

Coffey Cousins' Clearinghouse

Founded and Published by Leonard Coffey 1981–1989

Edited & Published by Bonnie Culley 1989–2012

Edited & Published by Jack K Coffee 2012–2016

Edited & Published by Bonnie Culley 2017

Edited & Published by Bonnie Culley & Fred Coffey 2022

Helping Coffey/Coffee Researchers since 1981 Issue No.179 ISSN 0749–758X

Note for CCC Beginners:

This is Issue #179. We have been producing these reports for 44 years, and we have accumulated many thousands of pages of information. And these newsletters often go off into details that will be confusing to “new members” of the Coffey Cousins’ Clearinghouse, or to those who have not kept up with our activities. If you find our work confusing, we recommend you click on this link, and rapidly skim through the discussion there:

www.coffey.ws/familytree/CoffeyRoadmap.html

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Bonnie, Fred, Terri Stern

Editor's Comments

Dear Cousins:

Hello everybody. Hope all of you are well and having a good day.

I have something that is bothering me. We as Coffee/ey family researchers organized in 1981 so that we could share and help each other when possible with the Coffey genealogy research. Some went really out of their way to help other researchers by looking things up in their area and saving others travel time. (Fred and Jack are two of the best at that work that I can think of.) If we found something that wasn't our line we sent it to the newsletter so it could help someone else. We called ourselves the COFFEY COUSINS' CLEARINGHOUSE.

Now when I go to COFFEY COUSINS' CLEARINGHOUSE FACEBOOK GROUP and I read a request for help on a line that I remember writing about in the newsletter my instinct is to help if I can. My responses are screened out. They are deleted. Some of these need to go to Fred Coffey so he can add the information to Jack Coffee's ECP.

This group started with our organization. Put our name on their web site and sold their DNA project through the newsletter, but I am not allowed to help a Coffey researcher that I meet there.

THIS IS NOT SHARING!

Bonnie Culley

bonnieculley33@gmail.com

Co-editor's Comments

Dear Cousins,

I recognize Bonnie's concern expressed above and agree the situation should be changed. Terri Stern reads these newsletters and should think about addressing Bonnie's issues.

But I think there may be complications that need to be recognized. I've started a draft outline in a very brief article below about how tools like FACEBOOK and BLOG have previously been and are now being used. See Page 9.

Like Bonnie, my age is catching up with me. I'm now age 84. That sounds old, but I am 8 years behind Bonnie. I hope to keep working on Coffey genealogy for a few more years. But I'm wondering what we can do to keep things going after I am gone. I invite readers to offer suggestions. Look at the list of editors and publishers at the top of each newsletter. How will this evolve in future years?

There are discussions in this newsletter that I believe will lead to some good alternatives. And the last article (Page 13) in this Newsletter offers thoughts about how we might proceed from here. Comments are welcome, and volunteers to work in future years are invited.

Fred Coffey

FredCoffey@aol.com

FAKE EMAIL RISK TO CCC NEWSLETTER READERS?

By Fred Coffey

This is just a reminder that we no longer include a “click here” link when we send out advice that a new newsletter is ready. There is a risk that such “clicking” could expose a reader to hacking.

You will be told “Visit the Coffey Genealogy Information Roadmap” to call up the new newsletter issue. Once there, you can click on ‘Newsletters’ and choose the latest issue. If you don’t know or remember how to find the Roadmap, just reply to this note and say “send me instructions to find the Roadmap”. I will send you a direct reply with instructions*.

*To find the Roadmap, visit www.coffey.ws/familytree/CoffeyRoadmap.html. Click on the word **Newsletters** and the list of available issues will pop up! (You may want to post this link on your computer.)

THE ARCHIVESTICK:

By Fred Coffey:

Readers may recall that in previous newsletters, I talked about seeking ways to preserve the many thousands of pages of Coffey genealogical information in our “Roadmap” application. We worked out that all our important data could be contained on a 16-gb USB flash drive. That could be offered to interested Coffey researchers. I call this the “ArchiveStick”.

But this was intended to preserve information in the event of a “catastrophic” system crash. And part of the risk of a crash may be related to the way I set up the “Roadmap” system. Is there a way to reduce or eliminate the risk? Also, can we re-work the system to make it easier for someone to take over as the primary Editor after age catches up with Bonnie and Fred?

I think we can do better. There is a lengthy discussion starting on Page 10 by Sabrina Allen, who has volunteered to help with our Website, which begins to address some possibilities.

WHO ARE OUR READERS?

By Fred Coffey:

Last quarter I sent out 317 notices that a new Newsletter was now available. It’s nice to think that so many people are interested in what we write!

But wait – do we really know all those people are paying attention? Actually, I know that’s NOT true. In fact, I know at least a few are deceased, and many more may have simply given up reading email! I think some of my notices just disappear into “Never-Never” land!

