

QUESTING HEIRS GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY
LONG BEACH, CALIFORNIA

**Ice Cream Social and
Members Share Their Brick Walls**

The next QHGS meeting is
Sunday June 16, 2019 at 1:00 pm

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/QuestingHeirs/>

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

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

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• JUNE QUOTE •

'I continue to be amazed by just how connected all members of the human family truly are.'

– Henry Louis Gates, Jr.

June Meeting • Members Solving Brick Walls and Annual Ice Cream Social



Is your ancestor research stuck and you can't figure out key information about one of your ancestors? Most of us have hit a snag in our research at one point or another. We'd love to hear about one of your current research brick walls. Maybe one of our members has figured out a similar issue and can help you.

We are setting aside time for members who'd like to tell us about a brick wall that they are working on. Let's draw on each other's experiences and see if one of our members might have a suggestion that leads you to your 'Ah-Ha' moment.

If you like help, please come prepared to tell our members about it and hopefully leave with a suggestion that solves your mystery.

Sunday, June 16 is also the QHGS annual ice cream social hosted by our Executive Board. Please come join us for some yummy ice cream and plenty of toppings.

• QHGS President's Message •

Hope you enjoyed our May topic by our own Chris Elia.

This month we talk about brick walls. Who doesn't have one? I would like to meet the person who claims they don't have one. As we listen to our members' stories of their brick walls, we can usually learn something that helps us with our own brick wall.

I hope you will share your story and either ask for suggestions from our members or tell us how you solved it yourself.

Next month is Questing Heirs 50th anniversary celebration. Don't miss out on all the fun.

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

• Father's Day •

Father's Day has been celebrated in one fashion or another since the Middle Ages. It is celebrated on various days throughout the world, but primarily in the months March through June. In the United States we celebrate the day on the third Sunday of June.

According to many accounts, the first Father's Day celebration in the United States was held in churches in Spokane, Washington in 1910. The idea was suggested by Sonora Smart Dodd. She wanted to honor her father who raised six children. He was a civil war veteran and single parent. Two years earlier in a Fairmont, West Virginia church, there was a Father's Day remembrance to honor 362 men killed in a mining disaster. But this was a one-time event.

In 1924 President Coolidge made it a national event but never signed a proclamation. It wasn't until 1972 that day became an official Federal holiday. Richard Nixon was the first President to sign a proclamation making Father's Day an official Federal holiday. To read more about this holiday see <https://www.history.com/topics/holidays/fathers-day>

• This Month's Cup of Coffee Question •

Which U.S. President had 15 children within his two marriages? This president had seven (7) children by his first wife Letitia Christian and eight (8) children by his second wife Julia Gardiner. Use your research skills to determine which of these presidents is the correct man.



Was it William Henry Harrison, Thomas Jefferson or John Tyler?

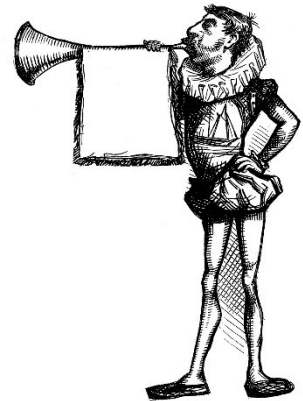
One lucky member will receive a Starbuck's gift card donated by Sandy McDonald. The drawing will be made from the correct answers submitted. Submit your guess using the box at the front table.

• QHGS 50th Anniversary in July! •

The QGHS anniversary is just a month away. What were you doing fifty years ago when our group first began meeting? Were you or someone in your family doing genealogy research? I know that my Mom was sitting at a microfilm machine in Salt Lake City looking for ancestors and typing letters to distant relatives asking them to share family information. Do you remember a world before online records?

The 50th Committee has been hard at work preparing a special program over the last six months and reviewing QHGS records from years past. Food will be provided by the Committee and QHGS Board.

We have an amazing list of items for our raffle. A list of those items will be printed in the July newsletter. Proceeds from the raffle will help support our speakers and other activities. Come and help us make this a great success!



• Websites to Visit This Month •

I. Abundant Genealogy

Thomas MacEntee of abundantgenealogy.com offers a free four-page PDF with a tips and tricks for translating and transcribing documents. The last page includes a list of resources with all the hyperlinks you need to get you started. Thomas has stellar organizational skills and is one of my favorite people to follow online.

If you haven't heard him speak at a conference, seen one of his webinars or read one of his articles, I'd encourage you to do so now. To download his free guide, use the link below.

