

The Computer Genealogy Group Shreveport, LA.  
Editor: Patricia Minton Bettis



JUNE 26 MEETING 2:00 SUNDAY AFTERNOON  
HAMILTON S. CADDO LIBRARY

## “GENEALOGY IN 2005 — AND BEYOND!”

REPORT ON THE NATIONAL GENEALOGICAL CONFERENCE IN NASHVILLE JUNE 1-5

### TENNESSEE HISTORY TIMELINE

All information below is from the 2001-2004 Tennessee Blue Book, Section 5, A History of Tennessee.

**1541** Hernando de Soto's band traveled through the area that was to become Tennessee.

**1715** The last Shawnee had been driven out by Chickasaw and Cherokee attacks.

**1770s** Four different communities had been established in northeastern Tennessee – on the Watauga River, the North Holston, the Nolichucky, and in Carter's Valley.

**1779/80** During the winter and spring three hundred pioneers – black and white – made the difficult trek to the French Lick, as the future site of Nashville was then known.

**1780** The battle at Kings Mountain was a key American victory during the Revolutionary War. The Tennessee militia played an important part in this victory.

**1784** The State of Franklin was formed in part of East Tennessee. This short-lived State of Franklin passed out of existence in 1788.

**1789** North Carolina ceded its western land, the Tennessee county, to the Federal Government. Congress now designated the area as the Territory of the United States, South of the River Ohio.

**1796** On June 1, 1796, Congress approved the admission of Tennessee as the sixteenth state of the Union.

**1815** On January 8th, Andrew Jackson and his troops from Tennessee defeated the British army at the Battle of New Orleans.

**1818** The Chickasaw Treaty of 1818 extended Tennessee's western boundary to the Mississippi River, and opened up a rich, new agricultural area for settlement.

**1826** The capitol moved to its permanent site in Nashville.

**1828** Andrew Jackson was elected president of the United States by landslide majorities in 1828 and 1832

**1838** The U.S. Army was dispatched to evict the Cherokee and send them on a woeful trek to Indian Territory - the "Trail of Tears."

**1844** James K Polk of Maury County was elected president. Continued (p- 4)



**With Tennessee the conference host state, we had the opportunity to learn about all the new sources available for TN research!**

Charles Sherrill, former Director of Public Services at the TN State Library and Archives, and editor of the E. TN Newsletter presented five lectures on TN research.

We will hear his tape “**Research in Tennessee, Finding Ancestors in The Volunteer State**” He stresses the wealth of new material available. Even though we searched ten years ago, there is much new data to be found, both in book form and on the Internet. To me, the most valuable offering was the chart of the formation of the TN counties — showing which records became available in what year. I had considered making a Power Point presentation of the chart, but think it would be more valuable to you if I e-mail it to you. It is so helpful to know when marriage or probate records became available...saving us much time and disappointment looking for records that do not exist.

**And!**  
**Shirley Huss will present an overview of one of his lectures and has made a list of Genealogical Source Material in the Tennessee State Library and Archives for everyone..** We went to the Exhibit room several times a day and picked up additional brochures and material for our GENCOM group. We brought back brochures from many state groups, publisher and library lists as well as much good information on using the National Archives, British and Irish, German Genealogical research. All this material will be on a table at the meeting. Please go through it and take

what interests you. I think everyone will find some helpful material. I wish all of us could attend a major conference such as FGS or NGS . So much new information is offered it is truly inspirational!

Our Social Chairman Julious Windham, and Thelma are taking their grandsons back to TN so will not be here for the June meeting Co- Chair Dorothy Rosson and I agree that we will have lemonade and coffee and the usual cookies etc.. Sorry, we will wait for Julious to return for his famous GENCOM punch..

As is my custom, I ask our speakers for vita that can be used in their introduction. Joy Stephenson sent hers last month...regarding her degrees etc and ended saying she and Lennie were both left with trunks full of family mementoes...That began their interest in Genealogy. ( But what pleased me was this last paragraph....it is exactly what I hoped GENCOM might mean to it's members)

She said..."Been a member of GENCOM since 1994 and it has been helpful. inspirational, and the source of good friends.

