



# COFFEY COUSINS' CLEARINGHOUSE



June 2003  
Issue NO. 91

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Founder: Leonard N. Coffey, b. Mar 21, 1930 - d. Jan 29, 1989

## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Dear Cousins,

What have I stepped into? Jeff Coffey, the only "president" that I have known since joining Coffey Cousins has stepped down because of health problems. As a result, I was offered up by my "friends" to be interim president to preside over the Berea gathering. When it came time to elect new leadership for 2004, I was nominated, seconded and elected before I had a chance to protest. Jeff will be a hard act to follow, and I hope that he will be able to return to the convention in 2004 and again take over leadership responsibilities. He left big shoes to fill, and I hope that he will continue to offer guidance and assistance where needed.

Bennie Coffey Loftin, with husband Bob, and all of her Kentucky cousins are to be congratulated for putting together such a large and successful convention. It was our 20th gathering, and by far the largest ever, group of Coffee/y Cousins who have gathered for the annual event. There were 113. The weather more or less cooperated, raining mostly at night so as not to interfere with daytime activities.

The next convention is scheduled for 2004 in Amarillo, Texas and we anticipate that our host, J. B. McCarley will be looking for all of the "regulars" as well as many new cousins to attend. The exact date hasn't been decided yet, but we will most likely gather sometime in early June to take advantage of several events that occur in Amarillo about that time.

*Jack*

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From: Coffey Cousins' Clearinghouse

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1416 Green Berry Road

Jefferson City, MO 65101-3620

Phone: (573)635-9057

email: [bculey@AOL.com](mailto:bculey@AOL.com)

Dear Cousins,

It is always hard to "do justice" to the great conventions our Coffee/y cousins host. Bennie and Sarah are to be congratulated for holding a very successful gathering.

Now I know Kentucky is Coffey Country but 113 is a large attendance for anywhere! The only place that might have more Coffee/ys is possibly, TEXAS. I challenge Texas to beat Bennie and Sarah next year with a bigger turn out of cousins. If ALL the Texas cousins really help J. B. McCarley by attending and getting your cousins to attend, you could do it.

#### GET THE TEXAS SPIRIT!

Of course the rest of us will be there to help. We also hope that some of the new cousins that we met in Berea will want to come again.

We were pleased to see that Jim Coffey of Michigan and Bill Coffey of Pennsylvania were able to be at the convention. Both have lost their spouses this past year. We appreciate their loyalty in attending and letting us express our condolences.

Jim and I had a great time in Berea. We were really made to feel at home by Sarah, Jim and James Poff. This is a friendly community where everyone was comfortable. This made a relaxed atmosphere where we all enjoyed each other's company. I met many really interesting people this year and only wish all our Coffee/y cousins could have shared this with us.

I especially want to thank Jessie and Robin Coffey for driving me on Sunday and for letting me use some of his pictures.

It's summer again and vacation time. I hope you will all drag out the genealogy books and go looking for that piece of evidence that has eluded you

for so long. When you find it, be sure to share it with us.

Just one more thing--- Please answer queries and help beginning genealogist when you can. You always get more in return when you give.

Bonnie

The path to enlightenment requires a flashlight with fresh batteries.



#### CONGRATULATIONS!

Jack and Nelda Coffee have a new grandson. Christopher Cole Coffee was born May 10, 2003, at 8:13 and weighed in at 7lbs, 11 oz. (They just got back to Baton Rouge in time, from the Berea Convention!!) When will he be old enough to come to a convention??

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**NEW COUSINS**

**Ancestor**

- Pamela Gettys, 2191 State, Rt. 125, Amelia, OH 45102 James A.  
 Kay Smiley, 525 Brown Rd., Madisonville, KY 40403  
 Carl Coffey, 1213 Highway 672, Dawson Springs, KY 42408  
 Howard Smith, 10394 N.Smokey Row Rd., Mooresville, IN 46158 Joel  
 Jon N. Coffee, 45695 Tournament Dr., Northville, MI 48167 Norman  
 Col. Eugene Davis, 586 Southwood Dr., Folsom, CA 95630 Newton  
 Annette Coffey, 4801 Cypress Pt., Frisco, TX 75034 Thomas  
 Shirley Smith Haines, 3088 Jay Dee Ln. Greenwood IN 46143 Jos. Smith  
 Jessie R. Coffey, 510 Westview Ave., Lockland, OH 45 215 Benjamin

**NEW COUSINS**

\* Pamela Gettys is a cousin of Jo Ann Coffey and both descend from James A. Coffey and his wife Mary E. Mitchell. Pamela's address is in the new cousins list if you have any information on this line to share with Jo Ann and Pamela.

\* Kay Smiley and Carl Coffey are cousins of Bennie Loftin. They are part of our cousins living near the Berea area and helped with the convention. We hope to hear from them often.

\*Howard P. and Deanna J. Smith are working on their pedigree charts and need help. Howard's great grandmother on his father's side was Victoria J. Coffey who married Ellas Smith in Russell Co. KY on Jan. 23, 1867. Victoria was born ca 1848. His great grandmother on his mother's side was Pruda (Prudence) J. Coffey who married Hector O. Johnson on Nov. 24, 1862 also Russell Co, KY. She was born ca 1843 and is the daughter of Joel (1799 Ky) and Ann (1804 VA) Coffey. Howard would like any help on these lines that you might be able to offer. His address is in the new cousins list.

\* Eugene Davis is trying to obtain information background on his great grand-  
 Parently Information that Eugene has

is that they lived on a ranch, 12 miles south of Grand Lake, CO on the Grand River (which was later named the Colorado River). They had come from Missouri and brought a 9 year old, Josie Kelsay with them to try to cure her of a heart ailment.

The Kelsay family came from Springfield, MO and were Eugene's mother's parents. His g.grandmother had been % Coffey who married a Kelsay boy. The ranch where the Coffeys lived is now named OURAY RANCH named for Chief Ouray, an Indian Chief of the area. The present address is #13 County Rd. 6203, Grand Co 80446 (It is now a Ranch and Anglers Club.)

