

Coffey Cousins' Clearinghouse

Founded and Published by Leonard Coffey 1981-1989

Edited & Published by Bonnie Culley 1989-2012

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Editor's Comments

Dear Cousins,

I'm so impressed at the size of this newsletter. I never made one over 18 pages as that was all we could mail back then. At first I didn't think I would like the newsletter on line but the post office pretty well forced us to make the decision and it has worked out well.

A big newsletter means that a lot of Coffey research is going on and more Coffey descendants are being added to our data base. Thank you everyone.

I received a big surprise a week ago when Bonnie Lynn Coffey Cannone posted on the Coffey Cousins facebook web site. She is the daughter of Leonard Coffey. He was our founder and published the newsletter from 1981 through 1988. I began in January 1989 when Bonnie's mother sent me a floppy disk with the names and addresses of the members on it. I was the host of the Coffey Convention that year. I'm sure that I have told this story too many times!

I want to welcome all the new researchers to the Coffey Cousins' Clearinghouse.

We love to share,

Bonnie Culley

bonnieculley33@gmail.com

Co-editor's Comments

Dear Cousins,

I went off in multiple different directions this quarter. It was confusing, complicated and disorganized. But a lot of fun!

Readers who think an article is too confusing to follow, are free to skip ahead.

I see that I repeat myself a few times in this newsletter. I tried to make each "story" stand alone, even if that meant repeating some information.

I hope some of our readers will initiate or write stories for future newsletters.

Also age is creeping up on both Bonnie and myself. Anybody want to volunteer to be a third "co-editor"?

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 **Newsletters** and the list of available issues will pop up! Recommend you 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 all be contained on a 16-gb USB flash drive. Which could be offered to interested Coffey researchers. I call this the "ArchiveStick".

So far only a few people have asked for a copy of this USB drive. I would be happy to send out a few more free copies. If you are a serious Coffey researcher, and would like a copy to tuck away in a safe place, send me a note with your mailing address.

BONNIE LYNN COFFEY CANNONE:

By Bonnie Lynn

Note: The following text was extracted from an exchange on Terri Stern's Facebook Group:

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

Bonnie Lynn: Hello, my cousins. My name is Bonnie Lynn Coffey Cannone. I am the youngest daughter of Leonard Noel Coffey of Martinsville, Indiana, born 3/21/30 and died 1/29/89. You may or may not know my dad as the original founder of Coffey Cousins Clearinghouse. I just learned of this group's existence, and I am so pleased to be here. I deeply regret that I paid way too little attention to my father's research during his life, so I am here to learn more about our ancestry as I work on writing my biography. Thank you all and God bless you.

Bonnie Culley: The newsletter still exists. Fred Coffey is editing it and it is digital. We have a humongous collection on a website.

WWW.coffey.ws/familytree/CoffeyRoadmap.html.

Bonnie Lynn: I remember seeing your name. You have worked so hard for so long to preserve and extend my father's work. Thank you so much for your dedication, and God bless you.

Bob Coffey: Welcome Cuz, I am from Martinsville as well. Leonard was my 1st cousin, his dad and mine were brothers.

LEONARD COFFEY BACKGROUND AND FAMILY CONNECTIONS:

By Fred Coffey

I thought the previous article could use some extra discussion about Leonard Coffey background, and about how Bonnie Lynn and Bob Coffey might participate in the Coffey Cousins Clearinghouse website.

Readers may want to call up our newsletter 163-6,7,8 (Issue #163, pages 6 7 and 8, published June 2022) which explains "Who's Who in the CCC". And Leonard is there.

Leonard is indeed a descendant of Edward Coffey, through Edward's daughter Annister. But he does not have "Coffey" y-DNA, because that can only be passed through a male line. Annister had a son out of wedlock in 1735, and whom she named "James Coffey". DNA tests showed that James was likely fathered by one James Samuel. Leonard's line has Samuel y-DNA.

I found Leonard's obituary, which named his three daughters. Now I know where Bonnie Lynn fits into the genealogy.

Bob Coffey says his father is a brother of Leonard's father. I did a bit of digging on Ancestry.com and found many trees that claimed to know all about Leonard. Here's one that seemed to be quite well documented. I used it to identify names, dates, and spouses:

<https://www.ancestry.com/family-tree/person/tree/82832698/person/46480183360/facts>

Then Terri's Facebook group informed Bob that I was interested in his family:

Bob Coffey: Hi Fred, heard from a someone on Coffey Cousins clearing house that you would like to talk to me about my Coffey line:)

My father is Gentry James Coffey 1906-1993 and wife Louise Ataline Haley 1907-1970. My sibs are Betty Jean 1930-1995 Fredrick Norman Coffey 1935-2006 John David Coffey 1938-2011 Me Robert E Coffey 1942 Marilyn Ann 1943 Kathy Lee 1946-1971 Michael Allen Coffey 1954. Have

been to the cemeteries where all are buried (Mahalasville and Owensburg) Hope this is helpful for you I am looking forward to seeing the newsletter Robert E Coffey :)

Fred: With that, I was able to identify all of the siblings of Leonard's father and was able to construct the following genealogy. I've marked the brothers in **bold red**. Now that Bob gave me the name of his father, I can fit Bob in:

- (1) Edward Coffey (ca 1670 - ca 20 Nov 1716) & Anne Powell (BET 1683 AND 1685 - BET OCT 1744 AND DEC 1744)
- (2) Annister Coffey (ca 1708 -) & James Samuel (14 Jun 1690 - 16 May 1759)
- (3) James Coffey (BET 1735 AND 1736 -) & Sarah ? (abt 1773 -)
- (4) James Coffey Jr (abt 1774 - bef 1840) & Nancy (12 Jun 1785 - 7 Jun 1848)
- (5) Lewis Moses Coffey (1 Nov 1798 - 18 Jun 1844) & Delilah B. Turpin (27 Jun 1802 - 1873)
- (6) Moses Turpin Coffey (24 May 1831 - 10 Apr 1912) & Lucinda Renner (24 Mar 1834 - 23 Jun 1910)
- (7) John D. Coffey (23 Mar 1859 - 1 Dec 1912) & Kizzie Belle Gibbs (8 Jul 1864 - 24 Oct 1943)
- (8) Iva Frances Coffey (5 Mar 1893 - 9 Oct 1981) & Thomas Earl Farrell (25 Jul 1891 - 24 Feb 1968)
- (8) **Ora E Coffey** (23 Dec 1894 - 7 Sep 1964) & Elsie Blanche Fleener (- 27 Jun 2000)
- (8) Thurza C Coffey (29 Jun 1897 - 2 Nov 1986) & James Orie Hickman (16 Apr 1894 - 3 Apr 1991)
- (8) Lucinda C Coffey (30 Mar 1899 - 9 Nov 1988) & Frederick G Norman (13 Apr 1893 - 9 Feb 1933)
- (8) **Moses T. Coffey** (14 Jan 1901 - 19 Oct 1955) & Frances Ellen Martin (5 May 1905 - 19 Jan 1986)
- (9) Jimmy Lee Coffey (6 Jan 1930 - 19 Feb 1997) & Constance Adele Briddon (3 Mar 1936 - 12 Jul 1965)
- (8) **John L Coffey** (12 May 1904 - 14 Oct 1952) & Mildred E. Leonard (24 Jul 1905 - 6 Jan 2000)
- (9) **Leonard N. Coffey** (21 Mar 1930 - 21 Jan 1989) & Donna Floann Smith (4 Nov 1930 - 12 Jun 2004)
- (10) L Susan Coffey
- (10) Terry J Coffey
- (10) **Bonnie Lynn Coffey & Cannone**
- (9) Joseph D Coffey (1938 -)
- (8) **Gentry James Coffey*** (12 Dec 1906 - 7 Nov 1993) & Louise Adeline Haley (5 Jul 1907 - Jan 1970)
- (9) Bettie Jean Coffey (5 Feb 1930 - 13 Sep 1995) & John Norman Meredith (26 Mar 1925 - 31 Dec 1996)
- (9) Frederick Norman Coffey (3 Jan 1935 - 17 Aug 2006)
- (9) John David Coffey (6 Oct 1938 - 12 Jun 2011) & Mable Zelma Jacobs (12 Aug 1940 - 18 Aug 2005)
- (10) John David Coffey Jr. (2 Nov 1962 - 20 Dec 1962)
- (9) **Robert E Coffey**
- (9) Marilyn /Ann Coffey (1943 -)
- (9) Kathy Lee Coffey (31 Oct 1946 - 9 May 1971) & Ricky Tim Smith
- (8) **Gentry James Coffey*** (12 Dec 1906 - 7 Nov 1993) & Olive Jane Hanson (16 Jul 1915 - 14 Jul 2007)
- (9) Michael Allen Coffey (1954 -)
- (8) **Oscar Ervin Coffey** (18 Jan 1910 - 10 Feb 1973)

In the previous article, Bonnie Lynn wrote "...I am here to learn more about our ancestry as I work on writing my biography." There is a lot of discussion about Leonard's connection to Annister if you go to our "Roadmap". Just scroll down to the "Edward Connections" page and read about "The Samuel Family Connection". And I would be interested if Bonnie develops any interesting Coffey information from her biography research. I would love for Bonnie to give me her email addresses (which I will keep private). Then I can add her to the list of people to be notified as new newsletters are published.

Fred

ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE FOR GENEALOGY:

By Fred Coffey

I see that Ancestry.com is beginning to use AI to support genealogy. Readers may want to look at this:

https://support.ancestry.com/s/article/How-Ancestry-Uses-AI-for-Member-Services?language=en_US

They also report that they are developing an "AI-Assistant" for future use.

https://support.ancestry.com/s/article/Ancestry-AI-Assistant?language=en_US

And I hope that some of our readers will experiment, and then write articles about how this is helping their research!

CSI INVESTIGATION: DONNA COFFEY:

By Fred Coffey

I enjoy trying to take minimal genealogical clues about “Coffey Cousins” and trying to turn them into a story for these newsletters. I like to think of myself as a “CSI” detective (Coffey Scene Investigator):

Tim Peterman and I are co-administrators of a DNA Project on FTDNA (Family Tree DNA). We recently got a notice from FTDNA that a new person had joined our “Coffey Project”, and her name was “Donna Coffey”. And she had joined via an autosomal DNA test result transferred from a different testing service. Who was this Donna Coffey, and how was she related to us “Coffey Cousins”?

FTDNA reported that Donna’s test result found 10,573 cousin matches! That’s an incredible number, but it’s actually quite common. By the time you look far enough back into shared ancestry, everybody has huge numbers of “cousins”.

FTDNA offers an option to tell me if any of Donna’s matched people reported a “Coffey” name. And they reported that they found 59 people out of the 10,573 matches who claimed they had a Coffey ancestor. And of those, 16 were actually named “Coffey”. I scanned down the list to see if I recognized any of the names. I immediately recognized that many of Donna’s matches were clearly “Edward Coffey” group. There was no question, Donna descends from Edward. But none of the “Edward line” matches I recognized were really all that close to Donna (like 2nd or 3rd cousins).

One very interesting match was close to ME, but not so close for Donna. She had a weak match to one “Dorothy Coffey Smith”. I know Dorothy very well! She is my father’s sister! More on this later.

I looked to see if Donna had uploaded her family tree to FTDNA. She had not (yet) done so, so I couldn’t look at her family details there.

I then turned to my huge database of Coffey Cousins Newsletters, to see if any newsletter had ever written about a likely “Donna Coffey”. There were several, but all of the ones I found were already deceased. THIS Donna had to be still alive!

Next, I thought maybe this Donna found us by READING our newsletters, so I look at my list of newsletter subscribers. And BINGO. There she was with the right name and email address! And I could see that she had first been listed there on August 21, 2023. And a look at my email from that date showed she had written me a note:

Donna: Hello, I would like to sign up for the Coffey Clearinghouse Newsletter if possible. My name is Donna Coffey.

Fred: No problem, I’ve added you to the list. You’ll get a notice as soon as the next newsletter is published.

Donna: Thank you. I realized after the fact that I didn't mention my relation. **Cordie** and **Tom Coffey** are my grandparents. They were first cousins. Pawpaw Toms parents are **William Carlton Coffey** and **Bessie Townsend Coffey**. Mawmaw Cordie's parents are **Thomas Newton Coffey** and Ella **Mae Loudermilk Coffey**.

Fred: Ah, names! And I know how to find ALL of those names in Jack Coffee’s ECP (Edward Coffey Project). Here’s a link to Jack’s ECP:

<http://www.coffey.ws/familytree/ECP2020Lite/b12202.htm#P12202>

This link will drop you into the middle of the ECP, pointed to the page for **Tom** Coffey and his wife **Cordie**. (The ECP reports "Tom" as "George Thomas "Pig Tom" Coffey".) You can page up and down from there and read everything that Jack Coffee wrote about this family. Click on a blue name at the top of any page to jump to the person's parent. Or you can scroll down to find his children.

Scrolling down from George, "Pig Tom" identifies that he had a son Delbert Coffey who was born in 1939 in Yadkin Valley, Caldwell Co., NC. And Donna identifies that George is her grandfather. Therefore "Delbert" must be Donna's father!

Donna: I don't know "Delbert" – my father's name was "Donald"!

Fred: That is indeed your father, "Donald". A careful reading of Jack's footnotes explain that he found the name "Delbert" in an obscure public document I never heard of, and it was probably a hand-written source with a nearly unreadable name. Jack did the best he could.

More useful, Jack published your aunt Carrie's obituary. She died 26 Dec 2019. Jack was careful not to publish private information on living people, but a published obituary was a public document and fair game. If you read the obit carefully, it names Carrie's four brothers as Ray, Charles, Bill and Donnie. Your father is of course Donnie. This was enough to complete the following table, showing Donna's Coffey ancestry!

