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# Chesson Family Newsletter

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Quarterly

September 2009

Volume 1, Issue 1

## Special points of interest:

Introduction  
Family History  
Genealogy  
DNA implications  
Family Reunion

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## Introduction by Keisha Moore

Welcome to what I hope is just the first of many Chesson-family newsletters to come. This will hopefully serve as a way for each of us to learn more about our family history as new information becomes available, as well as a means to contact and learn about distant family members.

First, a little history about how this pursuit began. The year was 2002, and I recall watching a television program in which a family was able to trace their ancestral line to England, as far back as the 1600's. There appeared to be a huge paper trail and slew of portraits and photographs from which to acquire information. Although it was exciting to watch all of the facts unfurl, watching this program left me with a feeling of disappointment, as I knew that my knowledge of my family was so limited, and unlikely to be improved by access to a similar paper trail. Shortly thereafter, while searching for a CD rack and photo editing

software, I saw a sales display with Family Tree Maker Quick & Easy. The description on the back of the tree indicated that the software enclosed would allow access to the Social



Keisha (Chesson) Moore

Security Index, documents appraised by the Church of Latter Day Saints, and a free trial for Ancestry.com. I purchased the software package and with what little I knew about my nuclear family, names and locations provided by my parents, I was able to locate some government documents, and subsequently, additional names and links to our family tree. This list just continued to grow whenever a new document with additional names was found. I, like many of you, have lost many close family members who were interested in learning of our roots and whatever became of the various branches of our family. I only wish that I had the time and drive to do this sooner. Hopefully, with everyone's participation, we can put many of these curiosities to rest.

## What We Know of Charles & Emma (thus far)

We are all descendants of Charles Chesson (b.1884) and Emma Mae Skinner (b. 1890). Current information indicates that a young Charles Chesson lived in Lees Mill Township, Washington County, NC. Per census records, Charles and

Emma raised their 7 children (Charles, Leander, Mae Lizzie, Mae Emma, Lawrence, Nathaniel, Blanche) in Chowan County, NC (both Edenton and Yeopim Townships).

Family report and lack of NC

state documents, indicate that Charles Chesson separated from Emma and left the state some time after 1930. Emma remained in Edenton, NC until her death in 1973. Blanche (Chesson) Overton is the only living child of Charles and Emma.

# Chesson Family DNA

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## ☀ Fact

Y-DNA, which is passed down from a father to son, shows that all people living today shared a common male ancestor who lived in Africa over 100,000 years ago. He is often termed the "Y-Chromosomal Adam".

-Excerpt from genebase.com

## ☀ Discovery

Per analysis of the y-DNA from our Chesson family line, our genetic profile is most consistent with that of tested U.S. Hispanic and Portuguese males.

## How Y-DNA Works

### Our Chesson Paternal Line Haplogroup:

**Haplogroup R1b (M343+)** arose from 10 key detectable genetic events over the past 150,000 years.

**Time:** approx 10,000 years ago

**Place:** Western Europe

**Facts:** The founder of the R1b lineage lived over 35,000 years ago prior to the end of the last Ice Age in southern Europe and Iberia. Members of Haplogroup R1b are believed to be descendants of Cro-Magnon people, the first modern humans to enter Europe. Cro-Magnons lived from about 35,000 to 10,000 years ago in the Upper Paleolithic period of the Pleistocene.

Cro-Magnons were anatomically modern, differing from their modern day descendants in Europe by their slightly more robust physiology. Cro-Magnons buried their dead intentionally, and likely had a knowledge of ritual, by burying their dead with necklaces and tools. Surviving Cro-Magnon artifacts include huts, cave paintings, carvings and antler-tipped spears. It is believed that the Cro-Magnon came into contact with the

Neanderthals, who inhabited Europe 230,000 to 29,000 years ago and is thought to have caused the extinction of the Neanderthals. There is also recent fossil evidence that the Cro-Magnon people interbred with the Neanderthals.

When the ice sheets retracted at the end of the ice age, descendants of the R1b lineage migrated throughout western Europe. Today, Haplogroup R1b is found predominantly in western Europe, including England, Ireland, and parts of Spain and Portugal. It is especially concentrated in the west of Ireland where it can approach 100% of the population.

This haplogroup contains the well known Atlantic Modal STR Haplotype (AMH). AMH is the most frequently occurring haplotype amongst human males with an Atlantic European ancestry. It is also the haplotype of Niall of the Nine Hostages, an Irish King in the Dark Ages who is the common ancestor of many people of Irish patrilineal descent.