The 1885 Census, Grand Co., CO  
 Coffey Newton -54, Ranchman b. ILL  
 Mary - 54 Keeps house born KY  
 Newton -27 Ranchman born ILL  
 James - 15, Ranchman born ILL  
 Kelsay, Josephine - 13 born MO  
 grand daughter at home.

The Coffeys were on a cattle drive and never returned to their ranch. It was assumed they were killed by the Indians for their cattle. The children had remained at the ranch and never found out what happened to them. Eugene would appreciate hearing from anyone who has any information on this line. Eugene's address is in the New

\* **Jon N. Coffee** was born in 1936 and adopted by Judge Norman and Ruby (Hall) Coffee. He was raised in Berger, Hutchinson Co., TX. He and his wife Judith have 5 children, Gordon Alan, Brian D., Leslie, Maria and Jeffrey. Jon would like to know if any of the cousins could help him with family information on Judge Norman Coffee and his wife. Jon's address is in the new cousins list above.

\* **Annette Coffey** joined the Coffey researchers in 1991. She was busy with other things from 1999 until now, but we are very glad to have her back in the ranks of Coffey researchers. She is researching the line of Thomas Coffey, grandson of Edward and Ann (Powell) Coffey. It was so nice to meet Annette at the convention in Berea.

### FAMILY REUNIONS

The Coffey/Coffee Reunion Association (of Texas) Annual meeting will be Aug 2-3 in Amarillo, TX. Contact Ilaha Merriman 972-934-8310 or email [ICMerriman@aol.com](mailto:ICMerriman@aol.com)

### NEW ADDRESSES

Carlene Smith, 917 Bradford Ct.,  
Cincinnati, OH 45239  
Albert Raby, 751 Arvin Rd.,  
Russellville, TN 37860-9425

### NEW EMAIL ADDRESS

Reams Goodloe: [goodloev@bellsouth.net](mailto:goodloev@bellsouth.net)  
Jo Ann Coffey: [PPLLGG@MSN.com](mailto:PPLLGG@MSN.com)  
Jo Ann Hatch: [JAFHATCH@whitemtns.com](mailto:JAFHATCH@whitemtns.com)  
Mike Ogden: [mogden@triad.rr.com](mailto:mogden@triad.rr.com)  
Jo Langwell: [honeyjo2@comcast.net](mailto:honeyjo2@comcast.net)  
(effective June 30)

### DEAD END ROADS

\* Talmadge ? needs help on the following Coffee ancestor. Nancy A. Coffee born about 1807 in TN, and married about 1825 in TN, died 1851 in Jackson Co., AL. She married Alfred DO Burrow, born 1801 in NC. He died 11 Sept. 1863 in Jackson Co. AL  
Talmadge's e-mail is <garys@charter.net>

\* **Noretta (Coffey) Lee** and **Carolyn Taylor** are sisters who attended the Berea convention with their mother and another sister. Noretta says that their ancestor, D. N. Coffey born 1830 somewhere in Tenn. was their g.g.grandfather and they are hoping someone will have some info on him. They think the D. N. Is Daniel Nathan and Mary E. Morrow was his wife. If you can help them, Noretta's email is [Memajack@aol.com](mailto:Memajack@aol.com), and "snail mail" is 28157 Par View Ct. Escondido, CA 92026.

\* **Ken Coffey** learned about the Coffey Family newsletter from the Coffey's at Jeff Coffey's Automotive in Saint Charles, MO and says; "I have a record of my branch of the Coffey family tree, as traced by a genealogist some time ago. The record goes as far back to the first Coffey in my lineage bom in the United States in est. 1692. I would like to share this information with you and the other Coffey's out there - in the hopes of ensuring it's accuracy. I am also curious to go back further to Ireland and look for the Coffey in my lineage who first came to

the US. (A little irony, as I am about 5 days away from my second Irish vacation - but didn't plan the timing of this e-mail with any intent of tracing family roots while there.) Please let me know how you would best like to receive this information. I have it photocopied - it contains some newspaper type articles and records - and in some cases, it's just the information provided by the genealogist. I have input the data into the program provided by the LDS, as recommended by the folks at Coffey's Automotive." Kim's email address is [kimberlydcoffey@hotmail.com](mailto:kimberlydcoffey@hotmail.com)

\* Robert M. Spurgeon wrote asking for help with his research on the William R. Crisp, senior and junior. In Issue 10, page 4 Kenneth R. Coffee had sent Leonard Coffey (editor at that time) material explaining the connection between the Coffees and Crisps of Wayne Co. KY. In 1823 Nathaniel Coffey married Elizabeth (Louisa) Durham. They were divorced in 1830. In 1835, Louisa married William Crisp and they raised Andrew Jackson Coffey b. 1825, Edwin Cleveland Coffey b. 1826/7, with stepbrother William R. Crisp, jr. b. Ca 1824. E.C. Coffey and William R. Crisp took wives in 1845 and moved to Texas by 1850. In Texas Edwin Cleveland Coffey became E. C. COFFEE. Robert says that his grandmother was Sallie Elizabeth Crisp, b. 13 Aug 1890, Kaufman, TX and d. 19 Sep 1978, Detroit, ML Her father was John William Crisp, b. 3 Feb 1848, d. 23 Jan 1897, Van Zandt Co., TX. His father

was William Riley Crisp who married Telitha VanHooser on 7 May 1845 in Wayne Co., KY and moved to Texas in the late 1840s.

If you can help Robert, his address is P.O. Box 801, Bulan, KY 41722-0801. Email: [HCGRAMS@WMCONNECT.COM](mailto:HCGRAMS@WMCONNECT.COM)

\*Ken Coffey sent the following message. Possibly someone can work with him on his line. His email address is [kcoffey/30@hotmail.com](mailto:kcoffey/30@hotmail.com). "I'm sorry that I had to miss the Coffey Convention this year. I wanted to come and meet all the cousins. My mother is very sick with cancer and my father has been sick for the past week (he is 76)..

