

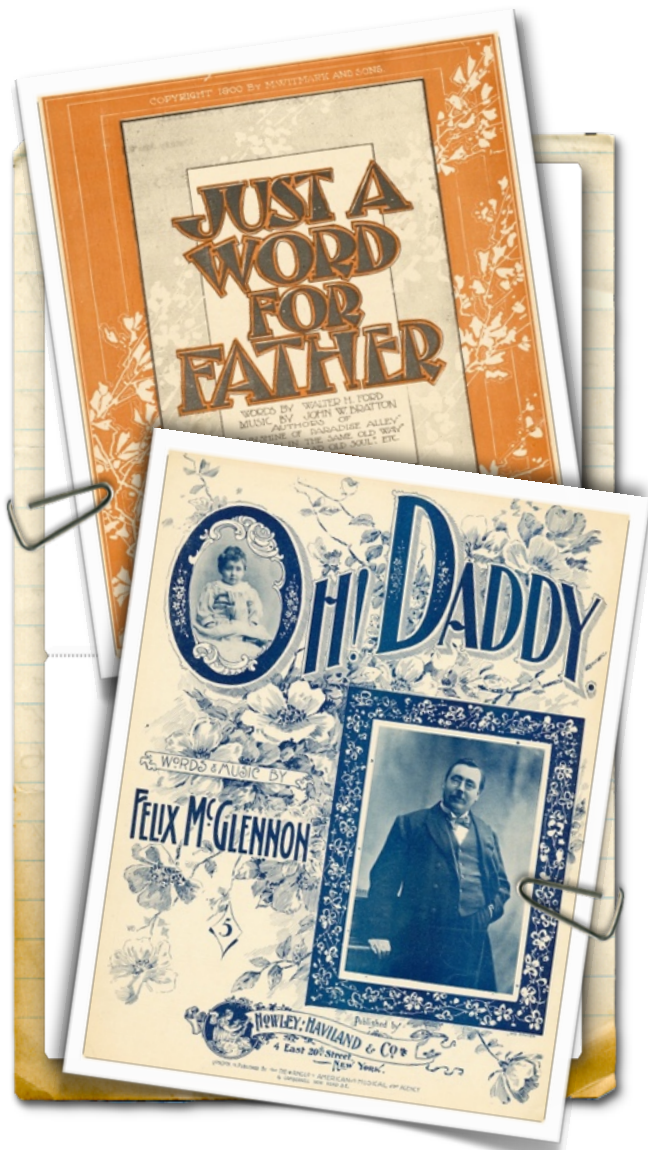
JUNE
2016
VOL.49
NO.6

QUESTING HEIRS
GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY

NEWSLETTER

FAMILY + HISTORY = GENEALOGY

QHGS Meeting on Sunday June 19 Members Sharing—Show and Tell At Our Annual Ice Cream Social



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OUR MONTHLY MEETINGS

are held on the **third Sunday** of the month at **1:15 p.m.** at the Lakewood Masonic Center, 5918 E. Parkcrest St., in Long Beach, California. **(map on page 48)**

MEMBERSHIP LEVELS

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

QHGS is an

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Donations are tax-deductible.

QHGS

is a member of the California State Genealogical Alliance



and the Federation of Genealogical Societies.



Members Will Show and Tell at QHGS Annual Ice Cream Social

MEETING AGENDA

JUNE 19, 2016



Starting at 1:15 p.m., we will enjoy our **QHGS Annual Ice Cream Social**, a meeting where members and guests show items from their memorabilia files, tell others about their genealogical successes in the past year, and present problems for brainstorming by attendees—all while eating ice cream with toppings provided by the QHGS Executive Board! There will be more than 300 years of collective genealogical research experience on hand at this meeting, so someone is bound to come up with strategies to help you solve your most perplexing puzzles. Need help translating a document? Let everyone know about it, and get the assistance you need. Want to compare genealogy software? Ask the members present what they use and how they rate it. Ask others how they search for information online. Find out about resources available at the Long Beach FHC. There's nothing like getting together with friends who share an interest in genealogy, so be sure to attend this meeting.