- (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) Reuben Coffey (7 Mar 1742 - 1825) & Sarah Scott (ca 1750 - Oct 1837)
- (4) Jesse Coffey (ca 1775 - ca 1840) & Margaret Edmisten
- (5) Cleveland Coffey* (ca 1810 - Apr 1862) & Susan Hayes (abt 1800 - 1839)
- (5) Cleveland Coffey* (ca 1810 - Apr 1862) & Mary Ann Miles (ca 1823 -)
- (6) Jesse (Cleveland?) Coffey (May 1859 - 31 Jan 1941) & Lucinda Louise Coffey (3 May 1857 - 3 Jul 1933)
- (7) **William Carlton** Coffey (1 Mar 1880 - 30 Nov 1957) & **Bessie Mae Townsend** (22 Jan 1890 - 26 Dec 1956)
- (8) **George Thomas** Coffey (29 Aug 1917 - 3 Jan 2007) & (8) **Cordelia** Viola Coffey (13 Aug 1920 - 6 Jan 1983)
- (9) Delbert (Donald) Coffey (1939 -)
- (10) **Donna Coffey**
- (7) **Thomas Newton** Coffey (16 May 1890 - 28 Apr 1940) & **Ella Mae Loudermilk** (Oct 1891 - 11 Feb 1975)
- (8) **Cordelia** Viola Coffey (13 Aug 1920 - 6 Jan 1983) & (8) **George Thomas** Coffey (29 Aug 1917 - 3 Jan 2007)
- (9) Delbert (Donald) Coffey (1939 -)
- (10) **Donna Coffey**

And with this many names and dates, it was time to see if Donna might have posted a public tree on Ancestry.com. I searched Ancestry for Thomas Newton Coffey, and found him listed in 240 public member trees. And within a few minutes I found that one of those trees was owned by Donna Coffey! Her tree was solidly researched, and I could see no fault with it. (Well, she did say that her (4) Jesse was born "about 1780", and Jack Coffee said "about 1775", but neither cited any solid evidence.) Here's the link to Donna's tree:

<https://www.ancestry.com/family-tree/person/tree/69846962/person/242390661659/facts>

Donna, your Ancestry page also shows there are four brothers, but it also is a public document and therefore doesn't show names or dates because the men are living.

Donna: I am super interested in the Coffey line I just have not had the time lately to get on and update things. My 3 year old twins keep us busy. Lol.

I actually had not found Jack's ECP. That was very cool to see!

Here's a picture, In the middle is "Pig Tom" my grandfather. I knew him as "Little PawPaw". Not because he was short because he most definitely was not. I remember him being very tall and lanky and ALWAYS in overhauls. He was buried in his bibs. The pallbearers all wore bibs during his funeral. He was a very sweet soul. He was a hard worker. His hogs were his life and he took very good care of all the animals that were on his land. The land itself is/was a testament of him. It's so peaceful.



In this picture, from left to right is my father Donald Coffey, my uncle Charles Coffey, my grandfather Tom Coffey, My Aunt Carrie Coffey, and on the end is my uncle Bill Coffey.

Fred: Now I know Donna's family tree well enough to comment on the significance of her Autosomal DNA test:

As I said, she has a match to my father's sister, Dorothy Coffey Smith. FTDNA said that Dorothy and Donna matched only on a tiny 9 cM segment of DNA, and that suggested they had a "fourth cousin to remote" relationship. And Jack Coffee's massive database reveals they are actually 7C1R (seventh cousins, once removed). Yes, they are quite distant!

I then scanned down her list of closest matches, looking for the closest Edward descendant I could find. I was actually surprised to find one at level #13 – there are only 12 tested people on FTDNA who are closer to her! "Max Terry Coffey" matched her on an 81 cM segment and was identified as a "2nd – 4th cousin.". I know Max, and we wrote a bit about him in Newsletter #151-16. Max's actual relationship to Donna's "2*7C+2*7C1R" (double seventh cousin plus double seventh cousin once removed). Both Max and Donna had marriages of cousins in their ancestry, and that quadruples the amount of DNA that is being passed on. That plus random luck made them look more like a "second to fourth cousin".

And then there's ME! Hi Donna, you are my 7C1R! Welcome to the family. And no, I haven't learned anything about your family you didn't already know. The fun was in the search!"

Donna: It is amazing to meet new family!

ANCESTORS OF BILLY W COFFEY:

By Fred Coffey

I received the following note from Billy Coffey:

Billy: *I am Billy W. Coffey son of Marvin Wayne Coffey. I was looking through the various newsletters and seen my name in 2 issues concerning DNA. I noted that my dad's death year is not shown. I also have my grandfather Cleveland and g grand father Benjiman birth and death*

dates. If you desire any of my info advise me and I can forward it to you. I am on Ancestry "Billy Coffey and Beyond". My birth year 14 October 1953 in Centerville, Iowa. I was raised in Creston, Iowa. Entered the US Navy in JUN 1973 and retired in JUN 1993. I currently live in South Carolina where I have lived most of my adult life.

Fred: Hi Billy, I'm glad to hear you are reading our newsletters, and comparing what you found in the Newsletters about your family. But you won't find much by reading the newsletters. That's because nobody has yet written much there about your family. But we have much better information sources I can tell you about!

And I actually already know some things about your family. Your father, Marvin Wayne Coffey, was born in Humeston, IA, in 1918. And my father, Leo Coffey, was born there a bit earlier in 1901. They would have absolutely known each other as they were growing up. They are actually double second cousins!

I can point to a lot of good sources of information, if you are interested?

Billy: Any links or info would be appreciated. How would I go about getting the Newsletters?

Fred: From now on you will get an email notification every time a new newsletter is published. And all the newsletters ever published are available at this link:

www.coffey.ws/familytree/CoffeyRoadmap.html

Just scroll down to "Newsletter Discussion", and it will explain how to find any newsletter, and how to search through every one of the 2300 pages to find any reference that interests you. And once you know which newsletter you want to see, just click on the word **Newsletters**, and a table listing all 170 newsletters will appear. Just click on the one you want.

