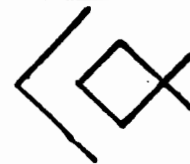


# COX CLAN

## NEWSLETTER



Issue No. 1

The following was written by Gerald Cox, of Marshalltown, Iowa, a Richard Rue Cox descendant.

### RICHARD RUE

Already this lad had known fear and tragedy in great measure, Orphaned even before he could know his birth date Richard Rue with his friend George Holman left Maryland in the company of two uncles of George. They endured two years of turmoil in Pennsylvania before seeking solace down the Ohio at the mouth of the Kentucky River. They found an abandoned clearing and planted a crop. Before harvest time Indians had driven them away as they had others before them. They took refuge in the fort at Harrodsburg, Kentucky. It was then the fateful Year of Three Sevens. Savage redskins, enraged by the settlement on their lands, and also armed and encouraged by the British to inflict the most unspeakable torment and death were on the warpath across the entire frontier. The fort was attacked and men, women and children fought side by side to break the bloody seige. Richard Rue was then in his sixteenth year. manhood for soldiering, so, in March 1777 he volunteered for the militia being mustered by George Rogers Clark. He had been steeled for what lay ahead.

Lieutenant Colonel Clark, just twenty-four himself, had secret orders from Virginia Governor Patric Henry. His mission was to capture a series of forts, formerly French, now British, at Kaskaskia, Cahokia, Vincennes and Detroit. His scouts had returned from Kaskaskia and Cahokia a few miles apart on the Mississippi River in southern Illinois. They were reported to be lightly defended, but many frustrating months of equipping and recruiting had since passed. When word came that France had joined the American cause Clark determined to proceed with his still too small force, hoping the predominatly French inhabitants of the forts might be won to his cause. In fact he reduced his force even further, to about one hundred seventy whom he considered strong enough to endure what he saw ahead. Rue was considered strong enough.

A day to lift moral was spent in "Amusements" and then on June 26, 1778 Clarks's four companies boarded boats and shot the falls of the Ohio during an eclipse of the sun. Clark cheerfully declared this eclipse a great omen, so Rue and the other spirited men double manned their oars to descend the Ohio to the mouth of the Tennessee. Here they captured a boatload of Americans recently come from Kaskaskia and knowledgeable as to the current situation in Kaskaskia and the route thereto. Continuing a short distance to the tip of Illinois they secreted their boats and struck off on the hundred and twenty mile march guided by their new companions.

After six eventful days, the last two without food, they came to the Kaskaskia River a little above the fort. They wended their way down river, captured a farm family, reassured themselves they they were not expected, procured boats, and then quietly crossed the river under cover of darkness. Two companies surrounded the town while the other two with Clark and a guide slipped through an unsecured fort gate totally undetected. Rocheblave, the commandant, was captured in his bedchamber midst the indignant protestations of his wife. Loud cheers followed and were answred by gleeful shouts of the

various squads acattered about the town. Within fifteen minutes the fort and every street were secured. Not a shot had been fired.

The conquering Americans were greatly feared by the French inhabitants of Kaskaskia. These conquerors were thought to have great physical strenth, to be undisciplined and irreligious, and were not noted for tolerance, solriety or culture. Add to these conceptions the fact that the Americans were necessarily unkept after three days on the river and six days in the brush. Also, the intense July heat had caused Rue and his compatriots to abandon most of their clothes back at the river bank. They did appear as veritable savages. The men of the town would willingly submit to being enslaved if their wives and children could be spared. So, unbounded joy and celebration erupted when the Americans showed their more true nature of mercy and civility. Freedom was given to worship as they chose and to continue living as they had before.

Control of nearby Cahokia was soon accomplished. Friendship with the surrounding Indian tribe was adroitly connived, for the near future at least. While civil government was being organized in Kaskaskia and Cahokia, George Rogers Clark was planning the next campaign. However, enlistments were expiring and the men were anxious to return to their homes in Kentucky.

Richard Rue was now a seasoned soldier but he yearned to be with Aunt Jane, and Uncle Henry Holman and their brood of cousins. One of these cousins, George, had shared and was yet to share Richard Rue's continuing adventures. Another, Elizabeth, would one day become his wife and bear his daughter Mary. However, that Holman household on the Kentucky frontier still needed protection., so Richard reenlisted for an eight month tour of duty. That enlistment involved him in one of the most heroic conquests in all of history, the Battle of Vincennes, well documented in books and screen play. A foray to Chillicothe and Piqua followed, the bounty from which permitted Richard to purchase a small plot of land back in Louisville.

