

Coffey Cousins' Clearinghouse

Founded and Published by Leonard Coffey 1981-1989

Edited & Published by Bonnie Culley 1989-2012

Editor and Publisher: [Jack K. Coffee](#)

Helping Coffey/Coffee Researchers since 1981 Issue No. 136 ISSN 0749-758X

President's Message

Dear Coffee-Coffey Cousins

Greetings, cousins. I am Larry Coffey, newly elected president of the organization. Cousin Wayne Mower is Vice President. We have decided to retain the staff (Glenda Coffey treasurer; Nelda Coffee, secretary) from the former president, Danny Coffey. He is a very difficult act to follow. He has organized two reunions and is working on his third. We appreciate his leadership and commitment to the organization. I would also like to thank Cousin Kathy Whitson for sponsoring the last reunion. It was a wonderful event and presented a grand opportunity to meet our Tennessee cousins.

Please read upcoming newsletter for information on the May 2016 reunion.

Editor's Comments

I am now posting photos and other documents from the Edward Coffey Project on [Pinterest.com](#).

Please notice my contact info on bottom right of this newsletter. **For newsletter questions write to me; contact Fred Coffey about DNA.**

If you have not yet discovered the History of the [Great Lakes States](#) website, you need to visit it for access to thousands of free e-books containing "biographies and memoirs of famous Americans, political leaders, pioneers..." with "first-person accounts of everyday life and historic events." The great lake states are OH, IN, IL, MI and WI.

[Mocavo](#), a [Find My Past](#) co., has created a [free US census website](#) for the 1790-1940 US Census.

Famous Quotes

It is not flesh and blood but the heart, which makes us fathers and sons.
~Johann Schiller

Table of Contents

Virginia Pearl Coffey	2
Reuben Dalton	3-4
Archie Dalton	5
Incoming Mail	5-7
Logan McMillon Coffey	7-8
Reuben C. Coffey	8-10
DNA Report	10-11

Contact Info:

Edward Coffey Project blog: <http://tinyurl.com/qbcmjz>
Follow on Twitter [Twitter.com/@CoffeyCousins](https://twitter.com/CoffeyCousins)
E-mail me at jack.coffee@gmail.com



In Vol. 133 of this newsletter, I wrote about John William Voris and his wife, Virginia Pearl Coffee. In August of this year, Kathy Coffee Simmons sent me a few dozen photographs of descendants of James & Betsy Coffey Coffey. Included are a few of photos of Virginia Pearl who had attended the 1931 family reunion in Texas. This photo is of her and first cousin Judge Woodson "Woods" Coffee, Jr. who was driving her back to Arizona. **Jack Coffee**

We want to hear from you! Your Coffey or allied family "brick wall" might have been solved by someone else. Write and tell us about it. Your cousins may be able to help!

Reuben Dalton was the first of his line to settle in Grainger Co., TN.¹ He settled in Thorn Hill in 1801 after having served as a soldier in the Revolutionary War.² According to the report, Reuben had been an Ensign in Captain Isham's company in the Virginia State Militia. He died prior to the passing of the law that gave veterans of that war the right to apply for a pension.

He arrived in "Montgomery Co., VA from Pittsylvania Co. in 1772" where bought "170 acres in the area known as Little Reed Island Creek." In her report, Jean tells us that Reuben was listed on Tennessee tax rolls of 1797 as owner of 200 acres but was probably still in Virginia at the time. He sold the Virginia property in 1797 and the rest of it in 1801 when he relocated to Tennessee.

Reuben died in 1801 and was buried "on the Fred Davidson farm on Copper Ridge Rd. near Cedar Springs Baptist Church" in Thorn Hill.

On Jan. 4, 1808 he applied for a marriage license in Grainger Co. to marry Nancy Shockley.³ Nancy had been born in c1757 at Pittsylvania. Her family likely migrated along with others into Grainger Co. about the same time as Reuben.

