

QUESTING HEIRS GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY  
LONG BEACH, CALIFORNIA

**Our next meeting will be  
November 15 on Zoom**

**12:30 Social Time  
1:00 Speaker Presentation**

**Jean Wilcox Hibben**

**'Dead Language/Dead People: Translating  
Latin Records from the Catholic Church'**

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.

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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NOVEMBER VOTE

At our November Zoom meeting, QHGS members will vote for the new 2021 officers. For more details see page 68.

## • Our November Presenter – Jean Wilcox Hibben •



Jean Wilcox Hibben; PhD, MA (DBA Circlemending), has been involved in family research for over 40 years. A former Board Certified genealogist, she is a member of the Daughters of the American Revolution (DAR), the National Genealogical Society (NGS), and is or has been on the following Boards: the California State Genealogical Alliance (now disbanded), the Genealogical Speakers Guild, the International Society of Family History Writers and Editors, the So. Calif. Chapter of the Assoc. of Professional Genealogists (current President and past APG board member), and the Corona Genealogical Society (former president & current 1<sup>st</sup> VP and webmaster). She writes the “Ask Aunty Jeff” column for the Jefferson County, NY, Genealogical Society *Informer* and maintains her own website with information about her presentations, CDs, articles, projects, etc.: [www.circlemending.org](http://www.circlemending.org).

Jean is associated with the Corona California Family History Center (former director, current staff trainer); she was the lead researcher for the 2013 Season of the PBS television program *Genealogy Roadshow* and did research for *Follow Your Past*, appearing on Travel Channel in 2016. A native of the Chicago suburbs and retired college speech professor, she holds a master’s degree in speech communication and doctorate in folklore. Jean is a national speaker known for her entertaining, as well as informative, presentations, and is a frequent writer for various genealogy publications. With Gena Philibert-Ortega and Sara Cochran, they form Genealogy Journeys®, hosting genealogy events and a series of podcasts (launched in 2016), dealing with Social History. Their blog is <http://genaandjean.blogspot.com> where information on both of these endeavors can be found. A former square dance caller, Jean has been playing guitar for about 50 years, learning a variety of other folk instruments along the way. She sees a connection between family history and music because, in learning about our forebears, we try to piece together the various elements of our ancestors' lives in an effort to create a complete (or as complete as possible) picture of who they were in their homes, families, occupations, religions, and activities. Their musical interests/involvement should be considered part of this whole picture, or circle, of their lives and that is the primary focus of much of Jean’s writings.

Jean’s philosophy is that “who we are is a compilation of our experiences and associations as well as our biological connections. When we understand our ancestors, we can better understand ourselves. By doing this, we can complete our personal family circles.” This connects to her mission statement: “My goal is to assist others in their efforts to connect generations (past to present), completing the family circle.”

### **Dead Language/Dead People: Translating Latin Records from the Catholic Church**

Latin has been the traditional language used for the records of the Catholic Church. Focusing on records written before the early 1900s, this lecture looks at how to decipher the basic terms and identify the types of records found. Using examples from German Catholic Churches in Germany and the United States, I will help the researcher discover how to find needed information on baptisms, marriages, and deaths. Because the examples come from German research, it is advisable to determine if the prospective audience has origins in that country. Although Latin records are also used in other locales and there is bound to be a relationship between the Latin examples given here and the records found in other areas (Italy, Mexico, etc.), the uniqueness of Gothic German handwriting makes this presentation most helpful for those who are working on records from that country.

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## **Membership Report**

Cynthia Day-Elliott reported that there were 42 participants at the October Zoom meeting.

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## QHGS President’s Message

Our Zoom meetings seem to be working well although I miss seeing everyone. We have social time at 12:30 where we can also welcome visitors. I hope to see more of you online in November. Unfortunately, this may be our only way of having meetings until well into 2021.

We still need a member to take over the newsletter duties as Janice's term is up in December. If you are willing to do this, please contact us at [questingheirs@gmail.com](mailto:questingheirs@gmail.com).

In recognition of Veteran's Day, I would like to take this time to thank the veterans of our society for their service to our country.