Soon thereafter tragedy befell him. Richard Rue, George Holman and Irvin Hinton, a wagoner, were captured by Indians on February 11, 1781. Hinton was burned at the stake, and his smoke laden scalp was thrust into the faces of George and Richard as warning of what their fate might also be. The two young lads were forced twice to run the gauntlet. They were both stripped and tied to separate stakes for burning. Then, even as the flames were flickering, they were individually cut free and adlpted, George as a Mingo and Richard as a Shawnee. Adoption by a family still constituted captivity by the tribe and three grueling years ensued before George was ransomed and Richard survived an aduous escape.

Even their new found freedom and the official end to the Revolutionary War did not end the recurring need to battle the marauding Indians. Eventually, however, the Henry Holman brood saw the marriage of Richard Rue to Elizabeth Holman about 1784.

In 1805 the Rue and Holman families moved to Wayne County, Indiana. Richard Rue was born about 1760 in Kent County, Maryland and died in Wayne County, Indiana in 1845 and is buried in the Elkhorn Cemetery south of Richmond, Indiana.

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The above is given in case you would like to read the books which mention Richard Rue and/or his times.



COX FAMILY REUNIONS

The first reunion was held in September 1904 at Campbells Island, Rock Island County, Illinois, near where Joseph and Mary Cox settled in 1836. This reunion was started by the grandchild of Joseph & Mary.

Reunions were held each year until either 1940 or 1941. In the early years the reunion was most often held at Campbells Island, but in later times at Alpha; Prospect Park or Long View Park, Moline, Illinois.

In April 1982 the Sarah Cox-Kirby line had a reunion Phoenix, Arizona. Also attending were descendants of the Richard Rue Cox and John Washington Cox lines.

This line also held reunions in San Antonio, Texas in 1984 and 1988.

In the summer of 1985 the Augustus D. Cox line had a reunion in Illinois, again with Richard Rue Cox and John Washington Cox descendants in attendance.

As the result of these reunions it was decided to have a reunion of all the Joseph Cox descendants.

As Joseph and Mary had moved to Rock Island County in 1936, 150 years ago, 1986 seemed to be the ideal year for this reunion. This was held in Bettendorf, Iowa (motel) and in Hampton, Illinois at the Illiniwek Forest Preserve Park.

Another runion was held again in 1987 at which time it was decided to have the reunion again in 5 years.

Officers were elected at the 1986 reunion as follows: Art Cox of Davenport, Iowa as President. Christine Cox Lage, Hampton, Ill as Secretary-Treasurer and Ruth Anna Hic,s of Lincoln, NE as Family Historian.

The Samuel K. Cox descendants are planning a reunion in Burchard, Ne for August 18-19, 1990. If you are interested in attending contact Mrs. Mary Utermohlen, 219 Dillon Avenue, Mankato, MN 56001

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WHEN AND WHERE would you like to have the next big reunion? Ideas, suggestions.

The last two reunion have been held at Rock Island, Ill. would you like to go someplace else? Anyone willing to host this reunion? Send suggestions to Christine Cox Lage, P.O. Box 556, Hampton, Ill 61256

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Would you like to see more issues of this newsletter? If so, I would like to know and I need your HELP !!! Please send clippings from newspaper, about family members. Can include, deaths, marriages, as well as other items. Also include news about new babies.

Also send stroies about ancestors. Write an article about the research you have done. Maybe what you have found is the clue someone else needs to complete their research, or just to inform all of us about what has been uncovered on our ancestours. Send to

Mrs. Ruth Anna Hicks, 6703 Holdrege St, Lincoln, Ne 68505  
Family Historian

Also would appreciate knowing about future reunions in time to put such info into this newsletter.

2 SHENANDOAH EVENING SENTINEL

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 17, 1988

## Tunnicliff to be Ak-Sar-Ben countess



Bonnie Elizabeth Tunnicliff

Bonnie Elizabeth "Buffy" Tunnicliff, daughter of J.R. "Bob" and Merrily Tunnicliff of Clarinda, has been chosen as one of 20 countesses at the 1988 Ak-Sar-Ben Coronation Ball Saturday, Oct. 15.