The union between the couple produced at least nine children: Enos; Elizabeth; Agnes Anne; William Meredith; Reuben, Jr.; Mary; Carter; Hannah Ann and Timothy. In this paper we will try to follow Timothy, thought to have been born in 1810.⁴

Timothy is the first known Dalton known to me to marry into the Coffey family. His wife was Delphia Coffey, a daughter of George Coffey and Margaret L. Rucker. We can follow George back to Edward and Ann Powell Coffey through his father, Benjamin Coffey who married Mary "Polly" Hayes. I will only touch on the descendants of Timothy who also married Coffeys.

Delphia and Timothy were married in Grainger Co. on Dec. 29, 1828.⁵ Over the next 26 years, she became the mother of at least 11 of Timothy's children. Timothy died c1863 in Grainger Co.; neither a death record nor place of burial has been located. In any event, Delphia, yet with young children at home, married the widower Jacob Hipshire on Mar. 23, 1863. Jacob was age 66 years and Delphia was age 48 when they married. There were no known children.

Jacob was a North Carolina native and son of Henry and Delphia Delamar (sic). His first wife was Matilda Hayes, born c1810 in NC, died 1855 in Grainger Co. Her parents were Thomas and Sarah "Sally" Rucker Hayes. Margaret Rucker, wife of George Coffey and Sarah "Sally" were sisters, daughters of Colby and Sarah Roberts Rucker.

The 11 children of Timothy and Delphia were: David, born c1831; George Washington, born Feb. 3, 1832, died Dec. 24, 1904;⁶ Manerva, born c1834; Thomas, born c1834; Ally (Ollie?), born c1837; William Nelson, born Dec 6, 1839;⁶ Green C., born c1840; Colby Timothy, born c1842; Hiram, born c1843; Emeline, born c1844 and Harriet, born c1854.

Son George first married Charlotte Hedrick, a daughter of John and Lucinda Hipshire Hedrick. His second wife was Sarah Ann, Charlotte's sister. George and Charlotte's son Lafayette, known as "Lee Fate" married Cornelia Dalton, a child of Tandy Witcher and Matilda Coffey Dalton. Lee Fate's son James Franklin, (1880-1947), married twice, the second to Louvern "Vernie" Coffey (1887-1978), a daughter of Lacy and Margaret Ogan Coffey. James' first wife was Mattie Collins to whom he was married in 1903. I know of only one child, a son Creed, born 1913. Mattie died in 1917 at the same time

as Creed; she of "pulmonary consumption," he of "lobar pneumonia."⁷ I know of no children born to James and Vernie.

Daughter Ally (Ollie?) married William Hedrick and their daughter married Eva (1895-1963) married Guy Willis Hedrick, her multiple second and third cousin. Guy was the son of William Henry and Margaret Jane Coffey Hedrick. Jane was the daughter of Thomas and Martha Jane Shockley Coffey.

Son Colby Timothy (1842-1908) married Letitia Wolfe (1842-1904), a daughter of Moses and Catherine Wolfe Wolfe. Their son Greenberry (1868-1942) married Lula May Coffey (1869-1948). Lula was a daughter of Austin and Elizabeth Dalton Coffey. Austin descends from Edward through his father Elijah Coffey who married Rebecca Shockley. Elizabeth Dalton was a daughter of Colby John and Elizabeth McGinnis Dalton. Colby goes back to Reuben through his father William Meredith Dalton who married Delphia Rucker, the daughter of Colby and Sarah Roberts Rucker.

The death date and place of burial for Timothy and Delphia is unknown. The death dates for many of the children are known and some of their burial sites are also known. However, more research is required to confirm and verify.

Corrections and additions are welcomed.

¹ Jean England, Thorn Hill, TN, compiler, *Dalton Ancestors*, an attachment to e-mail from the author to Jack Coffee, Sep. 25, 2006.

² A monument to his memory was placed at the Mount Pleasant Methodist Church in Thorn Hill.

³ "Tennessee Marriages, 1796-1950", index, FamilySearch (<https://familysearch.org/pal:MM9.1.1/X8YZ-WJ2> : accessed 24 January 2015), Reubin Daulton and Nancy Shockley, 04 Jan 1808; citing Grainger, Grainger, Tennessee, reference ; FHL microfilm 968,583.

