

● *Dillman**

Descendants and Ancestors

(*Including other known variations of Dillmann, Stillman, Tillman, Dielman, Dhyllmann, Diehlmann, Dillaman, Tighlman, Dieleman, etc.)

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1. “WELCOME”

Welcome! This is the first newsletter for the Dillman Family Association. Through these newsletters, we plan to unite and excite anyone researching their Dillman family by sharing articles, stories, photos and updates from a number of sources.

It was decided at the past Dillman Mega-Reunion that the best way to communicate with our fellow Dillman researchers and to keep them interested and involved in their research and in the DFA was through a quarterly newsletter (every three months).

We will not pretend to have all of the answers for Dillman genealogy so besides using the information contained in the vast DFA library of printed materials, we invite you to submit your own information for future newsletters. We are also very interested in your

photos of Dillman family members and businesses.

We will feature photos and information from our growing collection of Dillman memorabilia in our library and we are always interested in receiving additional items from you. Items from Dillman businesses such as business cards are especially welcome.

With your membership in the DFA, you will receive the next 7 newsletters. Membership is only \$10.00 per immediate family for the next two years (See details on the last page).



Sign in Illingen, Germany

2.

“The Creation of the DFA in 2002”



The first gathering of the DFA in 2002 came about because a lot of Dillman researchers that were building their family trees but weren't sure where they fit in the Dillman “forest” of names and places! The advent of the Internet made us aware of large numbers of Dillmans from both the past and the present, many of whom were attached to various families but not necessarily to the others.

It was suggested that some type of gathering be held to see if we could sort out the Dillmans we were aware of and attach them to their respective trees. Perhaps, we would also discover and meet some new cousins. However, it was hoped that the gathering wouldn't be a typical “Hot Dog and Beer” or “T-Shirt” type of family reunion. Indianapolis, IN seemed to be a good choice as it was centrally located in the U. S. and was close to a major airport.

The gathering took place during August 2002. With close to 80 in attendance, we felt that this style of gathering could become a regular event.

A business meeting was held to discuss what we hoped to accomplish with this gathering and, after a couple of genealogical presentations and the discovery that not all Dillmans are related to each other, our name, the Dillman Family Association, was chosen with plans to meet two years later.

One of the proposals made in 2002 was to consider the creation of a DNA project to help sort out all of the

Dillmans. Frank Dillman from Notasulga, AL offered to research what was involved in such a project and to contact us after the gathering with his findings. It turned out that the project would be relatively easy for the participants but a job for Frank to create and maintain the online chart (For more information regarding the Dillman DNA Project, please read the next article). In a nutshell, the project has helped the DFA in numerous ways.

Since its inception, the DFA has maintained the schedule of meeting every two years. In 2004, we met near Cincinnati, OH (Northern Kentucky near the Cincinnati Airport, to be exact) as it was centrally located and many Dillman families had lived at some point in parts of Ohio and some still do.

In 2006, we chose Harrisburg, PA because many of the Dillman families lived in areas of Pennsylvania and, again, many still do. That location allowed a number of Dillmans from that region to attend the gathering and to share their family histories with us.

With the two previous Mega-Reunions each having fewer attendees, we felt that we should once again meet in Indianapolis, IN. While the number this year was still around forty, we had a considerable number of new attendees including those who traveled from the Provinces of Ontario and Alberta, Canada

3.

“Dillman DNA Project”

During the first Dillman Mega-Reunion in 2002, many of the attendees felt that a DNA project for all Dillmans would benefit the DFA by sorting and/or attaching the various participants to the groups of Dillmans that we were aware of at that time. Frank Dillman from Alabama learned what was necessary to start such a project and set us up with FTDNA, a DNA testing firm for the purpose of genealogy research. Several of us, who are direct male-line

descendants of a Dillman, sent for the package and used the enclosed plastic brush on the inside of our cheeks and sent in the scraped tissue to be tested.

Once Frank received the DNA markers for the first few participants, he created a chart to show the numbers of DNA markers and had it posted on his personal website. Some of us were trying to guess who was related to who before the results came back. Needless to say, there were many surprises.

