



## Message from the President

Hello cousins,  
I hope this message finds you all are doing well now that we are into a new year. The 2016 AKDHA Reunion was very nice again this past year; congratulations to all involved in its success.



A short recap of the 2016 AKDHA reunion:

Friday night:

- home cooked meal and music by Workers in Harvest.

Saturday morning:

- visited wonderful collections of antiques at Killian's Hardware and cars at Andy's Auto Sports.

Saturday afternoon:

- genealogy workshop with discussions on Killian heritage in America & Germany;
- James Green III & Cheryl Killian explained how DNA & genealogy work together;
- AKDHA 2016 Scholarship Awards were presented;
- followed by the AKDHA Business Meeting, new officers were elected.

Saturday evening:

- many went to J and S Cafeteria in Hickory for supper (dinner).

Sunday morning:

- choice of church services either Old St. Paul's or Mt. Zion Lutheran.

Sunday afternoon:

- catered benefit dinner (lunch) meal in the Mt. Zion Lutheran Church Family Life Center by the SAM's club;
- special guest speaker Mike Baxter, college history professor and local archaeologist, familiar with our ancestor, NC pioneer Andreas Killian and had recently visited Germany

The 2017 AKDHA Reunion planning will be getting started real soon. Please contact us and give us your input to ensure we have another successful reunion. Your input is very important to us and is your opportunity to add/delete from the reunion agenda (contact information is below).

It is also very appropriate to take a minute to commend and bring recognition to the hard working volunteers that make our association a success throughout the

year. When I share our website, newsletters, books and information to others, they are amazed of the extensive information and continued hard work in order that others may know more about their Killian roots. DNA is a big conversation piece now-a-days and again many are amazed and sort of over whelmed with the extensive work done in validating genealogy through DNA. Thank you all association officers and volunteers for the fantastic work you all do! A big thank you to our newsletter editor and webmaster in keeping us all informed.

We all thank you for those that are able to give monetarily toward the association and the reunion expenses. In the past, our past president, past vice-president and past program director, Dan Sipe was able to secure monies for our AKDHA Scholarship Award. We no longer receive money from his source. If you are able and would like to give toward this award, please state on the 'for' line of your check, so your donation can be put directly toward the AKDHA Scholarship Award.

As with the reunion planning, we would welcome any suggestion to enhance our communications to you or any other part of the association. I know all of you are looking forward to the plans for this year's reunion. Please get the additional word out to your family, friends and acquaintances that all are welcome to come, enjoy getting to know their Killian cousins and enjoy the programs.

Looking forward to hearing from you and/or seeing you,

Eddie

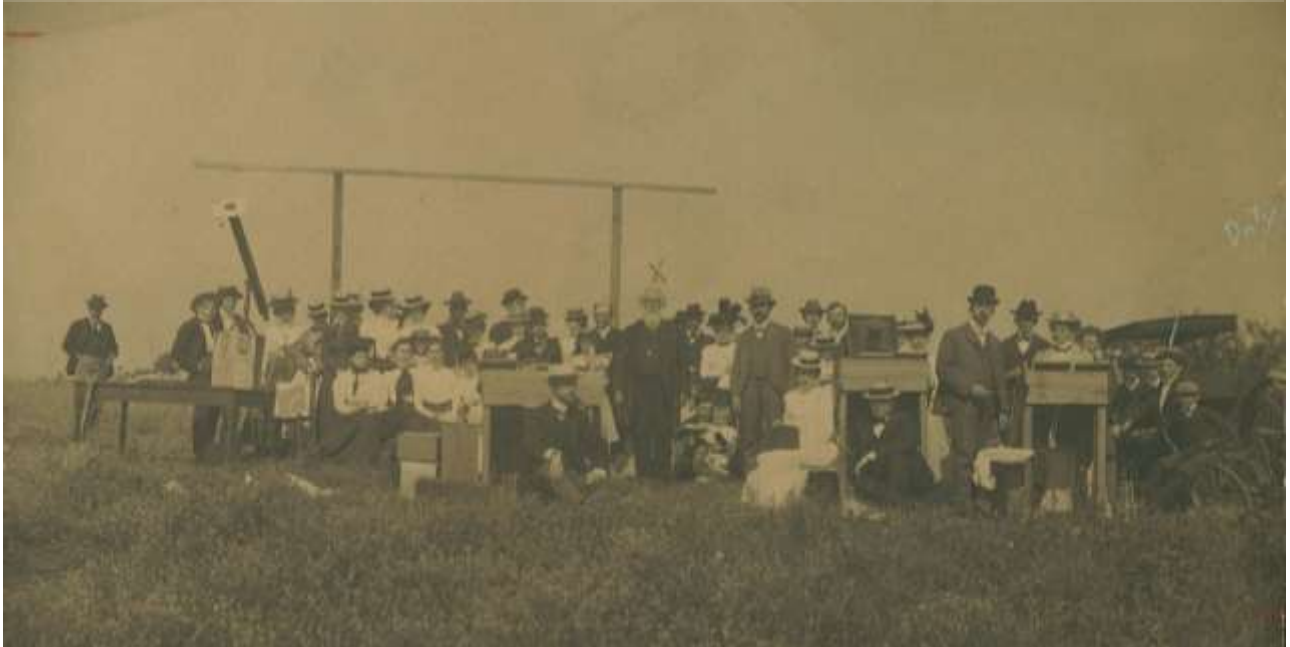
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## Total Eclipse Reminder