⁴ Birth dates and locations for all of the children are inconsistent. Some dates are prior to Reuben and Nancy's marriage; some in Virginia and some in Grainger Co. He may have been previously married.

⁵ "Tennessee State Marriages, 1780-2002", index, FamilySearch (<https://familysearch.org/pal:MM9.1.1/VNDC-3SC> : accessed 05⁶Mar 2013), Timothy Dalton and Delpha Coffey, 1828.

⁶ Betty White Martin, "Descendants of Timothy Dalton". Grainger Co., TN, Jul. 18, 2005

⁷ "Tennessee Death Records, 1914-1955", index and images, FamilySearch.org

Archie Dalton

Thanks to Archie [<mailto:adalton478@hotmail.com>] I now have a very large box of Coffey and Dalton information. Included are a few dozen copies of the yearly Mulberry Baptist Church Association minutes, interesting for their obituaries; a stack of a hundred plus Dalton death certificates, many of them with Coffey connections; and on CD, Grainger Co., TN marriage records and PDF images of the Mulberry minutes. Betty White Martin was the vehicle for transporting the box from Archie to me at Thorn Hill. Anyone looking for a lost Coffey or Dalton cousin from that part of TN can drop me an e-mail with your

request and thank Archie if we find it. My address is on the cover of this newsletter

Incoming Mail

Susan Daily Johnson [<mailto:suzyinok@aol.com>] wrote that she and her mom participated in the atDNA project which shows them related to Coffey and Cleveland families. Susan says they descend from Benjamin Cleveland's illegitimate daughter Jemima who married James Wyly. Their daughter Elizabeth Cleveland Wyly married an Ingram. Their daughter Polly Ingram married James Law and they had a daughter Ava Law who married Dr. Park Russell and became the parents of Dr. Seaborn Russell, who was father of Susan's maternal grandmother. Susan's daughter Layla is a granddaughter of Drama Dalton, daughter of Ralph and Birdie Hayes Dalton. Drama was a double Coffey through Matilda and Delphia Coffey who had Dalton husbands.

Gerardo Castorena [<mailto:gcastorena502@gmail.com>] wrote to let me know that he was a grandson of Henderson Coffey, which I had misinterpreted as Anderson Coffey. Henderson was a son of Frank O. and Sarah Jane Gregory Coffey of Wayne Co., KY. Gerardo is just beginning his ancestral search and would like to hear from relatives.

Mike Dixon [<mailto:cmiked53@yahoo.com>] wrote he was working with someone who is a DNA match on FTDNA, but whose ancestry information is "very sketchy." That person believes that her ancestor was Sarah Elizabeth Coffey from VA or NC who married Cain McDonald. Mike found Sarah McDonald in 1850 Smith Co., TN by knowing the names of her children. Cain, however, is missing from the record. This family does not appear in my Edward Coffey Project so I was unable to help. Anyone who might be able to help Mike with this family, please drop him an e-mail.

Robert Willianson [sic] [<mailto:robby52mg@aol.com>] wrote to tell me that his mother had researched the Gottlieb Alfred Mahler family some 20 years ago and, had about 9 or 10 generations beyond Gottlieb. Gottlieb and wife Ella Virginia Brooks were the parents of Elsie Conner Mahler, born Dec., 1891 in Waynesboro, VA, died Dec. 25, 1960 in Norfolk, VA. She married in 1915 and was divorced by Clyde Elmore Coffey in Lynchburg, VA in 1933. She then married Joseph Michael Boyhan in 1934. I was able to share a photo of Elsie and her children with Clyde. Anyone who can add information about Gottlieb and his other children is invited to contact Robert.

