## 2018 Virtual Genealogy Fair Schedule

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>#</th>
<th>Time (ET)</th>
<th>Session</th>
<th>Presenter(s)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>10 a.m.</td>
<td>Welcoming Remarks</td>
<td>David S. Ferriero Archivist of the United States of America</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>10:05 a.m.</td>
<td>Calling all Citizen Archivists! Getting the Most Out of the National Archives Catalog</td>
<td>Suzanne Isaacs and Meredith Doviak Community Managers for the National Archives Catalog National Archives at College Park, MD</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>11 a.m.</td>
<td>Federal Records that Help Identify Former Slaves and Slave Owners</td>
<td>Claire Kluskens Reference and Digital Projects Archivist National Archives at College Park, MD</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>12 p.m.</td>
<td>All’s Fair in Love and War: The Civil War Widows’ Pension Files</td>
<td>Alexandra Villaseran Processing Archives Technician National Archives in Washington, DC</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>1 p.m.</td>
<td>How to Search for Photographs that Document Civilian Conservation Corps (CCC) Camps and Activities</td>
<td>Kaitlyn Crain Enriquez, Archives Specialist and Kelsey Noel, Processing Archivist National Archives at College Park, MD</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>2 p.m.</td>
<td>Tennessee Valley Authority Records: To St. Louis and Beyond!</td>
<td>Cara Moore Lebonick Archives Technician National Archives at St. Louis</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>3 p.m.</td>
<td>America's Military Made the Call: Hello Nurses!</td>
<td>Anna Csar Expert Archives Technician National Archives at St. Louis</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>4 p.m.</td>
<td>Closing Remarks</td>
<td>Ann Cummings Executive for Research Services</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
The Case Files of Approved Pension Applications of Widows and Other Dependents of the Army and Navy Who Served Mainly in the Civil War and the War with Spain are records heavily used by genealogists and social historians. They contain records received by the Bureau of Pensions from widows to prove entitlement for pensions based on their deceased husbands’ military service.

Pension files contain records for all claims relating to the veteran and include:

- marriage and/or divorce
- certificates from examining surgeons
- birth records of children
- copies of veterans’ death certificates
- correspondence between parties and the Bureau of Pensions
Alexandra Villaseran has been a processing archives technician at the National Archives in Washington, DC since 2016. A great lover of art, design, and history, she holds an MA in History and a BS in Interior Design from West Virginia University. At the National Archives, she has worked on digitization of Record Group 109; Collected Record Books of Various Executive, Legislative, and Judicial Offices of the Confederate States of America, 1860–1865; Record Group 15, Entry 12-A, the Civil War and Later Widows’ Certificates, 1861–1934; Record Group 85, Entry 7, the Records of the Immigration and Naturalization Service Letters Received, 1882–1906; and Record Group 45, Entry 231, the Collection of the Office of Naval Records and Library, Messages Sent and Received 1912–1926. Previously, she worked in archives at the West Virginia (WV) and Regional History Center in Morgantown, WV and at the Architect of the Capitol in Washington, DC.
All’s Fair in Love and War
The Civil War Widows’ Pension Files

The Completion of Record Group 15 “WC Files” Processing

Long-term archival storage boxes containing Widows Pension Files

An envelope containing “WC File” documents
All’s Fair in Love and War
The Civil War Widows’ Pension Files

WPA Worker Humidifying with Pension Files

Humidifying Chamber, Veterans' Pension File, Work Projects Administration (WPA) Project
Widows’ Pensions File Numbering Scheme

SO number = Soldier’s application for pension (“Soldier’s Original”)
SC number = Pension certificate granted to soldier (“Soldier’s Certificate”)
WO number = Widow’s application for soldier’s pension (“Widow’s Original”)
**WC number = Widow’s certificate granted (“Widow’s Certificate”)**

There are also dependents’ applications for minors (“MO files”) and granted certificates (“MC files”) that are typically interfiled with the WC pension records.
Indexes to Pension Files

**T288, General Index to Pension Files, 1861–1934**
- 544 Rolls
- Available to research in the Microfilm Room at the National Archives in Washington, DC (Archives I) and online at Ancestry.com
- Arranged by surname, then first name
- Include names of widow and/or dependents

