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MRCA numbers not very consistant

I was just going through the known links to the people on my tree and it doesn't seem like the MRCA number is very helpful. Not sure if this is because the size of the tests is not the same between people, but Norm is related at my great great great grandfather and is a 1 while Patty is related at my great grandfather and is a 10. Mardine is related at the Great Great Grandfather and is a 6. It makes me wonder how far we need to look for the common ancestor for Ron/Elaine (2)

Comments



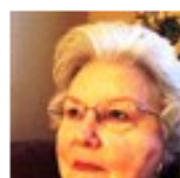
Mardine Campbell Sep 18, 10

This is what has been confusing me since we know we share a common ancestor, William Pruitt, who is 4 generations for you and 3 generations for Byron and me. Weird.



James Holzrichter Sep 18, 10

How confident are you on the information that we have for Solomon Pruiett sr ? It appears that he had 2 sons, Abraham (1798 - 1849) and Ephraim (1787-1858) who could possibly be Francis Marion's father (pure speculation based on dates, i don't have any proof.) Have you looked into them Elaine? I'm still not 100% confident that the birth date on Solomon is correct (or his revolutionary war service.) I know he received the pension but there were no records of his service and the proof given was testimony by others.



Elaine Pruett(Ron)DF13 Sep 19, 10

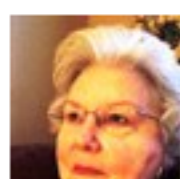
I continue to research, but have not yet bridged the gap between Francis Marion and Solomon. I plan to go back to AL in the next few weeks to dig around more in the area where our Pruetts were. Right now, I am leaning toward the possibility that FMP may be a son of Solomon, Jr. and his first wife (the b/d fits) and who may have been separated from his parents at an early age and raised by someone else. Another possibility is that FMP may be a son of one of Solomon, Sr.'s older children. One consistency in the info on FMP is that his father was born in SC, his mother in GA. Census records tell us he lived in Lincoln Co. TN in 1870, and in Cleburne Co. AL in 1880, where it is apparent the family remained.

I, too, have questions about the MRCA projections and what may affect them. Since I have no information on FMP's ancestors, I use Mardine's tree as a guide. Ron's MRCA to Norman and James is projected as 2, but is 7 to Byron. Ron, Norman, James and Byron all match on 31 markers out of the ones tested. If Norman, Byron, and James are all equal distance from Solomon (g-g-g-grandsons) as Mardine's tree indicates, then why would there be a difference in their MRCA numbers as they relate to Ron?

I have always thought the number 2 was questionable since I know our Pruetts that far back. Would the fact that Ron was tested on Family Tree and the others were tested on Ancestry make a difference in the numbers? It is clear from looking at all their results online that the marker locations tested are not 100% the same between Ron and the others, and the number of markers also differ.

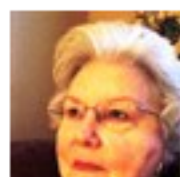
I recently posed these questions to John, who suggested I check out which markers are different. Like John, I believe it is important to have the same markers tested in order to get an acceptable comparison. Obviously the more markers tested, the better. I will try to look further into this situation.

This DNA website has been a great help, even though we have not made the complete connection. It has given me a likely family to research. That's progress! Meanwhile, I am open to suggestions.
Elaine



Elaine Pruett(Ron)DF13 Sep 20, 10

Looking further at the numbers on the DNA tests for Solomon's group, I notice on DYS-444, Byron has a 12, while Ron, Norman and James have a 13. This might explain the difference in the MRCA projection's I was questioning. Just a guess since I have no knowledge of how to interpret DNA. - Elaine



Elaine Pruett(Ron)DF13 Sep 20, 10

Interesting to note that Ron was tested by Family Tree at 67 DYS markers (segments) about three years ago, but only 34 of the DYS markers match those used by Ancestry at the 46 level.

On the spreadsheet comparison provided by Ancestry, Norman, Byron and James (Ancestry) had 43 DYS segments, while Ron (FTDNA) had only 34 in common with them. IF Ron had the other 9 results, it would probably change the MRCA.

This fact seems to support the theory that for optimum benefit, it is better to be tested by the same company and at the same level as those with whom you compare results. Food for thought for those planning to test.
Elaine



Mardine Campbell Sep 20, 10

I read on the DNA Newbie list that Family Tree & Ancestry test different markers so you should think about where you wanted to post your results before deciding what test to take. That's why we did this one.



John W.Pruett-VA DF13 Sep 21, 10

There is no question that the people who are tested by Ancestry and have the 46 marker test have MRCA levels that make more sense. Ancestry only uses 34 of the 67 markers in the FT test. so these people seem to be more distant when they might not be. I am not working for Ancestry.com but if a person wanted to be tested and have their DNA go into our DNA database it would be better to be tested by Ancestry with the 46 marker test, I hope that people who have been tested before by Ancestry with the 25 and 33 marker tests will upgrade to the 46. Ancestry will upgrade your test for \$50 without you having to be retested.



James Holzrichter

Wrote this on Sep 18, 10

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