



CELEBRATING THE LIFE
of
BFRG CO-FOUNDER
JOHN HOYLE BURLESON
3 January 1947 - 26 August 2023

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From the Editor

BFRG is pleased to present this new issue of Recollections. You've no doubt observed our larger, more varied content. The feedback has been so positive so we'll continue with our tribute to old style magazines like the Saturday Evening Post, Look and Like. Homage to our history, get to know your cousins, family milestones and light-hearted material will find their way into the mix.

This current product is fortunate to include gifted historian Gerry Booth's continuation of her "Texas Journey" series. A goodly amount of Burlson and cousins more artistic pursuits appear. Each November we highlight stories of the heroism of our own for Veterans Day. For late October we've folded in some creepy or at least eerie Halloween fare.

As noted by a fellow researcher, Dave Burlson this is the 25th Anniversary of the Recollections Newsletter. We hope everyone enjoys our new and expanded version.

Pictured, you see me with my new great grandson Wyatt Theodore Breese. The image is intended to remind us all to study our family's stories, retell them and especially search for ways to include our younger generations. Get those stories into Recollections by emailing bfrginfo@gmail.com, post often on our Facebook page "Cousining" and give us your submissions for Susanne Hollyfield's "Campfire Anthology." Include many many pictures-label them all. If a picture is worth a thousand words, a picture related to family history is even greater. We hope you enjoy this issue and encourage you to share the stories with the young ones in your life.



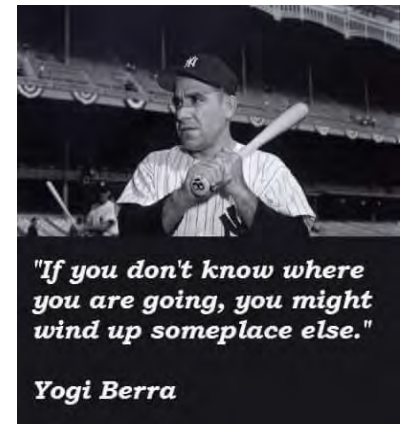
Researcher of the Month: Jim Burlson

BFRGs own Jim Burlson has been selected as its researcher of the month. You probably recognize him from our "Cousining" facebook page. Jim is our initial outreach person, seeking out cousins, substantiating lines and writing articles. His unusual family line pretty much makes him related to EVERYONE. He was born in Montgomery, Alabama's Maxwell Air Force Base- a military brat.

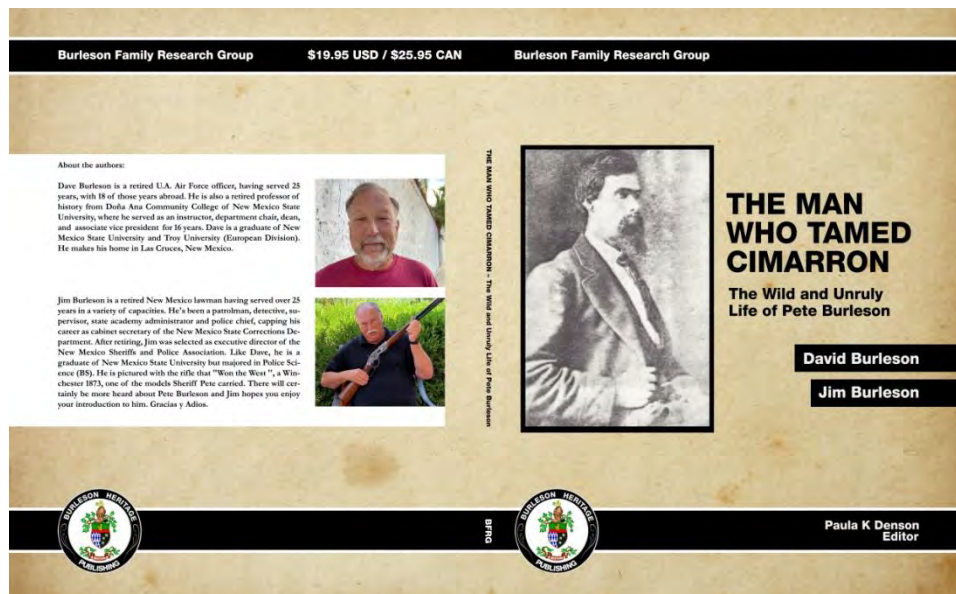
Born in 1954 to Ned Garner Burleson of Grassy Creek, North Carolina and Mary Frances Dupre' (Burleson) of Pine Prairie, Louisiana, his father's job took him to France, Louisiana, Memphis, Murfreesboro, Goldsboro, NC and Austin, Texas. Graduating from Del Valle High School Jim crossed town to enter the University of Texas. Two years later he transferred to New Mexico State University in Las Cruces earning a Bachelor's Degree in Police Science in 1977.

Skipping ceremonies, Jim began duty as a policeman in Farmington, NM. After thirteen years there Jim won assignment to Special Investigator with the Organized Crime Unit of the Attorney General's Office. A year later he became an administrator for New Mexico's State Law Enforcement Academy. Next he became Chief of Police for the NM statewide Motor Transportation Division (trucker cops/ports of entry. While there in his first full year his agency interdicted more illegal drugs than the state police, all 33 counties and 101 cities, He and his agency were recognized by the FBI's magazine "Law and Order" as the best agency in the country. Jim delayed his retirement at the governor's request to head New Mexico's Department of Corrections. Post retirement, 23 years ago, he was selected by his peers to run the New Mexico Sheriffs and Police Association.

Fully retired now for 20 years Jim plays lots of golf and enjoys genealogy. He's married to Lorinda, has three grown sons, two grown grandsons and two young granddaughters. He and best friend Wally the border doodle walk the trails of Santa Fe daily. He hopes to encourage you all to get/stay active with Cousining and BFRG. If you've taken bum advice from any other genealogy forum you might find yourself:



Jim co-authored with his brother Dave Burleson the Burleson Heritage Publishing biography of "The Man Who Tamed Cimarron, The Wild and Unruly Life of Sheriff Pete Burleson".



JD Burleson
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Remembering John Hoyle Burleson



BFRG lost its Co-Founder, John Hoyle Burleson, August 26, 2023, the heart and soul of our organization for over 28 years. Just a few short years later, we began publishing our BFRG newsletter, “Recollections”. That publication commenced 25 years ago. John was proud to have been a US Army Veteran. These events all give us pause to reflect on the important man life.

I knew John personally; he was my friend and I respected him tremendously. He leaves us a legacy that brings importance to family and getting our history right. We spoke often of the value in extended family get togethers. Not just for fellowship but for diligently swapping documents at our reunions. As we slowly incorporated bringing marriage certificates, obituaries, and the like to these parties, John insisted we began documenting attachments for posterity.

To formalize our collecting Burleson Family Genealogy Research, I contacted John and presented an idea about starting a group to document and record all our Burleson Heritage. He was so excited and encouraging we started making plans and we invited

others to join us at our first meeting.

For a decade we met with families, cleaned cemeteries and researched ancestors fairly independently. It was then we realized our genealogy must become more organized and supported with documentation. At the urging of his wife Nancy, John began working on a book he had been mulling over for years. Within four years he completed the long anticipated “*A Study of Early Burleson History*”. It has been an excellent primer for any Burleson Genealogist. BFRG’s 2023 Field Trip proved John Hoyle’s theories still hold up.


Burleson Family Research Group
\$19.95 USD / \$25.95 CAN
Burleson Family Research Group

About the author:

John Hoyle Burleson has been interested in his ancestry since birth being named for both of his grandfathers, he still uses both (John & Hoyle) of their names.


That interest has turned into a hobby that has taken up more than sixty years of his life. He has researched and written about other families in the greater Burleson Family like the Almonds, Hatleys, Harwoods, and has served as the Editor of the Stanly County Genealogical Society where he contributed many articles.


He is also a long time member of the Burleson Family Association and is presently on the Board of Directors of that National group. He has researched and contributed many articles to the BFA. He is a founding member of the Burleson Family Research Group, Inc of North Carolina that has met monthly since 1995 and publishes family books.




A STUDY OF EARLY BURLESON HISTORY

The Study of the First Burlesons Through the American Revolution







John Hoyle Burleson

JD Burleson
Series Editor

SFC John Hoyle Burleson

We honoring in the issue many US Veterans and wish to include John Hoyle as well. He was inducted in the US Army Reserves in 1966. He completed Basic Training at Fort Jackson, SC and Advanced Individual Training at Fort Hood, Tx.



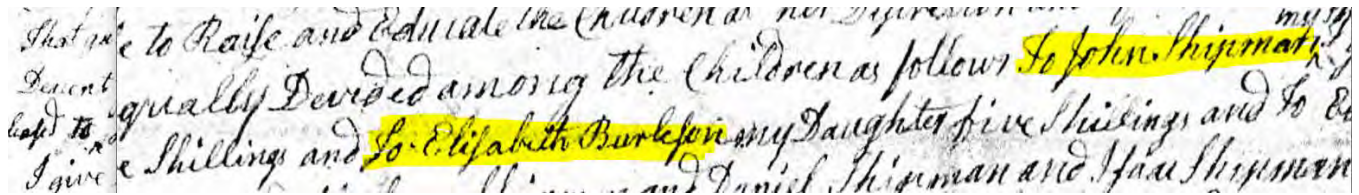
TEXAS JOURNEY

by Gerry Booth

To Okaw

Corrections:

- I have referred to the wife of Captain James Burleson as Jo Elizabeth Shipman. I picked up the “Jo” sometime way back there. I cannot remember where I first saw it. Elizabeth is listed as Jo Elizabeth on Find-A-Grave, where I may have first seen her name with the “Jo.” I thought “Jo” was to help distinguish her from all the other Elizabeth Shipmans. I was asked to prove it. I later saw the will of her father and it stated a bequest to “Jo Elizabeth” or so I thought. I offered this as my proof. However, Carrie Woolverton pointed out to me that what I thought was “Jo” is actually “To.” You see “To” before the names of other children. So the will does not prove the name, “Jo.” I stand corrected.

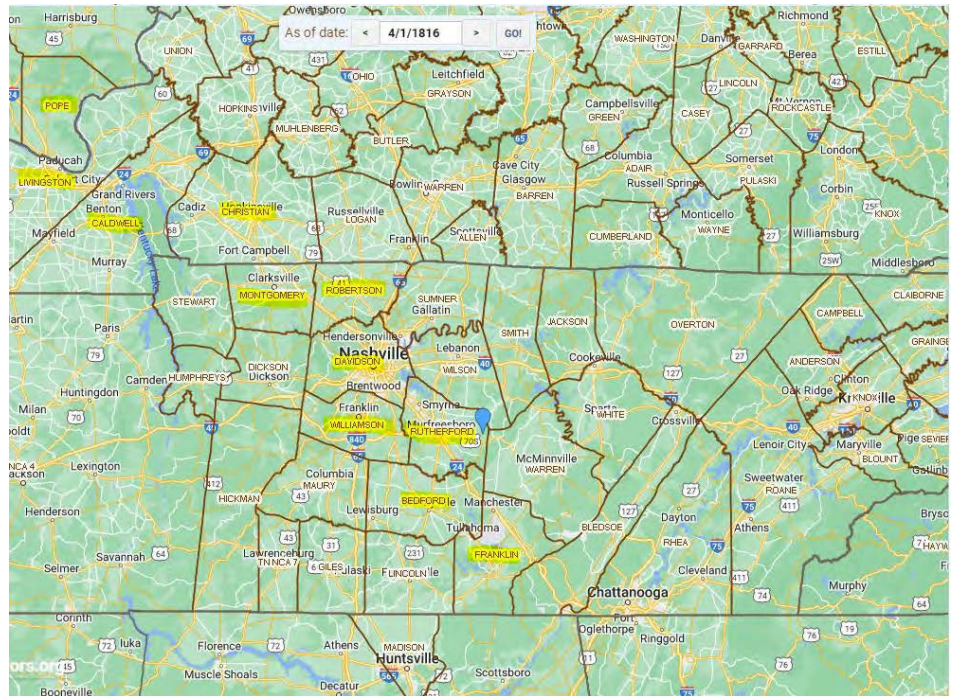


- In giving the death date for Elizabeth Shipman Saling previously, I stated the year as 1808. The date should have been between the years 1850-1857.

Changes: This article will have the excerpts from Daniel Shipman’s book not only indented in a quote format but also in bold and a different font. I hope this will make it easier for you to differentiate between my added comments and the writings of Daniel Shipman.



We left our journey with Moses and Mary Shipman about to cross into Illinois on their way to Missouri where they had planned to meet with “the old gentleman Burleson,” James Burleson. Moses and Mary had to leave their home in Franklin County, Tennessee in the fall of 1816, when Moses’ second cousin, Edward Burleson, killed the Cherokees at Moonee Town. When they headed out, they traveled north and west to Illinois. Assuming they traveled basically in a straight line the Shipmans traveled from Franklin County, Tennessee, to Bedford County, to Williamson County or Rutherford County, to Davidson County, to Robertson or Montgomery County, to Christian County, to Caldwell County, to Livingston County and finally to Pope County, Illinois. This is an educated guess. However, with this information in mind, we can look for other people who may have hosted the Shipman family during their journey, giving us better insight into the big picture of the Burleson/Shipman/Gage migration.



[This is a current map with the historical counties of 1816 overlaid.]

In 1816, Daniel Francisco also headed for Illinois. This is the same child that was identified in an earlier Texas Journey article written by Paul Scisco. Rebecca *Shipman* Francisco bore this child after she kept “evil company” while attending the Spring Creek Baptist Church located on the border of Jackson and Overton Counties, Tennessee. Recent DNA testing has confirmed that Daniel Francisco’s DNA matches with the Gages, not the Franciscos. Moses and Mary for the first time in about thirteen years, were very close to where their cousin, Daniel Francisco (Gage) was. Could Daniel Francisco (Gage) have traveled with Moses and Mary to Illinois? The late Francisco family historian, Shirley Wicker Hendrix suggested this possibility years ago.

From the book *Combined History of Shelby and Moultrie Counties, Illinois* we learn:

Daniel Francisco was a native of Alabama; he came to Illinois in 1813, and stopped in Greenville, at the Fort; he was but a mere lad then; his father and mother were both dead. Some trouble arose among the members of the family as to the division of the property of the deceased; said property consisted of six dollars in money and a gun. In the dispute Daniel picked up the gun, shouldered it, walked out of the house, came to Illinois direct, and never heard or saw any of the family afterward. How the assets were divided is yet unknown. He left the Fort and went to Montgomery County and about the year 1818 settled on Robinson Creek, in what was afterward Shelby County, and from that moved out on the Okaw river, then to Todd’s Point township, and died there in 1859.¹

It should be noted that Montgomery County, Illinois was formed in 1821 from Bond and Madison counties. There are more similar accounts of this story. Different accounts give different dates. A letter written by Henry Francisco, a grandson, pinpoints the year that Daniel made his journey to Illinois as 1816.

“Grand Pa Francisco was born down in Southern Alabama and he ran away from home just after his Father died, when he was 13 thirteen years old and never did write back. He came to Shelby County Illinois, to a saw mill on the Kaskaskia river, and Grewed up there; and when He was 18 years old He bought out the saw mill. He Pre-empted the first piece of land that was Pre-empted in Shelby County Illinois. Raised 10 boys and when He died He gave them each a Good Farm and the Town of Findlay today is on the Farm he gave to my Father.”²

The Francisco family has researched Daniel’s story for years. Where was Daniel, exactly, between 1816 when he left for Illinois, and when he married his wife, Charity Verdin on January 10, 1822? It is an interesting mystery and it may have connections to the same people that were part of Moses’ journey to Texas. I may not be able to solve this mystery but I can examine some of the people and locations that might give some insight into solving this puzzle and fill in some of the blanks in Daniel Shipman’s account of his journey to Texas.

We think the area Daniel “came from is the border area between Tennessee and what is now Alabama³.” This appears to be approximately the same area where the Moonee Town incident occurred. Starting with the departure from Tennessee after the incident at Moonee Town, and if Daniel ran away in the year 1816, it does coincide with Moses and Mary Shipman setting out for Missouri in the fall of 1816. If Daniel started earlier, he could have traveled part of the way with **James Burleson** (1775-1836) who left shortly after the Moonee Town incident in August of 1816 headed for Missouri. James was traveling with his wife, **Elizabeth Shipman Burleson** (1770-Abt.1834), and his thirteen children. Daniel Shipman never speaks of Elizabeth but he does write about her mother, Old Aunt Sarah Saling.

Perhaps Daniel Francisco (Gage) was just traveling by himself the whole time. However if he had relatives in the area he might have stopped at their home. So who could Daniel have known that lived along the path of his journey? Daniel did have three grown siblings.

¹ *Combined History of Shelby and Moultrie Counties, Illinois*, (Philadelphia, Brink, McDonough & Co., 1881). 299, <https://www.familysearch.org/library/books/viewer/223341/?offset=2#page=302&viewer=picture&o=search&n=0&q=daniel%20francisco>

² Eleanor “Totsie” Francisco (McElheny) (Arens), “Descendants of Daniel Francisco – “Danal Sisco” and Charity Cater Virden, 4.

³ Francisco (McElheny) (Arens), “Descendants of Daniel Francisco” 2.

Jacob Francisco (1788-1834) married **Sarah “Sally” Franks** (1788-1834) in New Market, Madison County, Alabama in 1811. They were still in the same area until Jacob died in 1834.

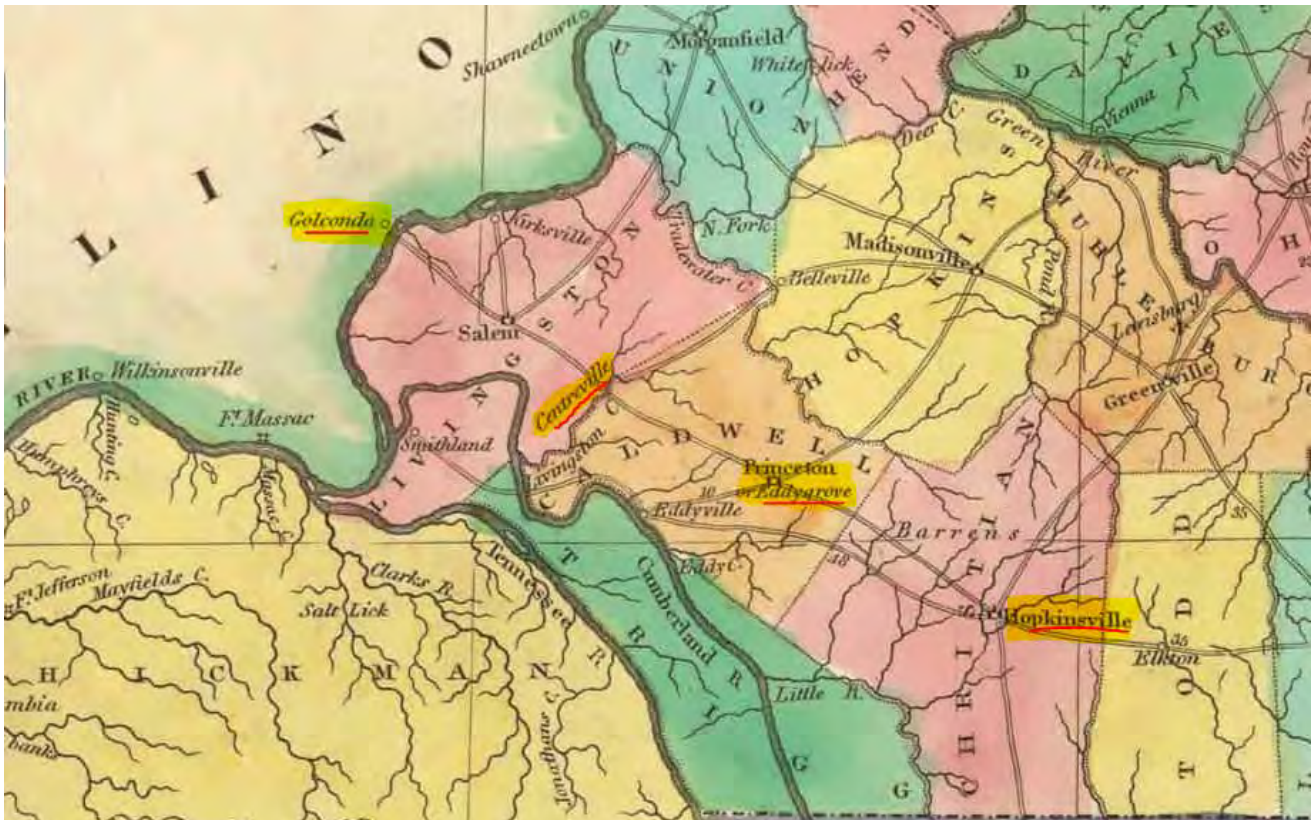
John Andrew Sisco (1789-1868) married **Phoebe Ann Turner** (1789-1855). They resided in Perry County, Tennessee on a large farm. John died on Cane Creek, in Hickman County, Tennessee.

Hannah “Anna/Anner” Francisco (1785-1871) married her first cousin **Daniel L. Lee** (1785-1863) in Tennessee in 1810. Hannah and Daniel had a son, Jacob born in Tennessee on February 9, 1815. In 1817 Daniel’s father died in Lincoln County, Tennessee.

In addition to these siblings, It is important to examine the unwritten about other relatives and places who might have played a part in the journey of Daniel Francisco (Gage), and maybe in Moses and Mary’s journey. Daniel Shipman does not tell us who is traveling with his family other than an occasional mention of a person who joins the family for part of the trip. The Shipmans may have traveled in a small wagon train but Daniel Shipman does not tell us.

We left Moses’ family in Eddygrove (renamed Princeton in 1817). There a brother of Moses Shipman named **George Washington Shipman** (1772-) joined the family.

I think in about eighteen or twenty miles we passed through an old dilapidated town called ‘Old Centerville.’ Passed through Hopkinsville, Christian county. Crossed the Ohio river at what was then called Furgerson’s ferry (since I have understood it is called Golconda on the Illinois side),⁴ when all across we went on to a large creek called Big Bay about fifteen or twenty miles, there we found a cousin of father’s, Daniel Shipman, a son of old aunt Sarah Saling, by her first husband. She and husband and son, Abraham Shipman, was all along with us; we stayed there two or three days,



⁴ Henry Charles Carey and Issac Lea, *Geographical, Statistical, and Historical Map of Kentucky*, 1822.

<https://mapgeeks.org/kentucky/#!fancybox/bcc44b8f/1822-Geographical-Historical-and-Statistical-Map-of-Kentucky.jpg>



The name of the settlement that Daniel called Fergerson's ferry, was originally Lusk's Ferry⁵, then it became known as Ferguson's Ferry, Sarahsville, and finally Golconda in 1817⁶



Sarah Kuykendall Shipman Saling (ABT.1749-AFT.1830), Old Aunt Sarah Saling was the daughter of **Abraham Kuykendall** (ABT. 1720-1812). Her first husband was **Jacob Shipman** (1746- 1794). She and Jacob Shipman had ten children. After Jacob died, Sarah married **George Saling** (1760-1770) who was 10 to 20 years younger than she was. They had no children.

George Saling, Old Aunt Saling, and two of her sons, **Daniel Shipman** (1780-1860) and **Abraham Shipman** (1775-1850) were in Golconda, Pope County, Illinois in 1816 when Moses and his family arrived there.

Old Aunt Saling's son Daniel Shipman, was married to **Zilpha Macom** (1786-Aft.1850). Daniel and Zilpha had migrated to Pope County in 1813 and had settled near Big Bay Creek.⁷

Daniel was listed on the supplemental census of Pope County in 1818. "In 1818 the legislature of the territory ordered a census to be taken, to substantiate the claim that the population was large enough to be organized as a state."⁸ In 1819, after Moses and Mary Shipman's visit, Zilpha gave birth to a son. Daniel and Zilpha named their son, Moses.

Old Aunt Saling's son, **Abraham Shipman** (1775-1850) married **Sulette "Letitia" Magby** (1789-1850) on June 14, 1805, in Rutherford County, Tennessee. Magby is an unusual name but we have seen it before. On the first Saturday of December 1805, **William Magby** (1756-1826) was received by letter as a member of the Spring Creek Church of Jackson and Overton Counties⁹. This was Letitia's brother. Magby is sometimes McBee.

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CENSUS OF POPE COUNTY, 1818 (Continued)

Names of heads of families	Free white males 21 yr. & upwards	All other white inhabitants
[109#] James A Whitsids	1	7
[110] William Goodman	1	2
[111#] Irenklen penny	2	4
[112#] Robart Hays	1	6
[113#] Widow Jonston		2
[114] William John	2	5
[115] James Hazelwood	1	1
[116#] thomas Roas	1	6
[117#] Abel Richison	1	9
[118#] William Hays	1	2
[119] John Arnut	1	3
[120#] Benjamin Bellard	1	4
[121#] George Storey	1	7
[122#] John Witt	1	12
[123] Robart penny	1	8
[124#] Hiram penny	1	6
[125] Enough penny	2	4
[126] William thomas	1	3
[127] Charels Hudelston	1	
[128] Daniel shipman	1	7
[129] John Statler	1	8

⁵ Golconda in Pope County, Illinois – *The American Midwest (Great Lakes)*, <https://www.hmdb.org/m.asp?m=155008> September 24, 2023

⁶ Lusk's Ferry, Illinois. (2023, August 20), *Wikipedia*, https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Lusk%27s_Ferry,_Illinois
https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Lusk%27s_Ferry,_Illinois#/media/File:Site_of_Lusk's_Ferry_1927.jpg September 25, 2023.

⁷ Carey's 1822 Geographical, Historical and Statistical State Map of Illinois, <https://mapgeeks.org/illinois/#!fancybox/3360e5b0/1822-Geographical-Historical-and-Statistical-Map-of-Illinois.jpg> September 25, 2023

⁸ Margaret Cross Norton, *Illinois Census Returns, 1810, 1818*, Illinois (Springfield, Illinois: State Historical Library, 1935), 148, <https://www.familysearch.org/library/books/viewer/546701/?offset=3#page=176&viewer=picture&o=search&n=0&q=%22daniel%20shipman%22>

⁹ *Minutes of the Spring Creek Baptist Church of Jackson and Overton Counties Tennessee 1802-1868(excluding the Civil War years)*, 11, <https://www.familysearch.org/library/books/viewer/470695/?offset=&return=1#page=11&viewer=picture&o=info&n=0&q=>

Old Aunt Saling had another son who remained in North Carolina named **Edward Shipman** (1771-1864). He was married to **Hannah Robinson Shipman** (1776-1870), Mary Davis Robinson Shipman's sister.