I do not know a lot about the Reuben Coffey who was the Irish emigrant because he isn't proven kin to Edward. Fred Coffey tells me that DNA tests prove this Reuben is definitely not related. Marvin Coffey wrote that the Reuben who was son of John and Jane Graves Coffey was not a Revolutionary War veteran, but had often been confused with his nephew, Reuben, son of his brother James and wife Elizabeth Cleveland Coffey. I received an e-mail from **Miriam** (no last name) at [<mailto:lucyandethel2012@gmail.com>] who informed me she was searching for proof of Sarah Coffey's children. If I understood the lineage given by Miriam, Sarah was the daughter of Lewis and Elizabeth Watters Coffey and wife of Henry Roberts Lewis and does descend from Reuben, the non-Rev. War vet, and son of James. Miriam tells me that both Reubens are in DAR. I'm thinking she may be confusing Reuben the nephew and Reuben the Irish emigrant. This is one reason why I distrust DAR lineages. Please contact Miriam if you can help her sort out the records.

Melonie Masih [<mailto:mawmasih@gmail.com>] has been tempting me with fresh fig preserves and hot biscuits. My mouth waters at the thought! She and I have been exchanging information about her William Fine Coffey family in Maury Co., TN. She recently wrote that she had located another William Fine Coffey in that county. My information is that the second William was first William's nephew, the son of Isaac Hamilton Coffey, brother to first William. Second William's surname is spelled Coffee on his headstone found at the Glenwood Cemetery near Mt. Pleasant, TN in Maury Co. Anyone else researching this family should contact Melonie.

Kevin West [<mailto:kdwest@sandspringsok.org>] wrote inquiring about his cousin Rod Coffey, former Coffey Cousin. Kevin wrote that he had found an on-line death record for Rod. A. Coffey who passed away on Feb. 2, 2014 in Denver, CO. at age 68. His date of birth was given as Jul. 20, 1945, same date as his cousin. Kevin wondered if this was his cousin and if we had any info that would confirm his death. Rod discontinued his subscription to the old newsletter and gave no given any indication that he was still interested when e-mails to him were never acknowledged. Rod's grandmother was Kevin's 2g-grandmother, Annie Lewis (Alexander) Coffey, born 1862 and wife of Frank Hudson Coffey. Kevin is having a monument prepared to mark Annie's gravesite in Memorial Park Cemetery in Tulsa and promises a photo and short bio when the stone is finally placed.

I recently called upon **Shirley Houk** [<mailto:edythe98@aol.com>] to assist identifying which Mary Coffey had married Hallie Grant VanFossen in Staunton, VA. I had found his 1947 obituary that named her as his spouse. Shirley was able to identify Mary as the daughter of John W. and Sally H. Coffey Coffey of Nelson Co., VA. John was the son of Morris and Mildred Coffey; Morris son of William B and Mary DeMasters Coffey; William, son of Edmund F. and Elizabeth Burger Coffey. Sally was the daughter of George W. and Catharine DeMasters Coffey; George the son of Edmund and Martha Snead Coffey; Edmund the son of William and Betsy Giles Coffey.

Another regular correspondent is **Wayne Coffey** [e-mail address on request] of GA. Wayne, formerly of VA and an Edward descendant is a relative of Shirley and has long been an e-mail friend. He has completed a goodly amount of research of his Coffey families in Virginia. He is responsible for many of the Coffey and related family Find-A-Grave memorials and headstone photos in the Augusta, Nelson, etc. county areas and. has been very generous sharing his work with me, and thus with you.

Miss Jane Hartley [<mailto:missihartley@msn.com>] wrote to update my Mar., 2007 blog on Charles Lewis & Emily Coffey Coffey. If you are a descendant of this family or merely want to learn more about your Coffey cousins, take a look at her [comments and corrections](#).

I received a very nice e-mail from **Dave Brogan** of Fairview, TN [<mailto:davebrogan@comcast.net>] who purchased one of my Edward Coffey Project DVDs. He wrote "I received a copy of your Edward Coffey Project CD in the mail today and I am very pleased with my purchase. Very well done, sir, thank you for your scholarship and devotion to this project. I look forward to many hours of enjoyment as I explore the content. So far I have found it easy to navigate and fascinating to read." Dave is a Coffey cousin through his great-grandmother Mollie Coffey, a daughter of Colby C. and Emily Sarah Ann Parris Coffey.