Up until newsletter Issue #125 (February 2013) we knew everybody who saw our newsletters was interested because they were paying fees to cover mailing costs. But then we switched to a system where nobody got the newsletter by mail. They were only told that a new newsletter was “available”, and they had to go online to call the newsletters up and read them (at no cost to the reader).

There’s no cost, and little effort required, for me to continue sending out 317 notices. But I’m just curious which recipients are active readers. Most of my concerns are among the 50 recipients

who have been on the list for the longest time, many going back to when the newsletters were published by Leonard Coffey.

With this current newsletter I am asking these oldest 50 recipients if they will acknowledge receipt, simply by replying "I got it!" or "OK". Then I will send a follow-up message, when the next newsletter comes out in September, to all those who never responded in June, saying that their names will be suspended if they don't promptly respond.

I'll always add anyone who asks to our distribution list. So if anyone finds they are missing copies, they can send me a note "Please put my name and email back on your distribution list".

READY TO TRY OUT THE "NEWIMPROVED" SEARCH TOOL?

By Fred Coffey

I have developed a new search tool to help find information in Jack Coffee's ECP (Edward Coffey Project). Searching the ECP has been a challenge because it involves 31,000 names of people related to Edward. Trying to find info on your ancestors (or cousins) can be very difficult if you have to search through 31,000 names in Jack Coffee's original system!

You're welcome to click on this next link and see what you think of our new search tool.

<http://www.coffey.ws/familytree/ECP2020Lite/ECPFullNameList.html>

THE ANCESTRY OF BRAXTON COFFEE/COFFEY?

By Fred Coffey

I got lengthy note from Beth Pirkle and Robert Braxton. I mis-interpreted Beth's note and decided she was telling me that she and Robert descended from a "Braxton Coffey". I knew about a man named Braxton Coffey and decided they must descend from THAT Braxton. But after lengthy discussion, I learned that their "Braxton" is a surname going back many generations. They may have a remote "Coffey" connection, but it is off on a distant branch.

But there are some things we can learn by looking at Braxton Coffey. Let's look:

Braxton Coffey

"Camila L. Coffey Lafaver sent this photo with some files from the Dec., 1901 - Jan., 1902 Green County, KY Record concerning Braxton Coffey's death. Braxton was brother to her grandfather, James William, both sons of Joel Anderson Coffey.

The account published on Dec. 20, 1901 tells us that Braxton came to town [likely to Gresham] to buy coal oil and salt. Later, his wagon and one horse still in harness "were found near Haskinsville with his shoes and coat in the wagon." Later, the other horse was found near Coburg.

According to the Record, Braxton had not been found by the following Thursday. However, his frozen body was found the following Wednesday near Coburg and finally laid to rest at the family cemetery on Jan. 23, 1902. One newspaper item had this to say: "He has been slightly



unbalanced for some time and what ever acted upon his disordered mind to induce him to commit the [act] which led to his death from exposure will never be known. He was about 40 years of age."

At the time this was published, Jack Coffey had just become Editor of the CCC Newsletters. And he was just beginning his work on his massive ECP. His work on the ECP changed some names and dates. Here's a tabulation that incorporates the final ECP data:

- (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) Benjamin Coffey (ca 1747 - 4 Jan 1834) & Mary Hayes (ca 1760 -)
 - (4) Jane Coffey (ca 1774 -) & (4) Joel Coffey (1774 - 1822) **<<< SECOND COUSINS**
 - (5) Joel Coffey (10 Jun 1818 - 21 Mar 1901) & Mary Ann Mann (ca 1829 -)
 - (6) Braxton Coffey (May 1856 - Dec 1901)
 - (6) James Wilburn Coffey (Feb 1859 - 1929) & Sarah Josephine Mann (Jan 1860 - 1948)
 - (7) Clarence Coffey (12 Feb 1890 - 5 Mar 1983) & Lula Ann Hadley (2 Jan 1898 - 26 Jul 1980)
 - (8) Camilla L. Coffey (ca 1930 -) & Lafaver
- (2) Edward Coffey JR.* (ca 1701 - aft 1774) & Grace Cleveland (1 Sep 1716 -)
 - (3) Jesse Cleveland Coffey (bef 1755 - ca 1807) & Nancy Alexander (bef 1765 -)
 - (4) Cleveland Coffey (BET 1766 AND 1784 -) & Martha Brown
 - (5) Joel William Coffey (15 Apr 1826 - 13 Sep 1885) & Elizabeth Ann Moore (Apr 1833 -)
 - (6) John Jeems Coffey (13 Mar 1851 - Jun 1924) & Martha Virginia Epperson (1849 - 1899)
 - (7) William Ann "**Annie**" Coffey (6 Jul 1870 - 14 Apr 1961) & John Wesley Lemons (17 Nov 1869 - 2 Jul 1947)
 - (8+) **MANY "Lemons" children and grandchildren**
- (3) Nebuzaraden Coffey (1757 - 1797) & Elizabeth Hayes (1760 - 1830)
 - (4) Joel Coffey (1774 - 1822) & (4) Jane Coffey (ca 1774 -) **<<< SECOND COUSINS!**
 - (5) Joel Coffey (10 Jun 1818 - 21 Mar 1901) & Mary Ann Mann (ca 1829 -)
 - (6) Braxton Coffey (May 1856 - Dec 1901)
 - (6) James Wilburn Coffey (Feb 1859 - 1929) & Sarah Josephine Mann (Jan 1860 - 1948)
 - (7) Clarence Coffey (12 Feb 1890 - 5 Mar 1983) & Lula Ann Hadley (2 Jan 1898 - 26 Jul 1980)
 - (8) Camilla L. Coffey (ca 1930 -) & Lafaver

