

Coffey Cousins' Clearinghouse

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Editor's Comments

Dear Cousins,

I have been thinking about the good times we used to have at our conventions. At the first convention in '82, we were all strangers, but that didn't last long. How good it made you feel if you could look something up in your state for a cousin or they to do the same for you. Then there are all the states that I would never have visited if it were not for our conventions. I do miss them!!

I found the section in this newsletter about AI very interesting. It could be useful but very dangerous as well. What an easy way to pick up all the errors and make them look like facts.... I don't think I will be using it much. If you do, be sure to correct and eliminate the undocumented junk before passing it on.

I want to welcome all the new researchers to the Coffey Cousins' Clearinghouse. Fred Coffey does such a good job of getting you off on the right foot with all that your Coffey Cousins have already found so you can pursue more. Be sure to share your new findings with us so future researchers can have the same jump start that you did.

We love to share!

Bonnie Culley

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Co-editor's Comments

Dear Cousins,

Home life is complicated right now. I had a fall and broke a tibia bone in my knee. That limits my movement until it heals. And we have a new puppy that demands attention and training. The dog and I keep my wife Jane busy.

This newsletter is longer than usual and working on it has been keeping me entertained and busy when I'm stuck in my chair. And I've already started drafting on newsletter "Issue 173" coming out in December. There are some "pending loose ends" in this current newsletter. that were not complete in time for inclusion here.

I hope to inspire some of the readers of this newsletter to submit articles for Newsletter #173. Or to raise interesting questions for future examination.

Best wishes to all!

Fred Coffey

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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 be contained on a 16-gb USB flash drive. That 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.

ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE FOR GENEALOGY:

By Fred Coffey

In the last newsletter, I wrote that Ancestry.com claimed they were beginning to use AI to support genealogy. I expressed a hope that some of our readers will experiment, and then write articles about how this is helping their research!

And I have now seen some efforts that appeared on Ancestry. Was it anything worthwhile? If you want to see an example, call up the “1900 US census for Granville S Coffey, living in Jackson, Decatur County, Indiana”. Here’s what the AI wrote:

Granville S Coffey

Based on information from the 1900 United States Federal Census

Granville S Coffey, a 58-year-old white male, was born in March 1842 in Indiana, USA. In 1900, he resided in Jackson, Decatur, Indiana, owning a mortgaged house. Granville was the head of his household, which consisted of his wife, Mary Coffey (56 years old), and their four children: Albert O Coffey (24 years old), Carrie Coffey (17 years old), Oscar L Coffey (13 years old), and two grandchildren, Estella M Coffey (12 years old) and Forest L Coffey (2 years old). Granville's occupation was that of a farmer, and he had not been unemployed for any significant period. He possessed the ability to read, write, and speak English. His father and mother were both born in North Carolina, USA. This data paints a picture of a hardworking and established family, with Granville as the provider and head of the household. Despite being in his late 50s, he continued to work as a farmer to support his family. The fact that he owned a mortgaged house suggests a level of financial stability. The presence of his wife, children, and grandchildren indicates a close-knit family unit, with multiple generations living together.

*Powered by AncestryAI **BETA** This feature is powered by an AI language model using only information from this record. Responses may be inaccurate.*

I’m sure all of our readers know how to read a US census report. What has this “Artificial Intelligence” contributed? All it has done is take the tabular data from that census entry and convert it into flowery language. I’m not convinced this is particularly useful!

What would it take for me to be really impressed? Our “Coffey Roadmap” application is a public document with many thousands of pages of Coffey information. A really “intelligent” AI might have absorbed this public database. And it might sort through it, plus other sources, and offer to expand the information about Granville Coffey to whatever level of detail the reader might ask for? That would impress me.

Maybe someday. (By the way, I found “Granville” while researching the next article.)

UPDATE ON GRANDVILLE COFFEY SEARCH BY JENNIFER (COFFEY) CHEN:

By Fred Coffey & Jennifer Chen

Back in CCC Issue 166-13 there was an article on Grandville Coffey, written by Jennifer Chen and I. Jennifer was searching for information about her family, and was searching for male line ancestors that might agree to a y-DNA test. She was hoping that this test might show “Sullivan” DNA, which would confirm her theory that her line might descend from the James Coffey, born

out of wedlock from Edward Coffey's daughter Annister, who had a relationship with a Sullivan. James' descendants would have Sullivan y-DNA.

Jennifer has been having trouble recruiting suitable male line descendants of James for testing. And has been having trouble persuading the ones she did find to do a y-DNA test. She is still making progress finding candidates, and still trying to persuade them to do the DNA test. She wrote:

I'm not sure what the issue is about the DNA tests. People seem to be getting wary about what the companies might do with their information. I have thought about asking if there is anyone that I can refer them to, if I can make contact, who might be able to address their concerns. Would that be you or someone else?

Read the next article for discussion.

