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CCC **Is** a newsletter originated ln 1981 to collect and disseminate information about the COFFEE/COFFEY families of North America.

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YOUR PAST AND PRESENT FAMILY INFORMATION IS WELCOME

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Dear Cousins,

Jim and I look forward to seeing those of you who can make it to San Antonio in May. Jeff Coffey says that you really need to get your reservations made before they release the block of rooms that they are holding for us. Jeff has a lot planned tor us to do and see.



He is **Going** all out to show us a good time while we are there. Also tor those who might be **Interested** in going to Ireland in 1993. Pat McFallwill present a seminar on Traveling and Research in Ireland. I plan to go in June of 1993 and hope some of you can go with me. She will only take 20 in a group. Wouldn't it be great to have all Cotfevs? Then we could request what we would most like to see. If you are interested out will not be at the May convention, please let me know.

I would like to express my appreciation to those who have purchased gift subscriptions tor others. It will help raise the membership number and it is also very flattering that you enjoy CCC enough to give it to someone else.

> Thanks agaln. Your cousin. Bonnle

NEW ADDRESS

Andre' Cuffez Pr. stefanlepleln. 5. 8400 00STENDE. BELGIUM Pamela C. Webb 506 Arminda Ave.. Kirkwood. MO 63122-5305 Myrtle Conyers 9007 Fanita Rancho Rd.. Santee. CA 92071-3949 Kathy Simmons 102 Green Meadows Dr.. Boerne. TX 78006-2709

WELCOME OUR NEW COUSINS

AND THEIR ANCESTORS

Carl D. Clark 6820 Jeremiah Ct.. Fairfax Station. VA 22039 Margie Coffey P.O. Box 112. Columbia. KY 42728 Glenna C. Moore 7329 Tophill. Dallas. TX 75240 Hugh Coffey Joseph B. James 4912 S. Detroit Tulsa. OK 74105 Charles Coffey 13711 Bluffrock. San Antonio. TX 78216 William D. Coffey 16 Ashwood Ln.. Webster. NY 14580 Jeremiah Coffey Evelyn Coffey Faber 10 Ohio Ave. Jackson, OH 45640 Glenn R. Coffey RR 1. Box 347. Lincoln, MO 65338 Edward Coffey Waneta Matney 3114 122nd Ave E., Puyallup, WA 98372 Edward Coffey Meg Nixon 1405 Arlington Ave.. El Cerrito, CA 94530 Will lam Coffey Robert D. Banks 902 Whipporwill Dr. Atlanta TX 75551 Will lam Coffey David W. Coffey 145 N.W. 39th, Oklahoma Cty OK73118 Martin Cotfey Raymond W. Coffey 2400 Harton Bjvd Tullahoma TN37388 Edward Coffey



MEET OUR NEW COUSINS

Glenna Moore, (Mrs. W. A.) is the daughter of J. Askew Coffey and descends from Hugh Coffey. J. Askew says that he and Glenna are planning to see us in San Antonio.

Joseph and Shawna James have been researching Shawna's mother's lineage which is a Coffey line. Hope they tell us more later.

Charles Coffey is another cousin we received due to the good publicity that Jeff Coffey gives us. He lives In San Antonio, Texas and says that he **nasn't** done much **family** research but his aunt Evelyn Faber of 10 Ohio Ave., Jackson. OH. 45640 is their **family** genealogist. We hope to hear from Evelyn as to their family roots.

William D. Coffey came to us by way of Anna Cassel and the Prodigy bulletin board. He has traced his ancestors to his great-grandfather Jeremiah Coffey (1827-1879) and Jeremiah's wife Johanna Giltinan (1832-1892). They came from Ireland In approximately 1848 and settled in Albion, NY, according to Johanna's death record. They had eleven children. of whom only **six lived** to marry and carry on the **line**. William also has records of Michael Coffey (1834-1905) who he is convinced is the brother of Jeremiah. Michael also Immigrated to Albion. NY, In about 1865. Michael married Elizabeth Gormley In Albion and they had two children. William has another Michael Coffey (1804-1873) who married Elizabeth Tobin (1818-1875). They settled ln Troy NY in the early 1840's and had three children before moving to Albion NY about 1849-50. They then had three more children. William believes this Michael was probably an uncle of his great-grandfather Jeremiah. *it* anyone has information on this family line or the two Michael Coffey lines, please contact William Coffey at the address in the New Cousins section.