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



## We Need a Newsletter Editor Beginning with the January 2021 Issue

We still need to fill the position of newsletter editor beginning with the January 2021 issue. The QHGS Newsletter does not need to be lengthy. It need only contain information about our upcoming speaker and any Questing Heirs announcements. You do not need to write an article each month.

Please email our nominating chair Sandy McDonald by the November meeting if you are interested in this position at [questingheirs@gmail.com](mailto:questingheirs@gmail.com). Thank you.

## Election of Officers at the November Meeting Nominees for QHGS Board

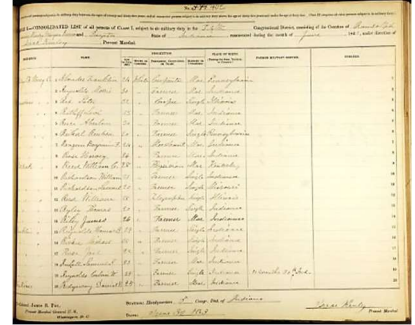
The bylaws of Questing Heirs Genealogical Society state that a list of nominees shall be published in the November QHGS newsletter and voted upon at the November meeting. The following people have been nominated for office:

President.....	Tina McKillip.....(2021-2022)
1 <sup>st</sup> Vice President – Programs.....	Jerry Hardison..... (2021)
2 <sup>nd</sup> Vice President – Membership .....	Melanie Heath.....(2021-2022)
Director - Hospitality .....	Tina Yanis.....(2021-2022)
Director - Newsletter.....	Vacant.....(2021-2022)
Director– Publicity .....	Nina Gustin..... (2021)
Past President.....	Sandy McDonald..... (2021)

We are still accepting nominations for the Director of the Newsletter. Barbara Cooper and Cynthia Day-Elliott have expressed an interest in the digital archive project.

## Military Records to Find Online

We celebrate Veterans Day in November and it reminds us of our ancestors who served in the military. Veteran's records can be found in many forms. There are traditional military records and mentions of military service in other online databases. This article discusses just a few places you might want to search. You will see evidence of military service or training, current residence, birth information, family relationships, details of their unit's service much more.



'U.S. Civil War Draft Registrations Records, 1863-1865,' digital image, Ancestry.com (<http://www.ancestry.com>; accessed 22 October 2020), entry for Samuel P. Russell in list for 5<sup>th</sup> Congressional District, Class I: Randolph, Delaware, Henry, Union and Fayette, Indiana (June 1863).

A CMSR is a compiled military service record. It is often called a jacket and contains information about a person's military service from the Revolutionary War through the Philippine Insurrection. This collection contains primarily For examples of those records, go to <https://www.archives.gov/research/military/army/compiled-military-service-records>. For people who served in the regular army, the war department did not compile their service records. If they were enlisted, you might look at the collection of enlistment papers 1798-1894.

Check pension records for the Revolutionary War, War of 1812 or Civil War. Not everyone who served in the military between 1775 and 1865 received a pension. From those pension records, what will you find? If you find the correct service records, you might find bounty land warrants that were granted, pension ledgers, vouchers, last payment, affidavits of other soldiers, relatives and neighbors. There were no bounty land grants after 1855. But Union veterans of the Civil War received special homestead rights in 1870 through an amendment to the 1862 Homestead Act.

After the Revolutionary War, the U.S. government was cash poor but land rich. Prior to 1818, veterans of the continental army and state militia might have been paid with bounty land grants rather than pension payments. Bounty land records of the Revolutionary War and the War of 1812 have been combined with pension files. You can also look at the file of disapproved applications based on Revolutionary War service. Those records are alphabetical but unindexed.

Civil War records tend to be the largest records. Each volunteer soldier has a CMSR for each unit they served in. After the Civil War, each Southern state issued its own pension laws and retained its own records. You cannot get those records from NARA. There are also records of each company known as a record of events. Each may be different and some may even have day-by-day narrative the activities of the company.