We are having a Coffey reunion the second weekend in August in Monticello, KY and I'm also trying to make it to that one. It is for the Coffeys of Lewis Coffey and Permelia Ann Tucker (my g.g.grandmother) and the Barnett family. These two families are very intermarried. My g. Grandmother was Lina May Barnett and two of my grandmother's (Ethel Coco Powell Coffey) sisters married two of g.grandma Lina's brothers. I hope you had a nice time and I hope to make next years convention, where ever it is. I was really looking forward to this year in KY!"

\* Karen H. ?? from Grainger County, TN is researching her husband Tommy's line of Coffeys. They are as follows: Martha Emaline Coffey married Wainwright/Winright Shockley. Their daughter, Martha Jane Shockley married Thomas Coffey, s/o William Ira Coffey and Sarah Jane

Hipsher. Thomas and Martha Jane Shockley Coffey had a daughter named Margaret Coffey who married William H. Hedrick/Headrick. Their son Robert married Dexter Coffey, d/o Elijah and Martha (Coffey) Coffey. Robert and Dexter (called Bob and Dek) were Tommy's grandparents and his adopted parents. Her email is [csnyfan@hotmail.com](mailto:csnyfan@hotmail.com)

\* Betty Coffey gave a query to a cousin at the convention who passed it to me. She is looking for information on the following family.

1. James Lincoln Coffey
2. Sherman Coffey m. Anna Frances Brown
3. Bobbie Carroll Coffey m. Betty Young
3. Barbara Coffey

The older generation is buried in the Old Thompson Cemetery in Greene Co. KY. If you recognize Betty's family, please write to her at 1955 Columbia Road, (no city name) 42129.

\* Dick Coffey says "I am seeking anyone with knowledge of my g.g. grandfather William F. Coffey. He was born somewhere in Ky. on Oct. 25, 1849. He spent most of his life in Ky. until about 1903 when he came to Lincoln Il. to work for the Chicago and Alton R.R. He was married to Mary C. McQuery/McQueary and they were the parents of 13 children, one of which was my grandfather James Daniel Coffey. She is buried beside him in Union Cem. in Lincoln Il. He could have been married more than one time. He died on Dec. 21, 1911 after being struck by a train at the Tremont

St. crossing in Lincoln where he worked as a crossing guard. He was 62 years old. His wife preceded him in death in 1907. At the time of his death he was living with a widowed daughter known only as Mrs. Berkley on Logan St. about 2 blocks from where he was killed. Several of his sons were railroad men working for various lines.

His children were; Timothy, Abe, James Daniel, Margaret and Anna (twins), Eller, Victoria and Permelia both middle names (twins), Owen (Iggy), Charles Harrison, Willis Edgar (Uncle Ed), John died at 3 (killed by Abe cleaning a gun ) and Oscar.

William F. death certificate says that his father was from Ky. born about 1817 and says that his name is William Coffey. No middle initial. There is no mention of his mother. Buried in the plot with William F. and his wife are the names Marlene B. Rilehart or Rinehart and Elizabeth M Gordon. Other surnames in this Coffey line through marriage are, Hays, Jones, Rupert, Warefield, Drake, and Knutson.

The last known address of two of his sons was Edgar in Decatur IL and Oscar in Mobile Ala. Two daughters, Mrs. Mag Farmer in Long Beach California and Mrs. Thomas Lane in Moreland Ky. That was in Dec. 1956.

If I can find anyone that knows anything about any of these people I may be able to tie into the line that I think is mine." Dick's email address is [rhcoffey@jceinc.com](mailto:rhcoffey@jceinc.com)

\* Bonnie Bellamy is searching for information on William Coffee b. 1784 , Wilkes Co. N.C, d. after 1850, probably Gwinnett Co. Ga. he

married Sarah \_\_\_\_\_? according to my info. he was the son of John b. 1753 D. 1825 Wilkes Co. N.C. who married Mary (Polly or Molly), John and Mary had 11 children , William being the fifth. This John was the son of James Coffee and Elizabeth Cleveland Coffee. I am a member of CCC. and my line is John James Coffee m Martha Virginia Epperson in Ala. 1869. he was the son of Joel William or William Joel Coffee and Elizabeth Ann Moore, married 1849, in Morgan Co Ala. I have not determined what line Joel W. came from. I have no records on him before 1850. Any info I receive will be greatly appreciated. my e-mail address is [Bbellamy76@aol.com](mailto:Bbellamy76@aol.com). Thanks, Bonnie's email address is [Bbellamy76@aol.com](mailto:Bbellamy76@aol.com)

\* Tony Ryder is hoping that one of the cousins has run across Michael J. Coffey, Tailor & Darper who last known address was 1401-1402 Association Building, 19 South LaSalle St., Chicago, IL. His phone # was Tel. Central 3439. Michael was Tony's great grandmother's brother and emigrated to the USA sometime around the turn of the century. Tony sent a copy of a picture of Michael with the inscription, "To my dear little niece Esther, lovingly Uncle Michael, Chicago, Illinois." This Esther was Esther Carroll, born 1900 in Dublin, Ireland and was the daughter of Hugh Carroll and Mary Coffey. Hugh Carroll ran a tailoring business on Essex Quay, Dublin.

Tony has a lot of genealogy to share with any one interested in this line. Tony asks that if you can help him to contact him at his email address [<aryderl@ntlworld.ie>](mailto:aryderl@ntlworld.ie) or 43 Raheen Close, Tallaght, Dublin 24.

