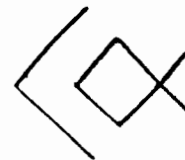


COX CLAN

NEWSLETTER



November 2003 NO. 25

Editor: Mrs. Ruth Anna Hicks, 6703 Holdrege St.
Lincoln, NE 68505

Children:

Richard Rue Cox
John Washington Cox
Rachel Cox - Knight
Sandford C. Cox
Joseph Bird Cox
Jesse Lewis Cox
Jeremiah L. Cox
Augustus D. Cox
Mary A. Cox - Freeland
Sarah C. Cox - Kirby

CIVIL WAR LETTERS

These letters were written by Josph Rue Cox, son of Richard Rue Cox. Joseph was born 15 January 1835 and died 8 November 1869 in Illinois.

These letters were sent to me by Clinton Hubbard of Wilmington, DE. The information Mr. Hubbard sent was that Joseph Cox was in the 11th Illinois Cavalry, but in checking the Adj. Gen. Report 1861-1866, he was not listed. In looking at information that Bill Utermohlen has sent me, Joseph enlisted 8/6/61 in the E 9th Illinois Inf.

These letters were written from Pittsburg Landin , Tenn, which was just north of Corinth, Miss and near Shiloh, Tenn. on the Tennessee River. Mr. Hubbard says one of the letters is in good condition but seems to have pages missing. The other is in poor condition but complete. Spelling was followed as best as possible.

Joseph married Elizabeth Thomas and had three daughters, Sarah Emma, Mary Grace and Josephine Rue Cox.

Alice mentioned in a letter was a cousin and also a sister-in-law, wife of his brother, Hiram Cox.

April 10th 62

Dear Cousin

Its with much pleasure that i seat myself on the ground to let you know that my life has been apared until this time through one of the gratest of man slaughters ever witnessed on the western continent on last Sunday morning the 6th of this month. About day light the rebles attacted us here entirely to our suprise. the picket guards neglected to give the necessary alarm and just as we had finished our breatfast the report of heavy ,musketry reached our ears as speedily as pocible we saddled our horses and mounted the company all that was able for duty and started leaving the sick in the tents but before the company had been gon fifteen minutes the shells and grape shot came in to the camp so thick and fast that the camp had to be abandoned immediatly a grate many leaving their armes Blankets and all escaping barly with their lives. But the rebles came on and on in a fiew moments longer the entire camp became in motion and the cry to armes to armes they come they come. And as speedily as pocible the infantry formed in line of battle but still the blood thirsty villans came on us killing every think in thei way our artilery played on them fast and havy but they

seemed to fear neither lead nor steel and rushed on to us in a furious rage. This way they came on and on taking nearly all of our artillery as they came our men fought them long and brave but still they rushed on us driving our men from every stand that we made until it began to look as if destruction was certain to our whole army. they drove us in this way until about 4 in the afternoon when they driven us within a short distance of the Boat (?) landing our men made a terrible stand and held them at bay and then the gun Boats began to play on them and kept them in check for a while at this critical moment when it seemed as if all must be lost the glad tidings of General Buels force was close at hand this nerved (?) our men anew they fought brave and hard (?) and the struggle was desperate the men fell like drops of rain in a heavy shower but by the time the sun had sunk behind the western hills their could be seen a marked change (?). instead of them driving us as they had been for 12 hours we now held them on a level (?) but dreadful was the struggle gradually night came on and about dark loud and long cheers from Buels force could be heard on the opposite side of the river the firing was heard but not quite (?) so hard and in the course of an hour or two more all was quiet except the gun boats which kept up the firing all night in the course of the night Buels force crossed the river and it rained a nice shower in the night in the morning the fighting commenced again in a furious way. Buels force was fresh and full of fight and by 10 O'clock the Battle became general with from 50 to 80 thousand on a side and at this furious rate the Battle raged until about 3 in the afternoon when Bureguard (?) found that the rebel (he crossed out the word rebel) Yankees (the better ends here apparently incomplete)

