

Pannebakker Familie Views

A Newsletter for the Pannebakker Family Association

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C O N R A D P E N N Y B A K E R U P D A T E

In the last two issues of this newsletter, I presented the story about the search for a connection between Conrad Pennybaker, a Continental soldier during the Revolution, and Conrad Penny Baker, a soldier in the King's service during the Revolution. Actually, we have been trying to connect the Pennybaker family with the Baker family. Three members of the Baker family have matched my DNA . We recently increased the number of markers tested from 25 to 37. The results are conclusive. There is a 99.9% probability that the Bakers and I share a common ancestor. What is needed now is a paper trail. We need to establish the fact that the two Conrad's were, indeed, the same person.

Laurie Baker is doing the research on the Baker side, and doing a wonderful job. I have been doing what I can to trace our Conrad. In the last issue I sent out a call for help from anyone in the family who might have an interest in getting involved in the search. Thankfully, Ron Mitchell, has agreed to do what he can. Ron is an experienced researcher, and we're hoping he comes up with something. We still could use more assistance! If anyone is interested, please contact the editor of this newsletter, or Ron Mitchell.

In an effort to establish an even more iron-clad relationship between the two families, I have recently initiated the Pennybaker DNA Surname Project through Family Tree DNA. A Surname Project traces members of a family that share a common surname. Since surnames are passed down from father to son, this test is for males taking a Y-DNA test. Females do not carry their father's Y-DNA and acquire a new surname by way of marriage, so the tested individual must be a male that wants to check his direct paternal line (father's father's father's...) with a Y-DNA12, Y-DNA37, or Y-DNA67 marker test. This service from Family TreeDNA is dedicated to helping genealogists find lost relatives when the paper trail ends and the brick wall takes its place. They use a painless cheek scraping to obtain DNA that can help accurately determine a relationship with either a 99.9% probability of YES or a 100% certainly that no near term relationship existed.

DNA testing can be a valuable tool in genealogical research when it is combined with conventional research. Test results can be used to confirm a suspected connection between two families or disprove a connection. Although it is impossible to pinpoint a common ancestor from the test results alone, with a proper paper trail you may be able to do so.

Ron Mitchell has agreed to have his DNA tested. What we need is more people to join the project. Not only would additional participants help in our search for the link to Conrad but, Family TreeDNA will have the capability through their database to cross-reference test results from all submissions in order to identify family links of which you may not be aware! We are especially interested in anyone who is a descendant of Jacob Penebacker(Hendrick, Peter, Jacob). Conrad Pennybaker is a son of Jacob, and William is Conrad's brother. If you are from William's line, your DNA could be very helpful in proving a relationship.

Please consider joining the project. Here's how:

Go to [www.familytreedna.com/public/pennybaker], and register to be tested. There is a fee for the service. Choose either the 12 or 37 marker test. The 37 marker test provides the most information. Be sure that you are getting the group rate. There is a wealth of information on the web site about the test and how the results are handled, your privacy and DNA testing in general. If you have any additional questions, please feel free to contact the editor of this newsletter.

DNA 101

All men and only men have a Y chromosome. This biological fact allows us to trace back in time a direct, largely unchanged genetic line of inheritance from father to son.

Every person, male or female has 22 matching pairs of chromosome -- one inherited from each parent -- but the 23rd pair is different. This unmatched pair, known as the X and Y gender chromosomes, determines whether we are male (XY) or female (XX). A mother always provides a single X chromosome in her egg. Inherit an X from your father and you will be a female, receive a copy of his Y and you will be male. And so the Y chromosome travels from father to son with each successive generation of males.

The second thing that makes the Y chromosome unique is that the information carried on Y-chromosomes is inherited largely intact over time. Unlike other chromosomes, the genetic material on the Y chromosome is not mixed with each new generation. The reason is that when cells divide in preparation to make sperm and egg, all 23-chromosome pairs line up to exchange random bits and pieces of DNA with their matching partner before separating. All the chromosomes do this exchange of genetic material save the mismatched XY pair. The Y is much shorter and very little of its genetic information is broken up in an exchange of DNA with the X chromosome. The information carried on the Y chromosome travels from father to son as a nearly exact copy of itself.

Occasionally, during the DNA copying process small changes or mutations occur, and it is these mutational differences that allow us to distinguish the Y chromosome of an individual from his ancestor's. Thus an actual genetic record of the male line going back through time exists -- as clear a marker of paternal heritage as a father's family name.

A tangible timekeeper of history, the Y chromosome allows us to trace human evolution, track migration patterns and relatedness in groups of people, and answer paternity questions going back generations. As we pull apart the Y chromosome, we begin to unravel some fascinating stories about our own origins. Population geneticists and anthropologists have categorized human Y-DNA into about two dozen distinct major groups called Haplogroups, with many sub groups assigned to each group.