But there's another search tool that can go into great depth about your family. A researcher named "Jack Coffee", created a project called the ECP (Edward Coffey Project). *The ECP contains 49882 people, 17564 families, 118458 events, 8072 places, 2561 sources, 62091 citations and 14534 multimedia items. It also contains over 20000 other documents and photographs.* A quick shortcut to the page for your ancestor Marvin is to click on this link:

<http://www.coffey.ws/familytree/ECP2020Lite/b6464.htm#P6464>

Marvin's name will be at the top of this page, and you can read all about him. And if you click on his name, it will jump to a new page for his father "Cleveland". And then on up from there. I went through that process for your family and for mine, and here's a summary:

- (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) & Mary Coffey (7 Dec 1782 -)
- (5) Newton Eli Coffey (2 May 1827 - 14 Jan 1890) & Martha Louise Vermillion (4 May 1827 - 27 Mar 1904)
- (6) Benjamin Coe Coffey (24 Nov 1845 - 16 May 1927) & Lucy Barbre (5 May 1846 - 30 Dec 1887)
- (7) Cleveland Cleophus Coffey (7 Jan 1874 - 3 Feb 1958) & Estella Mae Inman (18 Aug 1878 - 26 Oct 1948)
- (8) Marvin Wayne Coffey (28 Jun 1918 - 12 Jun 1996) & Bernita Elnora Allen (30 Aug 1919 - 27 Aug 2008)
- (9) Billy W Coffey
- (6) William Coffey (27 Oct 1848 - 16 Mar 1896) & Malcena Barbre (28 Mar 1855 - 12 May 1920)
- (7) Newton Coffey (23 Sep 1875 - 26 May 1969) & Adelia Gertrude Robinson (12 Sep 1878 - 16 Jan 1973)
- (8) Leo Newton Coffey (22 Jul 1901 - 26 Oct 1998) & Elsie Maureen Walker (20 Nov 1903 - 12 Mar 1983)
- (9) Leo Frederick Coffey

The interesting thing is that your great-grandfather (6) Benjamin married Lucy Barbre. And my great-grandfather (6) William was Ben's brother, and he married Lucy's sister Malcena Barbre. That made your grandfather (7) Cleveland, and my grandfather (7) Newton, "double cousins". Your father and my father are double second cousins. And therefore, you and I are double third cousins. Got that!?

Finally, you will recall that Tim Peterman arranged for you to get a DNA test known as "Big-Y". This has been very valuable to our Coffey/Coffee family studies. We wrote about this in Newsletter #167, pages 11 through 14. For a quick way in, click on this word [Newsletters](#), and choose issue #167. Your name will appear on page 12, as part of Block 3. You and I are in haplogroup "R-Y52536", discussed on page 13.

By the way, I found your page "Billy Coffey and Beyond" on Ancestry. Your information looks quite good back as far as (3) Salathiel. But beyond that your tree makes some "early generation" mistakes that have been found to be wrong. Go to the "Roadmap" link above and scroll down to the topic "EDWARD COFFEY: EARLY GENERATION ISSUES" for discussion. You are making the same mistakes that I went through when I started working on Coffey genealogy. The "ECP" has corrected those issues.

LOOKING FOR LIZZIE COFFEY WHO MARRIED J.J. COOK:

By Fred Coffey

From David Peterson: Hi Fred,

Diana Coffey Holder suggested I contact you. I am helping my cousins research their Cook/Coffey lines. I am looking for Lizzie Coffey who married Jasper Jordan (J.J.) Cook. She was the daughter of Fielding Coffey and Mary Ann Wheat. She was born about 1867 in Russell County, Kentucky. I am looking for any ancestors or descendants. There appears to be very few records for this family. I found their marriage record and her in the 1870 & 1880 census, that is about it. We have found DNA ties to support the relationship, where the records are missing. Dave

Fred: The Family Story:

Hi Dave, you and I went around and around discussing your family and sorting out problems. I'll go over some of our complications shortly, but let me first summarize the family story:

A bit of background: We have a huge number of "Coffey Cousins" living in the area around Russell County, KY. One consequence was that all of your neighbors tended to be "Coffey" and related to each other. Where were you going to find someone to marry? A lot of people ended up marrying their cousins, which creates some interesting genealogy!

Second, the Coffey family was highly divided by slavery and the Civil War. Some of the cousins decided to leave Kentucky and move to Illinois and support Abe Lincoln. Others stayed in Kentucky and named children after Confederate heroes. But they were all still "family" and likely stayed in touch for years after the war. And this story moves back and forth between Kentucky and Illinois.

And a big complication is that Mary Ann Wheat was first married to Anderson Coffey and gave birth to a son Cyrus Christopher Coffey. Anderson died, and Mary Ann remarried to Fielding Coffey. They had children, including a daughter Lizzie. So Lizzie had a half-brother Cyrus. Diana Coffey Holder descends from Cyrus, and your research line descend from Lizzie. A complicated genealogy!

When Lizzie grew up, she married J.J. Cook. And J.J. would have of course gotten to know Lizzie's mother Mary Ann and Lizzie's half-brother. J.J. and Lizzie had three children – Andrew (1888),

William (1892) and Zula (1893). (The three kids were born in Tennessee. But that's just across the border from KY and it is apparent they lived there.)

But then Lizzie died. J.J. was left with custody of 3 very small children, with the youngest still an infant. J.J. turned to his family to help raise the kids. We know the baby Zula ended up in the household of J.J.'s brother, James Baylor Cook.

And we know that J.J. moved to Montgomery County, Illinois, no later than 1894. So did his mother-in-law Mary Ann, and many others in the Coffey family, all by about the same time. Among those present in Illinois in the 1900 census is Lizzie's half-brother Cyrus, who is married and has 6 sons and one daughter. So J.J. is with his deceased wife's family in Illinois.

By 1894 J.J. had found Blanche Merifield. She was pregnant by year end 1894, and J.J. married Blanche in early 1895 in Montgomery. Their child Cecil was born January 1895.

We don't know exactly what happened in their marriage, but by the time of the 1900 census Blanche was back living with her parents in Christian County, and reporting she was a widow.

It appears possible that J.J. abandoned Blanche, and promptly married Ella Wood on 10 May 1897. Blanche decided, for the 1900 census, that claiming she was a "widow with a child" was the easiest explanation of why a young woman and her child were living with her parents.

A bit of trivia: Out of curiosity, I asked my computer to tell me how I (Fred) was related to Lizzie's half-brother Cyrus. Cyrus has four paths back to Edward because of cousin marriages. I have two paths back because of cousin marriages. Cyrus and I are therefore 6*4C2R (sextuple fourth cousins twice removed)!

Fred: The Complications

Hi David, your search sounded interesting, and I thought I could help. I often write articles for our Newsletters, and that is what this note will become. I'm going to lead you through a search -- thinking it might be useful for other readers. Here is what we dug up:

First, we do have a massive collection of Coffey information. You might want to visit this link and see what we have!

<http://www.coffey.ws/familytree/CoffeyRoadmap.html>

The above link will give you access to several thousand pages of the historic newsletters. The above "Roadmap" can search for names in every one of the historic newsletters. Some 2300 pages! I searched for any quick references for a "Lizzie Coffee" who married a "Cook", and quickly found this reference in Newsletter #73, page 4, published in December 1998:

"Judy K. Dye says that she has very little data on her "Coffee" line. She has several census records ordered so hopefully will have more soon and will let us know what she has found, but if anyone can recognize her Lizzie Coffee who married Jordan Cook and is the mother of Zula Cook and William Claude Cook, born 15 May 1892, Somerset, Pulaski, KY. William died 6 Jan 1960 Oklahoma City, OK. He married Mary Bessie Egbert on 12 Feb 1923 in St. Louis, MO."