DNA DATA: PROTECTIONS AND USES:

By Fred Coffey

Two possible issues quickly came to mind:

First, you may wonder if the information is kept private? Or is it made public? FTDNA indicates they will apply something called "General Data Protection Regulation", or GDPR, which gives you "The right to be forgotten"! Of interest is how FTDNA applies it. But there are some "special considerations" regarding how we apply the rule for our "Coffey Roadmap" application. Click on this link to read about GDPR and how we use it:

[GDPR](#)

The bottom line is that I often, provided I have the explicit permission of participants, include DNA discussion in the CCC Newsletters like the one you are now reading. I consider the newsletters to be public information. And once published, I cannot get them back. Some paper versions even end up in public libraries.

Second, People may be aware that DNA tests originally ordered for genealogical purposes are sometimes being used by law enforcement. And without clear understanding how this is being used, people may prefer to be cautious about ordering any DNA test.

What is "law enforcement" doing? Suppose they have a DNA sample from a criminal investigation (say for a "serial killer") but haven't been able to determine the name of that criminal. They will sometimes enter that DNA sample data into a genealogy site, like FTDNA or Ancestry, for an autosomal DNA test. Such tests typically identify thousands of matches, and sort them by the closeness of the match. They will rank those that look like first cousins, 2nd cousins, 3rd cousins, etc. Suppose that crime DNA sample comes back and identifies one or two people who are flagged as first or second cousins of the criminal. If they thus discover that the criminal is a close cousin to a known person, they have tremendously narrowed down the list of suspects for further investigation.

A hypothetical example: My own DNA is available, and I have more than 9000 autosomal matches on FTDNA. Barring a couple of speeding traffic tickets, I am a law-abiding person. But it could be that I might match a criminal at a close cousin level. There is absolutely no risk to me for having submitted a DNA sample for my genealogical purposes. But if I do indeed (Wow!!!) have a second cousin who is a serial killer, I would actually be quite pleased that the killer was

found out. I do not perceive any risk to myself. Hundreds of thousands of other individuals have reached the same conclusion.

Jennifer: Another fear I've heard of is that it will be used by insurance companies for information about one's genetic potential for illness. I have no idea if that's a real thing, or if anything could even be determined from genealogy-based DNA tests. Have you run across this?

Fred: Yes, the testing services sometimes offer advice about potential illness risks. "23&Me" in particular likes to focus on that option. My wife did that option on 23&Me, and I did it on FTDNA a few years ago. I believe such reports are something you have to ask for, so anybody who worries about such risk doesn't have to look, and if he does look he never has to reveal what he/she learned.

FYI, the illness risk test I did had no serious potential risks to report. However, it claimed I likely did have a limited ability to taste "bitter". Not a serious problem. When I mix a Manhattan cocktail for myself, I just add an extra dash of Angostura bitters!

I don't perceive any of the above to represent a risk to my wellbeing. And hundreds of thousands of other DNA tested persons obviously agree.

A “DAR/SAR” MYSTERY:

By Fred Coffey, Vada Love, and Tim Peterman

Fred: (I am writing the following as if it was a simple “conversation” even though that’s not how our analyses materialized. And my intent was to turn our discussion into an article for publication in this CCC Newsletter)

Let me start with two introductions. I have been exchanging notes with Samuel Byron Patterson and his sister Vada Love.

Vada: I am working on my potential DAR (Daughters of the American Revolution) application. I am the family genealogist! I believe I may be qualified for the DAR, and if so then my brother Byron would qualify for the SAR (Sons of the American Revolution). I have been working on this for several years.

My original DAR application was through my mother's lineage. That application was sent back with errors, and I was given 24 months to correct these things. In August I heard from the State Registrar that my mother, my sister, and my application was approved for membership in the Sarasota Florida Chapter. I am so excited!

When Fred & I started this conversation, I was also working on an application based on my “Coffey” lineage -- I do think we may also qualify through that Coffey connection.

DAR will accept y-DNA as supporting information, since that type of DNA strictly follows the male line. If you descend from someone who qualifies for DAR/SAR and have a y-DNA match to that qualified person, your eligibility is confirmed. As part of that process, I submitted my brother Byron’s DNA for a y-DNA test.

Fred: The editor of these newsletters, Bonnie Culley, is active with DAR. And the co-administrator of our DNA Project, Tim Peterman, is active with SAR. I copied an early draft issue of this Newsletter to Bonnie and Tim. (I’ve now included Tim as a co-author of this article.)

Your brother’s y-DNA result triggered matches to Edward Coffey descendants. There is absolutely no doubt, you and Byron are descendants of Edward. You already knew that, but I did not. My computer almost lit up when FTDNA began reporting hundreds of matches!

We had a telephone conversation about your brother’s y-DNA test. As discussed, you can click link [CCCReview2022](#) to learn about DNA testing background. Page 34 shows a table with people who have Edward Coffey y-DNA but have a non-Coffey name. Your “Patterson” name will add a new line on this page.

