

# *Coffey Cousins' Clearinghouse*

Founded and Published by Leonard Coffey 1981-1989

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Helping Coffey/Coffee Researchers since 1981 Issue No. 153 ISSN 0749-758X

## ***President's Message***

Sending best wishes for all Coffey Cousins to have a healthy and blessed 2020! Speaking of 2020, our Coffey Cousins Convention is on the horizon, and I hope you are finalizing your plans to attend in St. Louis, MO from April 23-26. Cousin Diana Coffey Holder and her husband Bill have been working hard to lay the foundation for an exceptional experience in the "Show Me" state. Please find the details in the convention section in this newsletter. Also, reserve your room(s) at your earliest convenience, as we need at least 10 rooms reserved to secure the meeting hall. Deadline for reservations is April 9th. Many thanks to all who are working to keep CCC moving forward!

*Betsy Coffey Berry*

President CCC

[bcberry1977@icloud.com](mailto:bcberry1977@icloud.com)

## ***Editor's Comments***

Dear Cousins,

I can't remember a December where I have been so busy. Christmas being on Wednesday didn't help. I spent 2 days in early December as a docent in the Missouri DAR State Headquarters. We have a bus load of 3rs graders come every day from a different school. They are taught by the DAR ladies what it was like to living in our house in the 1800s. Their teachers obviously prepare them well as we are often surprised as to how well behaved, they are. We hope to interest them in real history. I forgot to say that we had 25 decorated Christmas trees in this house. Kids like that too.

Fred has encouraged me to work on the Marvel Coffey line. Although not my line, Marvel and wife Rachel Boone Coffey settled in Maries Co. Missouri before 1838. Maries County is only about a forty-minute drive from my house. There are still a few descendants living in this area. I consulted with Mark Snell a great great grandson of Marvel and Rachel Boone Coffey. (Did I get enough greats in there, Mark?)

I can hardly wait until we have our Coffey Convention in St. Louis. Diana Holder is planning to take us to visit the Boone house if possible. With several marriages between Coffeys and Boones it should be interesting to us. I have visited the house, but it was many years ago. I didn't know about the Boone connection to me at that time. Daniel Boone died in this house. There are some local stories about the Kentucky people coming to remove his body back to Kentucky. I will save these stories for the convention.

Now you must come to the convention!!! yes?

I already have my reservation. There are so many interesting places to see in St. Louis that the hardest part was deciding what you might be MOST interested in. Possibly we can keep you longer!

Diana Holder has a really great speaker lined up for us too. This is one that I can hardly wait to hear. I guarantee it is something you have not heard before.

Attending the Convention gives you the option to ask questions, share stories and meet cousins. We always seem to have a good time together. Guess we must share some of the same genes!!

“Hope to see you in St. Louie, Louie, See you at the Convention.”

Your Cousin

*Bonnie Culley*

bculey@embarqmail.com



**CCC Convention, St. Louis:**

From: Diana Coffey Holder <[wdjr@charter.net](mailto:wdjr@charter.net)>

**Coffey Cousins Convention  
St. Louis, Missouri  
April 23 to 26 2020**

Best Western, Kirkwood Inn

Hotel phone 314-821-3950

Thursday night: \$92 + tax

Friday and Saturday nights: \$100 + tax

We need 10 room reservations to get a free meeting room. Make your reservations now. (You can cancel if something changes and you can't attend.) Be sure to state that you are part of the Coffey Convention to get the discount.



We are thinking that on Friday and Saturday the group would visit the Missouri History Museum in Forest Park and the Daniel Boone Home

in St. Charles County (depending on what the parks department says will determine which day we take the tour).



For Saturday night we are the banquet. We stopped by and Genealogical Society and they will

be able to supply a speaker who will talk about Irish records. looking to have Bandana's BBQ cater spoke to two of the ladies that run the St. Louis

***Index: Issue 153***

	<b>Page</b>		<b>Page</b>
President’s Message	1	<b>ARTICLES:</b>	
Editor’s Comments	1	Names/Names/Names/Names	3
CCC Convention	2	Family Tree Issues	4
		The Other Marvel Coffey	8
<b>MAIL:</b>		Roscommon/Monaghan Coffeys	9
Bruce Bruskovich	3	DNA Refresher	10
		Autosomal DNA Testing	13
		Information Resources	17

***We Get Mail***

From: Bruce Bruskovich <[brucebruskovich@gmail.com](mailto:brucebruskovich@gmail.com)>  
Subject: Re: Coffey Cousins Newsletter

Hello Coffey cousins!

I just want to say hello, and thank everyone again who graciously helped me in my search for my mystery Coffey father, and family! It has been a wonderful experience, getting to know all of them. My twin sister Becky and I took a road trip together and met our father. We spent three short but wonder filled days with him, and are already planning the next visit!

Best regards to everyone, Cousin Bruce

(Background: See article “An Adoption Mystery” in newsletter 150-6,7,8,9. Our team of “Coffey Experts” assisted Bruce in working out the mystery of his adoption, to the extent that he could identify and contact his biological father!)

***NAMES/NAMES/NAMES/NAMES:***

By: Fred Coffey, with Sarah Cahow Stalnaker.

Could our extended family include “Coffey, Coffee, Coffia, Keogh, Keough, Kehoe, Keay, Kaho, Cahow, Kayhow, Kayhowe, and Howe”?

Readers of these newsletters know that our “Edward Coffey” group commonly uses name variations Coffey, Coffee, and sometimes Coffia. And you may recall that DNA has shown that our extended family includes names that are variations on “Keogh”. And you may recall I have argued that the origins of our family actually go back several hundred years and seem to lead to the Keogh lines in County Wexford, Ireland.

Also I had seen matches with the “Howe” name, but didn’t understand how one could go from Coffey to Keogh to Howe. But now maybe there is a clue?

Very recently a new y-DNA match showed up connecting many of our Coffey/Keogh test results to a “Cahow”, based on the 37-marker test. That tested person was upgrading to a 111-marker test, and I send a comment suggesting that “Cahow” (pronounced ‘Kay-How’) sounded a bit like “Keogh”, and that the test upgrade could be VERY interesting for possible solid confirmation of a family connection.

