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### MONTHLY MEETINGS

Our monthly meetings are held on the third Sunday of the month at 1:00 p.m. at the Lakewood Masonic Center, 5918 E. Parkcrest Street, in Long Beach California. See the map on the last page.

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

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

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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### FEBRUARY QHGS MEETING

Sunday, February 17, 2019, 1:00 p.m.

## Our February Speakers are

'A Little Help from My Friends' with Tina McKillip and Becky Moore

'Bad Handwriting Day: Why Every Genealogist Needs to Be a Paleographer!' with John McCoy

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### • FEBRUARY QUOTE •

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'The thing that interests me most about family history is the gap between the things we think we know about our families and the realities.'

– Jeremy Hardy

## • Our February Speakers •

'With a Little Help from My Friends' - Tina McKillip and Becky Moore

*Imagine being adopted and not having any information about your birth parents because you were abandoned as a baby?*

*Becky and Tina will take you on a journey of DNA and genealogy research to find the biological parents of Daniel. Together with a DNA expert and the inclusion of Daniel's help, this mystery was solved. How do you start with nothing but DNA matches to come to a conclusion? Come to the February meeting to find out.*



Christina "Tina" McKillip is a native of Lynwood and lives in Long Beach. She has been doing family research for 30 years after being intrigued by her own mother's estranged family. In the early 1990's she did a birthparent search for a coworker and found that this type of research was very rewarding. After 25 years of doing adoption research, the power of DNA has made these searches more accurate and sometimes easier to solve. Tina recently solved a 20-year-old case that would have been impossible if not for DNA. As far as education, Tina relied on genealogy meetings, her curiosity and tenacity and the help of her various mentors in the adoption search community. Lately she has teamed up with Becky Moore and a few researchers to help adoptees who are searching for their biological families. Tina also has her own business of viewing and extracting vital records in Los Angeles County for various clients.



Becky intuitively knew the man raising her was not her biological father. The path to discovering who her biological father was began with very little information and pre-internet. Finally, at the age of 37 after spending hours, reading, researching jumping over hurdles, and contacting agencies, Becky found her dad, living mere blocks away from her and thus began her passion for locating biological family members. Becky is very resourceful, possessing a wide base of knowledge to draw upon. She is observant, creative, detail oriented, dependable and can do anything she sets her mind to. In addition to being a self-motivated, she works efficiently, effectively and competently. Becky believes meeting Tina in court, while on Jury Duty was part of a divine plan from a higher power. Their passion for connecting families has intensified with the discovery of DNA testing, the use of multiple databases and most importantly teamwork. Together they are dedicated, and very committed to finding the missing link, for adoptees and biological family.

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'Bad Handwriting Day: Why Every Genealogist Needs to Be a Paleographer!' with John McCoy

*Genealogists encounter all sorts of handwritten documents that are difficult to read. Paleography is the art of reading old handwriting. The principles of paleography are easy to grasp, and excellent tutorials can be found on the internet. The same principles apply to the problem of reading bad handwriting from all periods. The real work consists of studying enough samples of various handwriting styles to be able to read them fluently. We will present examples of English and American handwriting from a variety of sources and periods. Bring your own favorite examples of illegible genealogical documents, which we will discuss during the program as time permits.*

John McCoy is Past President of Questing Heirs Genealogical Society in Long Beach, CA. He has well over 50 years of research experience covering six centuries and many countries. Since 1994, he has devoted most of his efforts to his French and Swiss ancestry. He is site coordinator for the Swiss Canton of Vaud in the World GenWeb project ([www.rootsweb.com/~chevaud](http://www.rootsweb.com/~chevaud)).

## • President's Message •

The new year has brought new members and visitors to our society meetings. I hope something new was learned and that they will join us again this month.

Even if the monthly topic doesn't fit your area of research, you can always learn something. I don't consider myself a beginner but Hal Horrock's presentation gave me new ideas on where to research on the internet.

As we celebrate Presidents' Day on February 18th, I am reminded of two of my husband John's ancestors. He had a maternal uncle Calvin Coolidge Buckles who was born during the 30th President's term and a maternal great grandfather Ulysses Grant Buckles who was born a few months after the 18th President took office in 1869. Do you have an ancestor named after a president?

If you have any questions, concerns, ideas or suggestions, please let me know. You can find my contact information in the member directory.

Christina "Tina" McKillip



### **MEMBERSHIP REPORT** by Cynthia Day-Elliott

At the January meeting there were 33 members and 4 guests in attendance.

### **REFRESHMENT REPORT** by Sandy Hollandsworth

Our February hosts are: Linda Ryan, Sandy McDonald, Jackie Grandt and Tina McKillip

### **QUARTERLY TREASURER REPORT** by Christine Elia

October 2018 – December 2018

Income: \$2,159.95

Expenses: \$1,507.47

F&M Checking Balance: \$4,547.88 of which \$844.06 is restricted to educational expenses. Membership dues collected in December will be reflected in the next quarterly report.