Russell Lynn Drysdale [<mailto:russellynndrysdale@aol.com>] has written several times with information about Mary "Mollie" Lena Oliver Coffey, wife of Henry Moses Coffey. Henry was a son of Alfred James and Martha Ann Bradley Coffey of Nelson Co., VA. He forwarded an unsourced paper entitled "The Origin of the Name Drysdale said to have been prepared in May, 1503. If interested, e-mail your request to me and I'll send a copy.

Kelly Bowers [<mailto:kcbowers62@comcast.net>] wrote to let us know that he is a descendant through Thomas Coffey's son, Smith Coffey through his son Squire Coffey. He had read my [Marvel Coffey](#) blog of Aug. 31, 2009 in which I speculated that Marvel, who married Rachel Boone was a son of Thomas and his second wife, Sarah Fields. Kelly wonders if perhaps Benjamin, who was Marvel's bondsman could also be his father. I had to tell Kelly that his guess was as good as any.

Isaiah James a Coffey cousin through Salathial and Nancy Dunbar Coffey, sent photos and Bible pages for the family of George Washington Reagan and Elizabeth Wasson whose son, Thomas Jefferson Reagan married Letitia Ellen Coffey in 1875 Texas. Letitia was a daughter of Salathial and Nancy. Isaiah is the moderator of the Facebook page 16th Texas Cavalry Dismounted, Fitzhugh's Regiment. You can

reach him there.

Kathy Coffee Simmons, [<mailto:geneoquest@aol.com>] mentioned earlier, is a descendant of Logan McMillon Coffee and his wife Mary Elizabeth Ragland. Logan was born in Adair Co., KY in 1809 and died on Jun. 20, 1865. His death was suspicious in that he is thought to have been murdered by neighbors.¹

Logan was a son of James and Elizabeth "Betsy" Coffey Coffey. The family seems to have been structured in this manner:

Nathan, son of Chesley, married Mary Saunders. Their children are not all agreed upon, but are believed to have been the parents of Elizabeth "Betsy" (c1791-c1837) who married James Coffey. James is thought to have been a son of Joel, another son of Chesley. Joel was married to Martha Step in c1753.²

James and Betsy were married in Adair Co., KY on Mar. 4, 1804.³ Betsy is thought to have died in Jackson Co., AL in 1837 but to my knowledge no proof exists. James' death place and date is also unknown to me.

Their children as I have them were:

Wyatt, born c1806 in KY; Langston, Aug. 11, 1807 in Adair Co., KY, died Aug. 15, 1861 in Titus Co., TX

Logan McMillon, born Dec. 7, 1809 in Adair Co., died Jun. 20, 1865 in TX

Seliny [Salina?], born Jun. 27, 1812; Lucy, born Sep. 18, 1814 in Colorado Co., TX

James, born Jul 13, 1816; William, born Oct. 7, 1818; Cleveland, born Apr. 24, 1823

Woodson, born Oct. 27, 1825, died Oct. 4, 1880 in Colorado Co., TX.

With the exception of Langston, Logan and Woodson, none of the other dates were sourced.

Langston birth date was provided in the Sep., 1966 issue of the *Coffey Cousins'* newsletter by Daraleen Wade of Salem OR. We know when he died and believe we know where he is buried because of a memorial on Find-A-Grave; memorial no. [87806744](#). We know Logan's death date from the Boethel book but nothing else about birth or actual burial site. We know when Woodson died from the obituary that appeared in the Colorado [TX] *Citizen* on Oct. 7, 1880.

SUDDEN DEATH.--Early last Monday morning, Mr. Woodson Coffee rode into [t]own, and getting off his horse in front of the establishment of Messrs. C. and P. Hahn, of this city, he fell upon the pavement and immediately expired. His death was caused by an apoplectic fit. Mr. Coffee was an old citizen of the county, an honest, industrious farmer, quiet and unobtrusive in deportment, attending to his own business, and esteemed for his many good qualities. He was buried in the evening, many of our citizens attending his remains to their last resting place.

Logan married Miss Mary Elizabeth Ragland c1837 while the family still resided in Jackson Co., AL. The couple did not leave Alabama until sometime between 1840 and 1843 when their third child, William Denton Coffee was born in Texas while their first, Mansel and second, Arminta was born in AL.