In the above, I have highlighted "Braxton Coffey" since he is the subject of the 2016 Newsletter. And I have highlighted Camilia L. Coffey since she wrote that article. And I highlighted William Ann "**Annie**" Coffey and remind any readers researching that line that the ECP has a lot of info beyond what is shown here. We offer a connection to the ECP details using the following table. If you click on the word "Narrative" for any of the following, it will jump to the writeup page for that person. Each is labeled with the most common spelling of the surname. Readers may find it interesting to explore here by "clicking around" on these family narratives:

COFFEY: Edward (1670-1716) . . . [Narrative](#)
COFFEY: Edward Jr. (1701-1774) . . . [Narrative](#)
COFFEE: Jesse Cleveland (bef 1755-1807) . . . [Narrative](#)
COFFEY: Nebuzaraden (1757-1797) . . . [Narrative](#)
COFFEE: Cleveland (1766-) . . . [Narrative](#)
COFFEE: Joel William (1826-1885) . . . [Narrative](#)
COFFEE: John Jeems (1851-1924) . . . [Narrative](#)
COFFEE: William Ann "Annie" (1870-1961) . . . [Narrative](#)
COFFEE: Joel William Leonard (1874-1951) . . . [Narrative](#)

KATHY COFFEE ALBERTS:

By Kathy Coffee Alberts & Fred

Kathy: I found on Facebook that you have a Coffee Clearing House newsletter that you publish quarterly and have back issues. I would like to be added to your email list. My name is Kathy Coffee Alberts. My ancestry as far back as I have found is Peter Coffee b.1705 from Ulster Ireland. Thank you.

Fred: Hi Kathy, the "Coffey Cousins Clearinghouse" has thousands of pages of information on Coffee/Coffey families. This link will give you access to everything:

www.coffey.ws/familytree/CoffeyRoadmap.html

If you go there, discussion will tell you how to search for information. On the first page look about 4 paragraphs down, you will see a yellow link that says "Newsletters". Click on that and it should take you to a page that lists the 178 back issues published to date. Just click on any one and read that historical newsletter. A little later the Roadmap will offer a tool to search the entire 178-issue database for any name that appears therein.

I have added your name and email to the list of people I notify whenever a new newsletter is published.

Since you found us on Facebook you must have been working with Terri Stern's Facebook. I don't personally use Facebook for any purpose. I've copied Terri on the note you sent and invite her to offer comments. She is the real expert on families from Ulster Ireland and may know more about your "*Peter Coffee b. 1705 from Ulster*".

You give your name as "*Kathy Coffee Alberts*" which suggests your birth name might be "Coffee"? If so, can you give me the names of some of your more recent ancestors? I would be interested to see if there are any matches to other Coffey/Coffee names in our database.

THE "BERRY" FAMILY:

By Dave Hearne & Fred

Dave: I found your wonderful Coffey/Coffee Surname Genealogy Information Roadmap as I return to a long-standing family mystery. I am a descendant of William Coffee Berry whose parentage is discussed in the March 1998, No.70 issue of the Coffey Cousin's Clearinghouse. Because of earlier research of mine and others, I am convinced that I am probably a Coffey descendant, very likely Rice Coffee via Elizabeth Fields. However, the circumstances and dates surrounding this parentage are curious, namely;

- Rice supposedly acknowledged fathering with Elizabeth: Mary (1789) and William (1796),
- Online sources indicate Rice married Sally Bradford (1790) and by 1796 had fathered 4 children with Sally,
- siblings of Elizabeth were married to Coffey's (Thomas and Sarah) both migrating to Wilkes County from VA,
- the Coffey family apparently was quite religious with several contemporaries in Wilkes county of Rice Coffey and Elizabeth Fields ascending to ministry,

If this message finds you in error or is not of interest, I understand. I retired to Buncombe County, NC and have located both William Coffee Berry's grave as well as that of Mary. I can't help but think there is more to this story but I may never know. However, if you are aware of any researchers who would like to discuss this, please pass my name on to them.

Dave Hearne 802-345-5209 <http://www.dohearnephoto.com/blog>

Fred: Your story is well known, and normally I would turn to Jack Coffey's ECP (Edward Coffey Project) for verification. But Jack included NOTHING about the birth of your ancestor William Coffey Berry. I'm sure Jack knew about the story, and probably believed it was likely true, but his policy was to never publish anything he could not PROVE to his satisfaction. So he didn't publish anything in his ECP. His strict policy is why we are confident that anything he published is solid.