Meg and Thomas Nixon found us through my son Joe (James) and the bulletin board on Prodigy. Thomas' mother is 1) Ellzabeth Louise Coffey Nixon. the daughter of 2) Madison Champness Coffey b. Asley. IL. His father was 3) WIIIIam Coffee (1835-1913) from Morgan Co. KY. WIIIIam married Elizabeth Ball. He was the son of 4) Mason W. and Martha Ferguson Coffey. Mason (1811-) was the son of WIIIIam (1785 -) and Elizabeth Coffee. of Morgan Co. KY. Meg wrote from her office and did not have the dates available, but if the above names are familiar to any of you researchers, Meg would appreciate hearing from you. Her address is in the new members list.

Margie Coffey is researching the Chesley and Jane (Cleveland) Coffey line. She descends through Nebuzarden and Elizabeth (Hays) **Coffey**, next. Ananais and Jane (Hindman) Coffey. She then lists Zldner and Marganna (Keltner) Coffey. She would **llke** to correspond with others working on this line. Her address **is** in the new cousins **list**. Margie **is also** working on other Coffey lines ln Adair County. KY. She says that there are four family **lines** in Adair County and they are trying to determine what relationship if any they have in common. One in particular is Joseph Coffey Jr. who came from Christian County to Adair County. She says that a Joseph and Jean (Graves) Coffey married ln Cumberland County ln 1810. Are they Joseph's parents? (The biographical sketch appears in the DOCUMENTS GALORE section.) NEW COUSINS continued:

Glenn Coffey and his sister Waneta Matney descend from Edward Coffey. Glenn is the genealogist in the family. He will provide us with more on his family tree later.

Robert D. Banks' great great aunt Mary Elizabeth Banks married William B. Coffee and they were found in Lockhart, **Caldwell** Co.. Texas when the 1850 census was taken. **William** B. was born in Tennessee ca **1813**. He was the first merchant in Lockhart and the first County Clerk in Caldwell County. They bought and sold many pieces of property ln Lockhart and Caldwell County, but moved to Burnet County before 1860. The only child was a son Albert Banks Coffee who was born in 1859. He became a Texas Ranger and had three sons and one daughter. Mary Elizabeth served as Postmaster of Burnet. Texas from 1871 to 1887 while she ran a general store. She **died** 16 Feb. 1912 and is burled with William B. In the Old Burnet Cemetery. Albert B. died in Colorado City. Texas. 2 Dec. 1933. His children were: 1) Albert Preston Cotfee b. 3 Jan. 1885 2) William Coffee b. Dec. 1886 3) 3) Sadie Cotfee b. Jan 1890 3) Aurthur B. Coffee b. Feb. 1899. Robert Banks would be happy to exchange information with anyone who has info on this family. His address is in the new cousins list.

David W. Coffey says that he **Is** a **long** lost cousin who has **time** for (amily research again. We are very glad to have him back. He descends from Martin Coffee b. 15 Sept. 1762, d. 27 Nov. 1867 Russell Co., KY. and his wife Nancy Hansford, through their son Golson Wilson Coffey b. abt. 1822, KY died 1906. Lexington, OK. Golson married bef. 1845. Rebecca Ann Shackleford who was born abt 1826, KY. Their son. William F. (Franklin??) Coffey, b. 27 July 1844. KY died 14 Mar 1883 MO/KS. was David's g-g-grandfather. William F. Coffey married 2 Feb. 1860. Russell Co. KY, to Elizabeth Ann Brown, dau. Harvey & Amy Brown, on 19 Mar. 1838, Cleveland Co., OK. She died in 1902 and is buried In the Bethel Cemetery , Cleveland Co., OK. Their youngest son Wesley Hall Coffey. David's g-grandfather, was b. 26 Mar 1881, Holt Co., MO and d, 7 Nov. 1956. Oklahoma City, OK. Wesley married. 9 Nov. 1902. Ettawah, Cleveland Co., OK to America Tennessee Akin who was b. 5 July 1881. MO to Robert G. & Nancy N. (Alexander) Akin. Wesley and America's only son Chattie Coffey was b. 31 Aug. 1903. Chattle Is Davids grandfather and is still living. Anyone who is working on this line should contact David at the address in the new cousin section. He appears to be a very thorough researcher.

Raymond W. Coffey 1s a gift to us from Reva Raby. Since he is her **brother**. we know that he is a descendent of John Cotfey (1776-1845), son of Benjamin Coffey (1747-1834) and grandson of John and Jane (Graves) Cottey and great grandson of Edward and Ann (Powell) Coffey.

DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTIONS



Velma Stepp Wilson writes that her ancestor was listed incorrectly in the December issue. She descends from Martha (Coffey) Stapp/Stepp, daughter of Edward and Ann (Powell) Coffey. She had asked if the Elizabeth who married John Stepp might have been born a Coffey! This John Stepp is the son of Joseph and Elizabeth (Lucas) Stepp and grandson of Joshua and Martha (Coffey) Stepp. Velma's address is 3825 Cedar Ave. Long Beach CA. 90807-3219.

