

# Coppage-Coppedge Family Newsletter

Kynd Kynn Knawn Kepe

May 2026

## Message from Your CCFA President 2024-2025

**Donna A. Freeman**

Here we are at the beginning of May, and only three months from our 78th annual reunion.

The reunion will be held at Graves Mountain Farm and Lodge in Syria, Virginia on July 31 through August 2, 2026.

I hope you will make plans to attend this year's reunion. If you plan to attend and need lodging, please make your reservations now and no later than June 30 by calling Graves Mountain at 540-923-4231 and reference the Coppage-Coppedge Family Reunion. Rooms will not be held after June 30, 2026, so make your reservations now!

Graves Mountain Farm and Lodge  
205 Graves Mountain Lane  
Old Blueridge Turnpike  
Syria, Virginia 22743  
540-923-4231

[www.Gravesmountain.com](http://www.Gravesmountain.com)

The room rate for 2 nights is \$333.11. tax included. Breakfast is \$ 17.83. Lunch can be purchased at the Graves Store a short distance from the Lodge. The buffet Banquet meal is \$41.00 for non-members.

### Reunion Schedule of Events

- Friday, July 31- Social Gathering begins at 6 PM.
- Business meeting at 7 PM (Note this change)
- Saturday, August 1st – Banquet Dinner at 6 PM

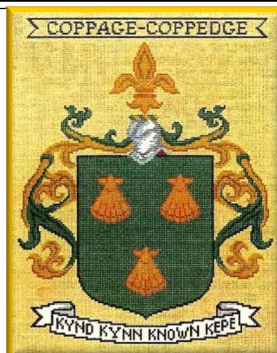
### Things To Do Around the Area

Wineries: DuCard Vineyard 3 miles, Blue Quartz 7 miles, Revalation 8 miles, Prince Michel 15 miles, Early Mountain 14 miles

Orchards: Graves Mountain Farm, Jenkins Fruit stand 15 miles, F.T. Valley Farm at Mont Medi 15 miles.

Hiking: White Oak Canyon Falls, Dark Hallow Falls, Rose River Falls, Stony Man Mountain Summit Lookout, Rose River Fire Road and many more around the property.

Other Sites: Shenandoah National Park 25 miles, Town of



Little Washington VA 20 miles, Yoder's Country Market 12 miles, The Ole Country store and bakery 20 miles, Plow and Hearth 15 miles

Unique Shops: East Davis Street in Culpeper, VA. This area was transformed from a 19th Century railway commerce hub into a thriving, brick-lined business district 25 miles. Once again, this year the CCFA is covering the cost of the reunion dinner for all dues paying members in good standing.

### Banquet Dinner and Membership Dues

If you are a current dues-paying member through at least 2024, 2025, the 2026 membership dues are now due. Please complete the enclosed dues form and include the number of individuals planning to attend the reunion/banquet. If you plan to bring a non-member, the cost for their meal will be \$41.00. Please attach a note with the name of the non-member(s) to the form.

Make check payable to:

***Coppage-Coppedge Association, Inc.***

Mail the form and payment to the CCFA Treasurer:

Chris Coppage  
1903 Bowen Way  
Forrest Hill, MD 21050

**Important Note**: For those attending the Reunion, please email me the following information:

1. Room reservation is complete or if lodging is needed
2. Number attending the banquet

[donnaAfreeman@gmail.com](mailto:donnaAfreeman@gmail.com)

This information is important and necessary to finalize meal planning for the reunion events and will help me plan for the correct number of rooms and banquet meals to reserve and plan for.

Thank you for keeping me informed and I look forward to seeing all of you at this year's reunion.

### Scholarship Information

The Hilda Willis Calloway Scholarship Fund was established in 1978 to provide supplemental book money to students pursuing their education and to encourage the growth and continuation of the annual reunions among

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young Coppage-Coppedge descendants. Visit the website [ccfa.website](http://ccfa.website) for a copy of the form.

