



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

**Hybrid meeting: December 15, 2024
beginning at 2:00 PM PDT**

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

**Join us for a holiday gathering of food and drink
courtesy of our Board Members.
If on Zoom, join us with your own snacks.**

Speaker: QH Member Diana Transue

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

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

E-mail: questingheirs@gmail.com

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

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QHGS President's Message Bob Prager



Years ago, Ancestry sponsored an event at a hotel in the Bay Area. We went on the offered side trip, a tour of Angel Island partially led by a Chinese historical reenactor. My interest in seeing the site stems from that being where my father left and returned to the United States during his military service in WWII.

Angel Island sits in San Francisco Bay, and from 1910 to 1940 served as an immigration station similar to Ellis Island. Although immigrants from many other countries were processed there, it is best known for holding Chinese who had to prove they had husbands or fathers who were US citizens to avoid being denied entry due to the Chinese Exclusion Act of 1882. While awaiting a hearing, some of them carved poems lamenting their fate in classical Chinese into the wooden walls of the holding facility. These were seen as vandalism, and when discovered by the station, were filled with putty and painted over.

Shortly before the holding facility was to be razed to create camping facilities on the island, a park ranger discovered the carvings (the putty had fallen out of some of them). It was decided they were historically significant, and subsequent searches found over 200 poems. The building is now preserved, and some of the poems can be seen online.

I have no Chinese ancestry, but found the visit very moving.

Questing Heirs Member: Diana Transue

My Trip to Poland: Places, Customs and Food



Diana will entertain us with a presentation about her trip to the motherland with her son, Nick. Diana met Polish relatives thru her Facebook page of her mother's surname and was invited to a relative's wedding in Poland. A gigantic feast followed the multiple days of wedding festivities. Diana had a memorable trip of a lifetime.

She is pictured here with two of her Polish relatives.

Elections were held at our November meeting and with membership all in favor, Bob Prager will continue as President and Sandy McDonald will continue as 2nd Vice President (Membership) for the 2025-2026 term.

Editor's note: Still looking for someone to volunteer to do the newsletter.

December Historical Moments

1542 - Mary Queen of Scots born

1804 - Napoleon crowned Emperor

1941 - U. S. declares war on Japan

1990 - Lech Walesa elected president of Poland

2024 Free Legacy Family Tree Webinars

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

Lost and Found: Locating Ancestral Origins With FAN Club and DNA

<https://familytreewebinars.com/webinar/lost-and-found-locating-ancestral-origins-with-fan-club-and-dna/>

Mary Kircher Roddy, CG - Tuesday, December 17, 2024: 05:00 PM PST

It's hard to do genealogy well without studying your ancestors' Friends & Family, Associates, and Neighbors – their FAN club. If your ancestors are Irish, you might have no luck at all without those FAN principles. But if you combine FAN club research with DNA, you might have just the winning ticket to get you back to your Irish ancestor's origins. In this case study presentation, learn how focused research pointed the way from Ohio to townlands in County Mayo for an 1850s-era Irish immigrant.

American Ancestors Free Webinar

How to Avoid Common Family History Pitfalls and Myths

Thursday, December 19, 2024 - 1:00 pm PST

When we first begin family history research or start work on a new line, we tend to be eager and excited. But that enthusiasm can cloud our thinking and fuel endless unproductive searching! In this online lecture, Senior Genealogist Rhonda R. McClure will share her top tips for avoiding common “hazards” in your research process. She'll discuss how to develop a research plan, staying organized, analyzing your research, and more.

Free registration at <https://www.americanancestors.org/events/how-avoid-common-family-history-pitfalls-and-myths>

Next Month Presentation:

January 19, 2025 - Julie Huffman, Genealogy Librarian

Getting the Most Genealogy Out of the Los Angeles Public Library

Membership dues are renewable in January. See separate attachment in email.



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



Questing Heirs Genealogical Society Board

- President.....Bob Prager.....(2024-2024)
- 1st Vice President – Programs.....Diana Transue.....(2024-2025)
- 2nd Vice President – Membership.....Sandy McDonald.....(2024-2024)
- SecretaryNina Gustin.....(2024-2025)
- TreasurerCynthia Day-Elliott.....(2024-2025)
- Director – HospitalityTina Yanis.....(2024-2025)
- Director – Acting NewsletterChristina 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 January newsletter
must be received by December 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 Diana Transue. 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