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QUESTING HEIRS  
GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY

# NEWSLETTER

FAMILY + HISTORY = GENEALOGY

## QHGS Meeting on July 19

“French Canadians in the Dakota Territory”

“Genealogical Information in Labor Union Documents”



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**OUR MONTHLY MEETINGS**

are held on the **third Sunday** of the month at **1:00 p.m.** at Los Altos United Methodist Church, 5950 E. Willow St., in Long Beach, California. **(map on page 56)**

**MEMBERSHIP LEVELS**

Individual: \$25.00  
Family: \$37.50  
Life (Individual): \$600.00  
Life (Family): \$900.00

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is a member of  
the California State  
Genealogical Alliance



and the  
Federation of  
Genealogical  
Societies.



## “French Canadians in Dakota Territory” “Union Records and Genealogical Research”

### MEETING AGENDA

**JULY 19, 2015**

Starting **at 1:00 p.m.**, QHGS member **Susan Roberge** will present a talk about her ancestors’ westward migration from Québec to California. After our break **at 2:30 p.m.**, **Jane Neff Rollins** will teach us how to find genealogical information in labor union records. The **Beginners Class at 4:00 p.m.** will focus on census documents.

### ABOUT OUR FEATURED SPEAKERS



**SUSAN ROBERGE**

Susan has been a member of Questing Heirs since September of 2013. In October of 2014 she gave a presentation to the French-Canadian Heritage Society of California at their “French Canadians Who Helped Settle California and the American West” program. Susan’s family history is a classic example of the Canadian Westward Movement during the late 1800s, and her special interests include French-Canadian and Métis genealogy.



**JANE NEFF ROLLINS**

Jane Neff Rollins is a professional genealogist who specializes in Jewish genealogy, translating Russian documents, and breaking down brick walls. Jane began researching her family history in 1990, when genealogy research required going to the Family History Library in person and hand scrolling microfilm. The first time she saw her great-grandfather on the 1900 census, she cried. Since then, she has done research in Chicago, New York, Los Angeles, Salt Lake City, Washington DC, and Jerusalem. Jane has translated 19th century Russian documents into English for clients and online databases. Jane hung out her shingle as a professional genealogist in 2012. She has spoken three times at the International Association of Jewish Genealogical Society’s annual conference (2012, Paris, France; 2013, Boston; and 2014, Salt Lake City), and to local genealogy societies throughout Southern California. David Laskin, author of *The Family*, and other award-winning books, called her presentation “Sensitive Subjects: What to Reveal, What to Conceal” ‘spellbinding.’ Jane is a member of the Association of Professional Genealogists, the Genealogical Speakers Guild, and JGSLA.

# Questing Heirs Genealogical Society Announcements and Reports

## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

### SUMMER SEMINARS

Summer's here, and there are a lot of genealogical events in the works. There's a seminar coming up on July 11 sponsored by the Genealogical Society of North Orange County. I went last year and had a great time listening to Hank Jones speak about the mysterious force of "Genealogical Serendipity." This year looks like the speaker will be a little more academic, but I'm up for that. Closer to home, on July 25, the Polish Genealogy Society will hold its 25th Anniversary Seminar in Lakewood. Our own Chris Elia is helping to coordinate that event. Attend one or both of these seminars and help support our sister-societies in Southern California. Have a great Summer!

—Terry Hamilton

## QUESTING HEIRS ONLINE SITES

### YOU TUBE AND BLOG

**QHGS has a video on You Tube and a blog on Google's Blogger!** The You Tube ad tells everyone who we are, what we do, and how to contact us. Click this link <http://youtu.be/3ZSmpPuH61w> and watch it. The blog, "Family+History=Genealogy," has articles of interest for genealogists researching families in Long Beach. Read posts and make comments at <http://questingheirsgenealogicalsociety.blogspot.com/>.

## GEORGE JOHNSON

### 1929–2015

**George Johnson** passed away in May. He and his wife Polly, QHGS members since 2001, rarely missed a meeting. Anyone who sat at their table surely enjoyed George's wit and wisdom. He had a remarkable life, and you can learn about George's personal accomplishments and contributions to the Long Beach community at <http://www.presstelegram.com/obituaries/20150606/george-johnson-longtime-long-beach-civil-engineer-dies-at-86>.

