

**Addendum #1 - August, 2019 – John Ellis (b. 1772)**

At the beginning of 2009, the Neely YDNA project which was started in 2006, received the Y37 results of Benjamin Franklin Ellis, a descendant of John Ellis (b. 1772). At that time, only a fraction of Neelys had joined our YDNA project compared to today. One of those who did was Oric Neely that Charles Neely (“A History of the Neely’s”) identified as a descendant of John and Elizabeth Neely (“old John”) of Botetourt, VA and who Benjamin matched 35/37. As more people joined over the years and our different genetic groups became apparent, this Botetourt group as well as descendants of several other Neely Ulster immigrants or their children who settled in SC by the early 1750’s were identified as genetic Group 2 which is related to Group 1 as discussed elsewhere in this book. John Edward Ellis joined the Neely project soon after Benjamin in 2009 with Y111 and then James Edward Ellis joined in 2014, also with a Y111 test, which also matched new Neely participants determined to belong to the Botetourt Neelys.

Nancy Ellis is the historian for this Ellis family and has worked tirelessly over the last several years to pin down the elusive Neely ancestor of John Ellis (b. 1772).

Nancy had previously established the following lines of descent for the three descendants of John Ellis (b. 1772) who joined the Neely YDNA project. Their names are shown in bold, but their kit ID’s have been covered for privacy reasons since some persons who are not part of the Neely YDNA project are likely to read “Neely Origins”.

- ..... 3 John Ellis b: 1772, Virginia; d: 1844, Tennessee
- ..... 4 William Neale Ellis b: 1808, Tennessee; d: 1852, Tennessee
- ..... 5 **James Knox Polk Ellis** b: 1840, Tennessee d: 1906, Missouri
- ..... 6 James Franklin Ellis b: 1865, Missouri; d: 1941, Missouri
- ..... 7 Kerry Lee Ellis b: 1888, Missouri; d: 1955, Missouri
- ..... 8 James Edward Ellis b: 1916, Missouri; d: 2008, Texas
- ..... 9 **James Edward Ellis** b: 1942, Texas
- ..... 6 **George Finis Ellis** b: 1866, Missouri; d: 1932, Missouri
- ..... 7 John Issac Ellis b: 1906, Missouri; d: 1986, Missouri
- ..... 8 **John Edward Ellis** b: 1935, Missouri
- ..... 7 Benjamin Franklin Ellis b: 1917, Missouri; d: 2007, Missouri
- ..... 8 **Benjamin Franklin Ellis**

Nancy’s years of Ellis research had also documented that John Ellis was born in Botetourt Co, VA in 1772. He had three brothers; William b. 1777, Peter b. 1778 and Abraham b. 1780. His mother was Sarah Jane who married John Ellis Sr. who died in the early 1780’s. She then married a man named Samuel Rhodes when John Ellis was approximately 10 years old and the family relocated to Hawkins Co, TN, probably with a land grant for Samuel Rhodes’ service in the Revolutionary War.

John Ellis remained in Hawkins Co, TN and died with a will in 1844. Peter and Abraham Ellis moved to MO in the very early 1800's. There is no information on William Ellis.

In December 2018, we received Y111 results from James Michael (Mike) Neely who we verified was a direct descendant of James Neely Sr. of Botetourt, VA through his **son James Jr.** Mike's Y111 results became the closest match we had to the Ellis members of the Neely YDNA project at that time. However, the FTDNA TiP calculation between Mike and John Edward Ellis showed only a 44% probability that they shared a MRCA in the last 8 generations. On the other hand, the TiP calculation between Mike and James Ellis showed an 88% probability in 8 generations. We later learned this difference had resulted because James Ellis and John Edward Ellis each descended from a different son of James Knox Polk Ellis (b. 1840) as shown in the lines of descent and three additional mutations had occurred in the line of descendancy between son George Finis Ellis and John Edward Ellis.

