



**QUESTING HEIRS GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY
LONG BEACH, CALIFORNIA**

Our next hybrid meeting is April 16, 2023 and will begin at 2:00 PM. This meeting will meet in person at St. Thomas of Canterbury Episcopal Church, or you can attend via Zoom. Masks are recommended and we ask if you are not feeling well to please join the meeting via Zoom.

**Our Guest Speaker is Kim Richardson
presenting on: A New Strategy for Brick
Walls**

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**

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/>

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

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QHGS President's Message

Greetings,

Spring has arrived. It comes in like a lion but hopefully will go out as a lamb.

This past Saturday Tina, Nina and I attended the OCCGS BASH. Our speaker was Rich Venezia. He covered everything from Origins, Naturalization, to Alien Registration. I never knew that the laws were changed so many times.

In one of his slides a member in the audience spoke up and said "that's my relative". Rich was very surprised as he just picks random examples.

See you at our next meeting. HAPPY HUNTING

I can always be reached at hammytl@aol.com.

Terry Hamilton

April 16, 2023 Speaker

Kim Richardson Presenting on: A New Strategy for Brick Walls



Ever feel like you are engulfed by a pile of research? Do you ever think to yourself, "If I could just get organized, I could solve this mystery?" If so, this presentation is for you! This session explains why complex genealogy problems feel overwhelming and how to overcome it. (Don't worry, it's not you, and you're not alone!) You CAN master the "thought chaos" caused by all that data swirling around in your mind. All you have to do is interact with the research in a new way and engage in activities that transform you from a (passive) data reader/collector into an (active) data user/thinker. The presentation shows you how and

demonstrates a technique that:

- teaches you to handle information in a new way to see more links and relationships
- allows you to see all your research at one glance
- organizes your research for you (yes, really!)
- simplifies all the data
- shows you any gaps, errors, and conflicts
- automatically creates a narrative outline (and eliminates writers' block!)
- helps you plan and brainstorm your way to success

Professional genealogist Kim Richardson founded a research and consulting firm to assist clients in their pursuit of their ancestors. She also enjoys spending time researching her own family, but Kim's favorite genealogy activity is serving the family history community by coaching and empowering others to break through barriers to achieve their goals. To that end, Kim created and developed the "Brick Wall Buster Cards" to show others her secret to solving tough genealogy problems and family mysteries. She regularly teaches and presents to groups across the country. She also writes for local and state genealogy publications and wrote the "Mississippi

Research Guide” for *Family Tree Magazine*. She has researched for TV shows *Finding Your Roots* and *Who Do You Think You Are?*

Kim earned a B.A. in Communication with a concentration in Public Relations from Mississippi State University. She retired from service to the State of Mississippi after 25 years as an advocate for victims of violent crime and working in highway traffic safety programs.

Member Stories & Contributions

Read any good books lately?

FAMILY PHOTO DETECTIVE **Learn How to Find Genealogy Clues in Old Photos** **and Solve Family Photo Mysteries**

By Maureen A. Taylor

This is a wonderful resource to help you identify the people, places and eras of old photographs. Maureen Taylor, known as The Photo Detective, will show you how to determine the kinds of images you have (everything from paper prints to tintypes), and teach you the clues to look for (clothing, accessories, hairstyles, and even the photographer) to determine when and where they were taken. She even delves into comparing facial features to confirm identity and family resemblance.

Maureen can also be hired to help with your photo mysteries. I visited her booth at one of the Jamborees and she provided a real breakthrough for me. I had two photos that I assumed were of the same woman, one in her youth and one in later years. But Maureen pointed out the dress styles were from the same decade and I realized I was looking at my great-great grandmother and her own mother.

The author has almost a dozen other books available on Amazon, one dedicated to hairstyles from 1840 to 1900, and another on bonnets and hats from the same era. She also has a great podcast with fascinating guests. I haven't got much into listening to podcasts, but this one is well worth it. Maureen can be found at maurentaylor.com.

