

Coffey Cousins' Clearinghouse

Founded and Published by Leonard Coffey 1981-1989

Edited & Published by Bonnie Culley 1989-2012

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

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

President's Message

Dear Coffee-Coffey Cousins

Greetings, cousins. 2015 is nearing an end and I trust it has been a good one for everyone. May the Holidays be a healthy and happy one. As this year nears its end, it is time to begin thinking about the new year and the 2016 Coffey/Coffee Cousins event. I am sure Cousin Danny will have the particulars in this or the next newsletter.

Thanks to all of you who have contributed to the newsletter and a special thanks to Jack Coffee for another year as editor.

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year

Larry Coffey

Editor's Comments

Fred Coffey wrote that he is still analyzing the new "Big-Y" DNA test and will not have a new report until next issue.

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



I have just learned that long time Coffey Cousin Marguerite Coffey Yeats (front) has passed away. Word from her daughter, Gail Backman (rear) tells us

she passed peacefully on Dec. 11. Our condolences go out to her entire family, which many of us have come to know and love over the years.

Famous Quotes

"The Most Important Thing A Father Can do for his children is to love their Mother!"
Theodore Hesburgh

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Contact Info:

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

Sarah Delilah Coffey
11 Feb 1864 – 7 Jun 1897
By Terry Shireen Snyder Keenan

Sarah was my great grandmother. She died in Knappa, OR June 7, 1897 at the age of 33 years. She was never married but is said to have been buried in her wedding dress. She ended up pregnant with twins and the father (William Sullivan) abandoned her. She had the twins on September 20, 1896 in Iowa and relinquished her rights to the Iowa Children's Home Society at 7 weeks old. One of the twins died there and Sidney and Emma Weick adopted the other, James Norman Coffey and his name changed to Clarence E. Weick. Prior to this, Sarah had an illegitimate son on August 24, 1891, Virgil Benjamin Coffey, my Grandpa. Virgil lived with his Grandma Louisa in Svenson, Oregon in the 1900 census at which time he was 9 years old. I knew my grandfather as Bert E. Snyder from Havre, Montana. I have Army enlistment papers in which he states his birth date and born in Svenson, OR, but the 1900 census states he was born in Iowa, (Wellman). He was born 24 Aug 1891 and died 27 Aug 1957. I was 5 years old and I remember going to the funeral home with my parents and seeing grandpa in the coffin. They had the lower lid closed and I asked what happened to his legs, that's when the funeral director swooped me up and took me out of there and offered me a stick of juicy fruit gum.

In the 1970's is when I decided to do some research on my dad's side as no one else seemed to know how, when or why my grandfather changed his name to Bert Snyder. I could not believe it when I was told that Coffey was really his name. I was given Sarah's autograph book, pictures and now have a scrapbook that was hers. In the autograph book my grandfather (Virgil) wrote "Sadie is dead and I am alive and I am 8 years old." This autograph book and several pictures were delivered to my grandfather in Havre, MT. by Clarence E. Weick. Clarence had pursued his true heritage and found his half-brother through Victor Hugo Coffey. Clarence died in Waterloo, Iowa on January 11, 1947, and his obituary states he had one brother. Clarence Weick never married but he had a secret admirer and longtime friend named Irene Crisman (her married name) whom I did make contact with in the 1970's. She was also executor of Clarence's estate. Clarence told her a lot of family things and helped shed some light on what it was like for Clarence and his efforts to keep in touch with his only brother and the Coffey family. He would visit my Grandpa in Havre, MT once a year and gave Grandpa pictures and such to keep. My dad's sister, my Aunt Sharon is the one who gave all this history to me when I became interested in my heritage.

My father Stewart Bert Snyder was Bert E. Snyder's son. He was born August 8, 1934 and died March 20, 2014. I was trying to find out for my dad just what happened to my grandfather and why he changed his name to Snyder. In one of the Coffey Cousins Clearinghouse newsletters, Issue No. 128, Oct-Dec 2013, Dorothy L. Crawford (decd) submitted an article on Sarah Delilah Coffey. I just happened to do a Google search on Sarah's name and found this article, which had been submitted in 1995, but I had been in touch with Dorothy and sent her the picture of Sarah with her violin. The Virgil Benjamin is not the correct one. That is what prompted me to help set the history straight and seek some additional help to fill in the gaps. Many of you have been at this longer and are much more proficient than I. Any help and/or advice is welcomed.