I got a prompt response from Sarah Cahow Stainaker, as follows:

Hello Fred, I am very glad you emailed me. Believe it or not I (had) read your paper in my researching (about) how the Kehoe/Coffey families are related, since the names popped up in my Dad’s test. I have been researching the Cahow surname with no luck, and this was the first bit of proof that the name was changed. I have narrowed the surname change down ( At least I believe I am close ) to my 4th great

grandfather John Cahow born abt. 1760 probably in Maryland and he later moved to Ohio in the 1790's. So Ohio is where most Cahow's come from nowadays.

After I had my dad ( Keith Cahow) take the YDNA test last year I wasn't completely surprised that other surnames came up. In my grandparents' research they suggest that the name at one time was Kehoe but no connection was found, till the YDNA. My Father does have some higher matches to Howe and I have been in contact with some of them but as yet we have found no specific connection. Their line starts later and doesn't jive at all with ours.

If it helps in certain parts of the US the name was known as Kayhow, in fact some of my dad's family up in Minnesota still spell it with a " K" and in Canada (it is) Kayhow with or without and " e " on the end. Also on ancestry dot com I have many Key matches, as well as Kehoe and Coffey but I still cannot make the connections, I'm missing too much information.

I completely agree that the names Kehoe, Coffey, Howe and Cahow are somehow related and I am anxiously awaiting my Dad's Y-111 test results to see what it might tell us!

In all honesty while I have personally known that the name had to have changed at some point in time, I'm still surprised to actually have some names as potential options, I'm used to no information at all, so many dead ends, I'm rather excited. Thank you for emailing me, looking forward to the next step. Sarah Cahow Stalnaker

Hey Sarah, us "Coffey Cousins" also "rather excited" and are looking forward to more detailed analysis and comparisons. Watch these newsletter pages for future developments! Note that we also don't see any exact connections, partly because our Coffey lines have been isolated in America for over 300 years. We think everything goes back to Ireland, before immigration to America. Fred

#### **A DISCUSSION OF FAMILY TREE ISSUES:**

Organized by Fred Coffey, with Pat Marks ([pfmaks@att.net](mailto:pfmaks@att.net)), Bonnie Culley, and Jack Coffee ([ed.coffey.project@gmail.com](mailto:ed.coffey.project@gmail.com))

We had an online discussion over the Thanksgiving time period, involving myself, Pat Marks, Bonnie Culley, and Jack Coffee. We explored a number of questions and issues, and our conversations may be of interest to others:

**Pat Marks:** Hi Bonnie, my name is Pat Fisher Marks, and my mother was Doris Coffey, only child of Nolan Coffey and Muriel Amelia Mayfield. I talked with Jack Coffee a few years ago and I dropped in at the reunion in Franklin last year, but my time was short and only got to meet a few people.

I see references to a few ancestors in the newsletters, but my full line isn't included (my fault). Further, I "think" I know who my ancestors are, but my dates differ a little from the newsletters and names are repeated from one generation to the next making research confusing. Can we communicate so I can prove/improve my information?

**Bonnie Culley:** Hello Pat, I was at the Franklin convention but don't remember meeting you. Sorry... but welcome to the Coffey Clan. My memory isn't great anymore. I am going to send your information on to Fred Coffey. Jack and Fred work really close. Jack has a HUGH index of known Coffee/eys and Fred publishes the newsletter and is our DNA expert. I did not find Nolan in the index to the past newsletters so we have not written about him in the past. I look forward to learning more about your line.

**Fred Coffey:** A quick search for Pat's recent ancestors quickly found her family tree is on Ancestry. For readers who use Ancestry, here's a link to her tree:

<https://www.ancestry.com/family-tree/person/tree/113397880/person/360113701143/facts>

Jack doesn't trust "Ancestry" in general, but Pat's work may be an exception, and she seems to have done an excellent job documenting her ancestry.

Here's a summary of the version of her tree that is in Jack's ECP (Doris was not there, and I have added her based on Pat's Ancestry tree:)

- (1) Edward Coffey (ca 1670 - ca 20 Nov 1716) & Anne Powell (BET 1683 AND 1685 - BET OCT 1744 AND DEC 1744)
- (2) John Coffey (BET 1699 AND 1700 - BET JAN 1775 AND FEB 1775) & Jane Graves (ca 1708 - 1792)
- (3) Thomas Coffey (7 Mar 1742 - Apr 1825) & Sarah Fields (ca 1750 - 21 Nov 1828)
- (4) Jesse S. Coffey (19 Jul 1799 - 8 Oct 1858) & Winifred Crumpton (20 Nov 1801 - 11 Nov 1863)
- (5) Martin Van Buren Coffey (9 Sep 1833 - 5 Nov 1905) & Frances Millicent Ann Pettit (7 Nov 1838 - 6 Sep 1922)
- (6) Eli John Coffey (11 Jan 1860 - 6 Dec 1923) & Malinda Elvira Cook (2 Aug 1869 - 2 Jun 1922)
- (7) Nolan E Coffey (13 Oct 1893 - 13 May 1972) & Muriel Amelia Mayfield (14 Nov 1896 - 12 Apr 1983)
- (8) **Doris Muriel (Pat) Coffey (2 Jun 1923 - 6 Oct 2004) & Joseph John Fisher (7 Jun 1921 - 7 Sep 2007)**
- (3) Elizabeth Coffey (ca 1749 - aft 1807) & Thomas Fields Esq. (ca 1747 - 1807)
- (4) Jane Fields (ca 1770 - ca 1853) & Hezekiah Crumpton (FROM 1744 TO 1755 - ca 1821)
- (5) Winifred Crumpton (20 Nov 1801 - 11 Nov 1863) & Jesse S. Coffey (19 Jul 1799 - 8 Oct 1858)
- (6) Martin Van Buren Coffey (9 Sep 1833 - 5 Nov 1905) & Frances Millicent Ann Pettit (7 Nov 1838 - 6 Sep 1922)
- (7) Eli John Coffey (11 Jan 1860 - 6 Dec 1923) & Malinda Elvira Cook (2 Aug 1869 - 2 Jun 1922)
- (8) Nolan E Coffey (13 Oct 1893 - 13 May 1972) & Muriel Amelia Mayfield (14 Nov 1896 - 12 Apr 1983)
- (9) **Doris Muriel (Pat) Coffey (2 Jun 1923 - 6 Oct 2004) & Joseph John Fisher (7 Jun 1921 - 7 Sep 2007)**

**(Memo:** The above shows two paths back to Edward, because Thomas Coffey and Elizabeth Coffey were siblings, making their descendants, Winifred Crumpton and Jesse Coffey, 1C1R (first cousins, once removed). Of "Double" interest, Sarah Fields and Thomas Fields were also siblings. If I did the math right, that makes Winifred and Jesse "Double" 1C1R. If we were working on a DNA analysis, it would be of interest that Pat has multiple "doses" of both Coffey and Fields DNA!)

