



# COFFEY COUSINS' LEARINGHOUSE



**March 2007**  
**Issue NO. 104**

**ISSN 0749-758X**

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

## **EDITOR'S LETTER**

Dear Cousins,

I do hope that you already have your reservations for the Coffey Convention in Debuque, Iowa. Darlene Clark has a lot for us to see and do as well as meet and greet cousins. I am looking forward to the DNA program by Fred Coffey & Lori Okel. You can find more about the convention on page 18.

Jim and I are in Florida but it hasn't been easy. Jim still needs knee surgery aagain but was told to wait a while. After we got to Florida, Jim fell and broke an ankle this time. He has to keep all weight off of it for 6 weeks at least. He is doing really well considering! We plan to leave for Missouri on April 1 if all goes well.

Please excuse the headers on the newsletter. They all say March 2005. I can't seem to make them change so guess I still have more to learn about this new version of Adobe - In Design. Also, there are 20 pages rather than 18. I just couldn't seem to cut anything. Hope this one makes good reading.

I found a folder of Coffey Cousins material that was supposed to be in this newsletter, just as I had finished it up. I will have to hold this until the next newsletter as there is no more space. Also I need this one in the mail so more can get their reservations in for the convention. I apologize if your query was not in this newsletter. Traveling

is hard on my filing system. I am also behind with my bookkeeping. Spent too much time at the nursing home with Jim.

Please check your mailing label. If it says 12/31/05, this will be your last issue. It should say 12/31/07 if you are paid up through this year. Thanks for checking and hope that everone renews their subscription. I appreciate your help.

Your cousins,  
Bonnie Culley

## **PUBLISHING INFORMATION**

This printing ..... 300

This Mailing ..... 250

CCC. issued Mar., June, Sept., & Dec

Back issues are available:

\$1.00 each numbers 1 thru 21

\$2.00 each numbers 22 thru 103

Subscription - \$10.00 per year USA

Other than USA - \$12.00

From: Coffey Cousins' Clearinghouse

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Jefferson City, MO 65109

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**NEW COUSINS**

Cherri Reter, P.O. Box 71143, Las Vegas, NV 89170

Jean England, 143 Bargara Dr., Talbott, TN 37833-8625

John Bilow, 8 Grace Ave. Plattsburgh, NY 12901

**Dead End Roads**

\* Shirley Cobie writes, "I'm trying to trace the family of Michael Patrick Coffey, and his sister Joanna Coffey who was born in 1839 to 1842 in Cork, Ireland. Their parents were Denis and Catherine Coffey. Any information would be welcome." Thanks, Shirley Cobie, shirley.cobie@homecall.co.uk

\* Marianne Ruppensberger says, "My grandmother was a Coffey raised in Walcott, Iowa and resided in Davenport, Iowa after her marriage to Henry Wolter. Her father was Michael Coffey from County Westmeath, Ireland and her mother Ann Lanagan I believe from County Claire, Ireland." If you can help her, write Marianne at, email-WRupp@webtv.net

\* Archie Dalton needs help with a story in the "Grainger Today" Dec. 20 2006.  
"Victoria Williams celebrated her 3rd birthday Oct 31. Daughter of Adam and Michelle Williams with little sister Lexi. She is granddaughter of Larry and Kathy Winstead, Jairus and Melissa Williams (I think he is the new Sheriff) and Randy and Sue Hodge, all of Rutledge, TN. She is great granddaughter of Delta Dalton and the late Lynn Dalton, Raymond Winstead of Athens and the late Margaret Holt, JH and Thelma Williams, the late Tommy Morgan of Rutledge and the late Thelma Morgan of Morristown.  
Kathy Winstead is a Dalton, dau of James Leonard Dalton and Delta Lucille Coffey.  
Margaret Holt may be Margaret Coffey Holt, born 1924. If so, I have no parents for her.  
I am curious about the Morgan ancestry as my grandmother was Margaret Arlena Morgan, possibly a dau of a Chess?"  
Archie Dalton <adalton478@hotmail.com>

**ANCESTOR**

Anthony

\* Jack Coffee asks, "Anyone know who Henry Coffey's parents were, and who his first wife was? He was born abt 1872 in TN. He married Emeline McDaniel about 1908, she was a daughter of William McDaniel and Margaret Elizabeth White, Margaret being the daughter of Rev. John W. White and Orenna (Renie) Coffey.  
Henry had apparently been previously married. In 1910 census, Emaline was 18 and had been married only 2 yrs. The children in the household were: Effie, age 3 mos. (Emaline her mother); Elbert, age 10, Milam, age 7, and May, age 3. In 1910 they lived next door to Emaline's parents in Grainger Co. Write to Jack Coffee" w5jkc@cebridge.net

\* Betty Moss writes: "There is nothing out today but crows and Methodist preachers." She follows with, "I understand a group of Methodists left by wagon train from north Alabama in 1854 heading to Texas. Do you know where I could find a list of those on the wagon train? My g-g-grandfather Rev. James Smith founded the Mount Pleasant Methodist Church on the corner of his farm in 1824. Church is still active. Have attached picture of church made 2 years ago." Betty's address, BMoss69893@aol.com

\* Jack Coffee has another brainteaser for us. Tillmon Coffey (variously spelled) seems never to know his exact age or date of birth.

In the 1910 census he gave his age as 27 (born 1883). In 1918 when he registered for the WW1 draft, he was 35 (born 1883); and in the 1920 census he was still 35 yrs old. In 1930 he had aged only 5 yrs (age 40) meaning that he was born in 1890.

If he was really 36 or 37 in the 1920 census then

he would have been born in 1883. And, if he was really 46 or 47 in 1930 then he would have been born in 1883.

In 1910 Bealey gave her age as 17 and had been married for 6 yrs. I find it difficult to believe that even a Coffey would take an 11 yrs old wife.

There were two children in 1910: Harrison, age 4 and Alonzo, age 2. That means that Harrison was born when Bealey was 13 yrs old.

Another "mystery" is the child Adria, who appears as a daughter age 8 yrs in the 1920 census, but does not appear in 1930. And the child Lee J., who appears as a son in the 1930 census, age 18, but did not appear in the 1920 census. Based on their respective ages each was born in c1812.

Anyone have any answers? Jack Coffee  
<w5jkc@celbridge.net>

\* Kevin West <kdwest@sandspringsok.org > sends his lineage. He says that for the details of the oldest few generations, he depends on the research of others.

William Coffee = Sarah Raleigh

Ambrose Coffee 1759 = Ailsey (Alcey)

Ambrose Coffee jr. 1795 = Lucinda Day

Elijah D. Coffey 1817 = Margaret Armstrong

Frank Hudson Coffey 1862 = Annie Lewis

Alexander

Arizona Pearl Coffey 1883 = Joseph Aldridge

Smith

Annie Jewel Smith 1988 = Arley Taylor West

Jack Dale West 1931

Kevin Dale West 1954

Kevin would like to hear from others working on this line.

\* Ann Agnew, <ALAGNEW@aol.com>, says that her grandfather was Michael Coffee, born in Dubuque, Iowa. She would like to hear from others working on this line.

\* Tony Coffey, Manchester, England <ATCX1@aol.com> says, "My family were born in Southern Ireland. My father Thomas Coffey,

(deceased) was born in 1925 in BIRR. County Offaly. His parents were Michael Coffey and Catherine Katie (Heaton). We know that my grandfather Michael had several brothers and sisters that immigrated to the USA. One sister being Margaret who married a Lozito in the states. Hubert was another brother and Thomas and possibly Luke.

I live in the UK, but still have connections in my fathers birth town in Ireland." If anyone recognizes Tony's aunts and uncles, please let us know.