DATING OLD PHOTOGRAPHS 1840-1929

by Halvor Moorshead

MORE DATING OLD PHOTOGRAPHS 1840-1929

With an introduction by Maureen Taylor

These magazine-sized books, both published by Family Chronicle, provide helpful hints and numerous pages of photos, divided by era. They are valuable resources. Even when not actively researching, I love to thumb through the portraits and family groupings to get a sense of how my ancestors dressed and lived. These two books seem to be out of print but might be available used.

Reviewed by Bridget Dole

Stories Behind the Stars: Remembering the 421,000 WWII Fallen Servicemen

A few years ago, a nationwide project called Stories Behind the Stars began. The "Star" refers to the Gold Star each family received for a serviceman who died while serving. The project's goal is to document each life that was lost so they can be remembered as individuals. They weren't just names on a headstone or memorial wall, but they had relatives, dreams, and a future.

While everyone has a birthdate and were likely shown in the census, each person also has some data that can be easily found that is unique to them such as what they looked like in a photo, the kind of work they did before enlisting or being drafted, and what their interests were, from sports, to clubs, to special talents.

Our QHGS member Christine Elia has already volunteered for this program and would like some others to join her. Online training takes about an hour and volunteers are provided free access to Ancestry, Fold3, and Newspapers.com. You will be able to also use these resources to document other vets who came home safely and for your other genealogy research. Those who are new to genealogy will learn the basics of research along the way and the more experienced members will likely learn about something new that doesn't appear in their own family tree. All you need is a computer and internet access and some time to devote to this. Christine doesn't plan to continue researching for this project indefinitely but will stop by the end of the year. Depending on what our society's volunteers learn, possibly their findings can be shared with the society at a future meeting.

You can learn more at StoriesBehindTheStars.org. Then if you want to join in this project, send her your name, email address, and phone number through QuestingHeirs@gmail.com.

"Brick Walls" of QHGS Members From Our March 2023 Meeting by Christine Elia

Last month we were invited to share our genealogy questions or problems with the 26 or so members who were in attendance, both on site and via Zoom. I always like these discussions as it shows what some of us are researching as well as how the problem could be addressed. By creating the following list, we will now know who to contact should any of us come across another source that might be useful to the asking member. I apologize in advance if I've left out someone's name or question, since sometimes I couldn't see (or hear) who was speaking, especially when multiple small conversations occurred at the same time.

Jerry started us out with an old photo behind glass where she wondered how to date the photo and location. **Bob** thought it looked like a cabinet card. **Bridget** has a book(s) by Maureen Taylor on this topic, whom she met at Jamboree one year. Maureen is known as the "The Photo Detective" and can be contacted on Facebook if the book doesn't help enough.

Bob has two old photos of people who look similar, who appear to be wearing the same necklace but the person in one photo is identified but not in the other photo. He was thinking it could be the same person with the photos taken years apart, but others thought the photos are more likely taken near the same time.

Christine was browsing through Claudine Burnett's book *Prohibition Madness* about Long Beach in the 1920s and 30s, looking for references to Ku Klux Klan records, since they were active in our area back then. She would like to find records of KKK activity in Pennsylvania in the 1920s and asked that everyone keep their eyes open to that and let her know if they see something pertinent.

Bridget has an obituary that referenced lots of activities the deceased had while a member of the Order of the Eastern Star and wanted to know if there were records confirming that. Replies were that the Masons also hold records but they are kept secret and not publicized. But when a lodge shuts down, the records may be sent to headquarters. Sending a letter to the headquarters for that area may (or may not) get a response.

Sue T's research takes her back to people who were eligible to join the Daughters of the American Revolution (DAR), but she can't find any more citations once she gets to that level. It's like their further proof of lineage is hidden. Sandy P replied that she is a DAR chapter registrar and the DAR does not publish that info for three generations due to privacy issues or if a descendant is still living. But she can help Sue with records that are not yet made public.

Bob is researching the ASAHHEL surname in Gill, Massachusetts and has three ASAHHELs related to him but he can't determine their relationship to each other. One response given to him was that there are lots of small local groups in that area that focus on the history of their town. Possibly he can find out about them through a library or town hall. Another suggestion was to watch Warren Bittner's webinar that had just been given a few days earlier as part of the Legacy Family Tree Webinar series as he is a professional genealogist who had been working on a similar problem while trying to find the German town of origin for an "impossible immigrant" (part of the webinar title). [A little bird told me that Bob went home and immediately looked for and watched that webinar the same day!]