By Eddie Killian

### Total Eclipse of the Sun, May 28, 1900, Winnsboro, SC



Eclipse reminder, there will be another total eclipse on August 21, 2017, that will be once again visible across much of the United States.

A solar eclipse occurs, when the moon passes between earth and the sun, thereby totally or partly obscuring the image of the sun for a viewer on earth. A total solar eclipse occurs when the Moon's apparent diameter is larger than the sun's, blocking all direct sunlight, turning day into darkness. Totality occurs in a narrow path across earth's surface, with the partial eclipse visible over a surrounding region thousands of miles wide.

You can click on the following link: <https://www.eclipseglasses.com/pages/the-2017-eclipse-what-you-need-to-know> or type the link in your web browser to find out more information and the narrow total eclipse path across the United States.

You also can look for upcoming plans from organizations, schools, professionals and academics from colleges and universities in your area.

# Impact or Confirmation of Your DNA & Your Genealogical Roots

By Eddie Killian

For years, (since 1999) I had been involved with the AKDHA (formerly just called the Andreas Killian Family Association) and enjoyed the extensive information that the association volunteers had made available for their Killian cousins, databases, reunions, etc. I was very excited about my Killian heritage and was very involved.

The association decided to do a DNA project to develop a base line of Andreas Killian's sons by way of obtaining male descendants Y-DNA from each son. Once this was completed, we were blessed with finding a Killian cousin Bill McCreight from Winnsboro, South Carolina that was married and living in Germany. He was doing Andreas Killian research and was able to locate Walter Killian who agreed to do his Y-DNA. Walter Killian's Y-DNA came back matching our Y-DNA base line from the descendants of the sons of Andreas Killian. Great news! This news confirmed oral and written history of Andreas Killian coming from the south part area of Germany. Along with this new information, Bill McCreight was able to validate his research, find five more generations in Germany and write three wonderful new books.

Now, the reason I am writing this article is to inform my cousins about the impact of doing your DNA. I want to encourage you to do your DNA. You might have to brace yourself for the findings (results) you receive back from your test. My Y-DNA came back not matching the Andreas Killian Y-DNA base line. Boy was I set back for awhile, but received much encouragement from my Killian cousins. I am still here.....okay, were do I go from here. I started looking back over my genealogy research much more carefully. This time instead of looking at the printable version of the census on Ancestry.com, I looked at the actual images. 1940 okay, 1930 okay, 1920 okay, 1910 saw a small line above the word son, started increasing the size of the display and soon the small line became a bracket with the word adopted. Well as you can guess, this is why my Y-DNA was not matching. This was a big surprise to my uncles, aunt and my father, all whom never were aware that their father had been adopted. My grandfather Claude Tresvan had been adopted by John Alexander and Mary Ann Melton. Thus my adopted lineage to Andreas Killian goes like this: Eddie (me), Bob (father), Claude (grandfather), John, Henry Van, John Wesley, Jacob, John, Andreas.

DNA can confirm and/or authenticate your oral, written or researched genealogy records.