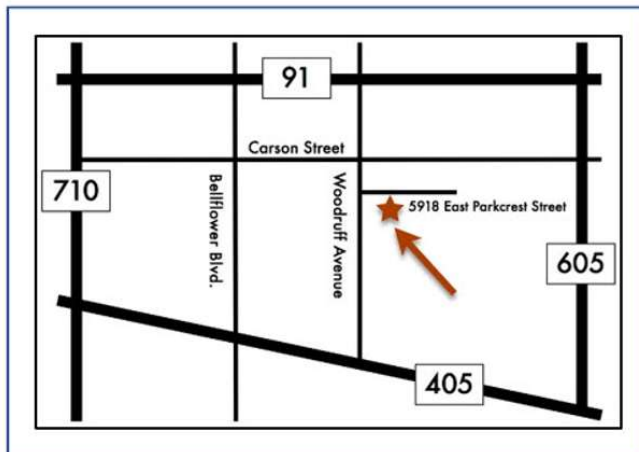
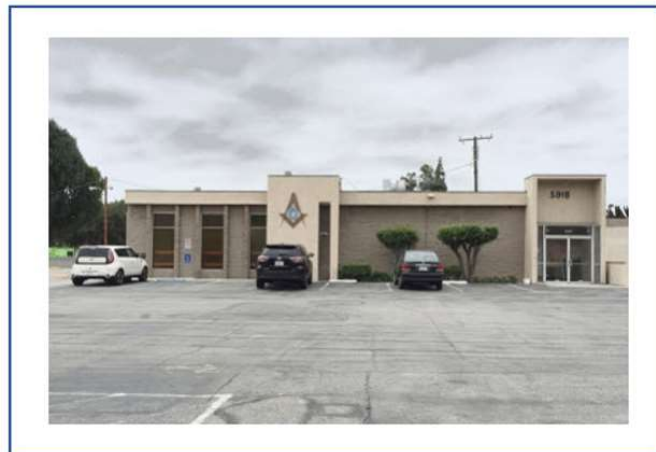
### • Conferences and Events •

- ✓ Genealogy Jamboree 2019: May 30 – June 2, 2019, Burbank, California <http://genealogyjamboree.com/>  
For more information see: <https://wagswhittier.org/cpage.php?pt=7>
- ✓ Gena Philbert-Ortega’s Founders, Fisherman and Family History Cruise: August 10-17, 2019  
Montreal, St. Lawrence River, Quebec, Gulf of St. Lawrence, Charlottetown, Sydney, Halifax, Bar Harbor, and Boston. For more information see <https://www.oconnelltravel.com/rw/view/38994>

### • Blogs and Articles to Read This Month •

- ✓ **Are You My Cousin blog by Lisa Lisson:** ‘Tips and Resources to Find Old Family Photos’ <https://lialisson.com/2019/02/04/find-old-family-photos/>
- ✓ **Are You My Cousin blog by Lisa Lisson:** ‘Delayed Birth Certificates – A Genealogist’s Treasure Chest!’ <https://lialisson.com/2014/07/23/5-things-learned-delayed-birth-certificate/>
- ✓ **Family History Daily blog:** ‘What’s Your Genealogy Know-How Score? Find Out With Our Fun Quiz’ <https://familyhistorydaily.com/genealogy-help-and-how-to/whats-your-genealogy-know-how-score-find-out-with-our-fun-quiz/>
- ✓ **Family History Daily blog:** ‘Ready to Contact Your DNA Matches? Here’s What to Say (and not to Say).’ [https://familyhistorydaily.com/genealogy-help-and-how-to/contacting-dna-match/?utm\\_source=feedburner&utm\\_medium=feed&utm\\_campaign=Feed%3A+familyhistorydaily+%28Family+History+Daily%29](https://familyhistorydaily.com/genealogy-help-and-how-to/contacting-dna-match/?utm_source=feedburner&utm_medium=feed&utm_campaign=Feed%3A+familyhistorydaily+%28Family+History+Daily%29)
- ✓ **Family History Daily blog:** ‘This Straightforward Technique Will Help You Uncover Missed Facts About Your Ancestors’ <https://familyhistorydaily.com/genealogy-help-and-how-to/ancestor-timeline/>
- ✓ **FamilySearch blog:** ‘New Family History Discover Experiences on FamilySearch.org’ by Sunny Morton. Check out the sections on ‘All About Me’, ‘Record My Story’ and ‘Picture My Heritage’ at <https://www.familysearch.org/blog/en/new-familysearch-discovery-experiences/>





Lakewood Masonic Center • 5918 Parkcrest Street Long Beach, CA

**Questing Heirs Genealogical Society Board**

- President..... Christina McKillip.....(2019-2020)
- 1<sup>st</sup> Vice President – Programs..... Terry Hamilton.....(2018-2019)
- 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President – Membership..... Cynthia Day-Elliott.....(2019-2020)
- Secretary ..... Diana Transue.....(2019)
- Treasurer ..... Christine Elia .....(2018-2019)
- Director – Hospitality ..... Tina Yanis .....(2019-2020)
- Director – Newsletter ..... Janice Miller.....(2019-2020)
- Director– Publicity ..... Jerry Hardison.....(2019)
- Past President ..... Sandy McDonald.....(2019-2020)

**QHGS Volunteer Positions**

- Digital Archivist.....Vacant
- Research/Historian.....Tina Yanis
- Refreshments .....Sandy Hollandsworth
- Social Media/Facebook Coordinator.....Laurie Angel
- Webmaster.....John McCoy

Submissions for the April 2019 Newsletter  
 Must be received by noon on March 25, 2019

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](mailto:questingheirs@gmail.com). We are not responsible for the accuracy of material published, but will gladly print corrections. Newsletter illustrations: QHGS logo designed by Mike Powers. Photograph on page 18 courtesy of David Flint; page 20 courtesy of Craig Miller. 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