\* Carol Walsh writes, " I was scrolling through the Coffee names, and found a reference to a Coffee/Coffey cousin reunion that will be held in Iowa. My mother was a Coffee, and she just passed away this past April at the age of 82. She and I had worked on the family history for many years, and we have a lot of information. Unfortunately, we had put it away, and I am just getting back in to it after fifteen years or so. My mother's father was Sandy Garnett Coffee, son of: Cleveland Coffee and grandson of Ilai B. Coffee and Martha Permelia Isbell. They were in Rabun County, Georgia and Hall County, Georgia. Sandy Garnett Coffee had no grandsons to carry on the Coffee name, so this line has no more male surnames of Coffee. There are still cousins with the maiden name of Coffee, but that will also die out when these three cousins are gone." Carol Anne Meyer Walsh (daughter of Doris Anita Coffee Meyer). coffeeca@earthlink.net  
If you recognize her ancestors, let her know.

\* Rose Berry wrote to Fred Coffey asking about our reunion and Coffeys that might live near to her home in Huntsville, AL.

Nat Berry, husband of Rose, is a descendant of William Coffee Berry (1796-1880). Most genealogists believed the father of William was Rice Coffee, but a few believed his father was Bradley Berry, the husband of William's mother. We now have the results of a y-DNA test on Nat,

and there is no doubt that this family of Berrys descends from Rice Coffey and the “Edward” group of Coffeys. So, Nat is clearly a “Coffey Cousins”.

For more on the story of Rice Coffee and his son William Berry, write to Rose at roseb@knology.net Possibly Rose will send us more of the story for the newsletter in the future.

\* Terry Coffey, <TerryCoffey@murphybrownllc.com>, has taken the DNA test and matches the Edward Coffey line on all but one marker. He does match with L. Ronald Coffey.

Terry says that his father was Joe Blake Coffey born in Greenwood, SC in 1929 to James Harley and Henrietta May (Heffner) Coffey. His father was the youngest of seven children. The family moved to South Carolina from Hickory NC. Two or three of the eldest children were born in SC. Hickory is in the western part of NC.

Fred Coffey and Lorie Okel assisted Terry with his genealogy and found the following:

The family is found in the 1930 census for South Carolina, Greenwood Co, Greenwood Twp. Parents and 7 children present. James is 52, suggesting birth about 1878. All children except the last two (James Jr. and Joe Blake) were born in North Carolina. James Sr. is a Contractor (Painter). Wife’s name is Henrietta, they have been married for 20 years. Joe Blake is 10 months old. James Sr. and his parents were all born in NC. Same is true for Henrietta.

The family is found in the 1920 census for South Carolina, Laurens Co, Cross Hill Twp. Wife’s name is Henrietta M (the M suggests middle name was May?). James works in a saw mill.

There is an additional female age 7, can’t quite make out the name. She must have died or married before the 1930 census? This suggests that Joe Blake was actually the youngest of eight children, not seven?

Youngest child in the 1920 census is Rayburn, age 4 months. He was born in NC, and the official

Census date is January 1 (they were actually visited on January 3), so the family must have moved from NC to SC during the last 4 months of 1919.

James Harley Coffey, died, 11 March 1936 Greenwood, Greenwood County, SC. The source was the South Carolina Death index on line.

Joe Coffey died 18 Oct. 1986 .source S.S. death index Henrietta Mae , died June 1981 Greenwood (source s.s.death index).

(If you recognize any of Terry’s family please let Terry, Lori or Fred know.)

### **COMPUTER NEWS**

Reams Goodloe <goodloev@bellsouth.net> keeps the index to CCC current. The index through # 100 is now available on CD-R for \$20. They must be purchased from Reams. His mailing address is Reams Goodloe, P.O. Box 942, Ormond Beach, FL. 32175-0942

Visit Coffey Cousins Web page;  
<http://freepages.genealogy.rootsweb.com/~coffeycousins/coffeycousins.html>  
Read the Coffey/Coffey Call Blog  
<http://coffeycousins.blogspot.com/>  
Provided by Jack Coffee

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**OBITUARIES****ANDREW STUDER**

Andrew Studer passed away July 25, 2006, Lake Village, IN. He had a long struggle with cancer. He was married to Ruth Studer. She says that he was descended from William Martin Coffey, James Coffey and then Martin Coffey.

We send our sympathy. Andrew and Ruth have been subscribers to Coffey Cousins for many years.

**RAY DEAN COFFEY**

Ray Dean Coffey, age 56, of North Knoxville, passed away August 23, 2006 at UT Hospital following a courageous battle with Lung Cancer. He professed faith in Christ at age 7 and was a member of Grove Heights Baptist Church. He was preceded in death by parents: Rev. Sam and Ellen Coffey; brothers: Jack Coffey, Bill Coffey, Nelson Coffey and Joe Coffey; sister: Peggy Cook.

Survivors include his loving wife of 37 years: Linda Jesse Coffey; son: Bradley Dean and wife Melissa Coffey; grandsons: Zachery and Logan Coffey, and Tyler Collins; granddaughter: Kalli Coffey; brother: Bernard and wife Edith of New Tazewell; sister-in-laws: Joy Jessee of Knoxville, Janice England and husband Ellsworth; mother-in-law: Ruth Jessee all of New Tazewell  
Interment in the Lynnhurst Cemetery. Berry Funeral Home in Knoxville.

(From Sheri Kelly. Bernice Mullins says that he was the grandson of John Alfred & Cynthia {Monk} Coffey and g.grandson of Colby and Sarah Emily Ann {Parris} Coffey)

**ETHLYN E. COFFEY**

Ethelyn E. Coffey passed away on November 10, 2006 after her 3rd battle with cancer.

Ethlyn's daughter sent this information to Larry Jones one of her correspondents. I think his story is one of the best tributes we can give to her. She was a very long time subscriber and contributor to CCC.

Larry says; "I never had the pleasure of meeting Ethlyn but we corresponded regularly after I contacted her years ago while looking for information on my Coffey ancestors. Most of her research was done before computers and she was meticulous as she searched courthouses and libraries for her husbands Coffey ancestors. She was so generous with sharing her research and I have shared her research with many others. It probably would have taken me many years to find all the information she shared with me if I could have found much of it at all.

I should have realized something was wrong when I didn't hear from her for several months but I was busy getting my house ready to sell and didn't notice. I just received the word today after my Christmas card was forwarded to her daughter who was kind enough to notify me.

She will be missed!" Larry Jones.

**REV. TORRENCE AVERY COFFEY**

Rev. Torrence Avery Coffey, age 76, of Washburn, TN Was born Nov. 12, 1930 and passed away Jan. 15, 2007 at the University of Tennessee Hospital. He was a member and former pastor of Bridgeport Baptist Church and a Veteran of the Korean War. Preceded in death by his parents, Rev. Tarrence and Susan Rucker Coffey; sister Kathleen Rucker; brothers-in-laws, L.C. Rucker, Elvin Harrell, Lynn Dalton, James W. Long, and Conley Coffman. He is survived by sisters, Lillian Harrell of Thorn Hill, TN, Alta Coffman, Juanita Long, Delta Dalton, all of Washburn, TN. Brothers, John Sam and wife Lena Faye Coffey of Thorn Hill, William and Mary Lou Coffey of Davisburg, MI. Interment in McGinnis-Harrell Cemetery with Military Honors. Arrangements by Coffey Funeral Home in Tazewell, TN.