GENEALOGY HUMOR

23RD PSALM



Genealogy is my pastime; I shall not stray. It maketh me to lie down and examine half-buried tombstones; it leadeth me into still libraries; it restoreth my ancestral knowledge. It leadeth me in the paths of census records and ships' passenger lists for my surname's sake. Yea, though I walk through the shadows in dusty courthouses, I shall fear no discouragement, for a strong urge is within me; my curiosity and motivation, they comfort me. I prepareth storage spaces for the acquisition of countless documents; I anointeth my head with burning midnight oil; my family group sheets runneth over. Surely birth, marriage, and death dates shall follow me all the days of my life, and I will dwell in the home of a family-history seeker forever. —*attributed to Linda Curtis, Nova-Scotia genealogical list, RootsWeb*

QHGS BEGINNER CLASS

HIATUS

The Beginner Class will NOT meet during the Summer months.

Questing Heirs Genealogical Society Announcements and Reports

QHGS PROGRAM NEXT MONTH

SUNDAY JULY 17



Our featured speaker will be **Francie Kennedy** who will show us how we can augment our genealogies by using county histories and “mugbooks.”

NEW MEMBER IS MAY WINNER

QHGS GIVEAWAY

We have begun giving an item of genealogical interest to one of our meeting attendees. May's winner was Carol Craft. She received a brand-new copy of Denise Levenick's book, *How to Archive Family Photos: A Step-by-Step Guide to Organize and Share Your Photos Digitally*.

VOLUNTEER NEEDED

WILL YOU HELP?

QHGS member Shirley Terry needs help with Power Point so she can give a talk to us about how she found an ancestor's village in Germany. Contact Shirley at siemsterry@gmail.com if you can help her create a presentation.

SPRING SURVEY RESPONSES

THE RESULTS ARE IN



A big **THANK YOU** to all of the members who filled out the Spring Survey questionnaire at our April meeting. The results will determine speaker topics, more relevant newsletter articles, and website content in the coming year. Which states/provinces received the most votes? New York, Missouri, and Ohio were the big winners, with Iowa, Minnesota, Pennsylvania, Ontario, and Québec as runners-up. England, Germany, and Ireland were the obvious favorite countries for researching ancestors, with Scotland and Wales close seconds. Suggestions for speaker topics ranged from DNA (which will be the subject of our September meeting) to technology/software, migration patterns, and ports of entry. The newsletter editor needs member submissions to address one of the suggestions for improvement: “more specific adventures/stories of QHGS members—how they found something online or solved a difficult problem.” The survey also told us that members do use the QHGS Facebook page, and that we need to revamp the website to include more information on it.

FINANCE REPORT

Mike Powers

April Income
\$408.75

April Expenses
\$184.60

F & M Bank Balance
\$6,829.41,
of which \$2,224.06
is restricted to
educational expenses

REFRESHMENT REPORT

Sandy Hollandsworth

Our June Hosts

will be

**Your
QHGS**

**Executive Board,
Serving
Ice Cream,
Toppings,
and
Sodas**

Many thanks
to our

May hosts:

Terry Hamilton
Penny Nugent
Susan Roberge
and
Shirley Terry

MEMBERSHIP REPORT

Kathy Latham

Attendance at
May's meeting: 43

**A Warm Welcome
to new member
Carol Craft**

Learning Opportunities

WEBINARS TO WATCH

Minnesota Genealogical Society

“Working with Probate Records,” by Lois Abromitis Mackin, Ph.D., on **Wednesday, June 1, at 5:00 p.m. PDT**. Learn about the principal kinds of probate records, the information you can find in them, where to locate them, and how to work with them. Register: <https://attendeegotowebinar.com/register/8789126888096181761>.