We worked together to work out the relevant genealogies. There are actually four paths back to Edward. Here are the first three:

Choice 1:

- (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) & Charity Patterson (2 Feb 1846 - 12 Oct 1926)
- (8) **Byron Patterson (2 May 1870 - 7 Jan 1930)**

(7) Cyrus Christopher Coffey* (27 May 1854 - 10 Mar 1928) & Parthenia Emiline Wheat (ca 1857 -)

Choice 2:

- (1) Edward Coffey
- (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) & Charity Patterson (2 Feb 1846 - 12 Oct 1926)
- (8) **Byron Patterson (2 May 1870 - 7 Jan 1930)**
- (7) Cyrus Christopher Coffey* (27 May 1854 - 10 Mar 1928) & Parthenia Emiline Wheat (ca 1857 -)

Choice 3:

- (1) Edward Coffey
- (2) Edward Coffey JR.
- (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) & Charity Patterson (2 Feb 1846 - 12 Oct 1926)
- (8) **Byron Patterson (2 May 1870 - 7 Jan 1930)**
- (7) Cyrus Christopher Coffey* (27 May 1854 - 10 Mar 1928) & Parthenia Emiline Wheat (ca 1857 -)

Normally the male line and the y-DNA would follow the first name of each of the above. But each of these three choices have a female in the line, highlighted in **GREEN**. Thus the y-DNA cannot follow the above paths.

Choice 4: This one is different. There are only males in the first position, so this is likely the path taken by the y-DNA:

- (1) Edward Coffey
- (2) Edward Coffey JR.
- (3) Nebuzaraden Coffey
- (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) & Charity Patterson (2 Feb 1846 - 12 Oct 1926)
- (8) **Byron Patterson (2 May 1870 - 7 Jan 1930) & Eliza J Kennedy (27 Nov 1882 - 8 May 1927)**
- (9) **Joseph Robinson Patterson (1 Mar 1918 - 31 Oct 1996)**
- (10) **Vada Patterson (Feb 1953 -) & Love**
- (10) **Samuel Byron Patterson (Abt 1957 -)**
- (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)
- (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 -)

And to complete the picture, I have shown how the two siblings (Vada & Byron) fit in and have shown the children of Cyrus and his later wife.



Vada **Patterson** Love, left, and Paul Booth hold proclamations from the city of Cincinnati honoring their fathers and civil rights pioneers **Joseph Robinson Patterson** and Rev. Dr. Lavaughn Venchael Booth, who were inducted into the Ohio Civil Rights Hall of Fame in 2023. PROVIDED

So, Cyrus Christopher Coffey (age 16) had a relationship with Charity Patterson (age 24), and they had a son Byron Patterson. Charity was of black ancestry.

Vada pointed me to a Newspaper with a picture of herself, and a bio of her father Joseph Robinson Patterson.

Joseph Robinson Patterson



Patterson

Patterson was a native of Lancaster, Kentucky before later moving to Cincinnati. **Patterson** was a community activist who played a key role in establishing the Cincinnati NAACP and the Congress on Racial Equality in Northern Kentucky. **Robinson** was one of nine students who sued the University of Kentucky for not allowing Black students to enroll.

The lawsuit led to a federal court ruling in 1949 forcing universities to admit Black students.

Patterson was also an educator for 32 years and wrote the curriculum for the University of Cincinnati course, "Psychology of Prejudice," which is still in use at UC today. **Patterson** died in 1996 at age 78.

The next question is "do they have a qualified "Coffey" DAR/SAR ancestor? And a distinct possibility is the above "(3) Nebuzaraden Coffey". This person is known to the "Edward Coffey Project" developed by Jack Coffee. Here is the ECP link, followed by Jack's full text:

<http://www.coffey.ws/familytree/ECP2020Lite/b2664.htm#P2664>

46. **Nebuzaraden Coffey**^{109,110} was born in 1757 in Albemarle Co., VA.

Birth year could have been earlier. If his son was the Joel who married Jane Coffey in Wilkes Co., NC on Aug. 22, 1793, then Nebuzaraden was born earlier than 1780.

First name could be Isaac as suggested in *Coffey Cousins'* newsletter of March 1997 by Donna McDonald of Calgary, Alberta, Canada. She also suggested that he was born in Wilkes Co., NC. Nebuzaraden resided in Wilkes Co., NC in 1790. He signed a will on 1 October 1796 in Madison Co., KY.^{111,112} Nebuzaraden died in Madison Co., KY in 1797. He had his estate probated in March 1797 in Madison Co., KY.¹¹³

Nebuzaraden and Elizabeth moved to Madison Co., KY about 1794 (by tradition; no records found dated prior to 1796) where he made a will.

Nebuzaraden was a private in the North Carolina militia during the Revolutionary War.

Children listed are according to his will, found in Madison Co. Will Book A. The will was made Oct. 1, 1796 and probated on Mar. 7, 1797.

"If his son Joel was the one that married Jane Coffey in Wilkes co., NC 22 Aug.1793 then Nebuzaraden must have married several years before 1780."

The DAR Magazine, bound as Volumes 43-45, page 197, dated July, 1913, printed a question from "W. H. L." about Rev. War service of any member of Nebuzaraden's family. The writer lists the children of Nebuzaraden and Betsey Hays [sic] as: Fielden, who married his cousin, Celia Coffey; Joel who married Jennie [sic] Coffey, sister of Celia Coffey; Salathiel, who married Anna Lynch; Polly, who married Joseph McDowell McMillan; Hays, who married Polly Burkett; Louis, who married Cassy Coffey, a distant cousin; Betsey, who married James Lester; Ananias, who married Polly Hindman. This DAR list omits Sarah who married James Coffey and adds Louis.

