



Jennifer Baker, Editor

# TENNESSEE GENEALOGICAL

*Society*

## Virtual Quarterly Membership Meeting of the Tennessee Genealogical Society

**Saturday, October 17, 2020  
10:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.**

**Via GoToWebinar Broadcast**



Please join us for the Fall Membership Meeting which is open to members and non-members. We encourage everyone to attend this meeting as we review our progress for this year and chart our upcoming Programs and Events. There will be two matters that will be presented and discussed for action. One item will be on proposed Bylaw changes to accommodate virtualization of some of our processes. The other item will be on a proposed budget for the Society for 2021.

After the brief meeting, our program will be by the Shelby County Archives. The topic for the program will be "The common or funny mistakes made by folks doing or wanting to do research at the Shelby County Archives."

Non-member broadcast - \$5.00

Register at <https://tngs.org/event-3952089>

## Virtual Fall Seminar -- A Day with Judy Russell

**Saturday, October 24, 2020  
9:00 am. to 4:00 p.m.**

**Via GoToWebinar Broadcast**

A genealogist with a law degree, *The Legal Genealogist*, Judy G. Russell, JD, CG, CGL, is a lecturer, educator and writer. Judy will be live and present four programs for our all day seminar.

See details and register at <https://tngs.org/event-3723150>

Members, \$30 -- Non-members, \$40



## Meet Debra L. Kienzle -- Our New TNGS Secretary



I was born and raised in Bedford Heights, Ohio, a suburb of Cleveland. After earning a Bachelor of Science degree in Biology, I worked as a Medical Laboratory Technologist for over 20 years, then changed careers to accounting. In 2018, I retired from West Fraser, Inc., where I was employed in the Accounts Payable department.

After Tom and I were married, we moved to Little Rock, Arkansas, where we lived until we came to Memphis in 2007. Upon arriving here, I was very excited to discover the Germantown Regional History and Genealogy Center library and I also promptly joined TNGS. Tom and I both enjoy photography and travel, especially to National Parks and Wildlife Refuges. In addition to being a member of the Tennessee Genealogical Society, I am also a member of a book club, and we both are members of the Memphis Camera Club and the Tennessee Ornithological Society.

My hobbies include counted cross stitch, quilling, reading, and doing crossword puzzles. I became interested in genealogy around 15 years ago when I was between jobs and had a lot of free time. Using the internet for genealogy was becoming very popular then, which was good for me since I was not living close to where my ancestors had lived. The first time I saw one of my ancestors on a census, I was hooked! In addition to serving as the Secretary for the Tennessee Genealogical Society, I also work on research requests for the Society, which I enjoy immensely.

## TNGS Committees

TNGS has an assortment of committees whose members function as a vital part of the Society. They, in effect, keep things running and carry out the business of the Society under the auspices of the Board of Directors and Advisors. We are so proud to have these wonderful people step forth and volunteer their time and services to TNGS. If you would like to serve on one of these committees, please send an email to Carla Maitland at [president@tngs.org](mailto:president@tngs.org).

As President, Carla serves as an ex officio member of every committee and can (and often does) attend their meetings. However, she has been a proud member of both the Program Committee and Bylaws Committee for many years and is listed as such under their membership rosters.

The following committees and members are:

### PROGRAM COMMITTEE:

Angie Menne, Chair	Debbie Atchley	Lisa Junkins
John Ware	Bill Dwyer	
PZ Horton	Janice Ingram	
Nancy Walczyk	Tina Sansone	
Octavia Ashby	Carla Maitland	

*Continued on page 3*

MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE:

Kay Dawson, Chair  
Nancy Walczyk  
Charles Speed  
Tina Sansone  
Octavia Ashby

BYLAWS COMMITTEE:

Olivia Chandler, Chair  
PZ Horton  
Andy Pouncey  
Sharon Ritz  
Tina Sansone  
Carla Maitland

FINANCE (BUDGET) COMMITTEE:

Danny Jennings, Chair  
Pat Garety  
Nancy Walczyk  
PZ Horton  
Sharon Ritz  
Octavia Ashby

AUDIT COMMITTEE:

Pat Garety, Chair  
Octavia Ashby  
Sharon Ritz

(A new Audit Committee will need to be named at the beginning of next year.)

NOMINATING COMMITTEE:

TBA in early 2021 for the 2022 – 2024 Board Member Elections

(This committee is only functional every two years, when it is time to nominate officers for the next two-year cycle. According to the Bylaws, the President cannot be a member of this committee.)



# Attending a TNGS GoToWebinar Event

If you are interested in attending a TNGS webinar, but are uncertain how to register for the event or how to use GoToWebinar, you can find the instructions for doing so on the [tngs.org](https://tngs.org) website.



The [TNGS GoToWebinar Attendee Guide](#) is located on the TNGS website under the Education Tab. Once you review this short guide, you will understand everything you need to know to participate in a webinar. Non-members will be able to register for our exciting webinars for \$5.00. It is a great way to try our offerings before becoming a member.

## Continuing Education

by Debra L. Kienzle

Continuing education is an important part of any hobby, including genealogy. No matter how long you have been doing genealogy research and how much you think you know, there is always more to learn. Learning about new resources, methodologies, and strategies for research can even help you break down some of your brick walls!

If you are staying at home during the pandemic, the Tennessee Genealogical Society offers webinars on a variety of topics. If you want to learn more about court records, consider attending the TNGS Fall Seminar with speaker Judy Russell. One of her presentations is titled “The Fair Court - Records of Chancery Courts”, where records of great genealogical value can be found. Or maybe you think you have a Native American ancestor. On November 7, 2020, Jason R. Terrell, a member of the Cherokee Nation of Oklahoma, will present a webinar on “Native American Family Research.”

If you are a member of TNGS, you have access to recordings and handouts from previous presentations on the TNGS website. Do you have Quaker ancestors? Perhaps you will be interested in the July presentation of “Researching Quaker Genealogy.” Would you like to learn about a record source you may not have used in the past? View “I Love City Directories”, which was presented in August, to find out more about this useful source.

If you want to get out of the house, consider visiting our genealogy library, which is now open. In the Reference Section you will find books such as:

- “The Family Tree Guide to DNA Testing and Genetic Genealogy” by Blaine T. Bettinger
- “Guide to Naturalization Records of the United States” by Christina K. Schafer
- “Advanced Genealogy Research Techniques” by George G. Morgan & Drew Smith
- “Discover Your Ancestors Using Land Records” by Patricia Law Hatcher



The genealogy library is not just a place to do research, but also a place of learning.



## Words of advice for these disquieting days:

“Whether you’re calm, focused, and  
charging full steam ahead...*or you’ve found  
yourself hopelessly stuck* — when you  
transform your mindset, you transform your  
work.”

*Pamela Grow – “The Grow Report” July 9, 2020  
Simple Development Systems  
(Fundraising Solutions for Small Nonprofits)*