



ANCESTORS

Bartholomew County Genealogical Society

Jan - Mar Q1 2019

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Vol 29 Issue 1

2019 BCGS Calendar

Unless otherwise noted, all sessions begin at 10:00 am in the Red Room of the Bartholomew County Public Library

Saturday, January 19

“WICKED COLUMBUS”

Presenter: Paul J Hoffman

Columbus resident Paul Hoffman is a career journalist and the author of two nonfiction books:

“Murder in Wauwatosa: The Mysterious Death of Buddy Schumacher” (2012) and “Wicked Columbus, Indiana” (2017). He is currently group special publications editor for AIM Media Indiana, based in Columbus

Saturday, February 16

S.K.I.L.L.S. (TBD)

Saturday, March 30

“GUARDING YOUR TREASURES: Preservation of personal family history collections”

Presenter: Jennifer Duplaga, Archives and Public Services Librarian, Hanover College

Learn how to preserve your historic family treasures. This workshop will discuss techniques for the handling and storage of photographs, scrapbooks, and printed materials.

Inside this Issue:

Highlights (Oct - Nov)	2-
-by Marcus Speer	3
Trip to Salt Lake City	4
-by Lois Griffith	
FGS Conference	5
-by Annette Blount	
DNA: Parts of My Sum	6-
-by Bob Hobbs	8
DAR Award	9
-by Rebecca Speaker	

Welcome to Our New Members:

Barbara Hull, Columbus

Taffy Schroer, Columbus

Daniel J Norton, Columbus

Editor's Note: Many thanks to all BCGS Board Members for their time and articles to make Ancestors the "Voice of BCGS" ! As a courtesy, and to insure the personal communication with each of you, their columns are not edited. Hope you enjoy !



Highlights *-by Marcus Speer*

PROGRAM MINUTES October 20, 2018 —S.K.I.L.L.S. Organizing Your Genealogy

BCGS's October SKILLS was attended by 20 with new members: Barbara Hull & Taffy Schroer. For this SKILLS, three BCGS members, Toni Whiteside, Heather McDonald, Becky Speaker led a hands-on training about how to get organized and stay organized with genealogical materials. Both Toni and Heather shared from their own experiences including the utilization of binders and digital resources.

Another helpful SKILLS led by our own BCGS members.

Highlights *-by Becky Speaker and Marcus Speer*

PROGRAM MINUTES Nov 17, 2018 Divorce: A 19th Century Epidemic



The Bartholomew County Genealogical Society met on November 17th for the final program of the year. There were 17 members and 3 guests (plus speaker) present. Our guest speaker was Meredith Thompson, from the Plainfield Library, leading a program entitled "Divorce: a 19th Century Epidemic." As far back as 1791, a newspaper article in England called divorce an epidemic. In 1629, the Massachusetts Bay Colony allowed divorces under certain grounds. Newspaper announcements were frequently used to aid communica-

tion, helping make sure that the defendant (or their family) had a chance to respond.

Thompson shared some legal terms to help in genealogical research. An absolute divorce (a vinculo matrimonii, or avn) enabled the parties to remarry and divide property. A limited divorce was a formal separation, but the parties were still married to each other and had to gain consent to sell any property. Annulments invalidated a marriage as if it never happened, returning all property to as it was before

the marriage. Annulments usually required some type of fraud or coercion at the time of marriage (lying about age, too intoxicated to make decisions, etc.)

Thompson also shared that sometimes a divorce case filed for a change of venue if they thought they could get a fairer hearing elsewhere. As an example, she shared the story of Bartholomew County Circuit Court Judge Marshall Hacker who was widely known to dislike divorce, even in the Indianapolis newspapers.

JUDGE MARSHALL T. HACKER.

