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April 8, 1995

Rev. Dr. Robert E. H. Peeples  
8 Moon Shell Road  
Hilton Head Island, SC 29928

Dear Doctor Peeples:

First, please let me express that I have not solicited from anyone permission to write to you. Your name has come up in past correspondence with Ms. Ruth Elsom of Savannah, now deceased, Ms. Julia Youmans of Brunson, SC (a relative of mine) and Mrs. Janet Anderson of San Jose, California with whom my son Kirk and I correspond with regularly. In fact, Janet has sent me a recent letter that she received from you. It is certainly not my wish to offend you by writing without prior permission but was so excited with some of the information you released to Janet and others that I just had to make contact.

Secondly, I am a direct descendent of the Youmans, Peeples, Owens and Manker lines and hope that you may be able to shed a little more light on these people. My son and I have done considerable research on these families but still have many gaps to fill. We also do Civil War research participation concerning these families. Kirk is an excellent historian and is extremely knowledgeable in the Civil War field. Of course being so far away from our roots make it difficult to just go to the library or court house and dig out this information, so we wind up writing letters, telephone calls, etc. to obtain various information. We do get to make visits to SC (but not often enough) to do some of our search. In fact Kirk has just returned from a two week trip to SC.

Briefly I will attempt to list my Youmans Family connection. Starting with Levi (Levy) Youmans (abt. 1750-1825) my 5X Grandfather to William Youmans Sr. to James Peeples Youmans to William Forrest (Franklin?) Youmans to Jessie Leroy Youmans to Florence Elizabeth Youmans (my Mother) who married John Seidle Rogers, Sr. whose family ties are in old Edgefield District, SC. As you know William Sr. married Mary Peeples, James Peeples married Elizabeth Owens and further but maybe not know by you, William Forrest or Franklin? married Jessie Manker and Jessie Leroy married Elizabeth (Lizzy) Ruth Dunn Youmans Quattlebaum. My Grandfather Jessie Leroy was killed, shot to death by a bootlegger, near Hartsville, SC on April 3, 1923. He was a Federal Revenue Agent. Possibly you may have known or heard of him as he was originally from Hampton County, near Estill & Luray. He was killed prior to my birth but I have visited his grave in Batesburg Cemetery where he is buried along with his wife Elizabeth (Lizzy) and his sister, Minnie Youmans Jones and her husband Barrett Jones and their daughter Nell



Jones Hicks and her husband Dr. David Y. Hicks. I also have an infant brother, Lee Youmans Rogers (1931) buried there.

Just a quick run down on myself, Born in Batesburg, SC, 9/7/27, live there until 1938 when family moved to Hampton County. Lived right on Black Creek and what is now the west edge of George Warren Pond on the same road Black Creek Baptist Church is on. Went to school in Estill until Jan 1941 when family moved nearer to Brunson to a location on old Potogalio Road and road from Brunson that goes past Brunson Cemetery intersect. Completed Brunson High School in 1944, enlisted in U S Navy very soon after my 17th birthday as a Seaman, rose through all enlisted grades to Master Chief Radioman prior to receiving a commission and retiring in July 1968 as a Lt. Moved to Maine shortly after retiring from USN and have been in General Contracting business since that date. Married Bernice Elizabeth Kirk of Philadelphia (6/24/1950) , have four children, son John III LtCol. USMC, son Kirk who lives in Auburn and works for me, daughter Maryann, married and lives in Whitman, Mass and daughter Susan, married and lives in Auburn. Have 11 grand children and love very much all of the above. You can see I increased the world population. Enough about me and on to a few items I would like to know about.