OBITUARIES

We wish to express our sincere sympathy to the families of the following cousins.

MARIE IRENE COPELAND AMELL

Marie Ameli of 421 London St. Petersborough Ontario Canada died at St. Joseph's General Hospital on Sunday, August 25. 1991, after a vallant struggle with cancer for several years. She was a Public Health Nurse with Peterborough Health Unit for 20 years and an active member of the Catholic Womens League. She was born May 17. 1936 in Orilla, Ontario. She was the daughter of James J. and Irene (Walsh) Copeland. granddaughter of Julia Coffey and great granddaughter of Patrick Coftey (Irish emigrant). Marie leaves a husband William D. Amell and a son David. We were priviledged to meet Marie at the 1990 Convention in Washington DC.

SUSAN (RUCKER) COFFEY

Susan (Rucker) Coffey, mother of Lillian Harrell and Juanlta Long, passed away 11 May, 1991. She lived in **Thornhill.** TN and was 93 years ot age. We wish to express our condolences to her family.



Sherrie McLeRoy 111 W. Belden. Sherman. Texas 75090. has published a short limited edition biography entitled, <u>MISTRESS OF GLEN EDEN</u>. which she sells out of her home for \$8.75 plus tax and shipping. There is quite a bit in it about Holland Coffee. She has also written an historical novel about Sophie, which is now under consideration by Bantam Books. She will let us know when it sells - on the condition that no family member sues her (if you don't like how she interprets the character). Sherrie has published articles on Sophie in Feb. 1990 issue ot Texas Highways and Dec. 1989 issue of True West. I forward to reading some of her writings.





Does anyone know John M Coffee, P.O. Box **5000.** Suite 369. Lalona Beach. CA. 92075. His December newsletter was returned with no forwarding address. PAGE 6

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Jeff and Kitti Coffey celebrated their 50 th Wedding Anniversary on Sunday. Jan 26. 1992 at the St. Matthew's United Methodist Church. Fellowship Hall, San Antonio, Texas. CONGRATULATIONS.

J. Askew Coffey says that he has a new nickname. It's now "Java Coffey". Pretty clever!

E. Howard Hillis of Madras. OR., writes that he had corresponded with a lady doing research on the New York line of Coffees. He said that it was several years ago so she should have quite a lot by now! Any one researching this line might like to write her: Agnes Simmons, Rd #1. Co. Rt. 23, Constantia. N.Y. 13044.

Annette Coffey has been ill. We are so glad that she is better. We are planning to see her in San Antonio.

Myrtle Conyers asks where my street address "Green Berry" comes from. She says that we have several people with the given name of Greenberry. Sorry, but it appears that Cole County. MO had a Sheriff named Mr. Berry. His first name was Green.

Ella Carpenter wrote that she is well. She is thoroughly enjoying her grand daughter Jennifer who is learning to read. I suspect her grand daughter will be our next generation genealogist!

Lillian and Elvin Harrell have been traveling since we say them last. Lillian says that they probably won't make it to San Antonio. We hope they change their minds as we would certainly miss them. We always look forward to seeing them.

Virgil Coffey writes that he and Iva plan to attend the 1992 convention if he Can keep her heart and diabetes under control. It seems that she was seriously ill after the 1991 convention in Boone but doing better now. We hope she stays well. What would a convention be without Virgil and Iva?

Bennie Loftin tried her new computer out and wrote us a letter. She IS hoping that we will make the trip to Ireland in 93. She plans to see us in San Antonio. We missed her last year.

Sarah Holland says that Walker Coffey may have found the father of Hugh Cotfey. We expect to see Sarah in San Antonio.

I.V. Crawford of Tyler. TX sends us good news. She says that her husband's health is better than it has been in years. We hope it continues so and she gets to come to San Antonio.

Kathryn Johnson Writes that they had a wonderful Christmas as their son came home from Kuwait and they had their grandson home also. but then Katnryn had a blood clot. She's doing better now but is in Cardiac re-had. She says boredom is terrible. We'll have to keep her busy with Cottey letters. Hope she's feeling better by now!

Noreva Sharr's husband had a stroke Oct.4, but she says that he's doing better now.

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DEAD END ROADS



Carlene Smith is working on the Reuben Cotfey b. 1759 line. She would like to know if there is any actual proof of his marriage. Also she would like to know what proof there is of the marriage of **Sally Sumpter** to Reuben's son James Coffey. **Carlene's** address **is** 2730 Weston Ridge Dr.. Cincinnati, OH 45239.