She is a 21-year-old senior at Drake University, where she is ma-

joining in journalism and carrying a minor in political science and sociology. She will be representing Southwest Iowa as an attendant to the Mythical Kingdom of Quivira.

Actively involved in college organizations, Miss Tunnicliff is a member of Chi Omega, International Relations Organization, Midwest Model United Nations, Drake Bands: concert band, marching band and Bulldog Brass, University Chorus and Times Delphic (campus newspaper) copy editor and photographer.

She has also been an exchange student in Portugal and in Wales and is interested in history, music, travel and international relations. This summer she also served as a news-editorial intern for the Clarinda Herald-Journal.

The Tunnicliffs are fifth-genera-

Bonnie is a Richard Rue Cox descendant and lives in Clarinda, Iowa.

Ak-Sar-Ben is in Omaha, NE and is a civic organization and has lots of activities.

tion citizens of Page County. Her father is president of Opitz Motor Company in Clarinda and her mother is owner of the NAPA Auto Parts/JB Parts and Supply in Clarinda. Buffy has one brother Joe and one sister Becky.

Her grandparents include Mrs. J.S. (Marjorie Shum) Tunnicliff of Clarinda and the late Joseph S. Tunnicliff and the late Nebraska Supreme Court Justice John E. and Bonnie (Brownice) Newton of Ponca, Neb.

While the Coronation Ball continues the 92-year tradition honoring individuals and families, who have made significant contributions in their communities, it has also become a fund-raising event for the scholarship program.

The theme for this year's event is "Let the Memories Begin."

OBITUARIES

FLOYD COX (From Quad-City Times, Monday, May 23, 1988  
Rock Island, Services from Floyd Cox, 82, of 3515 185h Ave., will be  
10:30 a.m. Tuesday at Wendt Funeral Home, Burial will be in Oak Grove  
Cemetery, Port Byron , Ill.

Mr. Cox died Friday at Moline Nursing and Rehabilitation Center.  
Visitation is 5-8 p.m. today at the Funeral Home.

He retired in 1963 as Carstensen Freight Lines, Rock Island. He then  
was employed at Freeland's Scope Stands Co., Rock Island, until 1982.

He married Faye E. Godfrey in 1927 in Crown Point, Ind. She died in 1983.

Memorials may be made to South Park Presbyterian Church, Rock Island,  
Elevator Fund.

He was a member of the Quad-City Amateur Radio Club, Big River Amateur  
Television Society and the Davenport Shooting Association. He was a charter  
member of Quad-City Computer Club. He was a past member of Air Force MARS,  
Rock Island, Civil Defense and Milan Rifle Club.

He had been an active amatuer Radio operator for more than 50 years. His  
call letters were WA9RMR.

Survivors include daughters, Lucille Cox, Chicago; JoAnne Brooks, Port  
Byron; and Christine Lage, Hampton, Ill.; a son Donald L., Lompoc, Calif.;  
five grandchildren; and two great-grandchildren.

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EVERETT COX SERVICES SATURDAY (from The Kalona News, Thursday March 23, 1989)

Funeral services for Everett (Bud) Cox, 75 of Kalona, were 10 a.m.  
Saturday at the peterseim Funeral Chapel with burial in Hampton Township  
Cemetery, Hampton, Illinois, with the Rev. James Fouke officiating.

Mr. Cox died Tuesday, March 14, 1989, at his home after a long illness.

Born October 21, 1913, in Hampton, he was a son of Charles and Ivy Lee  
Cox, and married Helen Shalla May 18, 1940. The couple moved to Kalona in  
1945 where Mr. Cox farmed for a few years. He worked for the University of  
Iowa Department of Chemistry for 20 years prior to retirement.

Mr. Cox was a member of the Kalona United Methodist Church, the I Club  
and the Kalona Optimists.

He is survived by his wife; one son, Ralph Cox of Iowa City; one  
daughter, Mrs. Marvin (Judith) Eimen of Kalona; three sisters, Cornelia  
Donaldson, Dearborn, Michigan, Sharmain Cady of Himsdale, Illinois and Harriet  
Gillespie of Hampton, and five grandchildren.

A memorial fund has been established.