(Info: Jean England)

**EDITH VINES**

Edith Coffey Vines, 86, of Avery County, NC passed away Wednesday, Jan. 24, 2007, at Lenoir Health Care. She was born in Avery County to

Julius Adore and the Eliza Jane (Dellinger) Coffey, both deceased. In addition to her parents, she was preceded in death by her first husband, Willie Barnes; second husband, William P. Vines; sisters, Gertrude Woody, Minnie Pinion, Mae Oxentine, Retha Barnes; brothers, Ernest, Joseph, David and William Coffey; and a great-grandson, Heath Key. Survivors include a stepdaughter, Lillian Ford and her husband Tatum of Lenoir; a stepson, Otis Vines and his wife Joyce; grandsons, Stan Ford, Kelly Ford, Lyle Ford and Darrell Vines; granddaughters, Gaye Key, Jackie Bradshaw and Regina Kilby; great-grandchildren, Seth Bradshaw, Kasey Bradshaw, Trevor Key, Garrett Ford, Devin Ford, Gabby Whorley, Kaydin Ford, Hunter Vines, Daryl-Hannah Vines and Deanna Kilby. Burial at New Hopewell Baptist Church Cemetery in Avery County.

(News-Topic, Lenoir, Caldwell Co., NC, Jan. 25, 2007)

{Jack Coffee adds the following information on Edith's family.}

Julius Adore Coffey was born Feb. 27, 1874 in North Carolina and died 1944 in Avery Co., NC. Aster Jane Dellinger was born 1882 in NC and died 1963 in Avery Co., NC. Julius' parents were Scott Raban and Margaret E. Hollander Coffey. Aster Jane's parents were James Pinkney Dellinger and Mary Frances Dellinger (first cousins). Aster may also have been named Eliza, but in the 1910, 20 and 30 census it is spelled Aster. Also, in Caldwell Co. marriage book 13, Page 266 her name is spelled Aster.)

#### GLADYS CRIST CANDLER

Gladys Crist Candler, daughter of James Walker and Editha Coffey Crist died December 18, 2006 in Lynchburg, VA at the age of 107. Burial was in Presbyterian Cemetery in Lynchburg, VA. (Ellen Wagner says, "Aunt Editha was the sister of my grandfather Edwin Horsley Coffey.")

#### ZELMA EDNA DALTON FRYE

Zelma Edna Dalton Frye passed away Wednesday,

November 1, 2006 in Pontiac Michigan. Arrangements were with Huntoon Funeral in Pontiac. She is the sister of Jean England. Jean request, "Please add the family to your thoughts and prayers." (We send our sympathy to Jean and her family.)

#### BILLY SAMUEL COFFEY

Billy Samuel Coffey, age 66 of Morristown, TN passed away Tuesday Nov. 28, 2005. Funeral Services Dec. 1 at Coffey's Chapel, Missionary Baptist Church. Interment will follow in the McDaniel Cemetery.

#### COFFEY, BONNIE KATE

Bonnie, age 83, of Morristown, passed away Friday, Feb. 16, 2007, at Morristown-Hamlin, TN. She was as a member of Beech Grove Baptist Church. She was preceded in death by her parents, David Juette and Flossie McGinnis, husband, Clayton (Poodle) Coffey, brothers, Porter McGinnis, Sam McGinnis and Robert (Bob) McGinnis.

Interment will follow at Hamblen memory Gardens.

(Info Sheri Kelly and Bernice Mullin. They add: Clayton Coffey was the son of Henry & Etta Reece Coffey.)

#### ALFRED R. COFFEY

Alfred R. Coffey of Eagle Rock, VA, died peacefully at his home on Dec. 15, 2006, surrounded by his beloved wife Mae of 68 years. He was 90 years old. He is also survived by his 10 children; 23 grandchildren, and 29 great-grandchildren and one great-great grandchild. Coffey is survived by one sister, Evelyn Allen of Amherst. He was predeceased by his parents, Cora Sprouse and Bascom W. Coffey; brothers; Chambers, Lloyd, James, and Lester; and one sister, Mildred Fisher.

Interment in the Springwood Baptist Church cemetery.

**DARKES "GRANNY" WELCH**

Darkes "Granny" Welch, age 89, of Blaine, TN, died Sunday evening, July 2, 2006 at St. Mary's Hospital. She was a member of Beech Grove Baptist Church. She was preceded in death by her husband, Elmer "Hi" Welch; parents, C.W. and Lissie (Reece) Coffey; her son, Anthony "Smiley" Welch; her brothers, Amos "Bud" Coffey, Walter "Skeet" Coffey, Kyle "Pap" Coffey and Willis "Cub" Coffey. She will be sadly missed by her granddaughters Rhonda Humphrey, Kim Hensley; sisters, Bobbie Beeler, Mae White, Dessa "Dood" Holt and Faye Satterfield; brother, Noal "Bear" Coffey.

Interment at McGinnis-Harrell Cemetery.

Arrangements by Coffey Funeral Home in Tazewell.

(from Bernice Mullins, pbm378@bellsouth.net)

**MAIL BOX**

\* Noreva Sharr is a great grandmother again. Her oldest granddaughter had a baby boy on Sept. 20 2006.

Samantha M. Sharr and Timothy E. Herod named their son Keenan Eric Herod.

Samantha's sister Heidi Erin Sharr married Jason Proctor in May 2001 and they have a little girl, born Dec. 14, 2004. Her name is McKenzie Erin Proctor.

I'm sure they love to get spoiled by great grandmother Sharr. Congratulations Noreva.

\* Dave and Florence Strange have been having quite a time in their retirement. They visited Florence's family in Wisconsin in 06, plus some interesting National Parks. Seems they put over 9000 miles on the car last year. (Envy!) They plan to visit Vietnam this year.

\* Eva Jean Coffey writes, "Hi to all. I am a great grandmother now. Her name is Kyra Faye Dalton b. Aug 4 2006 weight 7 lb 2 oz b Morristown Health Care, Morristown Tn at 10:45 pm." (Congratulations.)

\* Shirley Dawson had full hip replacement on January 29, 2006. We were glad to hear that she is doing well. Hope to see her up and about soon.

\* Thorn Hill teen named 911 hero. Brittany Coffey, 13, daughter of Timothy and Melissa Coffey of Thorn Hill was given a plaque inscribed: "This award is presented to Brittany Coffey in recognition of her outstanding 911 performance on Apr. 13, 2006. You are a 911 hero." Apparently a man was shot in the head and asked at her home for help. She called 911 and gave updates as the emergency vehicles responded. He survived. (Grainger Today newspaper, from Archie Dalton)

\* Chris Coffey wrote that his father, Jim Coffey is not living in assisted living as he fell again. When checked at the hospital, he was told that he needed a pacemaker, which was installed on Dec. 29. He is also receiving kidney dialysis every 2 or 3 days. We do hope Jim is feeling better and send out best wishes.

**NEW ADDRESS**

Noreva Sharr, P.O. Box 1865,  
Bayfield, CO 81122-1865  
Joyce Grigsby, 125 Bluebird Ln,  
Killen, AL 35645

Betty Bredemeyer, 3001 So. 51<sup>st</sup>. St, Apt.377,  
Lincoln, NE 68506-3484

Dorris Coffee, 1609 S. Baker,  
Enid, OK 73701

James R. Brown, 5148 Bigger Rd.  
Kettering, OH 45440-2566

James C.Coffey, Robbinswood Assisted Living  
Community, Room 325, 1  
125 Robbins Rd.  
Grand Haven, Mi. 49417

**NEW E-MAIL ADDRESS**

Jo Langwell, honeyjo2@tx.rr.com  
Grace McGinnis, gracemc@musfiber.com

**DOCUMENTS GALORE**

\* The following is the last will and testament of Joseph Coffey as transcribed by Kirk Smith from a photocopy given to him by Daraleen Wade. He was not able to make out a few of the words. Joseph's wife 'Jane' is Jane (Graves) born ca 1786, daughter of Thomas Graves, VA. (Marvin Coffey says that he is a son of Joel Coffey and Martha Step.