Pittsburg Landing
April 18th 1862

My Darling Cousin,

Your welcome little missive(?) has been duly & thankfully received(?) though at a late day it was but yesterday. it found me well but exhausted with excessive labor & loss of sleep. but my friend John did not see it. he was wounded in the late battle and has gone to St Louis where I hope he will be properly cared for. he had four wounds none of which are reported fatal. his left arm is broken. two shots are in his legs(?) and one I think in his side. I hope he will not be confined to the hospital long as it will be so tiresome for him and then we have been together so long. Marched together read(?) together and slept under the same blanket. he will feel lost but not more so than myself. Cousin Frank stayed in my tent the other night though I was not at home. he came through the fiery(?) siege(?) with injury for which we have great reason to be thankful. Alice I write as though you knew all about our engagement with the enemy, which I suppose is the case. The engagement commenced a week ago last Sunday morning & kept up all day. Monday morning our forces made the attack instead of suffering the rebels to do as was the case Sunday morning. the fighting was kept up all day Monday(?) of which resulted(?) in the retreat of the rebels, with our boys on their heels. (?) Covering the ground with the dead and wounded of the retreating Foe. Alice I don't feel disposed to reiterate or even hint at what we have seen since I last saw you ----(here he trails off with a thin, wavy line)

I was sorry to hear that your father's health had been poor though glad to learn of his recovery. I hope I shall be able through the Blessings of Providence to see all my friends at home "with out a single exception" and always feel thankful to learn of their welfare. This is what I have asked for and believe yet that there is a day

not far in the future that will dawn Gloriously not only upon our Nation but upon the soilder & the soilder's friends---(again the line) It affords consolation to the wanderer(?) to feel that he is protected by the same hand that led him through dangers in other days and that even here amid the confusion of camp the soilder can claim his friend who is ready and willing to bestow Blessings upon him. Alice why did you ask me to visit you when I returned home? You and I are near a thousand miles apart today. We may never be nearer but should I be so fortunate as to sip tea(?) at father's table I should certainly visit you. I know it would aford me pleasure to converse with you about the events that has transpired to fill up the vacancy or space of time from the 14th of last June when I last saw you and the day of our meeting. Sure(?) it would be a resitat(?) of a conevurle(?) of checkered scenes(?)

April 19th. This morning the rain is falling but not so hard as yesterday afternoon. I had marked out a programe for today but the rain will prevent me from executing it in the first place. I was going to see cousin Frank & 2nd ly to visit the battle field. Alice when I turned this over expected to have another page. (here he starts writing along the margin and over original salutation) I found to my surprise that I have quite filled this sheet. Give my love to all and accept(?) for yourself from your efechinate cousin in Dixie.

to Alace(?) A. Cox Joseph N(H?) Cox (signed)

I want to thank all of you for the checks I have received. i send out between 320 or 330 newsletters, so the postage gets expensive.

I had quite a few newsletter come back at the last mailing because people had moved and the forwarding address had expired. So if you know of anyone that has moved in the last year, I would appreciate your letting me know their new address. Would like to bring the mailing list up to date.

The Joseph & Mary (Rue) Cox Family Reunion

2005

At the last Joseph & Mary Cox family reunion which was held in Louisville, KY in 2000, I was asked if I would serve as president of the Cox Clan for the next five years which I agreed to do and with that, plan the next reunion which is to be held during the summer of 2005.

One of the issues at that reunion was "how do we get more of the younger Cox descendants interested in attending these reunions?". One suggestion was to change the venue to someplace new that might not have any particular Cox history but might have some general historic interest or multiple activities, which might be of more interest to the younger crowd and to the older crowd as well.

With that in mind, I am asking for your opinion as to where you and your family might like to go in the summer of 2005 if you were to attend the reunion. I am listing five venues and a little bit about each one and what it might have to offer. I would REALLY appreciate your comments either by phone: 303 690 7672, or e-mail: 'tcox36@aol.com', or regular mail: 7427 So Richfield St, Foxfield, CO 80016 so that I might get on with the planning.

