

Genetic Genealogy Resources

ISOGG – International Society of Genetic Genealogists

ISOGG was formed in 2003 by a group of surname administrators after the first International DNA Conference in Houston. Membership is free, and ISOGG is not associated with any testing company. They provide unbiased information and education for all genetic genealogists and are a wonderful resource.

“The mission of the International Society of Genetic Genealogy is to advocate for and educate about the use of genetics as a tool for genealogical research, and promote a supportive network for genetic genealogists.”

I encourage you to join and to make use of the resources. They administer a DNA-Newbie Yahoo group for folks who are just getting started and trying to learn. The larger and older rootsweb DNA-Genealogy list, while a wonderful resource for seasoned genetic genealogists, is often very intimidating for folks just starting out. It reminded me initially of drinking from a firehose. The Newbie list provides a safe, unintimidating environment.

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

Educational Sites

- ✓ **ISOGG** – the International Society for Genetic Genealogy is a free organization. I encourage you to visit their site and join. Check out their Famous DNA site, updated often, to see who may be your cousin.
www.isogg.org
- ✓ **World Families** is a site that is dedicated to Genetic Genealogy and includes many wonderful references. Visit their site as www.worldnet.org to take a look. If you're considering starting or administering a DNA surname project, they will help and have many helpful hints and tools.
- ✓ **Charles Kerchner** is one of the pioneer genetic genealogists and he created a wonderful page with lots of educational materials to help beginners and those more advances as well. Please visit it at www.kerchner.com.
- ✓ **Family Tree DNA** offers a tutorial at <http://www.familytreedna.com/dna101.html>.

- ✓ **John Blair** created a **DNA 101** page at <http://blairgenealogy.com/dna/dna101.html>.

Mailing Lists

There are a number of mailing lists that people who are interested in Genetic Genealogy follow:

- ISOGG has a Yahoo group that is for members only. However, membership is free. This list tends to be more newbie in nature and has lots of experienced people to provide gentle answers. <http://groups.yahoo.com/group/ISOGG/>
- ISOGG also sponsors a list specifically for the DNA Newbie. People are often a little intimidated by the established lists, and this is a wonderful place to start. <http://groups.yahoo.com/group/DNA-NEWBIE/>
- The first and oldest list is typically rather advanced, and people often tend to lurk and listen to learn. <http://lists.rootsweb.com/index/other/DNA/GENEALOGY-DNA.html>
- The DNA Anthropology list was established to focus on deep ancestry, but often information there is simply reposted from other lists. <http://groups.yahoo.com/group/DNA-ANTHROGENEALOGY/>
- This is a forum, not a mailing list, but items are easy to find as they are categorized by topic. www.dna-forums.org
- Family Tree DNA Forum <http://forums.familytreedna.com/>.
- Family Tree DNA Newsletter. Check out back issues here www.familytreedna.com/newsletter.aspx and subscribe at www.familytreedna.com/facts-and-genes-register.aspx.
- Blair Bettinger's blog that focuses exclusively on genetic genealogy at www.thegeneticgenealogist.com.

Books about DNA

I particularly recommend items with an *.

- *Trace Your Roots with DNA : Using Genetic Tests to Explore Your Family Tree by Megan Smolenyak and Ann Turner
- *The Journey of Man: A Genetic Odyssey by Spencer Wells. Spencer also has a companion video by the same name that is excellent.
- *Deep Ancestry: Inside the Genographic Project by Spencer Wells
- *The Origins of the British by Stephen Oppenheimer
- *The Real Eve: Modern Man's Journey Out of Africa by Stephen Oppenheimer
- *The Seven Daughters of Eve: The Science that Reveals our Genetic Ancestry by Bryan Sykes
- DNA : The Secret of Life by James D. Watson (Knopf, 2003)
- DNA and Family History: How Genetic Testing Can Advance Your Genealogical Research by Steve Jones (Foreword) and Chris Pomery
- *Forensic Genealogy by Colleen Fitzpatrick
- Unlocking Your Genetic History by Thomas H. Shawker
- Mapping Human History: Genes, Race, and Our Common Origins by Steve Olson
- Here, additional books recommended by Family Tree DNA, along with a short description of each one. <http://www.familytreedna.com/books.html>.
- Charles Kerchner's book list: <http://www.kerchner.com/books/dnabooks.htm>
- ISOGG's DNA Bookstore where all purchases provide support for ISOGG. <http://astore.amazon.com/tdf0e-20>

