



MTGS Messenger

Martha Gerdeman, Editor



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Our 40 Counties

Bedford
Cannon
Cheatham
Clay
Coffee
Davidson
DeKalb
Dickson
Fentress
Franklin
Giles
Grundy
Hickman
Houston
Humphreys
Jackson
Lawrence
Lewis
Lincoln
Macon
Marshall
Maury
Montgomery
Moore
Overton
Perry
Pickett
Putnam
Robertson
Rutherford
Smith
Stewart
Sumner
Trousdale
Van Buren
Warren
Wayne
White
Williamson
Wilson

The next meeting of the society will be on **Saturday, March 21**, at the FiftyForward Knowles, Patricia Hart Building, 174 Rains Avenue, (across from the State Fairgrounds). The speaker will be **Trent Hanner, senior reference librarian at TSLA**, whose program will be "**Getting the Most out of On-Line Genealogy Resources**." Overwhelmed by the volume of genealogy material being digitized? Finding it difficult to harness the information relevant to your research? This program will help you understand which sites contain valuable resources of interest to Tennessee researchers, and how to most effectively search those sites. With his extensive background, he will explain the partnerships the Tennessee State Library and Archives has established with Ancestry and FamilySearch to digitize thousands of records. He will also discuss Fold3 and other databases available to researchers for use at the State Library and Archives. As always, the meeting will begin at **1:00 p.m.** and is free to the public, with refreshments afterwards.

As you know, the **Van Buren County** Administrative Building burned on January 8 and the county archives was destroyed, along with all of the contents. **The county historical society is looking for documents, books, artifacts, and paintings that members of the public might be willing to donate to replace the items lost.** The phone number of their president Agnes Jones is 931-946-7486.

Coming up this summer are **two MTGS sponsored workshops**, both at FiftyForward Knowles Center. On **July 25** MTGS's own **Dorothy Williams Potter** will conduct an all-day workshop at FiftyForward on **locating Old Southwestern records** from pre-census days. Some of these records predate Tennessee's statehood. Details will be available later; the price will include lunch. A second workshop is scheduled for **August 29**, featuring **Paul R. White**, a Nashville attorney and researcher, who will highlight **legal terms and laws that every genealogist needs to know**. Check the MTGS website (www.mtgs.org) for fliers as they become available.

MTGS members might be interested to know about a **free online genealogy course for beginners** offered through the North Carolina State Library **March 23 to June 1**. It's a new kind of group online activity called a MOOC (Massive Open Online Course). Registration and more information is available at: <https://www.canvas.net/browse/reynoldslibrary/courses/intro-to-genealogy>

The **Chestnut Ridge Cousins**, formed in 2002, will hold a reunion/meeting **10 - 12 July in Fayetteville, Tennessee**. A group of rooms has been reserved at the Hampton Inn in Fayetteville. "The Ridge" and its foothills are connected to **Bedford, Moore, Marshall, and Lincoln counties**. For more information, go to the Chestnut Ridge Facebook site or www.chestnutridgecousins.org. You may also contact Bobby Prosser at prossergenealogy@yahoo.com.