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

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**June Meeting in the Park**

**Sunday, June 16, 2024 @ 2:00 pm**

**Meet at Pan American Park  
corner of Arbor Rd. & Charlemagne**

*Share an interesting genealogical item  
or a story about an ancestor or recent find.*

Bring a chair and beverage and we'll meet  
across the street from St. Thomas of Canterbury.

Ice cream will be provided.

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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**

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**In This Issue**

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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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Look for us on the Web:

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

or on Facebook:

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

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

E-mail: [questingheirs@gmail.com](mailto:questingheirs@gmail.com)

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



## QHGS President's Message Bob Prager



My 4<sup>th</sup> great grandfather, Asahel Risley (or Wrisley, as he sometimes spelled it), moved from Hartford, Connecticut to what later became Gill, Massachusetts as a 12-year-old boy in 1762 with his father and uncle. When I had the opportunity to go to Gill, I checked in at the Town Hall (a small single-story wood-frame structure – it's a really small town!) to talk to the Town Clerk and her Assistant. I had previously written her inquiring whether they had any records pertaining to my ancestor, and they had found something – a journal containing daily sales records of one of the merchants in the village in the early 19<sup>th</sup> century. I photographed all the entries I could find of sales to him (I had the time and the ability to take photos of the entire book, but I was so stunned at seeing the entries I was not thinking). In the period around 1818, there are entries of his purchases of half-cups of rum. So I wondered – was my ancestor an alcoholic? Well, possibly, but we certainly can't tell from these few records. Was this unusual for the time? Not in the least!

Although reliable figures are scarce, it's believed that in 1790 the people of the United States consumed three gallons of hard liquor for every man, woman, and child, or about 750 shots per person per year. The same source suggests that by 1830, annual per capita consumption had grown to five gallons, about 1,250 shots per year (about 3.5 shots per day). This number is misleading, as it includes women and children. Surely we should remove children under the age of ten, and at least some of the rest of the population, but this makes the number even larger for those who drank. Different times!

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### THANK YOU TO THE FOLLOWING MEMBERS FOR THEIR DONATIONS:

**Jeanette Calmette**

**Sandy McDonald**

**Barbara Cooper**

**Tina McKillip**

**Cynthia Day-Elliott**

*Thank you!*

**PJ Michele**

**Bridget Dole**

**Diana Transue**

**Joanne Wintenburg**

### Upcoming Questing Heirs Presentations:

July 21, 2024 - Organizing Like an Archivist

August 18, 2024 - Digging Up Deeds

June Historical Moments

1919 - 19th Amendment passed by Congress guaranteeing women the right to vote

1944 - World War II D-Day - The Invasion of Normandy

1944 - GI Bill of Rights signed by President Franklin D. Roosevelt

1953 - Elizabeth II crowned as Queen of England

**Upcoming 2024 Free Legacy Family Tree Webinars**

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

Editing Your Own Writing - Part 2

Thomas W. Jones, PhD, CG - Tuesday, June 18, 2024: 5:00 PM PDT

<https://familytreewebinars.com/webinar/editing-your-own-writing-part-2/>

Part 2 will focus on “nitty-gritty” editing, including capitalization, punctuation, sentence structure, spelling, word choice, and reducing word count.

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Kentucky and Virginia Tax Lists - 5 1/2 Strategies for Identifying that Elusive Early Southerner

Gail Jackson Miller, CG - Wednesday, June 26, 2024: 11:00 AM PDT

<https://familytreewebinars.com/webinar/kentucky-and-virginia-tax-lists-5-%c2%bd-strategies-for-identifying-that-elusive-early-southerner/>

Learn how to access original records, to best organize them for study, and to interpret their meaning. The lecture will use case studies to show their use in research.

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

**If the links don't work, copy and paste into your browser.**

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**Newsletter Editor Needed!**

Most of the content is already set up in WORD format. It needs to be updated and articles inserted.

Please contact us at [questingheirs@gmail.com](mailto:questingheirs@gmail.com) if you are interested.



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



**Questing Heirs Genealogical Society Board**

- President.....Bob Prager.....(2024-2024)
- 1<sup>st</sup> Vice President – Programs .....Diana Transue.....(2024-2025)
- 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President – Membership ..Sandy McDonald.....(2024-2024)
- Secretary.....Nina Gustin.....(2024-2025)
- Treasurer.....Cynthia Day-Elliott.....(2024-2025)
- Director – Hospitality .....Tina 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 July newsletter  
must be received by noon on June 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](mailto: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. Photo on page 2 with permission from Bob Prager. 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](mailto:Questingheirs@gmail.com)