



EDGAR EVENTS

**Researching and sharing Edgar family
history No. 87, April 2014**



DNA Update



by James Edgar (james@jamesedgar.ca)

We're waiting for **Stephen Edgar** and **Antony Edgar**'s kits to return to the lab. Ditto for **Stewart Edgar**.

Not much else to report on the DNA front, so we'll write about other things. There is mention below of a test we ordered for **Jon Edgar**... read on.

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How could I?? What was I thinking??

There's a brand-new baby who should have been featured front and centre. We can put it down to forgetfulness, old age, just an April Fool's joke... Whatever! I blew it big time!! It's never too late to correct errors, so here's my apology to Steve & Co. Sorry!

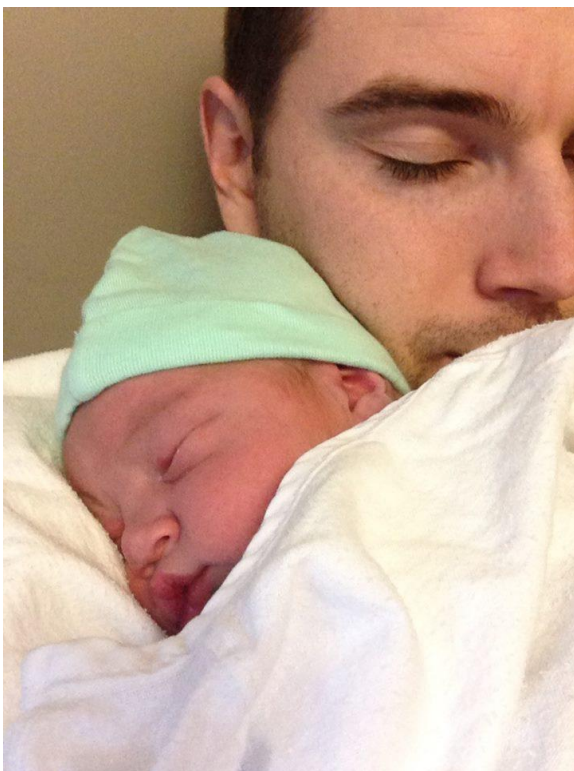
And, to make things right, this is SteveTO's posting to Facebook on March 2...

### **Added a Grandson, John Maxwell Edgar**

#### [March 1](#)

John Maxwell Edgar. 8 pounds 15 and 21 1/2 inches long. Max will be the head of the House of Edgar after my Uncle Dave, myself and his dad Ryan Edgar. The next generation Edgar! You can do business with a man named Max. Be afraid. Be very afraid. LOL!





*Max and Ryan (who looks worn out!)*



*John Maxwell Edgar, wrapped in the Maxwell Tartan (see the note on page 7 below)*

Now, back to regular programming...

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Email Exchanges:

Hi James:

Thanks for sending all the info on David Edgar's DNA testing and notification of the monthly Edgar Events newsletter. Hope you and the family have been doing well.

I sent an e-mail to Jacob, my nephew, yesterday asking him if he had ever sent in a swab (like my cousin, David Edgar, had) for DNA testing. He said, "I never received a response from James so I did not end up getting my DNA tested yet." What does Jacob need to do next?

Beth (Edgar) Barreras

[Ed: And I wrote...]

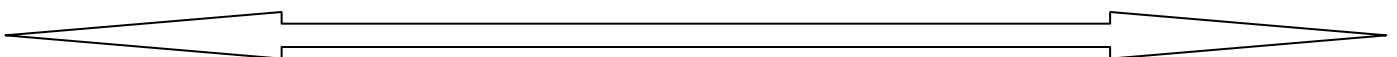
Hi Beth,

We are all well, thank you very much.

Jacob and David should have the same DNA, so it's only necessary to test one in the family. There are some circumstances where a mutation occurs between births of siblings, but those are seldom and quite remote. So, Jacob's father and David should have the same DNA, or very, very close to the same. No need to test twice for the same result.

Thanks for keeping in touch!

