

Blake Newsletter



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Blake one name study at the Guild of one name studies was established originally about three decades ago by Paul Blake in England. When I made the decision to register the Blake name once again for the one name study it was as a group of three with myself being the individual associated with the Guild. Bill Bleak and Barrie Blake have both been studying the Blake family for a number of years and in Barrie's case for many years. Initially in the study the Guild Profile for Blake pointed to Barrie's extensive Blake Heritage website but breach of copyright on his detailed coats of arms for the Blake family have resulted in his making the site no longer available except for the yDNA study results and the Theophilus Blake story both of which will be discussed later in this issue of the Blake Newsletter. I will attempt to keep the newsletter to two pages in order to keep it interesting but not time consuming with regard to reading it. The location for the newsletter will be on the Blake website which I am just in the process of creating. I will, for the moment, only be pointing to this newsletter from the Guild Profile.

Theophilus Blake line in the United States of America proved to be a rather interesting riddle for descendants. Initially he was attached to the New Hampshire Blake family but yDNA studies showed that Theophilus Blake was not of this Norfolk Blake family line. Further research pointed to his having been an immigrant himself and perhaps coming directly to Pennsylvania. The research continues on this line with a group of dedicated researchers and more information will be forthcoming in this newsletter. Also planned, once the research justifies it, is an article to be submitted to The American Genealogist (TAG).

Blake yDNA Study is principally at FT DNA although there is a second grouping on the Ancestry yDNA website. Thus far the Norfolk branch of the Blake family has been clearly defined by the study. The Irish branch of the Blake family appears to belong to R1b haplogroup. The Blake line from which I am descended is I2a2 and found in the Andover Hampshire area from at least the early 1500s to the present. Another I1 grouping has five members and some feel that they trace back to the Somerset Blake family. An interesting Blake Pedigree is located at the Swindon and Wiltshire Record Office which links the Wiltshire/Somerset/Hampshire Blake families. At the moment, my thoughts on this possibility are somewhat vague. The possibility of there being two or more distinct Blake lines in the Andover Hampshire area has arisen. More individuals testing who descend from the Hampshire line would be very interesting. The study now has 48 members with the two latest additions probably belonging to the Irish Blake family although discussion on the yDNA study I leave to Barrie and Bill.

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