Dorothy Miller asks if some one can help her with Gilbert Coffey b. 31 May 1834. in **TN.** d. 3 June 1915 in Polk Co.. MO. Her address is 533 E. Summit. **Bolivar.** MO 65613

Lillian Thomas needs help finding parents for Frank J. Coffee b. 1833, TN.. married Mariah ??? b. 1839 in KY. Their children are all born ln Kentucky. They are Ella 1857. Gertrude 1859. Maria Bell 1861. and Joe G. 1863. Lillian's address is 211 E. Schaumburg Rd., Streamwood, IL 60107-1460.

Juliann McGlnnes is searching for her family roots. Her grandmother was Mary Eudora (Coffee/y) Trlbble wife of John Taylor Trlbble. She was born July 18, 1873 in Ft. Smith. AK. Mary Eudora's father was John Albert Coffee/y. Juliann isn't sure which **spelling** of Coffee/y that they used. Jullann says that her grandmother told her that "her mother had died when she was Just a young child and her father remarried and had more children". They moved to Texas, farmed, and later moved to Oklahoma. If you can help Jullann with her research, ner address is Box 172, Covington, TX 76636.

Myrtle Convers needs proof that Rev. George Washington Ford (b. 1790 MD - where?) was the son of **Elizabeth** Coffee and Ralph Ford (our **family information)**. George Ford and **Elizabeth** Cupp **lived** near Tazewell. Claiborne County. **Tennessee:** gave **land** for present Ford's Chapel Cemetery. Cannot find Marriage, **birth**. death dates for either **family**. Ralph **Ford**. born England; **lived** Frederick - **Baltimore** County Maryland, ca 1774-90: Grainger County, Tennessee 1801-1840 with three **children**. Was the **Elizabeth**. born 1752 Frederick County, Md., daughter of John Coffee, wife of Ralph? **Rice**. John and Meredith Cottee were on the Grainger County jury with Ralph Ford. Were they related? How? Myrtle needs marriage proof of **Elizabeth** and Ralph; other **family** information. She will exchange Information. Her address is 9007 **Fanita** Rancho Rd., Cantee. CA **92071**.

Gene W. **Tomlin** is looking for parents for his great-grandmother who was a Coffey. Her name was Julia and she was born around 1831 and died August 1893. She was married to Benjamin Rogers Nov. 11, 1856 ln Amherst County Virginia. She is buried in Amherst County. Their children were Sarah (Gene's grandmother on his fathers **side**) born ln 1858. Mary **1863.** Ida Ross 1866, and **Calvin** 1869. **Benjamin** Rogers lived until May 1915. Gene's address is 122 Holgate Dr., **Greenville.** SC **29615.**

Jerry Watley is currently searching for any Information that might be available on Mrs. Minnie Coffee who died July 4, 1908, at the age of 32 years, 2 months, and 21 days, and was born in Germany. She **died** of tuberculosis and was buried in **McKinney** Cemetery In **Sagamon** County In Illinois. Jerry 1s interested in any relations between Coffee/ Ash/ Dover. His address is 405 E. 13th St.. **Cassville**, MO 65625. Nancy Foley Johnson sends us an **interesting question.** According to the family Bible. Henry Foley married Amy (possibly a nickname for Amelia) Cotfey about 1741 (based on the fact that their first child was born in 1742. The only known reference to them is one of a land sale in Frederick Co. VA, Order Book #8, p. 74 in which they are both named and their relationship is identified. Nancy knows nothing more about Amy or her predecessors. Can you help? Nancy Johnson's address is 1097 **Chince** Road. Lexington. KY 40502.

We received a letter meant for Leonard Coffey. I hope someone in his line will help Mary F. Long. She got Len's name from the **Bloomington** IN Library as a Jones descendant and is hunting for descendants of William and Mary (Clark) Jones. Mary was the sister of Hannah (Clark) Davis. They have another sister who stayed in North Carolina and are children of Capt. William Clark. If you can help Mary Long her address is 2721 Allen Ave., Indianapolis, IN 46203.

Spencer Coffey is trying to identify the exact titles of two books and their authors/publishers, which supposedly contain information on the Revolutionary War - John Coffey. Both of the books may pertain to the early Cumberland Presbyterian Church. although that's not been definitely confirmed. The books titles are something similar to, FLOWERING OF THE COMBERLAND and SEEDTIME ON THE CUMBERLAND. Spencer's address is 8220 S. Russell Road. Oak Grover, MO 64075. Coffey Cousins would like to have this Information too. We would like to print the answer in the next newsletter.

