

Coffey Cousins Clearing House

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1981

COFFEY COUSINS CLEARINGHOUSE
c/o L. N. Coffey,
240 Exeter Ave,
Indianapolis, Ind, 46222'

ORIGIN OF "THE WEARIN OF THE GREEN"

It is reported that **St. Patrick** used the shamrock as a symbol of the Trinity, He has been called the "Apostle of Ireland" and lived about 389-461 A.D.

WOULD SOME OF YOU WITH ARTISTIC ABILITY LIKE TO DESIGN A NEW HEADING FOR THE JUNE ISSUE? WE WOULD HAPPILY USE IT.

Your Cousin, Len

DEAR COUSIN

Response to the introductory **COFFEY/COFFEY** newsletter has been **terrific**, Letters with **family information** and subscriptions have **come** in every day since the first **mailing**. Awkward wording about the cost of the letter has caused confusion for some cousins. The price for 1981 is \$4.00. There will be four regular issues, plus the introductory that 38 of you have already received **free**. On that issue a generous printer gave a special price then overran and gave us the over run. New subscribers will find the introductory copy enclosed with the first regular issue (while they last) For those cousins interested in numbers, it will require about 30 subscriptions to **break even** on costs of mailing and printing. With **40-50** we can send gratuitous copies to the research library or historical society of your choice. More than 50 would allow a price reduction or more frequent issue. **Numbers** aside: the original idea was to get COFFEY cousins to share their data. And, it's **working**. The expense of travel to Oregon, Texas, Iowa, Kentucky is formidable. With the COFFEY COUSIN'S **CLEARINGHOUSE** you can benefit from the research of a cousin who has been there and wants to share. Here are some of those.

CURRENTS IN THE STREAM

I. V. (Mrs R. E,) Crawford sends a **goldmine** of info. The 2nd Ann. **reunion** of descendants of John Coffey b, 1773 (Lancaster Dist.) S. C, and Margaret Baskin will be June 20,21, Sat, night will be a **Blugrass** musical, Sun, Covered dish **luncheon**. Place: Reuther Union Hall, Jacksonville, Ark, Contact Mrs, Crawford @ 808 **Hanvras** Lane Tyler Tx. 75701 Ph. 214-595-2377

Walker Jackson Coffey shows us his book "JOURNAL OF A JOURNEY" pub, 1980, 145 pages, Walker is a good story teller and narrates the migration of his family from HUGH COFFEY, b. 1784 S.C. into Ala. Miss. and Texas. Cousin Walker lives Rt. 2 Box 164 Oxford Miss. 38655 Ph. 601-236-1410

Thomas E. Roach sends info on MERIDETH COFFEY. b. Ca. 1769 d. 1338 Grainger Co, Tn. We wonder if the beautiful plantation style home "**Langley**" pictured on Tom's letterhead has a history? Tom is at Rt. 2 "**Langley**" Rutledge, Tn, 37861

James V. Coffey of 13869 Sibley Rd. Riverview, Mich 48192 and H. Daraleen **Wade** send names of 31 **family** researchers, adding to the 19 from I. V. Crawford. Daraleen is at 4305 Toni Ave. N. Salem, Ore 97303. These lists **vividly** illustrate the border to border and coast to coast settling of the Coffey Cousins,

A real family project by Jacqueline Coffey Sexton, her dad **Benj. B.** and brother Billy Ray in 1974 **resulted** in their book "The Coffeys Of **Wayne** County" About 150 pages plus index and a 92 generation chart showing the Irish **ancestry** of Edward COFFEY back to 240 A.D, Edward was progenitor of early COFFEYS in Va, N.C., and KY, Momma, **Quanita** Abbot Coffey, also **helped** a bunch, Jackie is in the printing business: 126 S, Main P.O.Box 249 Monticello, Ky 42633, Their reunion is a big one in late summer at Monticello.

DEAD END ROADS

Ruby (Mrs, Truman M.) Buck, **Sacramento, Cal.** is descended from Newton Coffey of Greene/Adair Co. Ky and Montgomery Co, Ill. **Who** were his parents? We are looking forward to printing her promised **chart** of his descendants,

Marie Easton, Glendale, Gal. **needs** to connect Chesley Coffey Sr. to **Rebuzaraden** 1757-1797. She asks: Was a Joel his father? Chesley, Sr. Ms **grandfather**?

More DEAD END ROADS

RYLAND (RIELY) COFFEY b, Ca, 1850 Lived and died in Nelson Co, Va, Married Martha Wyatt Fortune, dau, of John(Jack) Fortune and Matilda Campbill. Orphaned early, Maude Matilda Coffey was raised by the Fortunes on Fortune Mountain, now part of Blue Ridge Parkway and the New Wintergreen Community, Can you help her Grand-daughter: Mrs, Howard Thatcher 2670 Lake George Oxford Mich. 48051?