\* J Brown bought the 2 volumn History of Lafayette Co. MO, pub 1881 by the St. Louis Mo Historical Co. In the biographical sketch of Mrs. Lou Abney, of Higgensville, MO it mentions that her name is Rebecca "Lou" Abney who had been married to B. F. Coffee and remarried to Mr. L. W. Abney after B. F.'s death. The marriages I found on the US GenWeb Archives Search for Lafayette Co., MO. "Lou would be the Louisiana Ennis who married Benjamin Franklin Coffee and the other Ennis girl was Mary A. Ennis who married Jackson Coffee. Both marriages are posted on the Lafayette Co., Mo archives at Rootsweb. Please help! J. Brown's email address is [jbrown70@san.rr.com](mailto:jbrown70@san.rr.com)

\* Andrea Nelson is most interested in finding information on Elzonia Coffey which I suspect is a daughter of Metilda/Matilda Williams and James Coffey. I believe that Metilda/Matilda is a sister to Martha Ellen Williams who married William B. Warriner! The birthday that I show for Metilda Williams is Jan 25, 1851 - her death date I show as Apr 14, 1933 Jamestown, Russell Co., KY and I show a birthday for Elzonia Coffey as Feb 12, 1883 Russell Co., KY. and for Elijah Burton I show b: Jun 25, 1871 Pulaski Co., KY. Do you think this is the same family? Martha Ellen Williams is my

children's (thru their paternal line)  
**3rd. greatgrandmother. It is the parentage and other ancestry of Metilda/Matilda Williams and Martha Ellen Williams that I am stuck on. (Also stuck on William B. Warriner ancestry)! I think your newsletter entry will be of a source of help in my brick wall I'm hoping. Please email: Andrea.Nelson@mchsi.comsnail mail is: Andrea Nelson501 Northwest Ave. Fisher, IL 61843**

### DOCUMENTS GALORE

THE FOLLOWING COFFEES ARE BURIED  
 IN THE JANE CEMETERY AT JANE,  
 MCDONALD COUNTY, MISSOURI  
 as of this typing 2/8/2003:  
 from Sharon Spiva Hanks 404 Haven  
 Manor Dr. New Haven, Missouri 63068  
[sharon01@fidnet.com](mailto:sharon01@fidnet.com)

R-55—JOHN O. COFFEE b.20 Nov 1807 or  
 1887 d. 12 Feb 1900

R-58—MYRTLE E. COFFEE b. 1883 d.  
 1966

(ssw)—CHARLES L COFFEE b. 1872 d.  
 1953

R-9-OLLIE DEAN COFFEE born and died  
 1914 son of John and Cora Coffee

(ssw)—INFANT COFFEE born & died  
 December 1912 son of John & Cora  
 Coffee

R-9—WILLIAM HARRISON COFFEE b. 24  
 Feb 1843 d. 6 July 1921 son of Meredith  
 Coffee

R-9-HILEAD OKLA (CAUDILL) COFFEE b.  
 26 Jan 1850 d. 1 Feb 1912 wife of  
 William Harrison Coffee

R-15—ELVA TENNESSEE (CLARK) COFFEE  
 b. 1853 d. 1936 wife of Joseph Coffee  
 (ssw)-JOSEPH COFFEE b. 1845 d. 1913

R-15—NANCY JANET born and died Feb  
 1912 Infant daughter of Henry and Ilie

### Coffee

R-15—DAVID COFFEE b. 1850 d. 1918  
 (ssw)-MIRIAH PARALEE (CLARK) COFFEE

b. 1856 d. 1919 wife of David Coffee

R-15—KATE LORA COFFEE b. 1884 d.  
 1960

R-15—PIERCE COFFEE b. 1878 d. 1940

NS-CORA L COFFEE b. 1890 d. 1976

R-15—JOHN F. COFFEE b.1881 d. 1957

R-23-HICE FREDRICK COFFEE b. 1883 d.  
 1953

(ssw)-NORA GERTRUDE (FORD) COFFEE  
 b. wife of Hice F. Coffee

R-23-LILLIE COFFEE b. 1903 d. 1925  
 daughter

R-23—LLOYD COFFEE b.1910 d. 1912  
 son

R-23-FRED COFFEE b. 15 July 1908 d. 8  
 Jan 1910 son

R-23—R. H COFFEE born and died '61 no  
 century given, son of C. R.

R-23—LONNIE JOE COFFEE b. 10 Jan  
 1945 d. 7 July 1962

R-56-MEREDITH COFFEE b. Dec 1881 d.  
 May 1885

R-61—ELIZABETH (HOPPER) COFFEE b. 23  
 Nov 1817 d. 18 July 1899 wife of  
 Meredith Coffee

R-61—MEREDITH COFFEE b. 6 Jan 1822  
 d. 10 Feb 1892 son of John Coffee and  
 Rebecca Ragsdale Coffee

R-61 -LILLIAN S. COFFEE b. 20 Dec 1913  
 d. 1 July 1970

(ssw)-EARL O. COFFEE b. 23 April 1913  
 d. unknown

R-57-WARREN M. R. COFFEE b. 17  
 June??? d. Sept 1876

R-56—A.COFFEE b. June 1879 d. Aug  
 1879

R-56—INFANT COFFEE b. 9 Jan 1908 d. 5  
 June 1908 2 infants of A. E. and Nora B.

R-56-J. A. COFFEE b. 28 Mar 1845 d. 5  
 May 1913

R-22-SELMA COFFEE b. 17 Aug 1904 d.  
11 Sept 1976

R-38—ALBIE (COFFEE) CARNES b. 27 Jan  
1877 d. 11 Mar 1923 wife of William H.  
Carnes

R-16—FLORENCE BELL (COFFEE) BUNCH  
b. 1870 d. 1923 wife of William Henry  
Bunch

R-15—SARAH E. (COFFEE) PIERCE b.  
1872 d. 1948

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While in Ohio I (Bonnie) ran into a list of  
Coffee/ys in The Ohio Genealogy Society,  
Ohio Marriage Records through 1820,  
page 203.

#### COFFEE

Elizabeth to William Cline, Sept 27 1814,  
Ross Co. Bk.B, pg154

Joseph to Neomi McKindley, Apr 2 1812,  
Belmont Co. Bk.B,pg 69

Peggy to Wm. Jordan, Apr 15 1819, Ross  
Co. Bk.B, pg360

Ruthy to Wm. G. Martin, Nov 13 1820,  
Champaign Co Bk.B,pg35

Tatam to Rebecca Roberts, Mar 30 1820,  
Clark Co. Bk.1A, pg48

#### COFFEY

Isavella to Watson Douglas, 27 Feb 1812,  
Highland Co. Bk.1, pg85

Polly to Alexander Morrow, Dec 21 1815,  
Highland Co. Bk.Ind.pg85

While surfing the web, I found that  
Osborn and Jesse Coffey signed an  
application for pension from the  
Revolutionary War for one, Gideon Hodge.  
The record is listed as follows:

Gideon Hodge S38846 W.TN #175390  
\$96 yr. Issued 5 Jun 1820. The  
application starts 7 Jan 1819 in Franklin  
Co. TN. The web address is:  
[www.tngenweb.org/franklin/revwar.htm](http://www.tngenweb.org/franklin/revwar.htm)

## OBITUARIES

### MARGUERITE COFFEY

Marguerite E. Coffey, 86, lifelong  
resident of Spring Lake, MI, died  
Thursday, Mar. 6, 2003. She was born  
Sept. 9, 1916 to George P. And Sophia  
(Ungering) Donner Sr. In Muskogen  
and married James C. Coffey on June  
19, 1943 in Port Clinton, OH.

