

HAWKINS WORLDWIDE DNA Project
Newsletter 2007-07
31 July 2007



This Newsletter is addressed as a blind copy to protect individual identities.
Project site: <http://freepages.genealogy.rootsweb.com/~hawkinsdnaproject/>.

Family pages:

http://freepages.genealogy.rootsweb.com/~hawkinsdnaproject/tree_g-1.html

Administrator: phil_hawkins@sbcglobal.net {phil_hawkins"at"sbc.... }.

If you have a Hawkins picture that you think others would be interested in seeing, especially if it has a story to go with it, please email me a copy.



A

1952 picture of the reunion of the descendents of John Thomas Hawkins (Hawkins Family Group-01).

HAWKINS REUNION: Descendents of John Thomas Hawkins. His children were Joseph T., William F., Mary Elizabeth, Martha Josephine, Nancy Allena, Charles M., Ida Jane, Ludia B., Minnie L. and Nettie L. Hawkins.

Saturday -August 25, 2007, time est 11:00am; cst 10:00am, Ebenezer Baptist Church, 134 County Road 90, Bryant AL 35958.

This reunion was started back in 1952, and was first held at the Attalla Park in Gadsden AL. If you can trace your family history to one of these or even back to Benjamin Franklin Hawkins of Buncombe Co. NC we would be happy to see you at this reunion.

We have a potluck dinner and get re acquainted with family. We would love to see new faces and learn your connection to our family. You may have the link on this family tree that we are looking for.

Directions: I-59 Trenton GA exit, take 136 W up Sand Mountain, at the 2nd hairpin curve go right to top of the mountain continue straight. Highway # will change to 301N (GA) landmarks you will see are Davis School on the left; Four Stars Grocery on the right; large B-Mart gas/grocery on left continue to the AL State line. AL highway road changes to County Road 90, continue to Ebenezer Church on the left, large sign will be on the right.

Contact: vib3804@att.net

The 122nd Hawkins Family Reunion, in Columbiana Ohio. Reunion is primarily the family of Robert Hawkins, b. 27 September 1717, son of Robert Hawkins and Ann Preble.

Sunday September 9, 2007, Firestone Park, Columbiana, Ohio, Duck Pond Pavilion #4, 1:PM. Saturday September 8, Private Genealogy Meeting. For further information please call Bob Hawkins 518-433-1262. Bob is preparing a letter with directions and a map.

A book on this family line is soon to be published. Bob Hawkins indexed the book for the author, Linda McElroy who has been putting this book together for at least the last ten year. If you have an interest, her e-mail address is lindamcelroy@sbcglobal.net, and her mailing address is 324 E Martin St, East Palestine OH 44413.

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From the Family Tree DNA July Newsletter

Family Tree DNA now has over 100,000 records in our database of Y-DNA results. We also have over 4,100 Surname Projects, which include over 64,000 surnames. Our mtDNA database has over 50,000 results.

In some cases, you could be related after the adoption of surnames, due to one of the following events occurring:

1. informal adoption, such as a widow remarries, and the children take the new surname
2. infidelity
3. illegitimate male child who takes the mother's surname
4. adoption of a new surname, such as by preference or for inheritance
5. a pregnant woman marries a man with a different surname than the child she is carrying

Even though these events have occurred in the past, they were not the norm.

Pursuing a match with another surname should not be considered until both participants upgrade to 67 Markers to determine if the match still holds.

At this point, if the match still holds at 67 markers, a decision can be made as to whether to pursue the match with another surname. To avoid wasting time, there should be some evidence that one of the events above occurred. In making this decision, the place to start is to evaluate the evidence. Were the ancestors in the same location, at the same time? Was there a marriage by a widow who had children? Is there a use of alias in any records? Is there any evidence to support a match with another surname?

In most cases, there isn't any evidence to support pursuing the match.

As you research your family tree, eventually you have to stop, because! the written records end, or are sporadic. This could be the result of the destruction of records, such as due to a courthouse fire. Or, this could be the result of reaching the time period prior to consistent written records. For example, the time period before the adoption of Parish registers. Often your family tree will stop before you reach the start of Parish registers, because there is insufficient documentation to make a connection.