Kenneth D. Harrison says that he and Velma Urguhart had new tombstones placed on the graves of Henry and Rebecca (Kirk) Coffey in the Bethel Methodist Church Cemetery in Marion County, GA. This cemetery is located on the south **side** of Homer Bray Rd. 355 in Marlon Co. Henry Coffey (1787-1876), son of Revolutionary War veteran, Hugh Coffey, Sr. (13 May 1750 - 26 Apr 1827) and Agnes Montgomery (15 May 1755 - 10 May 1839) of Lancaster District, SC. married Rebecca Kirk (1792-1872). daughter of Matthew and Grace (Johnson) Kirk, in Lancaster District. SC. ca. 1820. Before 1840 Henry and Rebecca and their six chlldren moved to Muscogee Co., GA. In 1847 Henry Coffey bought land in neighboring Marion Co. GA and he and Rebecca lived there until their deaths. Kenneth also has "the rest of the story". He has very good records on all the rest of the family. What Kenneth would like now, is to hear from descendants of Henry Coffey's brothers and sisters. He says that he will gladly share information that he has gathered on this particular branch of the Coffeys. Kenneth Harrison's address Is 523 N. Main St.. Enterprise, AL 36330.

Noreva Sharr is researching the James Coffey, not connected with the Edward Coffey lines. She thinks that her James Coffey may be the son of John Coffey who came over on the "Snow" to Chester PA. James was in the Revolutionary War and lived in Cherster Co. and Cumberland Co. PA. He also lived a while in Maryland. Then before 1880 went to Elbert Co. GA.. then to Bedford Co. TN, where he died. James Coffey married Mary Leeper. Their great granddaughter Mary Miller Coffey married Noreva's grandfather's brother, James Alexander Pope NellI. So far Noreva has not connected this James Coffey to the Edward Cotfey line. though some of the old incorrect records say he is. but his birth date says that he isn't. She would like to hear from someone working on this line. P.O. Box 770. Lucerne Valley, CA 92356.

Dead End Roads continued:

Guendolyn Glover is interested in starting Coffey research. Her father is Lawrence R. Coffey. She **lives** at 190 Glover Rd. Jamestown. KY. 42629.



Opal Myers 1832 Milton Rd.. Napa. CA 94559 is researching Grizzelle Cotfey. o. June 6. 1752. d. Nov 22. 1807 in Barren Co. KY. She married John Hall ca 1775/80. They may have married in PA. because at least 3 of their children were born in Washington Co. PA. Their 6th child was born in 1789 in Barren Co.. KY. Opal has information ot a Gracillia Coftey b. 1789 in Adair Co.. KY. Her parents were Nathaniel and Mary Coffey. Nathaniel Coffey would be the right age to be a brother to Opal's Grizzelle. She wonders if this was a common family name! It anyone has any information on Opal's Grizzelle Coffey, please drop her a line.

DOCUMENTS GALORE

JOSEPH COFFEY SR & JR



We received a biographical sketch from Margle Coffey, **Columbia** KY. The source is not listed but Margie would 1 ike to identify this **family.** The first few lines are missing.

Joseph Coffey is from Russell County, where he married and engaged in agricultural pursuits until 1831. when he moved to Christian County, and bought **wild** land, and improved a farm on which he resided until his death. in March 1834. He was a veteran of the war of 1812 and he and wife were life-long members of the Missionary Baptist Church. Mrs. Jane Cotfey departed this life in June. 1861. in her seventy first year. Her father Thomas Graves, was a native of Virginia and ln early manhood immigrated to Kentucky. first settling near Lexington in Fayette County, where he improved a farm and remained for several years. Later, however, he moved to Russell County. where he resided until his death. He served as courier for Washington during the entire **Revolutionary** struggle. Joseph Coffey Jr. at age of seventeen left the home farm and settled in **Columbia.** where he accepted a position in a general **store**, continuing in the mercantile business as salesman and on his own account until 1871. In 1872 he accepted a position as clerk and assistant cashier **in** the Bank of Columbia, and in 1880 was elected cashier of the **same**, which position he **still** holds. Mr. Coffey has been twice married: first September 27, 1859, to Miss Mary E., daughter of James V. and Elizabeth (Lankford) Warden. She was born in Monticello. Wayne County, KY.. August 9. 1842. and died at her home in Columbia, November 23, 1861. She was a devoted member of the Methodist Episcopal Church South. Mr. Coffey next married, January 20. 1863, Miss Virginia R. Page, a native of Adalr County, born June 16. 1843. She is a daughter of W. W. and Sophia (Brawner) **Page**, both natives of Virginia. Seven children have blessed this union as **follows:** Henry R. (deceased), **Wllllam** A.. John B.. Robert G.. George. Sophia and Joseph. Mrs. Coffey 1s a member of the Presbyterian Church. Mr. Coffey politically is independent. and belongs to no church or secret order. Cont. next page.

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Joseph Coffey Sr. & Jr. contd

(I find a **conflict** here as THE COFFEYS OF WAYNE COUNTY **list Joseph Coffey who married Mary Warden** as the son of Henderson Coffey. **Possibly** there were two Mary Warden's.)