Mrs. Coffey was a member of St.  
Mary's Catholic Church, the Woman's  
Club, the Quilt Club, and friend of  
Spring Lake Library. She was a former  
Girl Scout leader and loved reading.  
Survivors include her husband James,  
two daughters, Nicole (James)  
Woodard, Miami, FL and Kathryn  
(Ross) Steketee, Drenthe MI; two sons,  
Chris Coffey, Ferrysburg and James R.  
(Margaret) Coffey, Ferrysburg; a  
grand-daughter, Janelle Coffey,  
Holland, MI.

We send our sympathy to her family.

### KATHERINE COFFEY

John D. Coffey wrote that he lost his  
sister Wilma (Coffey) Robinson in  
2002. His wife Katherine, passed away  
March 1, 2003 in Columbus, OH. John  
says that he and his sister descend  
from William, Mason and Rodger  
Coffey of Kentucky.

We send our sympathy to John.

### GEORGE C. COFFEY

George C. Coffey, 79 passed away Feb.  
22, 2002. Born in Devol, OK, he grew  
up in Oklahoma City, the son of  
educators, John L and Lois Reynolds  
Coffey. He served in the U.S. Army  
stationed in Wichita Falls, TX where he  
met his wife, Blanche, who  
predeceased him after 57 years of  
marriage. They lived in Tulsa since  
1947. Survivors include: sons, Robert  
J. Coffey, M.D. and Richard C. Coffey  
both of Tulsa; brother, Nance M.  
Coffey, Oklahoma City; 3 grand-

children, Chris, Alex and Kathryn Coffey.

#### **MRYTLE HARWOOD**

Myrtle Harwood's subscription of Coffey Cousins' Clearinghouse was returned in March with the notation of deceased. We have no other information about her demise but send our sympathy to her family.

#### **DAVID A. COFFEY**

David Anthony Coffey was born Dec. 1 1946 to John Clayton and Mary (Cornelius) Coffey. He died April 18, 2003 at South Padre Island, TX, was buried in Shirley, Arkansas. He married Nobuko "Judy" Kokayashi on Sept. 1, 1968. He is survived by his mother Mary Coffey of Mesquite, TX, one daughter and son in law Tiffanie Miko and Mark Van Der Vard of London, England. Preceding him in death were his father and a brother, Douglas Coffey.

We send our sympathy his mother, Mary Coffey and his family.

#### **DAVID KENDRICK**

David Kendrick age 61, died May 12, 2003 at Haggin Memorial Hospital, Harrodsburg, KY. David lived in Monticello, Wayne Co., KY. His parents were Harry and Alma Klizabeth (Coffey) Kendrick and grandparents, Jeff and Lina May (Barnett) Coffey. He was married to Dona Potts.

He was buried in the Elk Spring Cemetery, Monticello, KY.  
(Submitted by Kenneth Wayne Coffey)

#### **REV. WILLIAM COFFEY**

Funeral services for the Reverend Bill Coffey (Australia) was held on March 16, 2003.

(Sent by Andre Cuffez, Belgium)

### **CURRENTS IN THE STREAM**

\* Bob Glascock <[rglasscock@nts-online.net](mailto:rglasscock@nts-online.net)> sent an email announcing the Texas Coffee-Coffey Reunion. It will be held in Amarillo, TX on Aug 2, 2003. Their business meeting will be held at the Western Slizzer Restaurant. For more information on this reunion, email Bob at the address above or phone 806-356-6800.

We are hoping that this group will also visit us at next years Coffey Cousins' Convention to be held in Amarillo. We really would like to meet more of our cousins in this area.

\* Andre Cuffez says; "I like to read your newsletters. Since you do not have the 'Coffey Genealogy 2', I shall send you a free copy of 'Coffey Genealogy 3' of 1991. It is a reprint of the 1987-edition. This edition was not sent to the libraries in the U.S. and elsewhere. I hope that it will be mentioned in the website of Coffey Cousins' Clearinghouse, and if possible, to add the paragraph mentioning the libraries, where my works are. The text of this paragraph is in the last e-mail that I sent to Mr. Jack Coffee.

On internet I found out that the funeral of the Reverend Bill Coffey (Australia) was held on March 16, 2003. I have corresponded a lot with him (see my Coffey Genealogy 3). At the moment I work very hard on my own lineage, so I have not much time for anything else. Please let me know by e-mail when you receive my book. When I overlook my mailing list of 'Coffey Genealogy 3', I see that I have a copy of it to Mr. Len Coffey on

21/6/1988. In the month of May I will be on leave abroad.

Andre Cuffez

\* Johnny Brown wrote that she had three cousins pass away in 2002. All of them are John Coffey's grandchildren and great grandchildren of Rich Coffey.

Radie Ryan, daughter of Fannie Coffey  
W. C. (Bill) Coffey son of Sam Coffey  
Albert Whetstone son of Susie Coffey  
Johnny says that also in January her nephew Emory Walker, 80 years old, died. He was a great great grandson of Rich Coffey.

There are only five grandchildren of John Coffey left of which Johnny is the youngest at 75. The oldest is her sister Ola Foster who is 91. For more on this family, write Johnny Brown at 2802 Nichols St., Kerrville, TX 78028-5753.

\* Andre Cuffez of Belgium wrote asking us to remind you of his book Coffey Genealogy 3, 1985 (+addenda) which is listed in the on-line catalog of several libraries in the U.S. and the Library of Congress. He has visited the Coffey Cousins' web site and was impressed by the number of visitors to the site.

