

Newsletter

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From the Director - The Waiting Game

Has this ever happened to you? Have you or a relative taken an ancestry DNA test and not had any matches? Or specifically, not any relevant matches? By relevant, I mean a match closer than 12-marker YSTR or HVR1 which can lead you to a shared ancestor. Thus, the waiting game begins until the right person tests and matches you or your relative. You might have to wait years for a match but there are a variety of avenues that might help to shorten the wait. One is by setting up a DNA project or [adopting an existing project](#) including becoming a volunteer project co-administrator. This is exactly what I did in 2004 when I asked a LYON cousin to test. There was no Lyon(s) DNA project established at the time, so he became the very first project member. While other men with the Lyon or Lyons surname continued to join the project, none matched our Lyon cousin. After two years of waiting, a Lyon who tested through the National Geographic Genographic Project transferred his results into Family Tree DNA (this is a free service for Genographic testers), joined the Lyon(s) project, and was a match! As the saying goes from the film *Field of Dreams* and holds true "If you build it, he will come".

Another tactic to speed up the waiting game is to search for testers. Many people meet with success by posting to genealogy message forums and mailing lists, but I will share a method I tried which worked well. Using a family genealogy book, I would research who the submitters of info were for various lines. Since the majority of submitters were the family genealogists, I could usually just google their names until I located their e-mail addresses. Social networking sites like Facebook can make this task even easier.

But sometimes, you just have to wait.

-Katherine Borges
ISOGG Director

Contest!

Enter to win by 5 pm EST on November 14, 2011

The U.S. Department of Health and Human Services is [proposing an amendment](#) to allow patients direct access to their laboratory results. While this is not something directly related to ancestry DNA testing, this amendment may help with preserving access to direct-to-consumer DNA results. A [Food and Drug Administration panel recently concluded that the public should not have direct access](#) to health-related DNA tests without physician approval. Since several direct-to-consumer DNA companies offer tests with ancestry and health-risk related components, ISOGG supports maintaining direct access to those types of tests.

To support this initiative, ISOGG is offering a contest to encourage as many letters of support as possible to be sent to the Secretary of Health and Human Services. To enter, click the link, fill out the info and include a note supporting our right to our clinical lab results. TO OUR MEMBERS OUTSIDE THE U.S.: The form allows submissions from other countries so write a letter of support and you can enter the contest. You can make the point that the U.S. is home to many laboratories and universities that process lab results from other countries so you should have a say in the matter as well.

<http://www.regulations.gov/#!submitComment;D=CMS-2011-0145-0001>

Once you submit your letter, copy and paste your COMMENT TRACKING NUMBER into an e-mail and send it to isogg@msn.com to enter the contest. The contest drawing will be held November 16, 2011 and the prize to be awarded is a \$25 Amazon.com gift certificate.

A copy of a letter is below, and feel free to plagiarize it to your heart's content.

Dear Secretary Sebelius,

I am writing in support of Proposed Rule CMS-2319-P which will expand the rights of individuals to obtain their health information by giving them direct access to their clinical laboratory test results.

We ("the public") already have access to our medical records under HIPAA law that freedom to access information should be expanded to our clinical lab results as well.



Third season of U.S. version of "Who Do You Think You Are?" to return in 2012

Check out [deleted scenes](#) from the second season of the popular television series, "Who Do You Think You Are?" The first season had one episode (Emmitt Smith) which included DNA testing to trace ancestry. Here's hoping for future episodes to include DNA too!

In February 2012, on the side of the Atlantic where it all started, the *Who Do You Think You Are? - LIVE!* conference will be hosted in Olympia, London on 24-26 Feb. The conference hosts [the largest DNA venue](#) in the UK.