James



From Jacob's Uncle and Beth's cousin, David Edgar in Willets, California

James;

Since I am not far removed DNA-wise from "Bill the Pilot," I thought others might be interested in my family's aviation history. My first cousin James Bruce Edgar flew Saber jets for the USAF in the 1950s and went on to retire as a flight officer for American Airlines and is now in his 80s. My brother's oldest boy Steven Craig Edgar flew the F117A Nighthawk in the first Iraq war and was part of the first bombing runs to bomb Baghdad. He retired after 30 some years and is now a flight officer for United airlines. My grandson Cody Shane Pallivicini is in his 12th year with the USAF and is a flight engineer on the Galaxy C5 transports out of Travis AFB here in California. His wife is also in the AF and works in the medical field.

I am attaching a few pictures of my nephew and grandson but do not have any pictures of my cousin. His father, Lloyd McElhinney Edgar, also graduated from Annapolis Naval Academy in the early 1900s, but then went back to the family farm in Iowa and was a farmer all his life.

Regards

David Edgar



Lloyd McElhinney Edgar
at Annapolis

Beale hosting F-117

A color photograph showing a woman in a patterned dress sitting in a wheelchair and a man in a military flight suit kneeling next to her. They are on an airfield with a large, dark, V-shaped stealth fighter (F-117) in the background. Another person in military uniform stands to the left. The sky is clear and blue.

A-D photo by Dave Niels

Major Steve Edgar and his mother, Helen Crivello of Williams, sit in front of the F-117 fighter at Beale Air Force Base.

Stealthy F-117A no match for Beale eyes

By PRESTON GOBEL
A-D Staff Writer

While the F-117A Stealth Fighter may not be as big a mystery as it once was, its arrival at Beale AFB yesterday caused quite a stir. The mysterious fighter may be designed to appear undetected by enemy radar but it didn't stand a chance against the hordes of media, school children and military personnel gathered on base to meet it.

Fingers pointed and heads craned as the black V-shaped aircraft flew over head. No one could miss it.

The radar-shy night fighter is just one of numerous attractions in hand to celebrate Beale's Guest Day, featuring the Thunderbirds, performing today at 3:30 p.m. Admission to the day-long event is free. Gates open at 9 a.m.

The arrival of the F-117 not only marks the jet's first Northern California appearance but also the first time the Air Force's Lockheed-built U-2 spy plane, SR-71 and Stealth Fighter, can be seen together in one place.

But while the union of the three black warplanes was the center of attention, a more personal reunion of sorts was shaping up for one of the pilots of the Stealth Fighter.

Maj. Steve Edgar, who had spent some time in Colusa as he was growing up, invited his mother, Helen L. Crivello of Williams, to visit and see the plane. But, when he arrived at the main gate to pick her up, he found he was getting a little more than he had bargained for.

No less than 16 members of Edgar's family, from the greater Sacramento area, arrived to show their support.

"I just picked up the phone and said let's meet at the front gate and they were all there," Edgar said. "It's really neat to have the whole family here."

Crivello said she had never seen the Stealth Fighter in person before, saying it was quite impressive.

"That's beautiful," Crivello said of the fighter. "My god it looks ominous."

She said she has been following the progress of the mystery plane very closely and was very pleased with her son's involvement in the project.

"I'm so proud of that kid," she said.

Due to military regulations, Edgar was not able to talk about the fighter in depth but did say he never expected to be involved with such an important project.

"I was rather pleased when I got into the program," he said.

The individuals who fly the \$42 million fighters are hand-picked for the prestigious assignment, said Capt. Jim Mastny, another Stealth pilot.

"I've never worked anywhere

See Page A-13, BEALE



Steven Craig Edgar



David, Cody, and Winnie

James Edgar - My name is **Dorland Elmo Edgar, Jr.** and I live in Downers Grove, Illinois, and have for the past 30+ years. I was born and raised in Harrison County, Missouri. For the past couple of years I have been trying to extend my knowledge of my Edgar family history, but still have many unanswered questions. I ran across and downloaded the file containing "Edgar Events Researching and sharing Edgar family history No. 32, September 2009". I obtained your email address therein. Hopefully this message will reach you. If so, and you would be willing to help me answer some questions about my family history, please let me know and I will share with you what information I have, going back to 1840's. I am stuck at that point in time. I have downloaded copies of the "Edgar of Wedderlie" and the "Scottish House of Edgar", but I have no known way of bridging the gap between these or even if the old documents even refer to the same family line.

