



The Bartlett Line

Newsletter of the Bartlett Society

July 2017

THE BARTLETT DNA PROJECT: AN INTERVIEW WITH JIM BARTLETT

By Wendy L. Callahan

I am very pleased to present this interview with Jim Bartlett, administrator of the Bartlett DNA Project at Family Tree DNA.



Jim Bartlett has been a genealogist since 1974. He started the BARTLETT DNA Project at FamilyTreeDNA in 2002. Soon thereafter he began teaching DNA to various genealogy groups in MD, VA, DC, WV, etc. In 2010 Jim took his first autosomal DNA test at FamilyTreeDNA, followed shortly by atDNA tests at 23andMe and AncestryDNA.

Jim has become a huge fan of the Triangulation process and chromosome mapping – the ultimate human puzzle. His site was set up to document information about segments and autosomal DNA. You can learn more at Jim's website, segmentology.org.

1. What can DNA tell us about our ancestors?

There are 3 basic DNA tests, and each tells us something different.

A. Y-DNA is passed from fathers to sons, so it's only on the all-male line. We use this in surname projects, like the BARTLETT Y-DNA Project. Men who have matching Y-DNA from this test are related on their all-male lines. Usually the men will have surnames of the Project – like BARTLETT; and a match means they have a common ancestor on their BARTLETT lines. We usually refer to this as the MRCA (Most Recent Common Ancestor) – obviously all the rest of the ancestors beyond the MRCA will also be the same. With a Y-DNA test you get a list of people (men) who match you; and you get a Haplogroup – a fairly broad group of people with similar DNA, and some estimate of where that DNA originated. The Haplogroup represents a branch of the tree of mankind. Most men in England, and in the American Colonies, are Haplogroup R1b. [Y-DNA is on the Y-chromosome]

B. mtDNA is passed from mothers to children, so it's only on our (men and women) all-female line – from our mothers going back. There generally aren't projects for small groups like the Y-DNA surname project). But a match means there is a common ancestor somewhere on the all-female lines – an MRCA. Like with the Y-DNA, with an mtDNA test you get a list of people who match you; and you get a Haplogroup – a fairly broad group of people with similar DNA, and some estimate of where that DNA originated. Most women in England, and the American Colonies, are Haplogroup H. [mtDNA is a test on the mitochondrial DNA]

C. atDNA is passed from parents to children. It's about 95% of all your DNA, and it could come from virtually any of your ancestors. People who have matching atDNA are related – usually cousins – from almost any part of your ancestry. Your MRCA could be almost any ancestor. Like the other type of DNA tests, with atDNA you get a list of people who match you, arranged by closest relatives first (based on the amount of DNA shared). Haplogroups are not used with atDNA, but you do get an geography report (aka admixture, aka ethnicity) which estimates what percent of your DNA came from which areas.

2. What are the limitations of DNA testing?

Y-DNA matching usually ranges from a dad back 10 or more generations. We generally get matches within a genealogy timeframe. mtDNA matching often goes back 10 to 20 generations, which is usually beyond our genealogy timeframe. atDNA matching is designed to be fairly good out to 5th cousins, but some of our more distant matches can be more than 10 generations back. Y-DNA and mtDNA are like lasers – points straight toward the MRCA. atDNA is very broad, and requires a lot of genealogy work to determine the MRCA.

(Continued on page 5)

BARTLETT SOCIETY WEBSITE & SOCIAL MEDIA

Did you know you can now keep up with us on social media? Visit us on Facebook and Twitter!

The website has also received a makeover. The address is still the same – www.bartlettsociety.org or www.bartlettsociety.com – but the look has changed. We hope you like it!

Like our page on Facebook and follow us on Twitter to receive weekly news about genealogy, Plymouth, and Robert Bartlett.



[facebook.com/The-Society-of-Descendants-of-Robert-Bartlett-294595440988950/](https://www.facebook.com/The-Society-of-Descendants-of-Robert-Bartlett-294595440988950/)



twitter.com/BartlettSociety

THE BARTLETT SOCIETY Society of the Descendants of Robert Bartlett of Plymouth, MA

Robert H. Bartlett, President (508) 209-2948
president@bartlettsociety.org

William A. Bartlett, Vice-President (508) 224-2707

Robert B. Freeland, Secretary/Treasurer
treasurer@bartlettsociety.org (508) 224-3492

James W. Lucas, Historian (508) 224-4923
historian@bartlettsociety.org

G. Steven Brown, Membership/Circulation
membership@bartlettsociety.org (508) 224-4923

Wendy L. Callahan, Newsletter Editor
& Webmaster
editor@bartlettsociety.org (402) 235-3226
webmaster@bartlettsociety.org

Website: www.bartlettsociety.org

Send letters, articles and comments to:

The Bartlett Line
8312 Dawson Road
Plattsmouth, NE 68048
editor@bartlettsociety.org



Society of the Descendants of Robert Bartlett
of Plymouth, Massachusetts
110th Reunion
September 8th, 2017
Plimoth Plantation
137 Warren Avenue
Plymouth, Massachusetts 02360

5:00 P.M. Business Meeting followed by cocktail reception at the Plantation

6:30 P.M. Banquet with the Warren Cousins and Pilgrim John Howland Society

We are very pleased to announce that we are joining the Warren Cousins for our annual business meeting. After that, we are invited to join the Pilgrim John Howland Society for their annual banquet, where we will enjoy a traditional Thanksgiving feast!

Our guest speaker for the banquet will be Hilary Goodnow, Museum Programs Administrator and Intern Coordinator at Plimoth Plantation. She will explore the role of women in 17th century society. In addition to this combined meeting of the Bartlett Society, Warren Cousins and Pilgrim John Howland Society, our meeting will coincide with the Mayflower Society General Congress, which will be September 8 – 12, 2017.