<https://abundantgenealogy.com/free-download-tools-for-translating-and-transcribing-genealogy-documents-by-thomas-macentee/>

2. The Ancestor Hunt

Earlier this month I was researching a topic for the June QHGS newsletter. I discovered a website that I had not seen before. Have you already seen 'The Ancestor Hunt'? One of the sections on this web site is links to photo archives and online collections of photos. The photos are just the beginning of what you will find at <http://www.theancestorhunt.com/>

If you click the photo tab you will find articles about photographs. A few of those are by Maureen Taylor, Ancient Faces and Jayne Shrimpton. The website also has links to collections by individual states and also the Provinces of Canada.

Here is a sample of the first ten entries in the California collection:

- | | |
|---|---|
| ✓ Anaheim Library - Historic Anaheim Photos | ✓ California Heritage Collection |
| ✓ Army Defense Language Institute Photos | ✓ California Historical Society Collection, 1860-1960 |
| ✓ Atascadero Historical Society Photos | ✓ California Historical Society Photo Albums |
| ✓ Balboa Island Museum & Historical Society - Balboa Island | ✓ California State Library - Pictorial Resources |
| ✓ Benicia Historical Museum Photos | ✓ California Views |

Follow this link to start looking at the photo collections:

<http://www.theancestorhunt.com/photos.html#.XNSPxI5KhhE>

3. Family Tree Magazine

Family Tree Tips: 23 Secrets to Organize Your Genealogy

Organization is so important to the success of any project. How often have you have you searched for a paper or digital file and can't find it? Family Tree Magazine has published a 14-page guide that is worth reading whether you are a beginner or seasoned genealogist.

Take a few minutes to look around their site at <https://www.familytreemagazine.com/>. A few of the things you will find are links for tutorials, free genealogy forms and resources and best genealogy websites.

To download their guide, go to the link below and enter your email name.

<https://www.familytreemagazine.com/freebie/family-tree-tips-23-secrets-organize-genealogy/>

• Learning Opportunities •

Family Tree Webinars

June 12 – 'Tracking Your Digital Breadcrumbs; Bookmarks, Toolbars, Notes and Other Applications' with Cyndi Ingle

June 18 – 'Using Another Library Source: the Government Document Section' with Patricia Stamm

June 26 – 'A Month's Worth of Must-Have Tech Tips to Start Using Today' with Gena Philibert-Ortega

June 28 – '5 Steps to Becoming a Good Ancestor' with Marian Pierre-Louis

July 3 – 'Evaluating Shared DNA' with Paul Woodbury

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

Southern California Genealogical Society Webinars

June 19 – ‘Heirloom, Documentation or Junk: What to Keep and What to Toss’ by Janet Hovorka

July 17 – ‘More Power: Genetic Genealogy Apps and Extensions’ by Shannon S. Christmas

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

Conferences and Events

- ✓ Genealogical Society of North Orange County: A special one day genealogy seminar with Dr. Thomas W. Jones on August 3, 2019. His four presentations are:
 - ‘Five Ways to Prove Who Your Ancestor Was (Some Reliable and Others Not Reliable)’
 - ‘Solving the Mystery of the Disappearing Ancestor’
 - ‘The Jones Jinx: Tracing Common Surnames’
 - ‘Solutions for Missing and Scarce Sources’
 For more information see <http://www.gsnocc.org/seminar.html>
- ✓ Orange County FamilySearch Library Family History Expo: Save this date on your calendar - Saturday, October 12, 2019. More information see <http://www.ocfamilyhistory.org/VWebsite/index.html>
- ✓ Orange County California Genealogical Society: Save the date, Saturday, March 7, 2020 for ‘A Day with Paul Woodbury’. Details will be available in December 2019 at www.occg.com

Salt Lake Institute of Genealogy

The Salt Lake Institute of Genealogy asked us to share some of their upcoming educational opportunities:

- ✓ Virtual Fall 2019 Courses - In-depth education in the comfort of your home
<https://slig.ugagenealogy.org/cpage.php?pt=590;>
- ✓ SLIG 2020 - January 12-17 In-depth high-intermediate to advanced education
<https://slig.ugagenealogy.org/cpage.php?pt=524;>
- ✓ SLIG Academy for Professionals - January 20-24, 2020 professional development courses
<https://slig.ugagenealogy.org/cpage.php?pt=587;>