- 1) **Richmond, IN.** We held a reunion there in 1991. There is a lot of historic interest in the area and it would be the 200th anniversary of Joseph and Mary arriving there as part of the Kentucky Settlement. The reunion would mostly consist of tours in the area to cemeteries, the town of Abingdon, which was founded by our ancestors, and their early homes in the area. I think there is a Mike Cox living in that area as he attended the last reunion there and may be connected to our early Cox's.
- 2) **Rock Island, IL.** (The Quad Cities). A reunion was held there in 1995 and I believe around 1987. Again, there is a lot of historic Cox interest in that area as that is where, below the I-80 overpass of the Mississippi River, Joseph and Mary Rue Cox built a home along the banks of the river. This would also consist of various tours to historic areas. Joseph died there in 1848.
- 3) **Branson, MO.** No particular Cox history there that I know of but a lot to do in the way of activities and is a very popular venue for family reunions. There are a lot of Cox's in the area (Dave Cox Restaurants) so maybe....A person at the chamber that I spoke to said she would be happy to talk to the Cox's she knows and see what 'Cox stuff' might be available. A lot to do there: Silver City is a theme park, Celebration City for all kinds of rides, Table Rock Lake for catamaran boat sightseeing tours and of course over 70 shows of all kinds and for all tastes. There are reunion planners there to set up all of the details.

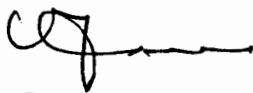
- 4) **Estes Park, CO.** A very interesting geologic area at the entrance to Rocky Mountain National Park, Estes Park is at the foot of the Rockies some 40 miles northwest of Denver, and is the home of The Stanley Hotel, where Jack Nicholson's movie "The Shining" was filmed. Again, nothing to do with the Cox family history but a very popular tourist area with plenty of shopping, and sightseeing. Elk and deer roam the streets and a bus tour would be to the top of Trail Ridge Road, the highest continual highway in the U.S. at over 12,000 feet above sea level. It is considered one of the top ten scenic drives in the U. S.

- 5) **Breckenridge, CO.** Originally an old mining town, Brek is a very popular destination in both the winter for skiing and summer for scenery, hiking, jeep tours, shopping and, of course, family reunions. The elevation is 9000 feet and is about 60 miles west of Denver. Over the 4th of July, families that are holding reunions there participate in the annual parade, which is family oriented and a lot of fun and goes right through the center of town. There are usually three or four families in the parade of all ages and especially the kids have a great time. There is one of the best fire works displays in all of Colorado there that weekend. If Brek were selected as the sight, the 4th would be a great weekend to have it there.

These are the ideas for venues that I have and of course, any other thoughts you might have are most welcome. I probably need to make a decision by the end of the year so that I can make the appropriate arrangements so if you are considering attending, I would appreciate hearing from you as soon as possible as to your preferences.

There will be time during the weekend to have meetings to share any new or old information about the children of Joseph & Mary (Rue) Cox.

Sincerely,



Tom Cox
Foxfield, Colorado

Descendant of John Washington Cox

Joseph & Mary children: Richard Rue Cox, John Washington Cox, Rachel Cox – Knight, Sanford C. Cox, Joseph Bird Cox, Jesse Lewis Cox, Jeremiah L. Cox, Augustus D. Cox, Mary A. Cox – Freeland, Sarah C. Cox – Kirby.

TWO COX DESCENDANTS MAKE EAGLE SCOUT

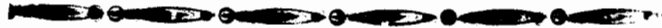
On October 17, 2002, Matthew Grant, son of Janice and Robert Grant of Springfield, IL earned Souting's highest rank that of Eagle Scout. At a Court of Honor held March 16, 2003, Matt took the Eagle Scout Oath and was presented to Eagle Badge, certificate and lifetime membership in the National Eagle Scout Organization. Greetings were read from Prsident and Mrs. Bush, Jay Leno, and others.