**T289, Organizational Index to Pension Files of Veterans Who Served Between 1861 and 1900**
- 765 Rolls
- Available to research at Archives I and online at Fold3.com
- By state, type of service, then regiment, then company, then soldier’s name
- In general, it does not indicate the name of widow or the guardian of minors
- In general, more likely to indicate a date of death

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Microfilming of Veterans Bureau Pension Index
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name of Soldier</th>
<th>Chick, William H.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Name of Widow</td>
<td>Chick, Anna S.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Date of Birth</td>
<td>1841</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Date of Death</td>
<td>1873</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Date of Filing</td>
<td>1865 July 3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Certificate No.</td>
<td>1072.964</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>State From WhichFiled</td>
<td>Va</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

T288: U.S., Civil War Pension Index: General Index to Pension Files, 1861–1934

Pension Index Card for William H. Chick; Source: Ancestry.com
All’s Fair in Love and War
The Civil War Widows’ Pension Files

T288: U.S., Civil War Pension Index: General Index to Pension Files, 1861–1934

Pension Index Card for Charles Townsend; Source: Ancestry.com
All’s Fair in Love and War
The Civil War Widows’ Pension Files

Charles Townsend’s Application for an Invalid Pension by Disabled Soldier; from WC 893,807

Charles Townsend’s Application for Accrued Pension; from WC 893,807

Officer’s Certificate to Disability of Soldier; from WC 893,807

Certificate of Disability for Discharge; from WC 893,807
Examining Surgeon’s Certificate for Charles Townsend; from WC 893,807
Declaration and Widow’s Pension Certificate of Annie S. Townsend; from WC 893,807
Copy of Marriage Certificate for Annie Denton and William Chick; from WC 893,807

Death Certificate of William Chick; from WC 893,807
Certification of Marriage between Anna S. Chick and Charles Townsend; from WC 893,807

All’s Fair in Love and War
The Civil War Widows’ Pension Files
Correspondence between Acting Commissioner of the Bureau of Pensions and the Chief of the Law Division; from WC 893,807
Affidavits from neighbors in support of Annie Townsend’s claim to Charles Townsend’s pension; from WC 893,807
Transcribed interrogation between Lula L. Haas and Special Examiner N.B. Miller; from WC 893,807
All’s Fair in Love and War
The Civil War Widows’ Pension Files

Transcribed Depositions Conducted by Special Examiner E.L. Howard; from WC 893,807
All’s Fair in Love and War
The Civil War Widows’ Pension Files

April 6, 1923 Letter to Secretary of Interior from Annie Townsend; from WC 893,807

It seems to be always the same;
man in the large place. So long
the Byington {is the man}; man in the
pension fight, that the sound may
come of justice: just in your
vision there; for a moment.
Twenty seven years
of toil and sorrow to the wife
of this soldier. Many years I
have not heard of
his
children (we miss one quite a lot). I am
not there near a place of
straying
or the murder's knife; and when
I have never found it
good
and good. It is not the end
an heart when suffer. It redounds
all the good things of our world to
endure. What comes next in our
house, I am not
sure I have been a good payer and have bought
a house.
All our children
were among the first to volunteer
for the defense of their country.
The care of which I have never
have to be directed. We are
always ready to face whatever
come in the line of duty. War
whenever I come my children
and grand children are ready
and show my share too. That
I made this last appeal is your sense
of justice.
I do not want you to think I am
norceress. This money cannot and
old age fruitful I peace and
content. I ask for it without shame
or confusion but because I
feel that I am entitled to it
by every principle of fairness.

Your very truly,

Annie Townsend

April 6, 1923

[Signature]

by Charles H. Townsend
Thank you for attending!
Please stay tuned for the next session.

If we did not get to your question, you may submit it to inquire@nara.gov

Video recording and handouts will remain available at
www.archives.gov/calendar/genealogy-fair
Feedback

We value your opinion.
Please take a few minutes to complete a short evaluation. Your comments help us maintain the quality of our services and plan future programs.

Click ⇒ Event Evaluation
www.surveymonkey.com/r/KYREventEval