This gives me several more names related to the Lizzie who married a Cook. I used this data to do an Ancestry.com search to try to find any genealogies with more details. There were many,

and I found one that was extremely interesting. The following link is to the Ancestry page of Diana Coffey Holder, who suggested you contact me!

<https://www.ancestry.com/family-tree/person/tree/13939879/person/252077297678/facts>

Looking over Diana's page, I saw that she (or someone) had found the certificate for the Marriage of Elizza B Coffey to Jasper J Cook. They were married 5 Apr 1883 in Russell County, KY, when Elizza was age 16. That info is important for the next part of my discussion:

One of our major historical researchers, Jack Coffee, did a massive study on the Edward line. He called it the Edward Coffey Project (ECP). The above "roadmap" link tells you how to search for any name in the ECP, and I can quickly find the page for Fielding Coffey. Here's the link to Fielding's page:

<http://www.coffey.ws/familytree/ECP2020Lite/b4238.htm#P4238>

You may want to go to this link and read what is shown there. Note that it shows Elizabeth (Lizzie) in black font, indicating the Jack could not find any detailed information on her. All he knew was that she was present in the Russell census in 1880, and he could not find where she went from there. But Diana reported Lizzie's marriage certificate to Jasper Cook was recorded with a marriage date of 5 Apr 1883. If Jack had found that document, he would have known exactly what happened to Lizzie, and would have changed his report.

Also notice that the name after Lizzie is Thomas R. Coffey. Click on that and review the page that pops up: You'll see that Thomas was twice married, and his first marriage was to "Sadie" (birth name Canzada) Cook. And if Jack had learned about Jasper Cook, he would have promptly figured out that Sadie was the sister of Jasper! That is also very important in understanding this family.

Jack reported that Thomas and Sadie had children "Della" and Etta". Sadie died, and Thomas re-married to Prudence Jennings on 2 Jun 1897. Jack looked at census reports, and concluded that children Cordella, Rosetta, and Bessie were all daughters of Prudence. He missed the fact that the first two were born before Thomas married Prudence. Oops!

So his daughters by Sadie were Cordella(Della) and Rosetta(Etta).

And when two siblings from one family marry two siblings from a different family their children are "double first cousins". Picking two of the "double cousin" descendants, here is how Zula Cook and Rosetta Coffey descend from Edward:

- (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) Nebuzaraden Coffey (1757 - 1797) & Elizabeth Hayes (1760 - 1830)
- (4) Fielding M. Coffey (ca 1777 - BET NOV 1833 AND JAN 1834) & Celia Coffey (ca 1777 -)
- (5) Fielding Coffey (16 Sep 1813 - 23 Jun 1888) & Mary Ann Wheat (ca 1835 - 29 Jun 1891)
- (6) Elizabeth A. Coffey (8 Sep 1867 -) & Jasper J Cook (abt 1863 - bef 1910)
- (7) Zula M Cook (4 Feb 1893 - 21 Jun 1971)
- (6) Thomas R. Coffey (20 Jan 1870 - 29 Nov 1944) & Canzada C Cook (1872 - 1896)
- (7) Rosetta Coffey (Jul 1893 - 21 Jan 1980)

And here is how Zula and Rosetta descend from Cook ancestors:

- (1) Andrew J Cook (abt 1835 - bef 1900) & Sarah Wood (abt 1843 - aft 1920)
- (2) Canzada C Cook (1872 - 1896) & Thomas R. Coffey (20 Jan 1870 - 29 Nov 1944)
- (3) Rosetta Coffey (Jul 1893 - 21 Jan 1980)
- (2) Jasper J Cook (abt 1863 - bef 1910) & Elizabeth A. Coffey (8 Sep 1867 -)

(3) Zula M Cook (4 Feb 1893 - 21 Jun 1971)

I wondered if we could begin to pin down the date of Lizzie's death. We know that J.J. re-married to Blanche Merifield in 1895 in Montgomery, IL. So Lizzie must have died before then. And we know their youngest daughter Zula was born 4 Feb 1893, So Lizzie must have been alive on that date.

I decided to try to learn what happened to Zula. That's an unusual name, so I tried searching for that name in the census. And I found her in the 1910 census, living in Walker County, Alabama, in the household of Bayler Cook, his wife Sallie Cook, and their son Orbie Cook. She was age 16 and identified as Bayler's **niece**.

That made sense. When her mother Lizzie died, her father Jasper was faced with the impossible task to raise an infant daughter by himself. He probably placed his new daughter into the care of Coffey or Cook relatives.

For what it's worth, the Ancestry.com link for James Baylor Cook is here.

<https://www.ancestry.com/family-tree/person/tree/23461490/person/382269001739/facts>

Memo only: I have seen some references that assume Lizzie was the subject of a Probate document that was published on 5 Apr 1897, assuming this was associated with the death of Lizzie. This is not a fit to our Lizzie. On inspection, this is clearly related to the death of Eliza J Coffey, who is the husband of Logan C Coffey. She died 2 Mar 1897 in Russell County, KY. Logan and Eliza are discussed on this ECP page:

<http://www.coffey.ws/familytree/ECP2020Lite/b14863.htm#P14863>

Fred: About Blanche Merifield

J.J. Cook's second marriage was to Blanche Merifield. Census records suggest Blanche may have sometimes been "dishonest" about the full nature of her marriage to JJ.

SSDI (Social Security Death Index) says Blanche was born 20 Mar 1878, died Apr 1939. Father was John A Merrifield, Mother was Hester J Lockard. I believe that is correct.

But a Marriage Record says Blanche married J. J. Cook in 1895 at age 18. (If the SSDI is correct she would not have reached age 18 until 1896. Google tells me that "Illinois marriage age requirements are set at 18 for couples without parental consent", so Blanche felt that she had to claim to be age 18+.

She appears in the 1900 census for Christian County, IL. In the household of her father, John Merrifield. That census says she was born March 1877, consistent with what she claimed when married. Her son Cecil is reported as born January 1895. But the most interesting thing is that in 1900 she says her Marital Status is "Widowed"!

There is a record of her marriage to **Montie L. Pollock** (Feb 1880 – 23 Dec 1913) in De Witt, IL. Her name for that marriage was reported as Blanche W. Merrifield Cook.

She appears in the 1910 census for Vermillion County, IL. She is in the household of Mont M Pollock with the name Blanche W Pollock, THIS census says she was born in 1878. (This is consistent with the SSDI, which suggests she has discontinued reporting 1877 as her probably false earlier reports.) They have been married 5 years, suggesting a marriage in 1905. The family includes Charles C Cook, John A Merrifield, Hester Jane Merrifield, and James N Merrifield. These are Blanche's son, father, mother, and brother.

Her second husband Montie Pollock died 23 Dec 1913 in Peoria, IL.

Her son Charles Cecil Cook died 17 May 1915. He was struck by a train and instantly killed.