Using the age of your ancestor, determine possible military service using a timeline. Look at the span of years that they might have served in the military and you'll know where to search for records. See the 'timeline of United States military operations' page in Wikipedia for the dates of wars and other conflicts at [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Timeline\\_of\\_United\\_States\\_military\\_operations](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Timeline_of_United_States_military_operations)

Have you looked at Federal census records for clues? The 1910 and 1930 census records each had a question about prior military service. In 1910 the question was 'Is the person a survivor of the Union or Confederate Army or Navy?'. The 1930 census included the question 'Whether the person is a veteran of the U.S. military or naval forces mobilized for any war or expedition?'

Look at military records using online subscription and free databases. I found the unit an ancestor was in during the Civil War and by drilling down, could see the history of that regiment. One of my third great grandfathers was in a Confederate regiment. He was living in Marion, Mississippi and was a 29 farmer with four children at the

beginning of his service. He served in the 7<sup>th</sup> Infantry Regiment from Mississippi and the muster date was 9 April 1865. If you find the military record for you ancestor, click the link on Ancestry.com titled 'learn more about this regiment', I drilled down and found the following battles his unit fought in:

6 Apr 1862 at Shiloh, TN	28 Jul 1864 at Atlanta, GA
14 Sep 1862 at Munfordville, KY	1 Aug 1864 at Atlanta, GA
4 Jul 1863	31 Aug 1864 at Atlanta, GA
19 Sep 1863 at Chickamauga, GA	30 Nov 1864 at Franklin, TN
14 Jul 1864 at Harrisburg, MS	Dec 1864 at Nashville, TN

Have you looked for obituaries, newspaper articles and cemetery records? These may contain information about military service. Even if you family member did not serve in the military, there may be a registration record for them for the Civil War, WWI or WWII. Draft registration records will include date and place of birth, occupation and employer and information about your ancestor's FAN club.

I hope that you will be able to add additional military service facts about an ancestor on your family tree!

### Examples of a Variety of Records You Can Find Online

War	Source Record	Information
Revolutionary War	Fold 3 Revolutionary War Pension	James Miller's 27-page file has a wealth of information about his service, death and widow.
Revolutionary War	DAR Ancestor Search	In John Kays' record, we find his dates of birth and death, his wife's name, and service information.
War of 1812	War of 1812 Pension & Bounty Land Warrant Application Files	Eli Baldwin's 30-page file Survivor's Pension Claim for his widow Elizabeth Webber Baldwin. Among other facts we learn that his service was with Capt. M. in Hotchkiss, Connecticut.
Civil War	Civil War Draft Registration Records	Samuel P. Russell: He born about 1840 in Indiana, and the record lists his current residence as Bucklin, Henry Co., Indiana, that he was married, and his I classification.
Civil War	U.S. National Homes for Disabled Volunteer Soldiers, 1866-1938	Thomas Garrity: This record collection on Ancestry is it rich with information. It has separate sections for the veteran's military, domestic, home history and general remarks
WW I	US Army Transport Service, Passenger Lists 1910-1939	John Cooper departed St. Nazaire, France 4 Jan 1919 on the ship Huron. He was a Corporal with the 2HMORS unit, connected to the Second Heavy Mobile Ordnance Service Shop.
WW I	Obituary	John Cooper's obituary mentions that he was a member of the American Legion Post 16 confirming service. (His official military records burned in the 1973 fire at the NPRC in St. Louis.)
WW II	Newspapers.com	Announcement of Engagement. This newspaper article lists the names of family members. The groom was a midshipman in the US Navy and would graduate 31 September 1942 in Chicago, IL.
WW II	Veteran's Affairs BIRLS Death File on Fold3	Eugene Russell. This record contains the branch of military, service dates, birth/death dates and conflict period.
Korea	NARA Korean War Casualty File 2/13/1950-12/31/1952	For each military person listed you can see their branch, grade, date of causality, state and county of residence and other information. In the case of Lt. Smith, it notes that he was seriously wounded in action by a missile on 24 March 1951 and returned to service. First Lt. Smith was a field communications chief in the 3 <sup>rd</sup> Infantry Division