Here is what is generally believed:

"William Coffey Berry (1796, NC), and his sister named Mary Coffey Berry, are firmly believed by genealogists to be the children of Rice Coffey (a great-grandson of Edward), via a relationship with Elizabeth (Fields) Berry, who at the time was married to Bradley Berry (or was his widow). This was apparently an open secret. The genealogy is supported by William's middle name "Coffey", by reported recognition in Rice's will, and by an autobiography written by William himself. Anyway, the living descendants' surnames are "Berry", but as expected the y-DNA was "Coffey". For extended discussion, see [Newsletters](#) issue 70, pages 11-15."

When I turn to the ECP for information, I look for "narratives" that Jack published. Here is what he offered for Rice Coffey. Just click on the narrative link:

Rice (1766-1853) . . . [Narrative](#)

This will jump to Jack's discussion page for Rice Coffey. Read the discussion there. And if you scroll down, you will see blue links for Rice's "legal" children. You may want to read those to get background on the overall family.

Here is the updated ancestry of Mary and William, going back to Edward:

- (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) Rev. James Coffey (4 Jul 1729 - 1786) & (3) Elizabeth Cleveland (Feb 1727 - BET 1826 AND 1827)
- (4) Rice Coffey (17 Apr 1766 - 24 Jul 1853) & Elizabeth Fields (1755 - 24 May 1824)
- (5) Mary "Polly" Coffey Berry (5 Feb 1789 - 21 Apr 1852) & David Rogers Sr (1780 - 11 Jul 1854)
- (5) William Coffey Berry (19 Oct 1796 - 10 Oct 1880) & Letitia Woody (23 May 1798 - 14 Apr 1855)
- (2) Edward Coffey JR. (ca 1701 - aft 1774) & Grace Cleveland (1 Sep 1716 -)
- (3) Elizabeth Cleveland (Feb 1727 - BET 1826 AND 1827) & (3) Rev. James Coffey (4 Jul 1729 - 1786)
- (4) Rice Coffey (17 Apr 1766 - 24 Jul 1853) & Elizabeth Fields (1755 - 24 May 1824)
- (5) Mary "Polly" Coffey Berry (5 Feb 1789 - 21 Apr 1852) & David Rogers Sr (1780 - 11 Jul 1854)
- (5) William Coffey Berry (19 Oct 1796 - 10 Oct 1880) & Letitia Woody (23 May 1798 - 14 Apr 1855)

Here is some detail on the descendants of Bradley Berry. Ann Wood was his first wife, and they had 5 children. Elizabeth Fields was his second wife, and they had one son. Also note that Bradley was alive when Mary Coffey Berry was born, but deceased when William Coffey Berry was born. So, Elizabeth was a widow when William was born.

- (1) Bradley Berry (1736 - 11 Dec 1794) & Ann Wood (1738 - bef 1780)
- (2) George Berry (1758 - 1849)
- (2) Elizabeth Berry (1759 - 1820)
- (2) Nancy Berry (1761 -)
- (2) Rebecca Berry (1763 -)
- (2) William Wood Berry (1764 -)
- (1) Bradley Berry (1736 - 11 Dec 1794) & Elizabeth Fields (1755 - 24 May 1824)
- (2) Franklin Berry (1780 - 29 Oct 1823)

BUNNIE BOWEN:

Tim Peterman, Bunnie Bowen, and Fred Coffey

Bunnie: Hi Tim, See the lineage to my Coffey family roots that we discussed over the weekend in Manhattan at the Polly Ogden Chapter event. Please send me the details on the Coffey family group that is established. *Bunnie Bowen, Regent, John & Hattie Possum Chapter, NSDAR*

Tim: Adding Fred Coffey. He produces the Coffey Cousins Clearinghouse newsletter.

Fred: Hi Bunnie, we have a large amount of information on Coffey families. Here's a quick link to summarize what we have:

www.coffey.ws/familytree/CoffeyRoadmap.html

Much of your family is represented in our data base, as part of the ECP. But our primary focus is on "Coffey". At your leisure, you might want to quickly read down through the topics covered in the above link.

