

The Middle Tennessee Genealogical Society

Presents

The 36th Annual Genealogical Seminar

Saturday, November 16, 2024

9:00 a.m. until 3:30 p.m.

(Doors open at 8:15 for registration)

Tennessee State Library and Archives, Nashville, TN
and online via Zoom

Land, Court and Church Records – Something for Everyone! **with Chuck Sherrill, Gratia Strother and Taffey Hall**

This year's Seminar covers topics that are often-requested by our Members and Seminar attendees. Land records can put an ancestor 'on the ground' in a time and place. Court records reveal how our ancestors interacted with the local government. Church records show our ancestors thriving in their chosen local communities.



Sessions

On Solid Ground: Finding Ancestors in Tennessee Land Grant Records

Whether or not your ancestor received a land grant, they may be mentioned in these records. Learn to navigate the online collection and follow up with the original records. Examples of original grants, entries, surveys and warrants are studied by the group to learn about the information available in each.

If it Please the Court! Understanding and Using Tennessee Court Records

Court records often give us the richest detail about our ancestors. This lecture helps researchers find those records in Tennessee. Discusses what types of cases were heard in each court, and what kinds of records were created. Provides information on locating and using both bound and loose court records. The effective use of minute books and dockets, and the components of a case file are also described.

Memberships, Manuscripts, and Memorials - Navigating Methodist Records

When you come across a hint in your research that someone has a connection to the Methodist church, have you ever had difficulty finding Methodist records about that link? Chances are the answer is yes. This is likely because of the many changes in denominational names over the years, the structure of the Methodist Church, and the wide array of record types found in Methodist archives - even the wide array of Methodist archives themselves! This presentation will help you know where to look, and what to look for, when research leads you to an ancestor with a Methodist connection.

Keeping the Faith: Family History Research in Baptist Archives

Baptist church and denominational records can yield varying amounts of helpful information to family historians and genealogists. This presentation discusses where to look, types of records available, information that is not available, and information that is possibly available.

Seminar Speakers



Chuck Sherrill has 50 years of experience in genealogical research. He is retired from the post of State Librarian and Archivist of Tennessee, and was formerly a public library director in Brentwood and Cleveland, Tenn. Among the 20 books he has compiled are [Tennessee Convicts: Records of the State Penitentiary](#), [The Reconstructed 1810 Census of Tennessee](#), and the National Genealogical Society's [Guide to Tennessee Research](#). He is the editor of the MTGS *Journal* and Vice-President of the Tennessee Historical Society. Chuck will present *On Solid Ground: Finding Ancestors in Tennessee Land Grant Records* and *If it Please the Court! Understanding and Using Tennessee Court Records*.



Gratia Strother is the Archivist of the [Tennessee-Western Kentucky Conference of the United Methodist Church](#). She also serves on the UMC's Southeastern Jurisdiction Commission on Archives and History. When she is not preserving and researching history, she is living it, helping her husband on his family's 1791 Tennessee farm. Gratia will present *Memberships, Manuscripts, and Memorials - Navigating Methodist Records*.



Taffey Hall serves as director of the [Southern Baptist Historical Library and Archives](#) in Nashville, Tennessee, and as executive secretary-treasurer of the Association of Librarians and Archivists at Baptist Institutions.

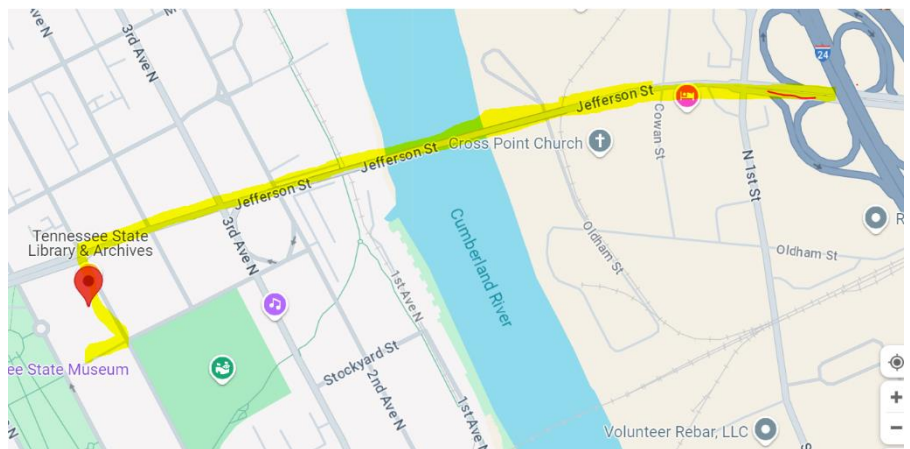
Taffey will present *Keeping the Faith: Family History Research in Baptist Archives*.

Seminar Site:

Tennessee State Library and Archives

1001 Rep. John Lewis Way N,
Nashville, TN 37219

The Library & Archives is conveniently located on the Bicentennial Capitol Mall State Park at the intersection of Rep. John Lewis Way N. and Jefferson St., across from the Tennessee State Museum and the Nashville Farmers' Market.



Driving Directions: Take I-24 to Jefferson Street (exit 47). Head west onto the Jefferson Street Bridge and cross the Cumberland River, arriving at 3rd Ave. North. Travel 2 more blocks west to Rep John Lewis Way N, and turn left (south). Go 1 block (passing the Library and Archives on your right), and turn right onto Junior Gilliam Way. The entrance to the Archives' spacious underground parking garage is on your right, marked with an entrance sign.

Register Today! – In-Person and Remote Options Available

- In-person registration includes boxed lunch (sandwich, chips, dessert), snacks and drinks, and worry-free parking under the Tennessee State Library and Archives building
- Remote participation will be by Zoom (link provided to registrants as the day approaches)
- Walk-ins will be accepted on the day of the Seminar, but with no guarantee of lunch
- Door prizes will be announced at the end of the lunch break – all registered attendees eligible

Two Ways to Register:

1. Complete the form below and mail it with your check or money order (payable to **MTGS**).
2. Register online via PayPal: <http://www.mtgs.org/seminar.html>

Mail form and check (to *MTGS*) to:

Jim Long
1853 Madison St. Unit 11
Clarksville, TN 37043-5997

Questions? E-mail jimlongtn@att.net

Phone: 615-609-0030

MTGS SEMINAR MAIL-IN REGISTRATION FORM

(Please print)

Must Be Received by November 9, 2024

Name _____

Street Address _____

City/State/Zip _____ Phone _____

E-Mail _____

Registration Method (circle one of these 4 options):

MTGS Members, in-person \$ 40.00

Non-Member, in-person \$ 50.00

MTGS Members, remote \$ 15.00

Non-Member, remote \$ 25.00

Boxed Lunch Choice for in-person attendees (circle one, included with in-person registration):

Turkey

Ham

Vegetarian

Check here to request gluten-free: _____

ENCLOSED is my check payable to MTGS for \$ _____