Contact Terry at [mailto:crky224@q.com?subject=Sarah Delilah Coffey](mailto:crky224@q.com?subject=Sarah%20Delilah%20Coffey)

Editor's note: Sarah was the daughter of James Wilson & Louisa Tennessee Norman Coffey, born Feb. 11, 1864 in Morgan Co., IN.

Terry also included a timeline for Virgil Benjamin Coffey, AKA Bert E. Snyder.

1891 – born Aug. 24, son of Joe Sheets? In Wellman, IA

1895 – Age 4, Washington Co., IA State Census

1900 – Virgil B. Coffey living with grandmother, Louisa Coffey, age 74, in Svenson, Clatsop Co., OR

1918 – Bert Snyder residing in SLC, UT; enlisted May 19, 1918 in Army at Kemmerer, WY, was a supply sergeant and served overseas.

1919 – Mar 4, Cpl, LeMans-Sarthe-France; Apr 29, Sgt, HQ, 16th Grand Division; Jul 24, Honorable Discharge at Ft. D.A. Russell, WY, given \$60 to go to Twin Falls, ID

1927 – Married Marie Glover, Dec. 3 at Shelby, MT, 2d marriage for both. Listed as father of Albert Snyder and mother as Sadie Coffey. [Terry has original marriage certificate]

1930 – Havre, MT, Hill Co., Bert Snyder, head, age 29, chauffeur for taxi co., married first at age 24 (marriage record not found) Not known to have married Terry's grandmother; he was 20 years her senior. Lodger named Carroll Herron, male, in household.

1934 – Son, Bert Stewart Snyder born Aug. 8

1935 – Daughter, Sharon L. Snyder born Oct. 11

1957 – Died in Harve MT on Aug. 27

Incoming Mail

Katherine (Katy) Ansardi [<mailto:katy@resultworks.com?subject=Henry Anderson>] wrote that she has hit a roadblock in her father's tree. Henry Anderson, born c1770, married Jane Coffey (1776-1810) and became parents of her 3d great-grandfather, Elijah Anderson (1804, Bedford Co. TN, d. 1861, Winston, MS) SAR/DAR records have been checked and some incorrectly connect Henry to Rev. War hero Henry Anderson of Newberry, SC. Jane's parents were given as John Franklin Coffey and Hannah Wilson of Wilkes Co., NC. Katy also wondered about a Coffey DNA project. My response was that I have no information on the Anderson line but an unsourced reference to Jane Coffey in the Edward Coffey Project reports that Jane was the daughter of John F. and Hannah Wilson Coffey; John F., son of Thomas and Elizabeth Smith Coffey and Thomas a son of John and Jane Graves Coffey. I referred her to Fred Coffey for DNA information.

Kelly Bowers [<mailto:kcbowers62@comcast.net>] wrote that she (he?) is a descendant of Squire Coffey (1803-1850), a son of Smith W. Coffey through Squire's daughter, Margaret Isabella Coffey (1830-1899). Her son was William Henry Bloomington Baker (1836-1926). William's son was Luther Henry Baker (1873-1934) and Claude Denton Baker (1903-1968) who was her maternal grandfather. Kelly, in an attempt to be more thorough in her (his) research wondered, after reading my blog on [Marvel Coffey](#) if Benjamin Coffey, who provided bond for Marvel's marriage to Rachel Boone was Marvel's father. I cited for her Benny Coffey Loftin's research, which reported that known children of Benjamin were John, George, Bennett, William, Jesse, Jane, Ann, Sarah and one other unknown or unnamed daughter. The names came from Bible records. In Bennie's interview of Rance Coffey, he reported that one of the boys was William and could have been William Marvel. Anyone with better info, please contact Kel

Pam Carroll [[mailto:pamelamix@aol.com?subject=Thomas Coffey Russell Co., KY](mailto:pamelamix@aol.com?subject=Thomas+Coffey+Russell+Co.,+KY)] is searching for Narcissus Tucker, born c1876 who married Thomas Coffey in Russell Co., KY on Jul. 15, 1893. She found another female of the same name, born some 20 years earlier who might be an aunt and who lived next door to Gabriel Tucker in 1900. Thomas married a 2d time in 1903 so Narcissus, called Nara in Bible, was likely deceased before that. Contact Pam if you have any info on this family.

Marilyn Charleson [mailto:marilyn_yvette@hotmail.com] of Clearlake, CA wrote asking for help with her Coffey line. She has several Coffey and is searching in particular for Lumira or Lavinia Coffey, born c1824 and who is said to have married Isaac Walker Odom in Knox Co., TN. She is also searching for Margaret Coffey, born c1778 in VA, thought to be the wife of her 5th g-grandfather, Wilson Petty. Their son, a g-grand uncle, was William Henderson Petty who married Elizabeth Coffey, born c1820. Elizabeth and Lumira/Lavinia are thought to be sisters. Please contact Marilyn if you can help.