Pat observed that her names and dates differed from Jack's in several instances. I think a big difference is that Jack tends to offer a RANGE of dates, likely reflecting what he perceives as real uncertainty. Jack is very meticulous about documenting his logic, and I would recommend she acquire a copy of the ECP and read Jack's discussion of each person, and examine his sources.

**Pat Marks:** Thank you so much for your comments regarding the quality of my documentation. Jack told me he didn't trust Ancestry, and I know why. He's the reason I work the children to prove the parent. The brief exchanges with Jack were very informative, and if I've nailed the documentation the credit goes to him. However, I feel I've hit a wall. My goal has always been to know my ancestors – not simply collect names.

I was very close to my grandfather, Nolan. Even as a toddler, I was his shadow. He was a businessman, a farmer, a well-known and respected member of the community, and a great teacher. There are so many stories I don't want to die with me, and regrettably don't know how to accomplish documenting his life – not to mention the many who came before. For instance, granddad owned and farmed a large portion of what is now David Crockett State Park. The property was acquired by right of eminent domain. The houses and barns were located where there is now a lake, and I picked blackberries where the restaurant stands on a hill above the lake. He and his brother, Floyd, were avid fox hunters, and I fell asleep in his arms around a campfire listening to the dogs many times. I'd wake up in my bed at home the next morning when he came to get me to round up the dogs. They always returned to the spot we let them out. I wasn't yet old enough for school, and was so amazed at the weight they'd lost running all night. I could go on, but you get the picture. His was a life well lived, and he's just one of so many.

I knew most of his siblings, and cared for his youngest sister for the last 20 years of her life. I'm delighted to be recognized as a "Coffey Cousin" and look forward to whatever the future has in store.

**Fred:** You wrote: "My goal has always been to know my ancestors – not simply collect names."

I couldn't agree more. I love writing about my ancestors, and reflecting on what I have learned about them, and about their lives. I have a few hundred biographical papers that I have written on various ancestors, aunts, uncles and cousins. How do I organize those?

Sometimes I use old fashioned paper, assembling reports in loose-leaf notebooks. But if you know where to look, nearly everything I have is available online. Those who have looked at my "Coffey Roadmap" may see that under the section on Edward Coffey Descendants I included a link called "Fred's Tree". Anybody is welcome to look – but it may take a bit of digging to learn what all is buried therein!

I do NOT use Ancestry as my primary family tree software, but I did upload a GEDCOM of my tree into Ancestry. If Jack Coffee were to stumble across my Ancestry tree, it would likely reinforce his view that Ancestry is a poor information source. That's because it would look to him like there is no documentation support. But there IS documentation, it's just not THERE! But I do POINT to it!

For readers who use Ancestry, you're welcome to click on this link:

<https://www.ancestry.com/family-tree/person/tree/103014187/person/110026078747/facts>

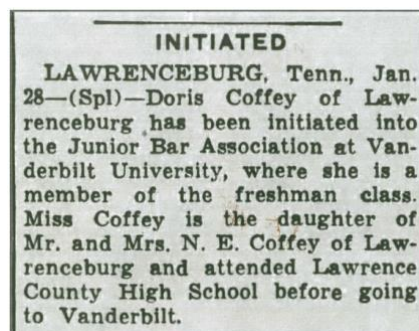
This will point to ME, but you will learn almost nothing on the entry page because I am a living person and I don't share my life details on Ancestry. But start clicking UP the tree, say to either my father or my mother.

On each page, in addition to statistical details and names, you will see "Web Links" saying "Click here for bio". And each click will take you to what I have written about that person in stories and pictures, with documentation sources. There are hundreds of pages linked. Start following all the links, and you may never come up for air! (Maybe just click on my mother's bio, to get the idea?)

**Bonnie:** I'm impressed!! I went to Ancestry and read some of the stories. Really good job.

**Pat:** I never thought of writing a bio and attaching it to my tree. What an amazing way to preserve and share the family. I love new tricks! I often spend all day on the computer – now I'll be spending all night as well. I love this!

Here's an example of the kind of stuff I might include in a bio. I found this on [Newspapers.com](http://Newspapers.com) in the January 29, 1940 edition of the Nashville Tennessean. Mama was 16 years old (born June 2, 1923) – way too young for Vanderbilt University. She didn't become an attorney. She went to Vanderbilt only for her freshman year. She was too young to fit in with her classmates. When the war started she was in Seabring, Florida stationed on the base as a civilian airplane mechanic, which is where she met Daddy. He was a sergeant in the army.



**Fred:** Caution – you can't actually "attach" a bio to your tree. You are just giving Ancestry a "Link" that points to your bio. You will need an on-line domain that will

store your bio files, and “serve them up” for people to read. I talked to my technical support team (my son) and he turned to a service called “GoDaddy.com”, and got it all set up for me. It’s all transparent, and nobody knows it’s all actually coming from “GoDaddy”!

You wrote: “I’m itching to travel but my husband and I are taking care of his 95-year-old mother, and our youngest grandson is a senior in high school playing basketball. That leaves me local resources and the internet for now.”

I personally don’t know how to set up a domain, but I strongly suspect your grandson, a typical teenager, could figure it out. By the way, whenever you see something that starts out [www.coffey.ws...](http://www.coffey.ws...), be aware now that is my domain name, and that “GoDaddy” will jump in to “serve up” whatever information you are asking for! This newsletter you are now reading came to you courtesy of GoDaddy.