Let me present your family in a different way, going down to your own name. Because there is a marriage of first cousins, there are two paths back to Edward Coffey, as follows:

- (1) Edward Coffey (ca 1670 - ca 20 Nov 1716) & Anne Powell (BET 1683 AND 1685 - BET OCT 1744 AND DEC 1744)
- (2) Edward Coffey JR. (ca 1701 - aft 1774) & Unknown???
- (3) Salathiel Coffey (BET 1750 AND 1755 - 28 Jul 1784) & Elizabeth Gore
 - (4) Elias Coffey (8 May 1775 - 18 Jul 1833) & (4) Mary Coffey (7 Dec 1782 -) <<<< **(FIRST COUSINS)**
 - (5) Willis Coffey (2 May 1804 - 26 Sep 1893) & Violetta Haynes (17 Mar 1805 - 10 Oct 1869)
 - (6) Sarah (H) Coffey (22 Feb 1835 - 1 Jul 1908) & John Tiller (1834 - 12 Jun 1913)
 - (7) Eliza Ann Tiller (1 Mar 1858 - 27 Jan 1917) & John L Bowen (8 May 1845 - 23 Sep 1906)
 - (8) John Casey Bowen (18 Mar 1885 - 9 Feb 1957) & Ada M Bushong (22 Mar 1889 - 11 Nov 1967)
 - (9) John Charles Bowen (11 Apr 1917 - 4 Dec 1997) & Dorothy Marie Morehouse (20 Apr 1916 - 22 Mar 1995)
 - (10) John William Bowen (14 Jul 1940 - 12 Aug 2015) & Ann Marie Keenan (26 Nov 1042 -)
 - (11) **Bunnie Bowen**
- (3) Nathan Coffey (1760 - 1823) & Mary Saunders
 - (4) Mary Coffey (7 Dec 1782 -) & (4) Elias Coffey (8 May 1775 - 18 Jul 1833) <<<< **(FIRST COUSINS)**
 - (5) Willis Coffey (2 May 1804 - 26 Sep 1893) & Violetta Haynes (17 Mar 1805 - 10 Oct 1869)
 - (6) Sarah (H) Coffey (22 Feb 1835 - 1 Jul 1908) & John Tiller (1834 - 12 Jun 1913)
 - (7) Eliza Ann Tiller (1 Mar 1858 - 27 Jan 1917) & John L Bowen (8 May 1845 - 23 Sep 1906)
 - (8) John Casey Bowen (18 Mar 1885 - 9 Feb 1957) & Ada M Bushong (22 Mar 1889 - 11 Nov 1967)
 - (9) John Charles Bowen (11 Apr 1917 - 4 Dec 1997) & Dorothy Marie Morehouse (20 Apr 1916 - 22 Mar 1995)
 - (10) John William Bowen (14 Jul 1940 - 12 Aug 2015) & Ann Marie Keenan (26 Nov 1042 -)
 - (11) **Bunnie Bowen**

Since your emphasis is on supporting your connection back to Nathan, the second section is of your most immediate interest. My database is focused on "Coffey", down through "(6) Sarah". Everything from "(7) Elia Ann Tiller" and down is extracted from your review with Tim Peterman.

Jack Coffee's ECP (Edward Coffey Project) offers some "Narrative" discussion pages you might want to look at. They can give you some detailed discussion you might find "interesting". But be patient and recognize that we have been working on Coffey Cousins Clearinghouse" for almost 50 years and have changed our collective minds about "THE TRUTH" several times. Read with

patience and with understanding. Let me offer some hyperlinks to “Coffey” names and then discuss what you will see. The “Search Tool” described on Page 4 was used to find these links:

Willis (1804-1893) . . . [Narrative](#)
Mary (1782-1872) . . . [Narrative](#), [Narrative](#)
Elias (1775-1833) . . . [Narrative](#), [Narrative](#)
Nathan (1760-1823) . . . [Narrative](#)
Edward Jr. (1701-1774) . . . [Narrative](#)

The first link will take you to the narrative for your ancestor “Willis” – just click on the above word “narrative”. When you get in you will find some discussion. And then you will see blue links to each of his children. Your personal family connection will be to his daughter Sarah, and you might click on that to see her discussion. Then back up to the top of the “Willis” page and click on his name at the top. It will jump up to his father Eli. Read some of that and then return to this newsletter page.

Next link of interest is his mother, Mary Coffey. She has two narrative links. The first goes to the page for Mary, but much of the discussion there is about her husband Eli. If you click on Mary’s name at the top of her page it will jump to her father Nathan. The second narrative will jump straight to Nathan, because Mary’s name appears in Nathan’s narrative.

Third, we have two links to Eli. The first will actually go to “Mary”, because she is named in Eli’s discussion. The second goes to Eli himself. From Eli’s page, if you click on Eli’s name, it jumps to Salathial because Salathial is the father of Eli.

Fourth, we have a link to Nathan. The link will seem redundant because the other links above get you there. And if you now go to Nathan’s link, and click on it, it will surprise you with a jump to “Chesley Coffey”! This will drive you crazy, because we now believe this particular “Chesley” never existed! Our researchers invested many hours over a few years pursuing Chesley, and then we decided he never existed. Just ignore the Chesley page. And assume that Salathial and Nathan are brothers, and probably the sons of Edward Jr. (There is some extended discussion if you go back to the “Roadmap” and scroll down to the sub-topic “Edward: Early Generation Issues” .)

Fifth, I’ve thrown in a link to Edward Jr. You may find some of the discussion interesting. And his father is Edward Senior, and you can read his lengthy discussion.