Make checks payable to The Pilgrim John Howland Society.

Please send your reservation and payment to **Pilgrim John Howland Society, P.O. Box 1479, Plymouth, MA 02363**. Checks must be received by **Friday, August 18, 2017**. Please also list your guests.



Checks & reservations to:
Pilgrim John Howland Society
P.O. Box 1479
Plymouth, MA 02363

DEADLINE:
Friday, August 18, 2017

Please list your guests.

Name: _____

Address: _____

City, State ZIP.: _____

Guests: _____

_____ Bartlett Society Members @ \$20 = \$ _____

_____ Children 18 and under (free)

_____ Non-Members @ \$33 = \$ _____

BARTLETT SOCIETY DUES

If you have not already sent in your dues for 2017, please do so. Our dues are modest, but it does cost money to print and distribute *The Bartlett Line* and other communications.

If you are not sure if you are paid through 2017, check your address label. It will tell you your member number, membership type, and year through which dues are paid.

- \$10.00 New member fee
- \$10.00 Annual Dues
- \$18.00 Two years' dues
- \$5.00 Gift membership annual fee
(Please include family member's name
and address)

Also, please consider making a donation to the maintenance of the Bartlett lot, which is owned by the Society. Please specify "Bartlett Lot" on your check, if making a donation separate from your dues.

Thank you very much for your support!

2017 DUES

Name: _____ Member Number: _____

Address: _____

Make checks payable to:	New Member Fee	\$10.00	_____
THE BARTLETT SOCIETY	Annual Dues	\$10.00	_____
Please include your member number on your check and mail to:	Two Years' Dues	\$18.00	_____
	Gift Memberships	\$ 5.00	_____
Robert B. Freeland	Donation for Bartlett Lot		_____
Treasurer, The Bartlett Society	Total Amount Enclosed		_____
PO Box 466			
Manomet, MA 02345-0466			

3. Based on Y-DNA results, Robert Bartlett of Plymouth, MA is not related to any other Bartletts, such as Richard Bartlett of Newbury, MA. How do we know this to be the case?

All the men in the BARTLETT Project who descend from Robert BARTLETT of Plymouth, MA have Haplogroup R1b (and a series of 25, or more, Markers which are mostly all alike – only a few differences from the average). All the men who descend from Richard BARTLETT of Newbury, MA have Haplogroup I1 (and a series of Markers which are mostly all alike). Scientists tell us that the different Haplogroups formed over 10,000 years ago. So we know these two all-male lines could not connect within the past 10,000 years. In the case of two groups having the same broad Haplogroup, we look at the Markers which form a “signature” for each BARTLETT line. Even within the R1b Haplogroup in the BARTLETT Project we can differentiate among the “signatures” of 13 different lines – the Markers differ enough that we can confidently say they do not connect within the past 1,000 years. Think back to 1066 AD... which is well before surnames were in use.

4. Have you had any Bartletts from England test and have they matched any U.S. Bartletts?

At last count we had 18 men who were from England, Canada or had recent ancestry there. Three of them match and are included in some of the BARTLETT lines we have identified, but most of them do not match anyone else. I should note that we also have a number of American BARTLETTs who do not match anyone else in our project.

5. What are the requirements for joining the Bartlett DNA Project?

For the Y-DNA test you need to descend from a BARTLETT, BARTLEY, BARKLEY, BERKLEY, or BARCLIFT. We very much want to get more BARTLETTs from the UK to test, as well as some of the lines we know about in the US which haven't been tested yet. And we encourage anyone who does not know their BARTLETT heritage to test and perhaps match one of our existing lines, or establish the “signature” DNA for a new line. And anyone who descends from a BARTLETT line through any line of descent is invited to join our project through an atDNA test. I encourage everyone who joins to let me know their ancestry back to a BARTLETT line. I keep track of these, and some are posted to show how Matches are related.

6. What can a participant expect to learn from joining a DNA project?

Participants will learn who else matches them, and an email, so they can contact each other. They will also learn their Haplogroup which gives them a lot of information about their deep ancestry.

7. Recently on Jane Wilcox's “Forget-Me-Not” podcast, Blaine Bettinger and Debbie Parker (authors of *Genetic Genealogy in Practice*) said they feel DNA is part of a “reasonably exhaustive” search for one's ancestry. Do you agree with this and, if so, why?

I do agree with Blaine and Debbie – we work together on several areas. DNA is a great, new tool. It provides very powerful information. The genealogy “proof” standards call for a “reasonably exhaustive” search. Of course they meant records and other evidence that genealogists had traditionally used. But DNA provides evidence too. When it applies to a genealogy question, the DNA evidence should be included too.

The Bartlett Line
P.O. Box 616
Manomet, MA 02345-0616



ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

SOCIETY NEWS

The **Bartlett DNA Project** is still interested in adding participants, particularly from the UK. If you are interested, you can learn more at www.familytreedna.com/groups/bartlettdna.

To learn more about the Mayflower General Congress, visit <https://www.themayflowersociety.org/society-news/gsmc-congress-2017>.

If you have Bartlett research to share or a query about your Bartlett ancestry to ask our readers, let us know! You can email editor@bartlettsociety.com and have your article or question appear in *The Bartlett Line*.

We would also love to hear about your notable Bartlett ancestors, how you learned about them, and how they connect to Robert, or if you have additional Bartlett lines.

Finally, we would like to feature your photos of past Bartlett reunions in the newsletter and on the website. Please email your photos to webmaster@bartlettsociety.com.

Your contributions are what keep our *newsletter* and *website* interesting, and help potential members learn more about us!