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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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## 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/>

[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.

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## QUESTING HEIRS GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY LONG BEACH, CALIFORNIA

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**Hybrid meeting: October 20, 2024**  
**beginning at 2:00 PM PDT**

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

**Masks are recommended - if you're not feeling well or have a cough, please join the meeting via Zoom.**

**Guest Speaker: Shannon Combs-Bennett**

[Creating a Research Plan](#)  
[With DNA Testing](#)

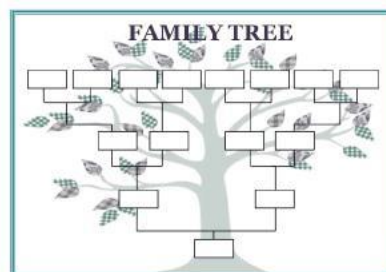
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***Like our Facebook page to get updates on items of interest that were not in our newsletter.***



## QHGS President's Message

### Bob Prager



Newspapers! Humor!

As genealogists, we frequently use online collections of newspapers to find out what happened to our ancestors on a particular date. But as we read, we mustn't skip over the numerous ads for strange household devices, articles of clothing, and what can best be described as "Snake Oil." These ads sometimes appear on the front page of the newspaper, and – to the present-day sensibility – appear to be extremely humorous. I'd like to suggest that as you come across good examples of these, you find a way to pass them on so that one might be published in each newsletter (with appropriate citations, of course).

The best-known *free* site would probably be Chronicling America sponsored by the Library of Congress, but there are many others – one of my favorites (after all, my maternal ancestors lived there!) is the Northern New York Library Network, which has an extensive historic newspapers database. Who could possibly pass up an ad for Dr. Walker's California Vinegar Bitters? After all, "They are the great blood purifier and a life-giving principle, a perfect Renovator and Invigorator of the system." Just ask Dr. Walker!

The other sometimes humorous snippets to be found in old newspapers (and we'd like to get some of those for the newsletter, too) appear as one or two sentence articles describing local happenings. These appeared at least partially so that everyone in town could see their name in the paper – and they'd have to purchase a copy in self-defense to see what everyone else in town knew about them.

Seriously, send in brief ads or social comments from old newspapers you find amusing – the rest of us would love to see them!



Pat stumbled upon this one. It was one of the brief announcements that papers used to include to mention the name of everyone in town so that they'd be compelled to buy the paper to see what they said.

In a list of marriages:

"In East Hartford, Conn. Mr. Thomas Risley, 73, to Widow Rhoda Bidwell, 70, after a courtship of about 15 minutes ...".

It's from Page 3 of the *Springfield Weekly Republican* of November 26th, 1836. Thomas was my 5th great-grand uncle.

## Shannon Combs-Bennett

### Roadmaps Tell You More Than How to Get From A to B: Creating a Research Plan With DNA Testing



We are taught in Genealogy 101 to create research plans as part of a genealogist’s toolbox. Research plans are a way to guide our research thoughtfully and methodologically to solve our genealogical questions.

Most people consider that with books, websites, and paper research. Well, in the 21st Century, that now includes DNA testing. This presentation will demonstrate how to include genetic genealogy results, testing strategies, analysis, and proof arguments in your research plans.

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Shannon Combs-Bennett, QG, is an author, researcher and lecturer based in the Washington, D.C. metro area. She regularly speaks and writes about various aspects of genealogy from genetic genealogy to methodology. Her blog Trials and Tribulations (T2) Family History chronicles her genealogical journey and family exploration. She is working toward her Ph.D in History and Genealogic Studies.

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**2024 Free Legacy Family Tree Webinars**  
 Go to <https://familytreewebinars.com/>  
 to register for these and other monthly free live webinars

**Sense & Sensibility: The Power of Logic, Intuition and Critical Thinking**  
<https://familytreewebinars.com/webinar/sense-and-sensibility-the-power-of-logic-intuition-and-critical-thinking/>

Robbie Johnson, CG - Tuesday, October 15, 2024: 05:00 PM PDT

Learning to harness the power of logic, syllogism, and our own “Spidey-senses,” can help scale brick-walls, solve DNA mysteries, and organize mountains of information. This talk focuses on how to incorporate logic, common sense, and critical thinking in a more deliberate way to create hypotheses, test theories, and support conclusions. Johnson will share exercises that can bulk up logic and critical thought muscles, as well as practical tips on how to apply common sense and sensibility to your family history research and writing.

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### Upcoming Questing Heirs Presentations:

November 17, 2024 - Getting Around the Fire at the Military Records Center



**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 – Acting Newsletter.....Christina McKillip.....(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 November newsletter  
must be received by October 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. Photos on page 2 with permission from Bob Prager and Shannon Combs-Bennett. 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)