

HAWKINS WORLDWIDE DNA Project

Newsletter 2004-12

31 December 2004

This Newsletter is sent as a blind copy to protect individual identities.

Project site: <http://freepages.genealogy.rootsweb.com/~hawkinsdna/project/>.

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Playing catch-up following the Holidays. We enjoyed Christmas in Reno (NV) visiting with grandchildren again this year. Last year we flew back the morning it started snowing, this year the fly-back was the morning the snow stopped, after putting down 24" in the preceding 36 hours. We did make it to the airport in time for our 8:56 AM departure; transferred to open seats on the scheduled 6:00 AM flight that had not yet departed; finally was airborne at 11:15 (three hours before our bags on the 8:56 flight took off); we arrived Dallas/Ft Worth a bit after 4:00 PM CST (2 hr time difference), where it was 74 degrees (F). Under the circumstances the conditions were acceptable, and we were glad to get home. Certainly, in my 33-year piloting career I had seen more trying times. We hope that your Holidays were friendly to you.

Looking back at 2004 I think that our project has made some good strides. We have 37 participants in the project now (since our start-up in March 2003), and we have to date identified 18 probable separate genealogical lines with the Hawkins surname. 19 of our participants have been matched with cousins in five of our established lines.

In 2005, I feel that we are going to see a momentum increase. The latest three participants were immediate matches to existing cousin groups, and I think that this year most of the new participants will begin falling into already established groups. Increased interest by news groups in genealogy and DNA, pointing out the benefits of DNA testing, will convince more and more people that DNA is a positive tool in their family history search.

A plea to those of you that have positive paper trails, as I do to my Jeffery married in Wiltshire in 1662. We need you in our project. There are many Hawkins descendants, especially in the US southern states, that had their links destroyed during our Civil War, and I am sure there are similar situations in the history of the UK and the Commonwealth countries. Your DNA in our project can open the gate in their brick wall. And, you will benefit in finding the key to some of your line that had been closed to you. Even with your researched paper proof, you have to wonder about the possibility of an unknown adoption, a false paternity, or a simple research error.

The counter on our web site has passed 3950 since its inauguration in August of last year, and the hits are increasing as we grow. We have to date identified 18 distinct Hawkins lines. Following is the end of December participation results:

- Participants.....37
- DNA results received.....36
- Addtnl. results pending.... 02

When our project started in March 2003, I was issued a kit number in the low 8,000s. Now the numbers are about to roll into the 30,000s. The worldwide surname project is GROWING.

Info for participants from the December FTDNA Newsletter:

On your Update Contact Information Page there is a new item, called Most Distant Known Ancestor. The name, birth date, and even location of the most distant ancestor can be entered. The information entered for this item is the user's choice.

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Also on your Update Contact Information Page, there is a box to select "Private," which determines whether the whole database is used to find matches for you, or your matches are confined to members of your Surname Project. Selecting the box searches only the Hawkins Surname Project, of those who submitted a release form. Leaving it blank searches the whole Family Tree DNA customer database, of those who submitted a release form and are not set to Private:

Most matches with other surnames will not have any value. These matches occur because you are related prior to the adoption of surnames, or as a result of convergence, where results mutate over time and now match or are a close match. If you belong to Haplogroup R1b, as most Hawkins do, you will typically have many matches with other surnames.

Before spending time pursuing a match looking for a paper connection, it is recommended that both participants who match or are a close match upgrade their test to 37 Markers, to verify that the match is still relevant. If you match at 12 or 25 markers, you can easily upgrade by clicking Order Tests on your Personal Page. A new test kit is "not" required, since your test with Family Tree DNA includes 25 years of storage for your sample.

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Sponsors are persons who contribute towards the cost of DNA testing. A sponsor could contribute towards a specific participant or towards a specific family tree, or to the General Fund for a Surname Project, which is then used at the discretion of the Group Administrator to subsidize the cost of testing for participants.

The following link provides directions for sponsors and the payment options, such as credit card, PayPal or check.
<http://www.familytreeDNA.com/contribution.html>

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Participants will now find the new FTDNATiP icon when they click on the Y-DNA Matches selection on their Personal Page. The icon is to the right of each person's Y-DNA Matches Page, for whom FTDNATiP is available.

FTDNATiP does a calculation for two individual to determine the time to their most recent common ancestor. The calculation uses the individual Marker mutation rates. The result is presented in an easy to understand format, showing the probability for each hundred-year period.

To learn more about FTDNATiP, see: "Understanding Your Results: Time to the Common Ancestor":
http://www.familytreeDNA.com/facts_genes.asp?act=show&nk=3.7

To join the project HAWKINS go to http://www.familytreedna.com/surname_join.asp?code=Z47192, where you will receive a discount to the regular test price.

-----Old Stuff-----

- "R1b (most of the Hawkins lines) is just too common to settle for a 12 marker test. You'd do well to start with the 25 (or 37) marker test and save time and (a little) money."
- Testing costs with U.S. companies are falling for non-US residents. With the dollar falling in value as related to other currencies, the cost to interested Hawkins in the U.K., Australia, N.Z., etc. has come down considerably in the past six months. Hopefully this will provide some additional encouragement to those in other parts of the world to join our project. After all, it is the Hawkins WORLDWIDE project, and NOW seems a good time.
- If you maintain a web site with Hawkins information, please add a link to our Hawkins DNA Project.
- Please advise us of any planned Hawkins reunions. We would like to list them indicating the patriarch, place, dates, and any other special information. Consider collecting donations to have some of the most distant cousins in your group tested. Hopefully you have the perfect paper records, but the mutations that occur in the separate lines need to be identified now for succeeding generations. Think about it.
- If you know someone that would like to be on the project information mailing list, please send me their name and email and I'll add them. Anyone that desires not to be on the list should request removal.

Feel free to copy this letter to anyone that you feel would have an interest.

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Administrator (No remuneration received for this endeavor.)

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