1810 Adair Co. KY census

1

Coffey name	sex	0/10	1 0/16	16/26	26/45	45/	slave
Cleveland	m £	4 2	- 1		1 1	5	3
James	m f	3	- 1	1	1	1 7	3
Sale	m f	- 1	-	1 1		5 5	
Nathan	m £	1 -	2 1	1	1	1	55
Abaslom	m f	1 -	- 1	1		# 5	1
Chesley	m £	-	1 -	3 1	Ħ Ħ	1	1
Newton	m £	3 2	-	1	2	-	1
Eli	m f	1 3	-	1	2	-	-
Richard	m £	2 3 1	-	<u>_</u>	1 1 2	-	
Eli Joel	ព £ ៣	1 1	-	1	1	-	-
James	t m	3	1	-	1 1	2	3
Nathan	f m	- 1	1	1 1	1	2 2	3
Fielding	f m	1 2	-	2 1	1	2 2	2
	f	2	-	2	ī	171	2

Bennie Loftln sent the following information out of Register Cliff In Gurnesy. WY Fred Coffey born 6 June 1880, Dated 13 May 1899,



DOCUMENTS GALORE continued:

Sarah Holland sent this humorous clipping from THE COMMERCIAL APPEAL of Memphis, TN. This writer appears to be very opinionated, but it makes for an interesting story and points to records available for researchers of this line.

EARLY DAY PREACHERS WERE OFTEN UNORTHODOX by Perre Magness



(Part ot a series celebrating The Commercial Appeal's 150th Anniversary - a chance to look back at the legacies of Memphis as well as the newspaper's.)

It used to be said that Memphis had more churches than filling stations. That proved Memphis had come a long way from its days as a rough and ready river town, where gamblers and bootleggers were likely to be more popular than preachers.

The "earliest settlers have. we regret to say. had little more time. if even inclination, to devote to spiritual affairs, and were not to be compared in religious zeal to their painted savage predecessors," historian O.F. Vedder wrote in 1888. Gradually though, as settlers came into the fertile lands of west Tennessee, the forms and ideas of established religion followed them.

Early religion in Memphis was unconventional. The first preaching recorded in Memphis was done by a slave, Uncle Harry Lawrence spoke to a crowd of both blacks and whites at the corner of Main and Winchester in 1822, only three years after the city was founded.

In March that year, Rev. Elijah Coffey arrived on a flatboat from lilinois. Coffey was a shoemaker by trade but a preacher at heart. He tried several denominations. Historian James D. Davis wrote ln 1873 that he "was alternately taken in and turned out by the Baptist and the Methodist". He tried the Catholic for a while, but quit when he found out they discouraged lay preaching. Finally he was reinstated by the Methodist, who "confined his ministrations to a portion of Arkansas where it was thought good character ln a minister was not required".

He was still around in 1859. when a newspaper notice announced that "The Reverend Mr. Coffey was arrested yesterday for being drunk and put in the calaboose." A listener once commented to him. "Coffey, that was the darndest. meanest sermon 1 ever heard." Coffey replied, "Well. I generally adopt my sermons to suit the congregation".

Silas Toncray was another colorful - and versatile - early preacher. He was described as "silversmith. watchmaker, engraver. sign painter. doctor, dentist and druggist." Davis said he was an "inconsistent man. ignorant ln everything except mechanism. and it was a pity he had not confined himself exclusively to It". He preached mostly to blacks. and built a chapel for them at Main and Overton in the late 1830s. Both Toncray and Coffey served as alderman during the early days, and Coffey was mayor for a short time.

TEXAS

Since we are going to Texas **in** May, I thought **it** might be appropriate to print some history of the Texas branches of Coffey's. My source being Jerry Coftey of Piano. TX. He as a wealth of **interesting** Coffee information on **Holland** and Doss Coffee.

COUNTY'S FIRST BUILDING WAS CEDAR SPRINGS FORT by A. C. Greene of **Dallas.** a coordinating director of the Center of Texas Studies at the University of North Texas.

> "THE DALLAS MORNING NEWS" Sunday. April 7. 1991

Although **Dallas** is the oldest town **in Dallas County.** it was not the site of the first structure erected by settlers **in** the county. That structure was a rickety "pole hut" erected where a few years later, the separate town of Cedar Springs would **rise**.

In January 1841, Col. W.G. Cooke of the army of the Republic of Texas reached the Red River after **struggling** north from Austin **in** an attempt to establish the Military Road.

Having skirted much of the frontier on **hls** way **north**, he ordered Capt. **William** Houghton to take a detachment of soldiers and retrace the route to Cedar Springs on the Trinity and build a fort there. It was to be one of a chain of posts along the **Milltary** Road that Col. Cooke's expedition was supposed to lay out from Holland Coffee's trading post on the Red River to Austin.