Nebuzaraden Coffey and Elizabeth Hayes¹¹⁴ were married circa 1770. By tradition. A marriage record has not been found. **Elizabeth Hayes** was born in 1760 in North Carolina.⁹⁶ Elizabeth died in 1830.⁹⁶

Vada: I have seen this discussion, including the “DAR Magazine” report. This doesn’t have specific reference sources that I could use as proof of service.

Fred: We have long known about uncertainties involving Nebuzaraden’s presumed Revolutionary War service. However, Neb did appear to have two brothers who WERE fully recognized for their service. Let me go back and review a long-standing uncertainty involving early generations of Edward Coffey, as described in our “Coffey Roadmap” application:

EDWARD COFFEY EARLY GENERATION ISSUES:

Many genealogies claim a “Chesley Coffey” as the ancestor of several early Coffeys:

Chesley Coffey Senior

Joel Coffey (1730? - 1789) and Martha Stepp (Sealey?) (4 y-DNA tests on descendants)

Salathiel Coffey (~1750 – 1784) & Elizabeth Gore (7 y-DNA tests on descendants)

Chesley Coffey Jr. (1755 – 1818) & Margaret Baldwin (2 y-DNA tests on descendants)

Nebuzaraden Coffey (1757 – 1797) & Elizabeth Hayes (3 y-DNA tests on descendants)

Nathan Coffey (1760 – 1823) & Mary Sanders

Martin Coffey (1765 – 1867) & three wives (3? 6? y-DNA tests on descendants)

Jesse Cleveland Coffey (2 y-DNA tests on descendants)

These listed “presumed sons of Chesley” are all documented, although some have significant uncertainties in their details. We do think they are all probably brothers, but that’s not proven. And as shown above we have 20+ y-DNA tests on their various descendants. That DNA absolutely proves they all SOMEHOW descend from Edward. The “problem” is with **Chesley Senior, whom we now doubt ever existed.** (In which case the very real brother called “Chesley Coffey Jr.” is not actually a “junior”!)

The three brothers of interest are Joel, Nebuzaraden, and Nathan, highlighted in Green. The earliest writers about Edward’s early descendants (Marvin D Coffey and Jack Coffee) gave the three men full credit for their military service, presuming it was so obviously true that no detailed discussion was required.

Another set of writers concurred:

(By Maureen Joan Coffey Donald and Donna Beryl Coffey McDonald)

Issac **Nebuzaraden** Coffey was the fourth son of Chesley Coffey and Jane Cleveland. He was born in the King’s Creek region of what is now Caldwell County, North Carolina. In approximately 1780 he married Elizabeth Hayes whose family resided in the same area of North Carolina.

He was a private in the North Carolina Militia in the Revolutionary War. He was a strong whig partisan who rode with his brother **Joel** under the command of their uncle Ben Cleveland. **Joel, Nebuzaraden** and **Nathan** were all Revolutionary soldiers.

Nathan is the person on whom Tim Peterman based part of his “SAR” membership. **Joel** is also solidly recognized for DAR/SAR. One theory explaining Neb’s absence is that perhaps **Nebuzaraden** was using a nickname that became lost in official military records?

If you return to researching Nebuzaraden, you may want to review the oldest writings you can find, taking care to recognize that ALL these writers firmly believed that Chesley Coffey Senior was a real person. You will need to read, recognizing in your mind that he did not exist.

Fred: By the way, I checked how you and Tim Peterman were related. The two of you are sextuple seventh cousins (6*7C). You have 3 paths back to Edward through Nebuzaraden and his brother Joel. Tim has 2 paths back through Nathan and his brother Salathial, so that gives us six comparisons.

Why do I say “3 paths” for you, rather than the “four choices” I described above? That’s because shared ancestry with Tim, back to Edward, is through Edward Jr. And your “Choice 1” above includes a marriage to a Jane Coffey who descends from Edward’s son John. Tim doesn’t have this John in his ancestry.

Yes, it’s complicated! Here’s the simplest way I can think of to describe the six paths, using only first names:

Edward Coffey Jr (1701)
Nebuzaraden (1757)
Joel (1774)
James (1800) & Mahala (1803)
(5 generations down to Vada -- **Path V1**)
Fielding (~1777) & Celia (~1777)
Mahala (1803) & James (1800)
(5 generations down to Vada -- **Path V2**)
Joel (1727)
Celia (~1777) & Fielding (~1777)
Mahala (1803) & James (1800)
(5 generations down to Vada -- **Path V3**)
Salathiel (~1750)
Eli (1775) & Mary (1782)
(6 generations down to Tim - **Path T1**)
Nathan (1760)
Mary (1782) & Eli (1775)
(6 generations down to Tim - **Path T2**)

A bit of genealogy Trivia: You (Vada) and I (Fred) are also sextuple seventh cousins (6*7C). If I did the above for me, my **Path F1** and **Path F2** would be slightly different from Tim’s. I descend from “William Coffey who married Malcena Barbre”. Tim descends from “Benjamin Coffey who married Lucy Barbre”. William and Benjamin were brothers! Malcena and Lucy were sisters!