Thanks very much. I appreciate your help.

Regards - Dorland Edgar

[Ed: We have exchanged some emails and Dorland promises to get back to me when he has a detailed tree.]

From February

Hi James,

I saw your note that the approved tartan for Clan Edgar is that of Clan Maxwell.

My cousin and I are having a bit of a discussion as to which tartan our Edgar Clan should use.

We are descended from the Keithock (Scotland) Edgars. One of the Keithock children immigrated to New Jersey and settled eventually in the Metuchen, NJ, area where he and his son started the Edgar Clay Company. My great grandfather was Iow Reynolds Edgar, his son was David Raymond Edgar.

My family has a beautiful old desk that has always been referred to as the "Ross" desk. So my family has been using the Ross Clan tartan. We have a very old photo of a Charles Ross - somehow they are intertwined with the Metuchen Edgars.

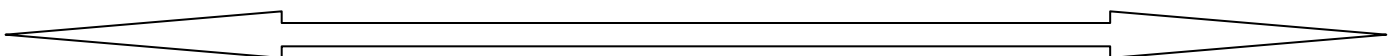
Our cousin feels that we should be using the Dunbar tartan. He knows the reason - I cannot explain. Something about proximity of Scotland areas.

Can you throw any light on this?

Charles S. Edgar
Iow Reynolds Edgar
David Raymond Edgar
Richard Ross Edgar
me

Regards,
Susan Edgar Cullen

[Ed: We did converse some more, and the upshot is we're testing **Susan's** brother **Jon Edgar**. We'll know more in a few weeks. **Jon** is related to **David** in North Carolina — remember **David's** wife **Robin** tried to get interest going in an Edgar reunion a few months back? As for the tartan, you should read SteveUK's treatise on that subject in [Edgar Events #36](#).]



David and Erin Edgar's new son Connor.

David is the son of **Michael** of Sarnia, Ontario. **Michael's** father is **William**, and his brother is **Eric Edgar**—the one we discovered in Halifax, and who we visited there last year! **Connor** is **Eric's** great-grandnephew.



And, from a different David Edgar (lives in Guildford, UK)

Hello James,

If the badges are still available, I would like to buy three to go with the christening presents for our grandson triplets in Bulgaria. Please let me know how much in pounds sterling and I shall send you a cheque.

Best regards to yourself and Steve and keep up the good work. I look forward to the last day of each month!

David.

James

I am also a Edgar family descent. My great grandfather was a Edgar. We are from South Africa and are seriously in search of more info about them.

We are actually in need to find out if my grandmother were born in the UK or somewhere else (Well we want to see if we can get a ancestry visa), and to get to know our far gone family descents. My mother told us that her mother was apparently born in the UK, but we can not find any documents of her or her parents. We are looking now for family members of him to get more info.

His names where Joseph Thomas Edgar and where married to a woman, Hester Baredina (maiden name unknown)

His birthdate: 4/4/1876 Died: 22/7/1965. I know they had a few children, one was Hermina Johanna and apparently there was a William and a James.

As we were told my great grandfather came as a young man to South Africa with his parents and then decided to stay, met a girl here and got married.

It is not possible for us to get info from the archives in the UK, Ireland etc. Perhaps you can fill in some more. we will appreciate it.

Attached is a photo of the graves we found in South Africa near a town called Zeerust in the North West province.

This is my great grandfather and mother's graves.

Martie



The search goes on...



by Steve Edgar (steven-edgar@sky.com)

Before the industrial revolution in the United Kingdom, most of our ancestors lived their lives in one location. They may have moved about within a tight area, but basically they stayed put. The majority would have been classed or identified as “labourers.”