Dillman DNA Project Edited Summary 8/08				Dillman DNA Project Edited Summary 8/08				Dillman DNA Project Edited Summary 8/08			
ID	Haplo	Group	Named Ancestor	ID	Haplo	Group	Named Ancestor	ID	Haplo	Group	Named Ancestor
76596	R1b1	1	Peter Ellis (PA)	48630	(G2a)	2	Andrew (IA) - DAH	8235	-	5	Johann Nicolaus (Germany)
5495	(R1b1)	1	George W. (PA)	24701	G2a	2	Hans George (Germany)	12581	-	5	
62359	R1b1	1	George W. (PA) - DAH	25672	G2a	2	Charles				
27114	R1b1	1	John Frederick (PA) DAH	22978	G2a	2	John (KY)	23244	J2	6	Daniel (France)
29650	R1b1	1	Anthony (PA) - DAH	34763	G2a	2	David T. Stillman (Canada)				
10463	R1b1	1	Anthony (PA) - DAH					79636	I1	7	Jacob Dillman (VA & PA)
43562	R1b1	1	Elmer (PA)	5643	(I2b)	3	(Germany)				
55728	R1b1	1	Joseph (PA)	55841	I2b	3	Michael Dhyllmann (Germany)	70658	I2b	8	Mathew(Mathias) (MD)
71612	R1b1	1	George Washington (PA)	6678	I2b	3	Michael Dhyllmann (Germany)				
				23043	I2b	3	Michael Dhyllmann (Germany)	83073	(I1)	9	Peter Dillman (Russia)
				E1904	I2b	3	Michael Dhyllmann (Germany)				
5505	G2a	2	Hans George(Germany)					99806	(R1b1b2)	10	Henry
14431	G2a	2	Andrew (PA)					N55025	(R1b1b2)	10	Alpha O. Tilghman
2733	(G2a)	2	George Stillman (Canada)	6903	R1b1	4	Samuel				
7076	G2a	2	George Stillman (Canada)	18765	R1b1	4	Samuel				
5633	G2a	2	Andrew (PA)	52186	R1b1	4	John Tillman (LA)				
6628	G2a	2	Hans George Dillmann, Sr. Germany- DAH	N37557	R1b1	4	Jacob Tillman (Sweden)				
29019	G2a	2	John Stillman (Canada)- DAH	99128	R1b1	4	Christof Georg Diellman(Sweden)				

Dillman Genealogical DNA Project

Frank Dillman, Administrator

The results posted on the chart showed each participant’s assigned number (to protect their privacy) followed by the DNA marker numbers, the earliest known ancestor of each

participant and, if known, their Haplogroup (a lineage cluster, often identified by that group’s migration dating back thousands of years).

As more results came in, a background color was assigned to each group of related participants. A few of us knew each other's assigned numbers and found that many of our earlier guesses were way off! Even more surprising was the fact that FTDNA alerted us to a participant in their overall study that matched one of our groups, but, his last name was Stillman! Once that was discovered, discussions were had, paperwork was combed through thoroughly and, in the end, we learned that Georg Adam Dillmann, who was presumed killed in the Revolutionary War, was actually taken prisoner by the British Army, taken to Nova Scotia, Canada, and was mustered into the British Army. When he was mustered out, his last name somehow became Stillman and, except for a couple of exceptions, it remained Stillman! His discovery also revealed for some DFA members that they were descended from Hans Georg Dillmann and his wife, Margaretha Murr, who emigrated to North America from Neureut, Baden, Germany to Philadelphia, PA on the ship "Brothers."

Besides Dillman and Stillman, other surnames in our project include Tillman, Tilghman, Dillmann, Diellman and Dhyllmann. Most of these ancestors originally lived in Germany/Prussia where the letters "D" and "T" were often interchangeable.

Because of the DNA project, we have learned that, so far, there are 10 groups of Dillman families that are not related to each other unless you go back tens of thousands of years. If you are researching your family genealogy and haven't yet discovered which group you might connect to, please consider joining the Dillman DNA project where you might connect with one of the current groups or you just might provide us with yet another new group for this ever-growing and ever-changing, very exciting study.

You can learn more about the project and view the [complete](#) current chart at www.dillmanfamilyassociation.org or by contacting our DDNA project administrator at frank@frankdillman.com.

**The Dillman
Mega-Reunion - August 2008
Indianapolis, IN**



**Making the World
a little smaller**



Frank and Minnie Walker Dillman and family – circa 1900

4. “Upcoming Family Reunions”

Several groups of Dillmans hold reunions in different locations each year. In this part of the newsletter, those reunions will be posted with times and locations updated as they become available to us. If you would like your Dillman reunion listed here, please send us the appropriate information. All dates, locations and times are subject to change.