**Fred: - More on Genealogy Software** Just as background, let me comment on genealogy software packages some of us are using:

You are using **Ancestry** as your primary tree management software, and seem to be doing a commendable job. Most users of Ancestry are not so careful. However using Ancestry gives other genealogists (like me!) easy search, and easy access to your public tree.

My primary software is “**Reunion**”, for the Mac computer. I’m very pleased with it, and have no plans to change. I keep my raw data set private, but you will often see Reunion output in things I publish.

Jack Coffee is using “**RootsMagic**” as the management program for his ECP. If you buy his ECP you are seeing a PRODUCT created from RootsMagic, not the program itself. Jack needs to retain control of his work, and will not give up his RootsMagic database. (Back in 2016 Jack did give me limited access in return for a promise to not publish it. I agreed, and extracted a very limited set of his data into Reunion for my own private reference. I have no interest in doing that again, and often append information to his data, but frequently look at his most recent published ECP to verify that I have recent data.

Terri Stern, who manages a major project related to the Hugh Coffey line, likes “**WikiTree**”. She thinks it offers better control over projects receiving input from many sources.

**Pat:** I purchased the Edward Coffey Project from Jack when we first met. I also have both RootsMagic and Family Tree Maker and use them for storage and back-up. They both have advantages not found in Ancestry, but it’s so much EASIER for me to see Ancestry.

You have my permission (to publish this article). I want to be a Coffey Cousin, and am really enjoying the email exchanges. Use anything in the tree you want, and feel free to ask for anything you need that’s not there. You can also publish my email address.

**Fred:** Note: If the ECP you purchased a few years ago from Jack does not include your ancestors down to Nolan, you may have an out-of-date version. Jack does regular updates, and he may have added Nolan data AFTER your exchange.

**Jack Coffee:** I’ve read the Pat Marks story and have no objections. (If I did, it would be about collecting names. I understand Pat’s comments but that is how I began the ECP. With the number of Coffee/y families in my files, I attempt first to accurately connect families and leave the genealogy research (personal details) up to the family member using my database.)

## **THE OTHER MARVEL COFFEY:**

By Bonnie Culley

Parentage of Marvel Coffey (bef. 1700) has raised its head again. Back when I was new at writing for the newsletter, I got into hot water by assuming that Marvel was a son of Thomas Coffey (1742) because he married Rachel Boone. Two of Thomas Coffey's sons had married Jesse Boone's (1748) daughters. Rachel was the third to marry a Coffey. I took this to mean that Marvel was a brother to the other two, Wm. (1782) and Smith (1776) Coffey. I got royally dressed down for not knowing that there were more Marvel Coffeys, and this was not the one that was a son of Thomas Coffey sr. So here I am again trying to put the Marvels in place.

I started with the old newsletters and find Marvel (bef. 1700) as early as Issue 6, page 2. Norman and Charline Shockley are looking for information on a Marvel Coffey who married Rachel Boone on 2 Feb. 1813 in Burke Co. NC. They said that Marvel and Rachel lived in Wayne Co. KY soon after their marriage where the first 5 or 6 of their children were born. They then moved to McMinn Co. TN, before moving to Missouri in ca. 1835.

Of course none of this proves who Marvel's parents are and there is more than one Marvel out there. I had assumed it was an unusual enough name that there could only be one. Wrong again!! There is another Marvel who married a Nancy Pendley and I was told that this one belonged to Thomas Coffey (1742) and Sarah Fields Coffey so I had to find another father for the Marvel who married Rachel Boone.

Some of the people working on Marvel and Rachel suggested that he was a brother to Asbury Madison Coffey (1807), son of Eli(jah) Coffey (1788). Some even tried to make Marvel into Asbury Marvel as this man often used his initials. There are quite a lot of documents for Asbury Madison Coffey and there is no way that this is correct. Asbury Madison, Marvel and Asbury's father Eli Coffey are all listed in the 1830 McMinn Co. KY census which led to the idea that they had to be connected. Asbury Madison Coffey was a lawyer and both Coffeys and Boones hired him for marriages and wills in the McMinn Co. area. There are many pages of information on him. He is the son of Elijah Coffey. Asbury Madison brought his parents to Missouri after he was settled here and both died in Missouri, probably Johnson County. Asbury was on the school board and several other political offices in Johnson County. He was appointed as an Indian agent in Kansas and has a county named after him there. He is VERY WELL DOCUMENTED. He is also younger than Marvel Coffey (bef. 1700). Suggest that you read Coffey Cousins' Clearinghouse back issue 114, pages 9 thru 11 on Asbury Madison Coffey. His father Elijah Coffey is a son of Thomas Coffey (1742) and often went by Eli.

Prior to the time Marvel (bef. 1700) filed for land in Maries Co. Missouri in 1838, Daniel Boone was having problems with keeping his land in Kentucky. Daniel was being encouraged to move to Missouri. The Missouri governors thought that if they could get Daniel Boone to come to Missouri, others would follow. That appeared to be how it worked in Kentucky so why not. Evidently it did work to a point as many of the Boones and other Kentucky families did follow him to Missouri. (Note: During our April CCConvention we will be visiting the home of Daniel Boone's son and where Daniel and his wife lived in Missouri until they died.) Family history says that Marvel traveled to Missouri with Johnathin Boone.

None of this has ever actually verified who the father of Marvel Coffey who settled in Maries Co, Missouri was, but the following fits well. I know that this does not agree with what the descendants of Marvel and Rachel Boone Coffey have for their lineage but we do need to look at



this carefully. Fred Coffey has these two Marvel Coffeys listed in the last newsletter pages 7 and 8. I had to look at it for some time before I realized that it fits really well.

Marvel Coffey (bef.1700) wife Rachel Boone as son of Thomas Coffey sr. and Sarah Fields. (3rd wife)

Marvel Coffey (1822) wife Nancy Pendley son of James B. Coffey and Deliah Ferguson and grandson of Thomas Coffey sr. and Elizabeth Smith.(1st wife).