On Feb. 17. **1841.** Col. **Cooke.** arriving back **in Austin.** reported to the War Department: "1 have established two **permanent** posts after laying out the road - one on Red River above Coffey's Station (Fort Johnson).... the other at the cedar **bluffs.** on Trinity River. Emigrants are ready at this time to settle near the Trinity post." (The Austin City Gazette of that date quoted Col. Cooke as saying, "At the post on the Trinity a company of regulars is stationed.")

Late in January, the Houghton party (possibly with Col. Cooke present) had thrown up a picket building at the springs. But events outside Col. Cooke's control doomed the outposts: On March 2. he was ordered by the War Department in Austin to disband the forts and the troops on the Red River and **Trinity**. The **Republic** of Texas was almost broke and couldn't afford to keep a standing army.

The Cedar Springs "fort" was occupied for only a few weeks, and it was never officially garrisoned. But the post on the Trinity was undoubtedly the first structure **bullt** by men of European descent ln **Dallas County.**

When settlers from Fanning county began arriving at Cedar Springs not long after, one of their number wrote that they had adopted what was left of the post to **civilian** use. **Although** the fort was successful, Cedar Springs was **important** as a watering spot on the highway, or as **it** came to be called, Preston Road. Within three years a town grew up there.

The **site in** Dallas today is In the vicinity of Cedar Springs Road and Kings **Road**, north of Oak Lawn.

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JOSHUA DAVID "DOSS COFFEE (1837-1915) by Jerry Coffee

During the winter of 1861 the Texas Legislature divided the **state** Into thirty-three "brigade districts" In each ot which all able-bodied men between the **ages** of eighteen and fifty **years**. with necessary **exceptions**, were to be enrolled ln companies subject to the **call** of the Contederate Government. This was known as the "Conscript Law" of April 16. 1862. The limit of service was for three years or for the duration ot the war. It is estimated that Texas furnished between **50.000** to 60.000 men for **military** service.

Some served by securing appointments near **home.** In the Texas Militia district brigade units. Company A. 14th brigade was **Sgt**. Joshua David Coffee's **unit**. Conscript officers were to seek-out those attempting to avoid service by fleeing the state into the Oklahoma Territory. Others **lingered** with their **families**. hiding in the woods and **hills** to escape the officers and brigade troops in the Fannin. **Collin**. Hunt and Grayson County District. The 14th brigade was commanded by Brigadier General A. H. Pace. The whole story **Is** a painful one, but **It** could hardly have been otherwise. **While In** the brigade. Sgt. Coffee was ordered to hunt down and capture many of his friends and neighbors. These men were treated as such when found. When a desperate war is **being waged**. when the enemy is thundering at the gates, perfect tolerance can hardly be expected for any expressions of sympathy with the invader.

Atter hostilities ended, conditions ln the state grew worse at the hands of the union regulators and the negro State **Police**. Rumors were afloat ot dire punishments to be inflicted upon rebels by the victorious yankees.

On May 29th. 1865. General Sheridan was assigned to the command of the U.S. Military Division of the Southwest. headquarters in New Orleans. General Sheridan to provide against local resistance by the Texas Militia. issued orders. June 30th. that no home guards or guerrillas for self-protection should be allowed anywhere ln the state. By the same order neighborhoods infested with these groups were to be responsible for the deeds of the latter - an act indicative ot the harsh suspicion with which Sheridan always regarded Texas.

Surrender stations were established at the most important points. These were Houston (HarrisCo.). Galveston (Galveston Co.). Bonham (Fannin Co.). San Antonio (Baxter Co.). Marshall (Harrison Co.). and Brownsville (Willacy Co.). The U.S. Military Regulators now proceeded to confiscate all property of the "hold-outs" that would not immediately surrender to the new authorities. However. most of the property had already been seized by the yankees before the official surrender.

Many ot the Texas Militia units, in fact, never surrendered at **all** but simply disbanded, even before the conference in New Orleans -"that would facilitate the prompt and satisfactory restoration of relations between Texas and the United States Government."

A lively exodus to central and southwest Texas ensued. Much of which was wild and unsettled and inhabited by Indians - who preferred not to see any white settlers. The fleeing Gen. Joe Shelby. with a force estimated variously at from three thousand to twelve thousand men. was on his way to .ioin Maximillian in Mexico and he levied upon the county as he passed along. They were aided on many occasions by the Indians in the area. who sympathized with the "grav-riders" struggle.

Joshua. fearing reprisal by the regulators. fled Fannin County for the relative safety of the Indian territory, abandoning his home and

property. He successfully evaded capture by union regulators who believed he was formerly with "Bloody Blil" Anderson's guerlila band. This belief was fueled by the confusion near the end of the war in the northeast Texas area. Militiamen were often thought to be Confederate guerrillas. Capt. William Terrell, commanding officer of Company A, aided the regulators after the war ended, identifying and searching for his former Confederate comrades.

