



Vol. 8, No. 6

# MTGS Messenger

Martha Gerdeman, Editor



November 2012

## 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 November meeting of the *Middle Tennessee Genealogical Society* is the **annual fall seminar on November 17** at the Brentwood Public Library. Doors will open at 8:15; sessions begin at 9:00 a.m. and end at 4:00 p.m. Registration, which includes lunch, is \$40 for MTGS or Tennessee Historical Society members and \$45 for others; it ends on **November 9**, so if you haven't sent yours in, **register today**. Forms are available on our website ([www.mtgs.org](http://www.mtgs.org)). If space is available, walk-ins will be accepted, but the fee will be \$60 with no lunch and no handouts.

The theme for the day is "*Discovering Our Ancestors Using Maps and Newspapers*." Presenters are Rick and Pam Sayre, highly experienced professional genealogists who teach at the annual Institute for Genealogy and Historical Research at Samford University. The morning will be devoted to "*Google Earth for Genealogists*," and the afternoon sessions will be "*Using Topographic & Other Maps*" and "*Using Newspapers and Periodicals at the Library of Congress*."

Don't think that only computer techies can gain from these seminars. This extremely un-techie editor has used Google Earth to map the property of a couple of ancestors and was extremely surprised to discover how uncomplicated it is. And an ever-growing part of the Library of Congress newspaper collection is as near as your computer keyboard.

Visit our website, [www.mtgs.org](http://www.mtgs.org), for more details and directions to the Brentwood Library.

The Dickson County Historical and Genealogical Society is preparing *Dickson County: A Pictorial History—2012*, anticipated to be 340 to 400 pages of family and community photos prior to 1960. The book will sell for \$59.50 if picked up in Dickson County and for \$65.00 if shipped. Details and an order form are online at [http://ancestry.tv/assets/TN\\_Dickson\\_2012.pdf](http://ancestry.tv/assets/TN_Dickson_2012.pdf).

Recently it was announced that the **Georgia State Archives** would be closed to the public except by appointment on November 1. **That has been reversed**; we hope the online petitions signed by lots and lots of genealogists had something to do with the decision. The legislature voted to commit \$125,000 to keeping the archives open. Whenever any archives is threatened in such a way, it behooves all genealogists to work on its behalf. A threat to any state library or archives is really a threat to all of them because of the precedent such a closing would pose. **Thanks to everyone who registered a protest about the Georgia archives!**

**A WORD FROM THE WEB:** If you do have **Georgia ancestors**, you might want to check out the **Georgia Virtual Vault**. The URL is <http://cdm.sos.state.ga.us:8888/>; this takes you to the index page.

**Send** your society's news to [marthagerdeman@att.net](mailto:marthagerdeman@att.net) for publication in "The Messenger."