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## QUESTING HEIRS GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY LONG BEACH, CALIFORNIA

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**The Meeting on November 20, 2022 will begin at 2:00 PM. This will be a hybrid meeting utilizing Zoom and also meets in person for those who wish to attend at St. Thomas of Canterbury Episcopal Church**

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### MONTHLY MEETINGS

Our monthly meetings are held on the third Sunday of the month at 2:00 p.m.

**St. Thomas of Canterbury  
Episcopal Church  
5306 E. Arbor Road  
Long Beach, CA 90808  
Between Bellflower Blvd. and  
Clark next to Pan American  
Park or via Zoom**

**Our Guest Speaker is Linda Debe presenting on: Missing Personnel Records: Building Your Ancestors WWI Files From Other Resources**

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### MEMBERSHIP LEVELS

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

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### **Board Nominations for 2023-2024**

**President: Terry Hamilton**

**2<sup>nd</sup> VP: Cynthia Day-Elliott**

**Newsletter: Cheryl Simmons**

Look for us on the Web:

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

or on Facebook:

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

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

**Nominations and Elections will be held at the upcoming November 20, 2022 meeting**

## QHGS President's Message



Our second hybrid meeting was also successful so we look forward to seeing you this month however you join us - in person or via Zoom. Remember to bring your own water or favorite drink.

Thank you to the Western Shores Chapter DAR for their very generous Patriotism Grant of \$1,500 to our society. This money will be used for educational purposes and is greatly appreciated. Thank you to Western Shores Chapter DAR and Questing Heirs member Beverly Jett for your help.

Thank you to our veterans as we honor them on Veteran's Day. My father, Anthony Barbaro served in the Navy during the Korean Conflict and just celebrated his 88th birthday. I know of one Questing Heirs member who is a veteran - Glenn Haas. Do we have more? THANK YOU FOR YOUR SERVICE!

If you have any comments, ideas or suggestions, please let us know at [questingheirs@gmail.com](mailto:questingheirs@gmail.com)

See you at the meeting,

Christina "Tina" McKillip

## November 20, 2022 Speaker

### **Linda Debe, presenting on: Missing Personnel Records: Building Your Ancestors WWI Files From Other Resources**



Linda Debe is a lecturer, writer, and lifelong student with 40 years of genealogy experience. She has many genealogy passions, but WWI military records and land records are two of her favorite topics. The love of WWI records started while attending various military webinars as she attempted to gather information about her grandfather. She has spoken to numerous genealogy audiences and has a you tube channel where she creates short how-to videos.

She holds an AAS degree in Electronics Technology from the United States Air Force. She is an alum of ProGen 54, a coordinator for ProGen 64, and attends the National Institute for Genealogical Studies. She has attended national genealogical conferences and institutions to further her education.

Being Microsoft Office certified in Access and Excel, she applies her training by creating automated spreadsheets helping with genealogy research. Linda created a free Google calendar for genealogists to locate and register for genealogical educational opportunities and can be located on her website, [Thesleeplessgenealogist.com](http://Thesleeplessgenealogist.com).

## Member Stories & Contributions

### Read any good books lately?

#### *Hiding the Past by Nathan Dylan Goodwin*

If you like whodunits, you might enjoy the Morton Farrier, Forensic Genealogist series. Written by Nathan Dylan Goodwin, a genealogist and author of history books, this British crime series includes a half-dozen full-length books and, for those who like a fast read, a couple of novellas.

The first book opens with a client, who knows nothing about his own origins, asking Morton, a determined genealogist (is there any other kind?), to help him unravel the mystery of his true identity. But inevitably there's a murder and Morton has to marshal all his investigative skills to solve that as well. In the process, he is forced to face questions about a nagging secret in his own family tree. *Hiding the Past* is a light, easy read and the violence isn't graphic, although poor Morton seems to meet up with more than his fair share of danger. Who knew genealogy could be so perilous? But coming in at only 229 pages, you're not forced to hold your breath for too long.

Because it takes place in England, genealogical records aren't stored in the same places or accessed in the same ways we're accustomed to, which may be frustrating to some readers, but was fascinating to me. A fun book for genealogists who enjoy murder mysteries.

***Submitted by Bridget Dole***

**From Bob Prager**

#### **"DOLLARHIDE'S GENEALOGY RULES," by William Dollarhide**

Bill Dollarhide has prepared the following 45 amusing pointers for genealogy researchers. While each aphorism is intended to produce a chuckle or two, each contains an important element of genealogical truth as well. Consider #17: "Finding the place where a person lived may lead to finding that person's arrest record." The point of #17 is that researchers must keep an open mind. No one knows what is around the next bend in one's ancestral road.

