

From the files of Lilla RENFRO and moeth Effie Torue MOYE Renfro

e-mail: [lilla@centurytel.net](mailto:lilla@centurytel.net) Home page: <http://www.familytreemaker.com/users/r/e/n/Effie-T-Renfro/>

This story about Elias H. Scaggs and Effie Eliza (Cook)'s Family is told by their daughter, Dora SCAGGS Moye Cathey, my Grandmother. It comes from JoJo's Genealogy Book, pages 66-68. JoJo married Clarence Peppers, son of Elmer Peppers and Isabel Scaggs. After Clarence died JoJo married Vernon Johnson. Her book is:

Title: Descendents of Cresor-White Scaggs-Peppers  
© 1992 by JoJo Johnson, Longview Washington  
Printed by Rosemarie Harshman - Vancouver, WA  
Order from: W.V. Johnson; 651 Stella Rd.; Longview, WA 98632

Effie Torue MOYE Renfro is dau. of Dora SCAGGS Moye Cathey, and niece of Isabel SCAGGS Peppers.

There were a couple of 100% proven factual errors in the original printing that we corrected here. I did some minor editing to improve the readability in a couple of places, and added some comments as footnotes.

Maps: I found Slim Post Office (Historical) on USGS-GNIS. I found a place called Slim using both USGS and Microsoft Streets 2001, it is abt. 6 miles due north of Valliant. Pollard is on the 1915 McCurtain Co. map. I found Pollard School using USGS-GNIS. I found Marshall Hill School using USGS-GNIS. I found Mount Grove using MS Streets 2001; it doesn't give any statistics, so I assume it is a small community. USGS-GNIS doesn't show it.

USGS-GNIS shows both a Spring Hill and a Springhill Township in Hempstead County, south of Hope. This Spring Hill is on MS Streets 2001, but judging from the USGS-GNIS map, Spring Hill is about 7 miles south of Hope. Spring Hill is a little SE of Hope and is a little NW of Patmos. On USGS-GNIS, the dot used to identify the Township of Springhill is half way between Spring Hill and Patmos.

Lilla

## The Elias H. Scaggs and Effie Eliza COOK Scaggs Family Story

The Elias H. Scaggs and Effie Eliza COOK Scaggs Family Story  
told by their daughter, Dora SCAGGS Moye Cathey, at age 87 (1991)

The year our father was born was 1860. That year, the Pony Express made its first eleven day trip to California from the East Coast. Also, Abraham Lincoln was elected to the presidency and South Carolina had seceded from the Union.

Our father, Elias Scaggs, was born in Hempstead County, Arkansas, town of Hope in September of 1860. Our mother, Effie Eliza Cook, was born in Poinsett County, Arkansas on September 25, 1865. They married in Louisiana in 1883.

In Louisiana, 10 children were born, six passed away while we were there. They had two sets of twins, a set of girls and a premature set of boys, all passed away while young. My brothers and sister, George, Paralee, Hermit and Carl were all born in Louisiana. In 1898<sup>1</sup> we moved to Hope, Arkansas. In Hope, Guy was born on August 1, 1899; Isabel on January 15, 1902; Dora on December 14, 1903; and Eva on June 14, 1907. They were all born in a small place called Spring Hill<sup>2</sup>, Arkansas, seven miles south of Hope. Three days after Dora was born, December 17, the Wright Brothers plane, the Kitty Hawk, was lifted off the ground. That same year Henry Ford sold his first Model A for \$850.

Paralee passed away in Missouri<sup>3</sup>; George Alexander born July 24 1891 passed away in Idabel, Oklahoma; Carl Alvin passed away at Slims, Oklahoma December 14, 1910; Hermit passed away in 1955 in California; Eva died in 1965 in Oklahoma.

We moved from Arkansas in 1908 to Idabel, Oklahoma and farmed two years. Then Papa bought forty acres of land north of Valliant at a post office settlement called Slim, Oklahoma. Papa and the oldest boys camped on the land and cut enough logs and had lumber made out of them to build a four room house. The floors were made out of 1 x 12 lumber. My Papa planed the lumber by hand for the floors.