In July 2019 we received the Y111 results of a new project member, Clarence Gene Neely. We were able to confirm that Gene was descended from James Neely Sr. of Botetourt through his **son John (1748-1818)**. The Y111 results showed James Ellis vs. Clarence Gene, James Michael, and John Edward Ellis as his 3 closest matches with genetic distances of 3 and respective TiP results of 95%, 88% and 88% probability of a MRCA in 8 generations. However, the most important observation was that Stephen Neely immediately recognized that marker DYS460 had mutated from 11 to 12 for the 3 Ellis participants and for Gene (460=11->12), but not for Mike. Since both Mike and Gene are descended from James Sr. through two of his sons as seen on the next page, this mutation pattern essentially proves that John Neely (1748-1818) was the father of John Ellis (b. 1772). As Stephen succinctly explained:

- Mike doesn't have the mutation, so it could not have been present in James Sr.
- Gene has the mutation, so it must have occurred first in a descendant of James Sr (along Gene's line of descent) .
- James Ellis has the mutation, so one of his ancestors must have been a descendant of James Sr.

John (1748-1818), son of James Sr. of Botetourt, married Susannah probably in 1770 and they had a son, John H. Neely on 13 March, 1771. Since John Ellis was born in 1772, John Neely and Sarah Jane must have had a relation soon after John's first son was born. Nancy has pointed out the age gap of 5 years between the birth of John Ellis (b. 1772) and his next brother, William (b. 1777). She is not sure when John Ellis' mother, Sarah Jane, married John Ellis Sr. but it seems probable she was unmarried when John Ellis was born and she later married John Ellis Sr. in spite of already having a young son. It would be nice to have YDNA from a descendant of one of John Ellis' (b. 1772) brothers who would be expected to have non Neely YDNA if this situation is as it appears. Nancy is working on that. John Ellis' Neely ancestor could not have been identified without YDNA, providing another example of 'genetic genealogy' benefits.

Here are the lines of descent from James Sr. of Botetourt to each of the 5 project members discussed above which were created by Stephen, co- administrator of the Neely YDNA project.

- 1 **James Neely** b: 1715, Ireland; d: 1784, Virginia
- ..... 2 James Neely b: 1741, Virginia; d: 1821, Tennessee
- ..... 3 Charles Rufus Neely b: 1787, Virginia; d: 1821, Alabama
- ..... 4 Rufus Polk Neely b: 1808, Tennessee; d: 1901, Tennessee
- ..... 5 James Jackson Neely b: 1847, Tennessee; d: 1926, Tennessee
- ..... 6 Rufus Polk Neely b: 1878, Tennessee; d: 1927, Texas
- ..... 7 James Saufley Neely b: 1914, Texas; d: 1985, Texas
- ..... 8 James Charles Neely b: 1941, Texas; d: 2006, Texas
- ..... 9 **James Michael Neely** b: 1967, Texas
- ..... 2 **John Neely** b: 1748, Virginia; d: 1818, Tennessee
- ..... 3 James Neely b: 1783, Virginia; d: 1833, Tennessee
- ..... 4 James A. Neely b: 1822, Tennessee; d: 1881, Tennessee
- ..... 5 John Robert Neely b: 1751, Tennessee; d: 1934, Tennessee
- ..... 6 James Ogilvie Neely b: 1884, Tennessee; d: 1959, Tennessee
- ..... 7 James Ogilvie Neely b: 1915, Tennessee; d: 1975, Tennessee
- ..... 8 **Clarence Gene Neely** b: 1945, Tennessee
- ..... 3 John Ellis b: 1772, Virginia; d: 1844, Tennessee
- ..... 4 William Neale Ellis b: 1808, Tennessee; d: 1852, Tennessee
- ..... 5 **James Knox Polk Ellis** b: 1840, Tennessee d: 1906, Missouri
- ..... 6 James Franklin Ellis b: 1865, Missouri; d: 1941, Missouri
- ..... 7 Kerry Lee Ellis b: 1888, Missouri; d: 1955, Missouri
- ..... 8 James Edward Ellis b: 1916, Missouri; d: 2008, Texas
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For those who want to learn more details about this Ellis family who are genetic Neelys, here is Nancy Ellis' email and cell phone information: [nlellis@sbcglobal.net](mailto:nlellis@sbcglobal.net), 314-795-5953. Nancy has written an excellent history of the Ellis family, which will be published in the near future.