COLUMBUS, Ind., May 6.—Judge Marshall T. Hacker of the Bartholomew and Decatur County Court will appoint no more local attorneys as special judges to try divorce cases. He has announced this as his decision. It makes but little difference to Judge Hacker whether he ever tries a divorce case or not, because he does not like the business, and, as he does not believe in this promiscuous granting of divorces, he says he does not intend having a combination formed here by which divorces can be granted on all sorts of grounds.

Judge Hacker's statement was made to Attorney W. W. Lambert, attorney for the plaintiff in the divorce case of Daisy H. Wells against Edward Wells. A motion was filed for a change of venue from the regular judge. Judge Hacker said that

he would not make an appointment of an attorney to try the case, and that, according to law, the case would have to stand five days, and then the Governor of the State would have to make the appointment. Judge Hacker says that the law can take its course. Mr. Hacker believes that the Governor will select a lawyer outside the local bar.

Judge Hacker says that he does not doubt the fairness of the lawyers of this city, but nearly all of the attorneys are interested in divorce cases. If changes are constantly taken from the regular judge, it will soon be that all of the local lawyers will have served on the bench and it will be a hard matter for them to refuse a brother attorney a favor when he is asking a divorce for his client.

Judge Hacker believes that divorces should be granted on no other than scriptural reasons.

Indianapolis Star,

7 May 1906



Highlights *-by Becky Speaker and Marcus Speer*

Divorce: A 19th Century Epidemic (cont)

Thompson also shared additional information about Indiana's divorce history. The state rules for divorce changed over time, enabling Indiana to be a 'divorce mill' for about twenty years in the mid-19th century. Between 1850-1900, the population in Indiana increased by 60%, but the divorce rate increased by 157%. In the 1900 census, Indiana had one of the top 12 state divorce rates. Within Indiana, divorce could be granted for the following reasons over time:

1807 – bigamy, impotency, adultery

1813 – abandonment, cruelty, felony

1824 – 'at the court's discretion' (very open, but repealed in 1838)

1836 – husband's drunkenness or his inability to provide for the family

1977 – No fault divorce (allowed because of "irreconcilable differences")

In 1858, 2/3 of the divorce cases filed in Indianapolis were by a non-resident. About a decade earlier in 1849, the state law eased to give judges the discretion to waive the one-year residency, which resulted some time in a hotel room being the residency. In 1873 the state tightened their rules on residency, then in 1881 made it a crime (with a huge \$100 fine) to distribute any information about how to get a divorce.

Thompson then moved on to help us apply this knowledge to our genealogy research. She shared two bad assumptions:

#1 – Your married ancestors never filed for divorce.

#2 – A gap in children's birthday doesn't mean anything.

Her advice was to not assume anything, but rather to look for a potential divorce – in indices, newspapers, court records and even marriage licenses (which may indicate 2nd marriage, etc.) Thompson recommended we use multiple sources, as details may vary across the sources. Although Indiana does not have a state wide divorce Index, there may be many indexes in counties, genealogical societies, etc. [Perhaps, this could be a project for BCGS.] Some indexes may be listed as Court Records or Vital Records instead of mentioning divorces. Thompson recommended following the "bread crumb trail" from newspaper legal notices, court records, etc., but then visiting the local courthouse to ask for the actual divorce case file. The file could contain the cause, the original marriage info, the residences, the names &

ages of children, the wife's maiden name and even financial details of land and all personal property. If struggling to get information from the courthouse, Thompson reminded us of the Public Access Counselor who can advocate for

us, as a divorce record is considered a public record. (<https://www.in.gov/pac/>)

After sharing various resources across many states, Thompson wrapped up by sharing online resources for Bartholomew County Divorce Records, keeping in mind which courts had jurisdiction over divorce cases.

Bartholomew County Circuit Court – 1821 to present

Bartholomew County Court of Common Pleas – 1853-1873

Bartholomew County Superior Court – 1955 to present

Some online records:

** Bartholomew County Archives:

<http://www.bartholomew.in.gov/archives.html>

(includes some court indexes under the search tab)

** FamilySearch.org has the Order books for the Barth. Co. Circuit Court from 1823-1920 and the Barth. Co. Court of Common Pleas 1857-1873. These are free but restricted to a Family History Center or a FamilySearch Affiliate Library, like Jackson County or Brown County libraries.