We would love to have feedback with your opinion and any documentation that has been found on this line.

### **ROSCOMMON/MONAGHAN COFFEY GROUP:**

By Fred Coffey

I have major interest in trying to learn which areas in Ireland might be “homeland” for various unrelated Coffey groups. Our y-DNA Project has long identified quite a few people who have no tested matches. One of those was John Coffey, tested in 2009. Now our testing service have identified a new member, William Coffey. John and William have a y-DNA match! And both of them know approximately where in Ireland their family line came from! There is a distinct possibility that they represent a new group.

William’s family origins are in Roscommon County, and John’s are in Monaghan County. See this map. Roscommon, in particular, has been suspected of being the ancient homeland of one of the several “Coffey Clans”. We can look to the Irish census for a clue if this is likely: In the 1901 census Roscommon had 162 people with the Coffey name, and Monaghan had 9. In 1911, the numbers were 122 and 6. Based on where people live, Roscommon seems more likely to be a homeland.



Many readers have seen the way I typically represent the genealogy of tested persons. Here is what I will show for William and John:

Best Match		"ROSCOMMON/MONAGHAN" COFFEY GROUP					
William		Person Tested					
MK62489	(REF)	WILLIAM F. JR. 1938 (RI)	WILLIAM F. SR. 1917 (RI)	JOHN BERNARD 1888 (RI)	JOSEPH 1848 (UK)	WILLIAM 1822 (ROSCOMM. IRE)	
150634	34/37	JOHN	(PRIVATE)	PETER WILLIAM 1894 (MO)	WILLIAM PETER 1857 (IL)	JOHN LAWRENCE 1835 (MONAGHAN)	PETER 1800 (MONAGHAN)

Both of them can trace their ancestry back to the early 1800's in Ireland, and both lines immigrated to the USA in the mid-1800's, William's to Rhode Island and John's to Illinois and Missouri. (There were a lot of Irish immigrants in the mid-1800's as a result of the potato famine.)

William has a 67-marker test, and John has a 37-marker test. At 37-markers, they match on 34 out of the 37. That is not a particularly close match, but close enough to confirm they are absolutely cousins. The probability analysis says we don't get up to even a 50% probability of finding their MRCA (Most Recent Common Ancestor) until we look out 8 generations. To get to a more confident 95% probability, we have to think back about 15 generations. They likely have a common ancestor sometime in or after the 1500's.

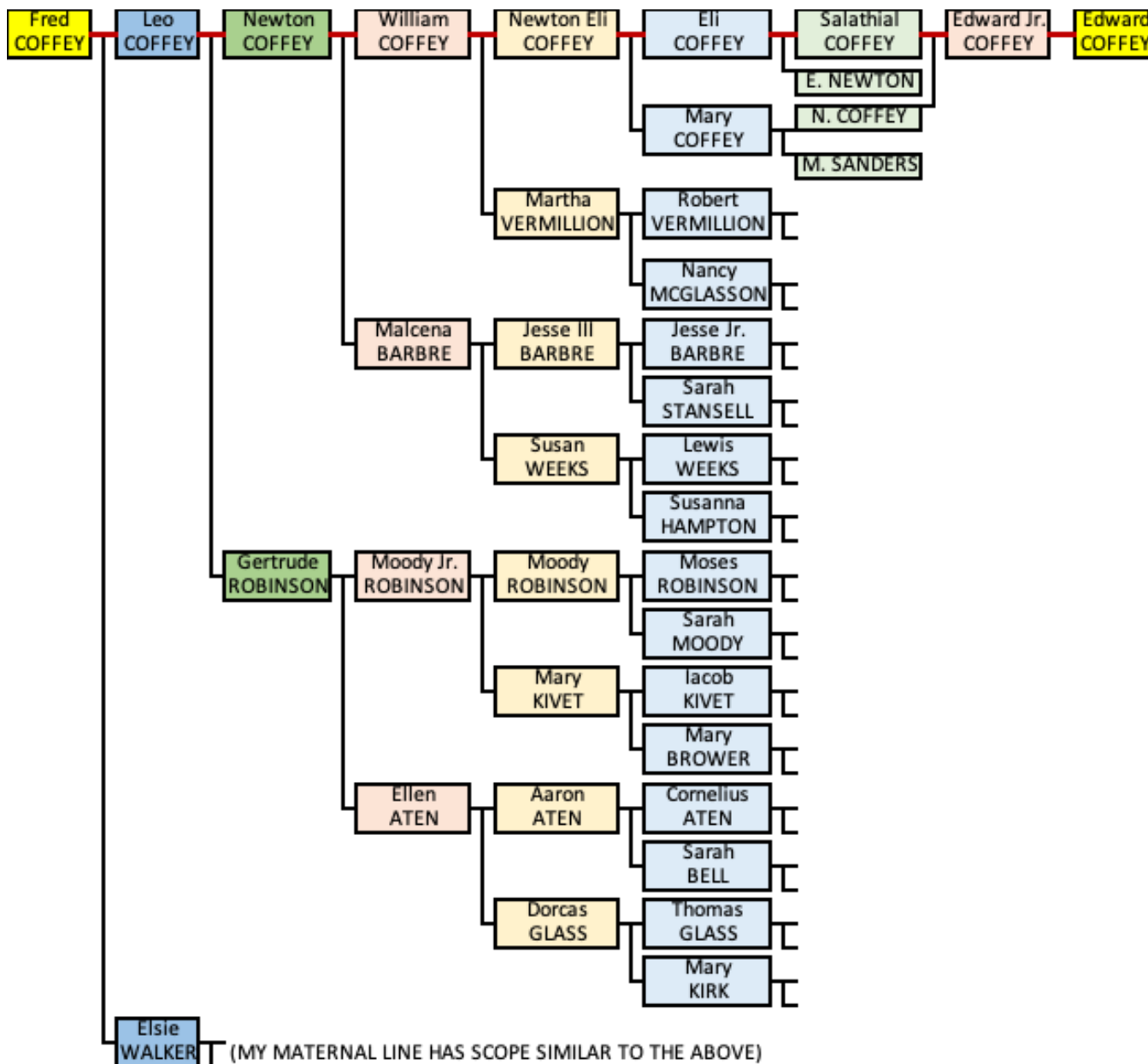
**DNA REFRESHER:**

By Fred Coffey

The following article in this newsletter is an extensive report by Tim Peterman, about autosomal DNA testing, subtitled "**Edward Coffey and 510 other ancestors of mine**".