Mansel married Georgiana Frances Reynolds in Lavaca Co., TX on Jun. 4, 1861. Georgiana was born to Benjamin Franklin and Virginia Mayers Reynolds in Brandon, Rankin Co., MS in 1845. I have no clue when the Reynolds came to Texas, but Benjamin died in Shackelford Co., TX and was buried there in the Albany cemetery. Virginia's death date and place of burial is unknown to me. Georgiana's sister, Emma Gaines Reynolds married Robert Marion Coffee in Lavaca Co. in 1869. Robert was born in 1849, Columbus, Colorado Co., TX and was brother to Mansel.

Mansel and Georgiana had at least nine children. I have information on all of them but will continue with Kathy's family whose grandfather was Woodson, born in Gonzales Co., TX in 1862. He married Ollie

Pickens Stribling on Aug. 14, 1890 in Throckmorton Co., TX. She was a daughter of Cornelius Kinchelo Stribling and Nancy Carolina Stribling Stribling. The middle child of their nine was Oran, born Jan. 24, 1897 in Roberts Co., TX and died in Amarillo, Potter Co., TX on Nov. 3, 1965. Oran married Frances Elizabeth Rock on Aug. 9, 1931 in Pagosa Springs, Archuleta Co., CO and they were the parents of Kathy who married Jim Simmons. Frances was born in Pagosa Springs in 1912 and died in 2004 at Boerne, Kendall Co., TX.

¹ Paul Boethel, author of the 1967 book *On the Headwaters of the Lavaca and Navidad* indicates the circumstances of his death were "fraught with suspicions..." Mary petitioned the court on Aug. 20, 1865 for administrative rights of their property, saying her husband died about "June 20th, 1865." His probate record can be found in the Nov. 1865 records of the Lavaca Co., TX courthouse.

² Joel and Martha are mentioned in *The Georgians, Genealogies of Pioneer Settlers*, by J. H. Austin. Joel's will was probated in Wilkes Co., NC in 1789 and mentions children James, Joel, Cleveland, Nathan, Katy, Jane and Celia. See will book C, page 321

³ Marriage Records of Adair County, Kentucky, 1802-1848: James Coffey and Betsey Coffey, dau. of Nathan Coffey, 4 March 1804 by John White

A Fatal rencontre took place in the lower part of this county, near Lancaster, on Monday last, in which Mr. H. F. C. Johnson of Pleasant Run, and a Capt. Coffee [sic], of Collin County, were killed. The affair, we are informed, grew out of some misunderstanding in relation to a horse, the particulars of which we have not thoroughly learned.*¹

Reuben C. Coffey², a resident of Collin County, died intestate in August 1865.

June 1866 - Petition for administration by S. Coffey; Waddill & Andrews, attys.

Administrator's bond: S. Coffey, principal; J. O. Straughan and W. M. Bagley, sureties.

July 1866 Inventory by W. M. Weaver and John M. McKinney. Note due estate by Green Moore.

Administrator: Salathiel Coffey. Request for order to sell one Navy six-shooter and enough cattle to make \$75.00. Request for second order to sell at later date a Mexican blanket, saddle, bridle and spurs.

Aug 1866 Report of sale of six-shooter to F. J. Vance, cattle to W. Coffey, J. Snider, W. Weaver, R. H. Parker, R. B. Whisenant, G. W. Ford, J. McKinney, W. Merit, F. Monday, J. M. McKinney, clerk of sale.

June 1867 Annual report: sums collected from Wm. Merit, Wm. M. Wm. [sic], Robert H. Parker, Ford & Wetsell, John McKinney, Milton Coffey.

October 1868 Final Report: Collected by suit notes from Ford, Morgan & Wetsell; E. F. Monday; Whisenant, Ford & Morgan; R. B. Whisenant. Paid to S. B. M. Fowler, J. D. Newsone & Co., Harrison Dews, Joseph Bledsoe, Throckmorton, Brown and DeArmond.

