

HAWKINS WORLDWIDE DNA Project

Newsletter 2007-12

31 December 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.... }.



Ethel and Dorothy (Hawkins) are Canadian descendents of Thomas (b.1726/27) and Elizabeth (Jackson) Hawkins. The sisters were born in Orillia, Ontario, and are daughters of Alfred Edward Hawkins, 1879 - 1968 and Ann Elizabeth (Bradley), 1894 - 1981. Ethel's daughter, Carol, sent this picture. Dorothy, who has submitted a great deal of family information on their line to the Salt Lake City collection, has passed her research on to Carol. Email is cjefferies@rogers.com.



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 us

a copy.

Last month I wrote, "Do any of you use *Dragon Naturally Speaking*? If so would you try using it to annotate the properties section of a picture and let me know if it will work?" I purchased the software, and it does work. As I learn to use it, it should save me a bunch of time (It works like talking to HAL in the movie 2001). I'll include an update on how I am getting along with it in the next newsletter.

Our Hawkins Project, at year-end, has 115 participants. If you are a Hawkins male and have not yet joined our project, please step up to the line. The donation of your DNA for the benefit of your descendents (and the descendents of your cousins), might very well turn out to be one of the most generous things that you have ever done. Think 2099 A.D.

For the record - Family Tree DNA, as of 31 Dec 07, has 113,971 records in their database of Y-DNA results. They also have 4,573 Surname Projects, which include 71,497 unique surnames. The mtDNA database has 59,106 results. Both databases are the largest of their kind in the world.

I rank the following, *Scanning Old Photographs* by Kay Spears, in *Genealogy Gems*, published by the Allen County [Indiana] Public Library's Genealogy Center as very good. As most of the new digital cameras store the pictures as JPG files, you should store them in your computer (or on disc), and never modify them. If you open them (to crop, to lighten, etc.) then save them under a new name, and always keep the original as an original. For taking JPG pictures you want to keep, they should be dimensioned to a file of about 2-3 megabytes (or more).

"Do you have some old photographs you want to scan, but you're not sure what format to use when saving them? Well, here's the definitive answer: it depends. Yes, what format you choose for saving images depends on how you intend to use them once they are scanned. Here are some general guidelines.

1. "If the image is to be used for the Web/online, use JPEG, PNG or GIF. If the image is to be printed or used in a print publication, use TIFF.

2. "JPEG should be used when you need to keep the file size small and don't mind giving up quality for a significant reduction in size. JPEGs are optimal for posting and transferring photos online. JPEGs aren't suitable for images with text because crisp lines will blur. If you plan on doing any kind of restoration work on your photograph, JPEGs are not the format to use.

3. "PNG is ideal when you need smaller file sizes with no loss in quality. PNG supports alpha transparency (soft edges). PNG files offer greater compression and a much wider range of color depth than GIFs. However, not all web browsers support PNGs.

4. "GIF is a good choice for simple Web graphics with limited colors [clip-art]. GIF should rarely be used for photos.

5. "TIFF is good for any type of bitmap image. If you want to archive your family photographs, this is the format to use. This is also the format to use if you are planning on doing restoration work. Unlike JPEGs, TIFFs do not lose any compression when edited and resaved. I recommend that you scan your family photos as TIFFs; you can always reduce them to JPEGs for sending through emails or putting online. Always keep the original TIFF saved in a separate file. The downside: TIFF files are extremely large and take up a lot of storage space. However, the cost of disk storage continues to plummet while options continue to increase.

6. "BMP may be used for any type of pixel-based image. BMPs are huge files, but there is no loss of quality. BMP has no real benefit over TIFF, except you can use it for Windows wallpaper."

A final tip: for sharing a photo via the Web or email, scan at 75 or 100 dpi. A standard computer monitor is only 72 to 96 dpi, so it's not necessary for anything larger. For printing, scan at 300 dpi. Printers have higher resolution than monitors. If you're planning on enlarging an image, the general rule of thumb is double the resolution when doubling the size.

If you maintain a website that relates to any of our Hawkins DNA lines, please advise, and I'll list it on our site.

Is there a subject that you would like to see more about, or something that you think would be of interest to readers that I have not covered? If so, please let me know.

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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).

If you have tested with someone other than Family Tree DNA please contact me about also participating in our Hawkins Project.



Wishing each of you a Happy and prosperous new year!!!

Phil Hawkins 31Dec2007
Administrator [No remuneration received]

Questions? Contact me at phil_hawkins@sbcglobal.net.