



# MTGS Messenger



Vol. 13, No. 3

May 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 **May 20 meeting** will be at [The Brentwood Library](#), 8109 Concord Rd., Brentwood, TN 37027. MTGS will celebrate its **30<sup>th</sup> Anniversary** and we hope you will join us. We will have special displays to mark the occasion.

The *MTGS Writer's Award* will be presented for the best-judged article in the previous year's issues of our Journal.

Our program will be "[Notable Books on Williamson County, TN](#)" presented by **Rick Warwick**, Williamson County Historian. Rick has authored 18 publications on the Franklin and Williamson County areas. His subjects range from community histories to local decorative arts, and Williamson County, during the "Great Unpleasantness" and Reconstruction. He is a native of East TN, but has made his home in Williamson County since 1970.

As ever, the meeting, which is free and open to the public, will begin at **1:00 p.m.** and special, 30<sup>th</sup>-Anniversary refreshments will be served afterwards. 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 \$25.00 if paid before June 30; after that date membership increases to \$30.00.

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*.

If you missed Carol Roberts' great program on preserving family photos, at our March meeting, check out the wonderful blog summary, written by MTGS Board Member Taneya Koonce, at <http://www.taneya-kalonji.com/genblog/caring-for-photographs-in-family-history>.

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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.

If you or your ancestors have any variation of the surname Chastain, including Chasteen, Chastaine, Chastine, Chasten, Castine, Chesteen, or Shastid, then you are likely in the Pierre Chastain lineage. The Pierre Chastain Family Association began in 1975.

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](mailto:pcfapublicity2017@gmail.com).

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/>

The [John Rains Cemetery](#) in Antioch has been relocated with little warning and under questionable authority. [Harriett Berry Jewell](#) is working with a news station to do a story on it and they would like to speak on-camera with a local descendant of the Rains family, early Nashville pioneers, if they can find one.

TSLA is hosting a "**Tennessee Celebrates Statehood**" event on Saturday, June 3, from 2pm-5pm. The free event, marking 221 years of statehood, will give visitors the opportunity to view all three of the state's original constitutions, see presentations by historical interpreters, listen to music from the 1700s, and much more. The event is free, but reservations via <https://tnstatehood2017.eventbrite.com> are required.

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The week-long [Institute of Genealogy and Historical Research \(IGHR\)](#) moves from Samford University to the University of Georgia this year, running from July 23-28. IGHR provides an educational forum for the discovery, critical evaluation, and use of genealogical sources and methodology through a week of intensive study led by nationally renowned genealogical educators. Registration closes June 30.

### Upcoming Events:

- May 20     [Tennessee Genealogical Society Spring Seminar](#)  
Pickering Center, Germantown, TN  
Speaker: Melissa Barker, Houston County Archivist
- May 27     Metro Archives Workshop  
Public Library, 615 Church St., Nashville, TN  
*Time to Tell: Write Your Personal & Family History*  
with Deborah Wilbrink
- June 8-10   [7<sup>th</sup> Annual Genealogy Jamboree and Pioneer Day](#)  
Cumberland Gap, TN
- July 15     **MTGS regular meeting**, Brentwood Library  
*"Middle Tennesseans in the Mexican War and  
Repatriating those Killed in Action at the 1846 Battle of  
Monterrey, Mexico"*  
Presented by Dr. Derek Frisby, PhD.
- Aug. 30-  
Sep. 2     [Federation of Genealogical Societies 2017 Conference](#)  
Pittsburgh, PA
- Sept. 16    **MTGS regular meeting**, Brentwood Library  
"Genealogy in the Round", a roadshow/roundtable  
meeting
- Nov. 18    **MTGS 29<sup>th</sup> Annual Genealogy Seminar**  
with Judy G. Russell, JD, CG, CGL (the "Legal  
Genealogist")  
The Brentwood Library, Brentwood, TN