



MTGS Messenger



Vol. 13, No. 4

July 2017

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 **July 15 meeting** will be at [The Brentwood Library](#), 8109 Concord Rd., Brentwood, TN 37027. Our program will be “[Middle Tennesseans in the Mexican War and Repatriating those Killed in Action at the 1846 Battle of Monterrey](#)” presented by **Derek Frisby, PhD, MTSU Professor of History and International Relations.**

Dr. Frisby is a Middle Tennessee native, United States Marine Corps Veteran, Distinguished MTSU Alumnus, as well as a past recipient of a “Ruthie” award for being voted Favorite MTSU Professor. He has appeared in the National Geographic Channel’s Civil War Series, “[Civil Warriors](#).” Dr. Frisby is currently working on a project to ultimately repatriate the remains of US soldiers killed and buried in Monterrey, Mexico, using genealogy and DNA analysis. Many of these soldiers were Middle Tennesseans. Might YOU have an ancestor who served or perhaps died in the Mexican War? Join us and learn more about the Mexican War, the role Middle Tennesseans played in its outcome, and perhaps how you can assist in this fascinating research project.

As ever, the meeting, which is free and open to the public, will begin at **1:00 p.m.** If you are not a member of MTGS, we hope you will attend and consider joining.

MTGS **memberships for 2017-2018 are payable now.** They are \$30.00 since we are now past the June 30 membership renewal period.

Payment can be made at the meeting, by sending a check to MTGS, P. O. Box 59085, Nashville, Tennessee, 37205-9085, or by using PayPal through our website, <http://www.mtgs.org>. Don’t let your membership lapse and miss our award-winning *Journal*.

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Pierre Chastain Family Association 2017 Annual Reunion

All descendants of Dr. Pierre Chastain are invited to the 2017 Annual Reunion, October 6 – 7 at Louisville, Kentucky.

Headquarters for the Reunion will be the newly renovated and conveniently located Hampton Inn Louisville Downtown, 101 East Jefferson Street, Louisville, Kentucky 40202.

To register for the Reunion, please send a request for information to the Publicity Chair, Carol Migdat, 708 Bodega Bay Dr., Keller, TX 76248. Phone: 817/371-1839. E-mail is pcfapublicity2017@gmail.com.

The [Links page on the MTGS website](#) is a great connection point to the websites for Middle Tennessee's county archives, historical societies and research libraries. Some of these institutions also have Facebook pages with great online content.

A project is underway to **save the Gower Cemetery** (est. 1816) in Nashville. Last year a small but growing group of descendants began working on the project. Family names in this cemetery include Gower, Blakely, Gatlin, Garland, Lucas, Robertson and Russell.

For more information, see the group's Facebook page at <https://www.facebook.com/groups/1385236121498436/>

If, like me, you can't get enough of DNA + genealogy, subscribe to a blog from one of the experts and read some excellent articles. I'm currently following Roberta Estes' blog, [DNA Explained](#).

The next [workshop](#) at the Tennessee State Library and Archives is [Saturday, July 22, from 9:30am-11:00am](#). **Darla Brock**, Library and Archives manuscripts archivist, will present "**From Farm Boy to Tomahawk Warrior: David Franklin Brock Korean War Photograph Collection**," her own father's photographs and oral history from the Korean War.

Although the workshop is free and open to the public, registration is required due to seating limitations. To reserve seats, please visit: <https://tslabrockcollection.eventbrite.com>.

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Upcoming Events:

- Aug. 30- [Federation of Genealogical Societies 2017 Conference](#)
Sep. 2 Pittsburgh, PA
- Sept. 16 **MTGS regular meeting**, Brentwood Library
“Genealogy in the Round”, a roadshow/roundtable meeting. Four moderated tables will be available on these topics, with 30-minute rotations at each table:
- Beginning Genealogy
 - Researching Records
 - Using Computers and Websites for Genealogy
 - DNA Testing for Genealogy
- Oct. 21 [Louisville Genealogical Society](#)’s Family Seminar & Book Fair, Louisville, KY
Full-day genealogy seminar with Cyndi Ingle, founder of [Cyndi’s List](#).
- Nov. 18 **MTGS 29th Annual Genealogy Seminar: Tracing Your Family History: DNA, Legal Records and More**
with nationally-known speaker **Judy G. Russell, JD, CG, CG, The “[Legal Genealogist](#)”**
The Brentwood Library, Brentwood, TN
- This year’s topics include:
- **How Old Did He Have to Be...?**
 - **When Worlds Collide: Resolving Conflicts in Genealogical Records**
 - **Don't Forget the Ladies-A Genealogist's Guide to Women and the Law**
 - **After the Courthouse Burns: Rekindling Family History through DNA**
- Seminar [registration opens September 1](#), including either postal or PayPal registration again this year.

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Did you know that you can access Tennessee records on Ancestry.com, from home, without an Ancestry subscription? Thanks to a partnership between TSLA and Ancestry, all you need is to be in Tennessee (using a Tennessee-based IP address):

- Go to TSLA's Tennessee Electronic Library (TEL) at <http://tntel.tnsos.org/>.
- Click on the TEL Shortcut labeled **Genealogy**
- Click on the second link in the list, labeled [Tennessee Records](#)
- Enjoy these great Tennessee collections:
 - Tennessee, Delayed Birth Records, 1869-1909
 - Tennessee, Death Records, 1908-1958
 - Tennessee, City Birth Records, 1881-1915
 - North Carolina and Tennessee, Early Land Records, 1753-1931
 - Tennessee, Early Tax List Records, 1783-1895
 - Tennessee, Enumeration of Male Voters, 1891
 - North Carolina and Tennessee, Revolutionary War Land Warrants, 1783-1843
 - Tennessee, Early Land Registers, 1778-1927
 - Tennessee, City Death Records, 1872-1923
 - Tennessee, Wills and Probate Records, 1779-2008
 - Tennessee, Supreme Court Case Index, 1809-1950

Fold3.com continues to expand its [WWII Draft Registration Cards](#) collection, recently adding more states. But alas, Tennessee is not yet in their online collection.

Sadly, FamilySearch has announced the discontinuation of its microfilm distribution services, effective September 1, citing its ongoing efforts to provide the same content online. Read [Judy Russell's blog article](#) "The End of Microfilm" for a fair assessment of what this change will mean to the average researcher.