

Coffey Cousins' Clearinghouse

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Helping Coffey/Coffee Researchers since 1981 Issue No. 161 ISSN 0749-758X

President's Message

Greetings Coffey Cousins:

The pandemic is or has been declassified to an endemic which means some form or variant of this virus will be here forever, much like the Flu with its various strains. With this in mind, I hope more people will attend the Conference in St. Louis. The attendance list I saw was rather small. Cousins reading this letter should be aware that this is an important Convention as a new slate of officers need to be elected. As it is I am vice president and will not be seeking any office. As the saying goes, if nominated I will not run, if elected I will not serve. The future of this group may well be decided at this convention. Please make an effort to attend this convention. Thanks.

Larry Coffey

Vice President CCC

larrycoffey2@hotmail.com

Coffey Cousins Convention
St. Louis, Missouri
April 28 to 30, 2022

Convention Note from Diana & Bill

wjdr@charter.net

Hi all, want to give you an update re Coffey Cousins Reunion:

The hotel will be holding our block of rooms until April 14th. If you haven't already made your reservation, please do so.

Best Western, Kirkwood Inn
Hotel phone 314-821-3950
Thursday night: \$95 + tax
Fri & Sat nights: \$100 + tax



We will have the conference room all day and evening on Saturday.

If we book ten rooms the conference room is complimentary, if not then the cost of the room is \$275.

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.

Our schedule for Friday April 29 is to visit the Missouri History Museum in Forest Park, 10:00 to 12:00 self-guided tours (free of charge):

- The 1904 Worlds Fair: Looking Back at Looking Forward
- Beyond the Ballot: St. Louis and Suffrage
- St. Louis Sound
- Seeking St. Louis & Reflections

Other places of interest in & around Forest Park but not scheduled –

- St. Louis Zoo (free)
- St. Louis Art Museum (free)
- St. Louis Science Center (free)
- St. Louis Botanical Gardens (admission fee)

Our schedule for Saturday April 30 will include a guided tour of the Daniel Boone Home. Cost is \$8.00 for 59 and younger, or \$6.00 for 60 and older. Exact timing will be posted in the conference room.

Much of the day Saturday will be available for discussions or presentations in the conference room, or for people to wander about in St. Louis on their own.

Saturday Evening 6:00 pm:

- Banquet – catered by Bandanas BBQ, cost is \$25 per person
- We now have a speaker for the convention. Terri Stern has agreed to be our speaker, she will be talking about her Hugh Coffey project.
- Business meeting

Note: Fred Coffey (Contact: FredCoffey@aol.com) is maintaining a list of people who are expecting to attend. We will start sending these people updates on event details as soon as this newsletter is published. If you are coming and haven't already told him about your plan, send him a note promptly!

Diana & Bill



Editor's Comments

Dear Cousins,

PLEASE RESPOND — PLEASE RESPOND

Registration for this year's convention is still open..... Make your hotel reservation now. We must have 10 rooms reserved to get a free meeting room. Email Fred (see note above) and let us know if you will be there on Saturday night for the business meeting and banquet.

Why should you attend a convention?

If you want us to continue to set up a convention so you can meet other cousins working on your line, you need to support it. It has always been a place where new ideas were shared, and people helped each other. Discussions in this newsletter talk about ideas that came up at past conventions. And I know that Terri has some really exciting research to review this year on the Hugh Coffey line. I just learned more about my Benjamin Coffey's part in the Revolutionary War, Battle of King's Mountain, South Carolina. His brother and at least one cousin, Col. Benjamin Cleveland, shared the experience with him.

Who is going to be there to support them? Are you interested? Please be a part of the Coffey Family. We need your ideas on how to continue. The Coffey Cousins is 40 years old. Check out the Road Map on our web site. Look at all we have collected. It's amazing! I have had libraries say that few, if any, genealogy organizations lasts this long. I have belonged to several other groups for lineage research, and I don't think any still exist. WE DO. That is because of commitment of our members. Just because we don't charge, doesn't mean you aren't a member. Possibly we should still charge a fee. It might make our family see themselves as "members" and a more important part of the family.