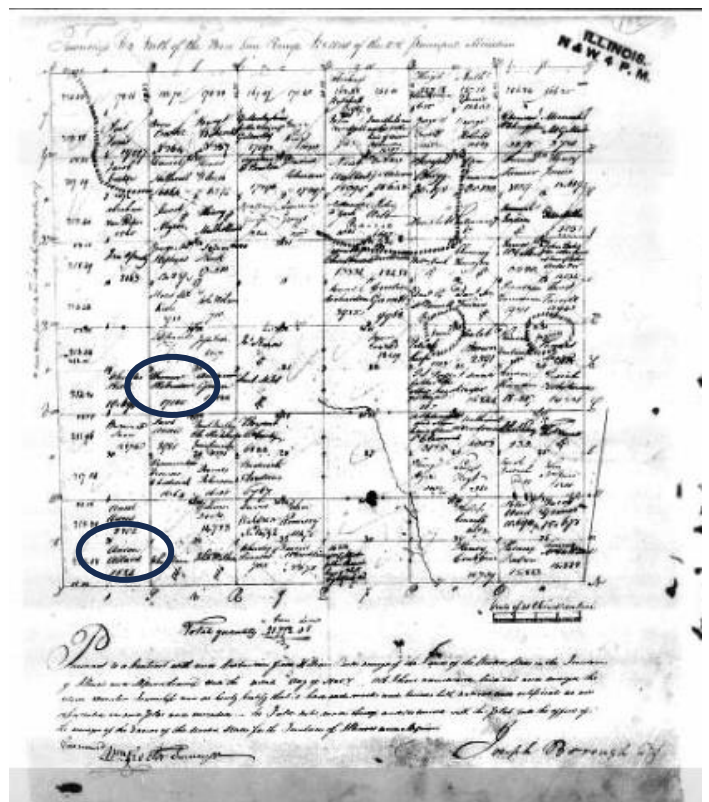
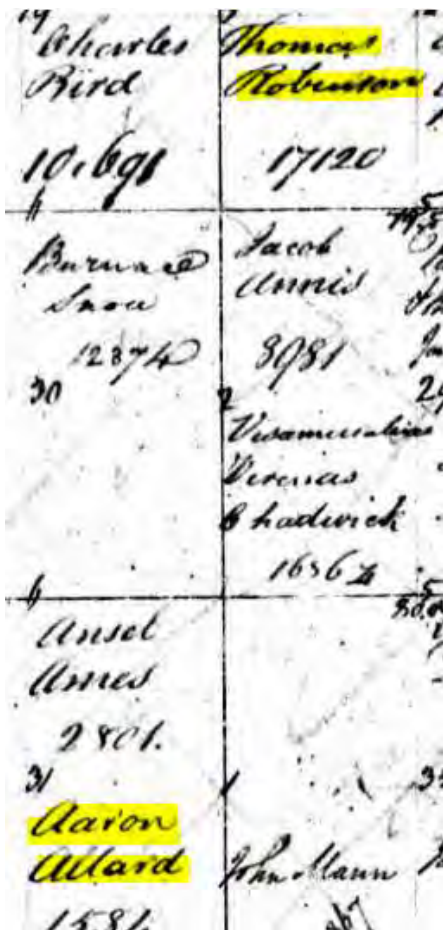
Was there any more family in the area? I found land records that suggest that there were other relatives in the Golconda area not mentioned by Daniel. In 1816 Pope County and Gallatin County were adjoining. I found a land record for Gallatin County in the Burselson Family Bulletin. It is a record of payment for land in the Shawneetown Land District. It was a record of the payments that John Burlison made for the land he was purchasing in Gallatin County, Illinois.¹⁰

Installment	No.	Location	Purchaser	Residence of Person	Dollars
7 Sep 1814	100	NW34, 5S, 10E	John Burlison	Gallatin Cty, IL	16.00
30 Sep 1814	143	"	"	"	64.00
7 Sep 1817	2188	"	"	"	80.00
2 Sep 1818	3970	"	"	"	79.91
160 Acres					

(I have not been able to determine which John Burlison this was. I ruled out John Burlison the brother of Mary Allard because he was in Alabama during these years.)

I searched on the Illinois state website and found several pages of possible relatives living in Illinois between 1814 and 1820. On Ancestry I found Township maps. I have attached a map which suggests two possible relatives. For you to see the names, I have enlarged that section of the map. The names are on the map of Township No. 2 North of the Base Line Range No. 8 West of the 4th Principal Meridian,¹¹ (Adams County) dated 1816, the year the Shipmans were there. The first name I found on the map was **Thomas Robinson** (1788-ABT.1855). I have not yet been able to tie this man to Mary Robinson

Shipman. Thomas Robinson is known in Illinois for being one of the first settlers on Robinson Creek in Shelby County.¹²



¹⁰ Potts, Marisue Burlison, "Land Records," *Burselson Family Bulletin* 7 no. 4 (1988): 927.

¹¹ <https://www.randymajors.org/listing-of-all-townships-in-the-us-public-land-survey-system>

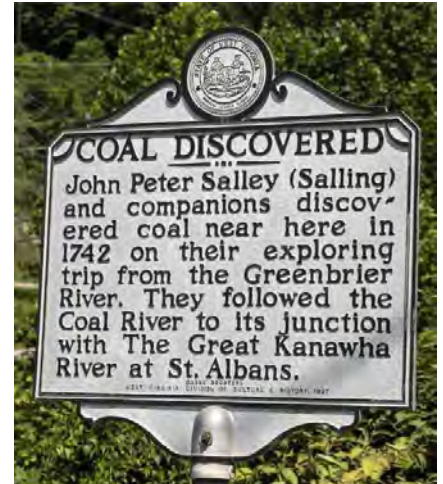
¹² "U. S. Indexed Early Land Ownership and Township Plats, 1785 - 1898," digital image s.v. "Robinson" (date and location:1816, Illinois), Ancestry.com. https://www.ancestry.com/discoveryui-content/view/29957:2179?_phsrc=vf1463&_phstart=successSource&gsln=robinson&ml_rpos=17&queryid=a799171d49c0c7ee655fbfd268abf17a

The next name that I discovered was **Aaron Hardin Allard** (1798-1865). He was the son of **David Allard** (1776-1816) and **Mary "Polly" Burleson** (1778-1818) the daughter of Aaron Burleson and Rachel *Hendricks*. One of Mary's brothers was Captain James Burleson. David Allard died in 1816, in Pope County, Illinois the same year that the Shipmans were there.

Aaron Allard had a brother, **James Burleson Allard** (1817-1949) and sister, **Lucy Allard** (1817-1918), born March 2, 1817 at Goshen Settlement, Illinois. Lucy married **J. Benjamin Pigman** (1814-). James married **Nancy Weaver** (1813-1911).

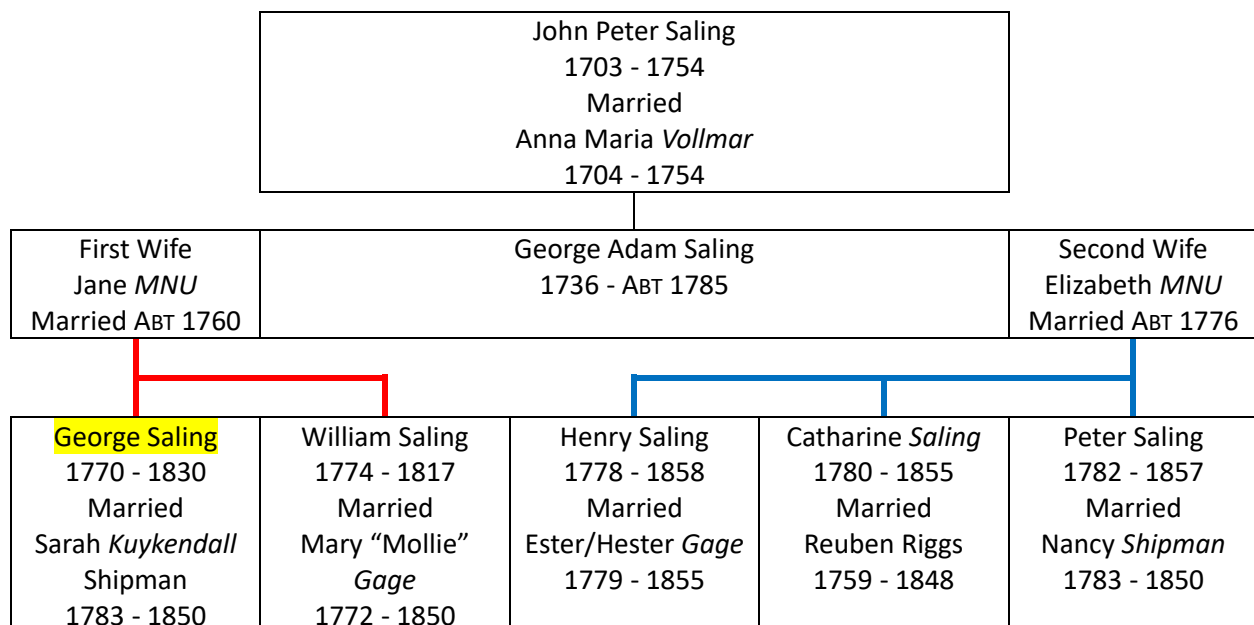
Interestingly, when I did other searches of the same two names, I found no results. I also reviewed my paper trails in my Ancestry tree. Since we have covered some of these relatives before, I chose to focus on George Saling's relatives. I have noticed the Saling name in many documents. I have mentioned George and some of his family before but not in detail. The family has several spelling variations of their surname but I will try to be consistent and use "Saling."

Most of the early Salings in America descend from two brothers **John Peter Saling** (1703-1755) and **George Saling** (1719- 1788). The Salings were from Alsace. John Peter Saling arrived in Philadelphia on September 18, 1733, with his wife, **Anna Maria Vollmar Saling** (1704-1754), and two daughters **Anna Catherina "Catrina" Saling** (1733-1809) and **Mary Elizabeth Saling** (1733-1809) who may have been born aboard ship. John Peter's brother, George Saling arrived in Philadelphia on August 28, 1750.



John Peter was asked by John Howard to join his expedition from "the Colony of Virginia to the westward of that colony as far as the river Mississippi."¹³ John Peter kept a journal of this journey which provided a better understanding of the territory west of the Virginia Colony. His "description of the rich lands west of the mountains increased the pressure for migration into what became known as West Virginia and Kentucky."^{14 15}

John Peter Saling was George Saling's grandfather.



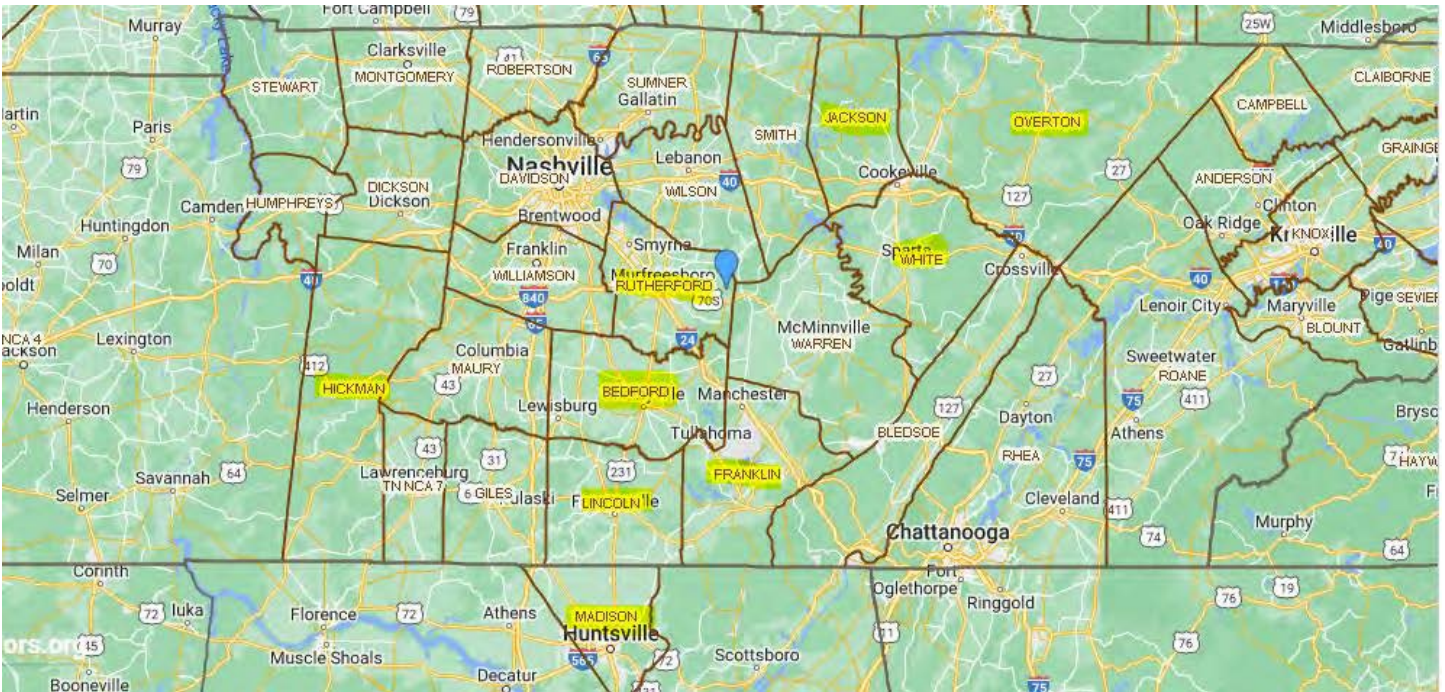
¹³ Jo Ann Smith and James H. Head, *The Saling Family in America* (Monument, Colorado, James H. Head, 2020), 25.

¹⁴ Smith and Head, *The Saling Family in America*, 35.

¹⁵ J. J. Prats. "Coal Discovered," Hmdb.org, September 25, 2023, <https://www.hmdb.org/m.asp?m=137510>

George had three brothers and a sister.

George's brother, **William Saling** (1774-1817) married **Mary "Mollie" Gage Saling** (1772-1850) in North Carolina before 1750. Since we now know that Daniel Francisco's DNA proves that he was a Gage, this makes Mollie and her relations of interest. Mollie's father was **Daniel Gage** (1756-1820) and he died in White County, Tennessee, just below Jackson and Overton Counties where Spring Creek Baptist Church was located. Mollie's Gage grandparents were **David Gage** (ABT. 1725-1807) a member of Sandy Run Baptist Church where he is buried and **Esther Shipman** (1730-1775) of Orange County, New York. Mollie's great-grandparents were **Abigail Burleson** (1710-1776), who married **David Gage** (1701-1770) who immigrated to America with his two half-brothers, Daniel, and Joseph Shipman.



[This map is a present-day map with the historical counties of 1816 overlaid.¹⁶]

I have also included a list of Mollie's aunts and uncles on her father's side of the family and some of their children, all Gages.

David Gage (1750-1829) married Love Rider. He died in White County, Tennessee.

Sarah Jane Gage (1750-1765) married **Jacob Shipman** (1746-1794). Sarah died one year after their marriage in North Carolina. Then Jacob married Old Aunt Saling, Sarah Kuykendall. Jacob was a member of Sandy Run Baptist Church. He died in North Carolina.

James Gage (1754-1837) married **Nancy Rose Gage** (1754-1845). He lived most of his life in North Carolina. In 1830 he appeared on the Tipton, Tennessee census. In 1837, he made his home in Arkansas, where he died in Madison County.

James Gage, Jr. (1790-) married **Nancy Webster** (ABT.1800-). James was on the Tax List for Bedford County, Tennessee in 1812. He married in 1820 in Lawrence County, Tennessee.

William Martin Gage (1792-1879) married **Clarissa Telitha Harris** (1800-1838). They married in 1815 in Hardeman County, Tennessee. They are listed on the 1820 census for Franklin County, Alabama

¹⁶ <https://www.randymajors.org> This map was made on this website. It has a tool that can be attached to your Ancestry or FamilySearch tree to track your ancestors' journey and to keep track of the correct historical counties. It also lists every township.

Aaron David Gage (1758-1844) married **Nancy Carter** (1768-1837). Aaron was a member of Sandy Run Baptist Church. He and his wife died in Lincoln County, Tennessee.

Samuel Gage (1785-1829) married **Mary Ann "Polly" Sneed** (ABT.1800-) on December 1, 1819, in Madison County, Alabama. He died in McNairy County, Tennessee.

Matthew Gage (1796-1850) married **Kettura MNU** (1799-). They married in Lincoln County, Tennessee in 1818. In 1820, they were listed on the census for Murfreesboro, Rutherford County, Tennessee.

Mary Esther Gage (1798-1870) married **Charles W. Westermann** (1798-1834). They were married in Lincoln County, Tennessee in 1818.

Jeremiah Gage (1750-1790) married **Lucretia "Lucy" Shipman** (1752-1839). Lucy was the daughter of Daniel and Elizabeth *Burleson* Shipman and the aunt of Daniel Francisco (Gage). Lucy died in Hardeman County, Tennessee.

William Gage (1760-). William was a member of Sandy Run Baptist Church. He died in North Carolina.

Mary Gage (1760-1846) married **Shadrach Green** (1763-1846). Mary was a member of Sandy Run Baptist Church, in North Carolina.

John S. Gage (1762-1817) died in Lincoln County, Tennessee.

Moses Gage (1764-1830) married Sarah *Wood* (1765-1789). Sarah was a member of Sandy Run Baptist Church, in North Carolina.

Reuben Gage (1770-1844) married **Abigail Burleson** (1774-1885). They were members of the Spring Creek Baptist Church located in Jackson and Overton Counties, Tennessee. They met Moses Shipman in Missouri in 1819¹⁷ and traveled to Arkansas with him.

Nancy Gage (1772-1815) married. **Joseph Burleson** (1770-1849). Nancy was a member of Spring Creek Baptist Church (1802-1807). Nancy died in Madison County, Alabama in 1815.

Jacob Gage (1775-) married **Sarah MNU**. Jacob lived his entire life in Rutherford County, North Carolina.

After William and Mollie married in North Carolina, they began a migration west to Kentucky and then to Tennessee. It is known that William and Mollie had at least ten children. Mollie reported William dead to the court in White County, Tennessee on February 28, 1817. It is not known when William died. He may have never come home from the War of 1812 and was given up for dead¹⁸. Mollie moved the family to Missouri. Their sons **Daniel Saling** (1792-1850), **John Saling** (1796-1850), **William Saling** (1801-1855), **James Saling** (UNK), and **Rumsey Saling** (1806-1883) were early settlers of Monroe County, Missouri.

George Saling had another Gage sister-in-law. **Henry Saling** (1778-1858), a half-brother to George Saling, married **Esther/Easter Gage** (ABT.1779-1855). They were married on June 21, 1800, in Warren County, Kentucky. Esther/Easter *Gage* was Mary "Mollie" *Gage's* sister. Two Saling brothers married two Gage sisters.

In 1803, Henry was on the Tax List in Warren County, Kentucky, on the Sinking Creek water course along with William Saling and Peter Saling. Henry appears on the 1812 Bedford County, Tennessee Tax List. About 1820 Henry and Esther moved to Howard County, Missouri, and became founding members of the Gilead Church.

"Although the 1830 and 1840 census list several children in the household, Henry and Esther do not appear to have had any children of their own."¹⁹

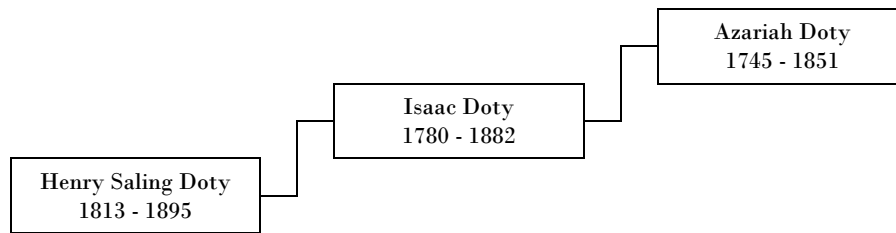
¹⁷ Daniel Shipman, *Frontier Life*, (1879), 8.

¹⁸ Smith and Head, *The Saling Family in America*, 63

¹⁹ Smith and Head, *The Saling Family in America*, 66

In 1845 there is an interesting historical record for Henry Saling.

January 31, 1845, Howard Co., Missouri: "In consideration of the natural love and affection Henry Saling and Easter his wife ('now old and infirm') have for Henry S. Doty" and for \$45, the Salings sell to Doty the quarter-section where they live. In return, Doty agrees to take care of them there the remainder of their days (and if he does not, the deal is rescinded). [Who is Henry Saling Doty (1813-1895)? Henry Doty's middle name is Saling and the explicit statement of natural affection (the warm feelings which exist between close relatives, which were considered to be a legal payment in a deed) indicates he is a close relative. However, the exact relationship has not been learned. Perhaps he was a ward of the Salings.]²⁰



Henry Saling Doty (1813-1895) was the grandson of **Azariah Doty** (1745-1851) (a familiar old name) who lived in Greene County Tennessee where Rachel Burleson, the widow of Aaron Burleson owned property. Azariah had loaned Aaron money. After Aaron's death, Rachel was in debt and needed money. She sold the land to Azariah in 1783 and paid her debts, including the amount owed to Azariah.

Henry and Esther Saling bought the land back from Henry Saling Doty on April 6, 1847.

George's half-sister was **Catherine Saling** (1780-1855) who married **Reuben Riggs** (1769-1848). The Riggs migrated through Tennessee and Kentucky and settled in Missouri by 1816. Reuben moved to Illinois where he wrote his will in Morgan County, in 1842.²¹ Peter and Catherine died in Berwick, Warren County, Illinois.

George's last brother was **Peter Saling** (1782-1857) who married **Nancy Shipman** (1752-BTW.1850-1857). In 1814, Peter was located on the Garrison Fork of Duck River in Bedford County, Tennessee²². In 1819, in Bedford County, Tennessee, Peter was appointed to represent John Cates of Howard County, Missouri "as Attorney to settle all his business in Tennessee."²³ Peter was on the 1830 census for Cole County, Missouri.

Nancy *Shipman* Saling was the daughter of **Daniel Shipman, Jr.** (ABT.1747-1831) and **Mary Elizabeth McMinn Shipman** (1752- 1808). On April 16, 1803, the Spring Creek Baptist Church agreed to pay Daniel Shipman three dollars to hew down the meeting house, according to the church records. This was the same day that the church received Daniel's nephew and his wife, Moses, and Mary *Robinson* Shipman. It was also the same day that Brethren Moses Shipman and Lazarus Webb were asked to go speak to Jacob Francisco about his drinking.²⁴ Daniel Jr. died in Bedford County, Tennessee. His wife, Nancy died in Moniteau, Missouri.

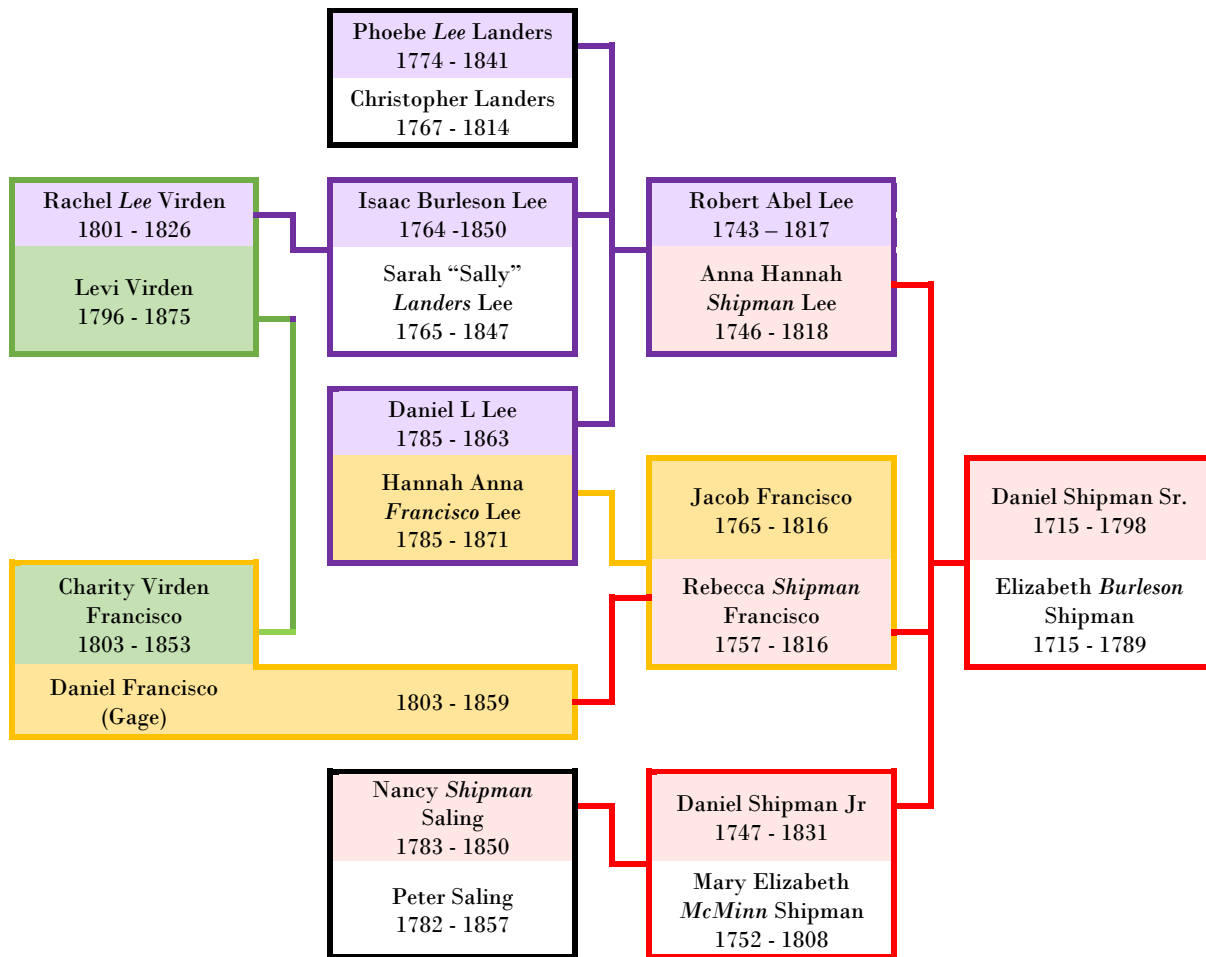
²⁰ Smith and Head, *The Saling Family in America*, 67-68.

²¹ Smith and Head, *The Saling Family in America*, 69.

²² Smith and Head, *The Saling Family in America*, 71.

²³ Smith and Head, *The Saling Family in America*, 72.

²⁴ *Minutes of the Spring Creek Baptist Church of Jackson and Overton Counties Tennessee 1802-1868(excluding the Civil War years)*, 2, <https://www.familysearch.org/library/books/viewer/470695/?offset=&return=1#page=11&viewer=picture&o=info&n=0&q=>



[On the chart, Levi Virden, Charity Virden, and Rachel *Lee* Virden have an extra generation that Daniel Francisco (Gage) does not. I have seen this when I have made other charts. One common reason for this was that the families had children over many years. I looked at the ages of the parents and children. Daniel's mother Rebecca was forty-six years old when she had Daniel. She fits right in with the second-generation column. Daniel being born so much later than his older siblings, skips their generation column and fits in with the fourth generation. Another way of explaining it is Anna Hannah *Shipman* Lee was 18 when she had her son, Isaac, while her sister Rebecca *Shipman* Francisco was 46 when she had Daniel Francisco (Gage).]

Now the relationships become confusing, so I added a chart. Rebecca *Shipman* Francisco was Nancy *Shipman* Saling's aunt and the mother of Daniel Francisco (Gage). Anna Hannah *Shipman* Lee was Nancy *Shipman* Saling's aunt also. Anna Hannah *Shipman* and her husband Robert Abel Lee were the parents of Daniel L. Lee who married Hanna "Anna" *Francisco* Lee the daughter of Jacob Francisco and Rebecca *Shipman* Francisco. This means that Daniel Lee married his first cousin.

Daniel Lee's brother was **Isaac Burleson Lee** (1764-1850). Isaac married **Sarah "Sally" Landers** (1765-1850). They were the parents of **Rachel Lee** (1801-1826). Rachel married **Levi Virden** (1796-1875). Levi had a sister named **Charity Virden** (1803-1853). Charity married Daniel Francisco (Gage).

In the next part of Daniel Shipman's account, he refers to a river called Ocow. The Ocow River is more commonly spelled Okaw and is also known as the Kaskaskia River. The Kaskaskia River is a tributary of the Mississippi River.²⁵ It crosses several counties in Illinois, including Washington County.