Just for Fun

- 🚩 Free posters (+shipping) and desktop wallpaper...<http://www.chromosomal-labs.com/DNAstore/posters.html>
- 🚩 DNA pins...www.dnabin.com

- ✚ Fun t-shirts and other DNA and genealogy trinkets...
http://www.cafepress.com/buy/dna/-/cfpt2_/cfpt_/source_searchBox/copt
- ✚ The DNA store...more than you ever thought possible...
<http://www.thednastore.com/dnastuff/helix.html>
- ✚ Instructions for beaded DNA earrings...
<http://www.craftster.org/forum/index.php?topic=161423.msg1629892#msg1629892> and
http://www.fresno.k12.ca.us/schools/S090/_atkinsgatebio/beadproject/tpage.html
- ✚ You can order your DNA haplogroup pin at
www.kerchner.com/dnapins/dnapin.htm

Online Resources

- Family Tree DNA's Library of Full Genome Sequence Papers
<https://www.familytreedna.com/genome-papers.aspx>
- Family Tree DNA's Understanding Full Sequence Results
https://www.familytreedna.com/PDF/mtDNAFull_Report.pdf
- Family Tree DNA's List of Mitochondrial Papers
<http://www.familytreedna.com/mtdna-papers.aspx>
- Colorful charts of both Yline and mitochondrial maps and population distribution of the world.
<http://www.scs.uiuc.edu/~mcdonald/WorldHaplogroupsMaps.pdf>
- Understanding your mitochondrial DNA results - excerpts from the Family Tree DNA newsletters: http://www.worldfamilies.net/understand_mtdna.htm
- DOEgenomes.org <http://www.doegenomes.org/> The official website of the US Department of Energy's genomics and systems biology, including information on the original Human Genome Project.
- National Human Genome Research Institute <http://www.genome.gov/> The online home of the NHGRI, which collects information from a number of US government genome research projects, including information on the original Human Genome Project.
- International HapMap Project <http://www.hapmap.org/> An international initiative to catalog genetic similarities and differences among and between human beings around the world. The site's resources are aimed

mainly at scientists, but include good primers on the science involved for the layperson.

- RACE - the Power of an Illusion <http://www.pbs.org/race/> Companion site for the PBS series exploring the cultural construction of race, both in historical terms and in light of recent discoveries in the science of population genomics.
- NOVA: Cracking the Code of Life <http://www.pbs.org/wgbh/nova/genome> The site accompanying NOVA's special on the Human Genome Project and related science; several interactive introductions to gene expression, sequencing, and the structure of DNA itself.
- Jefferson's Blood <http://www.pbs.org/wgbh/pages/frontline/shows/jefferson/> A companion site for the PBS special on the scientific effort (including the most well-known use of y-chromosome based lineage testing) that uncovered the truth behind the rumors that Thomas Jefferson was indeed the father of his slave Sally Hemings' children.
- JOGG – the Journal of Genetic Genealogy www.jogg.info
- Roots Television at www.rootstelevision.com created by Megan Smolenyak and March Brown has free online videos about many aspects of genealogy including DNA testing.
- Sorenson Molecular Genealogy Foundation – www.smgf.org
- DNAHeritage's Y-Base at www.ybase.org
- DNA Testing Adviser was developed by an adoptee who used multiple types of DNA testing to find his birth father. Richard tells his personal story on his web site, [DNA Testing Adviser](http://www.dnatraits.com), which is an excellent resource for both adoptees and genealogists.
- DNATraits provides testing for genetic disorders and better living. www.dnatraits.com Two of the founders are the owners of Family Tree DNA.
- DNAFindings specialized in paternity, siblingship and complex relationship testing. This company was founded by the owners of Family Tree DNA. www.dnafindings.com

Genealogy Favorites

- Genetic Genealogy wouldn't be complete without the genealogy aspect of the equation.
- Family Search www.familysearch.org
- Rootsweb www.rootsweb.com for family trees (with notes), message boards and mailing lists
- Genforum www.genforum.com
- Steve Morse's One Step Searches at www.stevemorse.org
- Footnote is digitizing the NARA (National Archives) records – www.footnote.com
- World Vital Records gathers many records together in one place. Some are free elsewhere. www.worldvitalrecords.com
- Heritage Quest – available through most libraries via remote access and free! Check with your local library.