Those are the three things I wanted for us..  
Thanks Joy!

In an effort to live up to our name —and our purpose; we try to divide our meeting time between genealogical presentations and technological subjects that pertain to Genealogy.

So, our plan is to have a genealogical topic during the first part of our meetings, and after the break to offer help in the use of the computer or its accessories....such as scanners, cameras and software.

This month we approach a fascinating new subject . Bob Franklin talked about this at Glenda Conradi's Corel meeting last week , and I assure you — you will want to know about this new skill.

Bob will give a short talk explaining VCDs and slide show options. He will explain how a VCD can be played on a TV. He says there are several programs that can be used to make VCD slide shows, Here is another new and exciting tool to share our genealogy.

Bob thinks many of our members will find these slide shows especially valuable at family reunions. The applications are endless, one could easily make slide shows with pictures of several generations, the old homes and the countryside where they lived. ...or honor an ancestor with a life story time line.. Thanks Bob for sharing!



**Bob Franklin**

### **GS Manuscript Collection Transferred to the DAR Library**

According to Eric G. Grundset, Library Director at the DAR Library in Washington, DC, the manuscript collection of the U.S. National Genealogical Society's library was transferred to the DAR Library.. The National Genealogical Society offered the material to the DAR Library in order to reduce its own storage space requirements.

The cataloguers at the DAR Library are presently processing the material. It will be some time, but the descriptions of the various materials eventually will be accessible through the DAR Library's online catalog at <http://www.dar.org>

### **Kentucky Digitizes Land Documents**

Tucked in the state Capitol's cavernous basement is an office cubbyhole containing volumes upon volumes of large books tracing the history of land in Kentucky. Those books, many of which have been hidden from the public eye for years, are now available worldwide on the Internet. They're part of the collection in the Secretary of State's Land Office. Now, historians, genealogists and those who are just plain curious can go online, at [www.sos.ky.gov](http://www.sos.ky.gov). and access a plethora of scanned images of historical land documents.

And there are more available every day. The agency launched its redesigned Web site late last month, giving people fingertip access to thousands of handwritten historical documents.

You can read more about this valuable new online resource at <http://www.kentucky.com/mld/kentucky/news/>

## GENCOM MAY MEETING

## Scanning Old Photographs



Dr Joy Stephenson gave us a very detailed and informative demonstration on scanning our old family photographs. She included her recommendations of scanner and settings to use. We are grateful for the time and effort she spent in preparing the transparencies which so well illustrated her points  
She and Lonnie are now in Washington visiting their son and family  
We wish them a lovely summer in the cool Northwest.



New member Pat Lewis Mc Dowell gave us a most entertaining account of her genealogy jaunt to the backwoods of MO...  
And displayed her fabulous collection of Notebook accessories— *tech toys...*( *To a most appreciative group of techies*).



V.P. Margaret Clark checking her records...