Illinois State Genealogical Society

“Using Social Media to Break Through Brick Walls,” presented by Amie Tenant on **Tuesday, June 14, at 6:00 p.m. PDT**. Social media isn't just for teenagers anymore! Learn to use the power of Facebook, Pinterest, Instagram, and Twitter to overcome genealogy brick walls in your family tree and share your family story. Register: <https://attendeegotowebinar.com/register/7540625935675352321>.

Legacy Family Tree

Go to <http://www.familytreewebsinars.com/upcoming-webinars.php> to learn more about the following **webinars which will be presented between June 1 and June 29**: “Get the Most from AmericanAncestors.org,” “Researching Your Washington State Ancestors,” “Introduction to the Freedmen’s Bureau,” “Ticked Off! Those Pesky Pre-1850 Census Tick Marks,” “Digging Deeper in German Parish Records,” and “Circles or Triangles? What Shape is Your DNA?”

Southern California Genealogical Society

Go to <http://www.scsgenealogy.com/webinar/jes-index.html> to register for the following webinar: “Finding a German Home Village Online,” by James M. Beidler on **Wednesday, June 15, at 6:00 p.m.**

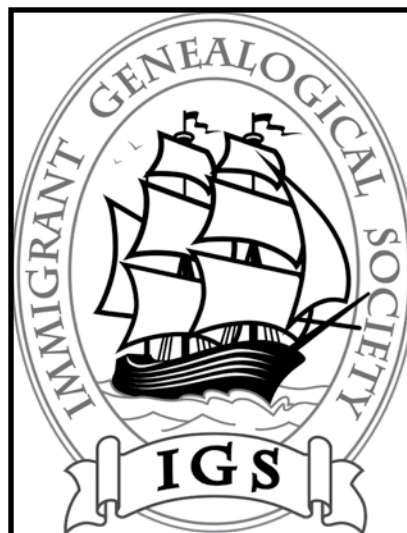
Wisconsin State Genealogical Society

“Principles of Effective Evidence Analysis,” by George G. Morgan on **Tuesday, June 21, at 5:00 p.m. PDT**. Evidence comes in many forms and with varying amounts of content. This lecture focuses on analyzing evidence for reliable and less-than-reliable information. Register at the following website: <https://attendeegotowebinar.com/register/1715506791750322946>.

SPECIAL FREE LECTURE

Immigrant Genealogical Society

On **Saturday, June 4, at 7:00 p.m.** **Fritz Juengling, Ph.D., AG®** will present a special talk, “German Research:



Some Insights” at the Immigrant Genealogy Society Library, 1310-B West Magnolia Blvd., Burbank.

FHL CLASSES AND WEBINARS

Go to https://familysearch.org/wiki/en/Family_History_Library_Classes_and_Webinars to learn about the following **webinars which will be presented between June 3 and June 30**:

British Isles: “Welsh Naming Patterns,” “Wales Probate Records,” “Welsh Non-conformity and Non-conformist Records,” “An England Research Case Study,” and “British Research Questions Answered.”

Europe: “Using Polish Community Newspapers in North America and Poland,” “Finding Places in Former German Areas of Poland using the Online Gazetteer *Kartenmeister.com*,” “Figure Out Place Names for Swedish Genealogy,” “*Genteam.at* a Necessity When Researching in the Czech Republic,” “Norwegian Printed Sources: An Overview,” and “Recognizing and Extracting Genealogical Information from Norwegian Church Records.”

U.S.: “United States Church Records.”

Handouts for each webinar are available at the site.

Genealogy Events in Southern California

SO CAL SOCIETY SPOTLIGHT

The Whittier Area Genealogical Society

Meetings are held on the third Saturday of the month at the Masonic Lodge, 7604 Greenleaf Avenue, in Whittier.



This month's meeting on Saturday, June 18, features **Len Enlow** who will present a helpful lecture, "Naturalization Records: What You Can learn from Them," at **1:00 p.m.**

Founding: WAGS was established on May 16, 1981, and celebrated its 35th birthday last month.