In the name of God Amen – I Joseph Coffey of the County of Christian and State of Kentucky being in my right mind and memory though feeble of body and knowing the certainty of death do make or appoint this my last will and testament in manner and form as follows (to wit) 1<sup>st</sup> That all my just debts be paid – Secondly that my wife Jane Coffey have all my estate both real and personal for the purpose of raising and educating all my younger Children (to wit) Robert T., Nancy, Asa, Juliza, Lucy, Barilla. – Benjamin and Joseph – But if my wife Jane should hereafter intermarry with any other man it is my wish for her to have one third of my estate during her natural life and at her death to be equally divided between all my Children and the other two thirds to be divided equally between all my heirs including my two eldest sons Madison and Elsey with the above named Children. I do appoint my beloved wife Jane Coffey and my son Madison Coffey my Executrix to this my last will and testimony In witness whereof I have set my hand and seal this 25<sup>th</sup> day – February 1834. -

Joseph Coffey (seal)

attest sign@ in presence of

John Pierce

Saml Shryock

R Lot Matthews

Thos C Graves

2005

I wish it to be perfectly understood in closing all my worldly affairs that I have sold a certain boundary of land lying in the north west corner of the survey I now live on and supposed to be ninety or one hundred acres to my son Madison Coffey for the \_\_\_\_\_ of three dollars per acre for which I have received a greater part of the money. I wish the Court of Christian County Ky to appoint some legal person or persons to make him a title for the same at some convenient time when called on. Witness my hand this 25<sup>th</sup> day of February 1834.

Signed Sealed & delivered. Joseph Coffey (seal)

In the presence of

Saml Shryock

Thos C Graves

R Lot Matthews

John Pierce

Commonwealth of Kentucky

County of Christian, to wit. I Abraham Stites the Clerk of the County Court of Christian County aforesaid do hereby certify that the foregoing last will & Codicil of Joseph Coffey did & was on this day produced in open Court and proven in the manner required by law by the \_\_\_\_\_ of Saml Shryock, Thomas C Graves, R. Lot Matthews, & John Pierce the subscribing witnesses & was ordered to be recorded – whereupon the said will & Codicil together with this certificate \_\_\_\_\_ been \_\_\_\_\_ admitted to record accordingly – Given und my hand the 28<sup>th</sup> day of April 1834 – attest - Abraham Stites  
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\* Archie Dalton sends the following from "Grainger Today," May 11, 2005

Macy Ruth Hipsher turned one year old on May 5. She celebrated with older bro/sis,



Will and Marisa. Macey is the dau of Mark and Gina Hipsher of Rutledge. She is the Granddaughter of Vernon and Virginia Coffey of Bean Station and David and Anna Mae Hipsher of Rutledge. Special aunt and uncle are Brett and Candace Coffey of Rutledge.

Obit: Grainger County News Dec. 7, 2005  
Fray, Mary L, 66 died Nov 29.

Preceded by husband Owen D Gray and sister Shirley Cosby of Knoxville, TN. Survived by son Timothy D Gray of Bean station, sisters, Geneva Bierkamp of Rockwood, Louise and James Dotson of Tazewell, Gail and Roger Lee Coffey of Bean Station and Teresa and Tom Hollaway of GA and Bill Elmer Cosby of Knoxville.. Burial in Birch Cemetery, Claiborne City.

\* Bernice Mullins wrote the following; "While hunting for something the other day I found this obituary in one of Dad's Bibles. I know Mom was the one that put it there. This obituary is older than me.

(Angeline Coffey was the daughter of William and the grand daughter of Caswell great grand daughter of Bennett Coffey.)  
Claiborne County Progress Aug 11, 1937. Barnard, Robert Henry was born Mar. 13, 1859, died August 8, 1937. He professed faith in Christ in 1925 and joined the Pleasant View Baptist Church and remained a member until death. He was married to Angeline Coffey in 1877 to this union born three sons, Clint, Shade, and George, one daughter, Cordie all are left to mourn his loss except George who died some time ago. In 1892 he married Mary Wilburn to this union were born nine children, five living. Henry, Charles, Estelle, Jesse and Bertha. Later in life he married Vickie Royston also left to mourn

his loss. Funeral service was conducted at the Bailey Cemetery by Ewing Spradling and D. A. Brooks Monday.

\* The following are the male Coffeys of Grainger Co. TN who signed up for the WW1 draft. Headings are Name, Birth Date, Race, Birthplace, Registration Place. If anyone wants to know more about them let me know and I'll look them up on Ancestry for you. Jack Coffee

GRAINGER CO. TN

A Eligey Coffey Apr 1879 White,  
Benjamin A Coffey 8 Mar 1896 Caucasian  
Carter Jackson Coffey 22 Apr 1886 White,  
Charles Wesley Coffey 27 May 1899  
Caucasian Tennessee;, Grainger, TN  
Charley Coffey Jan 1878 White, Charley H  
Coffey 10 Feb 1886 White,  
General Coffey 19 Oct 1897 White,  
George Coffey 21 Sep 1898 White,  
Grover C Coffey 15 Aug 1888 Caucasian  
Henry Coffey 8 Oct 1878 White, Hillard  
Coffey 3 Apr 1886 White,  
Zolly Coffey 27 Jun 1892 Caucasian,  
Jake Mires Coffey 22 Jan 1881 White,  
James Clay Coffey 15 Feb 1900 White,  
James E Coffey 17 May 1897,  
James Henderson Coffey 31 Jan 1899  
White,  
James Monroe Coffey 10 Jan 1888  
Caucasian  
James Oscar Coffey 20 Mar 1894  
Caucasian  
Jesse Morris Coffey 1 Jun 1900 White,  
Joe Granville Coffey 12 Sep 1896  
Joel Thomas Coffey 13 May 1883 White,  
Lemmy Lee Coffey 29 Jun 1899 White,  
Mc Henry Coffey 10 Feb 1876 White,  
Nathaniel Coffey 8 Sep 1893 Caucasian  
Orlander Coffey 18 Mar 1879 White,  
Parlin John Coffey 10 Jun 1898 White,  
Philemon Coffey 24 Sep 1878 White,

Samuel Coffey 25 Feb 1873 White,  
 Walter T Coffey 12 May 1896 Caucasian  
 William Brownloe Coffey 7 Mar 1900

White,

William Frank Coffey 14 Mar 1882 White,  
 William Ira Coffey 7 Dec 1883 White,  
 William T Coffey 26 Jul 1893 Caucasian

\* Cathy Vance, <velvetres@msn.com>

sends the following documents for

MARTIN A. COFFEY &  
 MARGARET KEMP

Marriage bond, Martin A Coffey and Margaret Kemp, marriage bond; book 5, page 225, Adair County Court house Columbia, KY. Martin A Coffey as principal, and Joseph H Kemp as surety. Martin A Coffey being over 21 years of age and Miss Margaret Kemp her father being present and consenting. Dated at Columbia, Adair County, this 6th day of 1868. (I pulled my original copy to make sure I had not entered the book and page incorrectly and I have written book 5 pg 225 and the page also has a stamped number of 225 in the upper right corner of 225.) Book 5 page, 224. February 11 1868. Age of groom; 21, first marriage he and both parents born Adair Co., Ky. Margaret Kemp 18 first marriage she and both parents born Adair Co., Ky. married at the office of Joseph H?ks. 11th Feb 1868. (Neither page says anything about by Nichols at Joseph Kemp's, it is possible that whoever transcribed the record saw the name Joseph and just wrote Kemp but it is definitely not Kemp.) I have examined it very carefully and the first letter is not a K because it is totally different than the other K's on this page. In 1860 Martin Coffey was living with Robert Kemp who I found later to be the grandfather on Martin. The will of Robert Kemp (Robert W Kemp Adair Co book

L pg 606 written 11 Feb. 1889 probated Apr 1889) says in part - To my grand son Martin A Coffey forty acres of land joining I.A. Hatcher and Ben. C. Polland also 50.00 Fifty dollars. This was the only clue I have been able to find that helps determine the parents of Martin as Julia Kemp and John D Coffey.