Lauren has had difficulty searching for surnames that are also common words such as GROOM. Cynthia suggested a book on how to do Google searches that includes how to negate what you *don't* want included in your search results. The book was written by Lisa Louise Cooke. Since Lisa Louise Cooke is well known in the genealogy world, I looked for her on YouTube and she has several short clips that talk about the Google operators you can use to refine your searches.

Lastly, **Cheryl** didn't have a question, but she wanted to share that she and her cousin finally made a breakthrough in their brick wall involving Spanish and Cuban ancestors that they can now trace back to the Canary Islands. Congratulations on that success!!!

I hope I didn't overlook anyone or get any basic information wrong. If so, please feel free to contact me so I can add something to the newsletter for next month.

Upcoming Webinars

Legacy Family Tree Free Webinars

Legacy Family Tree Webinars: Upcoming April 2023 Webinars

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

All times listed are PDT

Looking for “Aliens” Down Under: A Guide to Australian Naturalization Records

Kristy Love, PhD, Tue, Apr 4, 2023: 7:00 PM PDT

Following the founding of the colony of Australia, individuals born in the British Empire were considered British subjects, irrespective of the nationality of their parents. Residents of Australia whose native place was outside of the British Empire were not afforded the same rights and privileges as British subjects. These rights, in particular the right to buy land and vote, could be conferred to an individual by a process known as naturalization. This bureaucratic process generated multiple sets of records that contain a wealth of genealogical information. This talk will outline the complex history of naturalization in Australia, the changing terminology used, how, when and why naturalization records were created, and discuss the likely availability of records and for whom they may have been created.

Covering Your Bases: An introduction to Autosomal DNA Coverage

Paul Woodbury, Med., AG, Wed, Apr 5, 2023: 11:00 AM PDT

Autosomal DNA tests are utilized in genetic genealogy to solve historic research questions by exploring the genetic traces left by deceased ancestors in the genomes of their living descendants. Any given descendant only inherits a portion of their ancestor's DNA, and different descendants inherit different portions of that DNA. Based on the relationships between tested descendants of a research subject, it is possible to estimate how much of an ancestor's DNA is represented in any given database. This information can help in prioritization of testing candidates and can also aid in interpretation of shared DNA between multiple groups of individuals.

Solving Unknown Parentage Mysteries with MyHeritage DNA

Michelle Leonard, Thu, Apr 13, 2023: 2:00 PM PDT

DNA testing has transformed the options available to people with unknown parentage or other unknown ancestor mysteries. This presentation will explain how to use DNA results from MyHeritage to help with solving these previously unsolvable enigmas. Michelle will guide you through how to use the tools and features provided by MyHeritage specifically for unknown parentage situations from investigating MyHeritage matches, utilizing the detailed shared match lists on offer, building master research trees for your projects, using the 30 helpful color-coding labels to cluster and organize mystery matches right through to identifying links and obtaining solutions. She will provide practical demonstrations of the core techniques you should employ and genuine case studies and success stories will be included to show how DNA results from MyHeritage can be used in tandem with traditional research to solve mysteries and gain answers.

Spanish & Latin America Records on MyHeritage

Daniel Horowitz, Thu, Apr 13, 2023: 3:00 PM PDT

Researching Hispanic and/or Latino ancestors? Daniel Horowitz will introduce you to the wealth of historical collections from Spain and Latin America on offer at MyHeritage and give you important pointers for searching and analyzing them.

Liverpool: The Central Hub for Northern Europe's 19th and 20th Century Emigration

Paul Milner, FUGA, MDiv, Thu, Apr 13, 2023: 4:00 PM PDT

Regular sailing schedules between Liverpool and North America began in 1818, and during the 19th century Liverpool became the primary port for emigrants from the British Isles, northern Europe and Russia to North America, Australia, and the rest of the British Empire. Learn how and why this came about, understand what the experience was like going to, in, and leaving from Liverpool. Learn how to identify, access, and use the records of the port and shipping that are available.