Actually we only ever charged fees to cover the printing and mailing of the newsletter. The post office finally became so expensive that we had to change to digital. By that time we only had a couple of people who still did not have a computer. We sent hard copy to them, They were long-time family.

When I attended the first convention in 1982, I was the youngest person there. We got together in groups of similar research. Bennie Loftin and I were photographed with the Benjamin Coffey group. Leonard Coffey was our founder and leader. Betty Coffey set up the first convention at Grandfather Mountain. Dr. Marvin Coffey was most respected as a professor of History, he was more experienced in research. To mention a few. What we have could not have been possible without all of the really good people. I am so proud to have them as my family.

My husband really didn't want to go to the first convention as we did not know anyone who would be there. Everyone was so welcoming that he reminded me to get our reservations for every year thereafter. He loved the cousins as well as I do. We have met all over the US as well as once in Canada. It was a wonderful way to spend our

vacations. Someone had already scoped out a motel/hotel for us and arranged for us to see some of the interesting sites in the area. Often these are things that you would not find on your own. What an interesting 40 years I have had. You could too. Make your reservations today and we will look forward to seeing you in April.

This is longer than usual but just wanted to let you know that if we don't get a little more participation this could be the last convention.

Send an email to me, with your thoughts on the future of the Coffey Cousins Conventions. What do you think?

I would like to attend a convention some time.

I am not interested in attending a convention any time.

Bonnie Culley

bculey@embarqmail.com

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WE GET MAIL:

NOTE FROM SPENCER COFFEY:

From Spencer:

Hello Bonnie - Long time no see! - and thanks for your continued work on the CC newsletter. I don't research much anymore, but still look forward to each new issue of the newsletter and reading what others have found about their Coffee/ey families, whether it concerns my particular branch of the tree (Hugh Coffey of Augusta County, VA) or not, and so would like to run a question by you and other readers on a chance that someone may already have an answer.

While researching the maternal side of my family, I found three of my mother's ancestral lines traced back to South Carolina, to an early (mid-1700's) settlement situated along a small branch of the Enoree River called Duncan's Creek (in old 96 Judicial District, later Laurens County). I was rather intrigued to find living among the Duncan's Creek pioneers of my mother's three ancestral families (Kilgore, Greer & McCrary) allegedly was one (or more-?) families surnamed Coffee. I never researched these Duncan's Creek Coffees, but perhaps some readers have. The below posted online excerpts, credited as indicated in brackets, are about all I can add:

"The earliest records we currently have of the McCrary family begin in the vicinity of Duncan's Creek, South Carolina. This settlement was established in the year 1752, when John Duncan settled on a creek in this district and gave it his name." [re: Donna Bartholow]

"Since the Duncan's Creek area was populated almost entirely by the Scotch Irish emigrants who came there by way of the Great Philadelphia Wagon Road, (a distance of about 435 miles) in all probability this was the route the McCrarys also traveled. Other early emigrants who settled on Duncan's Creek were named Green, Hanna, Abernathy, Miller, Beark, King, Mitchell, Coffee, Grisham, Barton, Young, McClure, Adams, and M'Daid. "Statistics of South Carolina" by Robt. Mills, pub. 1826 [re: Ann McCrary]

So my question is: Has anyone researched and identified this early Coffee family (families-?) of the Duncan's Creek settlement? If so, could he or she be persuaded to compose a short article about them in a future issue of the newsletter? I'm sure I'm not the only one who would find the material interesting.

