

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

Our Questing Heirs meeting is December 17, 2023 and will be a potluck lunch at St. Thomas of Canterbury Episcopal Church, or you can attend via Zoom. We ask if you are not feeling well to please join the meeting via Zoom.

In This Issue

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**

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MEMBERSHIP LEVELS

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

QHGS Membership Renewal Reminder
The Questing Heirs Genealogical Society membership year runs from January 1st through December 31st. Your dues help fund speakers and other activities throughout the year. Please complete the form on page 6 when you have a moment and mail the completed membership renewal form and your check to our post office box at: Questing Heirs Genealogical Society, PO Box 15102, Long Beach, CA 90815-0102

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.



QHGS President's Message

Greetings, as we end our Thanksgiving feast and thankful for our ancestors and being able to track them, we now enter into the holiday season. We all have our family traditions and have added some new ones as our families grew. Enjoy this time with family and friends.

Our December meeting will again include our traditional finger food potluck. Hope to see you! This will be a sharing meeting, so bring a picture or other item that you would like to share.

This meeting will also include a drawing for a 1-year Membership to Questing Heirs. Other items have also been donated by members.

MUST BE PRESENT TO WIN.

Every member present will be given a ticket.

Happy Hunting!
Terry
hammytl@aol.com

Member's Corner

Thanks to Bob Prager for submitting the following information.

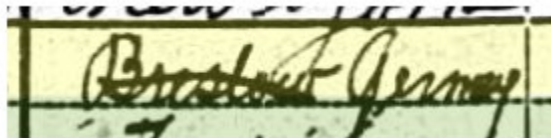
Check the Original Document – Don't Trust the Index

We often hear that it's very important to look at the original document when possible, and not to rely on the index. I messed up!

My paternal grandfather was an Ashkenazi Jew who immigrated from Europe about 1885. He died in an industrial accident in 1929, so I never met him. Everyone always said he was from "Germany" and German was his first language. (I have the names of his parents from his marriage license, and his brother said that he himself came from Berlin.)

I always wondered where in Europe my grandfather came from but resigned myself to living with this "brick wall" – I needed more information and didn't see any obvious way to get it.

While looking at the 1920 census recently to verify the names and birth dates of my uncles (my father was the youngest of 10!), I noticed something – although the census *index* reported that he claimed to have been born in Germany, the entry itself was “interesting”:



The enumerator wrote “Breslow” (which was almost certainly “Breslau” in Silesia, part of the German Empire which became “Wroclaw” in Poland after World War I) and corrected himself and wrote “Germany.”

Actually, based on enumerator’s instructions for the 1920 census, Breslau or Silesia would have been the correct entry. If a respondent said “Germany” (or any of the other countries where borders moved post WWI) the enumerator was to find out exactly where and list the region or city. (The instruction seems to have required more knowledge of European geography than most enumerators possessed -- for example, he didn’t list Alsace-Lorraine for my grandmother, as he should have.)

In any case, I now have additional information I can play with!

Free Webinar: APPLYING TO REVOLUTIONARY WAR LINEAGE SOCIETIES

Thursday, Dec 7, Noon-1 PM PST

With the 250th anniversary of the Revolutionary War fast approaching, you may be interested in documenting your family connection to an American patriot and applying to a lineage society. Join Vice President of Research and Library Services Lindsay Fulton for a step-by-step look at applying to Revolutionary War lineage societies including the application process and tips for when you can’t find vital records. The lineage societies covered in this presentation will include National Society Daughters of the American Revolution, Sons of the American Revolution, Sons of the Revolution, The Society of the Cincinnati, The Order of the Founders and Patriots of America, and the Boston Tea Party Descendants Program.

<https://hubs.americanancestors.org/applying-to-revolutionary-war-lineage-societies>

Upcoming Webinars

Legacy Family Tree Free December 2023 Webinars

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

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

All times listed are PDT

Who Were “Felix Richards’ Slaves”? Identifying Enslaved People Photographed During the Civil War

Amy Bertsch, Fri, Dec. 1, 2023: 11 AM PST

5 Tips for Deciphering Handwritten Documents

Bryna O’Sullivan, Wed, Dec. 6, 2023: 11:00 AM PDT

The Latest Developments in Searching Historical Records on MyHeritage

Maya Geier, Tues, Dec. 12, 2023: 11:00 AM PST

Where Did Your U.S. Ancestors Go to Church? 5 Ways to Find Out

Sunny Morton, Wed, Dec. 13, 2023: 5:00 PM PST

Landscape of Dreams: Jewish Genealogy in Canada

Kaye Prince-Hollenberg, Fri, Dec. 15, 2023: 11:00 AM PST

Finding Sophia’s Family: A Case of Fratricide and Forgotten Identity

Nancy A. Peters, CG, CGL Tues, Dec. 19, 2023: 5:00 PM PST

Got Old Negatives? Scan Them with Your Phone and These (Mostly) Free Apps!

Elizabeth Swanay O’Neal, Wed, Dec. 20, 2023: 11:00 AM PST

For additional free Legacy webinars, 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**



Questing Heirs Genealogical Society Board

- President.....Terry Hamilton..... (2023-2024)
- 1st Vice President – ProgramsJerry Hardison (2022-2023)
- 2nd Vice President – Membership ..Cynthia Day-Elliott (2023-2024)
- Secretary.....Bridget Dole..... (2022-2023)
- Treasurer.....Bob Prager..... (2022-2023)
- Director – Hospitality.....Tina Yanis (2023-2024)
- Director – Newsletter.....Cheryl Simmons (2023-2024)
- Director– PublicityDiana Transue..... (2022-2023)
- Past PresidentChristina McKillip..... (2023-2024)

QHGS Volunteer Positions

- Digital Archivist.....Diana Transue and Cynthia Day-Elliott
- Research/HistorianTina Yanis
- Refreshments.....Sandy Hollandsworth
- Social Media/Facebook Coordinator.. Diana Transue
- WebmasterMike Powers

**Submissions for the January 2024 newsletter
must be received by noon on December 23, 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 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, 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

QUESTING HEIRS GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY

Member application or renewal

I am a New member
 Current member renewing

Name _____

Spouse's Name (for family membership) _____

Address _____

City _____

State _____ Zip+4 _____

Phone () _____

E-Mail Address _____

Member Type: Individual (\$30) \$ _____
Family (\$45) \$ _____
Paper copy (\$10) \$ _____
Donation \$ _____
Total Paid \$ _____

To continue to receive a paper copy of the newsletter, please add a donation of \$10 to your renewal. This will help cover the cost of the printing and postage costs for the year. Thank you.

Membership year runs from January 1 through December 31.

Please take a few minutes to list/update your **top five (5)** surname research and location preferences, so our Program Chair 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): _____