2008 – Saturday, October 11, 11:00 AM – 3:00 PM Central time
Descendants of Frank & Minnie Walker Dillman

Tamms, IL

2009 – Saturday, June 27, around 11:00 AM-3:00 PM Eastern Time
Descendants of Andrew & Elizabeth Bruner Dillman

Near Bloomington, IN

Saturday, July 11, around 10:00 AM – 7:00 PM
Descendants of Rev. C. K. & Bertha Eckleberger Dillman
(Samuel & Sarah Hook Dillman)

Bloomington, IL

August 1-3
Descendants of Peter Dillman abt. 1789 (Martin & Agatha Dillman)
Prince George, British Columbia, Canada

Saturday, October 10, 11:00 AM – 3:00 PM Central time
Descendants of Frank & Minnie Walker Dillman

Tamms, IL

2010- DILLMAN MEGA-REUNION #5 Date and location to be determined

5.

“Recap of the Dillman Mega-Reunion #4”

(based on thoughts by Don Dillman and Chuck Dillman)

The general consensus is that each of our biennial mega-reunions is better than the previous! Part of this greater enjoyment is due to how knowledgeable we have all become in the various aspects of our own families, the families of the other groups, and the way the Dillman DNA project identified the different groups as well as connecting us to cousins that we weren't aware of. We are able to assist the newcomers quickly and share with them what we know about their particular group.

This year, Don Dillman felt that it was time to create a document stating the goals and purposes of our organization. We discussed and revised the first and second drafts and came up with a set of guidelines that everyone could agree on and was approved unanimously by those present in our DFA meeting. This will soon be posted at the DFA webpage dillmanfamilyassociation.org.

Another discussion considered the practicality of the group filing for non-profit status but it was deemed unnecessary for our relatively small group and limited expenses. The DFA is supported solely by membership dues, reunion registration fees and donations for CDs and other information produced by the DFA.

It was felt that we could increase awareness of the DFA and improve communications of our activities and benefits through the publication of a newsletter. We decided that a quarterly newsletter would work and Phil Dillman (me) was willing to get the project rolling.

Also at the business meeting, we elected officers for the next two years.

They include Don Dillman - President (dillman@turbonet.com), Andrew Stillman - Vice-President, Chris Dillman - Secretary, Earl Dillman - Treasurer, and Chuck Dillman continues on the DFA council as immediate past President.

At this time, the location for the 2010 Mega-Reunion is yet to be decided. We had several suggested sites and had a vote for each one. It was narrowed down to two locations for further investigation with the final decision to be announced in a future newsletter.

As for the facility, the folks at the Wingate-Airport in Indianapolis could not have been nicer or more helpful. They kept the coffee and water filled. There were plenty of snacks provided by some of our members. The books and binders were organized and well-labeled, scanning and copying was done (in part, thanks to a new friend of Frank Dillman and, in part, by Dan Dillman). The ever-growing Dillman memorabilia collection was a hit. We had presentations by Earl Dillman, Raygena Garringer, Don Dillman, Frank Dillman, Andrew Stillman, Betty Warren, Joye Dillman, and Earl Dillman. Chuck Dillman led the proceedings for the first day, Robert Dillman on the second day then Chuck handed over the reins to Don. Door prizes, individual photos and the group photo helped to round out the event. As usual, the entire event was videotaped by Phil Dillman.

Saturday afternoon was kept open for those wanting to visit local “Dillman” destinations. Dillman businesses, cemeteries, and the town of Dillman, IN were offered as possibilities, although, some of our attendees had long distances

to travel to their homes and took advantage of the early finish time. Dan Dillman volunteered to be the collection point for all submitted material for the upcoming CD set. All materials should

be in his hands no later than **October 31st, 2008**. Sooner would be better.

Dan Dillman: 830 14th Av. S., St. Cloud, MN 56301, ddillman@cloudnet.com.

6. “2009 Mini Reunion in Germany”

By Andrew Stillman

Following up on a suggestion from the 2008 Mega Reunion, the planning has begun for a trip to Germany to visit the locations of origin of several of our group's Dillman ancestors. The proposed dates are Sept 30, 2009 - Oct. 13, 2009 and will include visits to Bad Schwalbach (Hesse, Germany), Lautzenhausen (Rhineland-Pfalz, Germany), Lembach (Alsace, France), Wurmberg, Neureut, Pforzheim (Baden-Wurtemberg, Germany). We aim to meet as many local Dillman's as possible on this trip to collect family stories, genealogies and potentially find European participants for the DNA project. Time permitting, we may be able to take in some sights such as Koblenz or Heidelberg.

Each participant is responsible for their airfare to and from Frankfurt and the journey will begin with an overnight stay in Frankfurt on Oct. 1st. Local ground transportation, accommodations, and itinerary would be arranged and prices for these are to be determined. As this time of year is a busy, arrangements will need to be finalized not later than June 2009. At this point, an **expression of interest only** is required to assist in determining adequate lodging for the group.