Per our Bylaws, the records of the treasury will be available for viewing at the break during the February meeting. Please feel free to ask questions and see how the records are kept digitally.

## • A Tale of Two Towns •

### • A Portrait of Brothers •



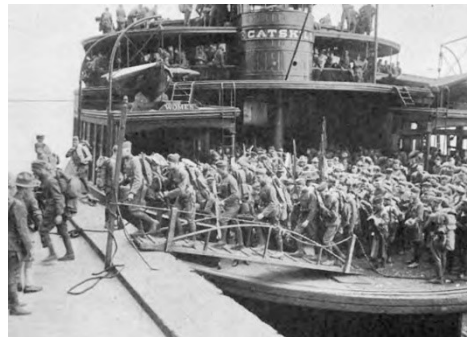
This photo of two young boys was taken in February 1919 in Hoboken, New Jersey. I wanted to learn more about these boys and perhaps find out why they were dressed in military attire. To understand more about this time period, I needed to find out more about Hoboken in 1919.

### • Hoboken, New Jersey •

Hoboken, New Jersey became a port of embarkation during World War I. America declared on Germany and her allies on April 6, 1917. The Hamburg-American Line piers in were taken under eminent domain. Between 1917 and 1918 more than two million soldiers passed through the city. A total of 936 voyages left Hoboken on their way to England and France.

About this time, approximately 25 percent of the population of Hoboken was German. Many German immigrants voluntarily left the city while others were forcibly moved to Ellis Island. German nationals who were not naturalized U.S. citizens were categorized as 'enemy aliens'. The city population dramatically decreased and local businesses experienced financial hardships. Imagine the impact on the population in this time period.

General John Pershing famously boasted that the troops would be in 'Heaven, Hell or Hoboken' by Christmas of 1917. The war ended in November 1918.



## Do you know about the history of a city that your ancestor lived in?

How did it change during their lifetime? Did any external events have an effect on their life or livelihood? Did any of these events affect why they moved to another city or state? To find this out, there are many records available online that might help you understand their life.

Court records can be great sources. I have paper copies of lawsuits between two sides of my family that were shared with me many years ago. It was not only interesting to read, but it filled in details on marriages and deaths. Divorce, adoption, wills and probate records may also provide the evidence you have been seeking. You might find ancestor information in a published county or city history. If you ancestor is not in the publication, you can still learn more about the community in which they lived. In an Iowa county history, I found that my great grandfather was a banker and farmer. Because there was an adoption in the family, I was delighted to read the life details of a man I had only identified in the last three years.

Newspapers can color in an ancestor's life. Weddings, deaths, and births are the normal things you might expect to find in newspapers. I didn't know that another great grandfather was a grocer and mayor in Washington in the 1920's. I was able to verify this later with a relative after finding a few newspaper articles online. Or imagine finding that your ancestor had a checkered past. How exciting!

Google is always good place to find new record sources with a general search. The list below includes some resources you should consider in your research for any city.

- Ancestry – include a known address in the ‘keyword box’ in addition to city and state
- Cemetery records
- Census records about individuals
- Census records about the city
- City directories
- City libraries
- City web sites
- FamilySearch
- Google books
- Historical societies
- Local genealogical societies
- Newspapers
- Pinterest for vintage photos
- Published books
- Maps – Sanborn or historical
- School yearbooks
- State or city archives
- Wikipedia

## • Long Beach, California •

### Where would you look for information about Long Beach, California?

In 1784 Rancho Los Nietos was granted to a Spanish soldier Manuel Nieto by King Carlos III. Rancho Los Cerritos and Rancho Los Alamitos were both part of this territory. In 1882 Willmore City was launched by William Erwin Willmore, a developer. In 1888 with 59 buildings, the City of Long Beach became incorporated. The Developer Willmore had moved on to Arizona.

Between 1888 and 1908 the position equivalent to mayor was called President of the Board of Trustees. Long Beach had 11 Presidents. Beginning in 1908 the position was called Mayor and was voted upon amongst the City Council members. In 1988, a citywide election for Mayor was held. The first five men who served as Mayor of Long Beach were:

- 1908 - 1912 Charles H. Windham
- 1912 - 1914 Ira S. Hatch
- 1914 – 1915 Louis N. Whealton
- 1915 – 1921 William T. Linsenby
- 1921 – 1924 Charles A. Buffum



Long Beach Pier about 1900-1902

The list below includes some resources you should consider in your research for Long Beach.