Most of you readers will know that I have long been involved with a different type of DNA testing, and I want to offer a "refresher" about what I have been doing, and how it connects to Tim's work. I have been mostly focused on a type of DNA, called y-DNA, that strictly follows the male line. I have done this type of analysis for more than 100 tested people with "Coffey/Coffee" connections – some of whom descend from other male lines quite unrelated to Edward.

It will be helpful to show an example family tree, and to that end and I offer part of my own tree: My male line is the very top line on the following chart. This shows how I connect back to Edward Coffey, who came to America before 1699 and started the largest line of Coffey/Coffee families in America.



All of us with the Coffey/Coffee name obviously also have a huge number of ancestors who are not “Coffey”. And Tim is working with another type of DNA, called autosomal DNA (atDNA), that includes the DNA we received from ALL of our ancestors. The above chart shows full detail on the first 6 generations of my family (including myself), for my father’s side of my family. Of course I also got half of my DNA from my mother, Elsie Walker, which has the same amount of detail.

Those 6 generations for both my parents end with 32 ancestors (16 on my father’s side). If we were to go three more generations out to the level of Edward, the numbers rise 32/64/128/256. Obviously, I can’t fit detail on 256 ancestors on one page! And Tim is one generation younger than I, so HIS numbers rise to 512 ancestors!

Tim's analysis is complicated (aided?) by the fact that Eli Coffey and his wife Mary Coffey were first cousins, thus offering TWO paths back to Edward. All the descendants of Eli/Mary thus have extra "Coffey" autosomal DNA. Actually, many other Edward Coffey lines also have cousin marriages.

In his paper, Tim mentions many of the names on the above chart. Why does Tim have so many of HIS family names that are on MY chart? Tim and I have a very curious family connection: Look at the fourth column, that starts with my ancestor William Coffey. Tim's ancestors include a brother of William Coffey, a sister of Malcena Barbre, a brother of Moody Robinson Jr., and a sister of Ellen Aten. Tim's grandfather and my dad (plus dad's sister Dorothy) are "quadruple second cousins". Most of you are going to only be interested in what Tim has to say about the "Coffey" lines, but I am very interested in a lot more branches of his (OUR) family!

If you want to learn a little more about general DNA testing, here's a paper you can look at:

<http://www.coffey.ws/FamilyTree/DNA/CCCDNAReview2017.pdf>

The first half of this paper is on general DNA testing, and the second half covers what has been learned via y-DNA about a multitude of unrelated Coffey families. The first half explains in detail the meaning of some of Tim's terminology.

**For a super-quick terminology review:** Most of our DNA consists of 23 pairs of "chromosomes", each in the shape of a twisted double helix, with the two sides of each helix connected at about 3 billion locations called "nucleotides" (or "loci" in Tim's paper). "STR" is a "Short Tandem Repeat" a repeating sequence of nucleotides, which are extremely useful for y-DNA analysis. "SNP" is "Single Nucleotide Polymorphism" where at some time in ancient history there has been a mutation that changed one of the nucleotides, leaving a difference that permanently marks all future descendants. And "centimorgan" is a measure of the length of a segment of DNA. A centimorgan contains about 1 million loci (out of our 3 billion total).

## **AUTOSOMAL DNA TESTING:**

### **Edward Coffey and 510 other ancestors of mine**

By Timothy E. Peterman, ([tepeter100@aol.com](mailto:tepeter100@aol.com))

This is a brief update regarding the autosomal project I've been working on now for a number of years. The project currently has 122 participants. Thousands of distant cousins have been resolved to ever finer degrees of kinship. With y-DNA testing, as Fred has explained in the past, we have identified y-STR data and SNPs that define patriline. Coffeys test to see which patriline they belong to, or to help find nuances in the different branches that descend from Edward Coffey.

Autosomal DNA has the opposite emphasis. Each participant gets data on his entire autosome, not just the Coffey part; matter of fact, the Coffey part, present in most of us is initially beyond detection. We begin with the present and work our way backwards. Edward Coffey (d 1716) is my double 7<sup>th</sup> great grandfather. This places him at a generation where I have 512 ancestors. He and his wife, Ann Powell, each occupy two of those slots (four total). Thus, a total of 1/128 of my ancestry is on average what I call Powell-Coffey, meaning derived from either Ann Powell or Edward Coffey. 1/64 of my maternal autosome is Powell-Coffey.

Across the 22 autosomal chromosomes, each of us has about 2,795,000,000 loci that are covered in testing, about 710,000+ SNPs, comprising about 3,384 centimorgans. An estimate 43,670,000 loci (52.875 centimorgans) should be Powell-Coffey, right? Most likely not. Thanks to the randomness of crossovers, some ancestors at that generation represent a larger portion, while other represent a smaller portion, or have been eliminated entirely. About 1/32 of my mother's paternal autosome was Powell-Coffey. My brothers have participated in the project; they may have inherited that part of that 1/32 that I didn't get. Similarly my uncle, Roy E. Robinson and aunt, Martha Veasman, participated before they passed away. About 1/32 of each of their paternal autosomes was Powell-Coffey. Between my brothers and I, and my uncle and aunt, we may have covered a good portion of the estimated 1/16 of my maternal grandfather's maternal autosome that was derived from Powell-Coffey. My grandfather's quadruple second cousin, Dorothy (Coffey) Smith, also derived about 1/16 of her paternal autosome from Powell-Coffey. Thus, about 211.5 centimorgans in Dorothy (Coffey) Smith was Powell-Coffey, and another 211.5 centimorgans in Glenys Mitchell was Powell-Coffey. The Powell-Coffey overlap between my grandfather, Roy R. Robinson, and Dorothy & Glenys, amounted to an estimated mere 3.125% each. Thus, describing only them, without pulling in the other 27 Edward Coffey participating descendants, we have added up what may be close to or exceeding 500 centimorgans derived from Edward Coffey or Ann Powell