## TENNESSEE TIMELINE ( Continued from page 1)

- 1861** Having ratified by popular vote its connection to the fledgling Confederacy, Tennessee became the last state to withdraw from the Union.
- 1861/65** 187,000 Confederate and 51,000 Federal soldiers mustered in from Tennessee as the Civil War raged throughout the south.
- 1865** Andrew Johnson became president following Lincoln's assassination in April.
- 1866** Tennessee was readmitted to the Union after the state became the third state of ratify the Fourteenth Amendment.
- 1870** Delegates from across the state met in 1870 to rewrite the Constitution.
- 1880** Englishman Thomas Hughes established the Rugby colony.
- 1894** Another experimental colony was Ruskin, founded in 1894 by the famous socialist publicist Julius Wayland.
- 1897** The Tennessee Centennial Exposition was held in Nashville in honor of the state's one hundredth birthday.
- 1898** Four regiments of Tennesseans were mustered into the volunteer United States Army during the Spanish-American War.
- 1917/18** Around 100,000 of the state's young men volunteered or were drafted into the armed services during World War I.
- 1920** Tennessee became the 36th state to ratify the Nineteenth Amendment, giving women the right to vote.
- 1925** The celebrated trial of John T. Scopes, the so-called "Monkey Trial" took place in Dayton.
- 1925 Reelfoot Lake was established as a state game and fish preserve, marking the first step toward the conservation of Tennessee's natural resources.
- 1933 The Tennessee Valley Authority built its first hydroelectric dams in Tennessee.
- 1940 The Great Smoky Mountains National Park was dedicated by President Franklin Roosevelt.
- 1941/45 During World War II, over 300,000 Tennesseans served in the armed forces while others served at home in war related industries.
- 1950/53 10,500 Tennesseans served in the Korean War.
- 1953 The Tennessee State Library and Archives building was dedicated to the men and women from Tennessee who served in WWII.
- 1960 Students held the first Nashville sit-in at downtown luncheon counters.
- 1965 A. W. Willis, Jr., from Memphis, became the first African American representative elected to the General Assembly in 65 years.
- 1968 Dr. King was assassinated at the Lorraine Motel in Memphis, where he had gone in support of the strike of the local sanitation workers.
- 1977 Tennessean Alex Hailey won the Nobel Prize for his book Roots.
- 1987 General Motors opened the new Saturn Corporation auto plant in Spring Hill.
- 1990 Martha Craig Daughtrey became the first woman to serve on the Tennessee Supreme Court.
- 1992 Albert Gore, Jr. was elected Vice-President of the United States.
- 1998 The University of Tennessee football team became the national champions, going undefeated for the season.
- 2002 Former Nashville Mayor, Phil Bredesen was elected Governor.



Several members are seeking World War I records...try this website!

### -----PRICELESS "WWI" INFORMATION

Here is a research guide for finding WWI draft cards. Included is information on the microfilm and ordering copies by mail from the National Archives... How to Find World War One Draft Cards 1917-1918 <http://www.genealogybranches.com/worldwaronedraftcards.html>

# EARLIEST COUNTY RECORDS at the Tennessee State Library and Archives

The State Library & Archives has microfilmed the bound records in each Tennessee county courthouse. This list shows the earliest year for which each type of record is held in each county. There may be gaps in a county's later records where there have been fires or lost volumes

COUNTY	CHANCERY COURT MINUTES	CIRCUIT COURT MINUTES	COUNTY COURT MINUTES	DEEDS	MARRIAGE RECORDS
Anderson	1836	1844	1811	1802	1838
Bedford	1830	1840	1848	1808	1861
Benton	1854	1836	1842	1836	1838
Bledsoe	1836	1845	1841	1808	1908
Blount	1859	1852	1795	1795	1795
Bradley	1838	1838	1864	1862	1864
Campbell	1842	1849	1839	1820	1838
Cannon	1840	1846	1836	1836	1838
Carroll	1836	1912	1822	1822	1838
Carter	1854	1848	1804	1796	1790
Cheatham	1857	1877	1856	1856	1856
Chester	1891	1882	1891	1891	1891
Claiborne	1934	1837	1801	1801	1838
Clay	1871	1871	1871	1871	1871
Cocke	1877	1877	1877	1865	1877
Coffee	1872	1852	1836	1836	1853
Crockett	1872	1872	1871	1870	1872
Cumberland	1897	1907	1905	1854	1905
Davidson	1846	1803	1783	1784	1789
Decatur	1860	1892	1869	1846	1869
DeKalb	1844	1860	1838	1838	1848
Dickson	1836	1810	1804	1804	1817
Dyer	1854	1863	1848	1822	1860
Fayette	1924	1829	1833	1825	1838
Fentress	1854	1854	note: l	1820	1905
Franklin	1834	1832	1832	1808	1838
Gibson	1834	1824	1824	1819	1824
Giles	1838	1817	1810	1810	1865
Grainger	1872	1848	1845	1796	1796
Greene	1825	1809	1783	1785	1780
Grundy	1856	1848	1844	1852	1850
Hamblen	1870	1870	1871	1870	1872
Hamilton		1860		1796	1857
Hancock	1870	1936	1930	1879	1830
Hardeman	1852	1823	1827	1822	1823
Hardin	1836	1840	1820	1835	1863
Hawkins	1825	1810	1827	1788	1820
Haywood	1842	1840	1823	1823	1859
Henderson	1880	1895	1860	1856	1893
Henry	1846	1834	1824	1822	1838
Hickman	1854	1847	1866	1808	1868
Houston	1871	1871	1871	1871	1871
Humphreys	1898	1898	1842	1810	1862
Jackson	1840	1872	1872	1872	1872
Jefferson	1836	1809	1792	1792	1792
Johnson	1856	1836	1836	1836	1838
Knox	1832	1844	1792	1792	1792
Lake	1896	1892	1870	1870	1883
Lauderdale	1856	1836	1836	1835	1838