²⁵ Gols, Peter. "What are the major rivers in Illinois?" Quora, September 25, 2023. <https://www.quora.com/What-are-the-major-rivers-in-Illinois>

And started again, traveled until the weather got cold, so much rain, snow, sleet and ice, and the ground hard frozen, that father and mother concluded to stop for the winter in Illinois. Uncle George Shipman traveled with us until we crossed a little river called Ocaw, there he and his family stopped,

George Shipman (1772 -) was the brother of Moses' father, **Edward Shipman** (ABT. 1742 – 1814). The census of 1818, for Washington County, lists George Shipman.²⁶ Two years after George traveled with Moses, he had established his residence in Washington County, Illinois.

On April 7, 1821, George Shipman was serving on a grand jury in Montgomery County²⁷, two counties north of Washington County. Remember the book, *Combined History of Shelby and Moultrie Counties*, stated that Daniel Francisco(Gage) left Greenville to move to Montgomery County (formed 1821).

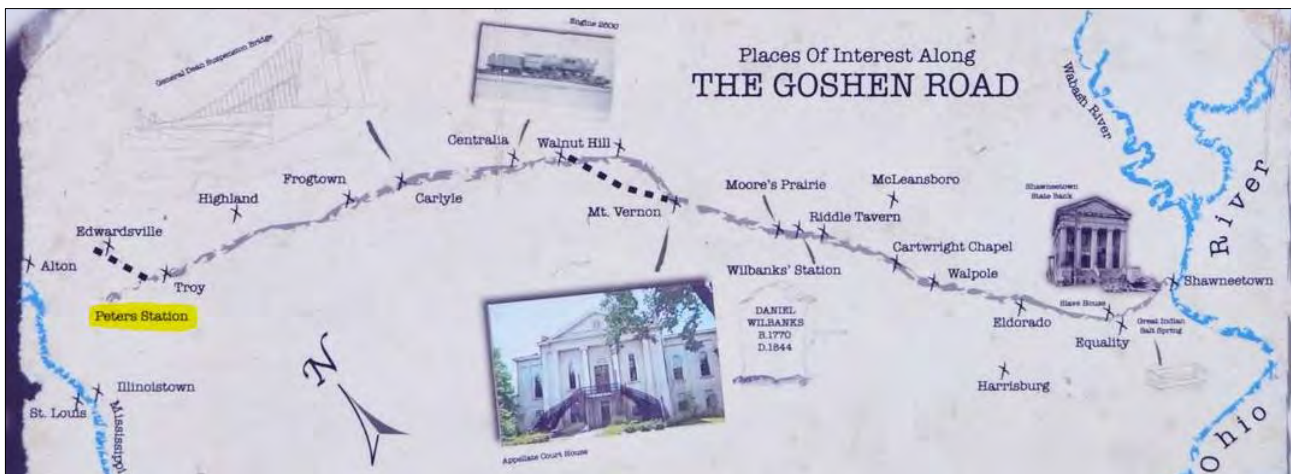
Notice that Daniel now adds "and his family." I had assumed, until this statement, that Uncle George was one person traveling with Moses. If Uncle George was just one person traveling with Moses, he might have been on horseback. However, since it is Uncle George and family one must assume and "stuff." A family would more than likely be traveling with a wagon. Were there other people traveling with Moses and Mary?

184 ILLINOIS HISTORICAL COLLECTIONS
CENSUS OF WASHINGTON COUNTY, 1818 (Continued)

Names of heads of families	Free white males 21 yr. & upwards	All other white inhabitants	Free persons of color	Servants or slaves	Total number
[33] Asahel Smith	1				1
[34] Wingate Maddux	1	10			11
[35] Zachariah Maddux	1	6			7
[36] James Bankson	2	4	1		7
[37] Frances Detty		6			6
[38] Elijah Bankson	1	5			6
[39] Lecaiden Posey	1	4			5
[40] Whitmill Ryal	1	9			10
[41] William Steel	2	6			8
[42] George Shipman	1	6			7
[43] William Wakefield	1	7			8

And we went on until we came to Goshen settlement; we there fell in with a gentleman who advised us to turn off to our right about forty miles to a creek called Shoal Creek, which father and mother concluded to do.

The path the Shipmans took seems to have followed the Goshen Road. The Goshen Road ran between Shawneetown, near the Saline salt works, to the Goshen Settlement which included Peter's Station near Edwardsville.



[This is the map on the historical marker in Carlyle, Clinton County, Illinois.²⁸]

²⁶ Norton, *Illinois Census Returns, 1810, 1818, 184*, <https://www.familysearch.org/library/books/viewer/546701/?offset=3#page=212&viewer=picture&o=search&n=0&q=george%20shipman>
²⁷ William Henry Perrin, *History of Bond and Montgomery Counties*, (Illinois: O. L Baskin & Co., 1882), 187. http://livinghistoryofillinois.com/pdf_files/History%20of%20Bond%20and%20Montgomery%20Counties,%20Illinois,%201882.pdf
²⁸ Duane Hall. "Goshen Road," HMdb.org, September 25, 2023, <https://www.hmdb.org/m.asp?m=98931>

The Goshen Settlement area became a part of the Illinois Territory in 1809. Governor Edwards established a fort in the settlement and named it Fort Russell for Colonel William Russell.

In 1934, the state of Illinois placed a historical marker for Fort Russell near Edwardsville, Illinois on Springfield Road. The inscription on the plaque read: "One quarter-mile to the west stood Fort Russell, a wooden stockade which served as a base of supplies and operations for the Illinois Militia during the War of 1812. From here, for months at a time, Governor Ninian Edwards administered the affairs of Illinois Territory."²⁹ Unfortunately, Goshen, Fort Russell, and even the marker no longer exists.



When looking at the map it appears that the Shipmans went further west than they needed to go. They probably could have turned off to Shoal Creek about the time they crossed the Okaw River. This suggests to me that the Shipmans had wanted to go to Goshen regardless. (Speculation).

When Moses and Mary reached Goshen, Mary *Burleson* Allard would have been about four to six months pregnant with twins. James and Lucy Allard were born March 2, 1817, and the Shipmans were traveling through Goshen in the early winter of 1816.

Daniel used the term "gentleman" when referring to the man who gave them directions to go to Shoal Creek. Daniel used the term "gentleman" once before to be respectful to his cousin, James Burleson. The gentleman who steered them to Shoal Creek may have been another relative.

I do not know the route that James Burleson traveled to Missouri but he too, may have passed through Goshen to visit his sister, Mary on his journey to Missouri. If Daniel Francisco (Gage) was traveling with him, Goshen could have been the point at which they went their separate ways.

The next records we have for Daniel are for after 1816. Daniel married Charity Cater *Virden* on January 10, 1822. Thomas Robinson built the first log house on Robinson Creek in 1823. "Daniel Francisco located and made an improvement on Robinson creek in 1823."³⁰ Levi Virden and his wife Rachel were living on Robinson's Creek. Rachel *Lee* Virden was listed as the first death on Robinson's Creek in 1826 in Shelby County. Daniel lived on Robinson Creek for six years and then he moved to the Okaw Township

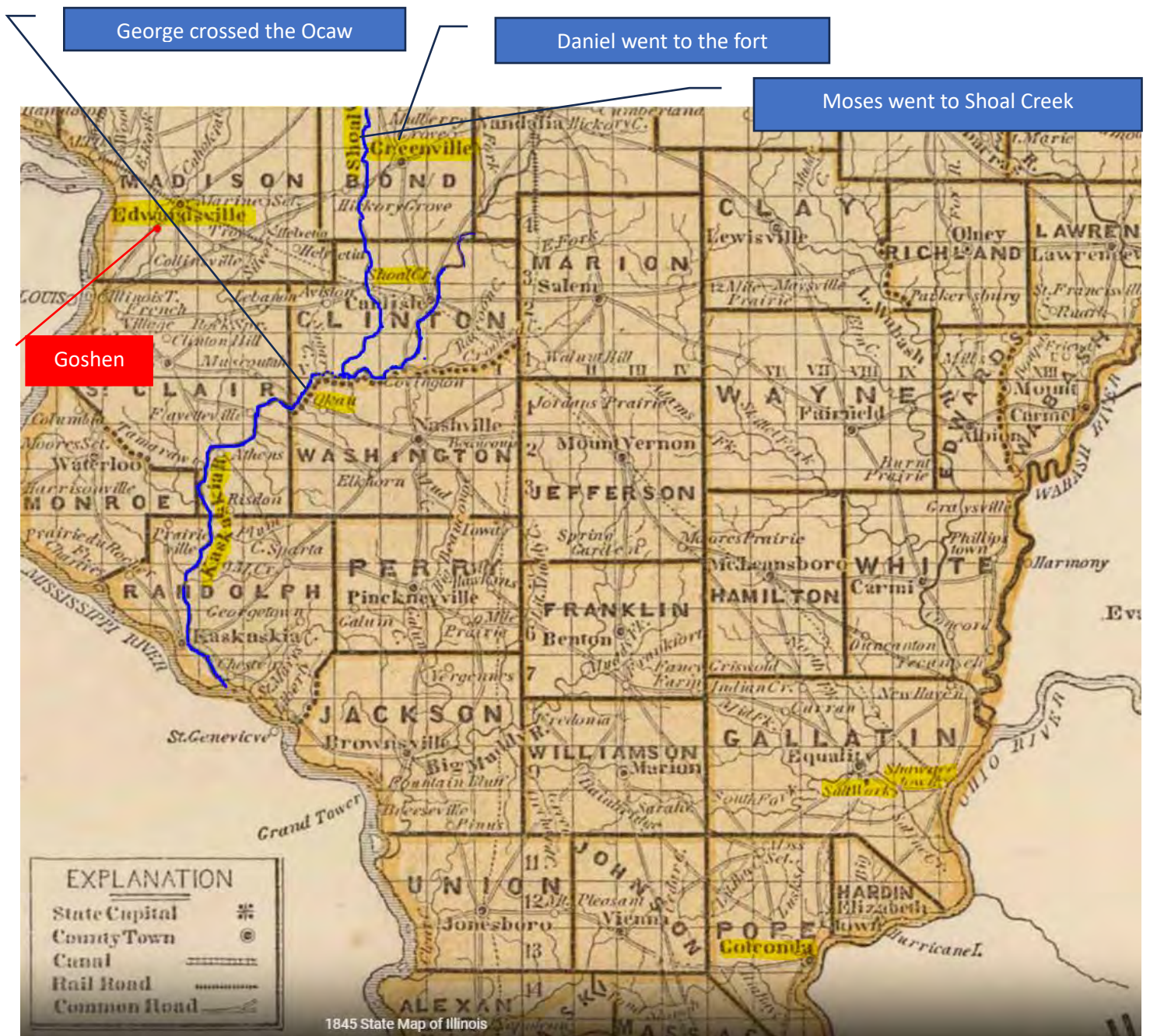
We know from the book *Combined History of Shelby and Moultrie Counties* that Daniel Francisco (Gage) first stopped at the fort in Greenville. In 1816, according to Daniel Shipman's account, we know that his Uncle George Shipman left Moses and Mary when he crossed the Okaw before reaching Goshen. And finally, we know that Moses and Mary decided to turn right and settle on Shoal Creek.

I took this information and put it on a map. Now with this additional information, I ask again, could Daniel Francisco (Gage) have traveled with Moses and Mary to Illinois?

Map on the next page.

²⁹ Russ Grimm. "Fort Russell," HMdb.org, September 25, 2023, <https://www.hmdb.org/m.asp?m=202080>

³⁰ *Combined History of Shelby and Moultrie Counties, Illinois*, (Philadelphia, Brink, McDonough & Co., 1881). 268, <https://www.familysearch.org/library/books/viewer/223341/?offset=2#page=302&viewer=picture&o=search&n=0&q=daniel%20francisco>



31

We really do not know who traveled with the Shipmans. Daniel wrote about his journey more than 50 years after it happened. He condensed 10 years of travel into about 10 pages of type.

We know that Daniel Francisco (Gage) could have traveled to Illinois about the time that James Bureson went to Missouri or when Moses and Mary went to Illinois. We know that there were many relatives along the way for Daniel Francisco (Gage) or Moses and Mary to visit. We know the locations where Daniel Francisco (Gage) settled and where Moses and Mary settled for a time. With this information a few more clues have been found that might help to solve the mystery.

³¹ Sidney Edwards Morse and Samuel Breese, *State Map of Illinois*, 1845.
https://mapgeeks.org/illinois/#Morses_1845_State_Map_of_Illinois

Overmountain Victory Trail Association

I am really enjoying re-enacting with the OVTA, a great bunch of guys. I spent the first week in Abington Muster Grounds, Abington Va. Where they presented the Overmountain Program to over 500 students from local schools.

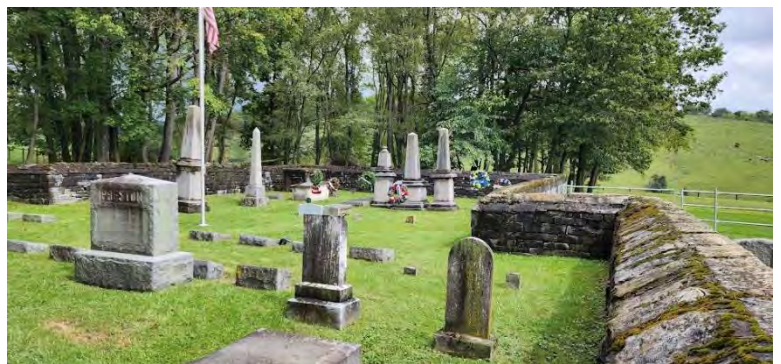
On September 17, 2023 I attended the General William Campbell, Rededication of Grave Marking, and also a ceremony for Elizabeth Henry Campbell "Madam" Russell. This was very important to me because my grandmother is Gladys Russell and I am sure I am a kinsman to William Russell (related to our cousin Jimmy Don Russell), her second husband.



MONUMENT TEXT

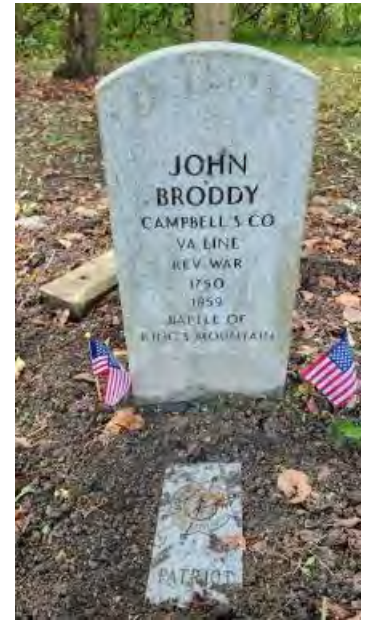
"Elizabeth was the daughter of John & Sarah Henry and sister of founding father Patrick Henry. In 1776, Elizabeth married Revolutionary War General William Campbell & they settled in Aspsenvale. After Campbell's death in 1781, she remarried General William Russell in 1783. In 1788 William Russell and Elizabeth moved to Saltville where they converted to Methodism. After Russell's Death in 1793, Elizabeth began to support her new denomination in the region and so she is know as "The Mother of Methodism."

Aspsenvale Cemetery
303 Seven Mile Ford Rd
Marion, Va



Ceremony for General William Campbell, presented by the William Campbell Chapter of the Sons of American Revolution (SAR).





Draft/Rev. 1 submitted by Arthur "Scrapper" Broddy
September 11, 2023

John Broddy – The Patriot 1750-1859

John Broddy (Broady) born about 1750, was a slave owned originally by the prominent Southwest Virginia Campbell family. Later, Broddy became the man-servant to Col. William Campbell and accompanied his master who led the Over Mountain Men militia to participate in the Battle of Kings Mountain.

Although Broddy did not bear arms in the 1780 Battle at Kings Mountain, he was reported to have been shot at by Loyalists who believed him to be Col. Campbell during the battle.

Historically, evidence supports the fact that John Broddy and Col. Campbell were together on this and other battle missions.

In the Last Will and Testament belonging to then General Campbell, the language reads as *"To all whom it may concern: Whereas my negro man John Broddy, claims a promise of freedom from his master General William Campbell, for his (John*

Draft/Rev. 1 submitted by Arthur "Scrapper" Broddy
September 11, 2023

during times of domestic turmoil and significant military battles.

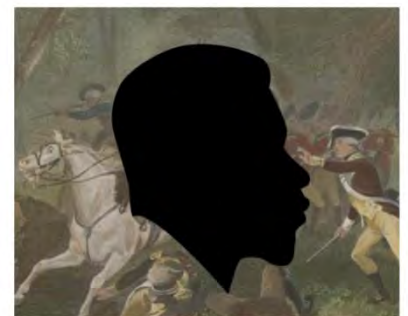
The land we are standing on today was gifted to John Broddy and his family which came along with the freedom and Emancipation given him in September 1793. This act alone was most extraordinary as John is believed to be the first slave to be emancipated in Washington County, southwest Virginia, dating nearly fifty-years before the start of the Civil War and President Abraham Lincoln's Emancipation of the southern slaves.

Therefore, we assembled here on this date, once again to take this opportunity to pay honor and respect for the service and life of John Broddy and recognize his rightful place in our local, state, and national history as one who faithfully served with honor in the fight for freedom represented in the American Revolution.

REV WAR | BIOGRAPHY

John Broddy

Also known as John Broady



TITLE

Aide-de-camp

Fording the Watauga River at Fort Watauga, Elizabethton, TN



OVERMOUNTAIN VICTORY TRAIL ASSOCIATION

A 501[c]3 Organization

“Keeping the Story Alive”

HQ – Abingdon Muster Grounds

1780 Muster Place, Abingdon, VA 24210

Phone: 276-525-1050 WWW.OVTA.org

Facebook: Overmountain-Victory-Trail-Association

*Preserving and Interpreting the Campaign of the Patriot Militias
from VA, (TN), NC, GA, and SC to the Battle at Kings Mountain*



Abington Muster Grounds

I spent the first week of my march at the Abington Muster Grounds. I think I learned as much as the school kids did. What a wonderful experience, working with the different sites and meeting many wonderful people that are so professional in what they do.



The school kids arrived each day and assembled for instructions and a introduction to the Overmountain Victory Trail and Kings Mountain, then they all departed to attend 18 different stations for additional information. I was able to attend each station and I worked on several different ones.



Storytelling, US Constitution and Liberty



Gordon Sisk tells all about tools & equipment during 1780, and animal skins of the area

We made the newspaper, this is the site where the wool from the sheep was process to the cloth. Below is the fire where the walnut dye was



ABINGDON MUSTER GROUNDS

MUSTERING EDUCATION



Area students learn about Revolutionary War on-site

JOAQUIN MANCERA
TRI-STATE HERALD COURIER

ABINGDON, Va. — Fourth-graders from across Washington County and the Tri-States assembled Monday at the Abingdon Muster Grounds to learn more about this region's history.

Students learned about the Battle of King's Mountain in South Carolina that occurred during the Revolutionary War, as well as what life was like in the back

country during Colonial times. Felish Ann Hunter, who is a member of the Overmountain Victory Trail Association (OVTA) board of directors, explained that the OVTA has hosted a demonstration at the Muster Grounds every September since 2000.

This was the muster site, the gathering place for Col. William Campbell's

Photo via STUDENTS, Page 43



Richard Yager demonstrates woodworking to 5th and 6th graders at the Muster Grounds in Abingdon, Virginia.



The Pillory



Above, Music soldiers of the Revolution, below the students are told all about the Long Hunters and how they were used in operation to Kings Mountain.

BFRG is conducting researching into Appalachian Long Hunters of the 1700s.



OVTA working in cooperation with SAR and DAR instruct as many as 20,000 elementary school students in Virginia, North Carolina, Tennessee and South Carolina on the American Revolutionary War each year.



The hit of the day was Emmy, belonging to Tom Vaughan

1. W. Blair Keller, Jr. a descendant of five veterans of the Overmountain Campaign, honored his ancestors by helping secure this site as an historic property owned by the Town of Abingdon. During his lifetime he followed the route of the militiamen over 30 times, including once on horseback, and worked tirelessly to establish the National Historic Trail. The town named this Visitor Center for him in 2010. The preservation of the Muster Grounds property was also greatly aided by long-term efforts by the Overmountain Victory Trail Association and various local patriotic organizations.



Entrance to Keller Interpretive Center. Below is the 90+ widow of W. Blair Keller Jr. Paid a visit today



W. Blair Keller, Jr. standing along the banks of Wolf Creek at the Muster Grounds.



28th Annual Burleson Family Reunion

What a wonderful time we had, fellowshiping, eating and learning a little history too. Some people think that events like this just happen, but if you aren't involved, then you don't understand the amount of work that goes into planning such events. Below are two ladies that are responsible for making the Reunion such a success. Nancy Burleson on the right, and Hilda Burleson Snuggs on the left, we also recognized Hilda's 90th Birthday.



Three cousins that were united after many years, Gary Forbes, Ila McFalls, and Eloise Thronton. Eloise was adopted at birth and the BFRG was involved in her finding her Burleson biological parents. Eloise told her story and I was told there were several tears.

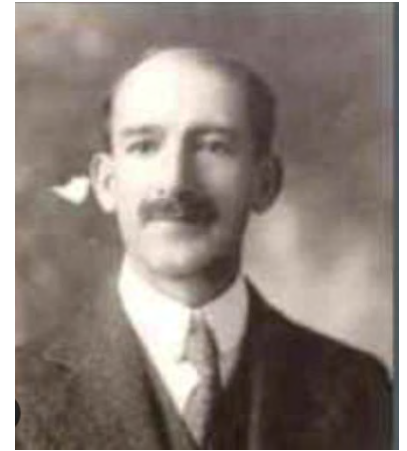


What a wonderful crowd and everyone had a wonderful time



Dr. David Sinclair Burleson 1871-1953

David was born 27 Dec 1871 at Limestone Cove, Unicoi, Tennessee to Greenberry Washington Burleson 1846-1830 (a Tennessee Volunteer from 1861 to 1865 in the Civil War) and Jane Bell 1852-1929. July 19, 1893 he married Mary Henley Dew 1872-1935 in a ceremony performed at King William, Virginia. Mary was the daughter of Virginians Robert Saunders Dew and Rebecca Wood Henley. David attended local schools in the Carter County area until he enrolled at Milligan College. There he acquired his Bachelor's and Master's Degrees (1891). Burleson continued his education at University of Virginia, Harvard and University of Chicago. PhD in hand, he began work as an instructor at Tazewell Virginia College through 1898. Next he taught at Florence State Normal (Teachers) School in Alabama. Experienced in teaching, David moved on to East Tennessee State University (called Normal then) which was to be his culminating position. He was Executive Secretary of the East Tennessee Teachers Association for 25 years.



East Tennessee State University



Although Burleson was a trained mathematician, he was drawn to English literature. For decades he taught English and earned status of Dean of the University English Department. For a year while the regents searched for a university president, Burleson acted as president. As his career wound to a close, ETSU named its newly constructed English Department building, "Burleson Hall." Below are photos of Burleson in a glass encased frame that overlooks the main lecture arena and Burleson Hall itself. But it's the painted portrait of David Sinclair Burleson hung outside the Chairman's office that continues to generate interest; the artist used HIS face but his DAUGHTER'S eyes.



Perhaps DS Burleson’s true legacy can be attributed to his excellence in authoring textbooks devoted to the actual “teaching others English.” He was the most prolific textbook writer in the long history of Tennessee. Of the dozens of texts he authored , eight are still used in educational settings TODAY. Even today you can find his books available in Walmart and Amazon. See examples below.

D. S. Burleson’s textbooks are printed in 23 languages and distributed thru out the world.

The collage features a central black and white portrait of a man with a mustache, identified as Dean Burleson. Surrounding the portrait are various images of his textbooks, including 'Practical English Grammar' in multiple editions and 'Adventures in English'. There are also several small screenshots of Amazon product listings for these books in different languages. On the right side, there is a newspaper clipping with the headline 'Dean Serves Twent Fourth Year as ETEA Secretary' and a photograph of a man sitting at a desk.



Circa 1901



**Gladys Dew
Burleson**

1896–1937 MYMB-VYP

Gladys Dew Burleson 1896 New Castle, Botetourt, Virginia to 1937 Nashville, Davidson, Tennessee (according to June Pinkston of the T. Elmer Cox Genealogical/History Museum, she passed in a mental institution.)

Christine Burleson 1899 Florence, Lauderdale, Alabama to 1967 Washington, Tennessee (according to June Pinkston of the T. Elmer Cox Genealogical/History Museum, she took her own life at her home.) See pic of Christine below AND see the article on her in this same edition.



**Christine
Burleson**

1899–1967 943Y-QXG

Acknowledgements:

Flickr
Wikipedia
Wikimedia Commons
Amazon Books
Lonesome Waters Books

June Pinkston, T. Elmer Cox Museum
East Tennessee State University Archives
AbeBooks
Biblio.com
mcstor.library.milligan.edu

Direct Descendants of EDWARD BURLESON

EDWARD BURLESON
 b: 23 Jan 1650/51
 d: Jun 1698 in SUFFIELD, (PRESENT DAY CT)

SARAH ? OWEN
 b: 1656
 d: 09 May 1707 in SUFFIELD, (PRESENT DAY CT)

JOHN BURLESON
 b: 09 Oct 1677 in SUFFIELD (PRESENT DAY CT) Massachusetts Bay Colony
 d: 1763

SARAH HALLADAY
 b: 08 Feb 1681/82 in SUFFIELD, MASSACHUSETTS BAY COLONY
 d: 1756 in SUFFIELD, HAMPSHIRE CO, MASSACHUSETTS

JONATHAN BURLESON
 b: 11 Jun 1704 in SUFFIELD (PRESENT DAY CT) Massachusetts Bay Colony
 d: 1775

SARAH CAMP
 b: 1698
 d: 1756

AARON BURLESON
 b: 22 May 1725 in NJ
 d: 1782 in WASHINGTON CO, TN (PAGE 87 BFB)

RACHEL GRAVES?
 b: 1730
 d: 1800

THOMAS (DAUNT) BURLESON
 b: 1745
 d: 1825 in CANE CREEK, MITCHELL CO, NC

Margaret Jane Greene
 b: 1750 in CLEVELAND, NC
 d: 1835 in YANCEY CO, NC

SIMEON BURLESON
 b: 1779 in BUNCOMBE CO, NC
 d: 28 Jun 1840 in YANCEY CO, NC

MARY ANA LEDFORD
 b: 1789 in RUTHERFORD CO, NC
 d: Aft. 1860 in YANCEY CO, NC

MALCOLM McCURRY (MACK) BURLESON
 b: 24 Jul 1824 in BAKERSVILLE, MITCHELL CO, NC
 d: 06 Jul 1904 in BAKERSVILLE, MITCHELL CO, NC
 FAG#51917673

BRIDGET EMMALINE STANLEY
 b: 25 Nov 1822 in BURKE CO, (NOW MITCHELL), NC
 d: 1900

GREENBURY WASHINGTON BURLESON
 b: 01 Jun 1846 in TOECAN, MITCHELL CO, NC
 d: 26 Feb 1930 in ST PETERSBURG, PINELLAS CO, FL
 FAG#12004459

JANE BELL
 b: Apr 1852 in BALTIMORE CO, MARYLAND
 d: 10 Jan 1929 in PINELLAS CO, FL FAG#146696322

DAVID SINCLAIR BURLESON
 b: 27 Dec 1871 in LIMESTONE COVE, UNICOICO, TN
 d: 22 Jul 1953 in JOHNSON CITY, WASHINGTON CO, TN
 FAG#24013023

MARY HENLEY DEW
 b: 21 Jun 1872 in KING QUEEN, WEST POINT, VA
 d: in JOHNSON CITY, CARTER CO, TN

Descendants of GLADYS BURLESON

GLADYS BURLESON
 b: 10 Jul 1896
 d: 06 Sep 1957

CHRISTINE BURLESON
 b: 05 Jan 1899
 d: 02 Nov 1967



Jim Burleson
 BFRG Research
jimburleson8554@gmail.com

THE HAUNTING EYES OF CHRISTINE BURLESON



Christine Burleson was born 5 January 1899 to David Sinclair Burleson 1871-1953 and Mary Henley Dew (Burleson)1872-1935 in Florence, Alabama-yet another scene where her father taught school. As a matter of fact, her mother was also an educator in those early days. David was the son of farmer and Civil War veteran Greenberry Burleson of East Tennessee at the time. David attended local schools in the Carter County-Unicoi, Tennessee area. He began college at Milligan College in 1891. By then he earned his bachelor's and a master's degree there. Next Burleson studied at the University of Virginia, Harvard and University of Chicago in succession.