I invite comments from you and Tim Peterman. (Tim has been highly involved in analysis over many years.) Best wishes, Fred

FACEBOOK? BLOG? THEIR PURPOSE?

Fred Coffey

In her Editor comments, Bonnie expressed concern about her efforts to directly contact members of Terri Stern’s “Coffey Cousins Clearinghouse Facebook Group”. I personally have never had any interest in Facebook and have no knowledge about how it can be used for genealogy. But I have been involved with Terri for many past years, and she has written multiple articles for our “Roadmap”. For the September newsletter I would like to work on a discussion of how Terri uses Facebook for genealogy, and how it relates to her Hugh Coffey Project. And I want to review how ECP manager Jack Coffee used a “BLOG” for what I think might be similar purposes. There’s not enough time to address such issues and get them into this current newsletter. But I think it could be informative to investigate.

SABRINA ALLEN: Website Help Offer

By Sabrina Allen and Fred

Sabrina: To Fred and Bonnie: Thank you for all the work on the Coffey Cousins' newsletter, website, and research.

I read the newsletter today and am willing to help with the website. Actually, I've already been working on some of the data just for my own use. My maternal grandmother was Jane (nee Coffey) Peterman.

Just to introduce myself, my name is Sabrina (nee Neitzel) Allen. of Ohio. My grandmother, my grandfather, Edwin Peterman, and their three daughters moved to Houston in 1968 when he received a call to be the pastor of a Lutheran church in Rice Village. Grandma passed away in 2010. She was the middle daughter of Harry Vanness Coffey, son of Albert Omar Coffey, son of Granville Spencer (1842-1905).

I've written to you about my thoughts on Spencer's parentage before and Jennifer (nee Burneson) Chen has as well. She is my mother's cousin.

Fred: For the benefit of other readers of this Newsletter: Let me note that you believe you descend from Edward's daughter Annister, and male line descendants of Annister have "Samuel" y-DNA. You want to find a male Coffey with proven connection to your line for a DNA test. And here is a link to an Ancestry tree that provides some understanding of your views:

<https://www.ancestry.com/family-tree/person/tree/157954346/person/122073774395/facts>

And for background, here is a summary of part of your genealogy:

- (1) Elijah Spencer Coffey (abt 1797 - bef 17 Apr 1854) & Mary Hensley Pruitt (29 May 1801 - abt 1875)
- (2) Granville Spencer Coffey (12 Mar 1842 - 28 May 1905) & Mary E Jordan (23 Sep 1843 - 9 May 1923)
- (3) James Spencer Coffey (8 Dec 1864 - bef 1894) & Lydia Wilhelmina Wolf (29 Jul 1869 - 21 Feb 1935)
- (4) Unknown Coffey
- (3) George W Coffey (22 Sep 1866 - 19 Jan 1954) & ZOA B WHEELER
- (4) LOUISE Coffey (20 Mar 1896 - 23 Jul 1973)
- (3) John Wesley Coffey (7 Jan 1870 - 21 May 1928)
- (3) Albert Omer Coffey (15 Mar 1876 - 18 May 1964) & Lucy Jane Vanness (24 Sep 1869 - 26 Oct 1955)
- (4) **Forest L Coffey (26 Aug 1897 -)**
- (4) Harry Vanness Coffey (10 Jan 1906 - 9 May 1975) & Lois Corabelle Miles (8 Jul 1906 - 6 Aug 1988)
- (5) Jane Marie Coffey (16 May 1933 - 19 Jul 2010) & Edwin Peterman (18 Sept 1933 -)
- (6) Susa Peterman & (22 Feb 1960 -) & Kenneth Neitzel (29 Jul 1958 - 22 Jun 1993)
- (7) **Sabrina** Neitzel (1 Jun 1984 -) & Robert **Allen** (1961 -)
- (5) Julia Coffey (12 Aug 1935 -) & John Burneson
- (6) **Jennifer** Burneson & **Chen**
- (4) Robert Granville Coffey (27 Apr 1904 - 26 Apr 1999) & Gladys Katherine Hammer (20 May 1905 - 11 Apr 1986)
- (5) Albert Edward Coffey (1 Apr 1931 - 20 Jul 2020) & Phyllis Ann Hampson
- (6) (Three Daughters) Coffey
- (5) Robert "Keith" Coffey (26 Jun 1940 - 15 Dec 2014)
- (6) **Jeffrey Keith Coffey (12 Jan 1971 -)**
- (5) Donald Gene Coffey (abt 1944)
- (6) **Shane R Coffey (10 Mar 1987 -)**
- (3) Carrie Edith Coffey (1 Jun 1882 - 23 Apr 1964)
- (3) Oscar Leroy Coffey (29 Apr 1887 - 17 Oct 1966) & Minnie Askew (abt 1891 -)

This starts with Eijah Spencer. But it could be expanded to go back to Edward Coffey. You and I are cousins, but I descend from Edward Junior, and you believe your descent is from his daughter Annister.

