

Ewing Surname Y-DNA Project – Article 13

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This is the thirteenth in a series of articles about the Ewing Surname Y-DNA Project. The previous twelve articles have appeared in the last twelve issues of the *Journal of Clan Ewing*. They are also available online through links at the project's web site (www.ClanEwing.org/DNA_Project/index_Y-DNA.html). Extensively cross-linked results tables, project participant lineages, group relationship diagrams and network diagrams are also available on the project's web site.

Big Changes in the Y-DNA Project Web Site

Web Master William E. Riddle and I have been completely overhauling the project's web site, hoping that the new design will be both easier to use and easier to maintain. Meanwhile, the overhaul itself is a gigantic project. Bill is doing the lion's share of the work on the software machinery behind the scenes, but by the time we have finished, I will have rewritten every page, redrawn every diagram and expanded the content by at least double. I work on this almost every day, but 'finishing' the job will take many weeks—not that a work in progress of this kind can ever actually be finished. What is more, a reorganization of this scale is bound to create some broken links and other sorts of outdated references. As you encounter these, please send Bill (*Riddle at WmERiddle dot com*) or me (*DavidEwing93 at gmail dot com*) a note so that we can make repairs and corrections. Please bear with us.

We have also decided that the web site is the best venue for detailed reports on the Y-DNA project, mainly because it offers significant opportunities for easily working through and understanding the material. Reading about the project on the web site allows one to quickly check a definition or read more about an unfamiliar concept, easily flip back and forth among lineages, results tables and relationship diagrams, and access near limitless resources for learning more about the subject—all in living color! (Anyone who does not use a computer but has specific questions or wants more details about some aspect of the project should call or drop me a line. I will be happy to print out and mail you some information. My postal address is 1621 Roma NE, Albuquerque, NM 87106 and my telephone number is at the top of this page.)

British Ewings Join the Project

I mentioned in the November Chancellor's Message that Peter Anthony Ewing (PA) of Crieff, Perthshire, Scotland, had joined the project. Now we have his results and were quite excited to discover that his results are rather close to those of project participants SL and ME, a pair of third cousins in Group 8, who were not clear about where their immigrant ancestor may have come from. Now, they are corresponding with Peter to see whether they can make a connection with his ancestors in the vicinity of Glasgow. Jim McMichael also persuaded Thor Ewing (JT) of Shropshire, England, to join the project. His results are expected to be reported on February 8th, too late to make it into this issue of the *Journal*.¹ We are looking forward to seeing JT's results and hoping that our having recently joined the

¹ News Flash! We just got preliminary, 12-marker results on JT and he matches the 12-marker modal for Group 5! It turns out that he is descended from some Methodist Ewings in Lurgan, County Armagh, Northern Ireland. We will have more to say about this once we get the remainder of his results and his full lineage.

*Guild of One Name Studies*² will help us recruit more participants for the project from Britain, Ireland and around the world.

Differentiating Closely Related Families

As a pilot project, on November 5, 2007, I invited all Ewing Surname Y-DNA Project participants who are within genetic distance 1 of the Ewing modal to order an additional Y-DNA test called DYF399X. DYF399X consists of three very rapidly mutating markers that we hope will help us differentiate branches within the large group of closely related Ewings. So far, thirteen men have ordered the test and we have results on nine of them. A detailed DYF399X Report and a table of actual results will soon be available on the project's web site.

So far, we have results on three men in Group 1, three men in Group 3, two men in Group 4 and two men in Group 5. On the DYF399X markers, the two men in Group 5 cannot be distinguished from the overall group of closely related Ewings, but the two men in Group 4 and two of the three men in Group 3 have distinct patterns that may be helpful distinguishing these groups. Perhaps more interestingly, one of the men in Group 1 (WC3—William Curtis Ewing) matches the Group 4 pattern and the other two match the undifferentiated Ewing pattern.³ This DYF399X result is a pretty good lead for WC3; based on this result, we think the odds are good that he is also descended from John Ewing of Carnashannagh. This is exactly the sort of result we are hoping for from the project.

The DYF399X results are not unequivocal or conclusive (after all, these are Y-DNA tests), but they are promising enough that we are now recommending that all men in the large group of closely related Ewings (the men in Groups 1, 3, 4, 5 and 7) order this test. Adding this test costs a little less than \$25 and does not require submitting a new Y-DNA sample. Project participants who want to add this test can find instructions for doing so in the DYF399X Report posted on the project's web site. Remember, this test will probably *not* be useful for project participants in Groups 2, 6, 8 and 9.

To Join or Get More Information

If you are ready to join the project, go to www.FamilyTreeDNA.com/surname_join.aspx?code=M44915. Participation by Ewing women is welcome; they can get valuable genealogic information by persuading a male relative to submit a specimen. For more information, visit the project's web site and the FtDNA web site.⁴ If you want to ask questions, call me at +1 505.764.8704 in the evening, or EMail me at [DavidEwing93 at gmail dot com](mailto:DavidEwing93@gmail.com).

David Neal Ewing has been a member of Clan Ewing in America since 1996 and has served as its Chancellor since 2006. He previously served as Chair of its Board of Directors from 2004 to 2006. He is also Administrator of the Ewing Surname Y-DNA Project, which he founded in 2004, and he is a regular contributor to the Journal of Clan Ewing. Dr. Ewing has a private practice in clinical geriatric neuropsychiatry in Albuquerque, New Mexico. He received his M.D. degree from the University of New Mexico and did his residency training at the University of Michigan Hospital in Ann Arbor, Michigan.

² Ewing, David. EONS: The *Clan Ewing* GOONS Initiative, *J. Clan Ewing*, Vol. 14, No. 1 (February 2008), pp. 24-27.

³ Remember that Group 1 consists of men who have a DNA pattern showing that they are related to the large group of closely related Ewings, but who do not know their conventional genealogic connection with the others.

⁴ www.FamilyTreeDNA.com/public/Ewing