-Excerpt from genebase.com

## More About Haplogroup R1b



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# Family Forum

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## ☀ Fact

A **family reunion** is an occasion when many members of an extended family get together. Sometimes reunions are held regularly, for example on the same date of every year. A typical family reunion will assemble the survivors of grandparents, great-grandparents and up for a meal, some recreation and discussion. The older attendees are generally parents, siblings or first cousins while the youngest could be second, third or fourth cousins. — Wikipedia

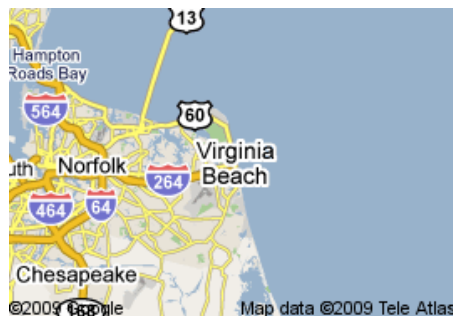
## ☀ Discovery

Edenton achieved international notoriety for the infamous Little Rascals child-abuse case

The 2007 independent feature film, Dog Days of Summer starring Will Patton was shot entirely on location in historic Edenton.

## Family Reunion Update

The tribe has spoken. After the most recent poll, the most popular venue for our family reunion is a hotel and/or banquet hall. The selected dates are 8/6/10—8/8/10. I am currently awaiting additional information from the event planner at Virginia Beach Sunset Bay Mansion. I am using [hotelplanner.com](http://hotelplanner.com), which will allow me to send those of you with internet access a link to our family group page, so that you can make your hotel arrangements. For all others, I will send you written notice with the name and numbers of our contact.



## Tips for Saving for Family Reunion:

- Garage/Yard Sale
- Sell unwanted items on Ebay
- Recycle cans and bottles for refund
- Save your pocket change
- Start a swear jar
- Don't pay your taxes (Just kidding)



## Websites of Interest

- To complete family reunion survey:

<http://edwards-moore-family.net/machform/machform/view.php?id=3>

- To view abridged family tree:

[http://www.edwards-moore-family.net/testbrown/ft\\_project/chesson/index.htm](http://www.edwards-moore-family.net/testbrown/ft_project/chesson/index.htm)

- Learn about the past homes of our ancestors:

<http://www.visitedenton.com/>

<http://www.gowildnc.org/>

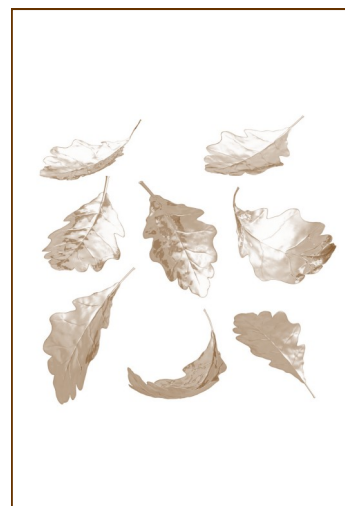
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4610 Trevino Drive  
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Re: Chesson Family Reunion/Newsletter  
(540) 366-5629

Chesson Family Member  
On Some Street  
In Somewhere, USA

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## Upcoming Events

1. Contributions—Those of you who have e-mail, will receive an invitation to view and contribute data, stories and pictures to our online family tree on [ancestry.com](http://ancestry.com). Please contribute what you can. All scanned documents, pictures and stories will be made available for inclusion in a bound copy of our family tree through this website. Others of you can save your documents and photos for the actual reunion. There will be family on site to scan your documents and then return them to you.
2. Family Logo Contest—If you have creative or artistic skill, please consider creating a logo for our family reunion t-shirts. Send me your submissions and family voting will be completed in time for the next newsletter. The winner will receive a free t-shirt and bragging rights.
3. Family Directory—The next newsletter will also include a family directory and matching of family members with those who share common interests. There are a few slow pokes, out there, so we're still compiling.
4. Newsletter Contributions—If anyone is interested in contributing announcements, stories, or family recipes for the next edition of our newsletter, please forward them to my return address.
5. Roll Call—Do you remember checking that box on your questionnaire that indicated that you would be interested in assisting with planning of our family reunion? Yeah, that one. I may be collecting on your generous offer during this next quarter!



*Have a wonderful Fall! I hope to get to know each of you over this coming year.  
-Keisha*