Thanks, and Happy New Year - Spencer Coffey

Bonnie: Spencer, it is good to hear from you again. Been a long time. I will send this to Fred Coffey and see if he or Terri Stern has any more on which Coffees lived in this area. Terry is seriously working on the Hugh Coffee line and may have more on this. I seem to remember that the Hugh group lived farther south along the North Carolina-South Carolina line. Fred can run this in the next newsletter and see if we have any researchers working in this area. Sounds interesting.

The Convention this year will be in St. Louis which isn't so far. Possibly you can make this one too. I hope we can do it as I am not going to be able to go to too many more at my age, especially if I have to travel very far.

Fred: Hi Spencer. Terri has submitted a major article about her work with the Hugh Coffey line, and you can read her article below. (She offers a fascinating way to link together members of this family! And she includes your cousin [Norm Coffey](#) as one of the participants.)

I did a quick search of census reports for 1790 through 1830 in Laurens County, but I found NO Coffey or Coffee names mentioned. Maybe one of our newsletter readers has information on early Coffeys in Duncan Creek? Here's a background link that may be helpful:

https://familypedia.fandom.com/wiki/Duncan_Creek,_South_Carolina

(Oh, I did find one "Coffey" with known genealogy, and with a DNA test, who settled in Laurens County. But he didn't arrive there until 1919, so that CANNOT be the family Spencer was looking for!

THE COFFEY FAMILIES OF MCMINN COUNTY, TN:

By Fred Coffey and Mike McMinn

Fred: (Note: My actual initial discussion with Mike was terribly disorganized and going off into many directions at the same time. The following is how it **might** have happened if we had been better organized!)

Mike: I am Mike McMinn, and I have been researching my Coffey/ee ancestors who lived in McMinn County, TN. I've been using your "Coffey Roadmap" to search for my connections to Coffey families.

Fred: I did a quick search on that Roadmap to see who you were and what you had been doing. I see you wrote to our newsletter in 133-6 (issue 133 page 6) in December 2014. You were

searching for your Coffey origins, and you had spent several months working through back issues of the newsletter. You had found references to your family going back to issues 99-7 (year 2005) and 49-7 (year 1992).

Researchers Dorothy Shamblin and Earline Hutzell began writing to the CCC Newsletter back in 1981 and 1982. They got their Coffey line back to a Daniel Coffey born in Rockingham County, NC, but were never able to get any farther back.

Your name is McMinn, and you're researching McMinn County Tennessee. I went to Wikipedia to ask how that county got named. It was named in honor of Joseph McMinn, who became governor of Tennessee. Do you descend from Joseph?

Mike: My dad used to claim we descended from Joseph. And my grandmother's response always was "He was one of the crookedest politicians in the history of Tennessee!". That's what got me interested in genealogy. Eventually I proved our descent from a BROTHER of the Governor. (I never found anything to support my grandmother's comment. As best I can tell, he was very well thought of.)

I've sent you the death certificate of my great-grandmother Mary (Coffey) McMinn who died in 1940. It reports her father as Pleasant A. Coffey and her mother as Catherine Wilson.

Fred: I claim that if I can find someone alive in 1940, I can use the census to open doors to their ancestry. Mary was still alive for the 1940 census. So I dug in, and the path led back to Daniel Coffey, father of Pleasant Coffey. They were living in McMinn County in the 1860 census, which reported both were born in North Carolina. There were 12 children then living at home. The parents and all kids down to 1846 were born in NC, and from 1847 forward all were born in TN. So, the family obviously moved to Tennessee in about 1846.

The family is also found in the 1850 and 1870 census for McMann County. The 1850 census added one older son, James, so Daniel apparently had 13 children!

Mike: One of the sources I found in my original search through the CCC Newsletters said the family line went back to Rockingham County NC. Daniel was first married to Manerva Cardwell, and they had 3 kids. Manerva died, Daniel then married Nancy Gibson, and they had 4 more kids before they moved to McMinn County.