** Newspaper records are available not only on Newspapers.com (ex. Republic from 1872-2018), but also on Hoosier State Chronicles [FREE] and NewspaperARCHIVE [subscription – but some libraries have access.] Both of these options have many Columbus area newspapers before 1900.

<https://newspapers.library.in.gov/>

<https://newspaperarchive.com/>

Copies of the five hand-outs were left to put in the Indiana Room at the Bartholomew County Public Library.



Meridith Thompson



A Trip to Salt Lake City

-by Lois Griffith

In June 2018, my daughter, Karen and I travelled to Salt Lake City to spend a week at the Family History Library. We joined the Ancestor Seekers tour and were royalty treated and helped in our search for our dear departed. This trip involved two objectives: 1. to find answers and break down brick walls and 2. to reinforce and create new interest in genealogy for my daughter who will one day inherit my work. It was a very successful trip and money well spent. An added bonus was time spent with Karen and to enjoy her enthusiasm to be part of the tour.

ancestorseekers.com is a private company built by a couple who saw the benefit of researching at the library. They created a tour which is well run and easy to work with. We stayed at a comfortable hotel behind the library and were able to walk to the library, restaurants and other sites in SLC. Each morning we were greeted by six experts. Research during that week was well guided by these experts and we were helped through the ins and outs of books, microfilm and Family Search records. The directors made sure we were getting the help unique to our problem and they had great recommendations about places to eat and sites to see. A refrigerator in our room helped with snacks and a quick breakfast.

An added benefit were various tours each evening: the rehearsal of the Mormon Tabernacle Choir, a concert of the multiple octave bell choir, delicious lunches at a reduced price at the church office building and tours through various

buildings on the campus. Karen really got into the re-search (objective # 2.) as she used her laptop to download records and I learned the process of printing out those records. The gardens were beautiful in June although the weather was quite warm. Flowers are changed seasonally so I imagine they are beautiful in the Fall also.

Objective # 1. - breaking down brick walls, took a little more time. We were told in an introductory meeting that ancestors who came from Bavaria were rarely found. BUT with help from our expert, Tom, we found my 2X great grandfather and his wife in Breitenbach, Bayern, Prussia. Records of their marriage and birth records of the children were quickly downloaded by Karen. The ship's manifest from Le Havre to the US listed Henry and his wife and all their children except for the youngest, but Tom proved his usefulness once again. He said, "Check the last page of the manifest. Children under two who were not charged passage are listed there." Tom was right! There she was, little Clara, just waiting to be discovered.

If you have a "hankering" to check out the library in SLC, but are concerned about going on your own, please be assured that this is a wonderful way to start. I'm sure our results were much more thorough than they would have been had we gone on our own. So don't wait, Go to the website listed above, find a date that works for you and take along a friend or relative who also shares your enthusiasm for genealogy.



Federation of Genealogical Societies (FGS)

-by Annette Blount

Federation of Genealogical Societies (FGS). Have you ever heard of it? It is a conference that meets each year. It is held in different places around the country. This past August it was in Fort Wayne, Indiana. Next year it will be in Washington DC. I was privileged to attend this year. The library sent me and I am so glad they did! The conference lasted four days; Wednesday through Saturday. There was a pre-conference day for librarians on Tuesday. Each day began around 8:30 with a keynote speaker. There were at least four sessions a day. The conference day ended at 6:00 pm each day. The Allen County Public Library extended the hours of the Genealogy Center until 11:00 pm each night of the conference just to accommodate those who wanted to get in a little research with their conference. The Genealogy Center was a busy place during the time I was there. Conference attendees were taking advantage of those extra research hours. I never stayed as late as 11:00 but I know some did.