I looked for Blanche in the 1920 census but had no success.

Fred: About Lizzie's Half Brother Cyrus

Mary Ann Wheat was first married to "Anderson Coffey", who descended from Edward by a different route, as follows. Her son "Cyrus" would be a half-brother of Elizabeth. Here is the ECP link to Anderson:

<http://www.coffey.ws/familytree/ECP2020Lite/b4222.htm#P4222>

Cyrus and his family were found in the 1900 census and would be included as a Montgomery County Coffey. Here is the descent from Edward for Cyrus and family:

- (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)
- (5) James Coffey (1800 - BET MAR 2 AND 20 MAR 1857) & (5) Mahala Coffey (ca 1803 -)
- (6) Anderson H. (Hayes of Hardin?) Coffey (1829 -) & Mary Ann Wheat (ca 1835 - 29 Jun 1891)
- (7) Cyrus Christopher Coffey (27 May 1854 - 10 Mar 1928) & Parthenia Emiline Wheat (ca 1857 -)
- (8) Leolie Coffey (ca 1879 -)
- (8) William A. Coffey (Aug 1882 - 1960) & Emma Mae Redman (1884 - 1960)
- (8) Lillie M. Coffey (Apr 1883 -) & Charles M. Bragg (22 Apr 1886 - 25 Sep 1961)
- (8) Ramon Richard Coffey (1 May 1885 - 10 Jul 1946) & Lola Montez Long (1892 - 1986)
- (8) Arthur Reed Coffey (17 Jul 1888 - 1 Jun 1972) & Edna Anastatia Dailey (17 Jul 1907 - 25 Sep 1993)
- (9) Arthur Robert Coffey (17 Jul 1939 -) & Elieen Aldridge (16 Jul 1942 -)
- (10) **Diana Coffey** & Bill **Holder**
- (8) Junis (?) R. Coffey (Jul 1894 -)
- (8) Cyrus Robert Coffey (10 Sep 1897 - 29 Oct 1906)
- (8) Roy C. Coffey (10 Sep 1897 -) & Ruth Enos (ca 1896 -)
- (2) Edward Coffey JR. (ca 1701 - aft 1774) & Unknown???
- (3) Joel Coffey (1727 - BET 27 APR 1789 AND 27 JUL 1789) & Martha Stepp (Sealey?)
- (4) Celia Coffey (ca 1777 -) & (4) Fielding M. Coffey (ca 1777 - BET NOV 1833 AND JAN 1834)
- (5) Mahala Coffey (ca 1803 -) & (5) James Coffey (1800 - BET MAR 2 AND 20 MAR 1857)
- (6) Anderson H. (Hayes of Hardin?) Coffey (1829 -) & Mary Ann Wheat (ca 1835 - 29 Jun 1891)
- (7) Cyrus Christopher Coffey (27 May 1854 - 10 Mar 1928) & Parthenia Emiline Wheat (ca 1857 -)
- (EIGHT CHILDREN)
- (3) Nebuzaraden Coffey (1757 - 1797) & Elizabeth Hayes (1760 - 1830)
- (4) Fielding M. Coffey (ca 1777 - BET NOV 1833 AND JAN 1834) & (4) Celia Coffey (ca 1777 -)
- (5) Mahala Coffey (ca 1803 -) & (5) James Coffey (1800 - BET MAR 2 AND 20 MAR 1857)
- (6) Anderson H. (Hayes of Hardin?) Coffey (1829 -) & Mary Ann Wheat (ca 1835 - 29 Jun 1891)
- (7) Cyrus Christopher Coffey (27 May 1854 - 10 Mar 1928) & Parthenia Emiline Wheat (ca 1857 -)
- (EIGHT CHILDREN)
- (4) Joel Coffey (1774 - 1822) & (4) Jane Coffey (ca 1774 -)
- (5) James Coffey (1800 - BET MAR 2 AND 20 MAR 1857) & (5) Mahala Coffey (ca 1803 -)
- (6) Anderson H. (Hayes of Hardin?) Coffey (1829 -) & Mary Ann Wheat (ca 1835 - 29 Jun 1891)
- (7) Cyrus Christopher Coffey (27 May 1854 - 10 Mar 1928) & Parthenia Emiline Wheat (ca 1857 -)
- (EIGHT CHILDREN)

ALAN DALE COFFEE'S BIG-Y MATCH TO JAMES SULLIVAN:

By Fred Coffey

In Newsletter 168-8,12 I wrote an extensive article about Alan Dale Coffee, recognizing that he had done a Big-Y test. That test showed that his paternal line was not "Coffey", it was "Sullivan". He was raised by a well-known Coffee family. We did not know how the Sullivan DNA was acquired. Perhaps there was an adoption of a male from a Sullivan family, or a relationship between a Sullivan male and a female connected to the Coffee family?

We were not able to determine exactly where in Alan's ancestry the Sullivan DNA was acquired. But given other DNA tests we were able to narrow the possibilities down to these six men:

- (5) Joel William Coffee (15 Apr 1826 - 13 Sep 1885) & Elizabeth Ann Moore (Apr 1833 -)
- (6) John Jeems Coffee (13 Mar 1851 - Jun 1924) & Martha Virginia Epperson (1849 - 1899)
- (7) Joel William L. Coffee (27 Dec 1874 - 20 Nov 1951) & Dessie Catherine Chester (15 Sep 1885 - 28 Aug 1956)
- (8) Hubert Denson Coffee (20 Apr 1905 - 18 Feb 1985) & Josephine (1907 - 1993)
- (9) Lawrence Douglas Coffee (30 May 1929 - 6 Dec 2012) & Margaret L. (1927 - 1994)
- (10) Alan Dale Coffee

Any one of these six could have been the first to have Sullivan DNA. That person would then have passed it down the line, and Alan would be the currently living recipient.

Alan's Big-y match was to a James P Sullivan, and we suggested he try to contact James for discussion. And I recently got this note from Judith Sullivan-Hoffman:

Judith: My name is Judith Sullivan-Hoffman, My dad is James Sullivan. I am writing to you let you know that I am the manager of my Dad's FTDNA Kit B71565. I was doing some "Google" searching and discovered you had written a Coffey-Cousins newsletter involving James. I "joined" James to your Coffey DNA Project, thus allowing you to view his Big-y results.

Fred: We knew that Alan Dale Coffee and James Sullivan were somehow related via their DNA match. But we had no information on how closely that might be related. What I particularly wanted to see was an autosomal "Family Finder" test on these two men, because that test is capable of identifying cousins, out to the third-cousin level and beyond. Now I can see FTDNA's autosomal test for both men.

Alan had 11,248 autosomal matches. And James had 9,762 matches. Such large numbers of matches are typical, because the test can identify matches out to 4th cousin and beyond. But there were NO matches between the two of them. They are absolutely more distant than "third cousin", and probably more distant than fourth cousins. This suggested they did NOT grow up in families interacting as neighbors.

