



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/>

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E-mail: questingheirs@gmail.com

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

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

Hybrid meeting: February 18, 2024 beginning at 2:00 PM

**St. Thomas of Canterbury Episcopal Church
 or attend via Zoom**

Masks are recommended and if you're not feeling well, please join the meeting via Zoom.

Our Guest Speaker is Dr. James Ryan

**PRESENTING: STRANGE AND UNUSUAL SOURCES
 FOR IRISH FAMILY HISTORY**

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QHGS President's Message



Bob Prager

I'm looking forward to the February presentation: *Strange Sources for Your Genealogy*. We're all familiar with the usual sources: census records, church records, town and state records, wills, newspapers – but there are other places where the names of our ancestors might have been recorded, and many of these might tell us a little more about their lives. This will also probably be the first presentation made by someone outside of the continental US – the speaker, Jim Ryan, is from Ireland – so don't miss it!

I was looking at a compilation of my ethnicity estimates from several DNA testing companies as they've "improved" them over the years (I've kept a record of all of them), and it might make an amusing short presentation someday. I have 8 from Ancestry, 2 from My Heritage, 2 from Family Tree DNA, and one from 23 and Me – all based on a single DNA sample submitted years ago to Ancestry. The differences stem from the selection and refinement of the reference population used by each company (for example, some of mine show Italian or Greek, and some don't). I remember the complaints when Ancestry updated their estimates in 2018 as many people apparently lost their Viking ancestry ("What do I do about my tattoo?")! Seriously, I'm amazed they do as well as they do, given the population shuffling that has gone in in Europe. It's not for nothing that papers have been written making the conjecture that 95% of those with European ancestry are descended from William the Conqueror!



Dr. James Ryan presenting:

At light-hearted but useful look at some of the strange and unusual sources which have proven useful for Irish family history. It will be fully illustrated with examples.

Dr. James Ryan is a writer and publisher who has been active in Irish genealogy for the past 35 years. He founded Flyleaf Press, which publishes an extensive list of genealogy titles, in 1987. Flyleaf Press is now part of Ancestor Network, a professional research and consulting agency, of which Jim Ryan is a director, and retains the role of managing editor.

His book '*Irish Records - sources of family and local history*' (originally published by Ancestry Inc., now by Turner Publishing) is a standard guide for Irish genealogists. His other books include: *Tracing your Dublin Ancestors* (Flyleaf Press 2009); *Irish Church Records* (Flyleaf 2001); *Sources for Irish Family History* (Flyleaf 2001), and *Tracing your Sligo Ancestors* (Flyleaf 2012).

He regularly contributes articles to *Irish Roots* magazine and was previously genealogy columnist for *Irish America* magazine (USA). He writes a blog for Ancestor Network and previously contributed blogs and articles to *In-Depth Genealogist* (USA). He has also lectured and taught extensively, and has given presentations to over thirty genealogy societies, mainly in the USA.

On two occasions he presented one-week courses on genealogy at the Milwaukee Irish Summer School and regularly presents talks at Irish and UK genealogy events.

He was a professional family history researcher for many years, but in recent years has concentrated on lecturing and publishing and has published works by 14 genealogists through Flyleaf Press.

Upcoming 2024 Free Legacy Family Tree Webinars

**Go to <https://familytreewebinars.com/>
to register for these and other monthly free webinars**

From Trial to Transformation: Building a Convict's Life Through Multiple Records & Data Sets

Andrew Redfern - Tue, Feb 6, 2024: 5:00 PM PST

<https://familytreewebinars.com/webinar/from-trial-to-transformation-building-a-convicts-life-through-multiple-records-and-data-sets/>

This webinar leads participants through a methodical examination of the records available at various stages of a convict's life from trial through to freedom. After developing a framework for investigation, case studies are then used to demonstrate the various records available and where to find them, including both within Australia and overseas.