Fred: Tim is a strong advocate for more “Big Y” testing. You kindly agreed to order a “Big-Y” test on your brother Samuel Byron Patterson, and that test is now completed. You will recall I sent you a note a few weeks ago explaining that there was a tiny chance that there might be a new SNP mutation in one of the men on Byron’s direct line, but that “tiny chance” did not materialize. The outcome was exactly as expected.

The Big Y information is now posted in a public location where anyone can view it. And the normal entry point is via the “Roadmap” link:

www.coffey.ws/familytree/CoffeyRoadmap.html

Scroll down to the “DNA Project Discussion. Then click on **Genealogy Summary**. This will load an 8-page document that summarizes the Coffey Family Lines for each of our y-DNA test subjects, grouped according to which family or sub-family they belong to.

Of immediate interest will be Page 4, which identifies the people in our Edward Group that have either (1) a Coffey name with non-Coffey y-DNA, or (2) Coffey y-DNA with a non-Coffey surname. You are in group (2) About 70% of the way down the page, you will see I have already added a line for your Patterson Surname with Coffey y-DNA.

Next look at Page 5, which covers people who have done the Big-Y test. On this page the first two people on Block (1) are from the Peter Coffee group. Below that, blocks (2), (3) and (4) are all Edward descendants like yourselves. Samuel Byron Patterson is there as the fourth person down under block (2).

Tim Peterman’s ultimate long-term goal is to arrange Big-Y testing on large numbers of other Edward descendants, looking for such matches. Your Big-Y test on Byron is a small step in the direction of Tim’s goal and is much appreciated.

The bottom 40% of Page 5 is addressing the “Keogh” group. These people are definitely “distant cousins” to our Edward group and to you, but the connections have to be way back in Ireland. We do have a “Deep Ancestry” study that will be updated once we have more data in hand.

UNDERSTANDING PATTERSON AND COFFEY CONNECTIONS:

By Fred Coffey

Fred: Vada and I have had additional discussions about her “Patterson” family connections. I noticed that Charity’s birth date, 2 Feb 1846, was before the Civil War started. Could she have been a slave? I started digging, and concluded she and her mother were slaves before the War, “owned” by a Patterson family.

But things got quite complicated, and the previous article is already very long. And Vada had already done considerable research about Charity Patterson, and her mother Sara Patterson.

Of particular interest to me, there are significant overlaps with my own Coffey family, involving our family experience with slavery issues. The Coffey and Patterson families were actually close neighbors in Russell County, KY.

Too much to put in this newsletter. I plan to continue working with Vada, and will hope to produce an expanded article for posting in the next Newsletter, to come out at the end of December.

UPDATE FOR "COFFEY" MUNSTER GROUP:

By Fred Coffey

I got notice from FTDNA that a new member joined the Coffey DNA Project – Mr. Michael Coffey, Kit # 1011773. I took a quick look at his y-DNA matches and saw he had a lot of matches to a Coffey group I call the "Munster Group". And within that group he had a Big-Y match to a "James M Coffey Jr".

Here's a map of Ireland. Munster is an ancient area to the southwest. The 1911 census tells us that there were 2092 people with the Coffey name living in Munster. The 1911 population of each relevant county is shown in red.



The arrow points to County Kerry, and we think that is one of the most ancient Coffey homelands. In Irish law, the oldest son always inherits the farm. If not so, the farm would gradually be divided down to nothing. So if there's a big family, where do the big brother's siblings go? Sooner or later, they have to leave. And where do they go? Many would go to neighboring counties, to make their way as best they can. And that would be a significant factor in most of the counties near Kerry.

Here's an updated display of the genealogy of the people we have in this group:

FTDNA		"MUNSTER" GROUP:									
Kit #	(REF)	Tested									
365598	(REF)	MICHAEL (KERRY, IRE)	MICHAEL (KERRY, IRE)	MICHAEL (KERRY, IRE)	MICHAEL (KERRY, IRE)	?	?	?	?	?	?
Kit #	65 / 67	AEDAN D C (1961 IRE)	D MANUS G (1935 IRE)	H DIARMID J (1888 DUBLIN)	GEORGE (1857 DUBLIN)	JAMES CHARLES (1815 DUBLIN)	EDMUND (1786 DUBLIN)	EDMUND (KERRY, IRE)	DARBY (KERRY, IRE)	JOHN (KERRY, IRE)	
79519	63 / 67	JAMES M. (JR) (1965 NY)	JAMES M (SR) (1942 NY)	JAMES J. (1896 PA)	MICHAEL (1867 KERRY, IRE)	JAMES M WAS ORIGINALLY REPORTED AS R-FTB61788.					
1011773	R- BY68835	MICHAEL R (1968 PA)	ROBERT C (1920 PA)	JOHN W (1886 PA)	JOHN (1851 IRE)	MICHAEL R WAS A NEW TEST, CREATING A NEW SUB-GROUP WITH BOTH MEN AS R-BY68835					
169886	63 / 67	PAUL BRANCKY	LEO BRANCKY (1920 IL)	<< LEO ADOPTED SEE NOTE >>	FRANK COFFEY (1868 IRE)	LEO BRANCKY WAS ADOPTED. CIRCUMSTANTIAL EVIDENCE IS THAT HIS GRANDFATHER WAS FRANK COFFEY. FRANK BORN IRELAND 1868, IMMIGRATED APT 1880/83, SETTLED IN CHICAGO AREA.					
60918	62 / 67	STEPHEN (1951 CA)	HERBERT (1924 CA)	HERBERT (1897 CA)	WILLIAM (1869 CA)	WILLIAM (1845 NY)	JAMES (1804 IRELAND)				
266743	61 / 67	DANIEL DOMINIC	DANIEL MICHAEL (1947 NY)	DANIEL F JR. (1920 NY)	DANIEL F SR. (1883 NJ)	MICHAEL (1843 KERRY, IRE)					
47117	62 / 67	RBT. EUGENE (1939 MI)	EUGENE C. (1913 MI)	DANIEL FRANCIS (1870 MI)	DANIEL F. (1841 IRE)	DANIEL (IRELAND)					
31891	62 / 67	JAMES (JR)	JAMES EDWARD (1913 NY)	WILLIAM (1877 NY)	WILLIAM (1845 CORK, IRE)						
178093	12 / 12	JOHN JOSEPH (1948 MA)	WILLIAM EDWARD (1913 MA)	JEREMIAH C (1874 MA)	JAMES (1849 IRE)						
139027	60 / 67	DAN ALAN ROSS (1956 TX)	DANIEL R ROSS (1923 TX)	DANIEL W ROSS (1896 OK)	CHARLES ROSS (1864 MS?LA?)						
Ancestry.com	27 / 29	WILLIAM EDWARD (1922 PA)	JOHN CHRISTOPHER (1884 CORK, IRE)	JOHN (IRE)							
223632	31 / 37	MARTIN JAMES	MARTIN ALEXANDR	MARTIN ALEXANDR (1901 CT)	JEREMIAH JOS. (1863 CORK, IRE)	CORNELIUS (IRELAND)					
32224	57 / 67	ALAN DALE (OK)	LAWRENCE D. (1929 OK)	HUBERT DENSON (1905 OK)	JOEL W.L. (1874 AL)	JOHN JAMES (1851 AL)	JOEL W. (1826 AL)				

And the top two people on this chart trace their ancestors to the area of the red dot. The top person (Michael) is a farmer, who has been on his family land for as far back as he knows. And the second person (Aedan) has an excellent genealogy going back to the same origins.

Michael's Big-Y match is to the third family on this list, James M Coffey, Kit 79519. The orange box has James' name, and the yellow boxes are his ancestry as far back as he knew it.

The original version of this table only showed James, with haplogroup R-FTB61788. But when Michael's test result was completed, it showed the two men together under a new name R-BY68835. This is now a sub-group under R-FTB61788.

To define a new Big-Y haplogroup, FTDNA requires they see TWO matching results before they define a new name. Michael's new test triggered the new name, R-BY68835.

All of the other men above are related, but their matches are based on an older "STR" test, with most of them connected by a 67-marker test. (The "Big-Y" is equivalent to a 700-marker test and can see into deep ancestry.)

The 14 men in the above table all have some kind of a "Coffey Connection". But this is truly an ancient region in Ireland. There are many, many different surnames in this area that have y-DNA matches to Coffey, but not the Coffey surname.

Many of you will be wanting to see how closely you are related to each other. But the "BigY" test is focused on deep ancestry that looks well beyond near relatives. Will come back to that shortly.

This "Munster" group was originally defined by people with a Coffey surname, based on the older "STR" test. And the STR test can actually be more accurate and convincing in seeing near-term relationships. FTDNA has a "time predictor" tool that can be helpful. We can pick any two members of this Munster group and compare them to each other, based on their "genetic distance".

The first two men on the above table, Michael and Aedan, have a genetic distance of "2" based on their 67-marker STR test. Out of the 67 markers, only two were different. The "time predictor" gives us a probability assessment like the following:

"Based on a Genetic Distance of 2 at the Y-67 test level, Michael Coffey and Aedan Coffey are estimated to share a common paternal line ancestor who was, with a 95% probability, born between 1200 and 1935 CE. The most likely year is rounded to 1708 CE."

For these first two men, we actually have a lengthy genealogy. If you count back on the reported dates above, you can see that "1708" is clearly well within the time where the two lines come together. Looks great!

But suppose we now do the same thing for the next two men down our list, for James M Coffey and Michael R Coffey. They only know their genealogy back 4 generations but speculated that the fourth generation was possibly close to their MRCA (Most Recent Common Ancestor) back in Ireland?

We asked FTDNA's time predictor what it would predict, given that they have a genetic distance of 4 between the two of them:

"Based on a Genetic Distance of 4 at the Y-67 test level, James M Coffey and Michael R Coffey are estimated to share a common paternal line ancestor who was, with a 95% probability, born between 1109 and 1794 CE. The most likely year is rounded to 1508 CE."