1. Treat the brothers and sisters of your ancestor as equals, even if some of them were in jail.
2. Death certificates are rarely filled in by the person who died.
3. When visiting a funeral home, wear old clothes, no make-up, and look like you have about a week to live. The funeral director will give you anything you ask for if he thinks you may be a customer soon.

4. The cemetery where your ancestor was buried does not have perpetual care, has no office, is accessible only by a muddy road, has snakes, tall grass, and lots of bugs--and many of the old gravestones are in broken pieces, stacked in a corner under a pile of dirt.
5. A Social Security form SS-5 is better than a birth certificate because few people had anything to do with the information on their own birth certificate.
6. The application for a death certificate you want insists that you provide the maiden name of the deceased's mother, which is exactly what you don't know and is the reason you are trying to get the death certificate in the first place.
7. If you call Social Security and ask where to write for a birth certificate, tell them it is for yourself. They won't help you if you say you want one for your great-great-great-great-great-great grandfather who died in 1642.
8. When you contact your home state's vital statistics office and ask if they are "online" and they respond, "on what?" you may have a problem.
9. An 1850 census record showing all 12 children in a family proves only that your ancestors did not believe in birth control.
10. Work from the known to the unknown. In other words, just because your name is Washington doesn't mean you are related to George.
11. With any luck, some of the people in your family could read and write--and may have left something written about themselves.
12. It ain't history until it's written down. (See #19.)
13. A genealogist needs to be a detective. Just gimme da facts, Ma'am.
14. Always interview brothers and sisters together in the same room. Since they can't agree on anything about the family tree, it makes for great fun to see who throws the first punch.
15. The genealogy book you just found out about went out of print last week.
16. A good genealogical event is learning that your parents really were married.
17. Finding the place where a person lived may lead to finding that person's arrest record.
18. It's really quite simple: first, you start with yourself, then your parents, then your grandparents. Then you QUIT--and start teaching classes in genealogy.
19. If it's not written down, it ain't history yet. (See #12.)
20. In spite of MTV, computer games, or skate boards, there is always a chance that your grandchildren will learn how to read someday.
21. "To understand the living, you have to commune with the dead, but don't commune with the dead so long that you forget that you are living!" (From "Midnight in the Garden of Good and Evil" by John Berendt.)

22. It is a known fact that St. Peter checks all your Family Group Sheets for accuracy before you are allowed to enter the Pearly Gates.
23. Locating the county where your ancestor lived is the first step in finding records about the time he was hauled into court for shooting his neighbor's dog, threatening the census taker with a shotgun, or making illegal corn whiskey behind the barn.
24. A cousin, once removed, may not return.
25. When going to another town for genealogical research, you will always find information on the ancestor for whom you brought no notes.
26. When in a courthouse miles from home, you will always find the breakthrough court record at 4:55pm on Friday afternoon.
27. Research in one county that leads you to information in another county will only be revealed on the last day of your vacation.
28. The tombstone you want to find is always located in the extreme opposite corner of the cemetery from where you started your search.
29. The page on the census where your ancestor's town was enumerated has no page number.
30. That cemetery in Missouri where your great-grandparents were buried is now called Interstate 70.
31. The 1892 newspaper article describing your ancestor as a child winning the grade school spelling bee will misspell her name.
32. Your ancestor will be featured in the county history because he was the first prisoner in the new jail.
33. Your ancestor moved frequently and sold all of his property to his children before he died to avoid probate.
34. The query you found in an old magazine was placed by an unknown cousin--who died two years ago.
35. The courthouse containing the information crucial to your research is always closed for renovation on the day you arrive.
36. The roll of microfilm you need for county research is the only roll in the drawer that was sent out for repair earlier that day.
37. The post office shown on the census page where your ancestors are listed is for a town that does not appear on any known map ever published.
38. The oldest living person in the county has never heard of your ancestor, who lived there years ago.
39. Genealogy is the examination of the maximum amount of data in the maximum amount of time for a minimum result.

40. If you find a query in an old periodical giving two related names for which you are searching, it will be a query that you placed yourself four years ago and forgot about.
41. You always receive more e-mail about your ancestors the day before you are scheduled to go on vacation.
42. If you took Family Group Sheets to the last wedding you attended, you probably are an addicted genealogist.
43. If you can remember your ancestors' marriage dates but not your own, you probably are an addicted genealogist.
44. Genealogy is an addiction with no cure and for which no 12-step program is available.
45. I'm crazy about genealogy, but not necessarily yours.