Connecting the Youngmans thru DNA

by Tim Janzen

For over 30 years I have been trying to establish the ancestry of my great great great grandfather Jacob Youngman (b. ca Aug 1823, d. 24 May 1903). No one in our family knew his ancestry, but his son Charles Youngman (b. 1872) left a tantalizing clue in his biography that was published in the book "History of Harrison County, Missouri" where Charles Youngman says that Jacob Youngman's father lived in Kentucky, moved to Indiana where he entered land, and later moved to central Missouri where he died. Not too many Youngmans fit this description. In the past 6 months I have been focusing on a John Youngman who is listed in the 1840 Census in Clay County, Missouri, but is not listed there in the 1850 Census. A William Youngman (b. ca 1818) appears in nearby Ray County, Missouri in the 1850 Census, so I assumed that John Youngman must have died between 1840 and 1850. This past fall I learned that John Youngman didn't die prior to 1850, but instead moved to Denton County, Texas where he is listed in the 1850 Census with his family. Meanwhile, my ancestor Jacob Youngman is listed in Shelby Co., Indiana in the 1850 Census. This genealogical puzzle is complicated by the fact that John Youngman appears to have been married 3 times and was divorced from his first two wives. He had children by all three wives with Jacob Youngman seeming to be his son by his second wife Elizabeth Reeves. This past fall I was able to establish contact with another Youngman researcher, Susie Brewer, whose husband is a great great grandson of Mary Jane Youngman (b. Nov 1835), who appears to be a half-sister to Jacob Youngman (b. ca Aug 1823), being a daughter of John Youngman's third wife Priscilla Clark. The key evidence to solving this genealogical puzzle has come from autosomal DNA testing. Susie Brewer was recently able to get a DNA sample from Gene Brewer's first cousin once removed Troy McCoy. Troy is a great grandson of Mary Jane Youngman. Troy's 23andMe DNA results when compared to the results of descendants of Jacob Youngman helped nail down the relationship fairly conclusively in my opinion.

Troy McCoy has at least the following highly significant matching segments with my Youngman relatives:

1. a 10 cM matching segment as well as 4.5, 4.2, and 4.1 cM matching segments with my mother's 2nd cousin Jennifer Burklund
2. a 23.6 cM matching segment with my mom's first cousin Mason Youngman
3. a 16 cM matching segment and a 9.3 cM matching segment with my mother's first cousin Judy Wigton
4. a 12 cM matching segment with my mother's 3rd cousin Frederick Mock
5. a 11 cM matching segment and a 4.9 cM matching segment with my mother's brother Lawrence Youngman
6. a 15.8 cM matching segment and a 5.6 cM matching segment with my mother's brother Robert Youngman
7. a 11 cM matching segment with my mother Betty (Youngman) Janzen

The proper way to analyze this data is create an average for the 7 relatives in my family. It is reasonable to assume that all of the matching segments over 5 cMs in length came from a shared common ancestor. The sum of the centimorgans for the 7 Youngman siblings or cousins included is 114.3 and the average is 16.3. This average is supportive of my theory that Troy McCoy's great grandmother Mary Jane Youngman (b. ca 1836) was a 1/2 sibling to my mother's great great grandfather Jacob Youngman (b. ca Aug 1823). If Mary Jane Youngman and Jacob Youngman were full siblings this would make Troy McCoy a 3rd cousin once removed to my mom. If Mary Jane Youngman and Jacob Youngman were half-siblings this would make Troy McCoy a 1/2 3rd cousin once removed to my mom. We know that 3rd cousins once removed should share .391% of their DNA in common and that that 1/2 3rd cousin once removed should share .195% of their DNA in common. There are about 7200 cM of DNA in the entire genome. Thus we would expect that on average 1/2 3rd cousins once removed would share about 14 cMs of DNA in common with each other. We are seeing slightly above that for the comparison between Troy McCoy and my close Youngman relatives. Thus, I think that it is safe to say that the DNA data suggests that Mary Jane Youngman and Jacob Youngman were half-siblings.

For more DNA success stories or to submit yours, visit:

<http://www.isogg.org/successstories.htm>



DNA in the News

[USS Monitor: Could William Bryan Be One of the Skeletons in the Turret?](#) - Huffington Post - 9 Nov 2011

[Asians, Too, Mated With Archaic Humans, DNA Hints](#) - National Geographic - 1 Nov 2011

For more articles:

<http://www.isogg.org/newsarchives.htm>

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