Matt served Troop 216, sponsored by the First Congregational Church of Springfield, as Assistant Patrol Leader, Patrol leader, Assistant Senior Patrol Leader, Senior Patrol Leader, Bugler, Chaplin, and Historian. He is a Brotherhood member of the Order of the Arrow, an honorany society which promotes camping, and during the summer of 2003 served as Senior Patrol leader for the Abraham Lincoon Council's Junior Leader Training Program. He earned 31 merit badges and the God and Country Award.

A Senior at Springfield High School, Matt is President of Thespian Society, Vice President of Latin Club, and a member of National Honor Society, S.T.A.G.E. and Do Something Club. He is Entertainment Editor for THE SENATOR, SHS's student newspaper, and writes a monthly humor column. He is President of Springfield's Active and Creative Teen Theater and Captain of the Easily Amused Teen Improv Troupe, which is established. He teaches swimming at the YMCA, and studies in his spare time.

Matt hopes to attend the University of Southern California and major in Film Production.

Matt's maternal grandmother, Muriel Vanderwalker Hesel is a descendant of the Sarah Cox Kirby line.



Karl John Wiese, son of Mary and Mike Wiese, received his Eagle Scout rank at a Court of Honor on 3 August 2003 in Milford, Nenraska.

he joined the Cub Scouts in first grade in 1992. By 1997 he was a full fledged Boy Scout in the Cornhusker Council and went on to earn all the badges and ranks necessary to make Life Scout by 1999 and then in 2002 the Order of the Arrow.

He helped start a puppet ministry group with his local scout group called Venturing.

A Boy Scout intending to work toward Eagle Scout must choose and execut a project for the benefit of the community, church or school.

karl chose as his project the remodeling of s storage roon at the United Methodist Church to create a craft room.

Karl was awarded a lifetime membershi; in the elite group of Eagle Scout.

He has served on scout camp staff for several years, in addition to his regular scout duties.

Karl is a senior at the Milford, Nebraska High School.

Karl's maternal grandmother, Louise Martin Welsch is a descendant on the John Washington Cox line.

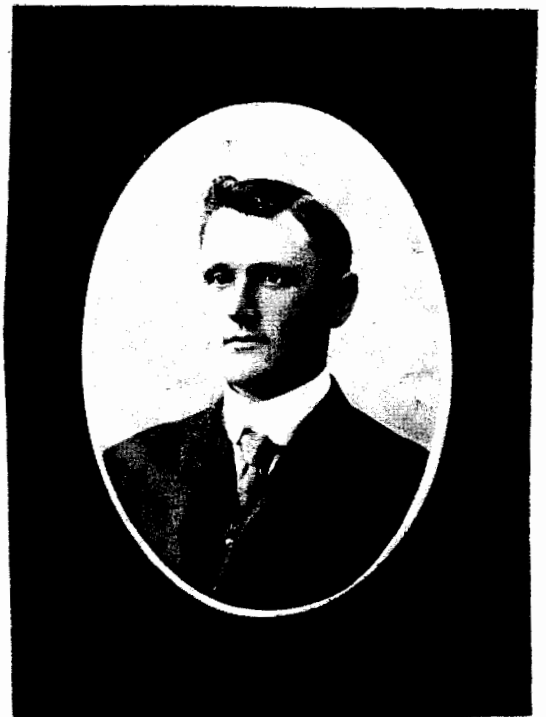
I was looking through a box of old Cox pictures. Most are not identified. If you who they are please let me know. Bill Utermohlen is looking for old pictures for the Cox book that is being written.

Ruth Anna Hicks



C. W. Atkinson

Moline, Ills.



This picture was taken in Pawnee City, Nebraska and may have been of someone in the Kenneth Cox family or perhaps Kenneth himself