Archie Dalton [<mailto:adalton478@hotmail.com>] The Dalton authority wrote with some additional info and clarifications concerning the Reuben Dalton history that appeared in the last newsletter. Contact Archie for more information.

1. Reuben Dalton history, page 3.

a. Para3. I call this person Reuben, SR., the first Dalton, with wife Elizabeth Shockley, in Grainger county.

b. Para 4. this Reuben is Reuben, Jr., son of Reuben Sr. Wording indicates they are the same and Reuben Sr is remarrying.

c. Elizabeth Shockley is the Daughter of Richard Esau/Elizabeth Adkinson, he son of Richard IV/Elizabeth Paynter.

d. Nancy Shockley is the daughter of Thomas/Martha Elizabeth DALTON Fried, ergo, they are 1st cousins.

e. Attached is a map, hand drawn, of Grainger county at some time in the past, almost free of Coffeys except for Orlando, bottom left. (See page 7)

f. The Timothy who married Delphia is believed to be the son of Enos. Reuben Sr had a son named Timothy, named in his will for fifty cents, probably pro forma. That Timothy, also a Rev War officer, never came to Grainger but emigrated to MO. Ken Haas has provided an excellent documentation of this fact that I can provide, if desired.

Ed Coffey [<mailto:ed.coffey@sbcglobal.net>] wrote to tell me how much he enjoyed the Coffey Cousins' sites and, to let me know that he had framed pictures of his dad, granddad and great granddad, etc., going back several generations and their bios. We know of two of his ancestors; John Lockhart Coffey and Elder Achilles Coffey. He was curious about our Edward Coffey and wondered where he came from. I gave him as much info as I could about Edward's origin, how he got here, and such. I also provided him with a list of pertinent Coffey Cousins' websites that might better help explain how and why Edward came to the VA Colony.

Jim Coffey [<mailto:jcoffey717@googlemail.com>], a long time Coffey Cousin, tells us that he descends from Edward through Joseph Coffey's (born 1785) daughter Matilda. Over the years he has exchanged email with other Coffey researchers who link two of Joseph daughters, Matilda and Verlinchia, as one person. His research of probate and census records indicates they were sisters. I have recorded in the Edward Coffey Project that Matilda Verlinchia "Linchy" Coffey was the seventh child of Joseph and

Isabella Lindsay Coffey. She married James Thaddeus Warsaw Perkins on Apr. 14, 1845 in Burke Co., NC. If anyone knows this to be incorrect, please write to Jim and me with the correct info.

Keith Parr [<mailto:kg.parr@me.com>] wrote asking for information about the Toitz family connection to the Coffey family. He cited a July 25, 2007 blog that I wrote about John James Coffee, a son of Joshua and Delilah Conger Coffee, a family in the Peter Coffee line. Some years ago I visited family graves in Big Spring, Howard Co., TX where I found the grave site of Richard Cornelius Coffee, born 1857, died 1934 and his wife, Ollie Anderson, born 1858, died 1882. One of their sons was Thomas John, born 1888, died 1952 in El Paso. His wife was Pauline Toitz of London, to whom he was married in NYC in 1920. Keith is interested in obtaining more information about Pauline and her family. Another unexpected Coffee by the name of Thomas A. Coffee also appears in his search. Thomas' wife was Zena Platter, a daughter of Violet Toitz, Pauline's sister. Elsie Toitz, another sister, also emigrated to the US and lived with Pauline for a while. Keith wonders if she also married a Coffee. Keith lives in France and would very much appreciate any help from his American Cousins who have knowledge of this family.

2016 Coffey Cousins' Convention



the park. Call for rates.