Lost marriage bonds, Adair Co., KY. COFFEE, JOHN D., over 21 and MISS JULIA ANN KEMP, her father having consented, bond dated 15 Sept 1845, surety Robert W. Kemp. I have the death of Julia (Kemp) Coffey as 1851 but have been unable to find John D Coffey and Julia in the 1850 census.

#### 1860 census

Robert Kemp 47 born Culpeper co Va.  
 Lavin wife 61 born Wythe Co Va.  
 Martha J 24 born Adair Co Ky  
 Willis 21 born Green Co Ky  
 Also living in the same house was  
 Henry C Rogers 16 born Arkansas  
 Isabella V 16 Cumberland Co Ky  
 M. A. Coffey 13 born Adair.

#### 1870 US Population Census

, micropublication:M593\_444, p. 63,  
 Gradyville, Adair Co., KY, Dist 108, line  
 26-29, house 108.

Martin 29 m w farmer 100 KY, KY, KY  
 Margaret A f w keeping house KY., VA.,  
 KY

Isabella 1 f w KY

Ann 5/12 f w KY

#### 1880 Population Census, East Fork,

Metcalf, Kentucky; Roll: T9\_434; Family  
 History Film: 1254434; Page: 208a 208b,  
 Enumeration District: 194, line: 48  
 Martin A Coffey, W, M, 33, married,  
 farmer, b. KY,

Margaret A, w, f, 29, mar., at home, b. KY,  
 Isabel, w, f, 11, in school, b. KY, Next page  
 Joseph E, w, m, 5, b. KY,  
 Anola, w, f, 5/12 b. Jan, KY,

There was also another child (confirmed) son Frank who was born in 16 Sept 1888 so Martin had to die after Dec 1887. The funeral notice for Margaret (Kemp) Coffey says

The funeral of Mrs. Margaret Ann Kemp Bragg, will be held at 2:00 tomorrow afternoon at Charity Church. Mrs Bragg was 73 years old and died yesterday at the home of her son Frank Coffey eight miles north west of this city. In the year 1868 she married Martin Alexander Coffey. They had five children, Mrs. W.H. Parnell of Gillespie, Edward Coffey, Mrs B.L. Peebles & Frank Coffee of Carlinville and Ann Marshal who died in infancy. Her husband having preceded her in death in the year 1886. She was united in marriage to George Braggs in 1890. He also proceeded her in death in Aug 190? she leaves two sisters, Mrs. Francis Rodgers of Brooksville Fl. Mrs Susan Palmer of Grainsville Tx., Also seventeen grandchildren and five great grand children and many other relatives and friends to mourn her departure.

I know for a fact that there are many errors in it and I believe the death year that is listed for Martin has to be incorrect as Frank was born in Sept which would place conception around Nov or Dec 1887. I really do not think that Martin died until 1891 or 1892. Martin's wife Margaret remarried again 23 Apr. 1893 in Macoupin Co., IL.

I have not located John D Coffey and Julia on the 1850 census but have searched several times. I really need to find them on that census and some of the information I

found in Adair says that Julia died in 1851 but I have found no conformation of that and have found many errors in information on the Coffey lines that they have in the Adair Co., library.

{Martin A. Coffey descends from the Chesley Coffey line, (now thought to be the Edward Coffey jr line) through Nebuzaraden.}

### SALATHIEL COFFEY

The following is what I have learned & written concerning the Salathiel Coffey branch of the family. Tim Peterman

Salathiel Coffey's wife was probably Elizabeth Gore, daughter of James Gore (will probated Oct. 29, 1784, Kershaw Co., SC) and Elizabeth (Dowden) Gore (will probated Apr. 9, 1789, Chester Co., SC), who moved from Maryland to Chester Co., SC before the Revolutionary War. Compiled Revolutionary War Service Records show that on Jul. 24, 1776, a Salatheal Coffey enlisted in the 3rd Regiment of the South Carolina Continental line. He served under Col. William Thompson. There is no indication of rank, nor of time served. The card number referenced was 37194930. His name was copied from a book, with the following details given in reference to an asterisk:

"This book appears to have been copied (from original rolls) in the Office of Army Accounts under the Paymaster General, U.S.A., who was authorized by Congress, July 4, 1783 to settle and finally adjust all accounts whatsoever between the United States and the officers and soldiers of the American Army.(Journal American Congress, Vol. 4, page 237) R. & P. 436,786." Following this, Vol. 9 page 50

was written in.

Since there is only one Salathiel Coffey known to have lived in America and he died in Wilkes Co., NC in 1784, we could assume that the Revolutionary War record belonged to him. Thus far, neither the DAR nor SAR has registered Salathiel Coffey as a Revolutionary War soldier or patriot. The South Carolina State Archives has no record of his service. The "Roster of South Carolina Patriots in the American Revolution", by Bobby Gilmer Moss, lists:

"Coffey, Nathaniel

"He enlisted in the Third Regiment on 24 July 1776. N.A. 853"

With the exception of the first name, this is a perfect match to the National Archives record for Salatheal Coffey. This service may have belonged to either Nathaniel or Salathiel. An internet posting claimed that Sale Coffey of South Carolina was a Tory. I have seen no evidence of this. If true, this would be surprising, considering the Patriot character of the Coffey and Cleveland families.

Elizabeth (? Gore) Coffey married second to Pierce (or Pearce) Noland. Chester County, South Carolina Minutes of the County Court, 1785-1799", by Brent H. Holcomb and Elmer O. Parker contain the following entry on Jan. 30, 1794 (Order Book B, p. 255, of the original record):

"Elizabeth Noland Late widow of Selathial Coffey & Pearce Noland, Plaintiff against James Mannion Gore Defendant -Jury..."

The construction of this sentence implies, not only that Elizabeth was the widow of Selathial Coffey, but that she was also the widow of Pearce Noland. However, the original is reported to add a comma after the word Coffey, which

would imply that both Elizabeth Noland and Pearce Noland were plaintiffs in the lawsuit. The 1787 tax list of Wilkes Co., NC showed that the Pierce Nowland household contained one male over 21, 5 males under 21, and 3 females. The 1790 census of Wilkes Co., NC (p. 122) showed the Pierce Noland family as 2-3-4, thus containing unidentified males of the right age to be Newton and Eli. The 1800 census of Wilkes Co., NC (p. 55) showed the Pierce Noland family as 11120-01010. This household contained two males born 1755-74, one female born 1755-74, one male born 1774-84, one male born 1784-90, one female born 1784-90, and one male born 1790-1800. There is no indication that Pearce Noland had a wife before Elizabeth. Putting the 1787 tax list, 1790 and 1800 censuses together, one can count 9 children of Elizabeth:

1. \_\_\_\_\_ Coffey (born 1766-74 (? Newton Coffey)
2. \_\_\_\_\_ Coffey (born 1774-84 (? Eli Coffey)
3. \_\_\_\_\_ Coffey or Noland (male born 1774-87, gone by 1800)
4. \_\_\_\_\_ Coffey or Noland (female born before 1787, gone by 1800)
5. \_\_\_\_\_ Coffey or Noland (female born before 1787, gone by 1800)
6. \_\_\_\_\_ Coffey or Noland (male born 1784-87, still at home in 1800)
7. \_\_\_\_\_ Coffey or Noland (male born before 1787, gone by 1790)
8. \_\_\_\_\_ Noland (female born 1787-90, still at home in 1800)
9. \_\_\_\_\_ Noland (male born 1790-1800)

Elizabeth (? Gore) Coffey married Pearce Noland in 1784 or later. Unless there were twins, I doubt that any more than three of the children born before 1790 were Noland. There was probably

an undetermined son and daughter of Salathiel Coffey who either died or left home by 1800. Pierce Noland was named in the 1796 will of his father, Peter Noland (Wilkes Co., NC Will Book 1, p. 485). On Nov. 4, 1797, Pierce Noland, Executor of the will of Peter Noland, sold 52 acres to Moses Noland, another son of Peter. The deed was witnessed by Wm Johnson, Henry Noland, and Newton Coffey (Wilkes Co., NC Deed Book D, p. 362). This stands as primary evidence that Newton Coffey was in fact closely associated with Pierce Noland, thus making it quite plausible that Newton Coffey was a stepson of Pierce Noland, and thus a son of Salathiel Coffey.

The 1820 census of Wilkes Co., NC (p. \_\_\_) showed the family of Pearce Noland as 000011-01101. This household contained one male born before 1775, one female born before 1775, one male born 1775-94, one female born 1794-1804, and one female born 1804-10.

The 1830 census of Wilkes Co., NC (p. \_\_\_) showed the family of Pearce Noland as 100000001-000010001- This household contained one male born 1760-70, one female born 1760-70, one female born 1800-10, and one male born 1825-30. Pearce Noland and wife were probably a bit older than this. Estimated birth years of 1755-60 are probably closer to the truth. This would allow his wife, assuming that she was still Elizabeth (? Gore) (Coffey) Noland, to have been the mother of the children born in the 1770s, as reported in the earlier censuses.

A man named Pierce Noland appeared on the 1803 tax list of Mississippi Territory, which at the time included what is now Mississippi and Alabama.

The will of Elizabeth (Dowden) Gore named a daughter, Elizabeth Noland. This

will was witnessed by Sampson Noland, who is also known to have had a wife named Elizabeth. A question remains over whether the Elizabeth (Gore) Noland was the wife of Sampson Noland or the wife of Pierce Noland.

Probate records for Elizabeth (? Gore) (Coffey) Noland would probably prove whether she was the mother of Newton Coffey and Eli Coffey. Early tax lists of Adair Co., KY show Eli Coffey as Eliazar Coffey. Worthy of note, James and Elizabeth (Dowden) Gore had a son named Eliazar Gore. Worthy of note, both Newton Coffey and Eli Coffey named a son Salathiel.

Regardless of whether the Gore connection proves valid, there is plenty of evidence that both Salathiel Coffey, Nathan Coffey, and possibly a few of the other Coffey "brothers" appear in the records of Chester Co., SC.

\* SUZIE BRUCE, <llbslb@c2i2.co>. states; "There is an article about the Coffeys' in the Battle of Gettysburg, Six Coffeys were killed and probably many others were wounded. I looked up the 26th North Carolina Infantry (Confederate) at [www.itd.nps.gov/cwss/soldiers.htm](http://www.itd.nps.gov/cwss/soldiers.htm). The 26<sup>th</sup> NC was mustered in at Raleigh NC and the men were recruited from the counties around Raleigh. All but two of the 22 Coffeys in the 26th NC were in Company F. This means that they were all from the same area and were probably all related (brothers, cousins, uncles, etc.). The newsletter indicates that Cleveland, JG, JH, Thomas M, and William S Coffey were killed. These names are on the roster from the 26th. The 26th was part of Gen Pettigrew's Brigade. This Brigade was

attached to Longstreets Corps during "Pickett's Charge" which was a total disaster for the Confederate Army."

### 26th North Carolina Infantry Regiment

Soldier Name	Company	Rank	In-Rank	Out
1 Coffey, Armstead	F	Private	Private	
2 Coffey, Asbury J.	F	Private	Private	
3 Coffey, B.	F	Private	Private	
4 Coffey, Cleveland	F	Private	Private	
5 Coffey, David	F	Private	Private	
6 Coffey, Edmond R.	G	Corporal	Corporal	
7 Coffey, George W.	F	Private	Private	
8 Coffey, Harvey N.	F	Sergeant	Sergeant	
9 Coffey, Henry C.	F	Private	Private	
10 Coffey, Irvin	F	Private	Private	
11 Coffey, J.A.	F	Private	Private	
12 Coffey, J.G.	E	Private	Private	
13 Coffey, J.H.	F	Private	Private	
14 Coffey, J.P.	F	Private	Private	
15 Coffey, J.W.	F	Private	Private	
16 Coffey, James F.	F	Private	Private	
17 Coffey, John	F	Private	Private	
18 Coffey, Larkin	F	Private	Private	
19 Coffey, Thomas M.	F	Private	Private	
20 Coffey, William C.	F	Private	Corporal	
21 Coffey, William S.	F	Private	Private	
22 Coffey, Y.M.	F	Private	Private	

\* Chris Coffee, <coffeychristopher@sbeglobal.net> adds the following information:

The 26th was made up of 10 Company's A - K under Zebulon Baird Vance, Colonel. Company A - was from Ashe County, B - was from Union County, C- Wilkes County, D - was from Wake County, E - was from Chatham County, F - was from Caldwell County, G - was from Chatham County, H - was from Moore County, I - was from Caldwell County, and Company K - was from Anson County.

There were 19 Coffeys in the 26th,. All were in Company F- Caldwell County (Nathaniel P. Rankin - Captain) except one an Edmond R. who was in Company C - Wilkes County (Abner R. Carmichael - Captain).

The 26th served in 49 Engagements, had 2175 total serving, Killed - 329, Wounded - 782, Prisoners - 767 and Died of disease - 354.

Out of 88 men in Company F, 87 were killed or wounded at Gettysburg, attacking the Minnesota Iron Brigade on July 1.

\* Bernice Mullins send the following obituary from the Mulberry Gap Association, 1969 minutes

Harville, Martha Coffey was born April 22, 1905 being 64 years 2 months and 15 days old. She professed faith in Christ and jointed Mount Pleasant Church and remained a member until death. In 1919 she was married to Brownlow Harvelle, & to this union were born 10 children. Her husband & three sons preceded her death. Survivors: Four daughters, Mrs. Katherine Dalton of Thorn Hill, TN, Mrs. Gladys Woodard, Mrs. Leva Shelton, and Mrs. Hannah Carter all of Morristown; three sons; Rev. John Harville & Ulise Harville, both of Morristown, and Herbert Harville of Carlisle, Ohio; 36 grandchildren; two sister Mrs. Effie Dalton & Mrs. Mary Lee Dalton, both of Thorn Hill, TN. Three bothers, Rev. John Coffey, & Elum Coffey of Thorn Hill, TN and Elbert of Morristow.

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Lauderdale Co. AL

Index to death from Florence Times

4 Jul. 1890 to 31 Dec 1930

transcribed by Theo Willford Sr.

COFFEE, ? 29 Aug 1897 Kendall, Ala  
03 Sep 1897

COFFEE, ? (B) 27 Dec 1895 Florence, Ala  
04 Jan 1896

COFFEE, A. D. (Capt.) 09 May 01  
Florence, Ala 10 May 1901

COFFEE, Ada B. 07 Aug 28 Florence, Ala  
Pg 1, 07 Aug 1928

COFFEE, Andrew Jackson, 15 Apr 1891  
California 18 Apr 9?