Judith: I had long ago identified that James belonged to a Haplogroup known as R-FT43021. There is a "Sullivan" DNA project on FTDNA, with 803 members. I am a co-admin on that Sullivan/O'Sullivan FTDNA surname group.

Within that there were quite a few sub-groups that belonged to R-FT43021. That broke down into further sub-groups, and I was surprised when my James appeared with a good match to a Coffee, and the two men were together in a new 2-person sub-group "R-FT457554".

Fred: I see that R-FT43021 is relatively common, with approximately 75 tested persons with a MRCA (Most Recent Common Ancestor) going back to about 1050 CE (Christian Era, otherwise noted as "1050 AD"). James and Alan's "R-FT457554" may go back as far as 1100 CE. So we have no reason to believe their MRCA ever lived within the USA.

Judith: I am also the creator and admin for the Sullivan/"O'Sullivan GEDmatch Ancestor Project on GEDmatch.com. I also created and run the Facebook group Sullivan O'Sullivan DNA and Genealogy, which correlates with the Sullivan/O'Sullivan Ancestor Project on GEDmatch. Do you know if Alan has a GEDmatch number? If Alan does have a GEDmatch, may I get the number, so I can run some tests and maybe find Sullivan ancestors of his if possible. If Alan does not have a GEDmatch number, may I suggest GEDmatch.com to Alan or whoever manages Alan's DNA?

Fred: I have used GEDmatch a few times, but have gotten only limited benefit, particularly for "Coffey" matches. Our "Coffey Cousins Clearinghouse" has a really huge database of Coffey information, covering a multitude of quite-unrelated lines with the Coffee/Coffey name. However in this case it might be worthwhile to put Alan's info on there. Partly this is because we know his family has had a past contact with a "Sullivan" family in the years since about 1825. If that Sullivan family is on GEDmatch, we might get a hit. So I would encourage Alan to put his info out there. I can help him do that.

So far all we really know so far is that Alan had a "Sullivan" ancestor, and one of these six men had to be the one with the Sullivan contact:

- (5) Joel William Coffee (15 Apr 1826 - 13 Sep 1885) & Elizabeth Ann Moore (Apr 1833 -) (**7 SONS**)
- (6) John Jeems Coffee (13 Mar 1851 - Jun 1924) & Martha Virginia Epperson (1849 - 1899)) (**6 SONS**)
- (7) Joel William L. Coffee (27 Dec 1874 - 20 Nov 1951) & Dessie Catherine Chester (15 Sep 1885 - 28 Aug 1956)) (**5 SONS**)
- (8) Hubert Denson Coffee (20 Apr 1905 - 18 Feb 1985) & Josephine (1907 - 1993)) (**4 SONS**)
- (9) Lawrence Douglas Coffee (30 May 1929 - 6 Dec 2012) & Margaret L. (1927 - 1994)
- (10) Alan Dale Coffee

If we knew which of these men had the actual contact, we would know where to focus our search. And if we had a y-DNA test on each of these men, we would know exactly where to focus. Any current STR test can distinguish between a Coffey and a Sullivan, and FTDNA currently sells the 37-marker test for \$119.

We obviously can't actually test any of the first 5 men above, since they are all deceased. But y-DNA is reliably handed down from father to son, just like the Coffey surname. So if we could find a living male Coffee-surname descendant of any of these men that would suffice. Do we have the means to find such a descendant?) The above table flags **in red** that the first four men each have multiple sons, so there is a very high probability there are multiple grandsons and great-grandsons that might be available for testing.

Much of our data comes from Jack Coffee's ECP (Edward Coffey Project) which thoroughly researched the Coffee/ey families in Alan's ancestry. However we now have data sources that did not exist for Jack – such as "Find-a-Grave for people who had not yet died when Jack was working! So we now have options to advance Jack's work. Here is a tabulation of male Coffee/ey men that might be of interest:

Alan has two uncles, Herschel and Cletus Coffee, and either would be an excellent choice for a y-DNA test. If that tested as "Coffey" then all the persons above Alan and his father are eliminated.

- (1) Joel William Coffee (15 Apr 1826 - 13 Sep 1885) & Elizabeth Ann Moore (Apr 1833 -)
- (2) John Jeems Coffee (13 Mar 1851 - Jun 1924) & Martha Virginia Epperson (1849 - 1899)
- (3) Joel William L. Coffee (27 Dec 1874 - 20 Nov 1951) & Dessie Catherine Chester (15 Sep 1885 - 28 Aug 1956)
- (4) James J. Coffee (28 Apr 1901 - 9 Feb 1920)