## OUR MEMBERS' ACTIVITIES

### QUARTERLY REPORT

**Christine and Brian Elia** travelled to Missouri, to do research at NARA and tour the WWI Museum . . . . **Susan Roberge** went to Salt Lake City with the Orange County California Genealogical Society . . . . **QHGS** moved not once, but twice! . . . . The **Orange County Family History Fair** was attended by several QHGS members . . . . **Terry Hamilton and Penny Nugent** gave two presentations for beginning genealogists at the Los Altos Branch library . . . . using DNA contact information, **Linda Artuso** found a third cousin once removed in New Zealand . . . . and **QHGS members** learned a lot on our annual field trip to the Huntington Beach Library.

## FINANCE REPORT

Christine Elia

May Income

\$447.71

May Expenses

\$414.95

F & M Bank Balance

\$7,246.90,

\$2,449.06 of which is restricted to educational expenses

•

## REFRESHMENT REPORT

Sandy Hollandsworth

### Our July

Hosts

will be

**Terry HAMILTON,**

**Shirley TERRY,**

**Diana TRANSUE**

and

**Jane TRANSUE**

Many thanks to our

QHGS Board

for providing

June refreshments.

•

## MEMBERSHIP REPORT

Kathy Latham

Members attending

June's meeting: 34

### Our Guests:

Nancy Belsha

Arlyss Burkett

Iris Heyen

Audrey Kramer

## A Warm Welcome to NEW MEMBER

Patti Chamberlin

## Online Learning Opportunities

### WEBINARS AND WEBCASTS

#### Illinois State Genealogical Society:

“Dissect Obituaries for New Clues,” presented by George G. Morgan on **Tuesday, July 14, at 6:00 p.m. PDT**. Obituaries are miniature biographies for the deceased. Your job is to carefully analyze the content of the death notice, obituary, and/or funeral notice to look for clues. This seminar presents a methodology for dissecting an obituary, determining what information is provided or inferred, identifying record types that may be available, where those records are located, and how to access them. A sample obituary is dissected and discussed. Register at: <https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/723818762217470209>.

#### Legacy Family Tree:

Go to <http://www.familytreewebinars.com/upcoming-webinars.php> to learn more about the following **webinars which will be presented between July 1 and July 29**: “Female Ancestors,” “Pinning Your Family History,” “Researching with Karen,” “Have Swedish Ancestors and Don’t Know How to Get Started?” and “Storyboard Your Family History.”

#### Southern California Genealogical Society:

Go to <http://www.scgsgenealogy.com/webinar/jes-index.html> to register for the following webinar which will be presented on **Wednesday, July 15, at 6:00 p.m.**: “German Research Online,” by James M. Beidler. Learn about the many websites that can help you break down brick walls and find the villages of origin for your ancestors!

#### FamilySearch Library at Mesa, Arizona:

These webcasts represent classes that were presented live while being filmed at the Mesa FamilySearch Training Center. Handouts in pdf format are available for download as well. As examples, two of the **more than sixty free webcasts available** are “Close to Our Hearts—Researching Our Dutch Ancestors” presented by Janelle Solomon and “Southwest Native American Research” presented by Emerson Mose. To access this resource go to <http://www.mesarfhc.org/Webcasts.html>.

### SINGLE WEBSITE SEARCHES

#### How to Search Just One Website:

There’s a lot more you can do with Google than just search the Internet. If you want to see search results from just one website, go to <http://www.Google.com> and enter the word “site” followed by a colon (:) followed immediately (with no space) by the website’s address. Next, add a space and then the word(s) you wish to search for. It should look something like this: **site:xxx.com search-term**

Notice **the website’s address is given without the letters “http,” without the colon, without the slashes and without “www.”**

For example, if you want to search the website of the Indiana Genealogical Society at [indgensoc.org](http://indgensoc.org) to see what databases the society has for Pike County, go to <http://www.Google.com> and enter: **site:indgensoc.org “Pike County”**

Note in the above example the words “Pike County” are inside quote marks. That isn’t absolutely necessary but does tell Google to narrow the search and to display only web pages on the [indgensoc.org](http://indgensoc.org) website that contain the word “Pike” followed by a space and then followed by the word “County.”

—*Eastman’s Online Genealogy Newsletter*, at <http://blog.cogn.com/>, posted May 5, 2015.