COUNTY	CHANCERY COURT MINUTES	CIRCUIT COURT MINUTES	COUNTY COURT MINUTES	DEEDS	MARRIAGE RECORDS
Lawrence	1840	1832	1827 note:3	1819	1818
Lewis	1871	1846	1848	1844	1847
Lincoln	1838	1849	1810	1810	1838
Loudon	1870	1870	1870	1870	1870
McMinn	1844	1860	1819	1820	1838
McNairy	1866	1856	1858	1823	1861
Macon	1844	1901	1905	1901	1901
Madison	1846	1821	1821	1821	1838
Marion	1922	1922	1842	1819	1881
Marshall	1840	1836	1836	1836	1836
Maury	1818	1810	1807	1806	1808
Meigs	1854	1844	1836	1879	1838
Monroe	1832	1827	1858	1820	1838
Montgomery	1840	1896	1805	1800	1838
Moore	1872	1872	1872	1872	1872
Morgan	1865	1840	1848 note: 4	1818	1862
Obion	1854	1826	1824	1824	1838 note:1
Overton	1846	1815	1837	1801	1867
Perry	1854	1834 1834 note:6	1865	1844	1865
Polk	1886	1866	1840	1894	1894
Putnum	1895	1842	1894	1854	1879
Rhea	1823	1815	1823	1808	1808
Roane	1824	1810	1801	1801	1801
Robertson	1844	1832	1796	1796	1839
Rutherford	1845	1849	1804	1804	1804
Scott	1858	1850	1856 note:7	1850	1854
Sequatchie	1869	1898	1858	1858	1858
Sevier	1854	1850	1856	1845	1856
Shelby		1828		1821 note:9	1820
Smith	1825	1811	1799	1799	1838
Stewart	1865	1821	1815	1796	1849 note:1
Sullivan	1852	1879	1861	1775	1863
Sumner	1826	1810	1787	1793	1787
Tipton	1854	1832	1823	1824	1840
Trousdale	1906	1906	1906	1905	1906
Unicoi	1876	1876	1875	1876	1876
Union	None	None	1854	1856	1864
VanBuren	1868	1840	1840	1840	1840
Warren	1847	1842	1848	1810	1852
Washington	1836	1809	1778	1782	1787
Wayne	1861	1851	1848	1821	1857
Weakley	1827	1844	1828	1822	1843
White	1842	1859	1806	1801	1806
Williamson	1825	1810	1800	1799	1800
Wilson	1837	1810	1803	1789	1802

NOTES: #1 none before 1894; #2 A few earlier ones in WPA; #3 1818-1823 WPA; #4 1824-1827 WPA; #5 1824-1860 WPA; #6 1826-1833 WPA; #7 1850-1855 WPA; #8 1838-1848 WPA; #9 Deed Index only

If you have unfinished business with TN families— find your file and lets see what new information is awaiting us! In the tape which we will use at the June meeting Mr. Sherrill will explain the different courts and what we can expect to find in each. These are fabulous records!

AND, If you have a Confederate soldier from TN that you could not find previously..try again. Historian Byron Sistler found boxes of old Confederate records in the TN Archives in 1995 and has published them.

**Good Hunting! See you on Sunday the 26th! Patte Bettis**