Do you have any information on Levi (Levy) Youmans. Who was his wife? Any information on his parents and any of his brothers and sisters. Have two versions concerning Levi, he came to colonies in 1775 as a British Officer, fought for the Crown in the Rev. War, arriving from Bermuda, Barbados or St. Kitts Island and originally being from Bristol, England area.. The other version is that he came to SC from VA/NC in 1700's. Seems he was a Tory, fought for the Crown, which I can not verify, was forced out of SC in about 1782, went to St. Augustine, Florida, where he had a daughter born named Mary who married a Manker later in SC, then possibly to Bermuda prior to returning to SC to reclaim his lands near Black Creek in now Hampton County. Do know that his name is listed on land deeds in 1795 as being in that area. He showed in SC 1790 census along with several children. Would love to know more concerning Levi. Did he have brothers and sisters? Exactly where did they come from in England?

My 3X Grand Father James Peeples Youmans, where was his home located before and after Civil War? Was it across Black Creek Church Road from where I describe where I first lived in Hampton County. Incidentally, where I lived, the property was owned by Aunt Minnie Youmans Jones and I was told that it was formerly MANKER lands. Any info you may be able to shed on any of this would be extremely appreciated.

Janet Anderson is attempting to cover the Owens line so Kirk and I are persuing the other lines. We pass her any information we can concerning the Owens family and associated other families. She to is unfortunately very far away but we do correspond very often.

Kirk and I would love to be able to join The Society of First Families of South Carolina, 1670-1700 and think we can do this through our Peeples line, maybe also on the Youmans line. Tracing through the Peeples side, my 4X Grand Mother, Mary Peeples, who married William Youmans Sr., could be our connection. This brings in another issue in which we



need greater proof and understand that we can purchase from you, Anne Bradbury Peebles, Peebles/Ante 1600-1620 publication for \$28.50 for which you will find check enclosed. If in your opinion we qualify for membership would you please forward the necessary papers and cost amount associated.

Not wishing to take up too much of your time, I will close with these remarks. Any assistance in our research that you can provide will be greatly appreciated. Having lived near Estill & Brunson for a few years will help me in identifying any locations you may be able to provide. It has been 51 years since I left there but I still consider it home. Still have sister and brother, Ruth Rogers Boles and Joseph Robert Rogers that live in Brunson. Do not get to visit to often but we do keep in touch.

Thank you for your time. Will be looking forward to hearing from you.

Peace and God Bless.

Yours Truly,

*John S. Rogers, Jr.*  
John S. Rogers, Jr.  
Lt. USN (Ret.)

P.S. When <sup>I WAS</sup> very young my aunt Maud Youmans who married Charlie Rhodes (formerly of Estill area) lived in Bateburg and I visited them very often - Aunt Maud and Aunt Mennie were my Grandfather, Jesse Leroy, sisters. Maud is buried in Sawtoothville Cemetery. I think you mentioned them both in a letter I have seen that you sent to some relative of mine.

THANKS

*JSR*

Saw name of your Cousin, James P. Kelgo, Athens, Ga and am writing him concerning plantations mentioned.



John S. Rogers, Jr.  
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April 23, 1995

Rev. Dr. Robert E. H. Peeples  
8 Moon Shell Road  
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Dear Dr. Peeples:

Received your most welcomed letter with all of the good information. Thanks for taking time to answer me.

We do have the common connection that makes us relatives. I thought when I first wrote to you that this was true but just did not have your line connection at that time.

It is strange that we never crossed paths in person. As a youngster in Batesburg I went to Aunt Maud's and Uncle Charlie's home very often. In fact the Grammar School was only about a block from their home and many times I went by to see Aunt Maud after school before going to my home about 1 1/2 miles away. My home was on the Aiken side of Batesburg on Old Route US #1. The old Rt. 1 had been straightened and the new Rt. 1 was about 600 feet across a field from my home. Our home is no longer there but it was the Old home of my Grand Father Jessie Leroy Youmans, when he lived in Batesburg. My Grand Mother Elizabeth Dunn Youmans (Quattlebaum) owned the place and lived there for some time after her second husband, William Quattlebaum of Leesville, died. She sold the place in late 50's or early 60's and moved to Brunson and lived the remainder of her days with my parents. In fact my Mother died prior to her death and she lived with my Father & sister, Ruth Boles, until her death in 1968.