With a fist full of college degrees, David began his teaching career at Tazewell Virginia College. While a grad student David met Mary H. Dew of West Point, Virginia. They wed when she was but 21- herself a teacher. In 1896 they had Christine's older sister Gladys. In 1898 the small family moved on to Florence, Alabama. David taught at Florence State Normal School and within a year Christine was born. By 1911, David took a position as a mathematics instructor at what was East Tennessee Normal School. Soon after David switched to the English Department, eventually becoming its Dean of Faculty. For the next dozen years the young Burleson sisters enjoyed the campus life-their father a highly respected professor. As they blossomed to young ladies they were immersed in their father's passion, LITERATURE.



Gladys was educated as an educator and indeed gain a position as such. It was to be an extremely short career. Gladys became a victim of dementia praecox, today referred to as schizophrenia. Her case was severe-requiring her to be institutionalized by age 24. By 6 September 1937 Gladys died in the mental facility in Nashville, Tennessee; she was 41 years old having spent 17 years in that hospital. Her cause of death was pulmonary tuberculosis contracted at the hospital. The girls' mother Mary passed only two years prior from a form of leukemia.

1. PLACE OF DEATH
County Davidson
Civil Dis. 2nd
or Village
or Nashville
City
Registration District No. 41902
Primary Registration District No. 191
(No. Central State Hospital St.; Ward) If a War Veteran, fill out blank below.
Length of residence in city or town where death occurred 8 yrs 2 mos 2 ds

STATE OF TENNESSEE
STATE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH
Division of Vital Statistics
CERTIFICATE OF DEATH
20511
File No.
Reg. No. 674

2. FULL NAME Gladys Dew Burleson
(Give War and Military Organization)
(a) Residence: No. Johnson City, Tenn. St. Ward.
(b) (If deceased give city or town and State)

PERSONAL AND STATISTICAL PARTICULARS
SEX Female 4. COLOR OR RACE White 5. SINGLE, MARRIED, WIDOWED, OR DIVORCED Single
HUSBAND of (If DECEASED)
DATE OF BIRTH (month, day, and year) July 10, 1896
AGE Years 41 Mos 1 Ds 27
8. Trade, profession, or particular kind of work done, or occupation, service, landowner, or industry or business in which work was done, or with which, and with, back to
10. Date deceased last worked at this occupation (month and year) 1921
11. Total time (years) spent in this occupation

12. BIRTHPLACE (city or town or State or country) Newcastle, Virginia
13. NAME D. S. Burleson
14. BIRTHPLACE (city or town or State or country) Tenn
15. MARRIED NAME Mary Henley Dew
16. BIRTHPLACE (city or town or State or country) Virginia
17. DEPARTMENT Central State Hospital Records
(Address) Nashville, Tenn.
18. NUMBER OF THIS REMOVAL File No. Nashville, Sept. 7-37
19. UNDERTAKER Rolls Funeral Chap.
(Address) Nashville, Tenn.
FILED Sept 9 1937 Mrs. B. B. Rice
9-15-37 Registrar

MEDICAL CERTIFICATE OF DEATH
21. DATE OF DEATH (month, day, and year) Sept. 6, 1937
22. I HEREBY CERTIFY, that I attended deceased from June 1937 to Sept. 6, 1937
I had six or more attacks on Sept. 6th, 1937, death is said to have occurred on the date stated above at 8:10 P.M.
The principal cause of death and related causes of importance in order of most cause to follow:
Pulmonary Tuberculosis 6 mos ?
Dementia Praecox 1924
Contributory causes of importance not related to principal cause: 23
Notes of operation Date of
What had happened deceased? Was there an autopsy?
24. If death was due to external cause (infectious) fill in also the following:
Accident, suicide, or homicide? Date of injury
When did injury occur? (Specify city or town, county, and State)
Specify whether injury occurred in industry, in home, or in public place.
Measure of injury
When of injury
If in, specify
Signed: John P. Bogue
(Address) Nashville, Tenn.

CERTIFICATE OF DEATH
COMMONWEALTH OF VIRGINIA
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH
BUREAU OF VITAL STATISTICS
11663
COUNTY OF Henrico
CITY OF RICHMOND
REGISTERED No. 1102
PERSONAL AND STATISTICAL PARTICULARS
21. DATE OF DEATH
22. I HEREBY CERTIFY, that I attended deceased from
23. I had six or more attacks on
24. If death was due to external cause (infectious) fill in also the following:
Accident, suicide, or homicide? Date of injury
When did injury occur? (Specify city or town, county, and State)
Specify whether injury occurred in industry, in home, or in public place.
Measure of injury
When of injury
If in, specify
Signed: J. B. Chapman
(Address) Richmond, Virginia

Dementia praecox is a term previously used to describe the condition now known as schizophrenia. A severe mental health disorder, this condition can lead to a warped interpretation of reality, and can significantly impact the person living with it, as well as those closest to them.

*A half dozen former students and staff believed all four family members had suffer and died from the same disease. BFRG researchers confirmed from state officials, all four died from different maladies.

Dementia praecox (meaning a "premature dementia" or "precocious madness") is a disused psychiatric diagnosis that originally designated a chronic, deteriorating psychotic disorder characterized by rapid cognitive disintegration, usually beginning in the late teens or early adulthood. Over the years, the term *dementia praecox* was gradually replaced by the term *schizophrenia*, which initially had a meaning that included what is today considered the autism spectrum.

Prior to her mother's and sister's deaths, Christine prepared herself well for her destined role as a college professor. She had graduated from Normal High School in 1917, still living on campus. In two years she graduated from the University of Tennessee with her bachelor's-magma cum laude. The following year she received her second bachelor's from the ritzy Vassar College. Christine scored master's degrees in Philosophy and English from Columbia University just prior to trying her hand as an instructor at Kemper Hall , Kenosha, Wisconsin in 1921. She returned to East Tennessee State to teach English for three years. She was off again in 1928-1931 to augment her credentials at none other than Oxford, taking master's level honors in English and literature. Miss Burleson pushed on to the University of Siena in 1932 to obtain her certificate in Italian. It was back to teaching for her from 1932-1936 serving as Dean of Women/Professor of English at Bethany College, West Virginia.



University of Siena

Università degli Studi di Siena



Latin: *Universitatis Senarum*



Come 1936 Christine came home to Tennessee and Dad. Her mother deceased and sister hospitalized, she devoted herself to caring for "DS", even collaborating with him on six textbooks from 1936-1946 save a short respite to return to Oxford for another master's degree in 1939. By 1946 Burleson joined her father's cadre of English instructors at ETSU. Her specialty was Shakespearean literature. She became a renowned Shakespearean scholar, taught until near her death in 1967.

Professor Christine Burleson took root in East Tennessee State University's English Department. She'd cowritten six English textbooks with her father gaining the college immeasurable notoriety in academic circles. Her classes filled immediately after registrations opened. She went on like this from the mid 1940s through 1967. The last half of her professorship was conducted in Burleson Hall, the home of the English Department named after her father.



Burleson mentored dozens of aspiring writers and educators in her illustrious career. She ordinarily presided over the awards for such talented students.



Seams To Me
Here Are The That Can B
 By PATRICIA SCOTT

If a neckline facing is put on badly, it can ruin the entire bodice of a dress. If it's too tight, it will pull the neckline down. With lightweight fabric, stitches will show if the facing is hemmed to the garment. Little tricks like clipping, notching, knowing when to hem and when not to, make the job easier to do and neater.

Two popular necklines are the slashed opening and the square neck. Both are easy to make, but they must be done carefully for a good fit.

Faced Slash (FIG. 1): This is found on the fronts and backs of dresses.

1. Cut the facing on the same grain as the garment. The front facing is wide and long. If the slash is on the front, as in Figure 1, the back is rounded and narrow as is any normal neck facing.
2. Join the front and the back facings at the shoulders. Turn the outer raw edges under ¼ inch, edge stitch and press.
3. Mark the center of the

SCHOLARSHIP AWARDS — At the Alpha Delta Pi luncheon meeting this week, two awards for scholarship were made by Christine Burleson, right. The award for highest achievement went to Linda Skipworth, center. Anita Keith also received a scholarship award.

IN LEFT OR RIGHT — which way should a refrigerator door open? The answer depends on whether the counter for the most informed scholarship! Dean Louise McFee was guest at

The College Corner
 Awards for best scholarship and best most informed scholarship! Dean Louise McFee was guest at

LEADER

Her life grew focused on work only. By 1935 her mother had passed, two years later a long absent sister was dead and in 1953 the father she came home to after work for twenty years was gone too. Throughout it all she'd never married or had children. Dr. Robert Sawyer, PhD, her successor as the Shakespearean authority stated in an homage to Christine that, "...she'd developed a surrogate family of faculty, friends and former students."



Sharon "June" Pinkston, director of the T. Elmer Cox Genealogy and History Museum in Greeneville, Tennessee has long contributed to BFRG research. June was a student of Christine Burleson in the 1960s. She eagerly signed up for every Burleson history, tragedy and comedy originally authored by Shakespeare. June described Burleson as quiet, poised, professional and plainly dressed. That was true... until... class started. Her demeanor became animated, flamboyant and rich with emotion. Her students were spellbound.



BFRG's new contributor Thomas "Tom" Aaron Burleson, FBI ret. also was an ETSU student during Christine's years in the 60s. He described her as immensely respected, competent and reserved in public.



Tom Burleson – 1963



Christine Burleson – 1963



Tom and Peggy Lowe Burleson

In September 1967 Professor Christine Burleson was awarded ETSU's educator of the year; two months later she was dead. Suicide, self-inflicted gunshot.

ETSU Teacher Shot to Death

JOHNSON CITY, Tenn., Nov. 3 (UPI)—Miss Christine Burleson, 68, a prominent educator and one of the nation's outstanding Shakespearean scholars, was found dead at her home Thursday of a gunshot wound to the head.

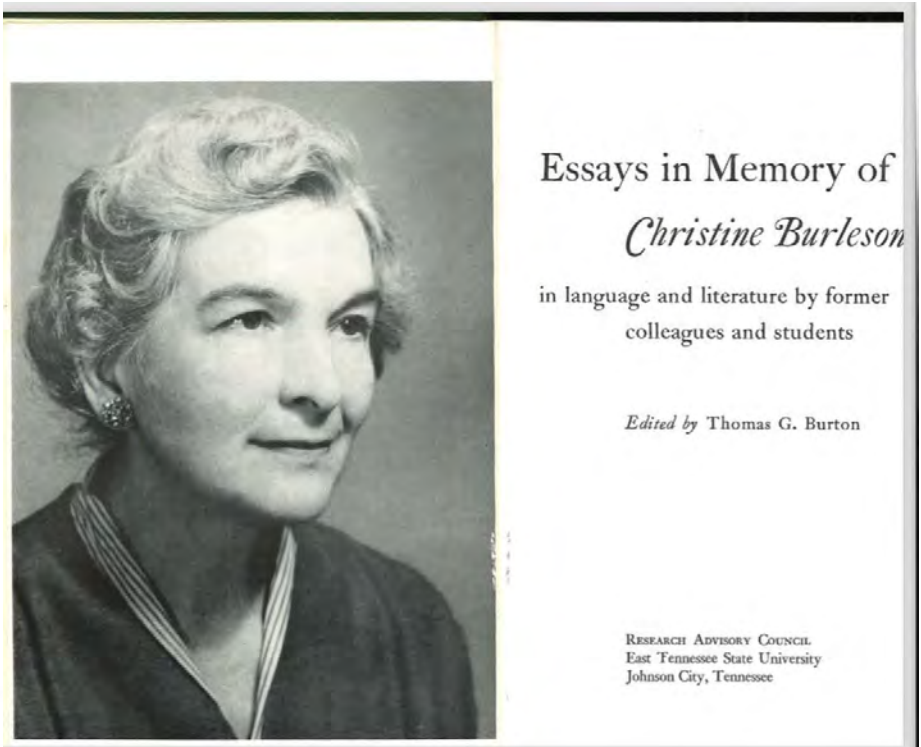
Police said that the wound was apparently self-inflicted. Miss Burleson had been in ill health for some time.

She was a member of the faculty of East Tennessee State University, where she was presented the outstanding faculty member award in September.

She graduated from U-T with honors in 1917. She was a native of Florence, Ala., and had done graduate work at Columbia University.

Miss Burleson joined the faculty of ETSU in 1946, but had been confined to her home in ill health for some time.

The students and faculty at ETSU were stunned. In the weeks following Professor Burleson's death, her colleagues collaborated to assemble a collection of essays in her honor.



The Knoxville News-Sentinel
Friday, Nov. 3, 1967
Page 6
Obituary for Christine
Burleson

Dr. Robert Sawyer offers tribute lectures to honor Burleson. The East Tennessee State University Media Relations tells that Sawyer launched a project on her life and death. "It would come to no surprise that, a scholar of Shakespeare at East Tennessee State University, Dr. Robert Sawyer would be drawn to the story of Christine Burleson's life, with its classic Shakespeare markers: unrequited love, ghostly haunting and suicide." Sawyer tries to draw distinction with Burleson. She, in no way, ever appears malevolent. Appears all but once in full figure, as a woman in her prime, healthy, primly dressed and serious faced. His talk is entitled, "Rest, rest, perturbed spirit."

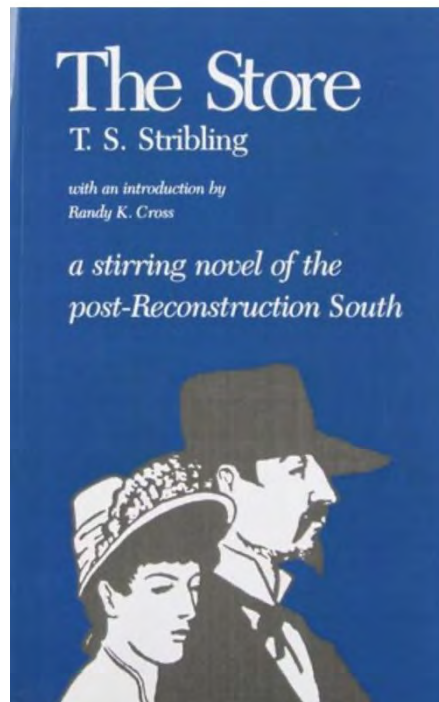
Christine would not be seen or heard from again but...
She's one of the half dozen ghosts repeatedly haunting the campus.

Many years after Burleson's passing faculty, staff and students began reporting spiritual revisits by her. ETSU has long been identified as being haunted. BFRG does not want to further outlandish claims but will simply report circumstances given in local, state and national news outlets. Just as universities are ranked nationally for sports and academics, they are additionally ranked for "most haunted." ETSU, in that category makes the top 20 every year.

The apparition of Christine is ethereal, somewhat out of focus but clearly her. Many images of her young and old adorn campus walls. She is neither very light (white) nor dark as these common images reflect.



Each sighting is accompanied by delicate musical tones- chamber music style according to witnesses. Occurrences are irregular without any common triggering event. Christine appears in full body aged in late twenties to early thirties in age. Again, her attire is plain , classy and understated. Her voice is never heard. We repeat the image of her in knit hat at that age alongside the image of her love interest of that period. His name was Thomas Sigismund "T. S."



Stribling 1881-1965 a Pulitzer Prize winning novelist and film playwright. He authored sixteen novels. They were the "power couple" of East Tennessee and were widely believed to marry. They broke apart soon before or after Christine made plans to attend more schooling abroad. BFRG is working with the Appalachian Archives housed at ETSU to gain access to Christine's correspondence with Stribling. Stay tuned. Stribling did get married while Christine was in Europe. Reportedly, letter writing remained constant for decades. Burleson died only two years after Stribling passed away. We're optimistic access to the correspondence will clear the waters.

It's an annual occurrence that "lists" of all variety are produced by the press. Top twenty academic colleges, top twenty sports teams and even top twenty party colleges(I know-I attended two). Did you also know a top twenty haunted universities is published. Norte Dame, Columbia make it routinely but little East Tennessee State University is listed every year. A dozen or more ghosts are reported. Eight are most often reported. They include a former college president's daughter in front of a stained glass window , a young boy playing marbles, a teen male with a preference for hard rock and others. An ETSU oddity is that all apparitions appear at ages that differ from their death ages. The marble playing lad was smothered as a newborn by a teen mom hoping to keep him a secret. The music teen changes building maintenance workers by switching their preferred county western station to rock. Christine does not appear in the classroom she commanded in life. Her favorite "haunts" forgive me... will be shown. Uniquely, Christine is the only spirit that shows in full body. The others appear as torsos.



Haunted Tri-Cities: A look inside the halls of ETSU

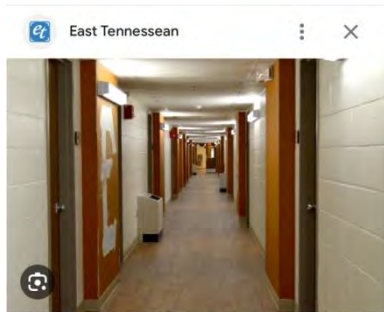
Watch

Haunted Tri-Cities: A look inside the halls of ETSU
 Kate Nemarich 2 years ago

JOHNSON CITY, Tenn. (WJHL) — Could there be more than just students walking the halls of ETSU? Some claim to have seen or felt

Haunted Tri-Cities: A look inside the halls of ETSU
 Kate Nemarich 2 years ago

The above depict a small sample of news accounts of ghost sightings at ETSU. Over 100 people say they have seen a dozen or more ghosts there. Eight such are recurring over several decades. The most frequent after death guest is Christine Burluson.



Is ETSU the most haunted campus in the Southeast? |...

Visit



The campus locations seen at the bottom of this page are sites where Christine frequents the most.



The compelling life AND death of Christine Burleson appropriately required the story of her father. She held him in the highest regard. She remained steadfast in her devotion to him and ladled affection to him until his passing. Christine set aside her ambition to further her career as a Shakespearean scholar in Ivy League schools and abroad. Instead she followed David Sinclair Burleson's path as an East Tennessee State University professor, tending to his health needs. In the early 1950s he was relegated to a wheelchair- the last two years of his life largely in a care facility. The troubles that Christine Burleson faced in her life inspired many to write about them.

The Play:

Pat Arnow came to Johnson City, Tennessee with her husband, Steven Giles who had taken a position at the area's Veterans Affairs Hospital as Chief Psychologist. Pat worked at the Appalachian Archives, housed at ETSU. In that role multiple boxes of material related to Christine crossed her desk. Pat was enthralled with every page. She and Milligan College exchanged those documents for decades. During her employment, she and Steven looked for a place to rent. She made contact with a woman named Margaret who had a home next door to her own on Ridgcrest Road close to campus. Pat learned it had been the home of Christine Burleson. Professor Burleson sold her father's upscale home on the other side of Johnson City using to build the Ridgcrest property according to her specifications. It was(is) a two story "Cape Cod" style. Pat and Steve lived in that house for eleven years. Not long after moving in they explored the attic, finding several dusty unpublished novels with as many or more publishers' rejection letters for each. In Pat's words, "They were awful." They also found several essays Christine had used in guest appearances for dramatic readings. These were "witty and smart", more in keeping with Burleson's reputation.

Ms. Arnow was driven to access the police report on the Christine's death that had occurred years before in her own house. Steve took the correspondence between

Christine and Tom Stribling, the police report and miscellaneous funds at the Ridgcrest house to develop from a forensic approach a "Psychological Profile." They began to collaborate with Christine Murdock, a writer/actor. The play took shape in ETSU and was ultimately premiered at Blacksburg's Virginia Tech. The play is presented as a one woman show describing Professor Burleson's last day. See the playbill for "... cancell'd destiny."

THE ROAD COMPANY
in collaboration with
Virginia Tech's Theatre Arts-University Theatre
presents the World Premiere of
"...cancell'd destiny."
a new play
compiled and written by
PAT ARNOW STEVE GILES CHRISTINE MURDOCK
Directed by **Robert H. Leonard**
Scenography and Lighting Design by **Beate Czogalla**
Performed by **Christine Murdock as Miss Christine**
with **Caroline DeVan as Properties Performer**
Stage Managed by **Sandy Bemis** Lights by **Light Impressions**
The play takes place November 2, 1967.
The play will be performed in one act with no intermission
This production was funded in part by the Tennessee Arts Commission and the Johnson City Area Arts Council.
ADMINISTRATION AND PRODUCTION:
Artistic Director Robert H. Leonard
Development Director Nancy Fischman
Tour Agent Eugene Wolf
Literary Manager Christine Murdock
General Manager Linda Kesler
Volunteer Coordinator Carleen Claybaker
Set Constructed by Jim Cook
Lights Operated by Adam Steinbach
Sound Operated by Shawn Fertitta

This production is indebted to the gracious and helpful assistance of:
Linda Bennemann Sammy Stills Tim Schrader
Debbie Fleisher Sally, Ray, and Ashley Dillon Dale Moore
Vicki Phillips Phoebe Sands Cheri d'Ernu Vasek
Cathy Whaley

The authors gratefully acknowledge the assistance of:
The Center for Appalachian Studies and Services at ETSU for funding the research and writing of this play. The many friends and colleagues of Christine Burleson who consented to interviews, including Margaret Lindley, Eleanor Trappey, Howell and Alice Sherrod, Anne LeCroy, Thomas Burton, Jo Carson and Joyce Squibb. Also: Warren Robertson, Harriet Pipken, John Neth, Steve Preston, Billie Oaks, Grace Spurrell, June Leonard, Eugene Wolf, Jamie Herman, Carl Jones, the Veterans Administration, the James H. Quillen College of Medicine, and the wonderful folks at the Milligan College Library.

The Death of Christine

On November 2, 1967 Professor Christine Burleson took her own life. She was now largely relegated to a wheelchair. Burleson realized her funds were dwindling and certainly would not cover the costs of facility care. Her beloved father died in HIS wheelchair at an end of life care facility. Her mother passed as an invalid with her Virginia relatives. Her sister, Gwendolyn contracted tuberculosis while in her seventeenth year of being institutionalized at a Nashville asylum where she'd been treated for dementia praecox (schizophrenia). No, Christine was going out on her own terms.

The prior evening she set on a small table near her bed her will, her suicide note, a large plastic bag and a small revolver. Burleson took what energy she still commanded to carefully step to her closet where a pre-selected understated dress hung. She dressed herself to include shoes. Making her way back to the table, she took the bag in hand- unwinding it over her head (she didn't want to leave a mess for poor Margaret.) Next came the little gun. She'd owned it for over fifty years, taking it with her to Oxford to "ward off rude men in England." Dressed to please herself, bag secure she squeezed the trigger to hear an impotent click. It failed to fire. There are several reasons for misfire, the most common is inadequate power striking the primer. Undeterred, Christine partially removed her bag to check the gun; another round was in position for a second squeeze. Was providence at play? Was fate giving her pause to relent? Reaffixing her bag, Christine finished the act. She was gone. Her well-orchestrated plan was accomplished. Below are example images of plastic bag and an insufficiently tapped casing versus a properly struck.



The Will specified the disposition of her car to "Billy" and the home to her caregiver next-door neighbor Margaret. The note outlined her frustration with her wheelchair bound medical state, her unwillingness to go on in that condition, her calculating assessment of her inadequate savings for continued care and some tone of anger at T.S. "Tom" Stribling, her lover who'd jilted her forty years before.

Tributes

Professor Burleson two months before her death, she was awarded ETSU's first ever outstanding faculty member recognition. She left the planet as a world class Shakespearean scholar. Christine was magnificently prepared to assume greater roles as a lecturer but chose to stay home for her father. Students of hers from even the 1960s marvel at her ability to bring Shakespeare to life. She glowed when she flipped that switch. Pat Arnow told me her Psychologist husband reasoned Burleson would like to be remembered for her abilities as a teacher.

Christine was not just an instructor, she was hyper-focused on ALL of the intricacies of Shakespearean works. Unrequited love, suicide, haunting were recurrent themes in the Bard's writings. Were these in mind as Burleson contemplated her exit from the stage? Two years following Christine's death a dozen of her former colleagues and students published a collection of essays in her honor according to Sharon "June" Pinkston of the T. Elmer Cox Genealogical and History Museum. She graciously provided us with some passages.

Essays in Memory of Christine Burleson in Language and Literature by Former Colleagues and Students



Thomas G. Burton

Research Advisory Council, East Tennessee State University, 1969 - American essays

Bibliographic information

Title Essays in Memory of Christine Burleson in Language and Literature by Former Colleagues and Students
 Author Thomas G. Burton
 Editor Thomas G. Burton
 Contributor Christine Burleson
 Publisher Research Advisory Council, East Tennessee State University, 1969

- 1920-1921—Studied as a graduate student in philosophy and English at Columbia University.
- 1921-1925—Taught English and science at Kemper Hall, Kenosha, Wisconsin.
- 1923 —Spent summer in Italy.
- 1925 —Completed thesis and other requirements for M.A. degree during the summer term at Columbia University.
- 1925-1927—Taught at East Tennessee State College.
- 1927-1928—Did educational research for Westchester County Children's Association, New York.
- 1928 —Entered Lady Margaret Hall, Oxford University, continued studies there and took Honors B.A. in English Language and Literature in 1931.
- 1931-1932—Studied during the winter at Siena, Italy; received certificate in Italian from the University of Siena in 1932.
- 1932-1936—Served as Dean of Women and Professor of English at Bethany College, West Virginia.
- 1936-1946—Taught for father, "approximately a year's substituting," and assisted him in two series of widely adopted texts, grades 3-8, published by Allyn and Bacon, *Adventures in Language* (1934-1938) and *Adventures in English* (1939-1944, rev. 1947 and 1952)—of the latter series, joint author of Grade 3 (1952 ed.), Grade 6 (1952 ed.), Grade 7 (1947 and 1952 eds.), Grade 8 (1944 and 1952 eds.). Other activities included numerous speaking engagements.
- 1937 —Taught spring term at the University of Tennessee.
- 1939 —Received *in absentia* M.A. degree from Oxford.
- 1946-1967—Taught English language and literature at East Tennessee State University, including a wide scope of both undergraduate and graduate courses, but with special

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Chronology

- 1899 —Born January 5 in Florence, Alabama, the younger daughter of David Sinclair and Mary Henley Dew Burleson.
- 1905 —Entered Training School of State Normal School (Florence, Alabama), beginning in the second grade.
- 1911-1917—Attended East Tennessee State Normal School, passing over the eighth grade to begin with high school pupils; received diploma in 1917. Activities included participation in basketball, school orchestra, and student publications.
- 1914 —Baptized May 6, First Christian Church, Johnson City, Tennessee.
- 1917-1919—Attended the University of Tennessee. Activities included being a sponsor of the band (1918); a staff member of the school newspaper, the *Orange and White* (1918-1919); Associate Editor of the yearbook, the *Volunteer* (1919); a member of *Le Cercle Français*, the Women's Student Literary Club, and Chi Omega (chosen as one of Chi Omega's twenty-five nationally outstanding women). Elected to Phi Kappa Phi Honor Society in 1918 and received A.B. degree, *magna cum laude*, in 1919.
- 1919-1920—Attended Vassar College as a senior; received B.A. degree in 1920.