Vouchers from heirs, dated 18 February unless otherwise indicated: Mary Coffey (by mark), Elizabeth Wolford (by mark), W. P. Campbell, N. J. Coffey, Newton Coffey (3 May 1873), Joseph E. Hays and Mary Ann Hays, S. P. Coffey, W. T. Jackman and Luvy J. Jackman, John H. Grider and Emily C. Grider (4 February 1869), J. J. Wright and Mary E. Wright (4 February 1869), all for sums received of "Sale" or "Sail" Coffey.

Feb. 1874, John Johnson swears that he paid to Willis Coffey in Missouri a sum of money for S. Coffey. Bill from Mary Coffey, mother of deceased, for her expenses. Mention of note of Mrs. Stags. Lists heirs of

Mariah [sic] Coffey: Willis Coffey, N. J. Coffey, Metwon [sic] Coffey, Stanton Coffey, Elizabeth Wolford, Serena Campbell, Hiram Haze [sic], S. Coffey. Mother, Mary Coffey, is a citizen of Kentucky.

Final report, dated 26 Oct. 1868: Green Moore has not paid; parties bound on his debt are citizens of Kentucky. All debts settled except note to George Staggs. Mary Coffey is citizen of Kentucky, and heirs listed above are named as brothers and sisters of deceased R. C. Coffey.

Reuben C. and S. Coffey (Salathiel), Sons of Elias and Mary Coffey Coffey.

W. Coffey probably William, also a son. Could also be Willis.

J. Snider probably James Madison, husband of Sarah Jane Fitzhugh, parents of Mary E. Snider, wife of Zachariah Taylor Coffey, a son of Salathiel "Sail" and Nancy Dunbar Coffey.

R. B. Whisenant was Robert Benton Whisenant, husband of Harriet Coffey, a daughter of Sail and

J. M. McKinney was Elder John Meyers McKinney, husband of Mary Ann Coffey, another daughter of Sail and Nancy.

Milton Coffey is probably Milton Wolford "Mint" Coffey, a son of Sail and Nancy

Mary Coffey was wife of Elias and mother of Reuben. She was also a daughter of Nathan and Mary Saunders Coffey.

N. J. Coffey is probably Nancy Jane, daughter of Sail and Nancy. She did not marry until 1870 when she became Mrs. Joseph F. Liggett.

Unsure who Newton Coffey was. Could be son of William Saunders and Elizabeth Schooler Coffey who was in Lavaca Co., TX in 1860 but only 14 years old then. Mentioned later was Metwon Coffey, likely the same Newton.

Unsure who S. P. Coffey was unless Stanton P., son of Elias and Mary Coffey Coffey, and brother to Reuben and Salathiel. Mary C. Saufley Coffey, his wife, died on May 20, 1906 in Wise Co., TX. No information on where or when Stanton died. S. Coffey is probably same person as S. P. Coffey.

Unsure which Willis Coffey he was.

Unsure who Mariah Coffey was. After Nancy Dunbar died, Salathiel Coffey married Mary Ann McFarland in 1854 Russell Co., KY and they were in TX by 1856 when their first child Margaret was born. Mary Ann's first husband was Houston R. Ballew.

*A French verb meaning a "hostile meeting."

¹ Source: *Dallas Weekly Herald*, Dallas, TX, Aug. 19, 1865, Vol. XII, Issue 49, Page 2 [Lancaster; Mr. H. F. C. Johnson; Capt. Coffee; Collin County] – GenealogyBank [\$] - <http://bit.ly/1hcDhV9>

² Source: *The Portal to Texas History*, accessed Nov. 21, 2010 citing *Collin Chronicles*, Collin Co. Gen. Soc., Plano TX, Vol. 5, No. 2, Dec., 1984 and Vol. 7, No. 4, Jun., 1987, p86

Jack Coffee

Corrections

The photo appearing on page 2, Vol. 128, Oct-Dec 2015 is that of Woodson Coffee, not Langston Coffee.

Tip:

Have you found the address of an ancestor, either in the census record or some other document and would like to see the house that your ancestor lived in as it looks today? Plug the address into maps.google.com and look for “street view” to find the home. It might take a little time zooming in and out hoping to find the house number on a column, over the door, on a mailbox or perhaps even on the curb, I have found several and it is very often worth the effort. Sometimes not however, as many older parts of town your ancestor lived in may now be covered with concrete and a strip mall exists there now. To view some of the homes I have found, please check the Pinterest link given on the cover page of this newsletter.