The segments are there. The challenge is in figuring out which segments come from which ancestors. How do I proceed? I analyze this data in Genome Mate Pro. Consider my maternal autosome. I describe it as Ellis-Robinson, meaning derived from either my grandmother Elvessa Ellis or my grandfather, Roy R. Robinson. It contains segments of sizeable length, alternating from Elvessa (ie, Wilson-Ellis) to Roy (ie, Coffey-Robinson), perhaps 45 times on the 23 nuclear chromosomes. How do I tease them apart? My mother has two first cousins who participated in my project, one maternal & one paternal. By comparing data from my mother's paternal first cousin against data from Roy R. Robinson's tested descendants in Genome Mate Pro, we can see which segments are Coffey-Robinson. Three groups emerge: Coffey-Robinson, Wilson-Ellis, and segments which can't be resolved to either group.

What about Coffey-Robinson? By comparing data from my mother's paternal second cousins against data from Roy R. Robinson's tested descendants & avuncular relatives, we can break this into Aten-Robinson & Barbre-Coffey. The more participants I get at this degree, the fewer segments will remain unresolvable beyond Coffey-Robinson. Similarly, Barbre-Coffey gets broken into two groups, Vermillion-Coffey and Weeks-Barbre. Vermillion-Coffey is derived from Newton Eli Coffey or his wife, Martha Vermillion, and by testing more distant cousins, can be broken into McGlasson-Vermillion & Coffey-Coffey. The latter can then be broken into [Gore]-Coffey and Saunders-Coffey. In theory, each of these two could be broken into paternal groups called Cleveland-Coffey, meaning derived from Edward Coffey, Jr. or Grace Cleveland. One degree further and we have arrived at Powell-Coffey. The challenge is finding cousins at this degree that share enough centimorgans to be worthy of note, and who don't have a back channel kinship of some sort. My feeling is that we will likely find many matches over time that can be resolved to Cleveland-Coffey, but only a few of them will be resolved back to Powell-Coffey. This would require a match shared between a Cleveland-Coffey participant and a descendant of John Coffey & Jane Graves (excluding James Coffey, who was married to Elizabeth Cleveland). I encourage the few Edward Coffey descendants who lack Cleveland ancestry (either verified or implied) to participate in Family Finder. Make sure that you both include a tree AND type your surnames in the surname field. Added surnames will be automatically downloaded into Genome Mate Pro. Trees will have to be studied individually and with thousands to look at, chances are most won't be examined.

Family Tree DNA and Gedmatch are two sources that provide segment data. However, AncestryDNA has a rather new utility called Thru Lines. Since I have DNA results attached to my tree at Ancestry, I get to see Thru Lines results. This is a tree focused way of organizing one's matches. If you hover over the tile name of a known ancestor, you can see how many of your AncestryDNA matches have verified or extrapolated descent from the ancestor. If you click on the tile, a tree comes up that shows how each of them connect. If any of them share more than about 20 centimorgans, I suggest that they get their results to Family Tree DNA so that their connection can be resolved through the matrix of my project. If they actually participate in my project, I will eventually download their data to Genome Mate Pro. If they don't participate, but do an autosomal transfer to Family Tree DNA, I will at least see their name on the match list.

I have over 5,000 matches at Family Tree DNA. I have over 91,000 matches at Ancestry DNA. Of these, as of Oct. 9, 2019, Thru Lines shows that 29 (plus me) descend from Newton Eli Coffey: 8 from Benjamin Coe Coffey, 9 from William Coffey, 4 from Birch Coffey, 7 from Nancy Coffey, and 1 from Keziah Coffey. There may be others who have no tree.

Thru Lines shows that 72 descend from Eli Coffey and 74 from Mary Coffey: 4 from Mariah, 19 from Willis, 7 from Elizabeth, 7 from Salathiel, 5 from Sirena, 1 from Stanton, and 27 from Newton Eli.

Thru lines shows that 58 descend from Salathiel Coffey and Elizabeth Gore: 47 from Eli & 9 from Salathiel [Jr.]. This verifies that some of my autosome is actually [Gore]-Coffey.

Thru Lines shows that 65 descend from Nathan Coffey and 53 from Mary Saunders: 1 from Elizabeth, 48 from Mary, 9 from Absolom, 1 from Joel, and 4 from William S. This verifies that some of my autosome is actually Saunders-Coffey. I just wish that AncestryDNA would tell me the actual segments.

Thru Lines doesn't report connections from any ancestor more distant than 5<sup>th</sup> great grandparents. At this degree, many of these matches share about 7 to 15 centimorgans. I wish

I knew which segments they were matching on. This only pertains to me. If other descendants of Edward Coffey were to participate in AncestryDNA, each would likely get a different report of matches & centimorgans counts from Thru Lines that would simply reflect the fact that each of us has inherited different segments from these earlier ancestors.

For those interested in more details about my project, here is the project's link:

<https://www.familytreedna.com/groups/ff-peterman-timothy/about/background>

Among the many family groups described there, the following is a description of the group I call Coffey-Coffey: (**Note:** The **RED** acronyms in following discussion are just Genome Mate Pro labels for the various tested individuals.)

