



# MTGS Messenger



Vol. 14, No. 2

March 2018

## **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 MTGS regular meeting is almost here! Join us [Saturday, March 17 at 1:00 pm](#), at the [Tennessee State Library and Archives](#), 403 7<sup>th</sup> Avenue N., Nashville. Note that this is a **change of location** to our regular meeting location.

Our program will be presented by **Dr. Mark Cheatham**, Professor of History at Cumberland University. Dr. Cheatham will speak on **Andrew Jackson's Kinship Networks**. During his lifetime, Andrew Jackson enjoyed several types of kinship networks that benefitted him both personally and professionally. These networks included his genetic kin in South Carolina, his marital kin in Nashville, and his fictive kin in the U.S. Army. Dr. Cheatham will look at each type of network and explain how each one was crucial to making Jackson the man that we now know.

Dr. Cheatham earned his Ph.D. in history from Mississippi State University. He is the author or editor of six books, including [Andrew Jackson, Southerner](#), which won the 2013 Tennessee History Book Award. Mark is also director of the new [Papers of Martin Van Buren](#) project at Cumberland University.

As always, the meeting is free and open to the public. And since the meeting is at TSLA, come early and stay late, and bring your research plan! [TSLA](#) is open from 8:00am – 4:30pm that day.

**MTGS memberships for 2017-2018 expire May 31<sup>st</sup>**. You can pay your 2018-2019 dues at the March or May meeting, by cash or check. You can also pay via PayPal by clicking the PayPal button on our Membership web page at <http://www.mtgs.org/contact>. You can also mail your membership check to MTGS, P. O. Box 59085, Nashville, TN, USA 37205-9085.

**Dues are still just \$25.00 and include a 1-year subscription to our award-winning *Journal*.**

The [Portland Genealogy Club](#), will meet on **Saturday, April 7<sup>th</sup> from 10:30am-12:30pm**, at the [Portland Public Library](#), 301 Portland Blvd., Portland, TN. The guest speaker will be Portland native Allan Haynes, who will be speaking about local maps. The club is free to all.

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[Historic Travellers Rest](#) in Nashville is hosting an event on Sunday, March 18 titled "*A Silent Past: Uncovering the Story of the Enslaved*." The event focuses on the stories of the enslaved African Americans who lived and worked there. Free to the public will be a guided tour of the grounds and outbuildings, the exhibit *A Past Uncovered: The Story of the Enslaved People of Travellers Rest*, and presentations by staff from the Metro Archives on researching African American genealogy.

The event runs from 12:30pm – 4:00pm. For full details, click the link above to go to the Travellers Rest event website.

MTGS member [Tanya Radic](#) has an arrangement with Davidson County Court to help people who are needing to **obtain community service hours, by facilitating the photographing of tombstones for Find-A-Grave**. For more information, contact Tanya at [tanyaradic@gmail.com](mailto:tanyaradic@gmail.com).

There are **still seats available** for some courses at [IGHR](#), now at the University of Georgia (formerly at Samford University), taking place June 2 – June 7. Early bird tuition (\$560) ends today, after which the cost goes to \$600.

North Carolina professional genealogists Diane L. Richard and Victoria P. Young have formed [Tar Heel Discoveries](#), offering **personalized, individual instruction sessions at the North Carolina State Archives in Raleigh**.

Registration for the April 15-20 session is now open, and there will also be a session from October 14-19. For more information, visit <http://tarheeldiscoveries.com/>.

Stay up-to-date on events and records at **Tennessee State Library and Archives** by subscribing to their blog. Go to <http://tslablog.blogspot.com/> and enter your email address in the "Follow by Email" box in the left-hand column. TSLA updates its blog about twice weekly.

And speaking of **blogs**, there are a wide variety of genealogy-related blogs available to provide genealogy tips and advice. Blogs can be hard to learn about, as they are supposed to be subscription-based with only word-of-mouth advertising, so that you choose whether or not to receive the blog's content, or even its advertising if you're not interested in the content. Shop wisely – there are some great blogs out there!

A few of the blogs I subscribe to (besides TSLA) are:

- Roberta Estes' DNA blog, [DNAeXplained – Genetic Genealogy](#)
- Judy G. Russell's records-focused [genealogy blog](#)
- Blaine Bettinger's [Genetic Genealogist blog](#)

Visit Cyndi's List of [Blogs for Genealogy](#) for a jump-start into a list of dozens of genealogy blogs.

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If Spring Fever has you itching to travel physically, or virtually, for research, put these events on your calendar:

- An eConference, "[Moments of Their Lives](#)," will be hosted by the Lake Havasu (AZ) Genealogical Society on March 24 from 9:30am-4:00pm Central. The early-bird price is \$19.99 until March 14. Speakers will be Melissa Barker, Diane L. Richard, Lisa Toth Salinas and Michael L Strauss
- [Tennessee Genealogical Society \(TGS\) Spring Seminar](#) with Lisa Louise Cooke, April 7, Germantown, TN
- [Tennessee Valley Genealogical Society \(TVGS\) Spring Seminar](#) with Claire V. Brisson-Banks, BS, MLIS, AG, April 21, Marriott Spring Hill Suites, Huntsville, AL
- [National Genealogical Society \(NGS\) Family History Conference](#), May 2-5, DeVos Place Convention Center, Grand Rapids, MI
- [Institute of Genealogy and Historical Research \(IGHR\)](#), June 2-7, University of Georgia Center for Continuing Education, Athens, GA
- [Kentucky Genealogical Society \(KGS\) Annual Seminar](#) with Paula Stuart-Warren, CG, FMGS, FUGA, August 4, Center for Kentucky History, Frankfort, KY
- [Federation of Genealogical Societies \(FGS\) Conference](#), August 22-25, Grand Wayne Convention Center, Fort Wayne, IN