There was no shortage of sessions on the popular subject of DNA. One of the more memorable sessions for me was about the ethics of DNA testing. Judy Russell who is a popular blogger and speaker known as the Legal Genealogist, emphasized that when it comes to DNA if you do not like surprises or if you do not want to know if there are skeletons in your closet you probably should not do DNA testing. You have to be prepared for what you might find. One of the keynote speakers was Scott Fisher, the host of a nationally syndicated genealogy radio talk show called Extreme Genes. I can't remember if his story was about himself or one of his callers. The story he told was about brothers who had their DNA tested and found out that out of five boys only two of them had the same father. None of them had any idea until they were tested. That is one reason why you should be sure you really want to know the truth before you test.

My favorite of the keynote addresses was the DNA results of four Fort Wayne news personalities. Each one was amazed by the findings. The DNA findings were interesting but the Allen County Public Library staff actually did the research and found the most interesting things about the ancestors of each news personality. They became very emotional when given the results of the research. The only gentleman in the group had an ancestor who was arrested in a small town near Salem, Massachusetts during the time of the witch trials. She was accused of witchcraft. She claimed to have visions. He had no idea he had ancestors from Massachusetts. He only knew his ancestors to be farmers from Wisconsin. One of the ladies found that her ancestor was a prominent businessman in Fort Wayne. He was also an inventor who invented some type of fuel pump. She was very proud to be part of that legacy. Another knew she was a descendant of Jessie Owens but she did not know she had an ancestor in the Civil War who fought for the Union in one of the Colored Regiments. After the war he attended an all black school in the South and tried until he died to get a pension. She thought maybe that was where she got her "never give up" attitude. The fourth woman was of Columbian descent on her mother's side. She also had ancestors from North Carolina on her father's side. They had been in America for many generations. She did not know her American roots went so deep. I believe they all began to see the wonderful stories that can be uncovered when we begin to trace our roots.

The Exhibit Hall was huge. Everything genealogy was there for purchase. Many companies had discount specials. I personally bought a Family Tree Maker program. The representative from the company offered to come to our library in 2019 around the time of the Midwestern Roots Conference, which is in July, and demonstrate Family Tree Maker. If we can work out a visit they will give away a copy of the program and have copies for sale.

Those are just a few highlights of the conference. I am sure I could go on but with four days of conference and four sessions each day as well as the fact that there were other sessions going on while I was attending the sessions I chose, there just is not time to cover it all. Just know that I had a great time and would love to do it again!

Tripping MY ROOTS Over

-by Bob Hobbs

DNA: The Parts of My Sum

I can't recall exactly when I became a hostage of Ancestry.com. I know it was way before the summer of 2011 when I spent a month in Europe attempting to track down where my ancestors had lived and died and were buried. I thought I had a sufficient amount of information to go on at the time and some of it proved quite helpful. Other information I had gathered resulted in wild goose-chases. The information I gleaned from the trip changed what I would contribute to the website when I got home. Some questions were answered, but other questions arose. Regardless, I can't help but feeling held hostage in a financial way. Perhaps it is because when I see that annual renewal amount suddenly appear, having been deducted from my checking account, do I question whether or not I am getting my money's worth.

Oh, I don't really blame Ancestry. I have myself to blame. I have chosen the words "hostage of" as opposed to "slave to." To say I was a slave to Ancestey.com would imply I was so involved I could not stay off it. This is not often the case. When I was teaching full-time, I finally took the step of putting my account on hold for awhile. Now that I am retired, I don't know what my excuse is. It's like I've acquired an attention deficit disorder. I do try my best to keep up with all the notification leaves that spring forth at an alarming rate. Sometimes it is overwhelming as to how to process all this newly discovered or regurgitated information. Should I give these hints a NO, a MAYBE, or a YES? The

England, Wales, and Northwest Europe	64%	No surprise here!
Ireland and Scotland	22%	Must be all Ireland. I know of no Scottish ancestry.
Germanic Europe	8%	This must go way, way back!
Norway	3%	Must be the origin of my British Isles ancestors.
France	2%	This too must go way back.
Cameroon, Congo, S. Bartu Peoples	1%	Must go way, way, way back!

