

Questing Heirs Genealogical Society Newsletter



March is Women's History Month

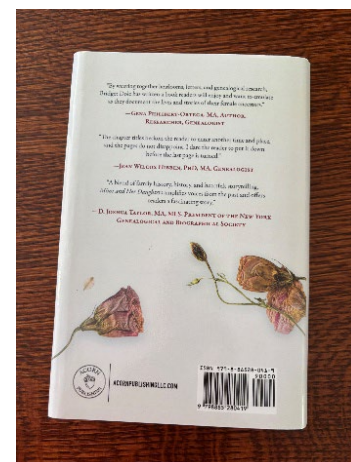
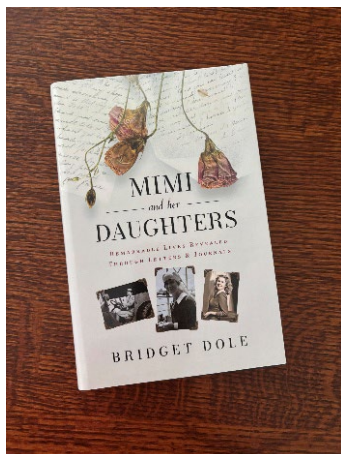
In honor of Women's History Month, this issue is dedicated to the remarkable women in our own family trees. Mothers, grandmothers, daughters, and ancestors whose lives shaped the generations that followed. Too often their stories are hidden behind the names of husbands and sons, yet through letters, photographs, and records, we can uncover their strength, resilience, and everyday contributions to history. This month, we encourage our members to look closely at the women they are researching and share their stories, no matter how small they may seem. Each discovery helps ensure that these women are remembered not only as names on a chart, but as individuals who lived, worked, and loved in their own unique time and place.

Editor Diana Transue

Genealogy Through Story: Mimi and Her Daughters

We are proud to highlight a book written by one of our own genealogy society members, **Bridget Dole**, titled *Mimi and Her Daughters*. This heartfelt story weaves family history and personal memories into a meaningful tribute to the bonds between generations. Bridget's work reminds us of the importance of preserving family stories and sharing them with future generations, a true reflection of the spirit of genealogies work reminds us of the importance of preserving family stories and sharing them with future generations, a true reflection of the spirit of genealogy.

Bridget also recommends "Telling Her Story, A Guide to Researching and Writing about Women of the Past" by Sharon DeBartolo Carmack (2024).. It's a great resource!



Bob Prager, President
High School 1964



Have you ever been dismayed by finding several different birth days, months, and years for an ancestor in census records? Consider the plight of the poor enumerator! This comes from the book *History of Braxton County and Central West Virginia* by John Davison Sutton in 1919:

Mr. G. B. Browning, while taking the census several years ago, was interviewing a Mrs. Knight as to the ages of her children. She said she was unable to give their ages, but if he could see Mary Morton, she could tell him, as one of her children was born the same time. Another child was born the same time that Jesse Skidmore's wife had a child, and if she just knew what year John Frank Beamer had wheat in the hill field, she could give him the age of the other one exactly.

Birth dates were just not as important back then!

Of course there's sometimes deliberate obfuscation – if it was difficult for an Irishman to report a birth to the registrar within the 6 weeks required by the Births and Deaths Registration Act of 1874, a date later than the actual birth would be reported to avoid the £10 fine! (This is why Irish church baptism records are far more reliable – a child would normally have been baptized within a few days of the actual birth date.)

Happy Saint Patrick's Day – Lá Fhéile Pádraig sona daoibh!

Culinary Chronicles: Corned Beef and Cabbage

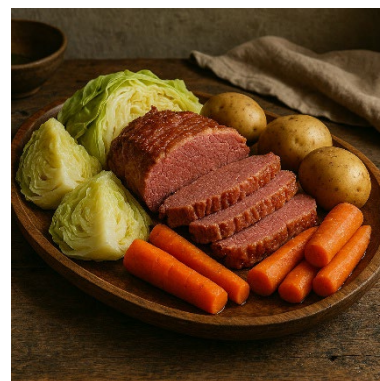
Simple Corned Beef & Cabbage Recipe (Serves 4–6)

Ingredients

- 1 (3–4 lb) corned beef brisket with seasoning packet
- 6–8 small potatoes, halved
- 4 carrots, cut into chunks
- 1 small head of cabbage, cut into wedges
- Water to cover meat
- **Instructions:**

1. Place corned beef in a large pot and cover with water. Add the seasoning packet.
2. Bring to a boil, then reduce heat and simmer for about **2½–3 hours** until tender.
3. Add potatoes and carrots; cook 20 minutes.
4. Add cabbage and cook another 10–15 minutes until tender.
5. Slice corned beef against the grain and serve with vegetables.