Library: WAGS' genealogical collection contains over 3,000 books and periodicals. It is housed at the Whittier College Wardman Library, 13406 Philadelphia St. (at Painter Ave.), Whittier.

Membership: Over 200 genealogists belong to WAGS.

Seminar: WAGS hosts a genealogy seminar once a year. Past speakers have included Laura G. Prescott, Geoffrey D. Rasmussen, and Thomas MacEntee.

Publications available for purchase: *Vital Record Index: Whittier, California, Newspapers 1888 to 1930; Vital Records Index: Whittier, California, Newspapers 1931-1957; The 1890 Los Angeles Great Register; Olive Grove Cemetery, Santa Fe Springs, California; and Downey Courthouse Records 1871 to 1895.*

To learn more about the Whittier Area Genealogical Society, go to <http://www.cagenweb.com/kr/wags/>.

SO CAL SOCIETY MEETINGS

Corona Genealogical Society

"What else is there Besides the Internet?" presented by Kim von Aspern-Parker on **Monday, June 6, 6:30 to 8:30 p.m.** at the Corona Public Library, 650 South Main Street (at 6th), Corona.

Jewish Genealogical Society of Los Angeles

"Bubbe, Who Are You? Finding the Maiden Names in Your Family Tree," by Janice M. Sellers on **Monday, June 6, at 7:30 p.m.** at the American Jewish University, Sperber Library, 15600 Mulholland Drive, Los Angeles.

The Immigrant Genealogical Society

The Schlesien/Posen/Donauschwaben/Banat/Galizien/Wolhynien/Schwarzes Meer Special Interest Group meets on **Sunday, June 12, 2:00 p.m.** at 1310-B W. Magnolia Blvd., Burbank.

Genealogical Society of North Orange County

"Things To Do with Your Genealogical Research this Summer," by Pat Chavarria on **Wednesday, June 15, 6:00 p.m.** at Yorba Linda Community Center, 4501 Casa Loma Ave. (at Imperial), Yorba Linda.

South Bay Cities Genealogical Society

"Increase Your Genealogical Knowledge," by Gena Philibert-Ortega on **Wednesday, June 15, 7:00 p.m.** at the Katy Geissert Civic Center Library, 3301 Torrance Blvd., Torrance.

Los Angeles Public Library: Genealogy Garage

"Is Your Missing Ancestor a Jailbird?" Let veteran researcher Barbara Randall give you a tour of what you might find in prison records on **Saturday, June 18, from 11:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.** at the Richard Riordan Central Library, 630 W. 5th St., Los Angeles, in the History and Genealogy Dept. on Lower Level 4.

South Orange County Genealogical Society

"Quilt of Souls," by Phyllis Lawson on **Saturday, June 18, 11:00 a.m.** in the Council Chamber at City Hall, 200 Civic Center, Mission Viejo. **Reservations are necessary** so call 949-830-7100 xt5105.

Our Guest Columnist: Gracie the Genealogy Cat

Introducing Gracie

Greetings to all QHGS members! I'm Gracie the Genealogy Cat, here to answer any questions you might have about our favorite hobby. Please send your genealogy questions to me at <questingheirs@gmail.com>, and I'll do my best to answer them in future newsletters. Put "Gracie" in the subject line so I'll receive your email right away! To begin, here's an inquiry I received from a QHGS member.

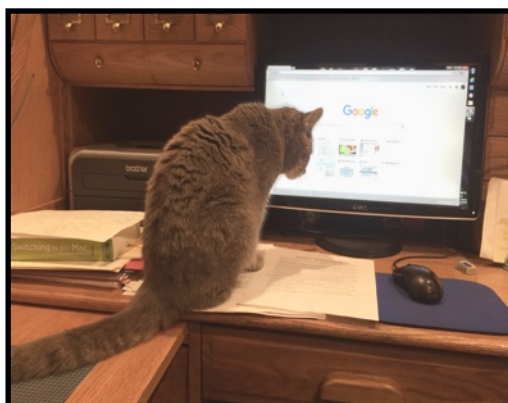
Are there any good genealogy sites online that I can use for free?