DNA CIRCLES are grouping made up of other members who are related to me by connection of a specific ancestor. I have four such circles and they are related to my maternal grandmother's family: Two 4th great-grandparents, one with 51 members and one with 35 members; and a 2nd great-grandfather with 8 members and a 2nd great-grandmother with 7 members. These 2 great-grandparents were husband and wife, so one can expect some duplication in the members.

DNA MATCHES

Parent/Child: My mother, Martha

Immediate Family: My sister, Dana

1st Cousin: Actually my great-nephew Ian. Why the discrepancy? As strange as it may seem, both great-nieces/nephews and 1st cousins share 12.5% of their DNA with you.

answer is often to ignore it and tell myself I'll get back to it later.

One recent complication involves the Hobbs side, where there were a couple of generations that apparently knew of no other given name for the males other than that of William. In this regard they can hardly be considered a very original or inventive people. This quagmire of Williams has created quite a mix-up in that branch of my family tree. In reference to the name of this column, I am afraid I have not only tripped over this particular root, but I have unfortunately fallen....and I can't get up!

ANCESTRY DNA

A whole different can of worms was opened when Ancestry DNA made the scene. While intrigued by the possibilities, I was initially skeptical by the cautionary tales of the horrors of giving up your privacy and the risk of someday being cloned without your knowledge. After deliberating that remote possibility for awhile, I decided to plunge into that pool feet first. Besides, I have nothing to hide. Or do I?

I can remember getting my first results. I knew beforehand that my ancestors all hailed from the British Isles, with the exception of my maternal great-grandparents. They were living in Milan, Italy prior to immigrating to the United States in the early 1900s. However my initial results were rather skewed with a very high percentage of Scandinavian countries. Granted I had read that initial results go back thousands of years and that the early explorers from those northern counties moved south into the areas we now know as Scotland, England, Wales, and Ireland. I was hoping for more specificity. Over time I got it. My most recent results list those findings:

2nd Cousins: Actually listed her are my 1st Cousins, once removed: Brothers Troy and Dylan, Robbie, and Samantha.

3th -4th Cousins: 16 people I do not know.

4th -6th Cousins: Over 1,000 supposedly!

Bottom line: I still don't know what to do with all this information!

TWENTY-THREE AND ME

When I first heard the commercials on the radio advertising 23andMe, I was captivated by the things that I could possibly find out about myself that was not part of the findings in Ancestry DNA. True some of the reports are similar, but there are the reports that tell you about your health and physical characteristics. So on February 10, 2018 I added 23andMe to my toolkit. First, a look at my ethnic background according to them:

Tripping MY ROOTS Over

-by Bob Hobbs

DNA: The Parts of My Sum (cont)

EUROPEAN 98%

British and Irish (United Kingdom): 39.1% Most of my ancestors were British. Some on my maternal side moved to what is now Northern Ireland. Some on my paternal side crossed the Bristol Channel to Wales.

French and German (France): 13.6% I still don't understand this French connection. Who?

Italian (Italy): 10.5% My maternal great-grandparents were both born in the northern third of Italy. Reportedly, we share 12.5% of our DNA with our great-grandparents, which is, oddly enough, the same percentage we share with our first cousins.

Scandinavian: 3% Could this be the same as the 3% from Norway as reported by Ancestry DNA?

SUB-SAHARIAN AFRICAN 1.5%

Congolese: According to 23andMe, beginning around 3,000 years ago, the genetic tapestry of the Congo basin was transformed by the influx of Bantu-speaking peoples from the north. This is very similar to the Ancestry DNA reference of 1% previously referenced.