The population pre-1800 was mainly connected with agricultural and rural activities, working the land for someone called a “farmer.” This, as a title, described the landowner, he may or may not worked the land himself, but certainly he would have employed labourers to do some of the work.

Obviously, this work was seasonal, and during some periods of the year, the labourers may well have been out of work and would travel, not too far, to a market to hire themselves out.

As well as labourers, there would have been tradesmen, coopers, blacksmiths, cobblers, chair makers, ferriers, *etc.*, who would have been apprenticed at 14 years to learn their trade and then later set up in business to ply a trade on their own. Generally, they stayed within a few miles of where they were born.

Life in a rural community would have been monotonous; do the same job year in, year out, meet the same people year in, year out, and all for a meagre wage. The wages were low, but access to food was easy, so it gave a moderate standard of living.

To those of a more adventurous disposition, the towns offered better wages and a bit more excitement, certainly to a tradesman, and many more potential customers. As towns grew, people moved to them, and the town grew a bit more.

This is where understanding your ancestor’s location is very important. I make a point of looking at contemporary maps to see what’s in the area, nearest town, nearest city, *etc.*

There was another alternative, which was emigration. The United States and Canada were the first recipients of such emigration; people arrived there for various reasons, by choice or by force (such as punishment for crimes). Once someone had emigrated, they faced a difficult life in the migration point. With the continuous flow of new migrants into an area, competition for jobs and land would have been fierce. Time obviously to move on; “Move West, Young Man” was the mantra and the countries were opened up. This is obviously a simplification of the process, but as a generalization, it fits.



This makes tracing our ancestors difficult, not knowing where they went, when they went, and who with poses problems, but knowing their trade and siblings' names can help. The Irish Naming Pattern chart I published last month is usually accurate and can help. DNA helps—a DNA test on a suspected family proves or disproves a connection and advances your research hugely.

In the UK, pre-1800, transport was a problem; roads were often a few feet deep in mud over the winter, 10 miles per day would be a good distance to travel. Summer was better, but still fraught with difficulty, highwaymen and turnpikes could be costly. Coastal traffic was the preferred method of transport for goods and people. However, in the late 1700s and early 1800s, the canals opened the interior and allowed far easier cost-efficient movement. A horse and cart might do 10 miles per day with a half-ton load, a canal boat could transport 30 miles per day and move 20 tons with one horse. From this time onwards, people started to move about more; after 1830 when the railways were established, movement was much easier, and after the 1841 census, people were much easier to trace. Earlier records are from Parish Records, if they can be found.



There was, however, one type of person who is nigh on impossible to trace. He was not content with life on the farm, towns were not exciting enough, migration didn't appeal, but the services! Aha! Here was the potential for real adventure, good wages, and free travel!

If you joined the Army or the Navy, all you had to do was not die in battle, not die due to the ineptness of the surgeon or doctor, survive long journeys by land and sea, and manage to overcome strange diseases in foreign lands

surrounded by belligerent natives and/or enemy troops—all this for adventure and to obtain a nice pension. Simple!

My relatives Juanita and Janine have been on the trail of two of their ancestors who were in the army:

John Eagar

1789 Born Parish of Aughnamullen, Ballybay, Co Monaghan

1807 Oct Enlisted 25th Regt of Foot (Dublin, Ireland)

1818 Feb Discharged (chronic dysentery) to out-pensioner

1819 Dec Re-enlisted in 8th Royal Regt of Veterans (Newry, Ireland)

1821 Jan Marriage to Jane Mitchell in Aberdeen, Scotland

1821 Mar Discharged from 8th Reg

1821 Dec Re-enlisted in 2nd Royal Regt of Veterans (Newry, Ireland)

1826 Apr 24 Discharged from 2nd—Resid Ballybay, Co Monaghan

1826 Dec 10 Baptism of dau Annabella, Presby church, Ballybay, Ireland

1828-29 Birth of son Oliver—Ballybay, Ireland

1829 Residence—Ballybay, Ireland

1831 May 29 Baptism of dau Jessie, Presby Church, Aberdeen, Scotland

1833 Death before 27th Sept—but where—Ireland, Scotland, Canada?

Wife—Jane Mitchell Eagar, widow, remarried Donald Brown 27 Sep 1833 in Saint Gabriel Presbyterian Church, Montréal, Québec, Canada