Fred: In 1840 and 1830 they would have been in North Carolina, and those census years do not name anyone EXCEPT the head of the family. But we see a good head count match to the family of "Danl Coffee" in Rockingham County NC if we assume he was then married to his second wife Nancy. And in 1830 we find a head count consistent with his first wife Manerva and their kids. Daniel's family is definitely from Rockingham County, NC. But the trail ends there.

If we could get a y-DNA sample from this family, then we might establish the broader Coffey connection. I already have a LOT of DNA results for many major suspect groups that might be your ancestors. We would know if they came from Edward Coffey? Or Peter Coffee? Or Hugh Coffey? Or from one of the Irish groups we follow? Lots of possibilities, and y-DNA would tell us a lot!

Let me point you to a family tree on Ancestry that has many names consistent with your family, and that defines genealogies down to more recent descendants. If we could find therein a living male descendant, with the Coffey surname, we might persuade him to do a y-DNA test!

Mike: Yeah, but that's a weird family tree with some confusing family names. It seems like they may be mixing up two different families?

Fred: Ah, I see the reason for the confusion! There is an entirely DIFFERENT Coffey family found in McMinn County in the 1860 census, headed by a James Coffee who was BORN in TN in 1810. This James also has a son named "Pleasant S Coffee". **This** "Pleasant" was born in TN, and **your** "Pleasant" was born in NC. They are not the same! This family's patriarch James had already been living in McMinn for 36 years when your patriarch Daniel brought his family there in about 1846!

Mike: Yes! I'll work with the owner of that tree and explain two families. And then work with him to find a living male Coffey descendant from my part of his tree. And then chase that person down for a DNA sample.

Fred: And I found the will of this new-found James (1810) that went through probate 13 Jun 1868. This family was easy to trace, with superb references on Find-a-grave entries for the Clearwater Baptist Cemetery in Athens, McMinn County, Tennessee. James was FAG #26876945. There were lots of FAG references to James' wife, to his "Pleasant S Coffee", and many others. And it was quite clear THIS family, like yours, also had no idea of their Coffey origins before James.

Of special interest was FAG #203870522, for Charles Wayne Coffey who died 15 Oct 2019. And that included an obituary that named his LIVING brother Harold Coffey of Athens.

And I know how to use the "Whitepages.com" search tool for living people. I can see that Harold Coffey (age 85) is alive and well in Athens. And he has a son Karl H Coffey who is age 62!

Since you have the famous "McMinn" surname, you would be the ideal person to contact Harold and/or Karl in Athens (McMinn County) and explain why we need their DNA sample. Go for it!

Fred: Oh, when I started tracking the census reports going back from your great-grandma Mary Frances (Coffey) McMinn, I was surprised to see MY NAME pop up. I couldn't let that go without investigation! And that led to this picture, which I discovered YOU had posted on Find-a-grave #181284561.



Fred's parents' graves were also photographed by you.

Mike: THAT Fred is my great-uncle, brother of my grandfather.

I'm still digging. I've about decided that I need to make a trip to Rockingham County, NC. There just does not appear to be a lot of good online information posted. I've joined a Rockingham County Genealogy page on Facebook. They don't appear to have anyone on the list that is working on Coffey/Coffee.

Fred: There were various "Coffey" families in adjacent Stokes County, and in nearby Wilkes County. And we have their y-DNA. If we can get a Coffey male connected to your line to do a y-DNA test, I can tell if any of the other nearby Coffeys are connected. (Maybe we can determine how I (Fred Coffey) might be related to your great-uncle (Fred Coffey McMinn)?)

HUGH COFFEY DESCENDANTS:

By **Terri Stern** (hughcoffeyproject@gmail.com)

It's time to celebrate! The Y-DNA has given us a real breakthrough -- we now know where in Ireland to look for our Irish Coffey ancestor.

Check your map* and find Portavogie on the Ards Peninsula in County Down, Ireland. That's where Brian Coffey lives. He is our new Y-DNA match to the men in the Hugh Coffey Group. Brian lives in Portavogie and comes from a line of sailors* who have been there many generations. He shares a common ancestor with all of us who descend from Hugh b 1700 who lived in Augusta County, Virginia, so we share a common male Coffey ancestor with him and it might be as early as the 1600s.

