

DNA Project Annual Report 2014
Peter F Jeffries MD Administrator

Recommendation to the Board:

Provide information about FTDNA sales

Encourage more participation by male Sheldon descendants

In the past year, we have attracted several new members. We have a total of 45 in the project. We have received notice from FTDNA that there are many matches to some of our members. These matches often are to members in the larger database at FTDNA. However, we have been able to deduce that there is a common ancestor for Isaac and John 13. There are 13 project members who relate to these two progenitors through a male Sheldon line.

In addition, there are matches between descendants of the John 8 and Godfrey progenitors which are promising. There seems to be a common ancestor for these two progenitors. We have fewer participants from these progenitors and few who have chosen 37 or more markers.

We advise all new participants to chose at least 37 marker test which currently charges \$140. The 37 or 67 marker tests provide more accurate information. Occasionally, FTDNA offers a sale which lowers the price. Currently, 27 have chosen 37 markers and 12 have chosen 67 marker tests.

Harder to analyze are the many matches in mitochondrial DNA which show the maternal lines. FTDNA reports many matches to the members who have chosen this analysis.

We do not encourage Sheldon descendants to use other genealogy testing. Research suggests that FTDNA is the best choice for genealogy. A few have asked to transfer their results from other labs. This is possible but involves additional testing at FTDNA and costs about \$100.

Frank Sheldon has agreed to be a coadministrator and is reviewing the information on the FTDNA web site. FTDNA now offers orientation for administrators. It is my hope to retire in the next year or two.