## Upcoming November Webinars

### Legacy Family Tree Free Webinars

#### [Legacy Family Tree Webinars : Upcoming November 2022 Webinars](#)

(Click on the above link to register for any of the webinars below)

**All times listed are PDT**

#### **Tips & Tricks for Researching in Australian Archives**

Shauna Hicks Tue, November 1, 2022 at 6 PM

This presentation explains how to search online archive catalogues for maximum results. Just one letter can mean that researchers will not find what they are looking for. Searching variant names and places is critical and numerous examples will allow researchers to search more effectively in Australian online archive catalogues.

#### **European Emigrant Ancestors to America: The Voyages and the Records**

Nancy E. Loe, MA, MLS, Wed, Nov 9, 2022: 5:00 PM PST

Research immigrant ancestors who left Europe between 1820 and 1920. What did your ancestors experience when they decided to leave their homes and communities to sail to America? What was the voyage like? When they reached America, what did they experience? Discover essential and lesser-known migration records for your family history research in this webinar.

#### **Ready or Not: Strategies to Discover Ancestors Playing Hide and Seek**

Francine Crowley Griffis, CG, Wed, Nov 16, 2022: 11:00 AM PST

Successful researchers carefully mine sources, correlate, and analyze extracted information to solve research problems. Identifying a research subject that materializes or disappears from thin air is challenging, but careful attention to detail may help researchers overcome frustration. This lecture will use mini-case studies to outline strategies.

**MARK TREPANIER**

I taught biology, chemistry and physics in high school for 30 years in LAUSD at South Gate and Bell high schools and have been retired since 2019. I have a lifelong interest in family history and my ancestry is mostly French and Welsh.

**Contact Information**

Orange County FamilySearch  
Library  
674 S. Yorba Street  
Orange, CA 92869  
(714) 997-7710  
[ocfamilyhistory.org](http://ocfamilyhistory.org)

**Class Details**

**Date:** November 12, 2022

**Time:** 1 pm

**Driving Directions:**

From 22 Freeway, East: Take  
Tustin exit, turn right onto Tustin,  
left on Fairhaven, left on Yorba

From the 55 Freeway, North or  
South: Take Chapman East exit,  
Turn right onto Yorba

## ORANGE COUNTY FAMILYSEARCH LIBRARY

### French Canadian Ancestry and Genealogy Resources

By Mark Trepanier

**COURSE DESCRIPTION**

Overview of how to find and use key sources for searching for your American and Canadian ancestors of French Canadian heritage. Presentation is at the beginning level.



**Zoom Link:** [ocfamilyhistory.org](http://ocfamilyhistory.org), choose "Learning", choose Orange County Classes and Events, choose desired class and click the zoom link.





**St. Thomas of  
Canterbury  
5306 E. Arbor Rd.  
Long Beach, CA**



### Questing Heirs Genealogical Society Board

President.....	Christina McKillip.....	(2019-2022)
1 <sup>st</sup> Vice President – Programs .....	Jerry Hardison.....	(2020-2022)
2 <sup>nd</sup> Vice President – Membership .....	Cynthia Day-Elliott.....	(2021-2022)
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Director – Hospitality.....	Tina Yanis .....	(2019-2021)
Director – Newsletter.....	Cheryl Simmons .....	(2021-2022)
Director– Publicity.....	Diana Transue.....	(2022-2023)
Past President.....	Sandy McDonald.....	(2019-2023)

### QHGS Volunteer Positions

Digital Archivist.....	Diana Transue and Cynthia Day-Elliott
Research/Historian .....	Tina Yanis
Refreshments.....	Sandy Hollandsworth
Social Media/Facebook Coordinator.....	Diana Transue
Webmaster .....	Mike Powers

### Submissions for the December 2022 newsletter must be received by noon on November 25, 2022.

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 Cheryl Simmons, QHGS, P.O. Box 15102, Long Beach, CA 90815-0102, or emailed to [tamparoots@gmail.com](mailto:tamparoots@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. Photo on page 2 by Christina McKillip and Linda Debe. 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, with permission from Twisted Twiggs or through a subscription to Clip Art.com as cited.

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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:

[Questingheirs@gmail.com](mailto:Questingheirs@gmail.com)