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concentration in Shakespeare; activities included repeated attendance at Shakespeare festivals (Antioch, Ohio, and Stratford, Ontario) and membership in the Monday Club Auxiliary, Monday Club, and Fortnightly Club.

- 1967 —Received on September 15 the first annual Distinguished Faculty Member Award.
- Died November 2 in Johnson City, Tennessee, after teaching—in positions from student-teacher to professor—during every decade of the University's existence.

Christine's chronology is but a small sample of what appeared in the tribute book by Burton and other colleagues.

We remind you of our first contributor from ETSU, Professor Robert Sawyer, the Shakespearean scholar that followed in Burleson's footsteps. He'd heard the many tales of Christine's manifesting as a ghost. Her case was certainly reflective of any of Shakespeare's thirteen works centered on suicide. From late high school and early college English Lit classes, you no doubt recall these noteworthy suicides.



1. Brutus (*Julius Caesar*)
2. Cassius (*Julius Caesar*)
3. Cleopatra (*Antony and Cleopatra*)
4. Charmian (*Antony and Cleopatra*)
5. Goneril (*King Lear*)
6. Juliet (*Romeo and Juliet*)
7. Lady Macbeth (*Macbeth*)
8. Ophelia (*Hamlet*)
9. Othello (*Othello*)
10. Mark Antony (*Antony and Cleopatra*)
11. Portia (*Julius Caesar*)
12. Romeo (*Romeo and Juliet*)
13. Timon (*Timon of Athens*)

Sawyer admits the similarities in Burleson's story to Shakespeare's but dismisses ghostly sightings choosing instead to call for her dedicated soul to rest. His essay reading on this is often requested still. One example of the Christine lore is many times people at ETSU observe a portrait of David Sinclair Burleson hanging in Burleson Hall has eyes that seem to follow you as you walk past. Further the claims say the eyes in the picture are Christine's, not her father's. I've learned there are specific techniques to create that effect. Further, observation of David and Christine's several pictures show David's eyes are consistent with his other photos and Christine's similar appearance is no more than the simple genetic passing from father to daughter. Pat Arnow and Steven Giles expressly state there was NO talk of Christine as a ghost before, during or soon after the release of their play. Pat recently communicated with me for all to, "let the ghost story go. It's an undignified reflection on the most dignified person I've ever heard of. Her former students (who have denied ghost tales) are right. Remember your cousin as an inspirational teacher who made a good life for herself in a time when few women had few avenues for success." Steve Giles says about the ghost story, "People like making things up. It's huge fun." That's his opinion as a person, not as a former psychologist. Professor Robert Sawyer continues to lecture at ETSU as its Elizabethan/Shakespeare expert. Steve Giles retired in New York City with his wife Pat Arnow. She continues to write and is an accomplished photographer for many labor organizations.

The current director of Appalachian Archives at ETSU, Sandy L. Laws, has many boxes of documents destined for BFRGs research team. Gratefully, she's also assigned ETSU researcher, Jen Bingham, to commit to assisting BFRG in Christine- part two? Christine- the book? Regardless, it'll be enlightening and dramatic. Would you like to collaborate with us on this project. Let us know at bfrg.info or jimburlison8554@gmail.com. Be prepared...in spirit, one way or another...Christine will be watching.

Acknowledgements

- Dr. Robert Sawyer- ETSU
- Sandra L. Laws- Sherrod Library ETSU
- Jennifer Bingham- Appalachian Archives
- Sharon “June” Pinkston- T. Elmer Cox History & Genealogy Museum
- Thomas “Tom” Aaron Burleson- BFRG Researcher/FBI Agent (Retired)
- Dr. Steven Giles- Veterans Administration Psychiatrist (Retired)
- Pat Arnow- Playwright

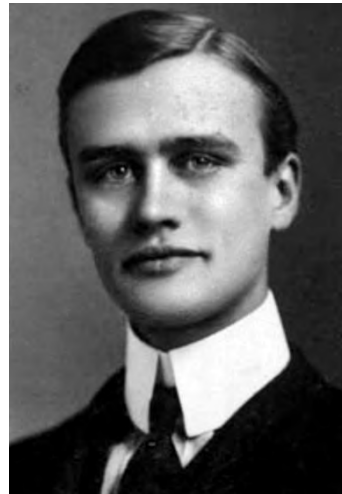


Jim Burleson

BFRG Research

jimburlson8554@gmail.com

Final Thoughts



The BFRG research team surfaced over a hundred new discoveries on its field trip from Virginia across North Carolina to Tennessee. We found this fascinating set of facts and decided to reveal it in this issue. Much more is to come given the assistance of Dr. Sawyer and the Appalachian Archives staff. We're indebted to them.



Colonel Rayvon Burleson, USAF...” To the Rescue”



**Colonel Rayvon Burleson
(1920-2003)**



Jim Burleson

BFRG Research

jimburleson8554@gmail.com

Rayvon Burleson was born in Albemarle, Stanly County, North Carolina 28 January 1920 to Lee Ander Burleson and Bessie Florence Hatchcock. He graduated from Albemarle High School. Later (1941) he enlisted in the U.S. Army attending Davidson College when off duty. In 1944 Burleson took a commission as a 2nd Lieutenant in the U. S. Army Air Corps, receiving his pilot's wings by 1945.



Rayvon's initial flying duty consisted of coastal bomber patrol in the Pacific Northwest at the end of WWII. He was serving at the inception of 1947's creation of the United States Air Force. He was transitioned into its ranks, joining the Strategic Air Command (SAC). Rayvon was born to fly. In his 30 year military career, he flew bombers, transport craft, helicopters and test aircraft. When the aircraft he often piloted, the B36, was retired, he transferred to the Military Air Transport Service (MAC). Next up was flying the very impressive C-133 Globemaster. He was test pilot for these new turboprop planes.



B-36 "Peacemaker"



Beginning with the B-36D (B-36J shown), the Peacemaker used 6 radial piston engines and 4 jet

C-133 "Globemaster"



Col. Burluson served two tours in Vietnam as the Director of Rescue and Commander, 3rd Aerospace Rescue and Recovery Group. He was responsible for the recovery of all air crews shot down by hostile action. His last days in the military found him at his new adopted home, Delaware. He retired in 1970 to work as a corporate pilot. Rayvon kept his hand in rescue operations by also serving the Foundation for Airborne Relief flying food and medical supplies to remote, famine-stricken areas such as Bangladesh. In 1973 Burluson served as chief pilot for Diamond Aviation in Cheswold, Delaware. Soon after he took on duties as the first Delaware State Aeronautics Administrator, a position held for sixteen years.

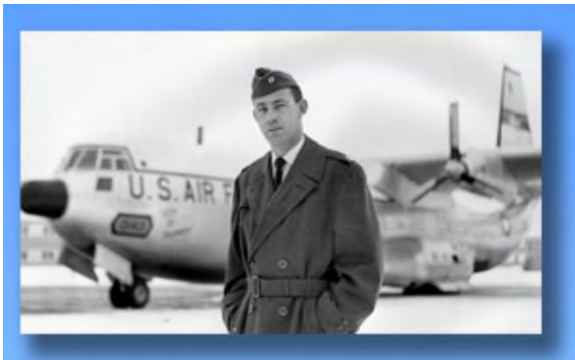


Rayvon flew till the end. He passed away 14 July 2003 at the age of 83 at Philadelphia, PA. His body was transported back to Albemarle for burial at Salem United Methodist Church Cemetery. His wife, Sibyl Lowder (Burluson) preceded him in death-1984. They had daughters Elizabeth and Lucinda.

Delaware Aviation Hall of Fame

Colonel Rayvon Burluson

2005 Inductee



Acknowledgements:

Wikipedia

Find a Grave

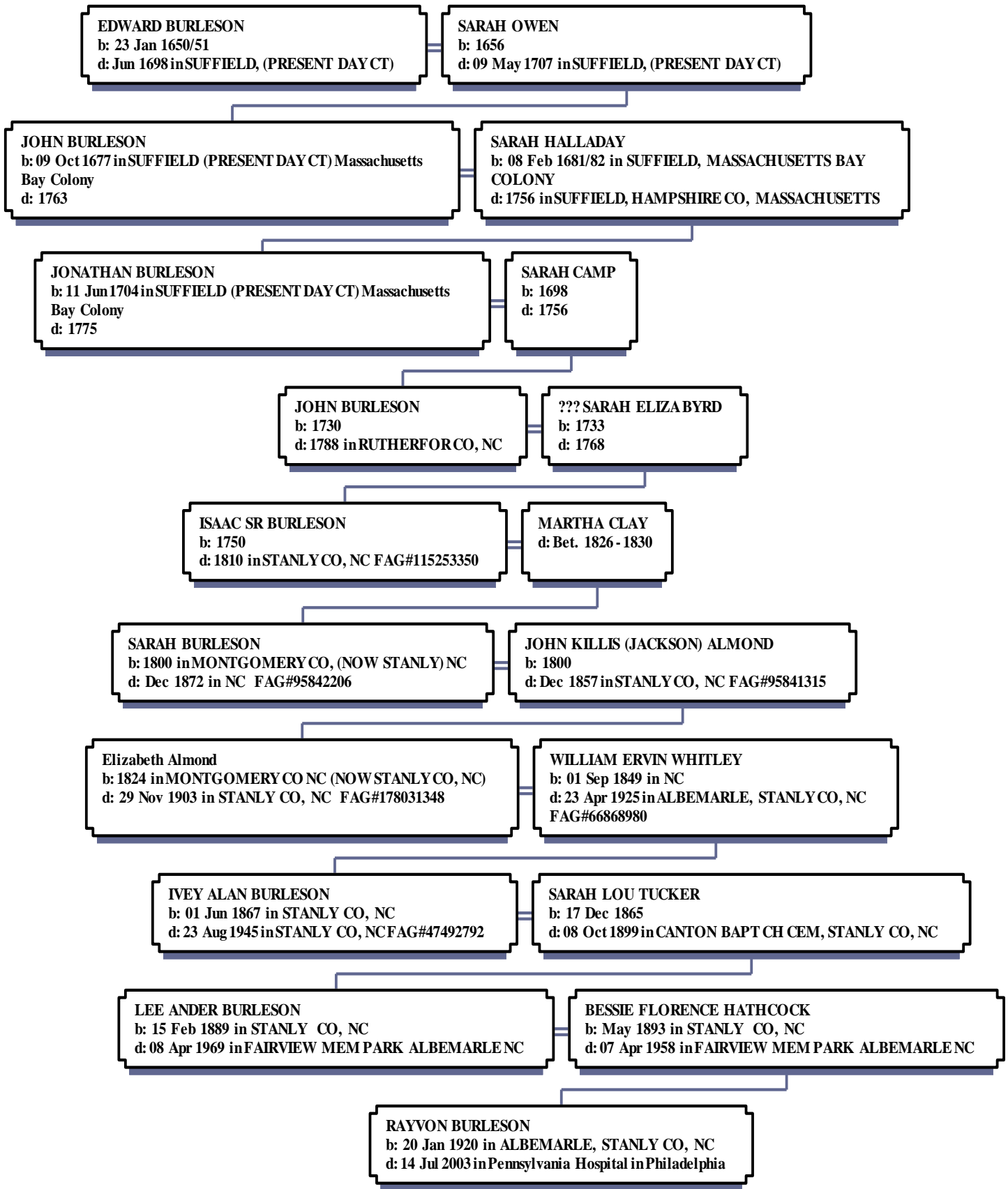
Delaware Aviation Hall of Fame

Air Mobility Command Museum

Air Force Historical Research Agency

Air Force Unit Histories

Direct Descendants of EDWARD BURLESON



Meet Sgt. Marcus Burleson, USMC

Staff Sergeant Burleson was born on Jan 1, 1981. He enlisted after attending Odessa College for two years and completed basic training at Marine Corps Recruit Depot, San Diego, CA in June of 2002. Attended Marine Combat Training at School of Infantry, Camp Pendleton, CA, then attended Supply School at Camp Johnson, NC and graduated a 3043 on September 13 of 2002.

Received orders to HQ 3rd Marines, MCB Hawaii and served as the Supply Admin Chief until Dec 2005. Received Orders to HQ MAG 13, MCAS Yuma, AZ in Dec of 2005, and served as the unit Supply Chief until Oct 2008.

Completed one tour of duty in Iraq as a squad leader for Marine Wing Security Battalion 372, while stationed with MAG 13. Screened for lateral move into EOD field and attended Naval Explosive Ordnance Disposal School at Eglin AFB, Florida in March 2009.

Graduated EOD School in October 2009 and received orders to MCB Hawaii. Supported the Secret Service for the Presidents Hawaiian vacation in DEC 2010. Deployed to Papua New Guinea in support of JPAC from Aug to Sept 2010. Received orders to 2nd EOD Company, Camp Lajuene North Carolina. Deployed to Afghanistan as a team leader, with 2nd Platoon, from October 2011 until December 2011 where he was injured while attempting to render an IED safe.

His personal awards include Navy and Marine Corps Achievement Medal, (3) Good Conduct Medals, National Defense Medal, Iraqi Campaign Medal, Global War on Terrorism Service Medal, (1) Sea Service Deployment ribbon, 2 Navy Unit Citation, NATO ISAF Medal, Afghanistan Campaign Medal, Purple heart, Combat Action Ribbon.

Iraq Campaign Medal



Obverse and reverse

Afghanistan Campaign Medal

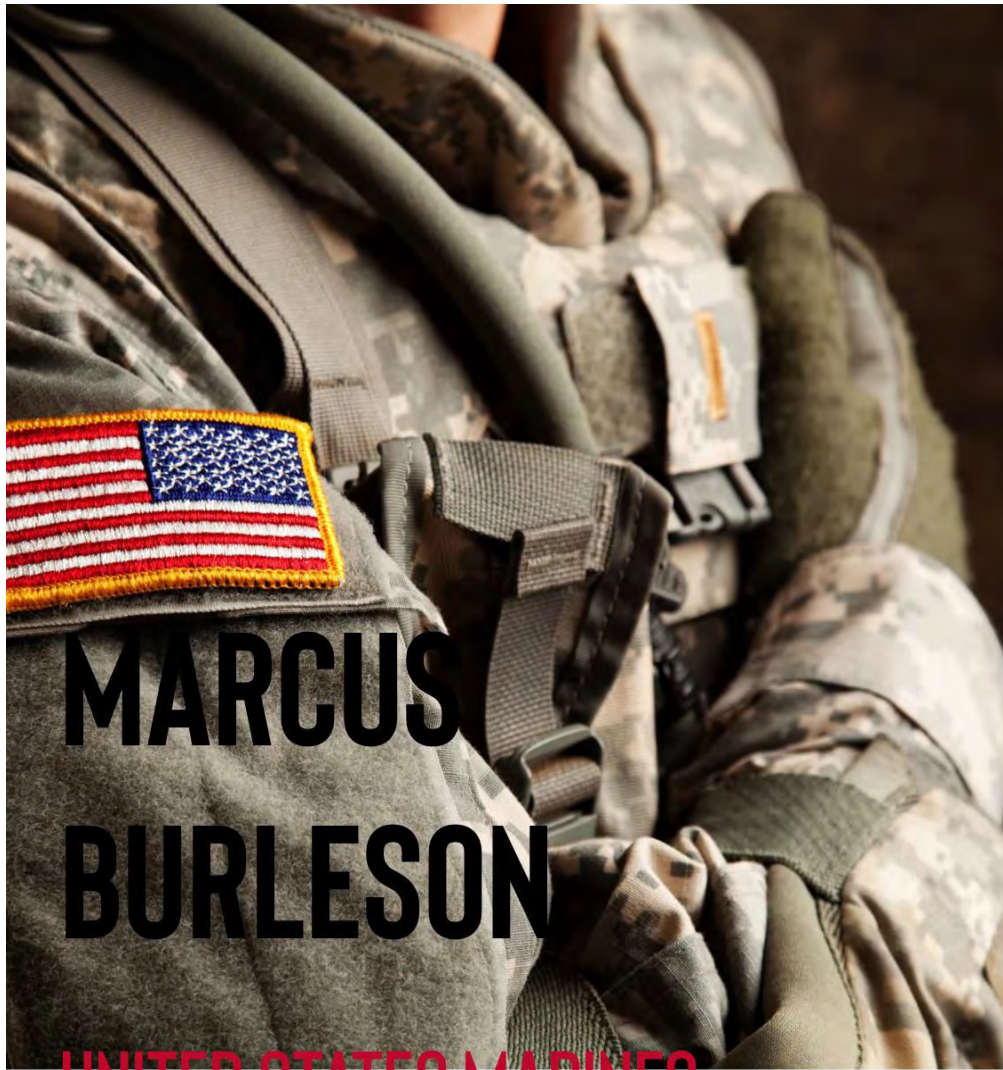


Obverse and reverse

Purple Heart



Obverse



**MARCUS
BURLESON**

UNITED STATES MARINES



Lt. Col. Jesse Albert Burleson 1926-1991

Jesse was born 23 May,1926 to Albert Fonzer "Tom" Burleson(served in WWI) and Tempie Ester Gouge (Burleson) in Little Rock Creek, Mitchell, North Carolina. He was the paternal grandson of Jonathan Dosser Burleson 1868 -1939/Harriet Jane Biddix 1872-1941 and maternally William "Will" M. Gouge 1860-1838/Emma Louise Hughes 1865-1952.



Albert Fonzer "Tom" Burleson



William "Will" M. Gouge & Emma Louise Hughes.



Jesse had at least eight siblings including Emma, Jason, Bessie, Lloyd, Brown, Ruby, Joe Dean and Ted Donald (who also served in WWII.)



CONTEST WINNER — Teresa Gail Burleson, 2½-year-old daughter of Lt. and Mrs. Jesse A. Burleson, formerly of Johnson City and now in Japan, received the "Picture of the Week" award sponsored by Headquarters 1st Cavalry Division. This entry of Teresa Gail was submitted by Pfc. Allen L. Bird. Lt. Burleson is an Air Force meteorologist. Teresa Gail is the granddaughter of Mr. and Mrs. A. F. Burleson, Bakersville, N. C., and Mr. and Mrs. W. H. McNeil, Tazewell.

Jesse Albert Burleson left his North Carolina home to join the Navy. There he rose to the rank of Chief Petty Officer. As WWII progressed, Jesse transitioned to the Army Air Corps until it converted into the United States Air Force. While in the service Burleson had a daughter, Theresa. He also earned credentials as a meteorologist through Penn State University. In the early 1960s Jesse headed the Johnson City, TN Civil Air Patrol.

Personals

Johnson City

Robert Sims and Bob Albright of New York City, have returned to their home following a visit with their parents, Mr. and Mrs. F. N. Sims of Rt. 9, Jonesboro.

Capt. Jesse A. Burleson and daughter, Teresa have been guests of Burleson's sister, Mrs. Robert F. Rogers, and brother, Ted Burleson.

Burleson is attending the University of Pennsylvania.

Penn State Graduates Two City Students

Two Johnson City students were among the 1,587 graduates receiving degrees at the Pennsylvania State University Sunday. They were Gene M. Love, Route 2, PhD, agricultural education; and Jesse A. Burleson, 50 St. Louis St., BS, Meteorology.

The diplomas, which included 1,400 bachelor degrees and 187 advanced degrees, were presented by Dr. Milton S. Eisenhower, president of the University. Of the advanced degrees, 54 were doctorates.

The class also included 84 seniors who were graduated with honors.

Weather Unit Will Remain At Tri-Cities

The U. S. Weather Bureau at Tri-Cities Airport received word from the central office in Washington, D. C., Friday afternoon that they will continue operations indefinitely, Jerry Johnson, meteorologist in charge, announced.

Hours, however, will be curtailed from the present 24-hour schedule to 16 hours per day. The new schedule becomes effective Sept. 1, with hours of operation from 6:00 a. m. to 10:00 p. m.

It was announced early in May that the local bureau would be closed June 14 as part of the government's "economy drive", unless orders from Washington were countermanded. Since that time the station has operated on two - week approval periods.

The new schedule will not curtail the dissemination of weather forecasts, Johnson said, but will cut down considerably on the observation program.

Personnel of the local bureau was also cut from five men to four, but the recent resignation of geologist Jesse Burleson, who accepted a commission in the Air Force, leaves the remainder of the force intact.

CAP Unit Honors Former Leader

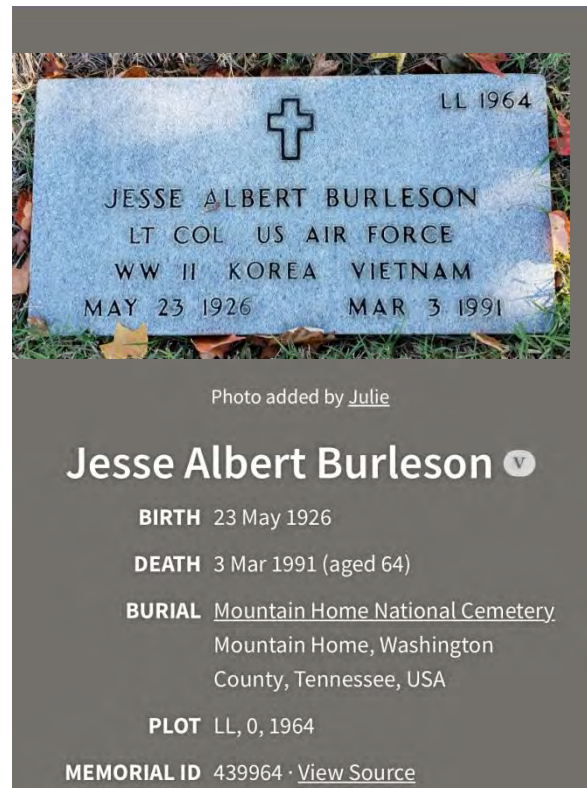
The Civil Air Patrol of Johnson City honored CAP Captain Jesse Burleson with a farewell party in Elizabethton Tuesday night following his appointment as a second lieutenant in the Air Force.

Captain Burleson was presented with a set of luggage by the squadron in appreciation for his work here. The captain has been ordered to report for duty at Andrews Air Force Base, Washington, D. C.; June 3. From there he will go to Pennsylvania State College where he will take a one-year course in meteorology.

Succeeding Captain Burleson as commander of the local CAP squadron is Captain Carson Baker who also received gifts at the party. Captain Baker said he "would continue the policies of the retiring commander and would make a few minor changes in the staff."

Jesse had the distinction of serving in the military through WWII, Korea and Vietnam Wars. He passed at sixty five in 1991 at the Mountain Home Veterans facility in east Tennessee.

Morristown
Lt. Col. Jesse Burleson
Graveside services for Lt. Col. Jesse Burleson, 64, of Bakersville, NC, who died Sunday at the Veteran's Administration Medical Center, Mountain Home, will be held at 2 p.m. Tuesday at the National Cemetery, Mountain Home. Allen Funeral Home, Morristown, is in charge of the arrangements.



Acknowledgements:

Claudia Hill McGough-
Avery County Genealogy
and Historical Museum

Find a Grave
Phyllis Burleson

Direct Descendants of EDWARD BURLESON

EDWARD BURLESON
b: 23 Jan 1650/51
d: Jun 1698 in SUFFIELD, (PRESENT DAY CT)

SARAH OWEN
b: 1656
d: 09 May 1707 in SUFFIELD, (PRESENT DAY CT)

JOHN BURLESON
b: 09 Oct 1677 in SUFFIELD (PRESENT DAY CT) Massachusetts Bay Colony
d: 1763

SARAH HALLADAY
b: 08 Feb 1681/82 in SUFFIELD, MASSACHUSETTS BAY COLONY
d: 1756 in SUFFIELD, HAMPSHIRE CO, MASSACHUSETTS

JONATHAN BURLESON
b: 11 Jun 1704 in SUFFIELD (PRESENT DAY CT) Massachusetts Bay Colony
d: 1775

SARAH CAMP
b: 1698
d: 1756

AARON BURLESON
b: 22 May 1725 in NJ
d: 1782 in WASHINGTON CO, TN (PAGE 87 BFB)

RACHEL GRAVES?
b: 1730
d: 1800

THOMAS (DAUNT) BURLESON
b: 1745
d: 1825 in CANE CREEK, MITCHELL CO, NC

Margaret Jane Greene
b: 1750 in CLEVELAND, NC
d: 1835 in YANCEY CO, NC

Aaron (BIG AARON) Burleson
b: 1768 in CAIN CREEK, MITHCHEL CO, North Carolina
d: 09 Aug 1851 in Cane Creek, North Carolina

Elizabeth (LIBBY) McKinney
b: 1775 in NC
d: 1850 in Cane Creek, North Carolina

JONATHAN O BURLESON
b: 29 Mar 1798 in HAWK, BURKE CO, NC
d: 22 May 1883 in LITTLE ROCK CREEK, MITCHELL CO, NC

GEMIMA (MIMMA) DUNCANYOUNG
b: 1806 in LEDGER, BURKE CO, NC
d: 22 May 1884

REUBEN PRICE BURLESON
b: 30 Jul 1841 in YANCY CO, NC
d: 30 Oct 1883 in GLEEN AYRE, MITCHELL CO, NC

DORCAS MATLIDA BLALOCK
b: 26 Jun 1839 in SPRUCE PINE, MITCHELL CO, NC
d: 13 Feb 1931 in LITTLE ROCK CREEK, MITCHELL CO, NC

JONATHAN DOSSER BURLESON
b: 10 Feb 1868
d: 08 Dec 1939 in FAG#28214541

HARRIETT (HATTIE) JANE BIDDIX
b: 13 Mar 1872 in MITCHELL CO, NC
d: 31 Mar 1941 in MITCHELL CO, NC FAG#28214566

ALBERT FONZER (TOM) BURLESON
b: 23 Sep 1899 in MITCHELL CO, NC
d: 15 Jul 1982 in SPRUCE PINE, MITCHELL CO, NC
FAG#52647738

TEMPIE GOUGE
b: 07 Mar 1899 in MITCHELL CO, NC
d: 1980 in FAG#52647610

JESSE ALBERT BURLESON
b: 23 May 1926
d: 03 Mar 1991 in FAG#439964

A Family of Patriots Served Honorably By David Almond

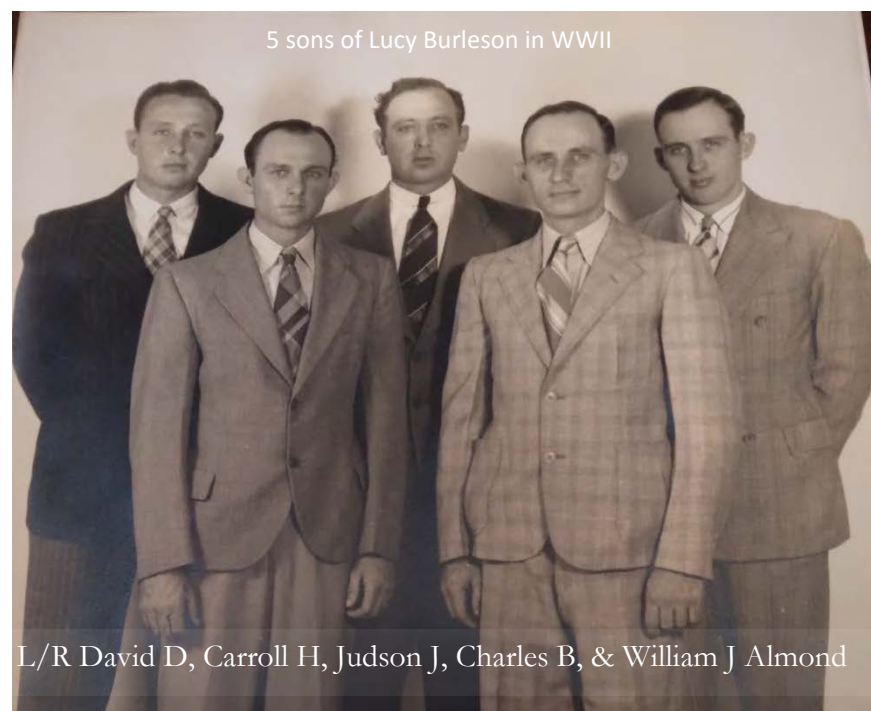
The Burlesons have long been known to have married into allied families such as Kuykendall, Sisco, Shipman, Gage, Greene, Wiseman, and Almond. This is a story of the latter.