- Rancho Los Alamitos at <https://www.ranchosalamitos.com/history.html>
- Rancho Los Cerritos <https://www.ranchoscerritos.org/about-hub/history-hub/>
- Building permits that show the history of a home can be found at <http://citydocs.longbeach.gov/WebLink8/CustomSearch.aspx?SearchName=SearchbyAddress>
- Long Beach Public library contains printed matter, photos and artifacts. You can get access to newspapers in online databases. Read about LBPL history index search at <http://www.lbpl.org/history/>
- Long Beach city directories, high school yearbooks and photos can be accessed online using this link <http://encore.lbpl.org/iii/cpro/app>
- The Long Beach Public Library has a site dedicated to researching an address at <http://www.lbpl.org/history/lbaddress.asp>
- Long Beach family histories can be found online or in printed books at the bookstore and library
- Long Beach historical society at <https://hslb.org/>



- This site notes important dates between 1784 to 2013 taking readers through early settlement, ranching, and the establishment of the railroad and port at <https://www.visitlongbeach.com/about-long-beach/facts-history/>
- There are many published books on Long Beach. A few I've read recently are:
  - ✓ *Early Long Beach* by Gerrie Schipske
  - ✓ *Long Beach's Los Cerritos* by Geraldine Kantz
  - ✓ *Long Beach Architecture: The Unexpected Metropolis* by Cara Mullio and Jennifer M. Volland
  - ✓ *Died in Long Beach: Cemetery Tales* by Claudine Burnette
- Have you searched California digital newspaper collection? The collection contains 344, 588 issues at <https://cdnc.ucr.edu/>
- Sanborn maps of Long Beach are online at <https://www.loc.gov/collections/sanborn-maps/?fa=location%3Alos+angeles+county%7Clocation%3Along+beach&all=true&st=gallery&sb=shelf-id>

While these links are specific to Long Beach you can apply the same search techniques to any city to find what is available online or in print.

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#### • This Month's Cup of Coffee Question •



Of the first five mayors of Long Beach on page 13, which one was born in the state of Virginia? Your choices are: Windham, Hatch, Whealton, Lisenby and Buffum. Use traditional genealogy web sites or the links to find the answer to this month's question.

One lucky member will receive a Starbucks gift card donated by Sandy McDonald. The drawing will be made from the correct answers submitted. Check for the box on the front table at our next meeting and submit your guess to our mayor question.

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**January's Photo Information:** If you guessed that the year of January's photo from was 1901, you were correct. This couple was married in Whitman, Washington in 1901 and were in South Dakota visiting the bride's family when the photo was taken.

#### • Murphy's Law of Genealogy •

You are all familiar with Murphy's Law of 'anything that can go wrong will go wrong'. Check out this humorous list of Murphy's Laws for genealogy. It is sure to lighten your day. A version can be found at: <http://buwt.blogspot.com/2012/06/murphys-law-of-genealogy.html>

#### • Learning Opportunities •

##### Family Tree Webinars

February 13 – 'Reconstructing Your Genetic Family Tree' with Blaine Bettinger.

February 19 – 'Applying Evidence to Genealogical Research Questions' with Melissa Johnson.

February 22 – 'Using Timelines and Tables to Analyze Your Research' with Cari Taplin.

March 6 – 'A Guide to Third Party Tools for DNA Testing' with Michelle Leonard.

For more information: <https://familytreewebinars.com/upcoming-webinars.php>

##### Southern California Genealogical Society Webinars

February 20 – 'Is Your One-Place Study at a Distance? No Worries with the Internet' with Tessa Keough.

March 2 – 'Irish Research – What's New' with Donna M. Moughty.

For more information: <http://www.scgsgenealogy.com/webinar/jes-index.html>

## February Classes at FamilySearch Library in Orange County

February 9 at 10 am – ‘Native American Research’ with Linda Serna.

February 22 at 1:30 pm - ‘Introduction to Genealogy’ with Elna Katherman.

February 23 1:00 pm - ‘Advanced Search Features at Ancestry’ with Barbara Renick.