COFFEE, Becky (B) 14 Jul 01 Florence, Ala  
19 Jul 1901

COFFEE, Camilla M. 16 Apr 28 Florence, AL  
Pg 1 17 Apr 1928

COFFEE, Eliza (Miss) 05 Sep 04 Brevard, NC  
09 Sep 1904

COFFEE, J. D. (Capt.) 27 Feb 03 Athens, Ala  
06 Mar 1903

COFFEE, James E. 03 Feb 28 Courtland, Ala  
Pg 1, 05 Feb 1928

COFFEE, John (General) 07 Jul 33 Florence,  
Ala 07 Dec 1906

COFFEE, John J. (General) 07 Jul 33 ?  
01 Oct 1920

COFFEE, Lawson 26 Feb 22 Florence, Ala  
03 Mar 1922

COFFEE, N. T. 18 Feb 1904 Plano,  
TX 26 Feb 1904

COFFEE, R. N. 25 Jan 1905  
03 Feb 1905

COFFEE, R. N. 25 Jan 05 Florence, Ala  
27 Jan 1905

COFFEE, Teenie (B) 02 Aug 1899 Florence, A  
04 Aug 1899

COFFEE, Washington (B) ? Jul 18  
Florence, Ala 09 Aug 1918

COFFEE, Will 13 Mar 02 Florence, Ala  
14 Mar 1902

COFFEE, William C. ? Florence, Ala  
Pg 4, 05 Feb 1924

## JAMES COFFEE, OF SURRY COUNTY, NORTH CAROLINA

By Fred Coffey

(Collaboration by Bonnie Culley &amp; Jack Coffee.)

I recently stumbled across one “James Coffee in Surry County NC” by accident, and it was soon clear he was not one of my ancestors. But after a brief examination, I found he was an interesting person, living in an interesting place at an interesting time, and that he had an interesting genealogy and interesting DNA. So with the thought that it might be useful to another researcher, here is what I learned about James:

### THE INTERESTING PERSON:

#### FINDING JAMES:

My real interest was in researching my mother’s family. She was a “Walker”, and eventually the path led to Surry County, NC, where I found a fascinating document “Surry County, North Carolina Court Minutes, Volumes I and II, 1768-1789”, transcribed by Mrs. W. O. Absher. This document contained over 200 references to various ancestors on my Walker side, and I spent many hours studying the index and the minutes for family clues.

And in that index there were also 29 references to a “James Coffee”. I had Coffey ancestors in Wilkes County, the next county to the west of Surry - could this James somehow be a relative?

### THE INTERESTING PLACE:

#### RICHMOND, SURRY COUNTY, NC:

Don’t look in your road atlas – you won’t find a “Richmond” anywhere in North Carolina, let alone in modern Surry County. Some history may help explain:

Once there was only a “Rowan” county in the western part of NC. Then in 1771 Surry County was formed from part of Rowan. The county officials for the new county started out meeting in the homes of their members, and only fragments of the Court Minutes have been found for this time period.

In 1777 Wilkes County was formed, just to the west of Surry, and a slice of Surry was taken to form part of this new county. Many of our Coffey ancestors are found in this neighboring Wilkes County, NC.

In 1779 Surry finally got around to building a new courthouse at a new town called Richmond, and Richmond was pretty much right in the center of the county. Most of the Court Minutes start at this time.

In 1789 Surry was split in half, and Stokes County was formed. The above court minutes end, and the new Surry and Stokes counties both found the old county seat at Richmond to be inconveniently located. So they each opted for a new location, and Richmond was abandoned after serving for only 10 years.

Then in 1849 and 1850, Surry and Stokes were each split again, forming Yadkin and Forsyth Counties.

So where is "Richmond", on today's map? All that's left is an archeological site, located in modern Forsyth County, near the Yadkin River, about two miles west of Tobaccoville, NC. That would be about 15 miles northwest of Winston Salem, NC.

#### THE INTERESTING TIME:

##### THE AMERICAN REVOLUTION:

These minutes cover the period of the Revolution. And there was a period in 1780 and 1781 when this region of North Carolina was very much involved in the conflict. If you are interested, do some historical research on the "Battle of Kings Mountain", which took place in South Carolina on October 7, 1780, and involved many men from the North Carolina Militia.

Also look into the "Battle at Guilford Court House" which took place in the next county to the east, on March 15, 1781, and which would have certainly involved people from Surry County.

But of most interest is what was happening in Surry County itself. You need to understand that, as was common in many communities, the citizens of Richmond and Surry were highly divided

between those who supported the King ("Tories") and those who supported the Revolution ("Whigs" or "Patriots").

With many of the local Militia away at Kings Mountain, the local Surry Tories got involved in some minor skirmishes at the county seat of Richmond, and the local sheriff was killed in early October. This was quickly followed by "The Battle of Shallow Ford" on October 14, 1780. Several hundred local Tories, and several hundred local Patriots, had at each other at a ford on the Yadkin River in Surry County. The Tories were caught by surprise, and fled in disarray.

If you want to learn more about this battle, visit: <http://bellsouthpwp.net/w/h/whigkid/shallowford/battle.html>

There is also an "Historical Fiction" first person account at:

<http://www.earlyamerica.com/review/spring97/shallowford.html>

The Surry Court Minutes deal mostly with mundane matters, and it is not obvious from those minutes which side of the war had James Coffee's sympathies. I suspect, because he remained in office and because of his likely "Irish" opinion of the British, that he was on the side of the Patriots.

#### THE INTERESTING GENEALOGY:

##### JAMES COFFEE:

At first I thought that this was James, the son of John, who was the son of Edward Coffey. There are a large number of us "Coffey Cousins" who trace our ancestry back to Edward, and James thus would indeed be my distant cousin.

However Bonnie Culley, editor of the Coffey Cousins Newsletter, offered the following: "The James Coffey of Surry Co., NC is the ancestor of Leonard Coffey who started CCC (Coffey Cousins Clearinghouse). This James is now assumed to be the son of Annister Coffey, daughter of Edward. If this is correct, he was an illegitimate son. Kathryn Johnson found the record in some Virginia records. I think we published it a very long time ago."

With this clue, I dug a bit further and did indeed



find a reference that Annister “Was indicted by Grand Jury in Essex County, Virginia, on November 17, 1736 for ‘having a base born child.’ She named this child, James Coffey.”

This is very convincing, because the Surry Minutes offer evidence that the James Coffee found in Surry was indeed born in about 1735! See later discussion.

Therefore James is still probably my cousin, but by a slightly different path!

#### THE INTERESTING DNA:

As many of you are aware, we have a “Coffee/Coffey Surname Project” under way, that tests the y-DNA of men with the Coffey or Coffee surname. Since the y-DNA is handed down through the male line with only occasional changes, it can be used to show if the participants have a common (male) ancestor.

You can learn more about our project if you visit the following:

<http://members.aol.com/FredCoffey/CousisDNA.htm>

We have already tested two people for whom circumstantial evidence supports descent from this James, and their DNA matches each other. However the DNA test does indeed show that they are NOT descended from the male line of Edward Coffey. This is as would be expected if Annister (a female) were in their Coffey ancestral line. However his paper trail evidence is not solid.

Do we have DNA evidence as to WHO was James' father? Well, at least not yet. There are ancestry.com reports that Annister married a person named Chenault or Shenault, but there are as yet no DNA Surname Projects with that name.