\* James Scott has a real problem. Last Labor Day he and his family went to Kentucky. When they returned they found their home destroyed by water - a water line in the upstairs bath room blew apart and it was estimated that 18,000 gallons of water escaped. To make a long story shorter, James has lost 35 years of research. He is

looking for copies of his work on Aanas Coffey and Jane Hindman family. (I am still looking and have not finished going through all of the boxes of material that I have received from the cousins in the last 14 years but am working on it.) Hopefully someone else also has material on James family and can share with him too. His address is P.O. Box 457, Loganville, GA 30052

\* Provided by Jerry Coffee of Piano, TX <[j.coff@verizon.net](mailto:j.coff@verizon.net)>

Extracted from "Southern Trails"  
by "Sammy Riley"

COFFEEVILLE-Van Zandt

Isaac Van Zandt (1813-1847) lawyer, legislator, and diplomat for the Republic of Texas moved to Coffeeville, Mississippi about 1835 and established a store but lost everything in the depression of 1837. He and his wife moved to Texas in 1838 and settled in Marshall where he practiced law. President Sam Houston appointed him charge d'affairs to the United States in 1842. Coffeeville, Texas in Upshur County was named for Coffeeville, Mississippi where Isaac Van Zandt started his second store. Coffeeville, Texas was a important wagon stop and recreation spot at the fork of Jefferson-Dallas Road and the Jefferson-Gatesville Road. The town was established about 1845 but began a ten year decline after War Between the States and was no longer a community by 1875. Camp Talley, Confederate army training camp was located at Coffeeville, Texas. My great grandmother Parmelia (Wyatt) Gilmer (1860-1945) was born at Coffeeville,

Texas and attended school there until age twelve. Coffeerville had one of only four schools in Upshur County until 1867. My great grandfather William E. Gilmer (1848-1914) was born in Jasper County Georgia and became a drummer boy in the 14th Jasper County Infantry, CSA, at the age of twelve. He immigrated from Jasper County Georgia after the War between the States and came through Jefferson Texas and met the Wyatt family at Coffeerville, Texas. They left Coffeerville in 1872 and migrated to Gatesville, Texas where William and Parmelia were married in 1874. Van Zandt County is named for Isaac Van Zandt.

\* Timothy Peterman says that he doesn't know if there are many subscribers left who remember his earlier involvement with CCC, but figures he should send a brief update. "I have remained active in genealogy down through the years. I have been serving as the Membership Secretary & Registrar of the Kansas Society, Sons of the American Revolution ([www.sar.org](http://www.sar.org)), since 1995. A lot of my efforts have been focused here.

My grandfather, Roy R. Robinson died on Jan. 8, 2000, at age 100. He was the son of Perry & Lena (Coffey) Robinson. When he was 96 years old, he joined the SAR through the service of his g-g-g grandfather, Nathan Coffey. I now have Nathan Coffey registered as one of my supplementals. I noticed in the Rev War service records of South Carolina that a Salathiel Coffey is listed. I am wondering if this is the same as the one from Wilkes Co., NC.

My major genealogical effort right now is something I call the "4th cousin project". It comprises an attempt to locate all (or as many as possible) of

the descendants of my 32 g-g-g grandparents, down to the present day. I'm not focused on the Coffey side right now, but this will mean all of the descendants of Rev. Newton Eli Coffey & Martha L. Vermillion. I estimate that I have at least 30,000 4th cousins.

Another genealogical focus of mine is on DNA projects. I think that a y-chromosome project would benefit the world of Coffey genealogy immensely. For more details go to ([www.ftdna.com](http://www.ftdna.com)) We have a large base of Coffeys that are theoretically related, but the paper trail runs cold before a connection can be made. An example would be proving:

A. if the Chesley descendants really share the same patriliney.

B. are they really cousins of Rev. James (ie descendants of Edward Coffey/ Ann Powell)

C. Are the other Coffeys of the South really related (eg, Peter Coffee family).

A 25 marker test of living Coffeys could prove the above. It won't tell folks how they are related, but it will prove whether they are related. We could start a surname project at Family Tree DNA

I would encourage CCC members to look this over & then maybe decide whether to start a project. By the way, I don't own stock in that company. I had my patriliney & matriline tested through Oxford Ancestors. Then, I paid for one of my Wilson cousins to take a test as part of the Wilson project at Family Tree DNA. I have become a strong proponent of this technology." Tim's address is 11315 Applewood Dr. Kansas City, MO 64134.

\* Ellen Wagner says; 'You bet! My grandmother Coffey was a Rucker. Her line is Peter 1, John 2, Ambrose 3, Ambrose 4, Thomas 5,

Ambrose 6, Mary Virginia Rucker 7, m. Edwin H. Coffey (my grandparents), Edwin Douglas Coffey 8,, Ellen Douglas Coffey 9 (me), William and David Wagner 10.

The 2000 Rucker Reunion celebrated the 300th anniversary of Peter's arrival in this country. We met in Jamestown/Williamsburg. For more information on the 2003 reunion contact Ellen Wagner at [<RDECWagner@aol.com>](mailto:RDECWagner@aol.com)

\* Jerry Coffey of Piano, TX writes: "It will be interesting to meet the Texas Panhandle Coffees at the Coffee(y) Cousins Clearinghouse Convention in Amarillo next year. Those Coffees can give me more details about Thomas L (Tom) Coffee and his nephews who were managers, range bosses, and drovers on various large ranches in the Texas Panhandle from 1878 to 1910. Tom Coffee was range boss of the Quarter Circle T and hired his six nephews. One nephew, Woodson Coffee, became the manager of the Turkey Track Ranch near Adobe Walls, Texas. Tom Coffee later became the range boss of the N Bar N Ranch in Carson County that was established in 1886 established by William F. and Frederick W. Niedringhaus of St. Louis. Niedringhaus was the inventor of a process for making cook-ware and founder of the company that makes Graniteware. Tom Coffee was the drover on one of the last large cattle drives from the N Bar N Ranch to Charles F. Coffee's Hat Creek Cattle Ranch in Nebraska-Wyoming and the N Bar N Ranch's Wolf Creek, Montana range. Charles F. Coffee is

one of Col. John Trousdale Coffee sons and made cattle drives up the Western Trail through Central Texas from Georgetown, Texas to Nebraska to established his Hat Creek Cattle Ranch in Wyoming and packing house at the railhead in Chadron, Nebraska. It was the largest packing house west of the Mississippi River at one time. Why ship live cattle to Chicago for slaughter when you can ship the meat instead?