Exhausted and thinking of his young wife Mary, Joshua did not seek Gen. Shelby's detachment, but chose to stop in the unsettled area west of Comanche County, on the border of the Indian lands. The retreat ended for Joshua by 1870. His son, John Taylor, was born. Young John, unable to pronounce "Joshua" or "Josh" called him "Doss". the name he preferred thereafter.

He remained in Brown County with his family until his death in 1915, at the age of 76 years. He is burled in the Mukewater Cemetery near Bangs, Texas.



Jerry Coffee states: "The entry route from the East into Texas for our Coffee's came though Fannin County. This trading post at Preston (Ft. Johnson) was the only crossing of the Red River Into the Oklahoma Territory from the South (Texas) side. The "Military Road" passes through there before it disappeared into the Indian (Oklahoma) Territory. However in 1840 most of the area, Texas and Oklahoma, was Indian Territory.

Sherrie S. McLeRoy of Sherman. Texas tells us that the Museum of Great Plains in Lawton, Oklahoma has reconstructed Holland's first trading post on their grounds. Holland himself is burled in Grayson County; though his house and trading post are now gone, the museum in Sherman has a permanent exhibit on them. Possibly some of the cousins might like to make a stop through here on their way to San Antonio. PAGE 15

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CONVENTION-REUNION TIME IS AT HAND

Dear Cousins,



This is your last reminder that we gather May 1-3, 1992 ln San Antonio, Texas. A sightseeing tour is scheduled Friday morning May : to leave from Econolodge Airport at 9:00 ln the morning and return about 1:00 in the afternoon - cost is \$12.00 per person. Stops on the tour will include the Alamo and Mexican Market among others. Friday evening dinner on River Boats as they traverse the famed San Antonio River Walk area. Cost \$23.00 per person includes tip. Limit 40. I have a few seats left - first ones getting their money to me get these seats.

Saturday noon - our traditional banquet - cost \$12.00 per person includes tax and tip. Expect a BIG surprise!!!

What I need NOW is for you to send me your registration forms so I can firm up with our tour company and caterers how many to be ready to serve. Money **with** your registration would be appreciated (essential for a River Dinner Seat) since I have put up some deposits and must prepay other events BEFORE THEY HAPPEN!!!

The usual hospitality room **will** be available Friday thru Sunday noon to display and review genealogical material. We expect to have a copier **available** also.

Make_your_Motel_reservations_direct_to_(512)344-4581_for_special. Cotfev Cousins rates. Any rooms not taken by about April 15 will be released.

If you have sent tour **and/or** River dinner money I assume you **wlll** also be at Saturday banquet-but would appreciate hearing from you (with money) that you expect to attend. Sure would hate for you not to have a seat at the table for the BIG gathering



Cousin Jeff

CONVENTION 1992

SIGHTSEEII	NG - SAN ANTONIO	\$12.ea	number of perso	ns dollars \$
DINNER ON	THE RIVER (FRI. NIG	HT) \$23.ea		\$
CCC ANNUAI	L BANQUET (Sat. Noon) \$12.ea		\$
Total	8 J.		14	\$
Return to	:		2	
	Jeff Coffey 3102 Mindoro San Antonio. Texas	78217		

DOCUMENTS GALORE contd:

g.B

Velma Stepp Wilson has sent us an excerpt from a book <u>PEAPCE</u>. <u>BARTLETT. MATTHEWS.</u> <u>SMART.</u> and <u>ALLIED LINES</u> which was <u>compiled</u> by James Alonzo Matthews Jr. The book has this to say about the Coffey Family:

V. Ephraim Allison, the fifth son of William and Lucy Allison was born about 1775 in Wilkes County. North Carolina. He married Elizabeth Coffee (Coffey), a noted family of Virginia who later moved to Wilkes County. There were eight or nine brothers in the Coffey family, and many of them served in the War of 1812. Nathan, Jesse. Absolom, Nebuzaradan, and Cleveland were some of the soldiers. Coffeen, Illinois, was named for a brother of Elizabeth's who came to Illinois about the time the Pearces, Perkinses, and other families from Kentucky settled in Montgomery, Sangamon and Madison County. Ephraim Allison came to Missouri with his two brothers and first halted at New Franklin in Howard County, thence on to Cooper County, taking up his residence near BOONVIIIe, where he spent his life. He died in March Ephraim and Elizabeth (Coffey) Allison had the following 1845. children: Thomas, Lucy, Nancy, Rebecca, Elizabeth, Matlida and Will lam Allison.

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COLLEX CONSINS, CLEARINGHOUSE