We moved into our new home in 1910<sup>4</sup>. We had no screens until 1917. Our brothers soon left home and the hard work was left for us girls. Papa wouldn't have a double shovel plow or a cultivator, so we had to plow with a single stock which took two rounds to a row and two to the middle. We were made to get up at 4:00 a.m., summer and winter and in the farming season we harnessed the old mule and was in the field by good daylight. Went to lunch at 12 noon and back in the field by 1:00 p.m. and quit at dusk, six days a week. The cows to milk, planting of the crops and harvesting. We washed clothes on a rub board and heated our water outside in a big iron tub, the water we packed from the creek in buckets. Bread or corn bread was made fresh every two days.

We had our own milk and butter and raised pigs and killed and smoked our own meat. We canned fruit and raised a garden for our summer and winter food. We raised corn, cotton and oats on the farm. We also raised sorghum cane and an abundant crop of sweet potatoes, also chickens to eat and eggs.

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<sup>1</sup> They would have moved sometime after 2 Mar 1897 when Elias was granted 80 acres in Union Parish LA under the Homestead Act, and before 1 Aug 1899 when Guy was born in Hope Ark.

<sup>2</sup> This family appears in the 1900 Census in Springhill Twp., Hempstead Co., AR

<sup>3</sup> She died 1960-1970 in Eldon, Miller Co., MO according to our records.

<sup>4</sup> This family appears in the 1910 Census in Township 4, McCurtain County, OK

## The Elias H. Scaggs and Effie Eliza COOK Scaggs Family Story

During World War I Papa took out a loan and fixed up our house and put new wire around the land which replaced the rails. The rails were from the oak trees on our land that our brothers had cut and built the fences from before they all left home. Papa was unable to repay the loan and we lost the place in 1920.<sup>5</sup>

We attended a school named Mount Grove, one quarter mile west of our home. It was built in 1916 and is still standing and looks the same. It is a community building now. From 1910 to 1917 we attended school in a one room plank building, one mile west of our place which was called the Moran School. Moran donated the land for the school house and the Moran<sup>6</sup> Cemetery is where George and wife, also Carl and three of Guy's children are buried.

Our clothes were made long waisted and our shoes were high lace up.

Isabel married Elmer Peppers. Elmer's folks were raised at Caddo Gap, Arkansas. After he was discharged from the army, World War I, he was in France during the fighting, he came to our community. He hired as a farm laborer to a man whose farm joined ours on the East side. He got acquainted with Isabel soon after and they were married in 1920.

President Wilson was in office and Mae West introduced the "shimmy" dance in New York City. Elmer went to work for the Choataw Lumber Company in Wright City, Oklahoma. Later he tried farming with no success so he went back to what is called "Mule Skinning" north of Wright City for the same lumber company. After a year or two he tried farming again and continued until World War II and then they moved to Longview, Washington.

When Elmer was a boy his Dad owned a Grist Mill. That is a mill that grinds dry corn into meal. People raised the corn and let it dry on the stalk before they gathered it. They shelled the corn off the cob and took it to the mill and had it ground. Mr. Peppers took part of the corn for his work. Elmer helped his Dad run the mill. When Christmas came around they felt lucky to have an apple or an orange for a treat. No trees or presents to make the day special.

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<sup>5</sup> This family appears in the 1920 Census in Fowler Twp., McCurtain Co. OK. Isabel Scaggs marries Elmer Peppers on 19 Sept of 1920, their Marriage Certificate states both are from Slim. The Family Bible of George W. Moye & Tempie Ann (Scott) states that Tommy Moye and Dora Scaggs married 8 May 1921 in Slim.

<sup>6</sup> We found tombstones for all except Guy's children. They might be in unmarked graves, or maybe daughters with unfamiliar married names. Mom said she saw a rock near Elias tombstone that she thought might be an unmarked grave.