**(Memo from Fred Coffey: See Newsletter #161-5 for a map, and #139-11 for a picture of a group of the Coffey sailor/fishermen living in Portavogie in the 1950's. Also note that if you click on one of the links below you will usually see some discussion of the subject person. There is a "Profile Manager" who owns that particular WikiTree page. And if you click on the profile manager's name it may sometimes call up the manager's biography. Try this for the hyperlink [Hugh b 1700](#). That is one of Terri Stern's OWN WikiTree pages. If you click on her name, then click on "Ancestors", you will see Terri's genealogy,)*

I was contacted by Brian's daughter-in-law who had heard that the Portavogie Coffeys were related to [Billy Graham](#) whose mother is [Morrow Coffey](#), also a descendant of our [Hugh b 1700](#) through his son [John 1752](#). Apparently, Billy Graham's aunts visited Portavogie in the 1960s looking for Coffeys they might be related to. Brian agreed to take a Y-DNA test for us and a Family Finder. He matches all the Y-tested men in the Coffey Group: Jeff, Spencer, [Richard L Coffey](#), Dr. Edward Wilson and Robert Wood.

Brian, Edward Wilson, and [Richard L Coffey](#) are all upgraded to Y700 and have now established the Haplogroup for our branch of the World Tree which is R-FTB71717.

Under that branch is a new branch for Ed and [Richard L Coffey](#). Through autosomal DNA we know that Ed and Richard Lee's earliest common ancestor is [Andrew Boyd Coffey b 1818](#), son of [Hugh b 1784](#), son of [Hugh b 1750](#), son of [John b 1730](#), son of [Hugh b 1700](#). Any one of the men from [Hugh b 1700](#) down to [Andrew b 1818](#) could have created the new mutation Ed and [Richard L Coffey](#) share. But we won't know which one until more of Hugh's descendants upgrade to Y700.

Lucky for us, [Norm Coffey](#) who is a cousin of Spencer's has joined the Hugh Coffey Project and we are awaiting his Y700 results! If [Norm](#) matches Ed Wilson and [Richard L Coffey](#)'s mutation then we will know that the mutation came from either [John b 1730](#) or [Hugh b 1700](#). This is because he and Spencer's earliest known Coffey ancestor, [John Coffey b 1773](#) is not a descendant of [Hugh Coffey b 1750](#). If Robert Wood or any other Coffey male descendants of Hugh takes the Y700 test, it will continue to help us discover whether the mutation Ed and [Richard L Coffey](#) carry came from [John 1730](#) or [Hugh 1700](#). I would be happy to split the

cost of the Y700 test for any descendant of [Hugh b 1770](#), [Hugh b 1784](#), [Hugh b 1750](#), [Henry 1748](#), [John 1752](#), or [Nathaniel 1754](#) to help sort this out.

Spencer Coffey just agreed to upgrade to Y700. I am splitting the cost with Norm Coffey. On my way to the Coffey Cousins' Convention, I am meeting with Spencer to show him the progress on his Coffey line and answer all his questions in person. I am really looking forward to meeting him for the first time!

I am working with Brian to build out his tree and see if there are any clues in his autosomal/Family Finder matches. Discovering more of his Coffey male cousins who could also do a Y-700 test will help us narrow down the common Coffey ancestor we all share with Brian. I was contacted by a female whose mother is a first cousin of Brian. She has atDNA tested at MyHeritage. I am transferring Brian's autosomal DNA to MyHeritage to see his matches there. Since many more Europeans are at MyHeritage, I expect to find more Coffey from Ireland.

