

Genetic Genealogy DNA Testing Dictionary

By

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Acknowledgements

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Foreword

I have been a dedicated hobby genealogist for almost three decades. In February, 2001 I ventured into the new and uncharted waters of the nascent field of Genetic Genealogy, i.e., using newly available commercial DNA tests to aide traditional genealogical research. At that time I launched my Kerchner Surname Y-DNA Project which was one of the first dozen such projects in the world done by non-academic genealogists like myself. See my surname project website for more details: <http://www.kerchner.com/kerchdna.htm>. I presented my first lecture on this new field in October, 2001 for a local genealogical group.

One of the major problems I immediately encountered in trying to use this new tool to aide me in solving some puzzles in my traditional genealogical research was trying to figure out what all the words, terms, acronyms, and abbreviations used in this new field mean. Along the way I began collecting the various terms, acronyms, and abbreviations and compiling my own personal glossary which I shared online in 2003. I have now moved that glossary one step further into a printed Genetic Genealogy DNA Testing Dictionary. In addition, I and others in this new field have also suggested a few new coined words and terms, neologisms, to describe certain specialized techniques, processes, and groups within the new field of Genetic Genealogy. Time will tell if these new terms will flourish as this field grows or will go extinct from non-use and/or be replaced by other terms. I am now pleased to share my Genetic Genealogy DNA Testing Dictionary with you - my fellow genealogists. Hopefully you will take the plunge and join me and the thousands of other genealogists who have explored this new tool and will also become a pioneering genetic genealogist.

For recommended reading and online links to learn more about Genetic Genealogy see my internet help webpage: <http://www.kerchner.com/dna-info.htm>

I hope you will find this dictionary helpful to your personal venture into Genetic Genealogy. I welcome any additions, corrections, comments, and suggestions. Forms are provided for that use in Appendix C.

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Emmaus, Pennsylvania
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