When your family tree ends, often there is still a long period of time between then and the adoption of surnames. For example, if your tree ends in the late 1700's due to insufficient documentation, there is still 400 to 500 years between then and the adoption of surnames, depending on your ancestral country.

DNA testing can fill this 500-year gap. Imagine a situation years from now, where every family tree with your surname has tested. The data would then be available to determine whether your surname had a single or multiple points of origin. Combining this information with surname mapping, frequency distribution studies, and research in medieval records would most likely enable the Surname Project to identify a geographic area as the ancestral homeland.

Our surname is a very important part of us, and DNA testing tells us about this surname. For example, did one man take on the surname, and all the descendants today are related, except for a few trees, which are descendants of an informal adoption, and descendants of an illegitimate birth?

With DNA testing, we might also discover previously unknown variants. This could be very helpful for research, especially when records can't be found, and later it is discovered that the records are actually there, but recorded with a previously unknown variant.

Surname dictionaries have been published and identify the origin for many surnames. The authors of these books used the tools available at the time. Never before have these experts or authors had the powerful tool of DNA testing available. There are many discoveries to be made with DNA testing. Most likely, DNA testing will prove that some long held beliefs about the origins of various surnames are incorrect.

By participating in a Y DNA Project, or sponsoring a participant if you are female, you are making a significant contribution to the knowledge about your surname. Even when your tree ends, you can still discover information about your origin.

Case Study

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I am Y DNA Haplogroup R1b1, and I have a 33/37 match with another surname. My paper trail goes to 1760 in a county adjoining his paper trail, which ends in 1825. Research does not show any other connection between the families. The 4 markers that differ are fast moving.

Should further research be pursued?

Recommendation

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Most likely, the 33/37 match is due to a relationship in the distant past, before the adoption of surnames. Participants who are Y DNA Haplogroup R1b, will have many matches with other surnames, even exact matches, which are a result of a common ancestor prior to the adoption of surnames.

In most cases, it is only a matter of time before you have a match with your surname. Your time may be better spent looking for others to test with your surname.

If you are intent on pursuing the match, it is recommended that you first upgrade to 67 markers, before investing time in looking for a paper connection.

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Donations to the Hawkins DNA Project

A member of the General Fund

Contribute at <http://www.familytreeDNA.com/contribution.html>.

Often there are key males whose participation is needed, and they are not able to participate. Multiple small donations can quickly add up to subsidize or pay for a test. You may specify the contribution be used for a specific family group if you desire. Please advise me by email when you make a contribution.

In addition, maybe we should offer some paid-for Y-12 tests to some in our ancestral UK to establish some links for our various family groups.

Accepting donations is new for us. If you have any particular thoughts on the acceptance and use of these funds please email me.

Your first cousins are the people in your family who have the same grand- parents as you. Your second cousins are the people in your family who have the same great-grandparents as you, but not the same grandparents. Your third cousins have the same great-great-grandparents as you, and so on.

To join our HAWKINS project, and receive the group discount price, go to
https://www.familytreedna.com/surname_join.aspx?code=Z47192&special=False .

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If you know someone that would like to be on the Hawkins 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.

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 cousins in your group tested. Maybe you have the perfect paper records, but the mutations that occur in the separate lines need to be identified now for succeeding generations (and just maybe your paper records are not as solid as you assume).

Questions? Contact me at phil_hawkins@sbcglobal.net.

<<< A 1943 poster.

Phil Hawkins 31Jul2007 Administrator [No remuneration received]

If you have tested with someone other than Family Tree DNA please contact me.

All past newsletters with pictures have been added to our project web site at:
<http://freepages.genealogy.rootsweb.com/~hawkinsdnaproject/#Newsletter>.

As I finish up this newsletter, I am listening to my old LPs, almost all purchased in the 1950s. I bought a new turntable, and am digitally recording to my new computer with VISTA. Silly me, I keep trying to sing along while getting this ready to send. Sinatra, Doris Day, Pat Boone, Crosby. Oh, "April Love," "I could have danced all night," oh well - it has been 35 - 40 years since most of them have been out of their jacket.