### WALES RESEARCH SERIES WEBINARS

#### FamilySearch® British Isles Team:

Would you like help researching your Welsh ancestors? The following **FREE** webinars will be offered by FamilySearch® at **12:00 noon PDT, on the 13th, 14th, 15th, 16th and 17th of July**: “Welsh Naming Patterns,” “Wales Maps and Gazetteers,” “Wales Online Websites,” “Wales Anglican and Non-conformist Church Records,” and “Wales Probate Records.” To find out more about this series, download handouts, or view previous classes which covered England and Scotland, go to [https://familysearch.org/learn/wiki/en/Online\\_Webinars\\_from\\_the\\_British\\_Isles\\_Team](https://familysearch.org/learn/wiki/en/Online_Webinars_from_the_British_Isles_Team) and register for the webinar(s) you wish to attend.

## Genealogy Events in Southern California

### OLD FORT MACARTHUR DAYS

For more than twenty-five years the Fort MacArthur Museum has sponsored what has turned into the west's largest multicultural celebration of world military history. This year the event will be held **on July 11 and 12 from 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. at Angel's Gate Park in San Pedro.** Tickets cost \$10.00 per person, and they can be purchased at the front gate to the museum beginning at 10:00 a.m. on both days. As always, **parking is free.** For more information call 310-548-2631 or go to: <http://www.ftmac.org/ofmd.htm>.

### POLISH GENEALOGY SOCIETY SEMINAR

The Polish Genealogy Society of California will hold their **25th Anniversary Seminar on Saturday, July 25, from 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.** at Weingart Senior Center, 5220 Olivia Avenue, in Lakewood. **Featured speaker Ceil Wendt Jensen** will present four lectures: "A History of Polish Parishes in U.S.," "Advanced Polish Research," "Polish Manors: Downton Abbey Style," and "Old and New Sites for Polish Genealogy." Please go to the PGS-CA website for more information: <http://pgsca.org/>.

### GSNOCC SUMMER SEMINAR

The **Genealogical Society of North Orange County California** will hold their **Summer Seminar on Saturday, July 11, from 9:00 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.** at the Danish Church and Cultural Center, 16881 Bastanchury Road, Yorba Linda. **Featured speaker Warren Bittner, CG,** will present four lectures: "Complex Evidence: What It Is, How It Works, Why It Matters," "German Historical Maps and Territories," "Using the 1880 Census to Solve a 1770 Research Problem," and "Finding Unusual Sources to Solve Brick Wall Problems." Pre-registration postmarked by July 3rd is \$30 for members and \$35 for non-members. A box lunch may be pre-ordered for \$10. For more information go to <http://www.gsnocc.org/2015-seminar.html>.

### LOCAL LEARNING OPPORTUNITIES

#### **Corona Genealogical Society:**

"Social Media for Genealogists," presented by Gena Philibert-Ortega, **Monday, July 6, 6:30 to 8:30 p.m.** at the Corona Public Library, 650 South Main Street (at 6th), Corona.

#### **Orange County California Genealogical Society:**

"Finding Vital Records Online—Beyond Ancestry.com and FamilySearch" and "Breaking Down Brick Walls: Three Case Studies," by Ted Gostin on **Saturday, July 11, 11:00 a.m. and 12:30 p.m.** at the Huntington Beach Central Library, 7111 Talbert Avenue, Huntington Beach.

#### **Society of Hispanic Historical and Ancestral Research (SHHAR):**

"Writing Family Stories," presented by Mimi Lozano, **Saturday, July 11, 10:00 to 11:30 a.m.** at the Orange FamilySearch Center, 674 S. Yorba Street, Orange.

#### **Immigrant Genealogical Society:**

Discussion group and research assistance for genealogists focussing on Pommern, **Sunday, July 12, 2:00 p.m.,** at the IGS Library, 1310 W. Magnolia Blvd., Burbank.

#### **South Orange County Genealogical Society:**

"Prejudices Arising from Diseases Brought from the Old Country to America," by Dr. Stephen Baird, **Saturday, July 18, 10:00 a.m. to noon** at the LDS Church Building at 27978 Marguerite Parkway (Between Medical Center Drive and Hillcrest Drive), Mission Viejo.

#### **LAPL Genealogy Garage Workshop:**

"The What, Where, How, and Why of Taking Notes," **Saturday, July 18, 11:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.** in the Genealogy Dept.-LL4, at the Los Angeles Central Library, 630 W. 5th Street, Los Angeles. Sample forms will be given to attendees. For more information: <http://www.lapl.org/whats-on/events/genealogy-garagetaking-notes>.

#### **Heritage Museum of Orange County:**

"Jewish Orange County: The Early Years," by Dalia Taft, **Saturday, July 25, 10:00 a.m.** at the Heritage Museum, 3101 W. Harvard Street, Santa Ana.

