

Boyer ID Numbering System

A new numbering system was introduced as part of the work on the seventh edition of "American Boyers". This was implemented so that everyone has a different number, and the relationship between individuals can be determined by comparing their numbers. This system is a variation of the Henry System that is used by many genealogy histories. The big differences are the first person of a family line is designated with two letters and after 9 children the rest are designated with letters beginning with "A". Each person's number will consist of two letters, which indicate the chapter, followed by a series of numbers (and letters). Preceding each number will be a digit indicating the generation number.

Example: 7- BX11C964

The 7 indicates that this person is in the seventh generation since the earliest Boyer ancestor recorded in this chapter. The first two letters, BX, show that this person belongs to Chapter 50. Chapters have been assigned a two letter identification code with Chapter 1 being AA and so forth.

The earliest known ancestor or immigrant in Chapter 50 would be 1- BX, and his children, the second generation, are:

2- BX1
2- BX2
2- BX3
2- BX4
2- BX5
etc.

The children of 2- BX1 are in the third generation:

3- BX11
3- BX12
3- BX13
3- BX14
3- BX15
etc.

The children of 2- BX5 are in the third generation:

3- BX51
3- BX52
3- BX53
3- BX54
3- BX55
etc.

Thus, 7- BX11C964 is the grandchild of 5- BX11C9, and a great-great-grandchild of 3- BX11. Conversely, all descendants of 3- BX11 will have numbers starting with BX11. By comparing numbers, we can determine that 3- BX11 and 3- BX57 are first cousins since their parents, 2- BX1 and 2- BX5, were brothers. In the same manner we can determine that 7- BX11C964 and 8- BX1542324 are fourth cousins once removed. Where there are more than 9 children in a family, the tenth child is numbered A, 11th is B, etc., so that the twelfth child of 3- BX11 is 4- BX11C.

The revising historian initiated this numbering system in the seventh edition in order to identify and index the thousands of Boyers in our history, many of whom possess the same name. Your knowledge of it should increase the usefulness of this seventh edition in your research.