I remember the children of Maud & Charlie, but over the years have lost touch with all of them. I do correspond with William D. Chisolm, Jr. in St. Augustine. We have made a pretty good connection as he is twice connected in the Youmans line. We pass info back and forth as we come up with something new.

I remember Aunt Zeenie and was at her home in Estill a number of times. My Mother used to go see her quite often and when I was home from Navy on leave, I went with my Mother a few times to visit her.

My son Kirk and I add everything we can get to our computer listing of any of our relatives. You will see that we have added your link to it. I am enclosing read outs of what we have and would appreciate you reviewing them for accuracy. This information

has been gathered from many sources and authenticity in some cases are doubtful. Of course it is the best we have. Will enclose two (2) copies of each listing, one you can mark up and return to me if you desire to review and correct and the other you may keep for your records if you desire. We also will include what we think is from you and back on your family. Please look at this also for accuracy.

One we have tried to run of the Peeples and the other on the LEVY Youmans line. At least all we have at this time. There are many gaps but we will attempt in the future to fill them in.

I also suspect that Levy Youmans descended from William Yeomans and Kirk and I are going to search further in this area. If you should have any information or know where it can be found concerning Levy as the Captain in the siege of Savannah in 1779 I would appreciate a copy or where to locate it. You are correct concerning the Loyalists during the Rev. War. Many families were split and fought for both sides. We feel sure Levy was a Loyalist and are proceeding along those lines. I am going to Ottawa, Canada in June or July for a short mini-vacation and plan to look in the British Colonial Officer's records there to see if I can get any trace on Levy. Sure would like to know what the maiden name of his wife was. Ruth Elsom told me Leachmere or Devoee but she was not sure.

I do believe that you may be correct in assuming that James Ephriam Youmans may have been as son of William (Gilly) & Mary Peeples Youmans. The time frame fits and there are some Youmans' that we can not put in line just as to where they fit in. If James Ephriam was their son it may account for some of the gaps. Do you know where and how RUBEN R B C or possibly Ruben R B C I Youmans fit in? Who was his Father? Could he have been son of James Ephriam?

I could go on and on but do not desire to bore you. Again I wish to thank you for your input and it is most appreciated. Received the Peeples book and am trying to digest it. That was a prompt delivery.

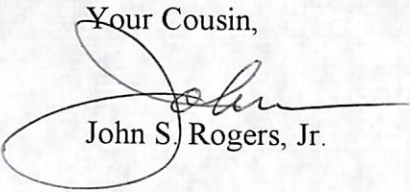
We, along with Janet Anderson, are pursuing the OWENS line and hope we can make a connection. Do think that all of these people could have been relatives from past linkage or were extremely close neighbors. There are just too many names attached to various deeds, land grant records and other information for them not to have been very closely related or lived extremely close together. Of course the many records that were destroyed in Civil War and by various fires over the years have made it difficult for us to trace as we would like to. Have recently obtained a copy of "South Carolina Newspapers" compiled by John Hammond Moore (a book) for 1732-1978 that I can use to look for various information. Probably some of these records are not available but maybe I can locate them in Univ. of SC Library in Columbia. This is one of my next search areas when I come to SC again, and I plan to include the Land Grant sections, etc. in Charleston. Do hope the Good Lord gives me the time to do this.



If there is any information that I may have that you would like to have access to please let me know. I do know that my information is limited but I will certainly share what I have with you. Hope you had a great time at the Rhodes Reunion. Doubt Kirk and I will ever qualify for Society of First Families of SC but we will keep digging just in case.

Drop a line if you so desire. Always enjoy hearing from anyone that shares a common bond. Peace and God Bless.

Your Cousin,

  
John S. Rogers, Jr.

P.S. Thanks for all the good info on James Peebles Youmans. Really have a interest in finding out all I can about him. Do have a great record of his Civil War service and mention of him by name and where he was located during the battle of Honey Hill. This is from record of Col. Colcock's son that was printed in the Charleston paper about 1898.

*Print is quite small and you may need a  
glass to read it. My computer droped part of  
various info if I go to a larger size  
~~the~~ print.*

*JR*