Blog Articles to Read This Month

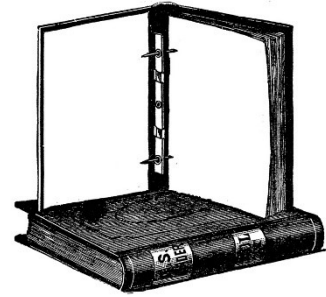
- ✓ Ancestry: ‘How many DNA Tests Does One Family Need?’
<https://blogs.ancestry.com/ancestry/2019/04/23/how-many-dna-tests-does-one-family-need/>
- ✓ Genealogy Bank: ‘Jefferson’s Dilemma: The Louisiana Purchase’
<https://blog.genealogybank.com/jeffersons-dilemma-the-louisiana-purchase.html>
- ✓ Are You My Cousin: ‘Scandinavian Naming Patterns’ <https://lialisson.com/2019/04/22/scandinavian-naming-patterns/>
- ✓ DNAeXplained: ‘Elijah Vannoy: For Want of \$12.58’ <https://dna-explained.com/2019/04/06/elijah-vannoy-for-want-of-12-58-52-ancestors-233/>
- ✓ Genealogy Bank: ‘Genealogy Tip: Revolutionary War Burial Records’
<https://blog.genealogybank.com/genealogy-tip-revolutionary-war-burial-records.html>
- ✓ FamilySearch: ‘Using the 1940 U.S. Census to Build Your Family Tree’
<https://www.familysearch.org/blog/en/1940-census-data/>

MEMBERSHIP REPORT by Cynthia Day-Elliott

At the May meeting there were 34 members and 3 guests in attendance.

• Family Genealogies Donated to QHGS •

This past February, long time QHGS member Dave Werts passed away. Dave was well known to our members and served on the QHGS Board for many years. His wife Melanie generously donated Dave's collection of genealogy books to the Questing Heirs Genealogy Society. This month, we are publishing the names of family genealogies Dave collected. Does anyone have a connection to these families?



If you are interested in any of these publications please send an email to our president Tina McKillip at questingheirs@gmail.com. If you would like to make a small contribution to QHGS, it helps us to continue to provide great education programs to our group.

The families are:

- ✓ Some members of the 18th Century Colonial American Bay Family
- ✓ The Durkee Family Genealogy in America 1650-1850
- ✓ Hough & Huff Families of the U.S. 1620-1820: The East
- ✓ Genealogical History of the Maple/Mapel Family in America
- ✓ The Nims Family: 7 Generations of Descendants of Godfrey Nims
- ✓ Tilden Family Letters 1839-1924 - Associated names: Emerson,
- ✓ Cooper & Briggs - Ames, IA
- ✓ Werts Family History - John Jackson Werts & Esther Ann Wymer
- ✓ Werts Family Record - John Jackson Werts & Esther Ann Wymer
- ✓ Wertz, Wirt, Wuertz Families of PA 1400's-1900
- ✓ Descendants of Wilhelm Wurtz & Anna Catharina - Germany to PA, MD, VA, OH, IL & IA

• Notes on Genealogy Software •

By Christine Elia

I enjoyed the audience interaction at the May meeting where we learned about Software Programs used in genealogy. But since this was a free-form presentation, there were some points I forgot to make.

Before you buy a program, make sure it runs on the version of the operating system you use. For example, there was one program that only runs on Windows 10. Most programs allow a free demo trial period where some features are disabled or the program only works for 2 or 4 weeks. This gives you a chance to "test drive" it before you buy or decide on which program to get.

Be sure you look for what kind of user support is available either at the company's website, by email, or elsewhere. RootsMagic has a user group that meets monthly at the FamilySearch Library in Orange.

FamViewer is an iPhone app that allows you to read GEDCOM files that you email to yourself and pick them up by clicking the email attachment on the iPhone and linking it to the app.

Export only a little part of your tree into a GEDCOM file when you are sharing with a stranger or uploading to a DNA site. For example, when sharing with a stranger, you can export starting with your potentially shared ancestor and go back 3 generations or generate a pedigree chart with the same individuals in it. Avoid sharing data that includes any living relatives. When sharing with a DNA site, you can avoid including your personal data

or that of living relatives by starting with your grandparents and go back 3 generations (assuming your grandparents are deceased). You can double check what you are about to share in a GEDCOM file by opening it using Notepad or a simple text editing tool (but don't change anything!) and reading the text to see what data is included.