According to 23andMe, I have 1,036 DNA relatives in my 23andMe DNA family. One is considered a close family member to a 2nd cousin. I have no idea who this person is as they do not give you their name.

The top states represented by my DNA relatives are California and Washington in the west; Texas and Oklahoma in the southwest; Georgia and Florida in the deep south; Tennessee, North Carolina, and Virginia; and Illinois, which is no surprise since this is where most of my family ultimately settled.

The DNA relatives in the above states are largely British and Irish (90%), with the remaining 10% consisting of French, German, and Scandinavian. 23andMe must not be too popular with the Italians as of yet since there is no representation of DNA relatives.

Compared to the average 23andMe customer, I am told that my DNA relatives are 71% more likely to be able to do the side splits. In my youth I accidentally discovered I could do this. I haven't attempted this feat recently and probably won't.

Of the 44 reports that tell me if I have specific genetic variants that may not affect my health, but could affect the health of my children, I have none detected. This is good news!

Of the 9 Genetic Health Risk Reports that can influence my risk of certain health conditions, I have two that cause some concern:

1. Age-related Macular Degeneration- "Variant detected, but not

likely at increased risk." My mother has a treatable case of this condition. For years I have tried to combat it by taking vitamins to ward this off.

2. Late-Onset Alzheimer's Disease- It is the most common form of Alzheimer's Disease and develops after age 65. They report that I have one copy of the variant of the gene they tested. They point out that those with this variant have "a slightly increased risk of developing Late-Onset Alzheimer's Disease." "Although your risk may be slightly increased, most people with this variant do not develop Late-Onset Alzheimer's Disease. Studies estimate that, on average, a man of a European descent with this variant has a 4-7% chance of developing Late-Onset Alzheimer's Disease by 75 and a 20-23% chance by 85."

Now when I enter a room and forget why I went in there or when I leave a store and am not quite sure where I parked in the lot, I wonder if it is a symptom. There is the excellent example that it is normal to leave a shopping mall and forget where you parked your car. You need to be concerned when you exit the mall and forget you even have a car!

The 30 Traits Reports are somewhat interesting. These explore the genetics behind your appearance and senses. Here are a few of the more interesting ones.

Ability to Match Musical Pitch. They report that I have a 50/50 chance of being able to match a musical pitch. I know I can do this. In college I auditioned for and was accepted as a member of very exclusive vocal group consisting of sixteen singers. As part of the audition process, I had to match not only individual notes played on the piano, but also sing back verbatim an unfamiliar tune. I also had to be able to hold a given note while conflicting chords were played underneath. Research at 23andMe have identified 500 genetic markers associated with this trait.

Asparagus Odor Detection. After eating asparagus, some people notice an unfamiliar odor in their urine. My genetics make me likely to be able to do this and yes, I do have this ability.

Wake-up Time- According to this report, I am likely to wake up around 7:00 a.m. People with my genetics in their 60s wake up on average around this time. Much to my chagrin, I am awake ready to start my day often times even earlier than this, even on days I don't need to be awake that early. This occurs no matter how late I went to sleep the night before.

Tastes- Those with my genetics are unlikely to detect certain bitter tastes. This has proven true for me. Vegetables like raw broccoli or brussel sprouts contain bitter chemicals, but they do not taste bitter to me. Also related, I have two genetic markers that make cilantro (also known as coriander) taste like soap.