**"6-21 Coffey-Coffey+**

**MRCA: Eli Coffey & Mary Coffey**

Primary Lines of Descent (children of MRCA):

1. Mariah (Coffey) Coffey –no participants
2. Willis Coffey [by Haynes]\* –great-great grandson **WGT**
3. Willis Coffey [by Hankins]\* –great grandson **MRC**
4. Elizabeth (Coffey) Wolford –no participants
5. Salathiel Coffey [by Dunbar]\* –great-great grandsons **MEM & RPS**, and great-great-great granddaughter, **LTS**
6. Salathiel Coffey [by McFarland]\* –no participants
7. Sirena (Coffey) Campbell –no participants
8. Nathaniel J. Coffey –great-great granddaughter **JPA**
9. Stanton P. Coffey –great-great grandsons **MXO & CKC**
10. William S. Coffey –no participants
11. Newton Eli Coffey –great granddaughters **DCS & GMM**, and great-great grandchildren **TBF, RRC, BWC, BLS, RER, MLV, LFC, CXC, KLS & KWN**, and great-great-great grandchildren **YLH, RWPJ, TEP, SCP, JRP, JMV, AVC & TXM**
12. Mary (Coffey) Hayes –no participants

Source: Coffey-Coffey DNA segments and associated matches shared by cousins from two or more primary lines of descent are derived from one of four different sources:

1. Salathiel Coffey (d 1784)
2. Elizabeth (?) Gore
3. Nathan Coffey (bef 1760-ca 1828)
4. Mary Saunders

\*Source: Coffey-Coffey DNA segments and associated matches shared only by cousins from the 2nd and 3rd primary lines of descent (Willis), or 5th and 6th primary lines of descent (Salathiel) are derived from one of two different sources:

1. Eli Coffey (1775-1833)
2. Mary Coffey (d 1872)

Any match described as Coffey-Coffey+ could be resolved to either [Gore]-Coffey+ or Saunders-Coffey+, if a new participant at the 7<sup>th</sup> degree shared the segment with the match. Matches are only described as Coffey-Coffey+ if they share segments with two or more primary lines of descent, and with none of the more distantly related participants that are added at the 7<sup>th</sup> degree. Since identical segments are actually shared by different lines of descent, very few resolved to Coffey-Coffey+ are likely to be IBS –that would be quite a coincidence.

As noted above, the two siblings, represented by descendants, share maternal segments from two grandparents, and paternal segments from two grandparents. If one of the primary lines of descent can resolve a maternal segment to a particular grandparent, for example Nathan Coffey (ie, Cleveland-Coffey), we know by inference that the corresponding segment in the remaining

primary lines of descent, if resolved to Saunders-Coffey, must be derived from Mary Saunders (ie, [unknown]-Saunders), regardless of whether confirmed by a tested \_\_\_\_\_ or Saunders cousin. The same reasoning applies to the paternal side.”

There are many groups that could be called Coffey-Coffey. Depending on which cousins intermarried, the implications of each would be a bit different.

At present, I have located a segment on chromosome 22, shared by my brother **RWPJ** with **DCS**, who together share the segment with **EDT**. This has yielded several dozen matches resolved to Cleveland-Coffey. My aunt **MLV** shares a segment on chromosome 1 with **BWC** & **JPA** that is resolved to Coffey-Coffey. At least one distant match to them reports both Coffey & Cleveland on his surname list.

The following is an image of a match being processed in Genome Mate Pro:

Profile	Chr	Start	End	cMs	Side	Group
JPA	1	85.4	99.6	13.5	?	
DCS	1	85.4	104.6	17.4	?	Coffey-Robins...
GMM	1	99.9	111.7	12.0	?	
CKC	3	187.7	199.3	22.7	?	
MLV	7	13.9	26.2	17.3	P	Coffey-Robi...
RER	7	13.9	26.5	17.8	P	Coffey-Robins...
MRC	7	14.8	29.1	20.7	?	
MXO	11	126.0	130.5	8.8	?	
MRC	11	126.3	131.8	11.2	?	
GMM	17	61.3	72.7	25.4	?	
MRC	17	61.7	71.8	23.1	?	
MRC	18	3.0	5.7	7.9	?	
GMM	19	0.2	2.9	7.9	?	

The identity of this match has been obscured. I will only say that her maiden name was apparently Coffey. This is a good example of how one resolves segments to more refined sides of family. I have already labelled the segments of **DCS** as Coffey-Robinson, as well as those for **MLV** & **RER** (my aunt & uncle). Note chromosome 1. Here we have Nathaniel Coffey (**JPA**) overlapping Newton Eli Coffey (**DCS**). This resolves to Coffey-Coffey, being related through Eli Coffey or Mary Coffey. **GMM** has a partial overlap here, so the Coffey-Coffey segment likely runs down to 111.7.

Note chromosome 7. Here we have Newton Eli Coffey (**MLV** & **RER**) overlapping Willis Coffey (**MRC**). This resolves to Coffey-Coffey.

Note chromosome 11. Here we have Stanton Coffey (**MXO**) overlapping Willis Coffey (**MRC**). This resolves to Coffey-Coffey.



Note chromosome 17. Here we have Newton Eli Coffey (**GMM**) overlapping Willis Coffey (**MRC**). This resolves to Coffey-Coffey.

Note that Stanton (**CKC**), Willis (**MRC**) and Newton Eli (**GMM**) share segments with this match on chromosomes 3, 18 & 19. These are probably Coffey-Coffey, but won't be resolved as such since they aren't shared with another participant.

This process is repeated hundreds of times over for other distant cousin matches.

**INFORMATION RESOURCE LINKS:** We're going to continue using this last page to show where you can find some good sources of information:

**NEWSLETTER QUERIES:**

If you wish to pose a query to the newsletter, or offer an article or a suggestion, send to **Bonnie Culley** at [bculey@embarqmail.com](mailto:bculey@embarqmail.com). Unless it's a question primarily about DNA, in which case send it to [FredCoffey@aol.com](mailto:FredCoffey@aol.com). (Fred also maintains the newsletter distribution list, and can be contacted if you wish to receive notification when new newsletters are published.)

**OTHER INFORMATION SOURCES:**

The "Coffey Cousins Clearinghouse" has access to a very substantial database of information about families with the Coffey or Coffee surname, or those connected to such a family. We are trying to consolidate access to all of these sources in a single location. If you are looking for ANY Coffey-related information, click on the following:

**THE COFFEY/COFFEE SURNAME: GENEALOGY INFORMATION ROADMAP**

[www.coffey.ws/familytree/CoffeyRoadmap.html](http://www.coffey.ws/familytree/CoffeyRoadmap.html)

You can find information on Jack Coffee's Edward Coffey Project here:

<http://coffeycousins.blogspot.com/p/edward-coffey-project-explained.htm>

Memo: You can also use Jack's Blog for research, see discussion article on Pages 9 and 10 in Newsletter #152.

<http://coffeycousins.blogspot.com>