In February of 1898 Lucy Burleyson (1877-1960) and William B. (Billy) Almond (1874-1953) were married and began housekeeping on a farm near Canton Baptist Church. Their first child, a daughter, died in 1901 from "a fever". Their next four children, all daughters, lived to be elderly. After having five girls in succession, Lucy and Billy produced five sons in a row. After their tenth child in 1920, the couple was blessed with grandsons in 1922 and 1923.

When World War II broke out, Lucy and Billy Almond's five sons and two eldest grandsons answered their country's call. All seven served honorably and, by the grace of God, all seven came home.



Rev Billy & Lucy Burleson Almond



Charles Barrette Almond

(1910-1992)

Barrette entered the Army Air Corps on February 16, 1942 at Ft. Jackson, SC. He received training at Keesler Field, MS. and Buffalo, NY and served in Italy and North Africa. Although the army trained him as an aircraft mechanic, he was utilized as a barber because of his previous civilian training. He was separated from service on October 14, 1945. During his time in service, he received numerous medals and ribbons, including four Bronze Stars. After the war, Barrette returned to Stanly County where he worked for a number of years at Stanly Lumber Company and retired from Page Church Furniture Company. Barrette was survived by his wife, the former Thelma Blalock and two sons.

Judson Jefferson Almond
(1912-2009)

Judson was inducted into the navy on March 29, 1944 and went through basic training at Bainbridge, MD. During his time in the navy, he was in Northern Ireland, England, France and Germany. He served primarily on troop transport ships carrying personnel between the United States and Europe. Judson was discharged after war's end and returned to Albemarle where he worked for Duke Power Company until his retirement. He was predeceased by his wife, the former Agnes Shankle and was survived by one daughter.



Carroll Howell Almond

(1915-1996)

Carroll was inducted into the navy in October of 1943 and received training at Camp Peary, VA. In 1944 he was sent to Hawaii where he was assigned to construction duties with the SeeBees. He was discharged in 1945, returned to Stanly County and eventually retired from Lorch Plumbing Company. Carroll was predeceased by a son and was survived by his wife, the former Vernie Furr and two daughters.



William Jay Almond

(1917-2001)

Jay joined the navy with his younger brother, David Delmar Almond, on August 8, 1940. The two went through basic training at Norfolk, VA. During his naval career Jay served aboard the USS Idaho, the USS Massachusetts and the USS Essex. He obtained the rating of Aviation Chief Electrician's Mate and participated in eight separate combat missions as part of Air Group Nine in the South Pacific. Jay was discharged from the navy in 1946 and moved to Charlotte where he spent the rest of his life. He was predeceased by an infant son and was survived by his wife, the former Evelyn Frick, and one son.

David Delmar Almond

(1920-1999)

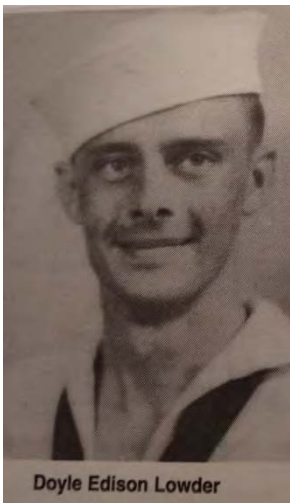
After completing naval basic training with his older brother Jay, Delmar was assigned to the USS Idaho. In 1942 he was transferred to the newly commissioned USS Massachusetts which was involved in the bombardment of Casablanca in North Africa. For the duration of the war the Massachusetts primarily bombarded Japanese held islands in the Pacific, preparing them for troops to go ashore. He was discharged on August 7, 1946 and eventually went to work with the Albemarle Post Office where he retired as a rural mail carrier. Delmar was predeceased by an infant son and was survived by his wife, the former Irene Whitley, one son and one daughter.



Doyle Edison Lowder (Grandson)

(1922-2000)

Doyle was the oldest grandchild of Lucy and Billy Almond. His parents were Victoria Almond Lowder and Cull Reuben Lowder. During World War II he served two years in Panama, spent six months in the V12 training program at Chapel Hill and was later transferred to Japan. He served primarily as an aviation machinist mate. After the end of World War II he entered the Wake Forest School of Law but was called back into the navy during the Korean War. After Korea, he returned to Wake Forest, obtained his law degree and was admitted to the North Carolina Bar in 1955. He later went to work for State Farm Insurance Company from which he retired in the mid 1980s.



Doyle Edison Lowder



Cabot Coolidge Morton

Cabot Coolidge Morton (Grandson)

(1923-1970)

Coolidge was the second born grandchild of Lucy and Billy Almond. His parents were Bethie Almond Morton and Claude Bryan Morton. He joined the navy on February 15, 1941 and was discharged on November 9, 1945. During his naval career he served on the USS Swanson, the USS Salamua and the USS Floyds Bay. While on the Swanson he

was part of the bombardment of Casablanca in November 1942. He also served in the Pacific Theater, including the invasion of Okinawa. After the war he returned to Albemarle and later relocated to the Wilmington area in the early 1960s. Coolidge and his younger daughter were killed in an automobile accident near Clarkton, NC on Good Friday of 1970. His older daughter and his wife, the former Betty Morgan, were seriously injured but recovered from their injuries.

Lucy and Billy Almond, their five daughters, their five sons and their two eldest grandsons are all buried in the cemetery at Canton Baptist Church.



Billy and Lucy experienced the loss of infant daughter, NARRAH LEE ALMOND in 1901. Can you imagine the fear they must have felt sending 5 sons to WWII in the 1940s? Would they come home safe?

In this family picture taken in 1981 you will note all 5 of Lucy and Billy sons survived. They are a testament to the sacrifice so many American families endured in the 1940s. Incidentally, their grandsons also made it home safe.

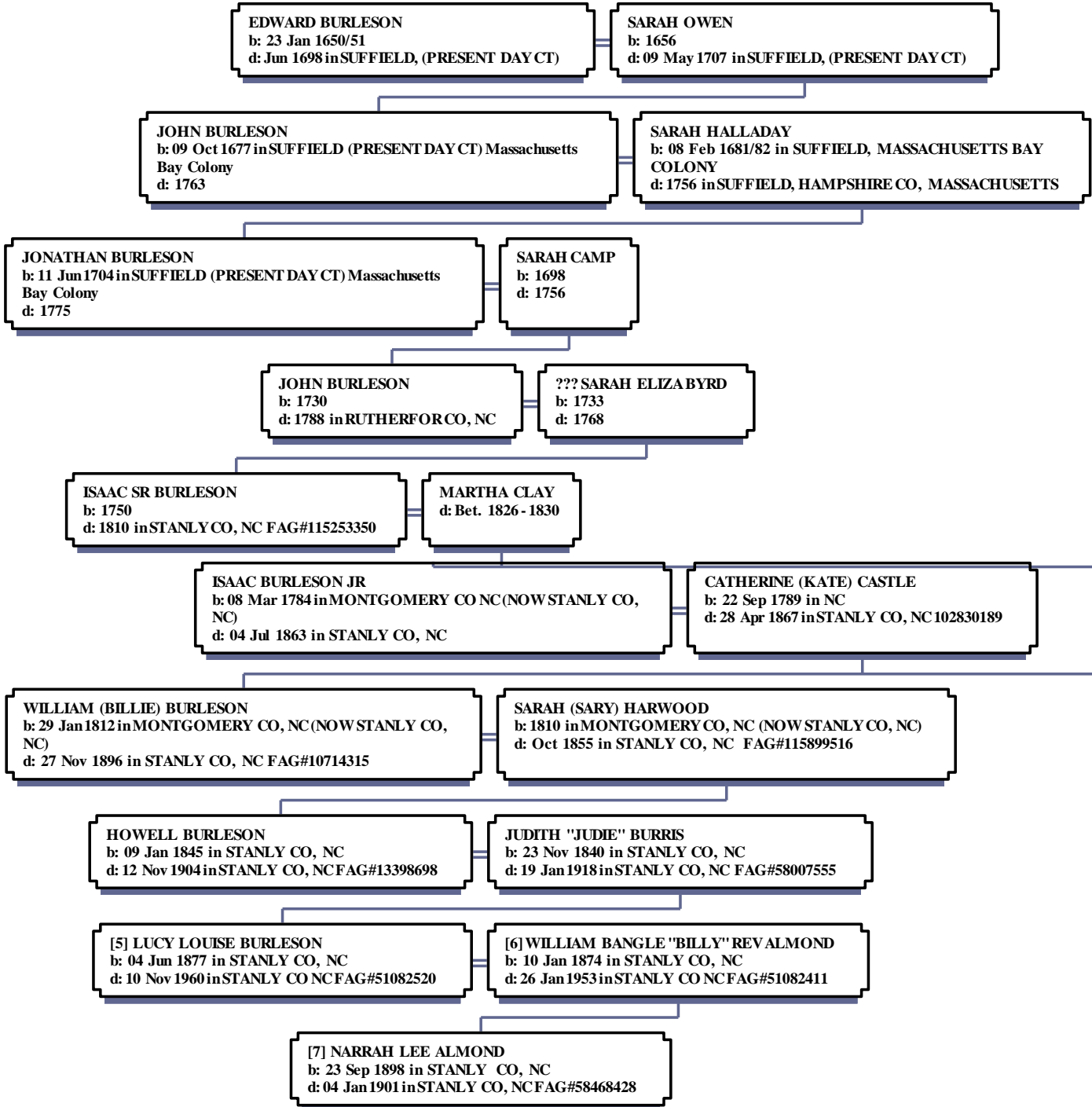
Photo - 1981

Men, Left to Right
 David Delmar Almond, Sr.
 Judson Jefferson Almond
 Charles Barrette Almond, Sr.
 William Jay Almond
 Carroll Howell Almond

Women, Left to Right
 Aria Almond Caudle
 Ocha Almond Hewitt
 Thelma Blalock Almond
 (wife of Charles Barrette Almond, Sr.)
 Bethie Almond Morton
 Victoria Almond Lowder



Direct Descendants of EDWARD BURLESON



Join Us in a Mystery: Who Was John Horace Burleson?



Jim Burleson

BFRG Research

jimburleson8554@gmail.com

Much of this issue is devoted to literature or the arts, especially where a Burleson cousin is the creator. But here's a case where the Burleson was a character based on a "real" person according to the author, award winning poet, Edgar Lee Masters. Here's the John Horace Burleson poem.

John Horace Burleson Poem by Edgar Lee Masters

John Horace Burleson

*I won the prize essay at school
Here in the village,
And published a novel before I was twenty-five.
I went to the city for themes and to enrich my art;
There married the banker's daughter,
And later became president of the bank-
Always looking forward to some leisure
To write an epic novel of the war.
Meanwhile friend of the great, and lover of letters,
And host to Matthew Arnold and to Emerson.
An after dinner speaker, writing essays
For local clubs. At last brought here-
My boyhood home, you know-
Not even a little tablet in Chicago
To keep my name alive.
How great it is to write the single line:
"Roll on, thou deep and dark blue Ocean, roll!"*



Edgar Lee Masters

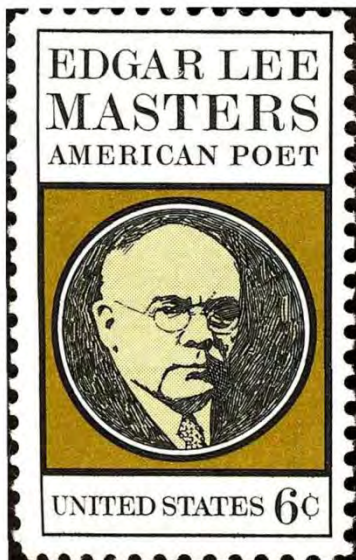
This piece is among other Masters' poems within his 1915 publication, "Spoon River Anthology" by Dover Thrift Editions.

Edgar Lee Masters



Masters as a young man

Born	August 23, 1868 Garnett, Kansas, U.S. ^[1]
Died	March 5, 1950 (aged 81) Melrose Park, Pennsylvania, U.S. ^[1]
Resting place	Oakland cemetery, Petersburg, Illinois
Occupation	Poet •



Postal stamp, issued
August 22, 1970



Spoon River Anthology is a book of mostly short poems by Edgar Lee Masters, first serialized in 1914 and then collected in volume form in 1915. A lesser-known sequel, *The New Spoon River*, appeared in 1924. The sequence takes the form of epitaphs of people who lived in an Illinois community. It's [available](#) on Project Gutenberg, and can also be read online [here](#).

Masters work was well received in the literary community but shunned by his one-time hometown folk in Lewistown, Illinois. A six cent stamp was even issued commemorating his legacy as a writer. He was awarded the Mark Twain Silver Medal in 1936, the Poetry Society of America medal in 1941 and the Shelly Memorial Award in 1944. In 2014, he was inducted into the Chicago Literary Hall of Fame.

How many characters are in Spoon River Anthology?

Because many of the **212 characters** were based on real people, those who lived near Spoon River were not happy with their portrayals and the book was banned from Lewistown schools and libraries for nearly 60 years. Apr 19, 2022



When was Spoon River banned?

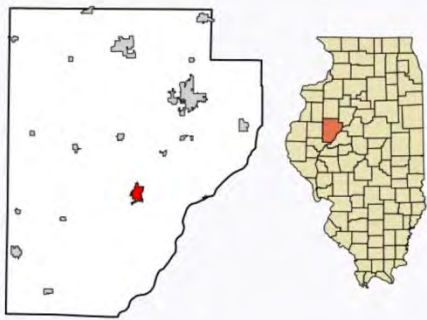
Meanwhile, those who lived in the Spoon River region objected to their portrayal in the anthology, particularly as so many of the poems' characters were based on real people. The book was banned from Lewistown schools and libraries until **1974**.



[https://en.m.wikipedia.org/wiki](https://en.m.wikipedia.org/wiki/Spoon_River_Anthology)

[Spoon River Anthology - Wikipedia](#)

Masters' "Anthology" identified 212 individual characters from Spoon River that he openly admitted represented real people from the community. That community, near the Spoon River, was actually Lewistown, Illinois. It's a small village of less than 2,000 occupying about two square miles. Burleson was depicted as a businessman who moved into town to take on the role as a bank president. Masters explains in his various pieces Burleson is bored with his job preferring to write poetry himself. John Horace Burleson, like many of the 212 citizens highlighted were mostly portrayed in an unflattering manner. So many townsfolk objected to the book it was banned in Lewistown schools and libraries as soon as published. That ban was lifted 60 years later in 1974. The small town lies in Fulton County, Illinois.



Location of Lewistown in Fulton County, Illinois.



Location of Illinois in the United States

What caused John Horace Burleson to garnish disfavor with the accomplished poet? Curious? Help us dig. Send your clues to bfrg.info or jimburlison8554@gmail.com.

Acknowledgement: Wikipedia

Corporal Clyde Keller Burleson, USMC: Pacific Hero

Clyde was born 31 May 1923 in Lubbock, Texas to Clyde Rufus Burleson 1885-1967 and Mary Amelia Keller(Burleson) 1891-1974. He was married to Pauline May Mayer 1928-2012 in Los Angeles, California on 1 June, 1946...he made it home alive. At the peak of WWII he joined the Marine Corps. He left the U.S. unemployed. When he returned he owned and operated a dry cleaners. Not much later, Clyde and Pauline had Linda Jean b. 1947 and Stephen Edward b.1948. Clyde lasted until 18 December 1986 where he died in Los Angeles, California. Burleson earned the Silver Star for gallantry displayed in Iwo Jima, Volcano Islands 26 February 1945. See the details below.



Clyde Keller Burleson

First Name: Clyde	Middle Name: K.
Last Name: Burleson	
Birthplace: Lubbock, TX, USA	Date of Birth: 31 May 1923
Gender: Male	Date of Death: 18 December 1986
Branch: Marines (present)	Rank: Corporal
	Years Served:
Home of Record: Lynwood, CA	

Engagements:

- World War II (1941 - 1945)

Biography:

Clyde Keller Burleson
Corporal, U. S. Marine Corps
Silver Star

GENERAL ORDERS:

Commanding General, Fleet Marine Force Pacific: Serial 114337 (December 18, 1945)

CITATION:

The President of the United States of America takes pleasure in presenting the Silver Star to Corporal Clyde K. Burleson (MCSN: 304304), United States Marine Corps Reserve, for conspicuous gallantry and intrepidity while serving as a Squad Leader of Company F, Second Battalion, Ninth Marines, THIRD Marine Division, in action against enemy Japanese forces on Iwo Jima, Volcano Islands, on 26 February 1945.

Skillfully directing the fire and movement of his squad until it advanced to within fifteen yards of an enemy entrenchment strongly defended with automatic weapons and grenades, Corporal Burleson braved intense hostile fire to reconnoiter for weak spots in the enemy position from three different points on the squad front. Although severely wounded during a fierce three-hour action during which two automatic weapon emplacements were destroyed, he continued to direct and encourage his men until he lost consciousness. By his skill, aggressive determination and courageous devotion to duty, Corporal Burleson contributed materially to the success of his squad in annihilating a large number of the Japanese and in destroying the position. His conduct throughout was in keeping with the highest traditions of the United States Naval Service.

Aaron Burleson 1725-1781 m. Rachel ? circa 1730-1800

Joseph Burleson 1770-1849 m. Nancy Gage 1772-1815

James Randolph Burleson 1793-1868 m. Amanda M. Van Dyke 1827-1863

Alfred Lafayette Burleson 1854-1936 m. Mary Idella Elizabeth McaElroy 1856-1922

Clyde Rufus Burleson 1885-1967 m. Mary Amelia Keller 1891-1974

Clyde Keller Burleson 1923-1986 m. Pauline May Mayer 1928-2012

Silver Star Medal



Type	Personal Valor Decoration
Awarded for	Gallantry in action against an enemy of the United States



Chief Master Sergeant Anthony S. Burleson



BIOGRAPHY

UNITED STATES AIR FORCE

CHIEF MASTER SERGEANT ANTHONY S. BURLESON

Chief Master Sergeant Anthony S. Burleson is the 47th Mission Support Group Superintendent, 47th Flying Training Wing, Laughlin Air Force Base, Texas. He serves as the senior enlisted advisor to the Commander responsible for the quality of life and mission support for 5,700 people and 28 units, providing logistics, engineering, housing, security, personnel, education, contracting, communication, services, and war fighting readiness training. He maintains oversight and protection of assets valued at \$1.3 billion dollars including 808 infrastructure assets, 9.5 miles of runways/taxiways and 451 housing units on 5,300 acres supporting the undergraduate pilot training mission. Additionally, he is responsible for keeping forces ready to deploy in support of contingency operations worldwide.

CMSgt Burleson entered active duty in January 1995. After basic training at Lackland AFB TX, he graduated from the Security Police Academy at Lackland AFB, TX and Air Base Ground Defense School at Fort Dix, NJ. His background includes various duties in Security Forces at the unit level. Throughout his career, he has filled a myriad of roles including Security Forces Manager, Operations Superintendent, Logistics Superintendent, as well as Security Forces Academy Instructor. His assignments include bases in Texas, Oklahoma. Sergeant Burleson also served overseas in South Korea and deployed in support of Operations Southern Watch, Desert Fox, JTF Katrina, Enduring Freedom and Iraqi Freedom.



Anthony has over twenty advanced certificates in training from the Air Force. During his career he was able to garnish an associate's degree at the Community College of the Air Force and a bachelor degree in Criminal Justice from Wayland Baptist University, San Antonio. His field of expertise is a law enforcement officer and trainer of such. He's served in Texas, Kunsan Air Base-Korea, Oklahoma, Colorado and Texas again. He's been awarded the Meritorious Service Medal with one silver oak leaf cluster, Air Force Commendation Medal with one silver oak leaf cluster, Air Force Achievement Medal with three oak leaf clusters, Korean Defense Service Medal, and the Military Outstanding Volunteer Service Medal.



Major Milestones

Obituary for Dean Burleson

September 28, 1947 – October 1, 2023

Lester “Dean” Burleson, 76, of Louisiana, MO, passed away on October 1, 2023 at his home with his family. Memorial services will be held at 1:00 P.M. on Thursday, October 5, 2023 at the Collier Funeral Home in Louisiana, MO with military honors. The Rev. Ruth Shumaker officiating. Visitation will be from 11:00 A.M. until time of service Thursday at the funeral home.

Dean was born on September 28, 1947 in Carlinville, IL to Howard Burleson and Dorothy Pitman Burleson. He was married to Venita Calvin On January 8, 1966 in Louisiana, MO.

He is survived by his wife of 57 years, Venita Burleson, 2 sons, J. P. Burleson (Robyn) of Bowling Green, MO and Rod Burleson (Marcy) of Louisiana, MO, a daughter, Cindy Browning (Jeff) of Silex, MO, 13 grandchildren, Katie Trafford, Allison Miller, Zach Browning, James Burleson, Anthony Burleson, Tyler Burleson, Lauren Burleson, Ethan Crowder, Dylan Crowder, Camille Akers, Zach Whitehead, Justin House, and Katie Cannon, 13 great grandchildren, 2 brothers, Larry Burleson of Carlinville, IL and Dale Burleson (Rose) of Midland, MI, a sister, Diana Fuld (Jim) of Foristell, MO, brother-in-law Jim Calvin (Phyllis), 2 sisters-in-law Shirley Benn and Ruth Shumaker (David), and numerous nieces and nephews. He was preceded in death by his father, mother, stepmother, 5 brothers-in-law, and 5 sisters-in-law.

Dean was a veteran of the US Army serving during the Vietnam War. He was an over the road truck driver for 33 years. He was a member of the American Legion Post 370 having served as Post Commander for 2 years, and a member of the Memorial Squad several years. He was a volunteer for the Pike County Home Health & Hospice, volunteer for the Louisiana Colorfest for several years, and he served on the Louisiana City Council. He enjoyed playing his guitar and listening to country music. After retiring, he enjoyed driving grain and dump trucks for the Niemeyer Family Farms, Luebrecht Excavating, and Epperson Farms.

Memorials can be made to the Pike County Hospice.

Lester Dean Burleson Family Line, Howard A & Dorothy Pitman Burleson, Guy C & Florence Rhodes Burleson, Seth H & Augusta Reiher Burleson, John & Elizabeth Smart Burleson Jr, John & Mary Hodges Burleson Sr., Aaron and Rachael Burleson



Sidney Olin Burleson

November 5, 1950 ~ November 2, 2023 (age 72)

Obituary

Sidney Olin Burleson, age 72, of Limestone, TN, passed away peacefully on November 2, 2023. Born on November 5, 1950, in Henderson, NC, Sidney was a man of intelligence and courage, known for his friendly and outgoing nature.

Sidney was the beloved son of the late Olin Douglas Burleson and Margaret Biggs Burleson. He was the cherished husband of Rita Hall Burleson, with whom he shared many wonderful years of marriage. Sidney was a loving father to his son, Sidney Shawn Burleson (Mary Ann), and his daughter, Rebecca Dawn Burleson. He was also a proud grandfather to Justin Burleson (Kahlia), Austin Taylor Burleson, Xela Rayne Burleson, Isaac Shane Whitson, and Olivia Dawn Whitson. Sidney was blessed to have known his great-grandchildren, Vaherina Celeste Taki Kun, Kamden Massey, and Kaven Massey. He is also survived by his siblings, Doug Eugene Burleson (Tresia), Barbara Curtis (George), Larry Burleson (Joyce), and Daris Greenway (Kurt).

A 1969 graduate of Avery County High School in Newland, NC, Sidney valued education. Sidney served as a Corporal with the United States Marine Corps during the Vietnam War, demonstrating his courage and dedication to his country. After his military service, he retired from Ingles, where he was a respected meat cutter.



Sidney with sister Barbara Burleson Curtis

Sidney was an active member of his community. He was a member of the American Legion Post 24 of Johnson City and the DAV Chapter 42 of Greeneville. His involvement in these organizations reflected his commitment to service and his desire to support his fellow veterans.

Sidney had a zest for life that was evident in his interests. He enjoyed pleasant music and was a avid fan of baseball. His outgoing personality made him a friend to many, and his friendly demeanor will be missed by all who knew him.

In summary, Sidney Olin Burleson was a man of many talents and interests. He was a devoted family man, a proud veteran, and a valued member of his community. His intelligence and courage were evident in all aspects of his life, from his military service to his professional career and his personal interests. His friendly and outgoing nature made him a beloved figure in his community, and his memory will be cherished by all who knew him.

The family appreciates the prayers and condolences from friends and family.

The family will receive friends on Wednesday, November 8, 2023, from 11:00 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. at Snyder's Memorial. The funeral service will begin at 12:30 p.m. at Snyder's Memorial. The graveside service will follow at Snyder's Memorial Gardens.

Snyder's Memorial is honored to serve the family of Mr. Sidney Olin Burleson.

Sidney Burleson Family Line, Olin & Margaret Biggs Burleson, John D & Dora Shook Burleson, Samuel, & Mary Pittman Burleson, Jason E & Clarissa Buchanan Burleson, John & Mary Jane Buchanan Burleson, Thomas (Daunt) & Margaret Jane Greene Burleson, Aaron and Rachael Burleson



David Larry “Bub” Burleson

April 12, 1951 – August 26, 2023

“For I am now ready to be offered, and the time of my departure is at hand. I have fought a good fight, I have finished my course, I have kept the faith: henceforth there is laid up for me a crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous judge, shall give me at that day: and not to me only, but unto all them also that love his appearing.” 2 Timothy 4:6-8

David Larry “Bub” Burleson, 72, of Johnson City, Tennessee, went to his Home in Heaven on Saturday, August 26, 2023. Originally from Bakersville, NC, David was the first born son of the late DH and Lucille Woody Burleson. He was a longtime member at Grace Free Will Baptist Church.

David was a lifelong and respected electrician, and co-owner of Burleson Electric Company for over 40 years. He was a charter member of the Contractor Review Board for the City of Johnson City. He was an influential mentor to many professionals in the electrical field, and his contributions are an integral part of the regions infrastructure.

David loved spending time with his family, and his grandchildren were the light of his life. He will be greatly missed.

In addition to his parents, he was preceded in death by three siblings, Beth Burleson, Don Burleson, and Terry Burleson. Those left to cherish his memory include his children, Missi (Sam) Crowder, Jennifer Burleson, and Logan (Britney) Burleson;

grandchildren, Callie Elizabeth Burleson, David Henley Burleson, Roan Thomas Burleson, and Laurel Grace Burleson; brother, Mike (Brenda) Burleson; god-daughter, Kelly Burleson Weems; sisters in law, Melissa Burleson and Lisa Burleson; and many aunts, uncles, nieces, nephews, cousins, friends, and neighbors.

David’s family will receive friends from 5:00-7:00 pm on Thursday, August 31, 2023, at Grace Free Will Baptist Church (2110 Knob Creek Road, Johnson City). A Celebration of Life will follow, at 7:00 pm, under the direction of Pastor Curtis Hurt and Pastor Dave Foster. A committal service will commence at 10:00 am the next day, Friday, September 1, at Monte Vista Memorial Park, under the direction of Bro. Brian Hollaway. Please meet at Morris-Baker Funeral Home by 9:45 am to go in procession to the cemetery.