To clarify about backing up your data, remember to make backup GEDCOM files along while saving the database that your software creates. Every month or so when you have been working on your data, you can keep a backup of the GEDCOM and full database in sync by putting a number or date after the database name such as calling them:

SMITH-23.ged (the GEDCOM file) and

SMITH-23.rmg (the RootsMagic database), then also save the database in

SMITH-24.rmg so you remember to start using the 24th version next time you work on the SMITH family line.

(Don't edit either file containing "-23" any more, then you will know they represent the same data but in different formats.) For date identification, you can save the files as:

KENNEDY-2019-06.ged (the GEDCOM file saved in June 2019)

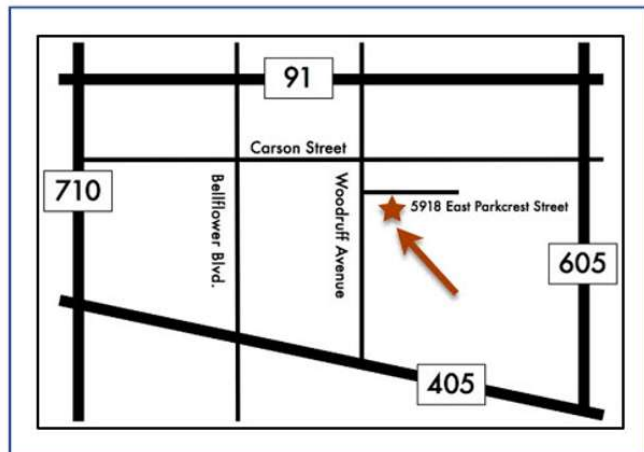
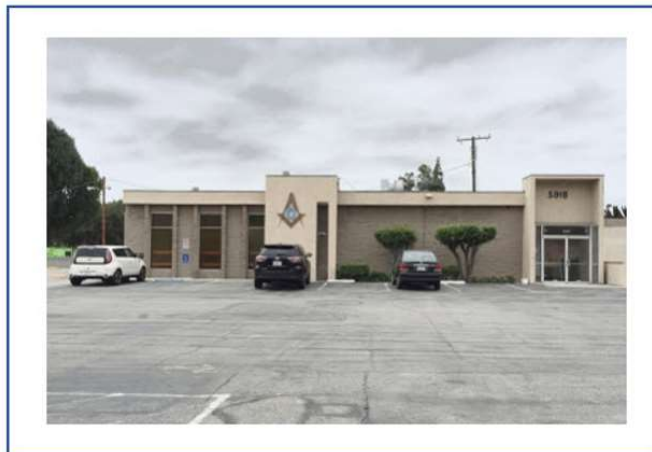
KENNEDY-2019-06.ftw (the Family Tree Maker database) and

KENNEDY-2019-08.ftw (for future work, expected to be done 2 months later).

When done, import the GEDCOM file into an empty database to see if everything loads ok.

Always save at least the last 3 versions and at least 1 annual or bi-annual backup since you may not notice that one branch of a tree became corrupted (disk error) or deleted until several years later. Also pay attention to the size of the files over time as the more data you add to your trees, the larger the files should be. Of course, if you delete a family line that you discovered wasn't yours or you clear out outdated comments, your file sizes will shrink. You may want to document the date you intentionally cleared this out in a Notes file to yourself that is saved with your backups. You may also want to keep a record of what files you saved with others or uploaded where they are no longer in your control.

I was also pleased to see that the majority of those present raised their hand that they now plan to at least create GEDCOMS files for all their data (especially those who store their data online) and do backup of their files (or the whole computer) before the next meeting. It is recommended that you store backups in three different places, as you never know when a natural disaster, fire, computer theft, computer virus, disk drive failure, website being sold (or prices increased), or you might get sick. Also let someone else know where your backups are stored. Remember that **YOUR DATA IS MORE VALUABLE THAN YOUR COMPUTER**, since you have likely spent a lot of time and expense creating your personal database.



Lakewood Masonic Center • 5918 Parkcrest Street Long Beach, CA

Questing Heirs Genealogical Society Board

- President..... Christina McKillip.....(2019-2020)
- 1st Vice President – Programs..... Terry Hamilton.....(2018-2019)
- 2nd 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
- RefreshmentsSandy Hollandsworth
- Social Media/Facebook Coordinator.....Laurie Angel
- Webmaster.....John McCoy

Submissions for the July 2019 Newsletter
 Must be received by noon on June 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. We are not responsible for the accuracy of material published, but will gladly print corrections. Newsletter illustrations: 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