## Excellent Online Resources for Military Records

- ✓ An Overview of Records at the National Archives Relating to Military Service at <https://www.archives.gov/publications/prologue/2002/fall/military-records-overview.html>
- ✓ DAR Genealogy Research at [https://services.dar.org/Public/DAR\\_Research/search/](https://services.dar.org/Public/DAR_Research/search/) or search the U.S. Sons of the American Revolution Membership Applications on Ancestry.
- ✓ Draft Records by Conflict at [https://www.familysearch.org/wiki/en/United\\_States\\_Military\\_Draft\\_or\\_Conscription\\_Records](https://www.familysearch.org/wiki/en/United_States_Military_Draft_or_Conscription_Records)
- ✓ Free War Service Reference Guide Download at <https://www.familytreemagazine.com/freebie/free-war-service-reference-guide/>
- ✓ Military Classifications for Draftees at <https://www.swarthmore.edu/library/peace/conscientiousobjection/MilitaryClassifications.htm>
- ✓ Military Records - Online World War I Service Databases at <https://www.theworldwar.org/learn/research-center/state-military-records>
- ✓ National Cemetery Administration nationwide gravesite locator at <https://gravelocator.cem.va.gov/>
- ✓ Online Military Indexes and Records – USA, A Genealogy Guide at <https://www.militaryindexes.com/>
- ✓ U.S. Military Records Class Handout at [https://www.familysearch.org/wiki/en/U.S.\\_Military\\_Records\\_Class\\_Handout](https://www.familysearch.org/wiki/en/U.S._Military_Records_Class_Handout)
- ✓ U.S. National Homes for Disabled Volunteer Soldiers, 1866-1938 on [www.ancestry.com](http://www.ancestry.com)
- ✓ United States Military Online Genealogy Records on at [https://www.familysearch.org/wiki/en/United\\_States\\_Military\\_Online\\_Genealogy\\_Records](https://www.familysearch.org/wiki/en/United_States_Military_Online_Genealogy_Records)
- ✓ Veterans' Services Records on National Archives at <https://www.archives.gov/veterans/military-service-records>

## Honoring a Young Man Who Was a WWI Casualty of War

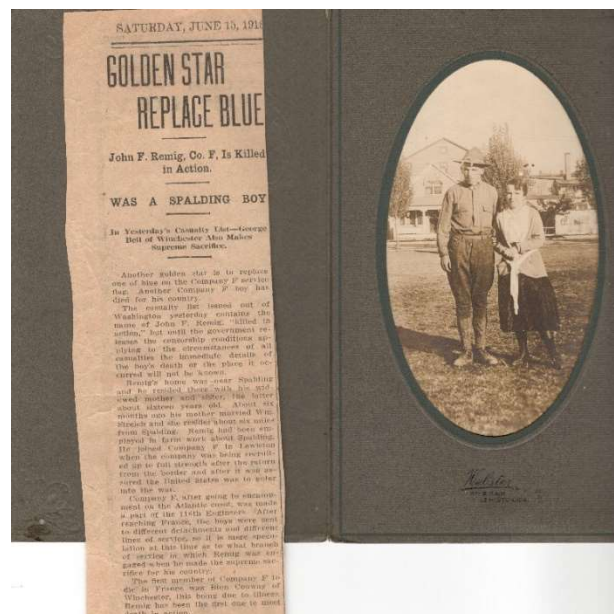
An Article by Tina McKillip

Back in the 1990's, I would purchase old photos and other items that were sitting in antique stores or worse - our local outdoor antique swap meet. If the photo had a name and place and hopefully a date, I tried reuniting the lost item to an interested descendant.

This was before the Internet existed so I would write to the local genealogical society. Post Internet, I would bring the items out of my file cabinet every year or two to see if someone had an Ancestry tree with this person in it.

After reading Janice Miller's article last month about being inspired by me to do the same with items she had collected, I was now inspired by her to recheck my items and hopefully get them reunited or better - listed on Find-A-Grave for all to see.

One that has bothered me for years is of John F. REMIG. I acquired this photo in the frame with the attached news article. I have tried multiple times to locate Mr. REMIG without success. Oddly I couldn't find anything to indicate his service or death in the military records.



After reading the article, I found his mother was listed as having married Mr. STREICH about six months before John was killed. The photo was taken in Lewiston, Idaho, so I started there on Ancestry to search for whom Mr. STREICH married.