Active pallbearers include: D. Logan Burleson, Sam Crowder, Mike Burleson, Josh Burleson, Matthew Burleson, and Tommy Woody. Honorary pallbearers include: David Henley Burleson, Roan Thomas Burleson, Carl Albright, Randy Johnson, and former Burleson Electric Company employees. If you wish to make a memorial contribution in David’s honor to charity, please do so to the Juvenile Diabetes Research Foundation (jdrf.org).



Larry Burleson Family Line, David H & Lucille Woody Burleson, Chester G & Sallie Street Burleson, Waightsill A & Emilia McKinney Burleson, Charles D & Judith Herrell Burleson, Jonathan O & Gemima Duncan Burleson, Thomas (Daunt) & Margaret Jane Greene Burleson, Aaron and Rachael Burleson

OBITUARY

Robert E Castle

14MAY1932 – 26AUG2023

Robert Eudy “Buddy” Castle, age 91, of Clinton, Mississippi passed away on Saturday, August 26, 2023.

Robert worked for Milwaukee Tools for many years as a machinist. He enjoyed the outdoors spending time hunting, fishing, and taking care of his lawn.

Robert is survived by his wife, Mary Lucille Castle; daughter Susan Slade; son David Castle; and brother Sydney Castle (Denise).

Robert was preceded in death by his father Farris Castle and his mother Katherine Castle.

A visitation for Robert will be held Wednesday, August 30, 2023 from 10:00 AM to 11:00 AM at Wildwood Baptist Church, 101 Auburn Dr, Clinton, MS, followed by a funeral service at 11:00 AM. Robert will be laid to rest in Providence Baptist Church Cemetery, Meadville, MS.

Fond memories and expressions of sympathy may be shared at www.lakewoodfuneraljackson.com for the Castle family



Robert Eudy Castle, Burleson Family Line, Farris A & Kathryn Pullen Castle, John F & Laura Box Castle, William & Ora Josephine Finch Castle Jr, William & Jane Burleson Castle Sr, , Isaac Sr. and Martha Clay Burleson (NC Soldier in American Revolution)

25 Years of the BFRG

Starting the BFRG was a collective effort, and one of our most productive members was PK Burleson and he was with us from the start. We also started a project called “Wall of Honor” and PK was our first person honored, attached is a link we prepared for the first ceremony.

<http://www.bfrg.info/wp-content/uploads/2023/11/PK-Burleson.pdf>

Recognizing Our 25 year of "Recollections"

We thought it only fitting to spot light one of our first members of the BFRG, and one of the first ladies to write an article for our newsletter and supported us in every way when we were just getting started.

LENA ODESSA² LOWDER (*JONAH¹ HATLEY*) was born 30 Apr 1904 in STANLY CO, NC, and died 21 Mar 2000 in STANLY CO, NC FAG#52488691. She married KLON ROY BURLESON 08 Dec 1922 in STANLY CO, NC, son of RALPH BURLESON and LILLIE SIDES. He was born 31 Mar 1900 in STANLY CO, NC, and died 05 Jul 1936 in STANLY CO, NC FAG#52488690.

THE STANLY NEWS & PRESS, Albemarle, N.C.,
Thursday, March 23, 2000

Lena Odessa Lowder Burleson, 95, of 2675() Burleson Road, Albemarle, died Tuesday, March 21, 2000, in the Lutheran Nursing Home in Albemarle. Her funeral will be at 2 p.m. today in Pine Grove United Methodist Church, where she was a member. The Rev. Curran Welch and The Rev. Martha Welch will officiate and burial will be in the church cemetery.

A business woman, farmer, dairyman and poultry farmer, she was born April 30, 1904, at the Lowder home place off the Concord Road, the oldest of, seven children. She lived with and cared for her aging grandparents until their deaths. During this time she absorbed good reading materials, excelled in school and developed a sense of history and pride in her heritage. Events and people of the time made a deep impression on her and school, although a long walk, was a joy.

Her great-grandfather gave the three acres of land for Friendship Methodist Church and it was here she joined family members in singing. Her uncle's played in the band from the area and at one time, she could play a violin, piano, organ and strum a guitar.

In 1922 she married Klon Roy Burleson and moved to the home on Burleson Road, becoming a member of Pine Grove Methodist Church. In 1928 her husband became ill with Hodgkin's disease. When he died in 1936 she had five children and was expecting her sixth.

Refusing to place any of her children in an orphanage or let family members take one or more of them, she set about to do what she knew to support them, farming. She raised chickens and sold eggs, milk and butter to support her family.

Her workday averaged 18 hours. After dark and with the chores done, she made butter, preserved the food of the season and made clothes for herself and her children. She was barber to her sons, the neighbors and nearby relatives. Over the years her children grew up and her sons served in the military. All settled not too far from her.

"Miss Lena" was ahead of her time with her awareness of events around the country and in foreign places and remained involved in current happenings and issues, politics and farming until well into her 90s. She is survived by three sons, Jay Brice Burleson, Ted E. Burleson and Johnny P. Burleson, all of Albemarle; three daughters, Ruby B. Greene and Hilda B. Snuggs, both of Albemarle, and Del B. Nunn of Charlotte; 14 grandchildren; and 25 great-grandchildren.



Klon & Lena
on their wedding day 8 December 1922

Lena Lowder Burleson April 30, 1904--March 21, 2000

When I first started asking question about my great-grandfather everyone told me to go see "Aunt Lena". My father's first cousin, Calvin Burleson took me to see her one Saturday afternoon. It was a fascinating, informative afternoon that inspired me to search-not only for my great grandfather, but for all my ancestors. She has also spoken at our BFRG Meetings and everyone was as impressed as I was. Lena told us about the first automobile in Stanly County and the first airplane to fly over. She could remember names and dates and she was very helpful in our effort to place all the different Burlesons in the right family. We spent a Sunday afternoon at the Burleson grave site where her husband, Klon Roy Burleson's ancestors were buried. She told about the different graves and stories about the people's lives. It was very interesting. I visited her several times and she always seemed to have an endless supply of stories. She was the star at our family reunions and we loved her piano playing. I only knew her for a few years, but I am thankful I got the chance to know such a vibrant, interesting woman. She was such a great encouragement to me and I will always be thankful for that. J.D. Burleson

Volume 1, October 18, 1998 Reflections

by: Mrs. Lena Lowder Burleson Age: 94

On December 8, 1922, at the age of 18, I married into the Burleson family and became a "Burleson For Life." Blending into the Burleson way-of-life was not difficult because in our community, the majority of the people made their living off the land. Gathering, preparing, and preserving food went on year-round. Neighbors gathered to help neighbors with harvesting crops, clearing new land, cutting wood, making fencepost and pastures, killing hogs, making quilts, fruitcakes, apple butter, hominy and the list goes on.

One Burleson activity that was new to me was foxhunting. Some of the men in the family enjoyed the sport and maintained packs of foxhounds. There were many tales that were told and repeated through the years about the antics of the fox or dogs on those cold evenings by lantern light. My husband even ordered red fox cubs to help stock the woods nearby. We see their healthy offsprings even today.

Burleson, like others in our community, furnished timber and helped build community building, school gyms, and churches. Most of the families could be found in a church on Sunday mornings. They were real neighbors in times of sickness and especially with a death in a family. Serving in the military was a tradition. Burlesons voluntarily joined the ranks especially in WW1 and WWII.

Today the Burlesons from our area have multiplied and some have taken the family name far from Stanly County. Most have left the land to make livings in various professions. Some have impressive degrees and titles behind their names and some with honors too numerous to list. And yet, many family traditions has prevailed. Burlesons have always been fond of family gatherings with much good food and visiting. By attending such gatherings, descendants maintain a link to the past and to each other. That is still going on here in Stanly County. As a result, many Burlesons in our area have knowledge of their greater family and have an appreciation of their roots.

As one of the senior Burlesons, I would encourage each of you to continue the traditions begun by your families. Continue to meet and share information. Tell the stories. Learn from each other and instill the pride of family in your children. And, remember, our blessings are God Given.



What the Russell ↔ Burleson Rifle Saw



We've probably all heard stories of the Russell -Burleson rifle "at the Alamo." This has generated more than usual myths; we hope to dispel those, replacing them with little known aspects of the weapon. First, the rifle is real...it was owned by William Russell @1760 Tryon, North Carolina- 1825 Franklin, Alabama. He was the son of George Russell, Sr. 1720 Loudon, King George, Virginia- 1797 German Creek, Grainger, Tennessee and Elizabeth Bean (Russell) 1723 St. Stephen's, Northumberland, Virginia- 1800 German Creek, Grainger, Tennessee. This Russell branch united with Burleson when John Burleson 1722-1812 married in 1750 at Tryon, Rutherford, North Carolina Henrietta "Dolly" Burleson 1724-1782. This is likely the earliest union of Russell/Burleson as allied families. A circumstance that lasted through pioneering days of early America and a long list of historic battles. The thread that intertwined these families were drawn tight into one of the closest, most enduring cousin relationships. And a witness to it ALL was "the rifle."



“When I was born around 1780 in the western North Carolina area of Watauga, an American colonists was assembling me. Rifles were made by only a few gun smiths near the Station...that's the Bean Station. My maker used only the highest grade hardwoods for his stocks like maple. I am really long, 5& 1/2 feet long, my moving parts are called flint lock action and my 40 “ octagonal barrel has a .52 caliber bore. I was designed after a popular Jaeger rifle , originally made by German and Moravian master craftsmen from Philadelphia. Most colonists used my type as they were accurate and readily made if the maker religiously followed the Jaeger methodology. The Philadelphia masters only released their apprentices to continue after a rigid training. Now these Jaeger disciples have spread throughout the Colonies. As I felt my assembly complete, I see my surroundings...I'm in a general store. Seeds, feed, implements, black powder and my brother & sister rifles are sold here. Oh yeah, there's a tavern in here. The owner, Bean has a barmaid/cashier working here; she's a real nice lady named Nancy Hanks. That pretty woman married a fella named Lincoln; they had a kid named Abraham. Many of my sibling rifles were sold by Bean and Miss Hanks at the station but I'm staying in the family; I am going with William Russell. He's gonna use me for game hunts but there's talk of going to war against them Brits.”



Nancy Hanks
Lincoln



Much of the documentation regarding gun smithing in 18th century Watauga can be found at the Tennessee Department of Conservation Division of Archaeology. Below you will find images of stock design and working action of flintlock rifles of the period. The stylistic preferences of the gun smiths then tended to fall between stock image 1 and two. One of the more distinctive characteristics of American rifles of mid to late 1700s is that instead of wooden patch box covers they usually have a hinged metal cover.

**A PRELIMINARY SURVEY OF
HISTORIC PERIOD GUNMAKING IN
TENNESSEE**



TENNESSEE DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION
DIVISION OF ARCHAEOLOGY
REPORT OF INVESTIGATIONS NO. 8

1991

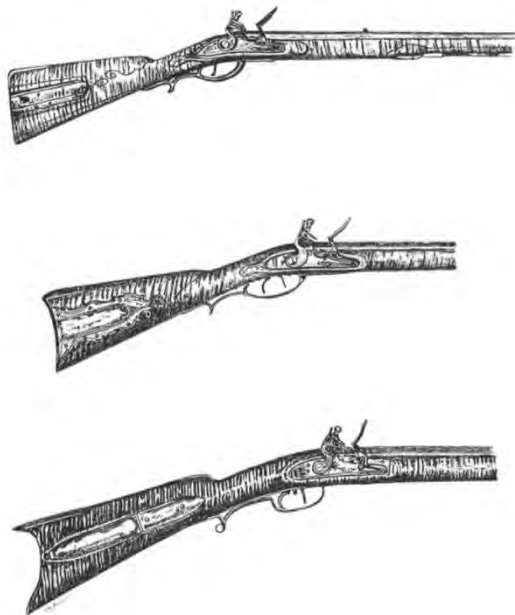


Figure 5. Stylistic development of the American long rifle. Top to bottom: Pennsylvania rifle dated 1761; Pennsylvania rifle, ca. late 1700s; Tennessee rifle made by J. G. Gross, ca. early 1800s (drawings based on photographs of the originals).

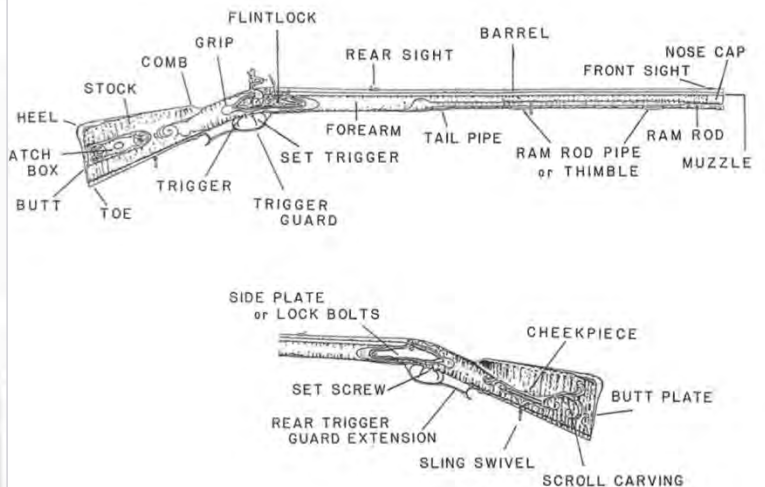


Figure 1. Nomenclature for an eighteenth-century muzzle-loading, flintlock long rifle (adapted from a drawing by Houston Harrison).

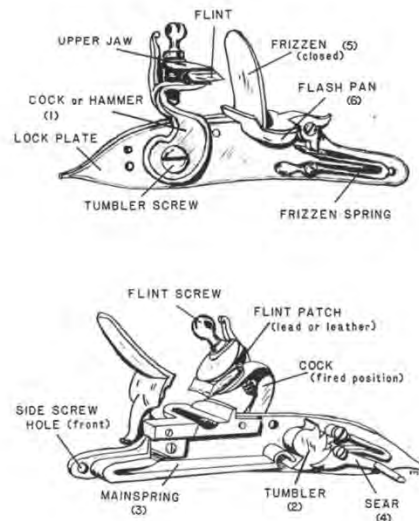
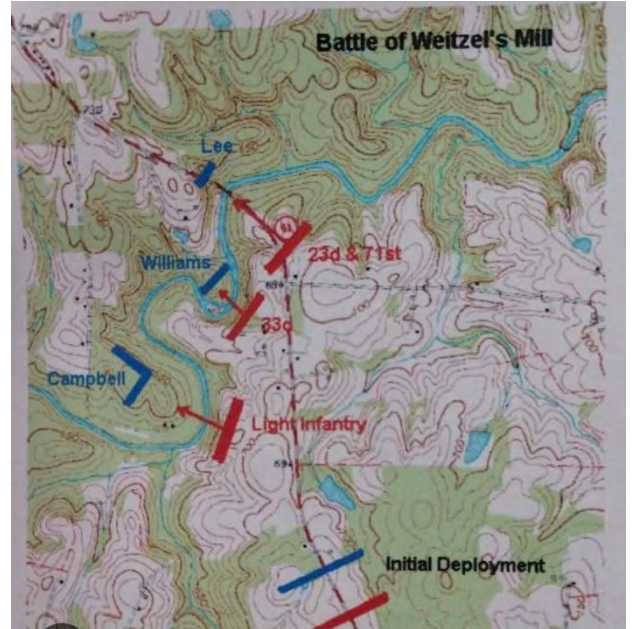


Figure 2. Exterior and interior views of a flintlock mechanism: Pulling back the COCK (1) rotates its pivot and the attached TUMBLER (2). This compresses the MAINSPRING (3), and when reaching the half cock position, the sharp edge of the SEAR (4) slides into the first notch of the Tumbler (loading position). For firing, the Cock is pulled back further until the Sear catches in the second notch of the Tumbler. Squeezing the trigger raises the horizontal arm of the Sear and disengages its edge from the Tumbler notch. The Cock then snaps forward, hitting the FRIZZEN (5) with its flint, and dropping sparks into the priming powder of the PAN (6). Its flash ignites the main charge through the touchhole in the barrel.

“Not long after I was put into the hands of young twenty year old William Russell, he had become a private in the Virginia militia under the command of Col. William Campbell. Russell and I found ourselves traveling fast to Kings Mountain to take on the very insulting and brash Major Patrick Ferguson and his loyalists. As Private Russell gazed across my sights, we could see that monstrous Major cut down from his horse. His troops were disheartened at his loss. William, I and the rest of us routed them loyalists but good. Their bodies were lifeless, strewn about that steep hill. Private Russell also brought me with him to battles at Wetzel Mills and Guilford Courthouse during the Revolutionary War. It was a busy 1781 for us; we didn't do as well at Wetzel and Guilford...they were rough.”



Battle at Kings Mountain



Battle at Guilford Courthouse

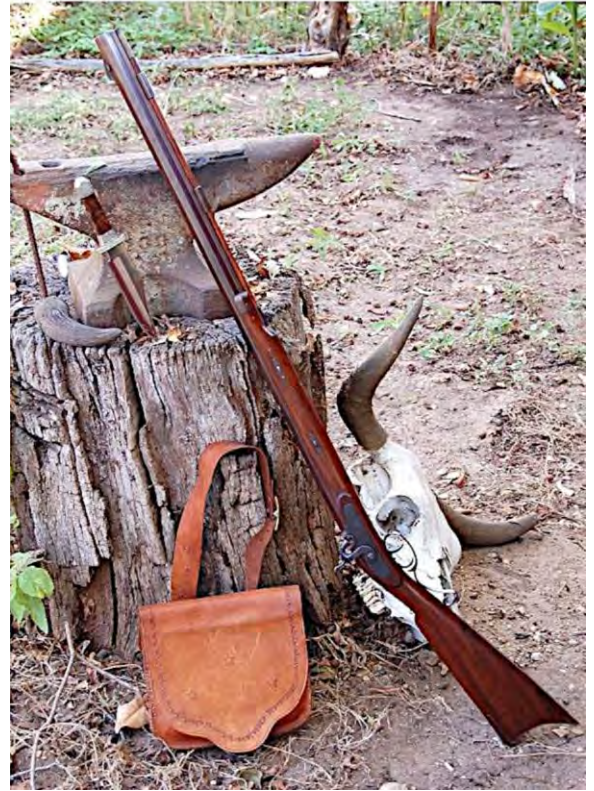
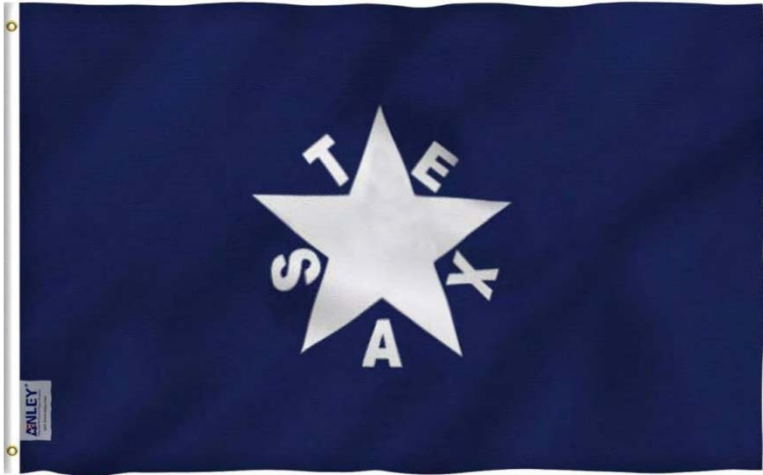
“ For forty five years Major William “ Bill" Russell and I went everywhere together. I tried to serve him well and he provided for my care. Sadly, in 1825 he passed. Together we participated also in the War of 1812, Creek Indian Battles, Tallushatchee in 1813, Talladega later in 1813 and Horseshoe Bend in 1814. I saw Andrew Jackson, Sam Houston , John Sevier and Davy Crockett fighting alongside us.



Following Bill's death I was adopted by Captain James “Jim" Burleson 1775-1836. He took me into battle during the Texas Revolution 1835-1836. He squeezed my trigger at the enemy at the Grass Fight and at San Jacinto where we, with Edward and Aaron B. Burleson captured Mexico's General Santa Ana. General Sam Houston last saw me in this condition there. Before Capt. James passed in 1839, he had me restocked making me look like folks today see me. Now I had the outward appearance of a plains rifle like a Hawken's.”



Hawken Type Plains Rifle



“Next I made it into the possession of Joseph “Joe” Burleson 1770-1849. I stayed in his care from 1839-1860 when we went to war while aimed by his son, Joe Burleson, Jr. He took me to the Mexican-American War 1846-1848. Before that we warmed up fighting Comanche Indians and at 1840, the Plum Creek battle.

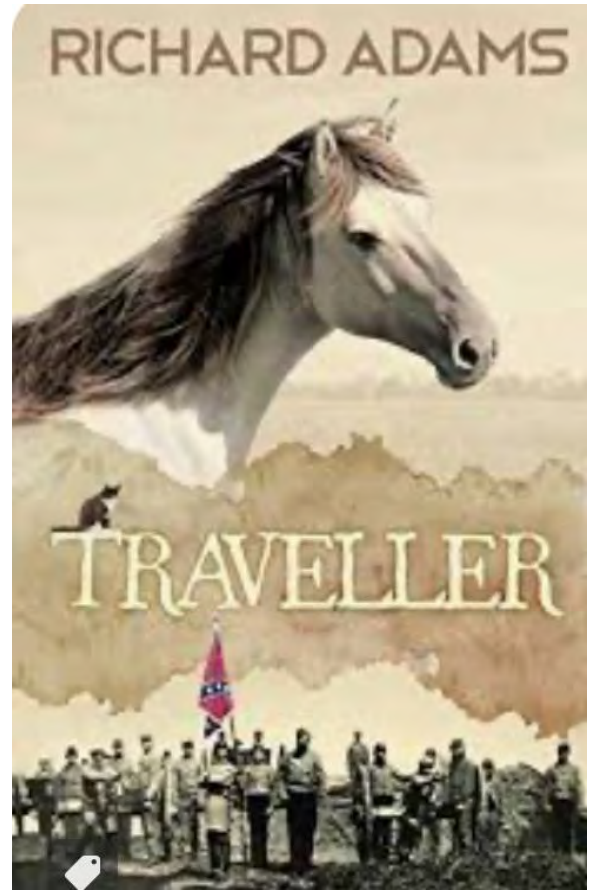


Army. This Burleson carried me into the Civil War 1861-1865. In 1849 I was given to Murray Burleson 1949-1953 then Joseph Burleson III 1883-1953. In this period the Burleson family donated me to the Alamo Trust in 1917. I've been there since. “



Now a discussion of what we're doing... We're generally following the method of Richard Adams, famous author of "Watership Down." Adams also wrote a book, "Traveller", based on Robert E. Lee's gray American Saddle horse's perspective of Lee's history. We believe what Russell's rifle saw will be insightful.

"By the time Major William Russell passed in 1825 this is pretty much how I looked."



Final Resting Spot

"No, I didn't die at the Alamo. Heck, I wasn't even there in any battle. Let's be clear on these oft repeated myths. No Bursleson was at the battle at the Alamo. No, the Russell- Bursleson was never at that battle. Like a couple of thousand rifles, I was donated to the Alamo museum. Only a few hundred were kept because of `some' historic value other than the San Antonio massacre."



“Today I am carefully stored in the climate controlled vault at the Alamo. I'm catalogued and string-tagged. The temperature, humidity are constant in my zero-dust environment. When I come out to greet tourists I ride in a cart as I lay on a satin-like cloth. My caretakers lift me gently wearing cloth gloves to be seen. Only an exclusive group of my owners' cousins can touch me...even then with close supervision. The cousin that brought me to this place by a Russell cousin, Joe Burleson, Jr. who wished it to be donated in the name of John F. Burleson of Meek, New Mexico. The hope was for history enthusiasts would forever recall the honor of Major William Russell, Edward, Burleson, James Burleson, John Burleson, Joe Burleson and others who cleaned, carried and made me to good use in battle .I knew them all and they knew me. Come on out and see me sometime, we'll swap stories. At 243 years young, I still look good.”

FRIDAY MORNING, JULY 13, 1917.

ALAMO RECEIVES ANCIENT RIFLE FROM JOE BURLESON

An unusually quaint old relic has been received in the Alamo in the shape of a very ancient rifle. This gun, which is about five feet long, was used by Major Russell in the War of 1812. At the death of Major Russell the gun became the property of Jim Burleson of Missouri, who had it restocked and sent it to Joe Burleson of Bastrop County, Texas, in 1839, as is shown by a note on the stock in silver inlaid. In 1849 it was given to Joe Burleson Jr., son of the above-mentioned Joe Burleson, who used it in the battle of Plum Creek, near Lockhart, Tex. About 1860 it came into the possession of John F. Burleson, who had the original flint lock made into a percussion lock. In presenting the gun to the State Mr. Burleson writes:

“John F. Burleson of Kerrville, son of Joe Burleson, Bastrop, Tex., wishes to present this gun in the name of his son, Joe F. Burleson, now of Meek, N. M. (at the son's request), to the State of Texas, to be displayed in the Alamo at San Antonio, and it is to remain the property of the State of Texas for all time to come in memory of the Burleson family.”



BFRGs research team will include a stop in early May at the Alamo and Daughters of the Texas Republic facilities to view the Russell- Burleson rifle, the Joseph Burleson Bible, papers referring to his black and white children and a variety of Burleson memorabilia. Our approach will be much different this time...like the early Russells and Burlesons...we'll be better armed!



Special Thanks to Texas State Handbook, Daughters of Republic of Texas, Alamo Museum, Wikipedia, Wikimedia Commons, National Rifle Association, San Antonio Express, True West Magazine, Texas State Historical Association and Tennessee Dept. of Conservation.

“Parts is Parts”

A clear explanation of our chain of custody of the Russell-Burleson rifle is within the article; it's thorough and logical. A tougher concept to grasp is how to explain “our gun as the same gun as history passed.” It's easier if we begin with a car analogy. If you bought a 1969 Ford Mustang , it came on a Ford chassis, had a 200ci Thriftpower engine and a fastback body. It's YOUR car. After a wreck, you replace the entire body...it's still your car. Much later you desire increased power so you replace the old 200 ci with the 428 ci V8...it's still your car, right?

You need to use the same analysis on this rifle. In about 1780 it was handcrafted into a 5'6" long, 40" .52 caliber octagonal barreled Jaeger styled (Pennsylvania/Kentucky) American gunsmithed with a flintlock “action” firing mechanism. After a hundred plus years passed the new owner decided to change out the stock (the body) and the firing mechanism to a percussion action (the engine)... it's still the our gun. The original octagonal 40 inch .52 caliber barrel (the chassis) remains, even today; it's our gun!

We shared the images of the rifle and its specifications with three experts. First Steve Ricker, Overmountain Trail/Revolutionary War expert said it was a Samuel Hawken's 19th century rifle. Dan Hopping of Custom Gunsmithing, Raleigh, North Carolina also said without hesitation it was a “plains rifle” consistent with Samuel Hawken's rifles of the mid 1800s. Bill Roney of the “Outdoorsman” Santa Fe, New Mexico said immediately it was an American crafted Jaeger style long rifle, likely made in 1770-1780s. I told him about the other expert opinions, asking how he was so certain. He said , “Well we're ALL right and let me tell you why.” The others looked simply at the stock which was certainly in keeping with Hawken's plains rifles of the 1830-1860s as were many retrofits in the middle 19th century. Roney could tell the percussion action did not match the barrel's era. The barrel length, bore, caliber, shape and other characteristics led to his final rendering. “It all depends where on the rifle you're looking.” Roney stated that if left in its original flintlock and stock, the weapon would garnish \$20,000 easily at auction. In its current configuration, less than \$2000. Consequently, the state of the rifle completely matches the history as laid out in the story in every way.