Another reason to celebrate is that I have reached the conclusion that [Agnes Montgomery \(1755-1838\)](#), wife of [Hugh Coffey b 1750](#) is most likely the daughter of [Nineon Montgomery Sr](#) of Lancaster County, SC, not [John Montgomery](#) of Abbeville County, SC, and his wife [Jean Forrester](#) as the Reed book from the 1960s claimed. A huge number of us who descend from [Hugh 1750](#) and [Agnes](#) have DNA matches to descendants of his son [Nenion Montgomery Jr](#). So if you still have [John 1735](#) and [Jean](#) as her parents on your family tree, please remove them. And if you find you match a descendant of [Nenion Montgomery Jr](#), please let me know. I want to do the DNA segment analysis to see who else is on that segment. I continue to work on the Montgomery lines and have a new project at FTDNA dedicated to the ones that match [Nenion Montgomery Jr](#) and the other Montgomery families who also lived in Lancaster County, South Carolina to sort them out. The Y700 results just came in for a descendant of [Minion Hugh Montgomery](#) who may be the son of [Nenion Montgomery Jr](#) and he is matching descendants of [David William Montgomery](#) 1834-1878 and [Hugh Montgomery](#) 1727-1783 of Lancaster County, SC. All of you who descend from [Hugh Coffey b 1750](#) and [Agnes Montgomery b 1755](#) or [Robert Montgomery 1765](#) and [Rebecca Coffey](#) are invited to join the project. Joining would make the analysis easier for me. Here's the link to the project to read about it and join: ['Montgomery of Scotland' Founder Project for J-Z35794](#). I am helping all members get on WikiTree and GEDmatch if they haven't done so yet.

I'm updating the [Background Page](#) for the Hugh Coffey Project to link each of descendants of Hugh b 1700 and ancestors of project participants to their profile at WikiTree so you can see the records and their DNA tested descendants. If you are not yet at WikiTree and would like to join so you can put your DNA test information there, please let me know and I would be happy to help you. I have become quite expert at using WikiTree.

Any questions? Contact me at hughcoffeyproject@gmail.com or call 410-798-4784.

And here is the weblink to my [Coffey Cousins Clearinghouse Facebook Group](#) (107 members).

Terri Stern

PRESERVING GENEALOGICAL RESEARCH FOR POSTERITY:

By Fred Coffey (FredCoffey@aol.com)

In the last issue I talked about my plan to send an “archive stick” to a couple of interested Coffey researchers, as a way to preserve Coffey-related information for the long term.

I invited Keith Parr, Mike McMinn, and Bonnie Culley to be my “guinea pigs” and take a first look. We concluded that even in the preliminary version it can accomplish the primary objective to preserve information. But they suggested some improvements. As time permits, I will work toward “generation two” of the “archive stick”. I can make it better.

If anyone really wants to look over the current version and maybe offer comments, send me a note and I’ll send out a few more copies. But keep in mind, it’s a work in progress.

FRED, YOU SHOULD DIGITIZE IT!

By Fred Coffey (FredCoffey@aol.com)

In the previous article I explained that I had sent a sample “archive stick” to 3 people. That USB jump-drive included the records for what we have been calling the “Bonnie Culley Library”. These records came from a great stack of her notebooks that she used to bring to each Coffey Cousins Clearinghouse Convention. There are 94 subject files, containing 4547 pages of information.

Keith Parr pointed out that although I was calling these files “digitized”, that was NOT correct. They were just SCANNED images. And he went on to say “They BEG to be digitized!”. Mike McMinn concurred.

What they meant was we could use some tools, like Adobe Acrobat Pro, which could do a “Scan and OCR” procedure on the scanned images. Optical Character Recognition (OCR) is the electronic conversion of images of typed, handwritten or printed text into a TRUE digital record. Then you could use your computer’s powerful search tools to instantly search through an entire book or document for any name or phrase.