The Secret to Finding Your Ancestors' Stories

Janice Nickerson, Thu, Apr 13, 2023: 5:00 PM PDT

When it comes time to write the stories of your ancestors' lives, whether you want to write a blog post or a book, you are going to want more than names, places and dates. These lists of facts make for boring reading. This lecture will reveal Janice's secret method to uncovering hidden episodes of our ancestors' lives that bring their stories to life.

An Introduction to Investigative Genetic Genealogy

Ugo Perego, PhD, MSc, Fri, Apr 14, 2023: 10:00 AM PDT

Investigative, or Forensic, Genetic Genealogy (I/FGG) is the relatively recent application of traditional genetic genealogy skills, tools, and resources with the objective to assist Law Enforcement agencies in identifying unidentified human remains or suspects of violent crimes, among other cases. With this introduction, we will learn how I/FGG started, how it works, how is it different from traditional Forensic DNA Typing, and other traditional genealogical and genetic investigations used in criminal justice, and what changes are in place to ensure that I/FGG can be done safely, ethically, legally, and without compromising the privacy and integrity of the genetic genealogical community.

Unearthing The Treasures In The Irish Registry of Deeds

Natalie Bodle, Fri, Apr 14, 2023: 5:00 AM PDT

The Registry of Deeds based in Dublin has been in existence since 1704 and manages the legal registration of property. Less well known is that it is also a repository for genealogical treasures such as wills, property leases and marriage agreements. People named in these records include the principal parties and also wider family members and witnesses. It is also possible to find records by location. These records are available as microfilms on the Family Search website although they are not indexed there. This webinar will cover different methods of searching within and accessing these valuable records.

When Enough is Enough

Judy G. Russell, JD, CG, CGL, Fri, Apr 14, 2023: 6:00 AM PDT

When weaving DNA and paper trail evidence together, how do we know when enough is enough? There's often a thin line between a convincing case and one that falls just short of meeting genealogical standards. When we look at specific cases, what guides us in determining when we have enough DNA or enough documentary evidence or enough of both—and when more will be needed to meet the Genealogical Proof Standard?

Off the Shelf: The Unexplored Potential for eBooks in Genealogy

Cyndi Ingle, Fri, Apr 14, 2023: 1:00 PM PDT

There is a treasure trove of untapped research sources online: the electronic book or ebook. Repositories are digitizing publications and putting them online for us to use without having to leave the comfort of our homes. We will explore all the options that are out there to move your research forward.

Elusive Ancestors: Never Too Poor to Trace

Elizabeth Shown Mills, CG, CGL, Fri, Apr 14, 2023: 2:00 PM PDT

Everyone has ancestors who seem to mysteriously appear and then dissolve into the ether, existing nowhere except a family story, a census, or a Bible entry. When deeds, wills, and other standard records fail to yield more information, “too poor to trace!” is a common conclusion—but a wrong one. Many neglected sources include propertyless men, women, and children. This class explores those sources and defines strategies we can use to develop clues, even from records that do not specifically name our ancestors.

Surnames Origins – Why? When? Why Then?

Wayne Shephard, Wed, Apr 19, 2023: 11:00 AM PDT

The use of surnames dates back only to the late Middle Ages, around the 14th century. Almost all 9th and 10th century records show only one name for individuals. A pattern began to emerge in the late 12th century with regard to references to manors, estates and monasteries. This presentation will show, through examples from many types of documents produced during the medieval period, how the Little Ice Age climatic downturn impacted living conditions and imposed what would have been a major impetus to identify people. The use of a surname became the favored and logical method to do so.

For additional free Legacy webinars, past April 19, 2023 please go to:

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

Family Search Webinars can be found at:

https://www.familysearch.org/en/wiki/FamilySearch_Library_Classes_and_Webinars



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



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- Digital Archivist..... Diana Transue and Cynthia Day-Elliott
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**Submissions for the May 2023 newsletter
must be received by noon on April 25, 2023.**

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. 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 with permission from Kim Richardson. 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