The Y-chromosome, in the nuclear DNA of every living male, is virtually identical to that of his father, his paternal grandfather, etc., and is carried by male cousins of any degree of relationship that share the same male ancestor. It provides a clear set of YSTR genetic marker results expressed as a set of numbers, known as a haplotype, which distinguishes one male-to-male lineage from another.

The Family Association does maintain an extensive genealogical database, compiled over many years by several dedicated family researchers. Since the database includes living individuals, we will not "give away" the entire database, or publish it on the Internet. Your privacy is assured! However, we are willing to help those who have a specific question about their lineage. With each birth and death within the family, our database becomes more out-of-date. For the benefit of future generations, we ask that you send us notification of these events. Please send requests for information, or family updates to the editor of this newsletter.

Each edition will feature stories about our family members. We'd love to hear about you! Let us know what you've been up to. Articles could be autobiographical or tell us about the kids, grandkids or maybe about that big trip or the book you just had published. Send your story, with pictures if you wish, to the editor.

New Genealogical Find!

A book, De Werken van den Hoog Verlichten Jacob Bril or "The Works of Jacob Bril", recently acquired by Pennypacker Mills, contains previously unknown genealogical facts about Hendrick Pannebecker written in his own hand. The entire article, including the image with a German transcript and an English translation may be viewed and downloaded at <http://www2.montcopa.org/historicsites/cwp/fileserver,Path,HISTORICSITES/March-April%202008%20newsletter.pdf,assetguid,91b99947-d9bd-457a-9360e6a492f8762e.pdf>

ENGLISH TRANSLATION

This book called the Writings of Jacob Bril [belongs to]
Hendrick Pannebacker to who finds it bring it to him
written this 17 Day of February 1745
My wife died November 27, 1739.
January 12, 1702, my daughter Martha was born between 12 and 1 o'clock.
June 8, 1704, my daughter Catharine was born between 6 and seven.
February 14, 1707, my son Adolph was born.
March 8, 1710, my son Peter was born.
August 27, 1713, my son John was born.
June 28, 1716, my daughter Barbara was born.
March 5, 1719, Jacob was born between 5 and 6 in the morning.
September 26, 1725, my son Henry was born at 6 in the afternoon.
October 14, 1699 I Heinrich Pannebecker from Crefelt with Eva Umstat got married.
September 2, 1698 I Heinrich Pannebecker arrived in Philadelphia.

FROM THE PRESIDENT RON MITCHELL

It looks like spring might be coming to Wisconsin, finally! The temperatures are now in the upper 30's, with only a couple feet of snow in several places. We have had almost zero thawing so far. As usual, we on the staff are struggling to try to come up with something interesting for the members to read. Of course, the huge news concerns the book recently acquired by Pennypacker's Mills regarding the birth of Hendrick and Eve's children. Has anyone ever seen that information before? I found that I had two dates correct and the rest were off base. I don't feel too badly since Governor Samuel had it wrong too. Also, has anyone ever heard of a daughter named Catherine? Catherine Susanna or Susanna Catherine, maybe.

I am a member of several genealogical associations and receive their newsletters and I am amazed at the number of queries that appear in those publications. I would love it if our members would avail themselves of this feature. In line with that, I would love to have help on the wife of John Pennypacker (Dirck, John, Hendrick). She is listed with various spellings of her name. Among them are: Fewket, Fuget, Fugit, Fugate, Puget and I'm sure, others. Her given name seems to be Phoebe. I have found evidence that her mother's name was Elizabeth, and Phoebe had a sister, Sarah, who married a Charles Beas(z)ley. The family was in Page or Shenandoah counties at the time Dirck and family migrated down from Pennsylvania. Does anyone have and information about this elusive lady? Perhaps a tie to a Gerrard Fugate?

I want to thank everyone for their membership in our organization and hope you will continue bearing with us as we keep our Association alive. Please consider accepting a role to help out wherever you can.

Remember, when you turn 80, you no longer have to pay dues. So, if you've already turned 80 or are about to, please let us know so that we can make the proper adjustment in our records.

The Pannebakker Family
Association

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The Pannebakker Family Association is an out-growth of the family reunion held at Pennypacker Mills, Montgomery County, Pennsylvania on July 2-4, 1999. The reunion celebrated the 300th year wedding anniversary of Hendrick Pannebecker and Eve Umstat, in Germantown, Pennsylvania in the year 1699.

In the words of the Steering Committee of the reunion, "We hope that the 1999 Pfannebecker-Umstat Reunion will lead to the growth of a family association, which will provide a forum for conversation, collection and preservation of information, and a sense of lasting community among the heirs of this rich cultural heritage."

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