



MTGS Messenger



Vol. 10, No. 3

Martha Gerdeman, Editor

May 2014

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 Middle Tennessee Genealogical Society will be on **May 17** at 1:00 at the FiftyForward Center, 174 Raines Avenue, Nashville. This meeting features the annual awards presentation. **Myers Brown** will be the speaker, as well as the judge for best article in the past year's *Journal*. A native of Old Hickory, Tennessee, Mr. Brown has degrees in history from Oglethorpe and Middle Tennessee State Universities. He is currently an archivist at the Tennessee State Library and Archives, concentrating in the Archives Development Program. His extensive background includes being a Fellow and a Governor of the Company of Military Historians, chairman of the Tennessee War of 1812 Bicentennial Commission, Curator of the Tennessee State Museum, member of the Alabama Historical Commission, and Curator of Military History at the Atlanta History Center. He has authored 2 books, [*Images of Tennessee Union Cavalrymen*](#) and [*Images of Tennessee Confederates*](#). His last work, as editor of the [*Tennessee Historical Quarterly*](#), was about Nathan Bedford Forrest.

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Middle Tennessee
Genealogical Society (MTGS) 

The **Owsley Family Historical Society** will hold its annual meeting at the Hilton Garden Inn in Knoxville, June 12-14. Details can be found at www.ofhs.org.

The annual **Promise Land Community Club Festival** will be held **May 30-June 1** in Dickson County. [*Promise Land*](#) was the first community founded by formerly enslaved people in Dickson County, and the annual festival features music, food, re-enactors, and other fun. The one-teacher school has been restored to its original condition as a museum and is on both the Civil War Trail and the Historic Register. A traveling exhibit from the Smithsonian's [*Museum of African American History*](#) will be on display. Only fifty sites nationwide, most of them universities, will receive this exhibit, so Promise Land's inclusion is a real honor. Most events will take place on Saturday, May 31.

DON'T FORGET THAT MEMBERSHIPS FOR 2014-2015 ARE NOW DUE. BEFORE JUNE 1, THEY ARE \$25.00. AFTER THAT, THEY INCREASE TO \$30.00

The Stewart County Archives is hosting its third annual **all-day Genealogy Seminar on June 7** in Dover, once again featuring MTGS' own **J. Mark Lowe**, CG, FUGA. The cost is \$35 (PayPal also accepted). The seminar flyer / registration form is on the Archives' website at <http://www.tngenweb.org/stewart/archives.htm>.

Remember to send news of your society or family reunion to marthagerdeman@att.net to publish in the "Messenger" and to jimlong@comcast.net for our website.