



# MTGS Messenger



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**May Meeting to be on Flatboating.** The next meeting of the Middle Tennessee Genealogical Society will be May 20, 2006, at **2 p.m. (note time change)** at the Edmondson Pike Branch of the Nashville Public Library. The program will be presented by Maury County Archivist Bob Duncan on "Flatboating."

Mr. Duncan is an outstanding speaker and story teller. He will bring to life the fascinating story of river transportation in pre-steamboat days. You will be intrigued by the knowledge and artistry that went into building flatboats and operating them in perilous waters and uncertain weather conditions. You will leave the meeting with a new appreciation for your ancestors' knowledge of materials used in building flatboats and operating those awkward arks. It is a not to be missed program.

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**New Officers to be Elected in May.** New officers for the Middle Tennessee Genealogical Society will be elected at the May meeting. Nominees are: President, **Virginia Watson**; Vice President, **Sue Edwards**; Treasurer, **Lyn James**; Recording Secretary, **Sue Smith**; Corresponding Secretary, **Oddie Bryant Jones**; and Board Members, **Ogden Stokes**, **Bob Dennison**, and **Ken Feith**.

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**Ulster-American Conference to be Held in Knoxville:** The Ulster-American Society is an organization dedicated to the study of Scots-Irish immigration to America. It will hold its 16<sup>th</sup> annual conference in Knoxville June 28 through July 1. It is held in Ireland and American on alternating years. This year's conference is hosted by the East Tennessee Historical Society.

There will be three days of back to back lectures, discussion groups and demonstrations. There will be several outstanding speakers as well several educational and social events, including dinner at Knoxville's famous Ramsey House, a tour of the newly renovated McClung Historical Collection, and a bluegrass concert. The cost is \$75 for the conference with additional fees for special events.

For more information on the East Tennessee Historical Society contact them at PO Box 1629, Knoxville, TN 37901-1629 or view their web site: <http://www.east-tennessee-history.org>. Ask about special discounts for members of the Middle Tennessee Genealogical Society. There is also an early bird discount for those signing up before June 1, 2006.

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**Middle Tennessee Genealogical Society Annual Fall Seminar:** The MTGS annual seminar will be November 18, 2006, with noted genealogist John P. Colletta as the headliner. The theme of the seminar will be "Finding Your Immigrant Ancestor." Watch for further details.

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**National Preservation Conference:** It is a bit early for this announcement, but the National Trust's annual Preservation Conference will be held in Nashville in 2009 from October 6-11. It will be a big event. There will be many tours and outings to local historic sites.

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**Computer Workshop Planned:** Future plans of MTGS include a monthly workshop beginning in the summer of 2006 on the "Effective Use of the Computer in Genealogy" to be facilitated by Ogden Stokes. Details will be available soon.