



# MTGS Messenger



Vol. 14, No. 5

September 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 this [Saturday, September 15 at 1:00 pm](#), at The John P. Holt [Brentwood Library](#), 8109 Concord Rd., Brentwood.

Our September program, on Native American research, will be presented by Albert Bender, Cherokee author and journalist of the [Native American Indian Association](#) (NAIA).

Mr. Bender is a Cherokee activist, historian and political columnist. He is a freelance reporter and political columnist for [News From Indian Country](#) and other Native and non-Native publications. He is also a historian and attorney specializing in Native American law. Currently, he is writing a history of the Maya Indian role in the Guatemalan civil war of the late 20th century.

Following the meeting, Dr. David Dowell will be available for another session of our popular and informative [DNA Chat](#).

This program is free of charge and open to the public.

## November Seminar News

### **"Finding Your Family: DNA, Deeds, Digital Resources and More"**

Registration is now open for our [30<sup>th</sup> Annual Genealogical Seminar](#), which will be [Saturday, November 17, 2018, at the Brentwood Library](#). The programs for this year's seminar will be presented by four great and local speakers:

- [Dr. David Dowell](#), DNA author and lecturer, presenting "[Knowing How we REALLY Inherit DNA Helps us Breach Genealogical Brick Walls](#)"

Men have 4 kinds of DNA and women have 3 of them. Each kind of DNA follows a different inheritance pattern. Understanding these patterns is key to successfully using your DNA and the DNA of your close relatives to breach genealogical brick walls when other kinds of information sources have not been successful.

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- **Martha Gerdeman**, genealogist and lecturer, presenting "**But They Didn't Own Any Land! What's in Deed Books besides Deeds?**"

Deed books are a rich source of different kinds of records. They can lead you not just to an ancestor's land, but also to his kinfolk, his occupation, or even where he came from. Some beginning researchers aren't aware of why or how they should search these records and, as a result, miss many helpful sources.

- **Taneya Koonce**, MSLS, MPH, genealogist and lecturer, presenting "**Let's Get Digital: Mastering Online Book Repositories and Managing Digital Photos**"

Understanding how to leverage and manage digital resources is tantamount for today's genealogist and family history researcher. Online collections of books, such as those from The Internet Archive, Google Books, and the Hathi Trust Digital Library, offer a plethora of organized information for you to cull. Structured organization and robust management are also key for your digital photo collection so that you can maximize your own personal treasure trove of photographic family history. This session will cover both types of digital content and offer tips, strategies, and techniques that you can immediately begin using for your genealogy and family history research.

- **Melissa Barker**, "The Archive Lady" and Houston County Archivist, presenting "**Museums Have Records, Too! Locating Your Ancestors Behind Closed Doors**"

Genealogists are always looking for places where records are located. More and more, these records are being found in places that are not your typical archives, library or genealogical society. One of these places is a museum. Many museums have back rooms filled with genealogical and historical records just waiting for the genealogist to discover them!

The full seminar brochure is on the MTGS website at <http://www.mtgs.org/seminar.html>, and contains a mail-in registration form. The brochure will be mailed to MTGS and THS members in the coming weeks.

The Seminar costs \$40 for members of MTGS and THS, and \$45 for non-members. The registration cost includes a choice of box lunch and speaker handouts. Pre-registration will close on November 10. Walk-ins may be accepted on the day of the seminar for \$45, but with no guarantee of lunch.

We are also again accepting **PayPal registrations** for those wishing to register online instead of mailing in a paper registration form. Join us on November 17 for a great day of genealogy!

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## Upcoming Events:

- Saturday, September 22, 2018, 8:30am-3:00pm Central, Humble (TX)  
Area Genealogical Society's [2<sup>nd</sup> Annual eConference: \*Back to Research\*](#)  
  
Early Bird Registration is \$19.99 (regular price after September 15th is \$24.99) and you can watch the live webinar presentations or see the replay on your own schedule for up to 30 days after the eConference. During the eConference you'll be able to ask questions through the webinar program's chat features. After four hours of instruction, the speakers will convene for a final panel discussion to answer questions not finished during the webinars or any additional questions you have. There will also be more than \$150 of door prizes given away. It will be a great day of education and entertainment.
- Saturday, September 29, 2018, 9:30am – 11:00am, Tennessee State Library and Archives Auditorium, TSLA Workshop Series: "[Glorious Victory: Election Records at TSLA](#)," presented by Jim Long
- Saturday, October 6, 2018, [Portland Public Library](#) Community Room, Portland, TN, Portland Genealogy Club regular meeting: Using Newspapers in Research
- Saturday, January 26, 2019, 9:30am – 11:00am, Tennessee State Library and Archives Auditorium, TSLA Workshop Series: "*Old News is Good News: Using Historical Newspapers for Your Research*," presented by Taneya Koonce, MSLS, MPH