To assist in this, here are recent advance purchase return airfares (taxes, etc, included) to Frankfurt (taken from [Expedia](#)):

Calgary - \$1105
Charleston, SC - \$765
Chicago - \$870
Cincinnati - \$809
Halifax - \$1041
New York - \$634
Pittsburgh - \$730
Richmond, VA - \$692
Seattle, WA - \$857

Interested parties should advise Andrew Stillman by the end of September 2008 at: andrew.stillman@unb.ca



7.

“Family Story Corner”
“Family History Interest...by Default!”
By Phil Dillman

The genealogy bug was always lurking around my family. In fact, we seemed to have a colony of genealogy bugs on both sides of the family! Eventually, I was bitten by the bug in a big way! However, it was slow in catching up to me.

Family gatherings were always a part of life in my youth. In fact, there are pictures of me as a child at numerous family get-togethers when I was still too young to read. My parents, on the other hand, were always soaking up the stories told by the older relatives and visiting all of the family members was simply a part of life.

When I was in junior high school, I had very little interest in any of my classes. This was especially true in my U. S. History class in which one of the assignments was to write out your family tree and tell what you could about the people in the tree. I knew very little about my family history. I told my folks about the assignment and my mother was excited about it. My mother started writing down everything she could remember about the various ancestors and began asking for information from all of the relatives she could think of. Eventually, it reached the point where finding information farther back than anyone in the family could remember would require a trip to downtown Chicago to the Newberry Library, a goldmine of genealogical information.

My mother, father, sister and I traveled to the city and went inside the library. Unfortunately, to enter the library, you had to be 16 years old and up. Both my sister and I were under the

age of 16 so, while my parents were inside researching our family tree for my project, my sister and I had to entertain ourselves out in the lobby of the place! I don't remember what grade I received for my parents' project.

Years later, the bug had bitten me. I had an interest in the family which was strengthened by those constant family gatherings. My dad's sister was also interested in genealogy and shared what she knew with me.

In 1998, I purchased a computer and found the Family Tree Maker software by Broderbund. I gathered up all of the notes that my parents had written over the years from their conversations with all of those older family members and started entering the information into the computer. Once I exhausted that resource, I discovered several websites such as Genforum and discovered a boatload of information about all sorts of Dillmans. ***Imagine! All of those relatives!*** Eventually, I learned that they weren't all related to me but they all had the desire to learn more about their families. Through a number of e-mails, I suggested that maybe some type of gathering could be held to see if we could sort out the Dillmans we were aware of and attach them to their respective trees... ***Wait a minute! I've just come full circle!***

The bottom line is that I'm hooked on genealogy and am not likely to give it up. Ever! It's too much fun and a great challenge. It's a never-ending puzzle with still more pieces to be discovered and added. I hope you feel the same way about your research.

8. **“READER FEEDBACK”**

Please let us know your reactions to this first issue of the DFA newsletter. Are there any particular features you would like to see in future issues of the newsletter?

“FUTURE ARTICLES”

We have listed a few topics for future articles but we would like to include any Dillman-related stories and/or photos that you would like to submit for upcoming newsletters. We will try to include your submitted stories/photos as quickly as possible. *Phil Dillman, 18351 Cowing Ct., Homewood, IL 60430, pd62pepsi@sbcglobal.net*

The Origins of the Various “Dillman” Spellings

Lineage/Hereditary Societies

Hans Georg Dillmann! Where did you go?!

Cemetery hopping: The Reasons Why

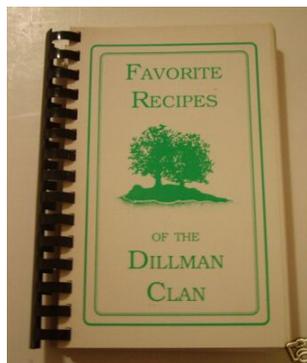
Understanding DNA in genealogical research

Record every “story”, it might be a clue!

The DFA newsletter, “Dillman Descendants and Ancestors,” is available by e-mail to all paid members of the Dillman Family Association. Membership is available to any individual with interest in the activities of the Dillman Family Association for \$10.00, which covers the two year period between mega-reunions (August 2008-August 2010)

Membership in the DFA entitles individuals to receive an e-mail copy of each newsletter, and information on other DFA activities. Membership dues should be mailed to Earl Dillman, Treasurer, at 14 Fellview Dr., Pittsford, N.Y. 14534-4014, ed37dillman@gmail.com.

Members may request receiving copies of the newsletter by postal mail instead of e-mail. Donations of \$1.00 per issue to cover the cost of printing and mailing such copies will be greatly appreciated.



Book seen on Ebay