Physical Traits- Hair: According to 23andMe, I am unlikely to have a bald spot, but am likely to experience hair loss prior to age 40. This sounds conflicting, but it was my case as my hair loss started as a bald spot in my mid 30s, but progressed to my getting to my current state of being bald on the top of my head by achieving what is more commonly

Tripping MY ROOTS Over

-by Bob Hobbs

DNA: The Parts of My Sum (cont)

known as male-patterned baldness. I distinctly remember getting a hair cut at the age of 35 or so and when the barber was finished, he gave me a hand mirror and spun my around so I could see the back of my head in the mirror mounted on the wall behind me. I must admit I screamed because I saw for the first time a bald spot the size of a quarter that I had never seen before! No one had ever brought it to my attention. It was only the beginning of my way to being follically-challenged. At the time, we were told we could blame our maternal grandfather for this condition. This made perfect sense because my Italian maternal grandfather was quite bald the whole time I knew him. This theory was later said not to be the case and that the condition was also a combination of other factors as well. Also according to 23andMe, I had little or no hair at birth (true), I have/had thinly textured hair (also true), hair that used to bleach out in the sun (correct), dark hair, not red hair (check), and no widow's peak, (which was also the case).

Other Physical Traits, all of which pertain to me: little freckling, no cheek dimples, no cleft chin, detached earlobes, wet earwax, blue or green eyes, and lighter skin.

Wellness Reports in regards to:

Weight-My genes predispose me to always weigh about average for a man my age of European descent. I actually weigh less than what the average weight is, which for my height is 184 lbs. I often weigh about twenty pounds lighter than that, which is in a more healthy range than if it were average.

Sleep- Based on my genetics, I move more than average during sleep, which is 13 times per hour. According to 23andMe, I move 16 times or more per hour. I feel that this is probably the case and am aware of my restlessness. I am also not likely to be a deep sleeper, which I also feel is the case.

Muscle Composition-Supposedly my genetic muscle composition is common in elite power

athletes such as those found in sprinters, throwers, and jumpers. This is totally news to me as I never discovered these talents to any degree.

Other Wellness Reports Revelations- I am very unlikely to flush bright red in the face or experience unpleasant symptoms like headaches or nausea after just one drink of alcohol. I am also not likely to be lactose intolerant. I can attest I have neither of these issues.

Without a doubt, the most surprising revelation to come out of this DNA exploration was in my most recent 23andMe report:

"You have 293 Neanderthal variants. This is more than 77% of all 23andMe customers."

The report goes on to tell me that my Neanderthal ancestry accounts for less than 4% of my overall DNA. These 293 variants of Neanderthal origin are among the 2872 Neanderthal variants that they test for. The person tested as part of 23andMe that has the most variants has 397, but among my family as defined by my DNA, I have the most Neanderthal variants.

To summarize a brief history of Neanderthals, we need to realize the study of their connection to modern man is a fairly recent one. Within the past 150 years, scientists have

found bones from skeletons belonging to extinct human beings, the Neanderthals, that were named after the area (Neander Valley, Germany). Neanderthals and modern human beings share a common ancestor as well as many morphological and social traits. It has only been as recently as the past decade that genome sequencing has shed more light on our complicated relationship with them.

The common ancestor of modern humans and Neanderthals inhabited much of Africa, Europe, and probably Asia from at least 700,000 to about 200,000 years ago. These modern human beings continued to evolve in Africa and the oldest remains come from a site

in Monaco that dates to 300,000 years ago. About 200,000 years ago the European branch of the population evolved into what we know now as Neanderthals. Contrary to the hunched-over, lumbering, knuckle-dragging stereotype, Neanderthals were much like modern humans and exhibited complex human behaviors. Their most distinctive physical features were their wide, robust bodies, their relatively short limbs, and projecting mid-faces.

Around 60,000 years ago, modern humans starting exploring beyond the continent of Africa, where they encountered their Neanderthal neighbors. Remains of skeletons found in a cave in Israel and elsewhere suggest the two groups inter-bred in the Middle East or Europe. Their descendants radiated out across Europe, Asia, Australia and eventually made their way to the Americas.