DNA Project: Looking for Deeper Coffey/Keogh Roots

By Fred Coffey [<mailto:fredcoffey@aol.com>]

With Tim Peterman [<mailto:TEPeter100@aol.com>]

In the last issue of this newsletter (See #135), I reported that the descendants of immigrants Edward Coffey and Peter Coffee, who arrived in America in the late 1600's and early 1700's, and of Patrick Coffey who arrived in 1863, were closely related to families with names like Keogh, Keough, Kehoe, Kaho, and Keay. This analysis was based on “y-DNA” testing of the male-line-only Y-chromosome. And was based on what is known as “STR” (Short Tandem Repeats) marker testing. This type of test can establish genealogical connections back a few hundred years.

There is another type of y-DNA test, which looks for “SNPs” (Single Nucleotide Polymorphisms). These are mutations in single locations within the 60,000,000 nucleotides of the Y-chromosome. These, when they occur, mark all future descendants of the individual who “suffered” the mutation.

All male humans evolved over time into a number of groups (haplogroups), all starting from a “Y-chromosome Adam” that lived about 60,000 years ago in Africa. There were other males present at the time, but their y-DNA profile has not survived.

By about 25,000 years ago a branch called “R1b” had separated, and that became the most common population group in Europe. Additional splits from R1b have been documented to date, and more continue to be defined. Both the Coffey and the Keogh lines have separately done such SNP testing, and we clearly all have the same haplogroup. Thus all related Coffey/Keogh are known to be in a group called “R-L176”.

Archaeologists know that Ireland was settled in several waves during the last 2000 to 4000 years. This “L176” test result suggests OUR wave may have come through Iberia or Southwest France.

There are presently something like 36,000 confirmed SNPs in the world population, and working out the sequence in which they occurred has been very helpful in sorting out the evolution of the world's paternal tree.

The FTDNA testing service is now offering a SNP test called “The Big Y”. They describe it as follows:

“The Big Y product is a Y-chromosome direct paternal lineage test. We have designed it to explore deep ancestral links on our common paternal tree. Big Y tests thousands of known branch markers as well as

millions of places where there may be new branch markers. It is intended for expert users with an interest in advancing science.”

I (Fred) don't qualify as "expert". However cousin Tim Peterman (co-administrator of the Coffey DNA Project) has taken a keen interest in this sort of testing, and has applied it to several branches of his family tree. And he recruited his mother's second cousin, Billy W Coffey, to do this Big-Y test. Billy's results will also be relevant to ALL the Coffey/Keogh descendants. Tim has published a paper on the topic, which you can read at:

<http://www.coffey.ws/familytree/dna/BigYbyTimPeterman.pdf>

Billy's test goes beyond the above "L176" and Tim is still working on how the puzzle pieces fit.

Beyond the known list of SNPs, Billy has 114 "novel variants" in his y-DNA. These are SNPs that are not yet confirmed as "known", but that could later be found to have wide branch-defining applicability. Discovery of novel variants in samples will eventually assist refinement of the human evolutionary tree, improving our understanding of human genealogy.

Of these 114, Billy has 30 unshared variants that have not (yet) been found on ANY other tested person. Tim estimates that probably all descendants of Edward Coffey & Ann Powell should share at least 27 of the 30. It will be interesting to see how many of these are shared with the more distant Keogh cousins. To this end the "Big-Y" has been ordered for a descendant of immigrant Patrick Coffey, who is closer to the "Keogh" side of our family.

Tim's work is a first step in helping to "advance science" per the big-Y goal. Given enough data from future Irish-origin participants, the long-term sequence of the Coffey/Keogh family evolution should become much better defined. For more details, see Tim's paper.

Want MORE extended discussion? See the following detailed discussion of the Coffey/Keogh family connections:

<http://www.coffey.ws/FamilyTree/DNA/Origins-CoffeyKeoghFamilies.pdf>