FamilySearch at <https://familysearch.org/> is **free**, and it has millions of digitized records, thousands of books, and hundreds of instructional videos online.

USGenWeb Project at <http://usgenweb.org/> is **free**, and it has a wealth of information available at the state and county level: transcriptions of cemeteries, extracts of court and vital records, photos of tombstones, and all sorts of other things like newspaper extracts, obituary lists and old post cards. Each website varies in quality because the USGenWeb is a volunteer-run endeavor, but almost all of them have something that you cannot find on Ancestry. The USGenWeb is celebrating its 20th anniversary this year, staying true to its motto: "Keeping Genealogy Free for All."

WorldGenWeb Project at <http://www.worldgenweb.org/> is **free**. It provides information at the country level and, once the country has been accessed, at the state/province/canton/county level of that country. The WorldGenWeb is maintained by volunteers. QHGS member John McCoy is a coordinator for the Canton Vaud section of the Switzerland WorldGenWeb site.

RootsWeb at <http://www.rootsweb.ancestry.com/> is **free**, and, while it is now affiliated with Ancestry.com, the information in it is not indexed by Ancestry's search engines. This is an important point to remember! Message boards are a great asset of RootsWeb.



Family History Daily

at <http://familyhistorydaily.com/genealogy-resources/50-free-genealogy-sites/> is a **free** website which includes the following genealogy resources: Help and How-To, News and Stories, Free Genealogy Sites, Genealogy Site Locator, and Research Tools. A Genealogy Course is also available. The list of 50 free genealogy

websites posted on the site is very helpful.

Cyndi's List at <http://www.cyndislist.com/> is a collection of links to thousands of web pages devoted to genealogy. Cyndi's List is **free** to use, but it may take you to websites that charge for their information.

Linkpendium at <http://www.linkpendium.com/> is another large collection of links to web pages devoted to genealogy. It is also **free** to use, but it may take you to websites that charge for their information.

Genealogy Today at <http://www.genealogytoday.com/> is **free** and, quoting its website, has "over 6,690 transcriptions, including Masonic lodge rosters, funeral notices, school catalogues, telephone directories, insurance claims, directories, church member lists, prison records, etc., from original documents. Some special collections available: Funeral Cards, Ration Books, Criminal Records, and Railroad Employees."

I keep up with the latest news about genealogy by reading **free** blogs like **Dick Eastman's Genealogy Blog** at <https://blog.eogn.com/> or Randy Seaver's **Genea-Musings Blog** at <http://www.geneamusings.com/>; and, I check the **free** webpage **Genealogy Tip of the Day** at <http://genealogytipoftheday.com/> every day.

As you can see, Ancestry.com isn't the only site on the internet devoted to genealogy! Now it's time for my nap, so I'll sign off with a definition to ponder: "Genealogy is a pursuit where you confuse the dead and irritate the living."

—Gracie Cat

Common Genealogy Research Errors to Avoid

General Research

We all make mistakes, so here's a list of resources to help you avoid the most common genealogical pitfalls. Start with "If I'd Only Known! Beginner Genealogy Mistakes," a 30-minute instructional video available for FREE on the FamilySearch Learning Center website at <https://familysearch.org/learningcenter/lesson/if-i-d-only-known-beginner-genealogy-mistakes/225>. Then, discover what other genealogists have shared at the following online blogs:

"Top 5 Genealogy Mistakes," by Elyse Romano at *Review Chatter*: <http://www.reviewchatter.com/blog/top-5-genealogy-mistakes>.

"More Genealogy Mistakes to Avoid," by Elyse Romano at *Review Chatter*: <http://www.reviewchatter.com/blog/more-genealogy-mistakes-to-avoid>.

"Five Mistakes to Avoid When Researching Your Family History," by Brian Gallagher at the *Ancestry Blog*: <http://blogs.ancestry.com/ancestry/2014/10/05/five-mistakes-to-avoid-when-researching-your-family-history/>.