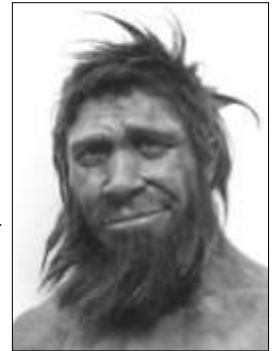
Neanderthal ancestry, such as mine I guess you'd say, is derived from their ancient migrations and interbreeding. Non-African populations have Neanderthal ancestry amounting to about 1-2% of their genomes. Mine is

possibly this amount or perhaps 1% or 2% more. As reported by 23andMe, "With a few exceptions, Sub Saharan African populations have virtually no Neanderthal ancestry." To illustrate this by means of the 23andMe database, out of 381 Neanderthal variants, Non-African participants possess 280, while the Sub-Saharan African population show an average of only 20 Neanderthal variants.

I hope that this journey through my DNA reports results will encourage you to discover those of your own. Whether you find more family connections via Ancestry DNA or whether you further explore known or unknown aspects of yourself by means of 23andMe, I encourage you to make your own DNA journey and explorations.



I can see a resemblance !



Hey there ! Your cave or mine ?



The Joseph Hart Chapter, Daughters of American Revolution, awarded Kimberly Ray the DAR Community Service Award on Saturday, November 17th during the BCGS meeting. Kim has given much to her community, spending hours creating the new Yellow Trail Research Center. The Research Center is connected with the Yellow Trail Museum, which tells the history of Hope, Indiana and the surrounding area in Flatrock & Hawcreek Townships. Coordinating several volunteers, Kim led the organization of the many documents and photos at the museum, rescuing many moldy, smelly documents to enable the community and visitors to do family and history research. Beyond the preservation of the actual documents, Kim has also actively pursued the digitization of many records to share the information more broadly, with a Scan-a-thon on June 9 to scan the Moravian Church Records through 1900.

Kim also serves on the board of the Bartholomew County Genealogical Society, where she has been the editor (writer, photographer, etc.) of our quarterly newsletter, Ancestors for over a decade. (<http://www.barthgen.org/newsletters/>)

Kim has published a book about the Hawcreek Baptist Church and Cemetery and was a driving force behind a book compiled by BCGS on the Veterans of the War of 1812 who Lived & Died in Bartholomew County. She is currently leading a project with other BCGS members to write a book about the Founders of Hope who migrated from North Carolina to Indiana.

Kim has given to the community in many ways, but with the creation of the Yellow Trail Research Center, she has provided a long term way to ensure the preservation of a critical part of the history of Hope and Flatrock/Hawcreek Townships. The Joseph Hart Chapter, NSDAR, was pleased to award Kim the DAR Community Service Award.

Rebecca Speaker, Regent, Joseph Hart Chapter, NSDAR

Sally Scrogam, Joseph Hart Chapter Community Service Award Chairman



New Books

New Genealogy Books at the Bartholomew County Library

- from Annette Blount, BC Librarian

The Twenty-Seventh Indiana: Volunteer Infantry in the War of the Rebellion, 1861 to 1865; First Division 12th and 20th Corps; A History of Its Recruiting, Organization, Camp Life, Marches and Battles, Together With a Roster of the Men Composing It, and the Names of All Those Killed.

Unknown Author

Ref Ind 973.7472 Bro

Annals of the Fifty-Seventh Regiment Indiana Volunteers, by a Member of the Regiment [A.L. Kerwood].

Kerwood, Asbury L.

Ref Ind 973.7472 Ker

History of the Ninety-Seventh Regiment of Indiana Volunteer Infantry.

Alexander, John D.

Ref Ind 973.7472 Ale

History of the Fifty-eighth Regiment of Indiana Volunteer Infantry: Its Organization, Campaigns and Battles From 1861 to 1865.

Hight, John J.

Ref Ind 973.7472 Hig

American Settlements and Migrations: A Primer for Genealogists and Family Historians.

Bockstruck, Lloyd de Witt

Gen 929.1 Boc

Genetic Genealogy in Practice.

Bettinger, Blaine

Gen 929.1072 Bet

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