#### SO WHAT WAS JAMES COFFEE DOING IN SURRY COUNTY?

James was a Constable in the county, and many of his entries in the court minutes relate to his official duties (and those often tie to my ancestor Robert Walker Esq., who was serving as a Justice on the County Court). Other entries refer to transactions and duties similar to those of many of the county citizens. Here are the specific

references:

(13 Aug 1778): “James COFFEE delivered up the body of Daniel WELLS.” (I would presume Daniel was quite alive, and that Constable James was just escorting him to court?)

(10 Aug 1779): “James COFFEE (and several other listed persons) appointed Constables.”

(9 Nov 1779): “Deed from Nathaniel McCARROL to George CARTER, oath James COFFEE.”

(16 Aug 1780): “Children of Samuel FRANCIS likely to suffer for want of proper care; Ordered James COFFEE, Constable, deliver them to John HORN to care for until next Court.”

(15 Aug 1781): “Power of Attorney from Mary NOWLIN to James COFFEE; oath Thomas EVANS.”

(14 May 1782): “Deed from Edward EVANS to William WHITE; oath James COFFEE.”

(17 Feb 1782): “George WATKINS vs Richard MORRIS; Jury: (James COFFEE and 11 other jurors listed).”

(13 Nov 1782): “Ordered John SMITH appointed Constable in BLACKBURNS District in place James COFFEE, resigned.”

(14 May 1783): “Deed from James COFFEE to Job MARTIN, oath said COFFEE.”

(19 Feb 1785): “William CONNER vs James COFFEE.” (The same jury of 12 men heard this case, and 13 other cases, on the same day – minutes do not show who won.)

(10 May 1785): “Ordered James COFFEE to be exempt from paying Poll Tax for future.” (NOTE: This entry was almost certainly an exemption due to age. The exact age at which a person became exempt was left up to local authority in NC until 1801, at which time it was set by the state as “50”. I found one reference that stated Surry County's upper age was “50” in 1788, so it was probably also “50” in 1785. This would mean that James was born in about 1735, which ties very nicely to the 1736 court case indicting his presumed mother for ‘having a base born child’.)

# Coffey/Coffee Cousins' Convention

## Dubuque, Iowa

**April 26 - 29, 2007**

**HOTEL: JULIEN INN, 200 Main Street,** overlooking the Mighty Mississippi and the Port of Dubuque and located in the heart of the civic core historic preservation area..

Courtesy airport transportation from Dubuque Regional Airport.

Call 1- 800-798-7098 (or 563-556-4200) Specify a reservation for Coffey Cousins' Convention and request our special rates. Multiple variety of room choices available but limited number of rooms in each category. See room choices at end of this email. Make your choice early and call for your reservation.

Group Name: Coffey/Coffee Cousins' Convention

ROOM RATES\*: (Rate + add 7% Tax)  
(What Julien calls their rooms)

#### Standard Rooms

9 rooms with one queen size bed at a rate of \$56.00 plus tax.

#### Deluxe Rooms

6 rooms with one king size bed at a rate of \$76.00 plus tax.

#### Deluxe Rooms

12 rooms with two double beds at a rate of \$76.00 plus tax.

#### Economy rooms

3 rooms with one full size bed at a rate of \$48.00 plus tax.

#### Hospitality Suite (Interior room with no windows)

2 rooms with one king size bed and pull-out sofa at a rate of \$65.00 plus tax.

#### Hospitality Suite (Interior room with no windows)

1 room with one queen size bed and a pull-out sofa at a rate of \$56.00 plus tax.

#### Family Suite

1 Family Suite (with two double beds, two bathrooms, living area) at a rate of \$65.00 plus tax.

#### Whirlpool Suite

3 rooms with one king size bed and whirlpool tub at a rate of \$93.00 plus tax.

\*Rates available to CCC with block of 21 rooms or more

Note: Miller RV Park about .1 mile from hotel along Mississippi River. Operated by the city, opens April 1, unless high water: Alternative is American Marina, open all year. Each is on Dubuque's Island in the Mississippi, across the highway from one another. (I'm also checking on another RV Park that overlooks the Mississippi River.)

## The Crown Gallery: Our Meet & Greet Room

Pick up your registration packet containing maps of Dubuque and descriptions of oh so many more things than you have time to visit!

Tables for research you want to share; Color and b/w copier provided. Coffee and snacks provided. Comradeship and friendship.

## Tour: Trolleys of Dubuque

Friday, April 27, A one-hour narrated tour including original historic sites, an explanation of current economic development, and a visit to an historic preservation district. Board trolley 9:30 a.m.

OPTIONAL, on your own or, on Saturday in small groups, tour the National Mississippi River Museum and Aquarium. Fee less than \$10.00. One block from the Julien Inn. If weather is bad, Museum offers guided tours of the William M. Black at 1:00 and 3:00 p.m.

**Door prizes** from Petosa's Cache.

**Silent Auction:** Bring one or more regional items. (You may find yourself bidding on a jack-alopec!)

**DNA Program** by Fred Coffey.  
Listen to what we have learned from our DNA project.

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## **TEAR OFF & Mail:**

I am paying for \_\_\_\_\_ reservations for the Trolley Tour @ \$15.00 each. Total\_\_\_\_\_

I am paying for \_\_\_\_\_ reservations for the CCC Banquet @ \$25.00 each. Total \_\_\_\_\_

Final Total \_\_\_\_\_

Be sure to include your return address, phone number and e-mail address.

Please send each person's choice (by name) of Roast Beef, Baked Ham, or Baked Chicken along with your check to  
Darlene Clark, 1500 41 Place, Des Moines, IA 50311 - 2544

Please send a list of names and addresses (if different from yours) for each person who will be attending. (Confirmation by e-mail)

The banquet/business meeting is a sit-down dinner. Menu selections are due not later than April 1, 2007.

For more information: email: cdbh@msn.com or phone: 1-515-279-3194

**CURRENTS IN THE STREAM**

\* Alice Netherton's last issue of C.C.C. was returned stamped "Deceased". Does anyone have any information on her? Bonnie

\* Bob Coffey writes the following to Joe Coffey concerning their matching DNA. "I was excited to receive the news today that my DNA is an exact 12 marker match with yours. I joined the DNA test last summer and yours is the first match that I have made with a person with the Coffey surname. When I found that you are Leonard's bother, I knew our match is valid. My uncle Francis (Fran) Coffey was a cousin of Leonard. I think it was through Leonard that uncle Fran found our relationship with Lewis M. Coffey. I have a copy of Leonard's treatise on the family of Lewis. My ancestry is: Max Arthur Coffey, 27 Nov. 1903, Garrison, Iowa, Elmer Ivan Coffey, 12 Aug. 1880, Wellman, Iowa, Joseph Lane Coffey, 18 May 1856, Morgan City, Indiana, James Wilson Coffey, 15 May 1852, Pulaski City, Kentucky, Lewis M. Coffey, 1 Nov. 1798, Stokes City, North Carolina

I have seen no verifiable evidence of Lewis's parentage. One GEDCOM shows his father, Ambrose, another, James. So there appears to be a difference of opinion about his father.

As Fred mentioned, he, Jack, and I have discussed the possibilities including the Annister situation which seems to have some circumstantial credibility based on the fact that we do not match any of the known descendants of Edward and since, or any other known Coffey males.

I plan to attend the Coffey Cousins Convention in Dubuque, Iowa this spring. I want to hear Fred's dna talk and also to see if I can research all of Leonard's many references to Lewis in the past Coffey Cousins Clearinghouse issues. My library goes back only about 11 years. I hope you may consider coming to the convention. It would be great to meet another family member."

Bob J. Coffey" <bjcoffey@netwurx.net> (We hope to meet both. BC)