One interesting example is that Bonnie’s library includes a 283-page book written by Marvin Coffey in 1984. Marvin’s book is often cited as a reliable and well sourced reference for Coffey information. Just to pick an example, I happen to know that somewhere in the book Marvin discusses Mr. “Rice Coffey”. Previously, if I wanted to read about Rice, I would have to go to the book’s index, find the page references, and then scroll back to find those pages.

I have now done that “OCR” process on all 94 files in Bonnie’s library.

Now I can open the file for Marvin’s book (it’s file “BCL040” in Bonnie’s library). Then press “Command F” on my computer and enter “Rice Coffey”. My computer immediately says it found 7 entries for Rice in Marvin’s book and starts stepping through each to show you where they occur. And you can copy the digitized text and take it into your word processor for editing.

You are invited click on the following link and explore the library for yourself: (You do not need to own Adobe Acrobat Pro to do searches, your computer’s operating system should have all the tools you need.)

<http://www.coffey.ws/familytree/AABonnieCulley'sLibraryIndex.htm>

REVIEW OF COPYRIGHT ISSUES:

Readers of the documents posted in the “Roadmap” will see that many of them are labeled as “copyrighted”. Big examples are Jack Coffey’s Edward Coffey Project (ECP), and Marvin Coffey’s 1984 book.

Bonnie: *“All of those people who sent me this stuff are dead*. (How have I lived so long?) I am sure that Marvin would not care. He was a very big part of Coffey Cousins. We all looked up to him and he helped anyone that he could. The only change we are making is to make it searchable.”*

*(One obvious exception is that Wayne Mower wrote a 111-page story about “James Coffey of Cumberland Co. PA” written in year 2000, see file “BCL043”. And Wayne is quite alive and well!)

Fred: Jack’s ECP claims “*©Jack K. Coffey 2000-2019 - All rights reserved.*” But Jack was always ready to send a copy of his entire ECP and all backup information to any Coffey Cousin who wanted to see it. He only charged a modest handling fee for his effort. All Jack was seeking was for any reader to publicly acknowledge that the information he used came from Jack’s ECP.

And about 90% of the huge information volume Jack provided was simply information he had himself copied from public sources. Only the ECP core would have been copyrightable. The owner of the ECP is now Jack’s son Chris, and Chris has recognized that he doesn’t have the interest or ability to continue future development of the ECP. He agreed to allow me to post links in the “Roadmap”.

The important point: If you extract and use any of the copyrighted information, simple courtesy requires that you acknowledge the source.

OTHER “SCANNING” AND “DIGITIZING” EXPERIENCE AND OPTIONS:

Users of my “Roadmap” may note I that I offer a searchable digitized text for the full 2300 pages of historic newsletters. This can be searched for any word or phrase. And it will tell you exactly which newsletter issue, and which page, contains the information.

The most recent newsletters (since about 1998) were already available in word processor (digital) format. But the oldest ones were only available as scanned images. In 2017 I used a digitizer to “OCR” all of them. And then I extracted “pure text only” from those OCR conversions.

Then the light came on in my head! Since I had ALREADY digitized all the old newsletters, all I had to do was POST the digitized files to replace the old scanned files! I did so, and NOW you can also do a computerized search WITHIN any newsletter.

There is no guarantee that the OCR data is accurate and perfect. If you look at some of the files, you will see that they preserve the total image including photographs, but typically fail to successfully OCR handwritten areas.

We have thousands and thousands of pages of other information that COULD be digitized. But in most cases that would not be productive. For example, Jack Coffey gave us a “library” of 20,000 one-page documents. These are things like birth and death certificates, marriage records, tombstone pictures, etc., etc. A human reader can scan a one-page document in just a few seconds and decide if it is interesting. And if he decides it would be useful to personally have a digitized version, he can easily digitize it himself.

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. Unless it's a question primarily about DNA, in which case send it to 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

(The "Roadmap" now offers full access to Jack Coffee's "Edward Coffey Project" (ECP). Scroll down to the section on "Edward Coffey Descendants".)