I LOVE A MYSTERY

A tradition among Coffey geneologists is that of Nathan Coffey (1760-1823) of Wilkes Co. N.C. and Adair Co. Ky. as a son of Joel Coffey(d. 1789 Wilkes Co. N.C.) Evidence proves this wrong. Many years ago the DAR accepted an application claiming that Nathan (b 1760) was a son of Joel, (d, 1789). Evidence was the will of Joel who named a son Nathan, BUT three sources prove this wrong! First is the will: It lists a son Nathan and also "if my wife is at present with child" Nebuzaraden was born In 1790, Assuming his mother, Martha was 45 then her birth year would be 1745. Martha would have been 15 when Nath, was born, 12 when Nebu, was born, and 8 when she married in 1753, Some claim she was born in 1737, This would make her 53 when her last child was born, SECOND Notes by Eliza (Coffey) Porter prior to 1900 show "My father was Nathan Coffey, son of Joel Coffey, His wither was Martha Step, My fathers brothers were Joel, James, Cleavelin, and Nebuzaraden. His sisters were Katherine, Jane, and Celia...." Except for Nebu, (not yet born) the names are identical to Joel's will, THIRD Nathan Coffey family Bible, 1814.: Eliza Coffey(apparently a daughter) m. John Porter, Therefore Nathan who owned the Bible was the. same Nathan (in the second source) who who was a son of Joel Coffey, In this Bible Nathan recorded his birth Jan, 10, 1788, . Nathan m. Sally Merideth Nov, 13, 1806, He was definitely a different person from the Nathan Coffey(1760-1823) who m, Mary Saunders,

Submitted by Tim Peterman 11315 Applewood Dr. Kans, City Mo, 64134.

Next issue see Ambrose Coffey, Ambrous Coffey, Ambroce Coffey

QUESTION: If you had been an immigrant from Old Ireland and your name was O' Cobhthaigh and your English speaking neighbors and public officials found the spelling unmanagable, wouldn't you change it? Our ancestors did. That is why we find cousins going by COWHIG, COPTHIG, COFE, COFFEE, COFFEY and no doubt other variations. . .

COUNTY HISTORIES

In the late 1800's several publishing companies toured the country compiling compiling tax, pension data, local history, and biographies of the proud old residents, Reading these is almost like hearing ones great grandparent speak. They were usually published as "CountyHistory Books" Most of the subjects recorded their ancestry and migration. Your local library, state library, and historical societies have these. Almost none were name indexed, but later volunteers are working on the project. The largest collection we know of is at the NEWBERRY LIBRARY in Chicago,

RESEARCH SOURCES

Filson Club 118 W. Breckenridge Louisville, Ky.
Lawson-McGhee Library Knoxville, Tn.

NEBUZARADEN COFFEY 1757-1797

ELIZABETH HAYS

parents of HAYS COFFEY 1793-1860

HAYS daughter AMERICA 1826-1869 m. JAMES ROGERS. AMERICA was mother of

REBECCA ANN ROGERS m. JUDGE JAMES HOLT of Missouri. Their daughter

MARIHA HOLT WAS mother of Marie Easton 2711 Rustic Lane, Glendale, Ca. 91208

MEREDITH COFFEY b. Ca. 1769 d. 1838 Grainger County, Tenn.,
married ESTHER (EESTER) _____ ? Ca. 1797. MERIDA (MEREDITH) COFFEY
purchased 200 seres in Grainger Co. Tenn. 1798. Their children were:

1. John b. Ca. 1798 a. 2/24/1821 Rebecca Ragdale
2. Anna b. Ca. 1800 a. 12/11/1819 Jacob Arnatt
3. Boreas b. Ca. 1802 a. 1/26/1814 (Jabal) Mitchell
4. Jess b. Ca. 1803 a. 12/14/1825 Sarah Jane Fielding
5. Joel b. Ca. 1805 m. 2/5/1829 Elizabeth Grubb
6. Mira b. Ca. 1809 a. 8/6/1827 Hardman Sparkman
7. son...b. Ca. 1811...died young.
8. Eliza b. Ca. 1813 m. 2/16/1834 Henderson Sparkman
9. Rica b. Ca. 1815 a. 6/17/1839 Elvira Trogden ..this family went to Missouri.
10. Mahala b. Ca. 1817 m. 5/11/1838 Samuel Crane

Elice Coffey was the administrator of his father's estate, recorded 9/18/1838.

The name MEREDITH COFFEY appears on two early marriage bonds of Grainger County,
Tenn. They are:

SARAH "SALLY" COFFST (b. ca. 1782) married Benjamin Hays 2/9/1802

JANE "JENNY" COFFEY (b. Ca. 1785) married 9/23/1805 Levi Killer.

Assumption: Is the above MEREDITH COFFEY the son of JOHN COFFEY who married
1st DORCAS CARTER, 2nd NANCY RICHARDSON. This JOHN COFFEY was a brother to
BENJAMIN COFFST who settled in Hawkins County, Tenn., just across the county
line from Grainger County, Tenn. The 1810 census of Grainger County shows
a JOHN COFFST, He and his wife are both over 45 years of age, the farms
adjoining theirs was JAKES RICHARDSON AND SAMUEL RICHARDSON...was this
near relatives of JOHN COFFEY's 2nd wife, NANCY RICHARDSON?

Thomas E. Roach, Rta # 2, "Langley", Rutledge, TN 37861

We need more family trees for next issue.

And PLEASE send some current news. Don't we have some centenarians? How about
golden weddings? A descendant of yours will treasure the information in another
150 years.