



**MTGS Messenger**  
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**Jim Long, Editor**

### **A Passing**



We learned at press time of the passing of **Shirley Wilson** of Hendersonville, a Founding Member of MTGS who served in its first year as Vice President and President. Shirley taught at many MTGS seminars and workshops in our history, contributed key articles to our *Journal*, and authored the book reviews in the *Journal* for many years. Her past services to the genealogical community included Chairman of the Sumner County Archives Commission, and the author of numerous Sumner County records abstracts and family histories, including a history of the family of Harold Jenkins, better known as Conway Twitty.

In recent years, Shirley was excited to volunteer at the Tennessee State Library and Archives with its processing of the early Tennessee Land Office records.

She will be sorely missed.

Arrangements are incomplete as of press time.

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### **July 16 Meeting – Be Censible and Join Us!**



Our Saturday, July 16 MTGS regular meeting will be **both in-person** at the Tennessee State Library and Archives (1001 Rep. John Lewis Way N, Nashville), **and on Zoom**. We are looking forward to seeing you, whether on the screen or in the flesh. The meeting starts at **1:00pm Central Time**.

**Trent Hanner**, Reference Librarian and Supervisor of Library and Legislative Services at the Tennessee State Library & Archives, will present ***The 1950 Census and Beyond***. Trent, a popular MTGS speaker, will talk about why censuses are taken and how they're used, specifics of the 1950 census, and lesser-known census schedules that can help with genealogical research. As always, our meetings are free and open to the public.

If you're attending virtually, the **Zoom link for this meeting** is <https://us06web.zoom.us/j/88312123003>



Congratulations to MTGS President [Carolyn Lallemand](#), who won the MTGS **Writer's Award** at our May meeting, for the best-judged article in the previous year's issues of our *MTGS Journal*. Her article, "*Dallas' Story*," about the brother of her great-grandmother, appeared in Volume 34, Number 2.



Thank you to everyone who has renewed their MTGS Membership for the 2022-2023 year, and welcome to our new members! There's still time to renew if it's slipped your mind. Member benefits include our award-winning quarterly **Journal**, as well as **online access** to all past Journals, plus a growing collection of **recorded past meetings and lectures**.

If you're a member and unsure of how to access the Members area of our website, reply to this email and I'll show you.



Our members are always asking for DNA content and advice on its use in genealogy. In our March newsletter, we covered the Southern California Genealogical Society's annual [Genealogy Jamboree and Genetic Genealogy Conference](#), coming this year as 3 all-virtual conferences in August.

If you needed another reason to sign up, our very own local DNA guru, Dr. David Dowell, is presenting two sessions at the conference: ***X, Y and mtDNA Can Break Down "Brick Walls" Too!*** and ***How and When Did Our European Ancestors Get to Europe?***

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## RootsTech 2023 Returns in Person (Too)

[RootsTech](#) has announced that its March 2-4, 2023 edition will be both in-person in Salt Lake City and virtual. Registration will open in September, with "limited availability."

I had a fine time at my first RootsTech some years ago, going a few days early to get in some extra research time. (Don't tell anyone, but the [FHL branch at Brigham Young University in](#)

[Provo](#) has many of the same microfilm reels as the main library in Salt Lake City, and much easier access to the fancy digital microfilm reader/scanners.)

One morning at RootsTech, I was coming out of the morning Keynote session with 8,000 of my closest genealogy buddies and bumped into a cousin from Atlanta. If you haven't been to RootsTech in person, your chance has returned, and it will be astounding.

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[Places within United States, Tennessee, S](#)

## Don't Forget those 'Places Within'

I love showing genealogists how to access their **favorite microfilmed county records online** at FamilySearch, using the all-too-ignored [Search->Catalog](#) feature instead of the perhaps more-obvious Search->Records feature. I show them how to enter their Place of interest, then how to drill down into the various record types for that Place, and then finally how to view individual reels of microfilm from their comfy couch.

But I don't always remember to tell them to also click on the **Places within** hyperlink above that tempting list of record types. If you're researching a specific county, for example, that big, tempting list of record types below won't show you some of the records for *the towns and cities* within that county – but the 'Places within' link sure will.

For example, here are some of the tempting record types for Stewart County, Tennessee. How could you possibly resist diving into each of these types immediately to get to those microfilm reels, blowing right past that 'Places within' link above? There's even apparently five reels from some churches – records you can't even find in the courthouse:

- ▶ United States, Tennessee, Stewart - Church records ( 5 )
- ▶ United States, Tennessee, Stewart - Court records ( 16 )
- ▶ United States, Tennessee, Stewart - Genealogy ( 1 )

Now let's see what happens when we, reluctantly, click on the **Places within** link just above that tempting list of record types:

[Places within United States, Tennessee, Stewart ▶](#)

<a href="#">Carlisle</a>	<a href="#">Dover</a>	<a href="#">Model</a>
<a href="#">Cumberland City</a>	<a href="#">Indian Mound</a>	

We now have 5 towns and cities to explore. Let's click on *Model* – was that really the name of a community? (spoiler alert – yes, it was):

▼ **United States, Tennessee, Stewart, Model - Church records ( 4 )**

[Church minutes, 1887-1963](#)

Author: Nevils Creek Baptist Church (Model, Tennessee)

[Church records, 1863-1964](#)

Author: Crocketts Creek Baptist Church (Model, Tennessee)

[Church records, 1917-1966](#)

Author: Model Baptist Church (Model, Tennessee)

[Church records, 1932-1965](#)

Author: Oak Grove Baptist Church (Model, Tennessee)

Oh, but these are just *church records*, so they were *already* among those 5 church reels listed earlier for the county, right? *Wrong!* These are 4 additional reels of church records that we found – because we reluctantly agreed to click on that **Places within** link. Clicking on the county seat in the list may reveal county newspapers as well, and – at least in the case of this county – newspapers that aren't listed in the county-level newspaper list. Get to clicking!

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### **Historic Right of Way?**

My friend Bob in Cumberland City sent me an excited email recently, that he had found an “historic right of way” marker on the property next to his. He and I have been researching his historic house, and researching what may be a ‘lost’ Rosenwald School in his community. He explained that the object pointed north and east, and was sure that it was a tombstone of a lost cemetery. I had to break the news to him it was one of those ubiquitous highway right-of-way markers.

How many of us drive down a road, always looking for cemeteries, and get fooled by these? Sometimes they're like a long series of tiny disappointments, right?