## Searching for Church Records



We have become so used to the Google formula “area AND topic AND genealogy,” that we often forget to delete the “*genealogy*” part of the search term string and substitute something else to get better results. This is especially important when searching for church records because they are often archived at the denomination’s historical society or have wound up stored at a local library. **If your Google search for church records includes “historical society” or “library” instead of “genealogy,” you will locate more information.**

### IRISH CATHOLIC PARISH RECORDS

The entire collection of Catholic parish register microfilms held by the National Library of Ireland—400,000 films amounting to the most important source of Irish family history—is to be made **available online** this July. The National Library of Ireland (NLI) has been working to digitise the microfilms for more than three years and has now announced an exact date: the archive of parish register microfilms is now expected to go live on **8 July 2015**. —*Eastman’s Online Genealogy Newsletter*, at <http://blog.cogn.com/>, posted May 3, 2015.

### PENNSYLVANIA CHURCH RECORDS

“Charles Reed Barker was an amateur historian and member of the **Historical Society of Montgomery County** for many decades. He was a tireless researcher and donated a large collection of scrapbooks to the Historical Society. Four of the scrapbooks contain **records of St. Paul’s Evangelical Lutheran Church in Ardmore, Pennsylvania**. They include baptisms, marriages, and deaths. The death records include the cause of death. **The church also recorded the faith of the deceased, and interestingly, during this period (the 1870s) most**

**were not members of St. Paul’s or any other church.** A few are listed as Baptists or Methodists, but most are listed as having no professed faith. There are a few deathbed conversions listed.” The above description comes from the Historical Society of Montgomery County’s blog. For more information: <https://hsmcpa.wordpress.com/2014/07/17/st-pauls-ardmore/>.

### MORE PENNSYLVANIA CHURCH RECORDS

The **Lehigh Valley Historical Society** in Allentown, Pennsylvania, has over 800 volumes of baptismal, burial, pastoral and cemetery records for **Lehigh and neighboring counties** listed at <http://www.lchs.museum/ChurchRecords.htm>. There are approximately 300 volumes for Lehigh County alone, and over 250 baptismal certificates (including fraktur), from the late 1700s through the early 1900s. The collection, with items from over 150 churches, is indexed.

### BAPTIST CHURCH RECORDS

The **American Baptist Historical Society** website at <http://abhsarchives.org/for-researchers/genealogy/> describes which historical records the Society has, which documents it does NOT have, and provides an explanation why members of the Baptist faith produced very few records of use to genealogists.

### METHODIST CHURCH RECORDS

The **Historical Society of The United Methodist Church** lists predecessor denominations, gives examples of denominational newspapers like the *Western Methodist*, and offers a list of 8 tips for finding Methodist ancestors at <http://www.historicalsocietyunitedmethodistchurch.org/genealogy/>.

## Summer Reading



If you'd like to set your research aside for awhile, why not immerse yourself in a little "Summer Reading," and check out a few of these novels. You may even discover some helpful hints for your own research in them!

### GENEALOGY-THEMED BOOKS

Eileen A. Souza, is a Maryland genealogist who researches in Anna Arundel, Baltimore, Carroll, Frederick and Howard counties for clients. On her *Old Bones Genealogy* blog she writes about her methods and her discoveries. The entry for July 29, 2012, caught my eye because Eileen wrote, "Since my youth, I have been an avid reader of the mystery genre...so I began researching the mystery book market for genealogy-related mysteries....For those of you who also enjoy reading mysteries, I would like to share these discoveries." This year Eileen posted "Genealogy Mysteries—Expanded and Updated" on her blog at <http://www.oldbonesgenealogy.com/genealogy-mysteries-expanded-and-updated/>. If you like mysteries too, take a look at this list—it's grown to over 60 books written by 18 authors!

**Graham Landrum:** *The Famous DAR Murder Mystery*. From Amazon's brief synopsis: "Told in the alternating voices of chapter members and other colorful characters, the novel is narrated by members of the community of Borderville (smack on the Virginia-Tennessee line)."

**Chris Larsgaard:** *The Heir Hunter*. Paraphrasing "Publisher's Weekly": "This mystery/thriller begins when an attorney sneaks a peek at four unreleased probate files. A fine debut which oozes authenticity and provides fascinating glimpses into the quixotic and dangerous realm of high-stakes 'assets recovery'."