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WILFORD (Bill) Cox

Wilford (Bill) Cox, 90 of Davenport, Ia., died Sunday, February 8, 1987,  
at Clinton Retirement Virrage nursing center at Clinto, Ia. Hd had resided  
there for several years due to failing health. Bill was born March 28, 1897  
at Burchard, Ne., and grew to manhood here. His parents were Elmer and Margaret  
Simpson Cox. He is survived by his wife Carolyn, of 1924 West Pleasant St.,  
Davenport, Ia.; two stepsons, nine grandchildren and five great grandchildren;  
a sister, Daisie Stewart of Rockford, Ill,m and neices and nephews and many  
cousins.

Funeral services were held Tuesday, February 10 at Davenport and burial  
was in Oakdale Cemetery at Davenport, Ia.

## KATHLEEN J. COX

Kathleen Jennie Cox was born December 18, 1903 and died August 7, 1986 at Arapahoe, NE. She was the second daughter of pioneer Dominicus S. Hasty and Sarah Sadonia Otter.

She graduated from Arapahoe High School and attended the University of Nebraska in Lincoln. On June 18, 1925 she united in marriage to Ralph L. Cox.

Most of her life was spent in connection with the publication of the Arapahoe Public Mirror and Holbrook Observer. She and Ralph were active in Nebraska Press Association activities.

After her husband's death in 1961 she became editor and publisher. She sold the paper and retired in 1968. Always involved in civic and social activities of the community, she was a charter member of the Governor's Commission on the Status of Women. She was author of a history of Furnas County. Organizations in which she held membership were Order of the Eastern Star, PEO Sisterhood, American Legion Auxiliary, she was Area Representative for the American Red Cross and served on the Arapahoe Library Board. In addition, she was an avid sports fan and participated in bowling and golf until her health would not permit it.

She was a staunch supporter of St. Paul's Episcopal Church, serving on the Vestry, Women's Guild and as a lay reader.

She was preceded in death by her husband, Ralph Lewis Cox, and an infant son.

Survivors include one sister, Dorothy Hoon, Rapid City, SD; son, Rodney Cox, Holdrege; daughter, Cathleen Weber, Arapahoe; sister-in-law, Pearl Cox, Bloomington; six grandchildren and 11 great-grandchildren. She will be greatly missed by a host of relatives and friends.

Funeral services were held Saturday, August 9, 1986 at St. Paul's Episcopal Church in Arapahoe, NE with Fr. Mike Churchman officiating.

Interment was in the Arapahoe Cemetery.

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## IRMA BORDEN

Irma Beatrice Henderson Borden was born in Miles township near Burchard, Ne, on December 19, 1900, the youngest of seven children born to Frank Henderson and Anna Jane Costello. She departed this life on September 9, 1987, at the Colonial Villa Care Home in Alma, Ne, having lived 86 years, eight months and 20 days.

Irma's health had deteriorated gradually since 1980 when she had surgery. She began residing at Colonial Villa care home in 1983, where she suffered with Alzheimers disease.

Irma was united in marriage to Chester Ray (Chet) Borden at Liberty, Ne, June 23, 1917. Irma's early adult years were spent at Burchard and Armour, Ne. On Thanksgiving Day of 1934 her family moved to Alma, Ne. Chester died on July 2, 1970

Irma and Chester reared two children to maturity and their first child, a son, Chester Ray Borden Jr., died in infancy. A son, Duane L. Borden was born at Burchard and a daughter, Luella Ruth Borden was born at Armour.

Irma was preceded in death by her parents, her husband, infant son, two brothers, William Henderson and John Lyle Hendersn; three sisters, Margaret Henderson Poteet, Bessie Henderson Roller and Grace Henderson Hawkins; and a grandson, Terry Lynn Borden.

Irma is survived by a sister, Golda Henderson Cooper, of Palisade, Ne.; son, Duane of Denver, Co.; daughter Luella Derrick of Trinidad, CA.; three granddaughters, Donna Rae Derrick Jones, of Kent, Washington, Karyn Denise Borden Meyn of Denver, Co., and Denise Ann Derrick Givins of Miranda, Ca., a great-grandson, Bradley Michael Borden Meyn of Denver; four great granddaughters, Denise Lynn Jones of Kent, Wash., Jillian Marie Meyn of Denver, Lisa Michelle Givins of Miranda, Ca., and Kelly Lynn Givins of Miranda, Ca., many nieces and nephews, grandnieces and nephews.