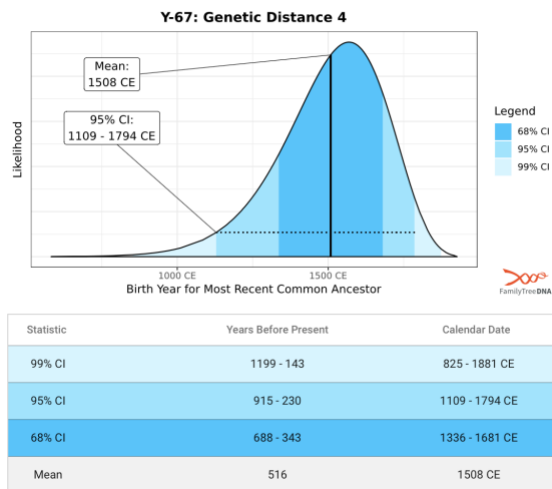
FTDNA offers a slick graphic presentation of their probability analysis, as shown here: >>>>

James and Michael’s KNOWN 4 generations only go back to 1850/1870. This 95% probability analysis says their MRCA must be earlier than about 1790.

Here’s one more analysis, for two men at an even greater genetic distance of “6”:

“Based on a Genetic Distance of 6 at the Y-67 test level, Michael Coffey and Daniel Dominic Coffey are estimated to share a common paternal line ancestor who was, with a 95% probability, born between 650 and 1700 CE. The most likely year is rounded to 1250 CE.”

Y-67: Genetic Distance 4



Back to “Big Y” Analysis for Munster Group:

We said based on STR that James and Michael had a MRCA that was most likely about 1508 CE. What does their “Big Y” match as R-BY68835 tell us?

Let’s look at some details for James. He is in the above Munster table because he has 67-marker STR matches to most of the other Coffeys. I asked FTDNA to show information on ALL the matches James had at 67-markers, Coffey or otherwise. It reported he had 177 such matches. Out of that, it reported that 63 of those people had also done the BigY700 test. As we know, only two “Coffey” have yet done BigY700. So, there are 61 people with “non-Coffey” names who the DNA says are biological BigY700 “cousins”!

I would be very interested to see others from our Munster group upgrade their test to a “Big-Y”, I have already send an email to most of the above members, trying to persuade some to upgrade.

Here is an interesting table: FTDNA offers an analytical tool to examine the evolution of Haplogroups over time, eventually working back to the origins of homo sapiens in Africa hundreds of thousands of years ago. Start reading at the bottom line, and we’ll work our way up.

- (1) They start with BY87093, which includes two tested people who were known to be separate before James and Michael were confirmed to be a pair. Those two were estimated to have a MRCA from about 1500 CE.
- (2) When they confirmed that James and Michael were together in new haplogroup BY68835, they now had 4 tested people, with an overall MRCA of about 1400 CE.
- (3) Originally we showed James as the only Coffey in group FTB61788. That was a larger group with 33 tested people, with a MRCA of 700 CE.
- (4) FTDNA works upward through multiple steps, increasing the number of tested people and working toward earlier MRCA’s. This table goes as far as A195, with a MRCA about 1700 years ago, and 419 tested people.
- (5) I am a member of our “Edward Coffey group. An interesting question is “how far back do we have to go to find the MRCA for Edward versus James/Michael. Skipping multiple steps, I think that MRCA might be about 2550 BCE. The two groups have been separate for more than 4000 years!

- (6) They think homo sapiens began to enter Europe about 4000 BCE.
- (7) And the origin in Africa was perhaps 232000 BCE.

Haplogroup	Approximate MRCA	# of People Tested	Comments
A-PR2921	232000 BCE	250,000	Y-Chromosome Adam (in Africa)
L51	4000 BCE	80000	Entering Europe
Z198	2550 BCE	3000	Estimate for MRCA with “Edward Coffey”
A195	300 CE	419	<u>Corcu Loígde</u> Era in Ireland?
Z16254	300 CE	71	“ “ “ “
A154	550 CE	56	“ “ “ “
A153	700 CE	39	“ “ “ “
FTB61788	700 CE	33	The Coffey Munster group only has James
BY68835	1400 CE	4	James and Michael together when this new name confirmed
BY87093	1500 CE	2	Pre-existing

Under “Comments” I have labeled the generations going down from A195 as “Corcu Loigde”. What is that about? There were ancient Irish kingdoms throughout Ireland in medieval times, one of which was the “Kingdom of Munster”. [Wikipedia](#) tells us this:

*“This area is sometimes called The **Corcu Loígde** (Corcu Lóegde, Corco Luigde, Corca Laoighdhe, Laidhe), meaning Gens of the Calf Goddess,] also called the Síil Lugdach meic Itha, were a kingdom centered in **West County Cork** who descended from the proto-historical rulers of Munster, the Dáirine, of whom they were the central royal sept. They took their name from Lugaid Loígde "Lugaid of the Calf Goddess", a King of Tara and High King of Ireland, son of the great Dáire Doimthech (a quo Dáirine). A descendant of Lugaid Loígde, and their most famous ancestor, is the legendary Lugaid Mac Con, who is listed in the Old Irish Baile Chuinn Chétchathaig. Closest kin to the Corcu Loígde were the Dál Fiatach princes of the Ulaid.”*



I really think our Coffey headcount in Munster is mostly counting “farmers displaced from County Kerry” rather than looking to specifically link people to medieval kings! But our Munster Coffeys would definitely have been subjects of the “Kingdom of Munster”.