**John Philip Coletta:** *Only a Few Bones: A True Account of the Rolling Fork Tragedy & Its Aftermath*. From Amazon's thumbnail synopsis: "Family lore claimed his ancestor was murdered in Mississippi. Newspapers and court records said the man and four other victims were killed and incinerated in a remote country store. This is a case study depicting graphically how family history and history converge."

**Claire Gebben:** *The Last of the Blacksmiths*. The author offers a synopsis of this novel on her website <http://thelastoftheblacksmiths.com/>. Her book traces an immigrant from Bavaria to the United States in the mid-1800s and discusses the end of artisan crafts in a constantly changing, progressively mechanized America.

**Abigail Davis:** *Hanging Katherine Garret: A Novel Based on the 1737 Trial of a Pequot Woman*. From Amazon's synopsis: "Karla Palmer, a novice genealogist, works to uncover Kate's story using timelines, historical societies, genealogical records, and a number of interesting hypotheses."

**Jose Saramago:** *All the Names*. From Amazon's synopsis: "Senhor José is a low-grade clerk in the city's Central Registry, where the living and the dead share the same shelf space. A middle-aged bachelor, he has no interest in anything beyond the certificates of birth, marriage, divorce, and death that are his daily routine. But one day, when he comes across the records of an anonymous young woman, something happens to him. Obsessed, Senhor José sets off to follow the thread that may lead him to the woman—but as he gets closer, he discovers more about her, and about himself, than he would ever have wished."

**Don't forget to order your books by accessing Amazon through the Questing Heirs website at [http://www.amazon.com/?ie=UTF8&\\*Version\\*=1&\\*entries\\*=0&link\\_code=hom&tag=quesheir-20](http://www.amazon.com/?ie=UTF8&*Version*=1&*entries*=0&link_code=hom&tag=quesheir-20).**

# Questing Heirs Genealogical Society, Inc.



5950 E. Willow Street, Long Beach



Los Altos United Methodist Church Chapel

## QUESTING HEIRS GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY DIRECTORS

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**Social Media/Facebook Co-ordinator** Position Vacant  
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## FAMILYSEARCH® CENTERS

FSC stands for FamilySearch Center of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints. FSCs are open and free of charge to members of the general public interested in doing genealogical research. Information about the **Los Angeles FSC** is available at [https://familysearch.org/learn/wiki/en/Los\\_Angeles\\_FamilySearch\\_Library](https://familysearch.org/learn/wiki/en/Los_Angeles_FamilySearch_Library). Local FSCs are in **Long Beach** at 3701 Elm Avenue in Bixby Knolls, phone (562) 988-0509; **Los Alamitos**, (714) 821-6914; and **Cerritos**, phone (562) 924-3676. Call before you visit as their hours may change from time to time.

## SUBMISSIONS FOR THE AUGUST NEWSLETTER MUST BE RECEIVED BY JULY 22ND

The newsletter has been published since 1969 by Questing Heirs Genealogical Society. Submissions, including queries, corrections, or any questions regarding the newsletter, should be sent to: Penny Nugent, QHGS P. O. Box 15102, Long Beach, CA, 90815-0102, or emailed to [kazootiesan@earthlink.net](mailto:kazootiesan@earthlink.net). We are not responsible for the accuracy of material published, but will gladly print corrections. Newsletter sources: page 49, images from <http://thegraphicsfairy.com/> and [http://webclipart.about.com/od/holiday/ss/Fourth-Of-July\\_13.htm](http://webclipart.about.com/od/holiday/ss/Fourth-Of-July_13.htm); page 50 courtesy of Jane Neff Rollins; pages 50 (Roberge) and 56 by Kathy Latham.

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To join, please contact  
Membership Chair  
Kathy Latham at  
(562) 422-7645.

# QHGS Annual Ice Cream Social and Sharing Meeting



**Dave Werts**

**Susan Roberge**



**Laurie Angel**

**Shirley Siems Terry**



**Christina McKillip**

A great time was had by all at the annual QHGS Ice Cream Social on June 21st. Pizza was the first item on our agenda, followed by presentations and sharing sessions with Dave Werts (“New Discoveries About British DNA”), Laurie Angel (“The Drexlers of Delaware”) and Susan Roberge (“My Trip to SLC”). At the mid-way point of our meeting, we all took a break to dish up some delicious ice cream, and then everyone returned to their seats to hear Shirley Siems Terry share her research experience using NARA documents (“Civil War Pension Records”) and Christina McKillip tell us about discoveries she made using DNA information (“Personal DNA Stories”).