His brother, Oliver Edgar

1795 Feb 8 Born Parish of Ballibay, Ballybay, Co Monaghan

1810 Mar 19 Enlisted 3rd Regt of Foot, 2nd Battalion “Bufs”

1824 Oct 6 Died in Sydney, New South Wales, Australia

1824 Oct 7 Funeral and burial St Philips Church, Sydney, NSW

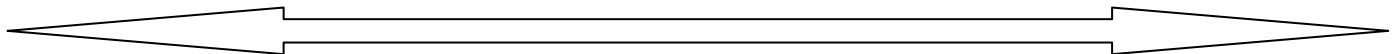
******I have to give Juanita and Janine all the kudos for the above information, I have played no part at all!******

John was born in Monaghan, enlisted in Dublin, served in the Caribbean, re-enlisted in Newry, married in Aberdeen, re-enlisted in Newry, discharged in Monaghan, moved to Aberdeen, and probably died in Canada—all of this international travel was by sailing boat over many weeks!

I wonder when John was in Newry. Did he meet his cousin Joseph in 1819 and 1821 at the family rope works? After a separation of over 100 years, would they have been aware of any relationship?

To summarize the above, if you can't find the family you are looking for, ask yourself these questions

- 1) Is it down to poor records?
- 2) Did they die?
- 3) Am I looking in the wrong place
- 4) Am I looking at the correct spelling?



Pewter Badges



Looking for a solid pewter Edgar Crest? At \$18, plus shipping, they're a great way to say “I love my family!” (Pewter buttons also available.) Email me james@jamesedgar.ca

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## John James Edgar

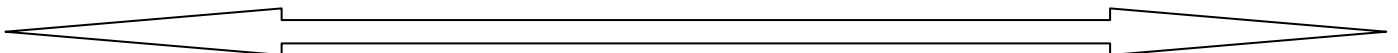
That splendid looking chap sitting at the front right is my Dad's older brother, Uncle **John**.



He won medals for bravery in The Great War, saving his wounded mates in the heat of battle.



And here **John Edgar** is in a portrait about the same time, probably before he went overseas.



## Dr. Joanne Edgar

I subscribe to Scientific American magazine, and in the February issue was a story about chickens (and their treatment). **Dr. Joanne Edgar** co-wrote one of the papers cited in the article. She's at the School of Clinical Veterinary Science, University of Bristol. So, I wrote her an email, asking if she was interested in exploring her ancestry. Turns out that she was.

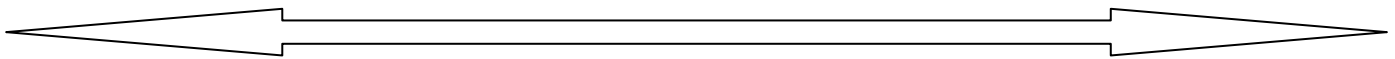
You can view her biography at

<http://www.bristol.ac.uk/vetscience/people/joanne-l-edgar/index.html>



After a few more email exchanges, we discovered that we already had most of her family's ancestral tree on our computer! We had previously tested **Ron Edgar** of Lincolnshire, and, through him and others, we have her tree going back to the early 1600s in Scotland.

How cool is that?!?



In early March, I reached out to **Aaron Edgar** to see if he was interested in searching out his roots. Aaron teaches drum—you can read all about him at [www.aaronedgardrum.com/about/](http://www.aaronedgardrum.com/about/)  
No answer from him yet...

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And, finally, I received a lovely surprise in the mail—a music CD from **Mark Edgar** of Vacaville, California. He's a drummer and vocalist in the group Delta Brew. Check out their site (and sounds) at www.facebook.com/DeltaBrewMusic

My initial response to the Delta Brew sound is “Holy S**T! Do these guys ever sound great!!”

If you like good music and want a nice surprise, get their disk “Under Cover.”