Wikipedia has expansive discussion of all the areas on this map, and that make interesting reading.

One interesting location on this map is “Wexford”, located at the south end of the “Kingdom of Leinster”. We have done deep ancestry studies of the Edward Coffey group, that lead back to Coffey/Keogh connections in the Wexford area.

References to “Ui Neill” also have “Coffey” implications. These are descendants of Niall Noígíallach (Niall of the Nine Hostages), a historical King of Tara who died c. 405. It is believed that about one in twelve Irishmen are descendants of King Niall.

Our Coffey descendants of Niall are the “Meath/Westmeath Groups A & B”. These included the descendants of the “Ambrose Coffey” who appeared in America in the late 1700’s and helped Daniel Boone fight the Indians. Our DNA Project has 10 men who are perfect “Ui Neill” matches. To see the UI Neill data comparison, click this link and scroll down to Page 5:

<http://www.coffey.ws/familytree/dna/CousinsData.pdf>

(You may need to “zoom in” to get the data large enough to read easily.)

COFFEY (Goffey?) Postcard MYSTERY:

By Ricky Miller

Hi Fred,

I bought this real photo postcard (RPPC) off eBay a couple of years ago. It wasn't cheap, and I paid up for it. I thought you might find a way to work it into the newsletter.

I have no idea where this bar was, but I would guess somewhere on the east coast where there were a lot of Irish immigrants -

maybe New York City or Boston. From the man's clothing and the fact that it is an RPPC, I would guess the date to be circa 1910-1920.

The sign in the window at right says "Hot Weiner with Each Drink." The folding sign in the foreground says "Free Hot Lunch and Soup." The sign in the right window says "Free [too faint to read] Day or Night." A double-sided sign at the top proclaims the establishment to be a bar. The street number is 108.



COFFEY'S GENERAL STORE:

By Chris Coffee

Hi Fred, I'm planning to visit Coffey's General Store this weekend.

We wrote about this store in CCC Issue 50-11. Here are inside/outside pictures, and the current link:



<https://www.coffeysgeneralstore.com/>

Fred: The article in CCC Issue 50-11 talked about the family running the store. Current readers of this newsletter may find it interesting to call up and read the earlier discussion.

The proprietors in that previous article were Archie Coffey and his sister Bonnie (Coffey) Rash, and it mentioned their father "Gus", the first Coffey to own the general store. Jack Coffee's ECP recognized their families. Here's an abbreviated summary (Gus and his wife had 9 children -- I've only shown Archie and Bonnie):

- (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) Margaret C. Coffey (Mar 1816 - ca 1906) & (5) Jacob Zachariah Coffey (1814 - BET 1870 AND 80)
- (6) Jesse Patterson Coffey (ca 1843 - 1892) & Polly Allison
- (7) Augustus "**Gus**" Fenemore Coffey (7 Jan 1874 - 14 Mar 1936) & Betty Beard (5 Oct 1875 - 13 Sep 1958)
- (8) **Archie** Rosefelt Coffey (25 Feb 1911 - 25 Jan 1986) & Buena Adeline Silver (22 Nov 1915 - 15 Jan 1985)
- (8) **Bonnie** Letha Coffey (9 Dec 1917 - 7 Aug 2007) & Ray Bradley Rash (9 Aug 1914 - 17 Sep 2004)
- (4) Joseph Coffey (ca 1785 - ca 1835) & Isabella Lindsay
- (5) Jacob Zachariah Coffey (1814 - BET 1870 AND 80) & (5) Margaret C. Coffey (Mar 1816 - ca 1906)
- (6) Jesse Patterson Coffey (ca 1843 - 1892) & Polly Allison
- (7) Augustus "**Gus**" Fenemore Coffey (7 Jan 1874 - 14 Mar 1936) & Betty Beard (5 Oct 1875 - 13 Sep 1958)
- (8) **Archie** Rosefelt Coffey (25 Feb 1911 - 25 Jan 1986) & Buena Adeline Silver (22 Nov 1915 - 15 Jan 1985)
- (8) **Bonnie** Letha Coffey (9 Dec 1917 - 7 Aug 2007) & Ray Bradley Rash (9 Aug 1914 - 17 Sep 2004)

Gus bought the country store in 1919 from Charlie Columbus Curlee (20 Sep 1874 – 25 Sep 1956). Charlie had bought it in 1895 from Judd Coffey, no relation to Gus.

Memo from Fred: I tried to figure out who was "Judd Coffey", but no success! I can't find the name in any census. Can any reader of this newsletter help solve this mystery?

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.