Applications must be received by July 1, 2026, by mail or email to all three scholarship committee members. Addresses and email information is on page two of the scholarship form.

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## Dr. Oliver DeWitt Coppedge (1835-1906)

Dr. Oliver DeWitt Coppedge was born 15 Apr 1835 in the rural community of Cedar Rock, near Raleigh, North Carolina. He was the eldest of six children born to William Duvette and Henrietta Taylor (Drake) Coppedge.

Oliver was educated at Wake Forest College, and in 1854 began the study of medicine, graduating from the University of Pennsylvania two years later. He began the practice of his profession in North Carolina, but six months later moved to Texas, settling at Concrete, where he once more began his labors of healing the sick and afflicted.

In 1859, he married Mary Susannah Stevens (1842-1902) in DeWitt County, Texas. She was a native of Mississippi and daughter of Joseph Sarah Ann (Steen) Stevens. They moved to Texas in 1846.

Oliver and Mary had four children:

- William Elisha (1869-1946)
- Mitchie Henrietta (1871-1951)
- Mary Henrietta (1873-1968)
- John Lawrence (1882-1951)

In 1861 Oliver went to Gonzales and joined Smith's Company, Wall's Legion, Confederate States of America (C. S. A.), but before the force could leave the state, Dr. Coppedge was taken seriously ill and was compelled to give up all idea of entering the service. He sent a substitute in his place and returned home to recover. About one year later, he joined the State troops, with which he served until the war was over in the capacity of Lieutenant. He practiced his profession very little after that. Farming and stock-raising interests fully occupied his time.

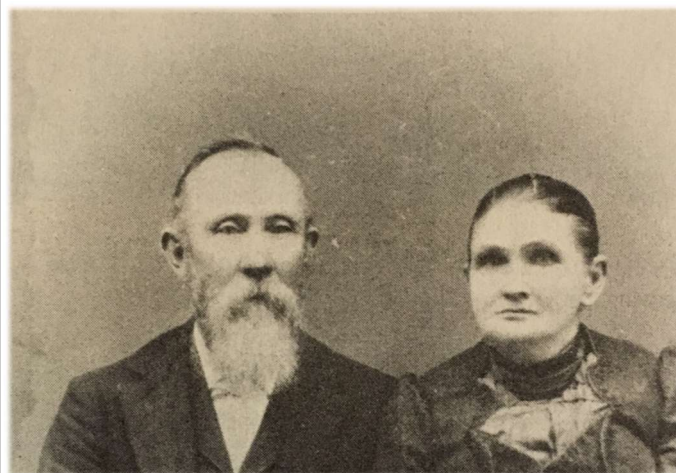
Oliver became one of the more prominent citizens in De Witt County, Texas. He ranked among its prominent

planters and stockbreeders. His estate comprised about 1,000 acres, of which 350 acres are under cultivation, and he devoted much attention to raising a good grade or stock. He was one of the first to introduce graded Jersey cattle into the county.

His property comprised the site of the first building erected in the village, which was made of concrete material, and from that fact gave the place its name. He has also devoted considerable attention to the raising of fruit, and has large orchards.

In 1868, Oliver erected a pleasant residence in Concrete, for he and Mary to enjoy the comforts of life.

His land stretched across the rich bottom of the beautiful Guadalupe River, and was very productive and valuable.



Mary Susannah passed away on Monday, 28 Apr 1902, at their home. Oliver and his youngest son continued to farm until his death on Friday, 9 Feb 1906, at their home. His death was due to pneumonia. Oliver was buried in the Concrete cemetery on the following day, next to Mary.

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Please send comments, recommend topics, or submit stories for the newsletter to Mike Oaks at:

[ccfagenealogy@gmail.com](mailto:ccfagenealogy@gmail.com)

We will share it with our cousins.

Remember to check the CCFA website to find the current newsletter, various forms and updates:

[ccfa.website](http://ccfa.website)