Sabrina: In the latest newsletter, I noticed both you and Bonnie mentioned your advanced years. Having seen this with my grandfather, I know how comforting it can be to have someone to "pass the torch" to after investing so much time and effort into a project.

Regarding the Roadmap, what I have been thinking about is a redesign of the website. I maintain my husband's business site and assist with another for a non-profit I work with. I am not an expert on websites but I'm sure something can be done to avoid a crash, make it user friendly, and keep it simple for someone to take over when the time comes.

Fred: "Redesign of the Website" is something I would like to explore. I welcome your thoughts. I have a big investment in our existing "Roadmap", and it works fairly well. And it contains a tremendous amount of information. But it takes a lot of attention and maintenance, and I think it possible to do everything "better". But I don't want to lose what we now have. Here's a link that will take you to our existing system:

www.coffey.ws/familytree/CoffeyRoadmap.html

All of the "Coffey Information" we now have will fit on a 16 GB USB drive. This table that shows the amount of information we presently have in our Roadmap backup files. I did this to remind myself of the amount of information I manage and remind me where it will need maintenance over the next few years. The whole thing takes 12,281,670 megabytes and covers 29,897 data entries of various sizes.

File	FILE SIZE INFO		DISCUSSION
	Size MB	Number of Items	
RMBACKUP	12,261,670	29,897	This is the "big picture" for our "Roadmap" backup efforts. Green entries are likely to change over time Yellow entries are likely to never change.
A00 Discussion Document	565	3	Minor discussion entry
A01 RoadmapEntry	784	13	Minor discussion entry
A02 Newsletters	427,968	192	Newsletters are issued quarterly, always changing
A03 BonnieCulleyLibrary	568,779	101	This will never change, it is old but valuable info.
A04 Coffey-YDNA	19,522	4	May change if new info develops
A05 ECP-EdwardCoffeyProject	11,111	29,555	The ECP (Edward Coffey Project) will never be changed
ECP2020Lite	53,712	9,962	This is the ECP as developed by Jack Coffee
ECPBackupImages	10,996,638	19,532	Jack had backup information on nearly 20,000 names.
ECPNames	8,193	10	This is a small administrative entry.
FredsWritings	47,211	34	If I want to comment on an ECP entry, I may put it here.
AnnnisterCoffeyNotes	46,379	27	Some chance of changes from Sabrina work
RussellCountyKY	5,423	26	This is an old study, will never be changed.
A06 Edward/PeterDeepAncestry	18,994	3	Changes likely -- new info now being developed
A07 Edward Connections	2,290	14	Uncertain, but there may be a chance of changes
A08 FredsGenealogyProgram	49,104	4	Likely to change very frequently
A09 Freds Toolbox Collection	62,062	5	May change as new info develops

In the above, I have identified in **GREEN** the things that may involve change over the next several years. But more than 90% of the managed information, shown in **YELLOW**, will NEVER change again. But it is still valuable and absolutely must be preserved.

ALL of the newsletters take up only about 3.5% of the space. Each new newsletter will typically add 2000 to 3000 megabytes. The big memory consumption is that Jack Coffee kept a backup "library" of data on 20,000 named individuals. That consumes about 90% of our space. But the information is valuable for anyone searching for records on an individual.

Sabrina: I've worked some of my thoughts about the website into the above discussion. I also invite you to take a look at my husband's website that I designed and maintain.

<https://allenplumbing.com/>

Fred: I looked over the link you sent. It was well written and interesting. It covered the current status of Allen Plumbing. I particularly liked the stories and pictures related to the history. But it was my original impression that GoDaddy is highly focused on creating web pages like your one for Allen Plumbing. Your web page is mostly discussion and pictures designed to sell a service.

My "Roadmap" contains maybe 4000 times more information than your Allen Plumbing application. But I wouldn't expect you or anyone to create a database from scratch. Most of my data categories are in quite good order already.

Your site says: Powered by GoDaddy: It is interesting that our "Roadmap" also uses GoDaddy. My son, Bryan, initially turned to GoDaddy to create an application of his own. His Email address is linked to that original application, As I became more interested in Coffey (and other families) genealogy, he was able to adapt his application to support my genealogy hobby. Bryan manages any necessary maintenance and covers the GoDaddy costs.

To Bryan: You have a large "GoDaddy" filesaver. I have been using some of this for genealogy related to the Coffey Cousins Clearinghouse. Your domain is named "Coffey.ws", and I use that address for all Coffey connections. It has a huge amount of information that is far beyond what I use for genealogy, and that size makes it awkward.

I've now been studying GoDaddy's web page discussion, and I'm beginning to understand: I can create my own domain name, which might be something like "CoffeyCousins.com". (GoDaddy have suggested I might alternatively like "AllCoffey.org".) I can extract relevant Coffey Cousins data files from your giant "Coffey.ws" domain and place them in the new domain. I can eventually turn the new domain over to successor "Editor" replacement(s) for Bonnie and myself.