For more information: <http://www.ocfamilyhistory.org/Website/index.html>

### • Conferences and Events •

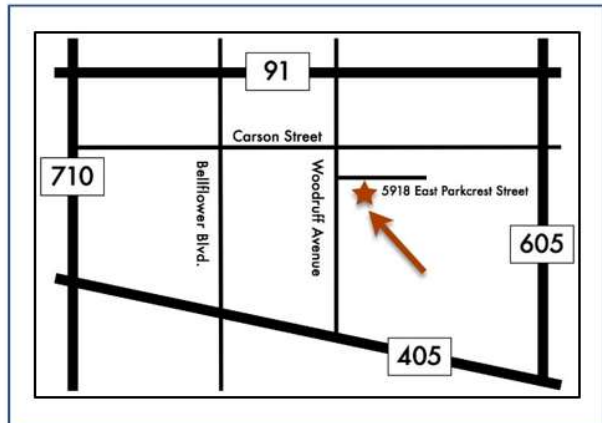
- ✓ RootsTech 2019: February 27 – March 2, 2019, Salt Lake City, Utah <https://www.rootstech.org/>
  - ✓ Genealogy Jamboree 2019: May 30 – June 2, 2019, Burbank, California <http://genealogyjamboree.com/>  
For more information see: <https://wagswhittier.org/cpage.php?pt=7>
  - ✓ Orange County California Genealogical Society Genealogy Bash and Book Faire: March 9, 2019 in Huntington Beach. The event is entitled ‘A Day with Crista Cowan’. Four topics include:
    - DNA and Ancestry – How to Utilize It
    - Ancestry Search Tips and Tricks
    - Finding and Sharing the Stories in Your Family Tree
    - Introduction to the Genealogical Professional Standards
- For more information see: [http://www.occg.com/mtg\\_event/bash/bash.html](http://www.occg.com/mtg_event/bash/bash.html)

### • Check Out These Pinterest Boards and Pins •

- ✓ Family Tree Magazine Board: Write Your Family History at <https://www.pinterest.com/familytreemag/write-your-family-history/>
  - ‘30 Family History Writing Prompts.’
  - ‘Family Tree 30-Day Family History Writing Challenge.’
- ✓ Ancestry Board: Ancestry.com Videos at <https://www.pinterest.com/ancestrycom/ancestry-com-videos/>
  - ‘Family History Clues in Death Records.’
  - ‘Using Ancestry.com Like a Pro.’
- ✓ FamilySearch Board: Saving Photos at <https://www.pinterest.com/familysearch/saving-photos/>
  - ‘Turn Your Photo Collection from Chaos to Order with These Simple Steps.’
  - ‘Five Keys to Leaving a Visual Legacy for Future Generations.’
- ✓ Family History Daily Board: Free Genealogy Resources at [https://www.pinterest.com/family\\_history/free-genealogy-sites/](https://www.pinterest.com/family_history/free-genealogy-sites/)
  - ‘Serious About Genealogy? Here are 10 Books to Read This Year.’
  - ‘The Absolute Beginner’s Guide to Researching Your Ancestors in England, Wales, Scotland or Ireland.’

### • Blogs and Articles to Read This Month •

- ✓ **Amy Johnson Crow blog:** ‘Organizing Your Genealogy Files: A Practical Approach’ <https://www.amyjohnsoncrow.com/organizing-genealogy-files/>
- ✓ **Family Tree Magazine blog:** ‘How I Solved a 90-year-old Family Mystery with a DNA Match’ by Nancy Hendrickson <https://www.familytreemagazine.com/premium/solving-family-mystery-dna-match/>
- ✓ **FamilySearch blog:** ‘Connecting with Your Swedish Ancestry’ by Laurie Bradshaw <https://www.familysearch.org/blog/en/swedish-ancestry/>
- ✓ **Genealogy Bank blog by Gena Philibert-Ortega:** ‘The 1907 Expatriation Act: Did Your Female Ancestor Lose Her American Citizenship?’ <https://blog.genealogybank.com/the-1907-expatriation-act-did-your-female-ancestor-lose-her-american-citizenship.html>



Lakewood Masonic Center Hall • 5918 E. Parkcrest Street • Long Beach, CA

**Questing Heirs Genealogical Society Board**

- President..... Christina McKillip.....(2019-2020)
- 1<sup>st</sup> Vice President – Programs ..... Terry Hamilton.....(2018-2019)
- 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President – Membership..... Cynthia Day-Elliott.....(2019-2020)
- Secretary ..... Diana Transue .....(2019)
- Treasurer ..... Christine Elia .....(2018-2019)
- Director – Hospitality ..... Tina Yanis .....(2019-2020)
- Director – Newsletter ..... Janice Miller.....(2019-2020)
- Director– Publicity ..... Jerry Hardison.....(2019)
- Past President ..... Sandy McDonald.....(2019-2020)

**QHGS Volunteer Positions**

- Digital Archivist..... Vacant
- Research/Historian..... Tina Yanis
- Refreshments ..... Sandy Hollandsworth
- Social Media/Facebook Coordinator ..... Laurie Angel
- Webmaster ..... John McCoy

Submissions for the March 2019 Newsletter  
 Must be received by noon on February 24, 2019

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: Janice Miller, 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. Photographs on page 10 courtesy of Christina McKillip and Becky Moore; page 13 courtesy of Janice Miller. 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 or as sited.

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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 Chair Cynthia Day-Elliott at (562)427-9663