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- (4) Willis Corbin Coffee (13 Jun 1903 - 22 Mar 1954) & Lillie Smith (23 Feb 1903 - 29 Sep 1989)
 - (5) Hardin Harvey Coffee (ca 1926 -)
 - (5) Willis C. Coffee Jr. (ca 1930 -)
 - (5) Kenneth Coffee (ca 1933 -)
 - (5) Cecil Coffee (ca 1936 -)
- (4) Wilburn O. Coffee (13 Jul 1903 - 9 Nov 1975) & Annie Sue Muncrief (10 Jul 1907 - 4 Mar 1937)
 - (5) Wilburn O. Coffee Jr. (18 Jun 1930 - 28 Mar 1998) & Venita Chaney
 - (5) Willie Lee Coffee (7 May 1933 - 25 Aug 2008)
- (4) Hubert Denson Coffee (20 Apr 1905 - 18 Feb 1985) & Josephine Evans (1907 - 1993)
 - (5) William Farrell Coffee (ca 1925 -)
 - (5) Lawrence Douglas Coffee (30 May 1929 - 6 Dec 2012) & Margaret L. (1927 - 1994)
- (6) Alan Dale Coffee**
- (5) Herschel Denson Coffee (30 Nov 1931 - 13 Aug 2019) & Virginia Simpson (1930 - 1986) [\(SEE FAG 202126070\)](#)
- (6) James Marvin Coffee (- died bef 2019)
 - (7) ???????
- (6) Kenneth Ray Coffee (- died bef 2019)
 - (7) ???????
- (6) Leonard Coffee
- (5) Cletus J Coffee (9 Sep 1935 - 17 Jan 2013) & Barbara [\(I think there may be an obituary naming wife and children\)](#)
- (6) Michael Coffee
- (6) Joel Coffee
- (6) Patrick Coffee
- (4) Joel Leonard Coffee* (21 Nov 1919 - 10 Jun 2012) & Alice Ann McIntosh (ca 1927 -)
- (4) Joel Leonard Coffee* (21 Nov 1919 - 10 Jun 2012) & Allene Donoho (10 Jul 1924 - 16 Apr 2004)
- (3) John Denson Coffee (4 Mar 1877 - 19 Mar 1914)
- (3) James Arthur Coffee (Jun 1882 - 16 Jan 1961) & Julia Bell Griffin (7 Nov 1888 - 19 Apr 1964)
 - (4) Jay Arthur Coffee (30 Nov 1905 - 27 Jan 1984) & Ida Graham (27 Jul 1911 - 11 Jul 2005)
 - (5) Joe William Coffee (11 Aug 1943 - 17 Aug 2009) & Maxine Nichols
- (4) Otto Calvin Coffee (7 Dec 1911 - 13 May 1984)
- (4) Bynum Victor Coffee (5 Aug 1919 - 7 Jul 2002) & Gladys Ogle
- (4) John Richard Coffee (11 Jan 1927 - 26 Dec 1993) & Joann (29 May 1928 - 6 Nov 2009)
- (3) Oscar O. Coffee (Oct 1885 - 18 Oct 1967)
- (3) Buena Vista Coffee (22 Feb 1888 - 4 Dec 1959)
- (3) Rufus Moore Coffee (11 Oct 1892 - 8 Aug 1953) & Jessie Ola Griffin (29 Mar 1900 - 11 May 1979)
 - (4) Hubert Harley Coffee (28 Oct 1919 - 14 Jun 1922)
 - (4) Robert Dale Coffee (14 Jul 1924 - 7 Nov 1926)
 - (4) R. J. Coffee (ca 1934 - 10 Apr 1984)
- (2) Joel William Coffee (Feb 1855 -) & Frances E. Ray (Dec 1855 -)
 - (3) William Walter Coffey (29 Jan 1885 - 20 Sep 1962) & Rachel Wallis (14 Oct 1895 - Dec 1987)
 - (4) Woodrow Coffey (10 Jul 1917 - 30 May 1969)
 - (4) Charlie Leroy Coffey (17 Sep 1920 - 1 Mar 1945)
 - (4) John W. Coffey (18 Jan 1924 - 6 May 1985) & Lydia Mae Harding (20 Feb 1929 - 4 Oct 2012)
- (3) Robert J. Coffee (Dec 1886 -)
- (2) Daniel Webster Coffee (14 Feb 1858 - 24 Apr 1928) & Margaret Lee Ann Coates (5 Dec 1861 - 24 Jun 1928)
 - (3) James Franklin Coffee (15 Oct 1879 - Jan 1921) & Sarah Katherine Duncan (24 Aug 1889 - Jun 1967)
 - (3) Pat W. Coffee (Sep 1888 -)
 - (3) Frederic Dale Coffey (19 Jun 1893 -) & Mary Irene Norville (ca 1900 -)
 - (4) Haskel Coffey (ca 1922 -)
 - (4) Daniel N. Coffey (25 Jan 1924 - 7 Nov 2004) & Patsy Ruth Nunley (18 Dec 1928 - 24 Nov 2015)
 - (4) Jack Coffey (ca 1932 -)
 - (4) Jerry Coffey (ca 1940 -)
 - (3) Sanford Coffee (Dec 1899 -)
 - (3) Herbert S. Coffey (31 Dec 1900 - 3 Mar 1971) & Daisy Faulkner (4 Dec 1901 - 3 Jul 1999)
- (2) Joseph A. Coffee (ca 1864 -)
- (2) Harrison Coffee (ca 1867 -)

(2) Charles Coffee (ca 1869 -)

(2) Robert Richard Coffee (Apr 1872 -) & Julia A. (Jul 1876 -)

(3) Jesse Coffee (Jul 1897 -)

(3) Leonard W. Coffee (ca 1903 -) & Gusteva (ca 1915 -)

MEMO: Backup Notes from Judith:

By Judith Sullivan-Hoffman

The update looks good. Thank you for letting me read your update. I agree with what you are stating. I also did a check on the Family Finder and came to the same conclusion that we do not share any cousins in the present day/era or live in the same area and the common ancestor is around 1100 CE. I really need to get a brother and a paternal male cousin to test Y DNA but I have not found a willing participant yet. I am looking at Sullivan male cousins, hoping one will agree to test his big Y DNA.

I also find it interesting that the ancient connections on the "Discover Haplotypes Reports" to Dad and Alan's haplotype is to *Buckquoy 7B* 900 - 1000 CE, which at this time is approximately 100 to 200 years older than Dad and Alan's MCRA.

I am a co-admin on the Sullivan/O'Sullivan FTDNA surname group. I was brought into the Sullivan/O'Sullivan FTDNA Surname Group several years ago because I do the GEDmatch.com DNA Project.

I am the creator and admin for the Sullivan/"O'Sullivan GEDmatch Ancestor Project on GEDmatch com.

Project: Sullivan / O'Sullivan Ancestry

Total Users: 1450

Total Kits: 2193(gedmatch numbers)

I also created and run the Facebook group Sullivan O'Sullivan DNA and Genealogy, which correlates with the Sullivan/O'Sullivan Ancestor Project on GEDmatch. Do you know if Alan has a GEDmatch number? If Alan does have a GEDmatch, may I get the number, so I can run some tests and maybe find Sullivan ancestors of his if possible. If Alan does not have a GEDmatch number, may I suggest GEDmatch.com to Alan or whoever manages Alan's DNA?

You can share my email if you would like, my email is public.

Thank you again for looking into my Dad James and Alan's Y DNA results.

Judith

CHARLES COFFEY MYSTERY:

By Fred Coffey

I got a notice from FTDNA that a new member "Charles Coffey" had joined our Coffey DNA group. Charles had extensive DNA testing, including Big-Y. But his y-DNA tests did not match ANY of our many known Coffey groups. I started asking questions. I got a response from Charles' sister:

Mary Kate Coffey: Hi Fred! I am Charles' sister, and I am doing this family project. I think he reached out to you before, but I wanted to see if there was anything new that might connect us. We have an unknown paternal line and our father and grandfather

thought they were from the family named Coffey. The paper trail sends us to Our great grandfather who went by Coffey, Caffey, sometimes Cassey. His father might have been Andrew Jackson Coffey, Caffey, Cassey. Our great grandfather might have been from Bucks County PA. He lived in Hunterdon and Mercer Counties in NJ.

We would appreciate any insights! My thanks! Best, Mary Kate

Fred Coffey: Hi Mary Kate: I don't know that I have any insights. But you're not the first person with a mystery from Mercer County, NJ. For many years the **PRESIDENT** of the Coffey Cousins Clearinghouse was Larry Coffey. Larry traced his ancestry back to Mercer County, to a John Coffey. John was found in the 1860, 1870 and 1880 census. And he was without doubt of Irish ancestry.

Coffey is an Irish name, and I have information and DNA tests on a huge number of "Coffey". And there were indeed a lot of "Coffey" in New Jersey, who were likely fleeing from the Irish famine. But we never found a match to Larry. So we're used to seeing "Coffey" families with mysterious origins! We have a couple dozen unconnected lines, just like that of Larry, and your brother Charles. I'll ask our readers of this current newsletter to speak if they have any clever ideas on how to research your line!

INFORMATION RESOURCE LINKS:

We're 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 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. 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).

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.

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.