The famous western artist, Charles Marion Russell launched his artistic career after he left St. Louis for Montana and lived in Tom Coffee's line shack. On August 6, 1966, descendants of William Niedringhaus and Tom Coffee met at White Deer, Texas for a reunion, seventy-three years after the historic last cattle drive. The occasion was the town's sixtieth anniversary and they still have annual reunions at White Deer at the restored white frame house in Panhandle, Texas. The house, once utilized by the N Bar N Ranch, is now the nucleus of the extensive Carson County Square House Museum. The museum was accredited by the American Association and has been awarded the American Association for State and Local History National Award of Merit While we are at the Coffee(y) Cousins convention, we will visit that museum as well as the Panhandle Plains Museum in Canyon, Texas. Adobe Walls and the Panhandle Planes Museum in Canyon, Texas would be a nice place for all the cousins to visit during the convention.

**FLAT TOP RANCH & RICH COFFEY**

My brother Dr. Carol Coffee in Houston, Texas said the water level on the Colorado River was several feet higher before the soil conservation dams were built in west Texas. He said at that he and our brother JT, put a canoe in at Winched Texas on the river or at Keys Crossing in the late 1930s, on a Sunday morning before sunrise and paddled all the way to the bridge on State Hwy.16, north of San Saba/Texas. Our Dad would pick them up just before dark the same day and take them back to Brownwood, Texas. The distance covered was a distance of approximately 40 miles as the crow flies and at least 50 miles by canoe. The water level on the Colorado River was high enough to paddle a canoe from Ballinger Texas to the Lake Buchanan dam before the Agricultural and Soil Conservation Service built the empoundments on the Colorado River watershed in west Texas. My brother said they could not paddle any further than the highway bridge at San Saba Texas before sundown. The final "plug" on the Colorado River that lowered the water level to less than two or three feet deep and a mere five feet wide at Keys Crossing was the O.H. Ivie Reservoir, located at the confluence of the Concho and Colorado River. Construction on the dam was started in 1985 and was dedicated in 1990. The two-mile long earthfill dam built by Brown and Root USA that made a 20,000 acre feet reservoir is called the Simon W. Freese Dam and was named after the owner of a Fort Worth Texas engineering company that has worked on reservoir water projects since 1949. The reservoir was planned by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers since 1938 but the project was delayed over the

years by negotiations to preserve pioneer cemeteries, settlements and archaeological sites that were founded as early as 1684. Rich Coffey's Flat Top Ranch, freight and stage stop on the Brownwood - San Angelo Road was built in 1862 and was one of the sites that was covered by the reservoir. The historical San Clemente Mission site built by the early Spanish explorer Juan Dominguez Mendoza in May 1684 and was occupied until July 1684 was also covered by the lake. Although some controversy exists over it's exact location, the mission is thought by most scholars to be in the same area as Rich Coffey's Flat Top Ranch headquarters and stage stop. Only Mendoza's notes indicate where the mission was built and it was the "Glorious San Clemente River" which is thought by modern archaeologists to be at the confluence of the Concho and Colorado River. The San Clemente Mission was occupied by the Spanish for a short time but it was the last Spanish mission built in Texas west of the Brazos River. After the French undertook exploration in east Texas and the appearance of the La Salle expedition on the Texas coast in 1685, the Spaniards decided to concentrate their efforts and mission construction in East Texas to oppose any French settlement in the area. The rock corrals for the mules and horses were used at the overnight stop on the Brownwood - San Angelo Stage and Freight Line, the Flat Top ranch headquarters and the bunk houses built by Rich Coffey in 1862, are thought by some scholars to be made of stones from the old San Clemente Mission. That is also why conclusive evidence of the location of the old Spanish mission has never been found. by Jerry Coffee

## 2003 COFFEY COUSINS CONVENTION

Boy, was Berea a great convention! Bennie Loftin and Sarah Poff really showed us a good time. The cousins arrived to find a grand old "Boone Tavern" hotel with lots of charm and LOTS of COUSINS. The convention breaks Calgary, Canada's attendance record with **113** visiting our meeting room and 96 of these shared in the banquet. There were 63 cousins who came for the first time. Six of these had attended the very first convention in Boone, NC (older by 20 years of course). They were Bennie & Bob Loftin, sisters, Lillian Harrell & Juanita Long and Jim and Bonnie Culley. Virgil Coffee, a devoted cousin, was again the oldest there.

**Nelda** Coffee and Jo Langwell kept the hospitality table stacked with more goodies than we could eat. These were donated by very generous cousins and Nelda baked for a week before. We always auction a few things off to raise money to support the next convention and we had an exceptional prize this year. Bennie Loftin pieced & quilted a quilt. We had lots of nice prizes and hope cousins will continue this generosity.

We started early Friday with a shopping spree at the Bybee Pottery store and later with tours of the college campus and craft areas. These **trips** were very interesting and free to anyone who wished to go. Another optional entertainment was the Renfro Valley attractions and shows. Some cousin went on Friday and some on Saturday. The Renfro Valley Barn Dance was started by the popular country music entertainer, John Lair. His mother was a Coffey and his two daughters, Ann & Barbara were at our banquet.

Because of the unexpected large number attending, we had to eat in the dining room and then retire to our hospitality room for the meeting. James Preston (Pete) Seals led us in the dinner prayer. Bennie Loftin welcomed everyone to the convention. Bonnie Culley announced that our long time president, Jeff Coffey was unable to attend for health reasons and the board appointed Jack Coffee as Interim President. Jack called the meeting to order and Jo Langwell read the minutes for Gail **Bachman**, secretary. Harold Butz lead us in a prayer for our deceased cousins. Bonnie Culley gave an Editor's Report. Ream's Goodloe reported that the newspaper index was up to date and if you need a copy it he can make it on 2 comuter disk.