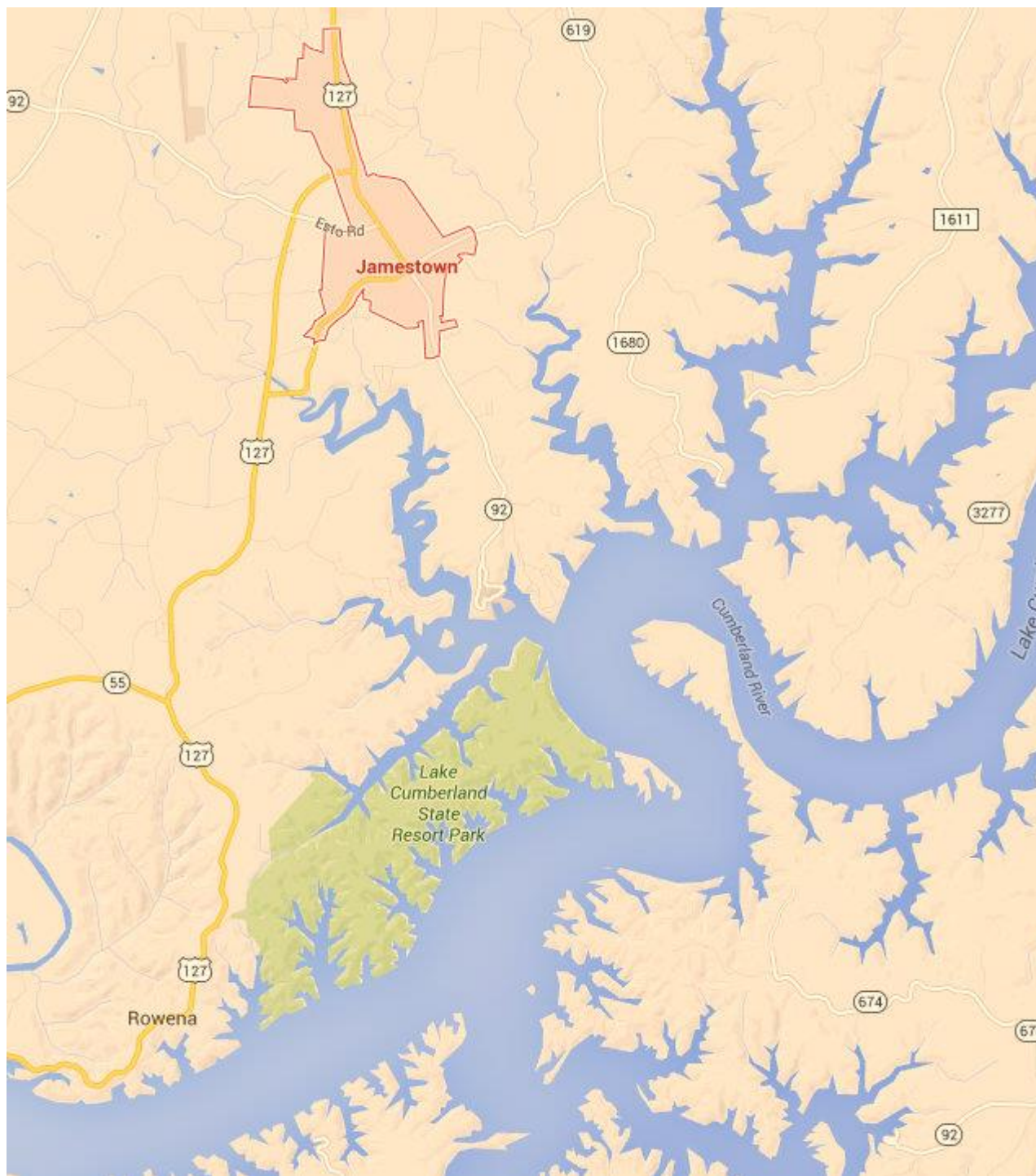
The 2016 Coffey Cousins' Convention will be held May 5, 6 and 7 at the Lake Cumberland State Resort Park in Jamestown, Russell Co., KY. Danny & Glenda Coffey, who have hosted our cousins at this location twice in the past, have reserved the Pumpkin Creek Lodge for us that weekend. Rooms are available in the other lodge as well. Room rates are \$54.95 plus tax for Thursday night and \$71.96 for Friday and Saturday nights (resort prices). Cottages with two bedrooms, full kitchen, and living area are \$125 on Thursday and \$152 for Friday and Saturday nights. There is also an RV campground in

The Banquet will be held on Saturday night in the private dining room at Lure Lodge. This will be a buffet meal and will run \$22 per person.

For reservations, telephone **800-325-1709** and tell them you are with Coffey-Coffee Cousins. These rooms will be held until March 30 so be sure and call before then.

For more information about the State Park and Resort, please visit [their website](#).

We are looking forward to seeing many new as well as some of our older Cousins there!



News You Can Use

For a while, you can access the Chicago Tribune [<http://archives.chicagotribune.com/results/>] archives for free. According to the website, they are currently in Beta and will eventually begin charging for access. I have found several references to the Coffey surname but so far, none appears to belong to the Edward line. I hope that readers will be more successful.