"7 Common Genealogy Research Mistakes to Avoid," by Lisa Lisson at *Genealogists*: <http://genealogists.com/blog/2015/05/7-common-genealogy-research-mistakes-to-avoid/>.

"10 Genealogy Newbie Mistakes to Avoid," by Julie at *Oakgrove Genealogy*: <http://oakgrovegenealogy.com/index.php/2015/08/29/10-genealogy-newbie-mistakes-to-avoid/>.

"Top 10 Genealogy Mistakes to Avoid," by Kimberly Powell at *About*: <http://genealogy.about.com/od/basics/ss/mistakes.htm>.

"Twenty Ways to Avoid Grief When Researching," by Margaret M. Sharon at the *British Columbia Genealogical Society*: <http://www.bccgs.ca/?p=52#.VyOicaMrLdQ>.



Specific Topics

"Understanding Dates: Five Common Mistakes to Avoid," by Laurence Harris, head of Genealogy UK for MyHeritage. This article covers differences between U.S. and English date formats; failure to recognize and convert Julian dates to Gregorian dates; misunderstanding dates from other special/religious

calendars; confusing an event's date and the date when it was registered or recorded; and, assuming that the dates in a document were recorded accurately. At *MyHeritage Blog*: <http://blog.myheritage.com/2015/01/understanding-dates-five-common-mistakes-to-avoid/>.

"Five Common Genealogical Mistakes to Avoid When Using Census Records," by Jenny Lancot at *The In-Depth Genealogist*: <http://theindepthgenealogist.com/five-common-genealogical-mistakes-to-avoid-when-using-census-records/>.

"Genealogy Mistakes: National Origin Errors Can Confuse a Family's History," by Dae Powell at *Shoestring Genealogy*: <http://www.shoestringgenealogy.com/article/Mistake.htm>.

"Research Mistakes and Remedies to Help You Figure Out Your Ancestors' Jobs," by Natalie L. at *Crestleaf*: <http://crestleaf.com/blog/5-reasons-cant-find-your-ancestors-occupations/>.

"6 Mistakes to Avoid When Using Newspapers for Genealogy," by Kenneth R. Marks at *The Ancestor Hunt*: <http://www.theancestorhunt.com/blog/6-mistakes-to-avoid-when-using-newspapers-for-genealogy>.

"How to Spot and Avoid 9 Common Genealogy Mistakes and Errors," by Mary Harrell-Sesniak at *GenealogyBank*: <https://blog.genealogybank.com/how-to-spot-and-avoid-9-common-genealogy-mistakes-errors.html>.

—Penny Nugent

Questing Heirs Genealogical Society, Inc.



Lakewood Masonic Center Hall

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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. 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 JULY NEWSLETTER MUST BE RECEIVED BY JUNE 22ND

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: Penny Nugent, QHGS P. O. Box 15102, Long Beach, CA, 90815-0102, or emailed to pnugent@icloud.com. We are not responsible for the accuracy of material published, but will gladly print corrections. Newsletter illustrations: page 42 <http://thegraphicsfairy.com/>; page 44 IGS; page 45 WAGS; page 46 and May 15 meeting photos Kathy Latham; page 48 Penny Nugent. All other illustrations are in the public domain from LOC, NYPL, Archive.org, and Wikimedia Commons.

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a member of the
Society.
To join, please contact
Membership Chair
Kathy Latham
(562) 422-7645.

QHGS May 15 Meeting



After being introduced by Shirley Terry, Denise May Levenick gave a dynamic presentation. Can you find yourself in the group photo below?



Forty-three genealogists heard Denise May Levenick speak at our May 15 meeting. During the first half hour, Denise showed us proper ways to care for and store our precious treasures from the past. In the second half of her presentation, Denise focused on family photographs and showed how to scan them. After the break, members and guests looked at each other's genealogy binders and scrapbooks, and shared information about them.