African Americans in the Army: 1868-1948

Janice Lovelace, PhD - Fri, Feb 9, 2024: 11:00 AM PST

<https://familytreewebinars.com/webinar/african-americans-in-the-army-1868-1948/>

Following the Civil War, when nearly 200,000 African American men served, the U.S. Army established 4 African American infantry (later modified to 2) and 2 cavalry regiments in 1868. They initially served in the West but fought in the Spanish American War and the two World Wars in segregated units. It was not until 1948 that Executive Order 9981 integrated the military. What was life like for these soldiers? Where do you find service and pension records?

Introduction to County Research in England

Mia Bennett - Fri, Feb 16, 2024: 11:00 AM PST

<https://familytreewebinars.com/webinar/introduction-to-county-research-in-england/>

This talk provides an overview of the key facts you need to know to start researching your English ancestors. Unravel why counties have come and gone with changing boundaries and different types of administrative entities. By understanding which records are stored at national or county level and some of the laws that influenced their collation, you will then be able to effectively concentrate on looking at the specific counties your ancestors came from.

Learn about the finding aids and helpful resources to ensure you are set up to take a journey through English research supported by our English Research Series.

Metes and Bounds Plat Mats Solve Genealogical Problems

Jerry Smith, CG - Tues, Feb 20, 2024: 5:00 PM PST

<https://familytreewebinars.com/webinar/metes-bounds-land-plats-solve-genealogical-problems/>

This session provides a brief overview of metes and bounds land descriptions seen in deeds, mortgages, patents, grants, and other land documents. The land descriptions are an essential part of land research. This presentation discusses metes and bounds land descriptions and how the metes and bounds can solve genealogical problems.

Genealogy Smart Start, Things I Wished I'd Known

Elizabeth Williams Gomoll, CG - Wed, Feb 21, 2024: 5:00 PM PST

<https://familytreewebinars.com/webinar/genealogy-smart-start-things-i-wish-id-known/>

Get some great tips from this genealogist who had to learn the basics the hard way, plus a few smart tricks she picked up from experts along the way. You can start smarter than I did!

For additional free webinars, go to: <https://familytreewebinars.com/upcoming-webinars/>

If you have not renewed your membership for 2024, please use the form on Page 6. Bring it to our February meeting or mail to the address at the bottom of this page. Members not renewing by our March 17th meeting will no longer receive a newsletter.

Upcoming Questing Heirs Presentations

March 2024 - Michele Leonard speaking on Traditional Scottish Resources.

April 2024 - Kitty Cooper speaking on Tools for DNA Cousin Matching.

Do you have a suggestion for a speaker or topic? Send us an email.

Do you shop at Ralph's?

Sign up for their Community Program and link your rewards card to Questing Heirs Genealogical Society. Every time you shop and swipe your card, we receive a donation. Check it out at: <https://www.ralphs.com/i/community/community-contribution-program>



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



Questing Heirs Genealogical Society Board

- President.....Bob Prager.....(2024-2024)
- 1st Vice President – ProgramsDiana Transue.....(2024-2025)
- 2nd Vice President – Membership ..Sandy McDonald.....(2024-2024)
- Secretary.....Bridget Dole.....(2024-2025)
- Treasurer.....Cynthia Day-Elliott.....(2024-2025)
- Director – HospitalityTina Yanis.....(2024-2025)
- Director – Newsletter.....Open.....(2024-2025)
- Director– Publicity.....Jerry Hardison.....(2024-2025)
- Past President.....Terry Hamilton.....(2024-2025)

QHGS Volunteer Positions

- Digital Archivist.....Christina "Tina" McKillip
- Research/Historian.....Tina Yanis
- Social Media/Facebook Coordinator.....Jerry Hardison
- Webmaster.....Mike Powers

**Submissions for the March newsletter
must be received by noon on February 25, 2024.**

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 Newsletter Editor, 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. Photos on page 2 with permission from Bob Prager and Dr. James Ryan. 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 Chairman at:

Questingheirs@gmail.com

QUESTING HEIRS GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY MEMBER APPLICATION OR RENEWAL

- New member
- Current member renewing

Name _____

Spouse's Name _____

Address _____

City _____

State _____ Zip+4 _____

Phone () _____

E-Mail Address _____

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

Membership year runs from January 1 through December 31.

Please take a few minutes to list/update your ***top five*** surname and location preferences so our Program Chairman 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): _____
