

# THE MAZE

Middlebrooks Family Association, Inc.

274 Wilder Drive, Forsyth, GA 31029

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September - October 2008 Edition

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## **Notice of the 2009 MFA meeting:**

**DATES:** August 13 - 15, 2009

**PLACE:** Hope, Arkansas

**MOTEL:** Holiday Inn Express

IH - 30 at N. Hervey St.

Hope, AR 71801

870-722-6262

**Group Rates of \$89.10, plus tax - available until July 13, 2009**

**TO DO:** Southwest Arkansas Regional Archives

Historic Washington State Park

Hempstead County Library, in Hope

Cemetery Exploration in Hope, Hempstead, and Nevada Counties

**MEETING:** BancorpSouth Farmhouse, 4 miles south of motel

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MFA DNA by Bob Middlebrooks

In the search for ancestors, we often find ourselves wondering and guessing as we attempt to make connections and fill in the blanks. Our Middlebrooks Family Association has started on a path to assist in this interesting and rewarding quest through the use of DNA. We are working with Y-DNA tests using a well-established laboratory called FamilyTree DNA that has the largest database of potential matches. The results are then processed by a well-respected company called WorldFamilies.net that posts the correlated results on their web site. Y-DNA, as many of you probably know, has the advantage of DNA markers being passed from father to son and on to the next son. When an acceptable number of markers match, this means that there is a calculated relationship between the individuals who submitted tests. This surname tracking meshes well with genealogy research and, in some cases, rejects relationship assumptions.

The testing process is simple. A test kit is mailed and the recipient swabs the inside of his cheek then sends the swab to the lab. The lab does the rest and results are reported to the individual. There is one basic requirement for a test to be meaningful and that is having another test, or tests, to compare it with. That is where our MFA DNA project comes in. We have an established relationship with the lab and the analysts. When joining our MFA DNA project by ordering a related test, you not only are able to see how your DNA matches with other Middlebrooks individuals, but you also receive a discount when you order.

This brings us to two invitations. Interested in finding out how your male DNA matches with others in the Middlebrooks clan? Join the MFA DNA project. You can email me for more information – [mid293@earthlink.net](mailto:mid293@earthlink.net). I can even order the test for you, with the invoice arriving along with the test kit. The other invitation is to join the Middlebrooks Family Association and gain access to the informative newsletter that is issued quarterly. Of course you will want to attend the MFA August 2009 meeting where there are presentations, field trip tours, and discussions about the Middlebrooks family ancestors.

We are repeating the list of association officers, team leaders, and project managers in this issue of the Maze so you will have the email address of the person you might like to contact. You might have information you would like to share about one of the teams or maybe an ancestor who is not on a team list and would fall into the “Unknown Ancestor” category.

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#### **A FEW FACTS ABOUT DNA**

DNA stands for deoxyribonucleic acid.

DNA is found in all living things.

DNA is the “blueprint” of life.

Our entire DNA sequence is called a “genome.”

DNA is a double helix that is similar to a twisted ladder with rungs called bases.

The bases are Adenine (A), Thymine (T), Cytosine (C), and Guanine (G).

Our DNA code is made up of about thirty billion A, T, C, and Gs on each side of the DNA strand.

It takes about eight hours for one of your cells to completely copy its DNA.

If the total DNA in one person were laid in a straight line, it would stretch to the sun and back over 600 times (it's 93 million miles from here to the sun).

Base A always pairs with T, while C always pairs with G.

Over 99% of our DNA sequence is the same as that of other humans.

Changes in the DNA sequence are called mutations and allow us to differentiate between others.

DNA tests can help you understand your family history (genetic genealogy).

You could fit one million threads of DNA across the period at the end of this sentence.

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#### **ON-GOING PROJECTS**

***Middlebrook Family Register Update Project*** If you would like to ensure your ancestors are included in the 2009 Update, please contact your ancestor team leader soon.

***Middlebrooks Cemetery Project***

The project goal is to preserve and catalog cemetery information of our ancestors for future generations. If you would like to submit any cemetery information or have questions, please contact J. A. Middlebrooks, the project leader, at [middle3jam@hotmail.com](mailto:middle3jam@hotmail.com).

***Middlebrooks DNA Project***

The project's goal is to identify the connection of the various Middlebrooks lines. If you would like to participate in our family DNA project, contact Bob Middlebrooks at [mid293@earthlink.net](mailto:mid293@earthlink.net).

***Middlebrooks Military Project***

The project goal is to catalog and honor our kinsmen who have served in our country's colonial, American, and foreign wars for inclusion in the 2009 Update. To contribute data or ask questions, contact Kerry Middlebrooks at [mbrooks@gic.net](mailto:mbrooks@gic.net).

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## MIDDLEBROOK/S FAMILY ASSOCIATION, INC. 2007-2009 OFFICERS

PRESIDENT – Leonard Middlebrooks  
VICE PRESIDENT – Neal Middlebrook  
SECRETARY/TREASURER – Joyce Arnold

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### ANCESTOR TEAM LEADERS

**Isaac b. 1753** – Leonard Middlebrooks [gambol@juno.com](mailto:gambol@juno.com) and  
Jean Shroyer [TXJean@aol.com](mailto:TXJean@aol.com)  
**John b. 1755** – Bob Middlebrooks [mid293@earthlink.net](mailto:mid293@earthlink.net)  
**Micajah b. 1758** – Sharon Bartlett [sharonbartlett@aol.com](mailto:sharonbartlett@aol.com) and  
Mary Baker [mmbaker65@hotmail.com](mailto:mmbaker65@hotmail.com)  
**Sims b. 1762** – Neal Middlebrook [susan.middlebrook1@verizon.net](mailto:susan.middlebrook1@verizon.net)  
**Thomas b. 1763** – Jarrelyn Lang [thelangs@hotmail.com](mailto:thelangs@hotmail.com)  
**Robert b. 1766** – J.A. Middlebrooks [middle3jam@hotmail.com](mailto:middle3jam@hotmail.com)  
**Joseph b. 1610** – Leonard Middlebrooks [gambol@juno.com](mailto:gambol@juno.com)  
**Joseph b. 1770** - David Clark [cdave@austin.rr.com](mailto:cdave@austin.rr.com)  
**Virginia Middlebrookes** – Lana Shelton [love4crochet@yahoo.com](mailto:love4crochet@yahoo.com) and  
Neal Middlebrook [susan.middlebrook1@verizon.net](mailto:susan.middlebrook1@verizon.net)  
**Unknown Ancestor** - Leonard Middlebrooks [gambol@juno.com](mailto:gambol@juno.com)

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### BOARD of DIRECTORS

Joyce Arnold, 2008-09 [joycenjim@sbcglobal.net](mailto:joycenjim@sbcglobal.net)  
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Jean Shroyer, 2009-10 [TXJean@aol.com](mailto:TXJean@aol.com)

### ON-GOING PROJECTS

Cemetery..... J.A. Middlebrooks  
DNA..... Bob Middlebrooks and Dave Clark  
MFA Website..... Dave Clark and Leonard Middlebrooks  
Family Repository..... Jean Shroyer  
Military..... Kerry Middlebrooks [mbrooks@gci.net](mailto:mbrooks@gci.net)  
*Register Update*..... Leonard Middlebrooks

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The Middlebrooks Family Association, Inc. was founded in 2001 for the purpose of assembling and preserving genealogical and historical material for future generations.