Mr. Wilhelm STREICH married May KEMIG. The surname is KEMIG and not REMIG. With the corrected surname, I was able to see that someone had made a memorial for him on Find-A-Grave. I scanned and posted this photo and article so now anyone can enjoy. Since he died so young, I do not believe he married so most likely no direct descendant. Now that it is online, I will see if I can find his sister whom I believe is in the photo with him.

Thank you John F. KEMIG for your service to our country.

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## RootsTech 2021 Reminder

Join us at RootsTech 2021. It will be held online February 25-27, 2021. We will miss our annual trek to Salt Lake City next year but will still be able to tune from home online to see fabulous speakers and presentations. For more information and to register see 'Introducing RootsTech Connect: A Free Online Conference Experience' go to <https://www.rootstech.org/?lang=eng>

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## Genealogy Records in the News

- ✓ Please read more about 'Reclaim the Records' at <https://www.reclaimtherecords.org/>. They help to keep genealogy records in the public domain that may have been wrongly restricted by government agencies. You might consider making a donation to their organization.
- ✓ 'Heads up on NYC records access!' on The Legal Genealogy blog by Judy Russell <https://www.legalgenealogist.com/2020/10/07/heads-up-on-nyc-records-access/>
- ✓ 'Washington State Marriage, Divorce, and Death Indices, c. 1907-2017' on the web site Reclaim the Records at <https://www.reclaimtherecords.org/records-request/23/>
- ✓ 'A spotlight on Reclaim the Records' at <https://blog.myheritage.com/2020/03/a-spotlight-on-reclaim-the-records/>

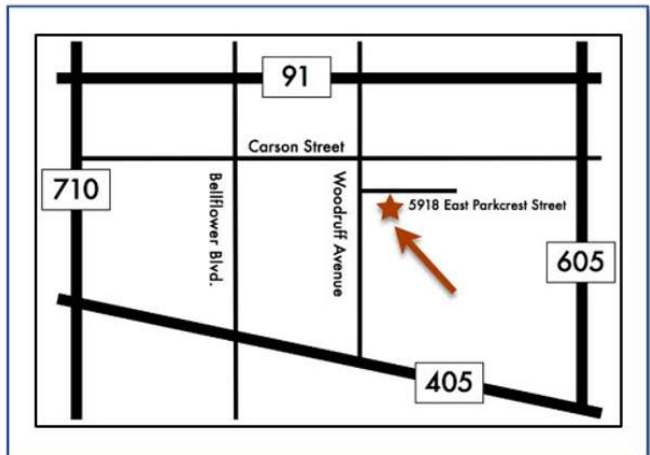
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## • Learning Opportunities •

### FamilySearch Webinars

- ✓ Nov 9: 'Latin Handwriting Seminar, Day 1'
- ✓ Nov 16: 'Skimming the Surface: A look into Quebec Notarial Records'
- ✓ Nov 30: 'Scotland's Lost: Researching Non-Church of Scotland Ancestry'
- ✓ Nov 30: 'Scotland Probate Records'

For More information see [https://www.familysearch.org/wiki/en/Family\\_History\\_Library\\_Classes\\_and\\_Webinars](https://www.familysearch.org/wiki/en/Family_History_Library_Classes_and_Webinars)



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**Questing Heirs Genealogical Society Board**

President.....	Christina McKillip.....	(2019-2020)
1 <sup>st</sup> Vice President – Programs .....	Terry Hamilton.....	(2018-2020)
2 <sup>nd</sup> Vice President – Membership .....	Cynthia Day-Elliott.....	(2019-2020)
Secretary .....	Diana Transue.....	(2020-2021)
Treasurer .....	Bob Prager.....	(2020-2021)
Director – Hospitality.....	Tina Yanis.....	(2019-2020)
Director – Newsletter.....	Janice Miller.....	(2019-2020)
Director– Publicity .....	Jerry Hardison.....	(2020-2021)
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 .....	Mike Powers

Submissions for the December 2020 newsletter must be received by noon November 25, 2020.

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 courtesy of Jean Wilcox Hibben (p. 67), Janice Miller (p. 68), and Tina McKillip (p. 71). 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