We were entertained by singer Kay Smiley, ending with a patriotic rendition that brought tears to all our eyes. Jeanne Snodgrass Bonham followed with her program "Where The Bodies Lie." It was humorous tale of the things she ran into while collecting data for her Rockcastle Co. Cemeteries book.

J. B. McCarley reported on his plans for the 2004 Convention to be held in Amarillo, TX. It will probably be on June 10 but watch the newsletter for the definite dates. He has a great program worked up for us and you will read more about it later this year.

Interim President Jack Coffee called for election of officers. He was elected to continue as President and Jo **Langwell** was elected as Secretary.

A discussion on volunteering to host future conventions was held with several looking into holding one in their city. We retired to have the group photo taken across the street, on the steps of a beautiful church. Not everyone participated but it's still a good picture.

Only a **handfull** of cousins stayed over to take the Sunday tour of the Maret & Marvel Coffey Cemeteries and the Great Salt Petre Cave. I will never regret seeing the Salt Petre Cave although I took the short route. Now the Ausbon Coffey family cemetery was another thing - It is in the Boone National Forest. We drove some distance into the forest and parked. There were mud bikers **everywhere** zooming around. We got onto a trailer pulled by a 4 wheeler and rode several miles on a trail until Sarah started into the woods. You can't see the tombstones until you are THERE. It is very dense woods. Sarah says that they have decided to leave it this way to keep the mud bikers from vandalizing it. (Glad I went) **Thanks again to Bennie & Bob Loftin and Sarah and Jim Poff**



### LIST of Those Attending

BONHAM, Jeanne (Snodgrass); CHRISTENSEN, Robert S. & Patricia A.; CLARK, **Darlene** & BUTZ, Harold; COFFEE, Virgil **O.**; COFFEE, Dale & **Nola.**; COFFEE, Edwin & Phyllis; COFFEE, Jack & Nelda; COFFEY, Annette; CARAWAY, Pauvette (Coffey); COFFEY, Douglas; COFFEY, Randel & Barbara; COFFEY, Dan & Marie; POFF, Jim & Sarah (Coffey); POFF, Pamela; POFF, Tom & Gwinna (Smith); POFF, Jane; POFF, James Michael; HARDING, Amy (Nicely) & Cory; BANKS, Ray & Debbie (Poff); SEALS, James Preston "Pete" & Gaye (Coffey); COLYER, Pattie (Seals), Miranda & Andrew; PINGLETON, Emily; COFFEY, Carl & Rosalee (Wowas); COFFEY, Gene & Bonnie (Reed); COFFEY, Mose & Beulah (Taylor); SMILEY, Gary & Kaye (Coffey); COFFEY, James C; COFFEY, Christopher M.; COFFEY, Jessie R. & Robin; COFFEY, Richard H. & Gretchen; COFFEY, William J. "Bill" Coffey; COFFEY, Everett; WEST, **Melva**; HIPSHER, Rhonda; CULLEY, Jim & Bonnie; FERGUSON, Shirley; COWELL, Holly; GOODLOE, Reams & Virginia; HENDERSON, Ann (Lair); SMITH, Barbara (Lair); HARRELL, Lillian (Coffey); LONG, Juanita (Coffey); FERGUSON, Donna (Long); HENRY, Herb "BUZZ" & Melva (Jones); KENDRICK, Bonnie (Gill); COMBS, Tammy; COMBS and Tabitha; LANGWELL, Jo; LEES, Noretta (Coffey); TAYLOR, Carolyn (Coffey); FIELDER, Sadie (Coffey); LOFTIN, Bob & Bennie (Coffey); McCARLEY, J.B.; MCKINNEY, Billie (Coffee); BURNS, Patsy D.; SMITH, J.J. & Maggie; SMITH, Don G. & Ginger; SMITH, Gary & **Oleta**; SMITH, Howard P.; SMITH, **Slee** Owen; HAINES, Shirley (Smith); HAINES, David; WAGNER, Bob & Ellen (Coffey); WEBB, Charles D. & **Pam**; COFFEY, Randy; MOSIER, Cathy (Seals); MOSIER, Zachary; FISH, Jennifer (Kidwell); KIDWELL, Sheila; TODD, Maria (Seals); TODD, **Edmond**; CHASTEEN, Tonya; BARTRUFF, Taylor; CAMERON, Willadean; COFFEY, PAUL; COFFEY, Stella Mae; COFFEY, Fred; COFFEY, Alice; SOBOL, Charita (Coffey); SOBOL, Joshua; GOUGHNOUR, Mr. & Mrs. Bob



Welcome  
Coffey Cousins

CHURCHILL  
WEAVERS

SNAPSHOTS OF THE  
COFFEY CONVENTION

DOONE TAVERN

**NEW BOOKS**

I have received/purchased the following books, all excellent tools for the Coffee/ researchers.

\***COFFEY GENEALOGY 3 - By A. Cuffez, Pr. Stefanieplein 5, B-8400 Oostende (Belgium)**

\***COFFEY COUSINS, NORTH SIDE OF CLINCH MOUNTAIN, TENNESSEE and BEYOND - by Bennie L (Coffey) Loftin, Rt 1, Box 270, Kiowa, OK 745539727**

\***COFFEY/COFFEE in Kentucky (1800 Federal Census) - by Ron Payne, 79 Payne Rd., Falkville, AL 35622-9403**

\***ROCKCASTLE COUNTY, KENTUCKY: GUARDIAN BONDS 1857-1899**

\***ROCKCASTLE COUNTY, KENTUCKY STATE VITAL STATISTICS & FEDERAL CENSUS MORTALITY SCHEDULES, OFFICIAL RECORDS FROM THE 1800s**

\***ROCKCASTLE COUNTY, KENTUCKY CEMETERY RECORDS**

The last 3 by Jeanne Snodgrass Bonham & Patricia Heylmann Hiatt 516 Hickory Hill Lane, Cincinnati, OH