Bryan: Once you have the domain, if you get fancy, it isn't too hard to add mail records so you can also make the email Fred@CoffeyCousins.com and others for any collaborators. You could even create a forum for contributors to share discussions. I'll send you an example later, but it would make growth easier.

Fred: To use the new domain, every reference in our Roadmap web page would have to be changed from "Coffey.ws" to "CoffeyCousins.org". That process might best wait until I decide to finally "retire" as a primary "Editor" of the Coffey Cousins Clearinghouse. Your "Coffey.ws" could continue to exist and continue to work indefinitely, so nothing needs to be changed immediately.

I'm thinking I might create a prototype "AllCoffey.org" domain and load it with the data sets I would expect to be useful in the future. I would update it on a regular basis. And I would invite

any prospective new "Coffey Cousins Clearinghouse" Editor to explore it and offer comments. And decide if they would want to deal with it.

Then as one of my last "Old Editor" acts I could post a notice on "Coffey.ws" saying that as of (DATE) it will cease to be updated or maintained. It would continue to work until Bryan himself decided to shut everything down. Meanwhile the new Editor could choose to take over and manage the new domain in any way he/she decided.

WHERE DO WE GO FROM HERE?

By Fred Coffey:

So, I have a general idea of how a change might be managed. And with Sabrina we have a volunteer who has the interest and ability to perhaps manage an Editor job.

Just to stir up conversation, let me throw out an idea that might work if everyone agrees.

Maybe our letterhead could end up like this:

Founded & Published by Leonard Coffey 1981-1989

Edited & Published by Bonnie Culley 1989-2012

Edited & Published by Jack K Coffee 2012-2016

Edited & Published by Bonnie Culley 2017

Edited & Published by Bonnie Culley & Fred Coffey 2022

Edited & Published by Tim Peterman & Sabrina Allen (date)

Let me explain my thoughts: I think Sabrina would have the skills to manage the editing. But I asked myself who has the greatest knowledge about the Coffey family and is young enough to keep things going?

Tim Peterman started contributing when Leonard Coffey published his second newsletter in 1981. And his submission showed that Tim was already actively researching Coffey family issues reported in DAR records. He was age 22 at the time. In the last issue (#178) he was researching a complicated issue on the Origins of Coffey and Keogh Families. He is now age 67, but that's 17 years younger than me. So he might be able to work as a Coffey Cousins Clearinghouse Editor for MANY more years. He has 177 references in our Newsletter archive and has been very active over the intervening years.

I asked Tim if he might consider accepting a role like the above:

Tim: I will be serving as President of the Kansas Society, Sons of the American Revolution until March 2027, and National Trustee from the Kansas Society from July 2027 to July 2029. The latter one won't take up too much of my time, but the first keeps me busy. I think it would be best if I refrained from taking on new responsibilities until I get this behind me.

That being said, time permitting I can of course contribute to the CCC, mainly about DNA related subjects. I think it would be best if someone else served as the actual editor & driver behind getting things done.

Fred: Thanks, Tim. Think of this discussion as a general search for long term CCC Editor(s), I have some thoughts about how to proceed and will get those thoughts better organized. And there's no present urgency. (I'm pretty sure I can keep going beyond March 2027. And I'm very keen to keep publishing your research and thoughts about DNA related subjects.)

There are many people over the years who have dealt with issues related to the Coffey Cousins, and there have been past problems that threatened our way of doing things. Here's some reading material. Click on this yellow [Newsletters](#) link and choose Issue Number 163. This discusses how some of the families fit together, including Tim Peterman, Bonnie, and Terri Stern.

I can proceed to "...create a prototype "CoffeyCousins.org" domain and load it with the data sets I would expect to be useful to future editors." I have actually begun that effort and think it can work out quite well. I am producing an Excel spreadsheet that documents the available data and discusses the effort required to manage it. When it is ready, I will send it to Tim and Sabrina (and any other potential candidates) for their examination and comments.

INFORMATION RESOURCE LINKS:

NEWSLETTER QUERIES: If you wish to pose a query to the newsletter, or offer an article or a suggestion, send to **Bonnie Culley** at bonnieculley33@gmail.com, or send it to **Fred Coffey** at FredCoffey@aol.com. (Fred manages the newsletter distribution list. Contact him if you wish 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. If you are looking for ANY Coffey-related information, click on the following:

THE COFFEY/COFFEE SURNAME: GENEALOGY INFORMATION ROADMAP

www.coffey.ws/familytree/CoffeyRFetchoadmap.html

HUGH COFFEY PROJECT BY TERRI STERN: 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](#)

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/160379567933944>

The Coffey Cousins Clearinghouse Facebook Group is thriving and now has ~~314~~ members.

(From Fred: As of June 2026, she had 549 Members!)

Also note that the Hugh Coffey Project is looking for male descendants of Hugh who would like a free DNA test from the Project. Please contact me and I would be happy to fund their Big Y test and autosomal test.