



MTGS Messenger

Jim Long, Editor



Vol. 15, No. 2

March 2019

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 next **Saturday, March 16, 2019, at the Brentwood Library**, 8109 Concord Rd, Brentwood, TN. **The meeting will start at a special time - 12:30pm**, as we are bringing back our **Genealogy in the Round** event, with 3 speakers. However, unlike our last Genealogy in the Round event, this time the speakers will rotate instead of the audience.

Our brick wall-busting experts will rotate through 3 separate 45-minute segments, so you won't miss out on any topic! Our experienced presenters will share information that may point you in new directions for your own research and help you explore new sources of information:

- **Taneya Koonce, MLS, MPH**, will present on What's New at FamilySearch
- **Zachery Keith**, Archival Assistant, Tennessee State Library and Archives, will present on TSLA's Historic County Maps
- **Jim Lewis**, Chief Ranger, Stones River National Battlefield, will present on the National Park Service's Soldiers and Sailors Database, as well as information on the regiments that fought at Stones River, including letters, diaries, muster rolls and some dispatches

As always, the meeting is free and open to the public.

The next **TSLA Workshop Series** lecture will be Saturday, March 23, 2019, from 9:30am – 11:00am, at the **Tennessee State Library and Archives**, 403 7th Avenue N., Nashville. **Jennifer Randles**, Digital Materials Librarian at TSLA, will be presenting ***"Navigating TeVA: The Tennessee Virtual Archive."***

Learn how to find what you need in the newly-redesigned Tennessee Virtual Archive (TeVA). TeVA is a free, online repository of Tennessee's history, containing thousands of digitized historic items from the Library and Archives' collections.

Register for this free event at <https://tevataalk.eventbrite.com>.

Check the Upcoming TSLA Workshop Series Lectures section later in this newsletter for the full schedule of TSLA Workshop Series events for 2019.

The **MTGS Membership Renewal** period is here. Current memberships expire May 31, 2019.

You can renew your membership (\$25.00) via check (payable to MTGS) at our March or May meetings. You can also mail a check to us at P. O. Box 59085, Nashville, TN, 37205-9085, or renew your membership online via PayPal at our web page <http://www.mtgs.org/contact/>.

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Upcoming Local and Regional Genealogy Events

- [DNA Workshop with Jinny Jackson Smith](#), **March 23**, 9:00am - 3:00pm, Civil Hall, Veterans Plaza, Pageant Lane, Clarksville, TN. Sponsored by the [Montgomery County Archives](#), this will be a hands-on workshop where participants bring their DNA test results and their laptop and receive instruction on how to interpret and use their results. The workshop cost is \$10, and pre-registration by March 16 is required. For more information, contact the Archives at 931-553-5159.
- Portland Genealogy Club Meeting, **April 6**, 10:30am, Portland Public Library, Portland, TN; Topic: [How 'Cold Cases' Solved by DNA may affect Genealogy in the Future](#)
- 17th Regional Shelbyville Postcard & Paper Memorabilia Show, **April 13**, 10:00am-5:00pm, The Fly Arts Center, 204 S. Main St., Shelbyville, TN
- [Tennessee Valley Genealogical Society \(TVGS\) Spring Seminar](#) with [Claire V. Brisson-Banks, BS, MLIS, AG](#), **April 21**, SpringHill Suites Huntsville Downtown, 745 Constellation Place Drive SW, Huntsville, Alabama 35801. Topics include:
 - *Scotland Research Strategies*
 - *England, the Quest for English Ancestors*
 - *Wales Online Resources*
 - *New England Ancestors*
- [TSLA Workshop Series](#), **May 4**, 9:30am - 11:00am, **Cross-Connections to the Civil War**, presented by [J. Mark Lowe, CG, FUGA](#)
- [National Genealogical Society \(NGS\) Family History Conference](#), **May 8-11**, St. Charles Convention Center, St. Charles, Missouri
- MTGS Regular Meeting, **May 18**, The Brentwood Library - Speaker: Ken Fieth, Metro-Davidson County Archivist
- [TSLA Workshop Series](#), **June 1**, 9:30am - 11:00am, **Statehood Day and the Tennessee Constitutions**, presented by [Judge Andy D. Bennett, Tennessee Court of Appeals](#)
- MTGS Regular Meeting, **July 20**, The Brentwood Library - Speaker and program TBA
- [Kentucky Genealogical Society \(KGS\) Annual Seminar](#) with Blaine T. Bettinger, **August 3**, Center for Kentucky History, Frankfort, KY
- [Federation of Genealogical Societies \(FGS\) Conference](#), **August 21-24**, Washington, DC
- [TSLA Workshop Series](#), **September 14**, 9:30am - 11:00am, **Runaways, Coffles and Fancy Girls: A History of Slavery in Tennessee**, presented by [Bill Carey](#)
- MTGS Regular Meeting, **September 20**, The Brentwood Library - Speaker: Paul White, on accessing and using wills and probate records
- [TSLA Workshop Series](#), **November 30**, 9:30am - 11:00am, **TSLA Family History Day**, speaker and topic TBA

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At the just-concluded [RootsTech conference in Salt Lake City](#), significant DNA product announcements were made by both Ancestry and by MyHeritage that have caused quite a buzz among DNA researchers.

Both Ancestry's [ThruLines](#) feature and MyHeritage's [Theory of Family Relativity](#) offer new insights into how we *might* be kin to our DNA matches, even when those matches do not have fully-filled out online trees that show a shared surname. These insights combine DNA hints plus record groups available through each company, and offer tantalizing suggestions of specific family connections.

Keep in mind that these new features are merely suggestions of kinship, and that traditional, paper-based research is still required to prove out these suggestions!

If you are researching in a 'burned' Tennessee county, don't forget about the [Supreme Court cases held at TSLA](#), as they may be the only surviving copies of court cases for a burned county. A searchable index of TSLA's Supreme Court cases is on its website at <https://supreme-court-cases.tennsos.org/>.

The MTGS Freebie Table is a regular feature at our bi-monthly meetings. If you have genealogical or historical books or magazines to share, please bring them along.

QUERIES

VANNOY, CLARDY: Jesse Franklin Vannoy and Mary Louise Clardy Vannoy lost six children between 1862 and 1877 in [Shelbyville, Bedford County](#), Tennessee. The children were between the ages of 3 months and 22. Were there any epidemics that could account for such a loss during those years? Georgia Downey, gjd12000@yahoo.com