Optional: Serve with mustard or horseradish for extra flavor.



Looking Ahead: Our Next Speaker

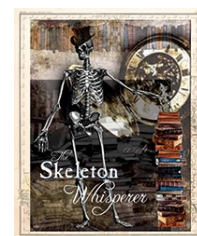
Our monthly meeting will be held on **Sunday, March 15, at 2:00 p.m.**, at **St. Thomas of Canterbury Episcopal Church**, 5306 E. Arbor, Long Beach, CA 90808. Members may also attend **via Zoom**

"Every person that starts researching their family history does so for a different reason. For some, they feel disconnected from themselves or seek understanding about modern issues from the past. For others, the genealogy "bug" bites when a family member asks them for some help with research. For me, it was a desire to learn about the people I came from, all these marvelous looking people in my Grandma's photo albums."

Sara Cochran "The Skeleton Whisperer" presenting:

From Rebellion to Records: **The Irish in the American Revolution**

The Irish played a major role in the American Revolution. This class looks at why they fought and their impact on the war. Then, we'll look at ways to identify and document these patriots in your family tree.



February Program Recap:

February Meeting Recap – Homesteading Land for All

Our February meeting was both educational and inspiring as we welcomed guest speaker **Christine Cohen**, who presented a wonderful program on *Homesteading Land for All*. Christine guided us through the fascinating world of homestead research and showed how these records can bring our ancestors' stories to life.

She explained how homestead tract books were used to document land claims and shared where to find these records in archives and online collections. Members also learned the steps our ancestors took to make their land claims legal, from filing paperwork to living on and improving the land.

Christine helped us understand the difference between federal land states and state land states, which is an important key to knowing where to search for homestead records. Her practical tips and real-life examples made the topic easy to follow and exciting to explore.

It was a delightful and informative afternoon, and many members left inspired to dig deeper into their own family homesteading journeys! Here is Christine's website if you should have further questions.

www.ChristineCohenGenealogy.com

RootsTech March 5-7, 2026

Registration for online or in person:

<https://www.familysearch.org/en/rootstech/>

RootsTech 2026 Highlights Free online

RootsTech, the world's largest family history conference, brings together genealogists from around the globe to share knowledge, explore added resources, and strengthen research skills. The conference features sessions on topics such as methodology, DNA research, record preservation, and emerging technology, with both in-person and virtual attendance options available.

RootsTech continues to be an important gathering for the genealogy community, offering inspiration and practical tools for researchers at every level. Members who participate are encouraged to share insights and discoveries in a future issue of the Questing Heirs newsletter.

Message from the Membership Chairman LAST CALL FOR MEMBERSHIP DUES

January was our membership renewal month, and this is a friendly reminder that if dues are not up to date you will no longer receive this newsletter or zoom invitations.. To continue receiving the Questing Heirs newsletter and enjoying all the benefits of membership, please be sure your renewal is submitted ASAP. Contact Sandy McDonald at Questingheirs@gmail.com

We would also love your help in welcoming new members to our society. If you have a friend or family member who is curious about genealogy, invite them to join us and share the fun of learning, researching, and discovering family stories together. Our membership levels are **\$30 per year for an individual** or **\$45 per year for a family**.

A membership form can be found on the **backside of this newsletter (page 5)** for easy reference. We look forward to another year of exploring our past with you!

Warm regards,
Sandy McDonald
Membership Chairman

About Questing Heirs Genealogical Society

Questing Heirs Genealogical Society is an IRS-recognized 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization. Donations are tax deductible.

Website: www.qhgs.info/ | Facebook: www.facebook.com/QuestingHeirs/ | Email: questingheirs@gmail.com

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QUESTING HEIRS GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY
MEMBER APPLICATION OR RENEWAL

I am a:

☐ New member

☐ Current member renewing

Name: _____

Spouse's Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip+4: _____

Phone: (____) _____

E-Mail Address: _____

Member Type:

Individual (\$30) \$ _____

Family (\$45) \$ _____

Donation \$ _____

Total Paid \$ _____

Membership year runs from January 1 through December 31.

Please take a few minutes to list/update your top five surname and location preferences so our Program Chairman can engage speakers who will interest you. Also, the information will be printed in the directory.

Surnames you are researching:

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____
5. _____

Areas of your research (countries / states / counties):

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____
5. _____