

# CVGS DNA INTEREST GROUP NOTES – 15 March 2023

## by Randy Seaver

### A) Upcoming CVGS Events

- 1) CVGS Education Chair Meeting – Tuesday, 21 March, 1 p.m. PDT at Bonita-Sunnyside Library in Bonita CA (4375 Bonita Rd). In-person meeting hosted by Susi Pentico. The topic is “Tennessee.” No Zoom coverage.
- 2) CVGS General Meeting – Wednesday, 29 March, 12 noon PDT on Zoom. Hosted by Randy Seaver and Karen Smith. Speaker is Jen Baldwin on “*Mapping Your Way Through Your Family History.*” Please register at <https://chulavistagenealogysociety.wildapricot.org/event-5196682>. Zoom links will be sent to registrants on Sunday and Tuesday before event.

### B) Recent Genetic Genealogy News (since 15 February 2023)

- 1) [Ancestry.com Announces New Features: Storymaker Studio and DNA Compare.](#) DNA Compare. provides the user with a side-by-side look at your matches’ DNA ethnicity results. DNA Compare will make receiving and viewing your DNA ethnicity results with your matches that much more collaborative. Access from your DNA Story page (DNA > DNA Story), then scroll down the “Ethnicity Estimate” screen to “Compare your DNA.” You can select any DNA Match you want to compare your ethnicity with that of up to 10 DNA matches at a time.
- 2) [MyHeritage Introduces cM Explainer™ to Predict Relationships Between DNA Matches With Greater Accuracy.](#) One of the most important benefits of taking a DNA test is the matches that you receive. DNA Matches reveal many relatives you never knew about before, based on shared DNA inherited from common ancestors. However, the relationships to your DNA Matches can be confusing. This results in many users not understanding how they are related to most of their DNA Matches, which holds them back from using the matches to advance their family history research and make new discoveries.

cM Explainer™, an innovative, free new feature on MyHeritage that estimates familial relationships between DNA Matches with high accuracy. This helps overcome the challenge of understanding relationships to DNA Matches. For every DNA Match, cM Explainer™ predicts the possible relationships between the two people and the respective probabilities of each relationship, estimates who their most recent common ancestor(s) could be, and displays a diagram showing their relationship path.

cM Explainer™ is fully integrated into the MyHeritage platform to shed light on any DNA Match found on MyHeritage, and is also available as a free [standalone tool](#) (<https://www.myheritage.com/cm>) to benefit individuals who have tested with other DNA services.

- 3) Many DNA-Related Presentations are on the [RootsTech 2023 On-Demand Website](#). Search for “DNA” and Year = “2023.” There are 44 presentations free to view online relating to DNA topics. Click on a topic and watch the presentation. Check if there is a syllabus article for the talk below the video; if so, you can download it to your computer and read it. You can also

search for a Speaker – e.g., Diahan Southard has 6 presentations in 2023. There are more presentations from 2019 to 2022 also.

4) [SCGS Genetic Genealogy 2023 Conference Registration is Open – 31 March to 2 April 2023](#), Virtual (Free on 2 April) and in-person (\$95 in Burbank, Calif. On 31 March and 1 April)

### **C) Randy's DNA Work (since 15 February 2023)**

1) AncestryDNA now has 42,588 DNA matches for me (up 505) with 4 new ThruLines; added Notes to some of them. MyHeritageDNA now has 11,185 DNA matches for me (up 112). Reviewed the new DNA matches on AncestryDNA, MyHeritageDNA, FamilyTreeDNA and 23andMe every week.

2) [23andMe](#) updated their "[Family Tree](#)" which requires the user to add their ancestors to the tree and then shows 23andMe's estimate of how DNA matches are descended from your ancestors. The user can modify their family tree based on known ancestors of the DNA matches. I found that several DNA matches needed an extra ancestor in my "Family Tree" to be correct.

### **D) Discussion Items:**

1) Sam Seat presented "Who is Millicent: Part I – DNA" in the second hour. Sam will present the second part of his challenge in the Research Group on 12 April. Sam has a DNA match of 50 cM in 5 segments with Sharon, who is Black. Both have tested on AncestryDNA and 23andMe. They have identified their common ancestor, Eli Cherry (1800-1870). Sam's line goes through one of Eli Cherry's sons. Sharon's line goes through Millicent Lowry, who may have been Native-American or an enslaved person before the Civil War. Her ethnicity estimate says that she has about 80% African ancestry. Her husband/partner may have been Eli Cherry Jr. and she may have had 9 children by him. who had another wife at the same time and had 6 children by him. Sam described the DNA analysis process and some of the research process he went through to seek the answers to his research questions. Sam will present the second part of his challenge in the CVGS Research Group on 12 April.

During Sam's presentation, the attendees offered research opportunities for Sam to follow, and he demonstrated many of the DNA analysis tools on AncestryDNA.

2) Randy requested ideas for discussion, demonstration or presentation for future DNA Interest Group meetings. Email him with suggestions at [randy.seaver@gmail.com](mailto:randy.seaver@gmail.com)

### **E) Useful and Interesting DNA Blog Posts (since 15 February 2023)**

- [Small Segments Needed for Distant Ancestors](#) by Jim Bartlett on [Segment-ology](#) .
- [This Spreadsheet Sorts DNA Matches By Branch](#) by DiAnn Iamarino Ohama on [Fortify Your Family Tree](#) .
- [Book Review: I Know Who You Are, by Barbara Rae-Venter](#) by Leah Larkin on [The DNA Geek](#) .
- [What is DNA Compare on Ancestry?](#) by Mercedes on [Who Are You Made Of?](#)
- [How Accurate Are Ancestry DNA Matches?](#) by a writer on [GenealogyBank Blog](#) .
- [Evaluating Ancestry.com's ThruLines](#) by Lori Samuelson on [Genealogy At Heart](#) .

- [AutoKinship at GEDmatch](#) by Patricia Coleman on [Patricia Coleman Genealogy](#) .
- [Relatives at RootsTech – How to Use & Connect with DNA](#) by Roberta Estes on [DNAeXplained - Genetic Genealogy](#)
- [Exploring Your Closest Autosomal DNA Test Matches](#) by Paul Woodbury on [Legacy Tree Genealogists](#) .

## **F) Useful and Interesting DNA YouTube Videos (since 15 February 2023)**

- DNA Family Trees: [MyHeritage Releases cM Explainer! The new standard of genetic genealogy prediction!](#)
- Family History Fanatics: [Visual Phasing with a Twist - Segment Phasing \(2023 UPDATE\)](#)
- Family History Fanatics: [Surprising Reason Why Your DNA Match May Not Share Your Ethnicity Group!](#)
- Your DNA Guide: [How Much DNA Do You Share With a 4th Cousin?](#)
- American Ancestors: [DNA Consultations at American Ancestors](#)
- Genealogy TV: [AncestryDNA\(R\) Results: Tutorial - How to Use Ethnicity Estimates, DNA Cousin Matches, & ThruLines](#)
- Your DNA Guide: [MyHeritage cM Explainer™ | Estimate DNA Relationships](#)
- Your DNA Guide: [3 Benefits of YDNA Family Projects](#)
- Your DNA Guide: [Help! My Ancestors Were Related to Each Other!](#)