Other Gun/Other Myths

In our research of the Russell/Burleson Rifle we came across information that can put 2 myths to rest. Some preliminary finds of John Hoyle Burleson indicated this rifle was a sister weapon to a long rifle in possession of the Castle Family (which also connects to Burleson). At the time of the surrender by the British under the command of Lord Cornwallis, his soldier relinquished their issue rifles. Those weapons were doled out to each Colonial Troop, two each. At one time a believe was held that Thomas Castle brought home two such rifles, one being the Russell/Burleson rifle. Futher investigation revealed neither the Castle or Russell/Burleson rifles were of British orgin. English troops were issued much shorter Pattern .62 caliber rifles.

The Pattern 1776 Rifle - the British Army's First Service Rifle



British Rifles were intentionally short to accommodate fixing bayonets and they little need for long range shooting.

You can see the Russell/Burleson Rifle holds a prominent place, front and center, on the Burleson Family Research Group Logo. It symbolizes the struggle our extended family experienced as they pioneered America. Our Burlesons and Russells were joined almost three hundred years ago.



Jimmy Don Russell
BFRG Research
jrussell4@sw.rr.com

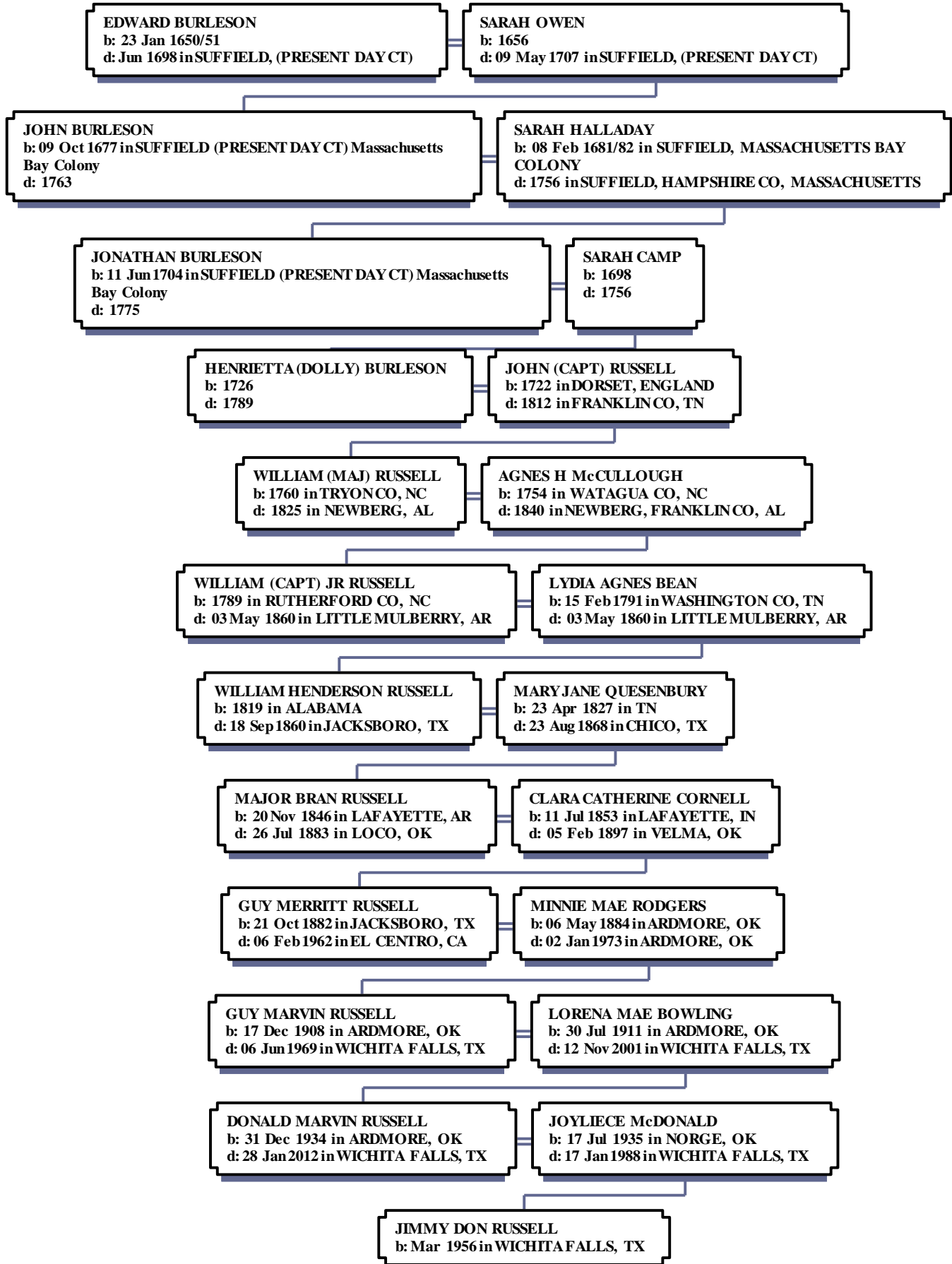


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Epilogue

“Oh yeah...I meant to tell ya’... there’s another story coming soon about how Russells and Burlesons cousin-up again and again. Did you know I was there in a tent with the future president of the United States, Andrew Jackson. He had summoned my Major William Russell in order to appoint him as his commissary. Now William respectfully declined saying his best use was elsewhere. Since William had walked in with James and Joseph Burleson, he looked at them then Jackson, saying you should pick one of my cousins as they are far more honest than me. As a matter of fact, if either of them foul this up, you should hang the three of us. The Burlesons looked in amazement at Ol’ Andy. Nobody was laughing. I will fill you in on more next time we talk.”



Major Russell's signature (in cursive) and donated by Joseph Burleson inscribed in silver inlay on barrel of rifle.

Camilla Allen Mitchell's Art



Camilla has been a longtime BFRG contributor, writer, historian and accomplished artist. Only a few years ago did we learn of her interest in still life. A year and a half ago our JD Burleson visited her at a Pleasonton, Texas art studio/school where more of her wares were made evident. As this issue of Recollections had a Burlesons in art facet, Camilla was kind enough to share a bit more of her story and images of her varied media art pieces. For those less familiar with her, she suggested a review of material provided to the Pleasonton (Texas) Express in 2011 when she received honors as Artist of the Month.

The award came from the Brush Country Art Club in Pleasonton, a town she grew up in...graduating in 1964 at Pleasonton High School. She received her bachelor's degree in 1968 at Mary Hardin-Baylor College, majoring in Art and History . with a Secondary Teaching Certificate. In 1972, she received her Elementary Teaching Certificate from MH-B and then in 1981 her Master's degree of Education at Texas A & I.



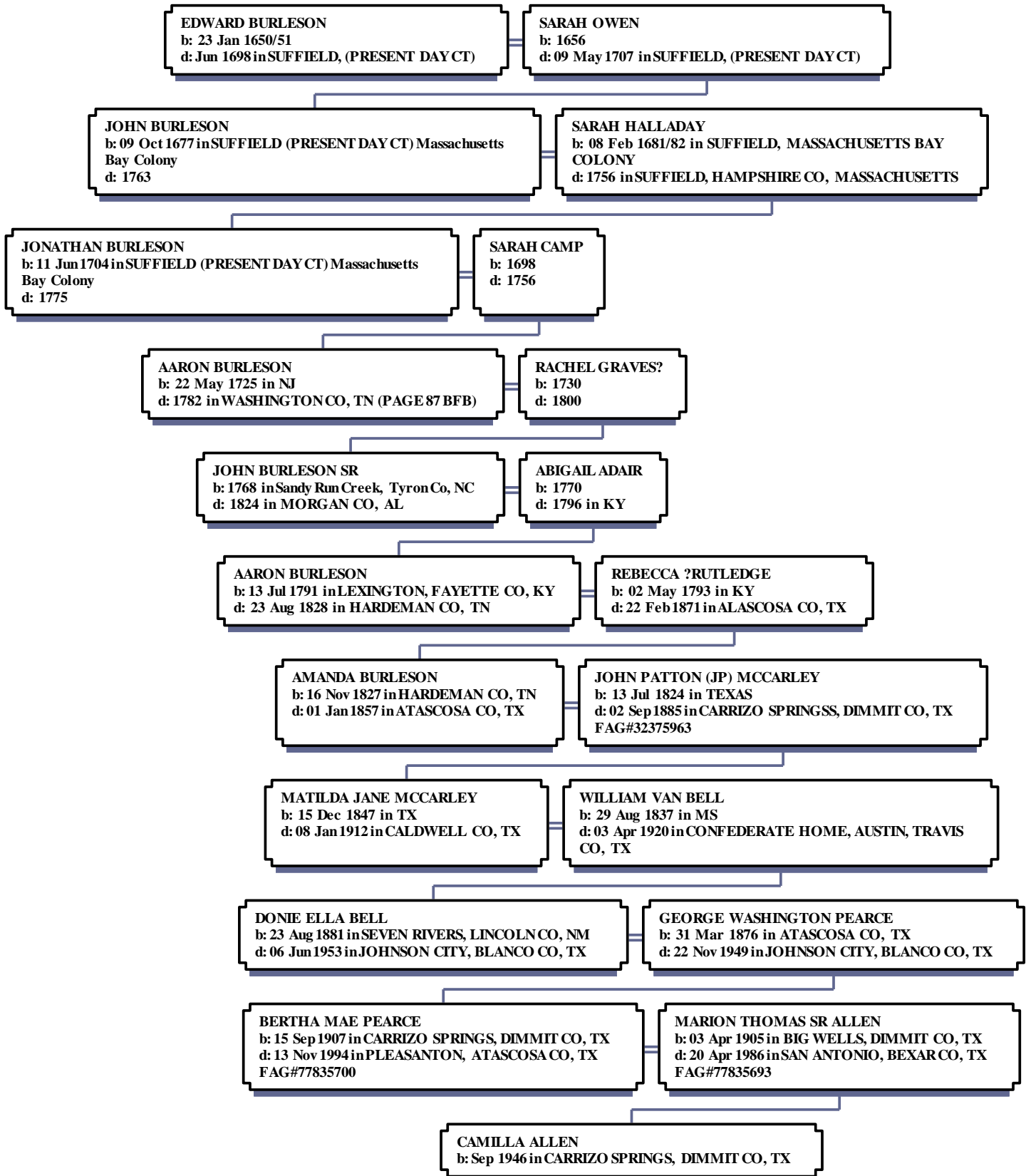




Camilla has taught every grade, from pre-school through college, retiring after 33 years of teaching.. For her, creating is a continued treat. She commented, “I love people, art, and teaching, so for me, I have had the perfect career.” Mitchell has received numerous art awards thru the years, but her most meaningful was representing the Atascosa Chapter while winning first place in the DAR National American Heritage art contest. Her painting was on display in Constitution Hall at the Daughters of the American Revolution Museum in Washington DC.

Acknowledgement:

Direct Descendants of EDWARD BURLESON



“The Armed Man” with a Very Disarming Woman

Through these doors pass the most accomplished musicians on the planet. Those to have graced it's interior include Tchaikovsky Dvorak, Mahler, Bartok, George Gershwin, Billie Holliday, Benny Goodman, Judy Garland and the Beatles. Arriving there, you'll find you are at 881 7th Ave. New York City....it's Carnegie Hall.



Steel magnate Andrew Carnegie built the structure in 1891 to please his new wife Louise who sang with the Ontario Society of New York. The city location and superior acoustics in its three halls sets it apart from other venues. It is the home of over 500 independently produced events each year. All musicians claim they have “made it” once they're booked there. Concert goers once quietly ushered to their seats, singers seated on stage and orchestra at the ready...all eyes and ears focus on the conductor.



January 15, 2024 "The Armed Man: a Mass for Peace" is on the bill at Carnegie Hall. Written in 1999 by Welshman Sir Karl Jenkins for celebration of the Millennium, it was dedicated to the victims of the Kosovo Crisis. The music is essentially a hour long mass adapted greatly after a Catholic mass but infused with the power of a call to March. Various phrases in Latin, English, French and Arabic are interspersed. It's a DIFFICULT piece to master- no matter the part taken.



In the image, right of Jenkins and the conductor, you'll notice a blonde woman just behind the musicians- our own Susanne Hollyfield. Yes, BFRGs Susanne has "made it" before, appearing in 2017. She is one of four singers from the Whidbey Island region selected to join the 300 member chorale in New York. Her part is "soprano one" in the four part mix. Susanne's had music in her life-always. She's a self taught pianist, beginning at age three. Church choirs were a given from adolescence through high school. She was a member of Rice University's Chorale in college years. We wish our talented cousin Susanne safe travels and break-a-leg.



The True Gospel Quartet of Barnardsville, NC

by Judy Roberson Burleson and Sarah Burleson Gower

Herman and Lucille Burleson were two members of the True Gospel Quartet. The quartet traveled to perform their music in churches in western NC and nearby southern states. The quartet performed for 33 years, from 1959 to 1992. They were natives of Barnardsville, NC.

True Gospel Quartet was known for their rich vocal harmonies. Lucille sang alto and played piano and accordion. Herman sang tenor. A favorite hymn that was often requested was "Stroll over Heaven". They produced 13 albums and 4 EP records. Their albums have been digitized by their son Roger Burleson. True Gospel Quartet was featured several times in Southern Gospel Magazine. In later years, Ray Burleson replaced the lead vocal member.



By Grace through Faith

TRUE GOSPEL QUARTET

Barnardsville, N. C. 28709

Phone 704/626-1075

The True Gospel Quartet organized in March of 1959, and made their first appearance on Easter Sunday near Spruce Pine, North Carolina. Our main mission in gospel singing is to see some precious soul come to know our Christ as their Lord and Saviour. We, the True Gospel Quartet, hope, pray, and trust that these songs and others that God has permitted us to record will be a great blessing to everyone that hears them. We earnestly pray that the shut-ins who do not have the glorious privilege of worshipping in the Lord's House as we do, will receive a great blessing, and your hearts be made to rejoice from these songs. To the unsaved people: FOR BY GRACE ARE YE SAVED THROUGH FAITH; AND THAT NOT OF YOURSELVES; IT IS THE GIFT OF GOD. (Eph. 2-8).

We dedicate this album to our beloved parents — Mr. and Mrs. Edd English, Mr. and Mrs. Vernon Burleson, Mr. and Mrs. Clennon Harris, Mr. and Mrs. R. P. Bradley, Jr., and Mrs. Steve Deaver, Sr.

Singing Lead is S. B. Deaver, Jr. His wife, Lucille, and three children: Steve, Mikie, and Joyce. Singing Baritone is Herman Burleson. His wife, Lucille, sings alto, and is also pianist for the True Gospel Quartet. They have two children, Roger and Ray. Singing Bass is Kye English. His wife's name is Wanda, and they have two children, Allan and Sharon. Guitarist for the group is Carroll Bradley. He and his wife Barbara have three children, Tommie, Ann, and Vivian.

Herman was a rock mason, farmer, beekeeper, blacksmith and outdoorsman. He was a good neighbor to many in Barnardsville. Lucille was known for her warm hospitality and welcoming smile. She made good home meals with biscuits with homemade molasses. She was known to have plenty of cakes and pies ready to serve any time. She was a dear mother and friend. Their door was always open for a visit or a stay.



They were parents to Roger (8 August 1949) of Palm City, FL and Ray Burleson (20 May 1955) of Barnardsville, NC. Ray and Roger both carried on their parents' musical talents: Ray with the quartet, and Roger in his own band. Ray's daughter, April, performs with an acapella group, Transit, and Roger's son, David, is a talented guitarist and musician as well. The musical genes are strong with this branch of Burlesons!

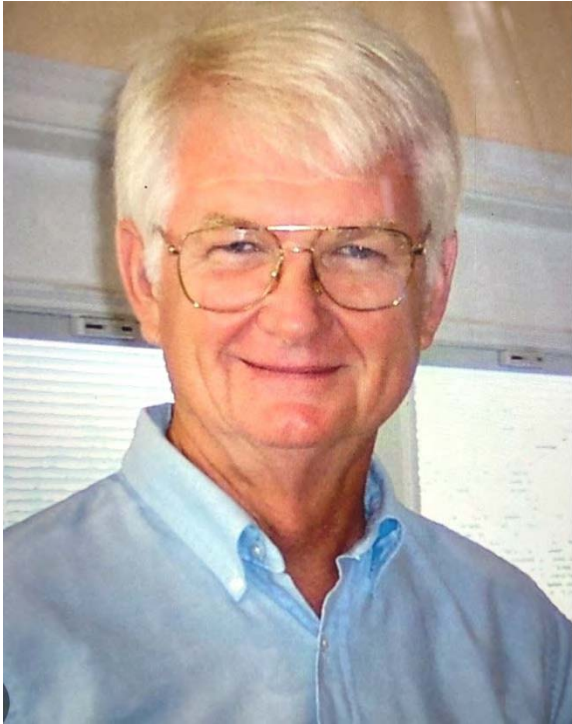
If you would like to listen to the gospel harmonies of The True Gospel Quartet, several of their songs can be found on YouTube by just searching their band name. Happy listening, cousins!



Sarah A. Budeson Gower
BFRG Researcher

sarah.a.budeson@gmail.com

Terry Burleson Was for the Birds



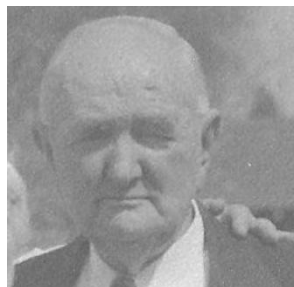
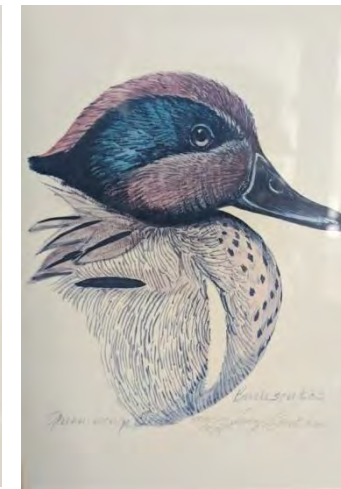
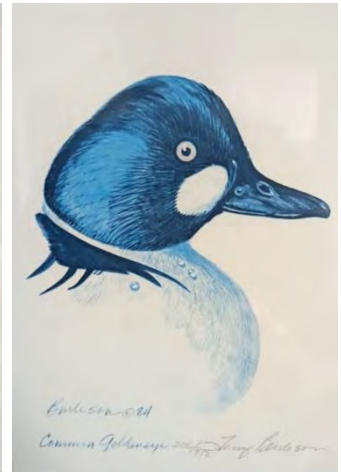
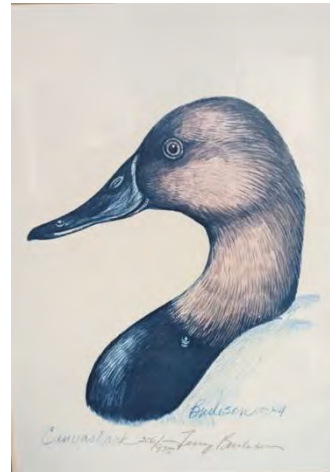
Terry Paul Burleson was born 11 July 1943 in Austin, Texas to Paul Dietz Burleson and Ruth Morris (Burleson). His central Texas youth was largely spent hunting and fishing. Many of these outings often resulted in just lingering looks at his surroundings. Choosing to attend the nearby University of Texas was no surprise but deciding to focus on ART took many aback. In the tumultuous late 1960s Terry stood out in his gift for painting as well as his outward appearance. In the long hair bearded bell bottom norm, Burleson was close cropped and conservatively dressed. His objects for depicting were ducks, mallards and turkeys. The food he brought home to his mother as a lad now painted as in life would keep food in the table for years. He became a prolific painter of fowl life. His identifiable style signed had value.

Mallards by Terry Burleson



Burleson's art took in value in a "mass marketing" way. The hundreds of art pieces he painted were licensed and reproduced in the tens of thousands. For decades his work was stocked in the home décor sections of Sears, Kmart, Montgomery Ward and Spiegel. Ducks Unlimited and the Turkey Foundation kept him on continuous retainer to grace their periodicals with his pictures. The U. S. Postal Service used his images on several stamps. Terry's originals appear often in art auctions with pieces still selling between \$1,000 and \$20,000.

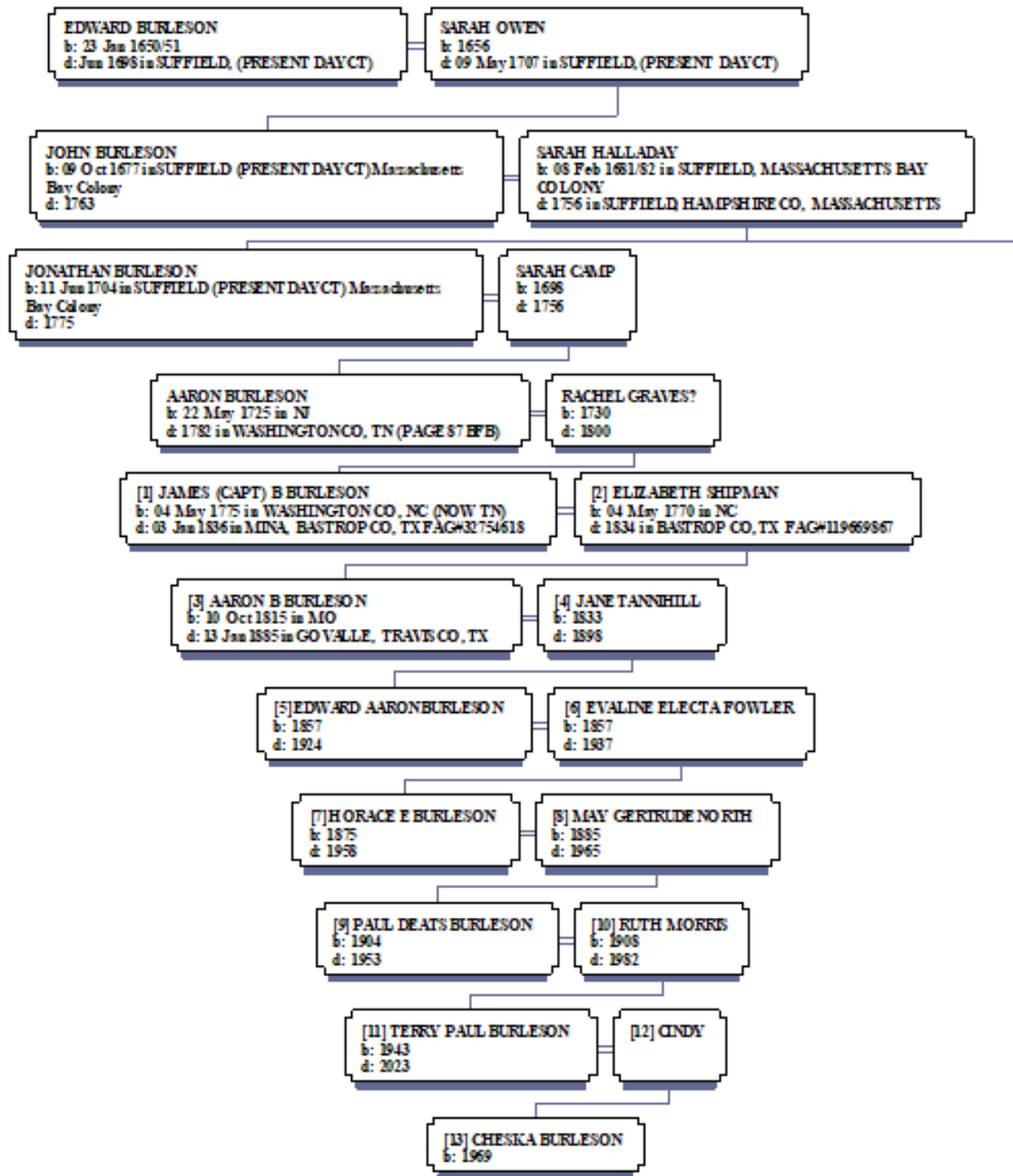
In June of 2022 BFRG contributor/cousin Gerry Booth hosted a dinner at her home for a half dozen Burleson Cousins that were in Austin, TX. During the event she pointed out a series of water fowl paintings hung in one of her living areas. She remarked to JD Burleson that her husband Frank Booth previously had them in his law office. Significant to these pieces was artist's signature: they bore the name of Terry Burleson. Neither Frank nor Gerry knew the artist. Upon BFRG's discovery of Terry Paul Burleson's identity, Gerry was asked to share photos of her collection again.



Terry passed away 3 July 2023 leaving wife Cindy , Cheska, his daughter and grandson Everett. Among those in his historic line are grandfather Horace E. Burleson 1875-1985, longtime police chief in Austin and Aaron B. Burleson 1815-1885, hero at San Jacinto and sheriff in Bastrop County and Capt. James Burleson 1758-1836 , Texas pioneer. Gerry added Terry & Frank passed the same week.

- Be on the lookout on a follow up story on Terry's daughter Cheska... likely a world changer!

Direct Descendants of EDWARD BURLESON



Cheska Burleson

(born approximately 1983)
Chemist and oceanographer

Cheska Burleson earned a PhD in Chemical Oceanography from The University of South Florida. Her research focused on the production of toxins by algae blooms commonly known as red tide. Cheska entered college for her undergraduate studies at the age of seventeen with enough credits to be classified as a senior. At that time she was also a competitive figure skater.

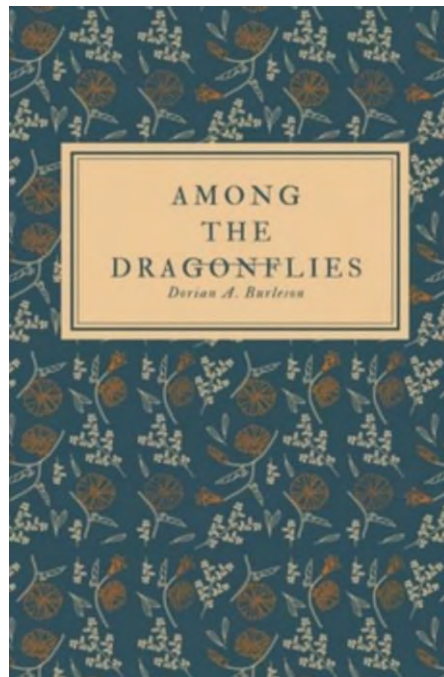
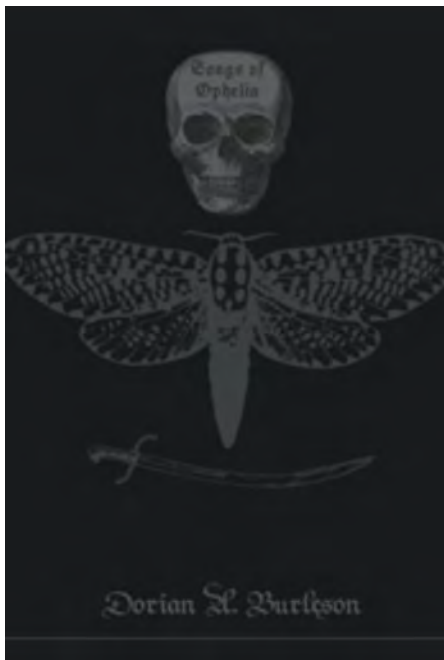


Be on the lookout on a follow up story on Terry's daughter Cheska... likely a world changer!

Dorian Allen Burleson: Carolina Poet

Dorian has ventured into poetry in a big way having published three books in his early twenties. He's newly engaged to a hardworking hospice nurse (more on that soon). Dorian says he was most influenced by "Where the Ted Fern Grows." He describes his work as reflecting slow deliberate observation of his western North Carolina surroundings and the associated feelings generated. He lives in Spruce Pine, NC and most of his people reside there and nearby Bakersville.

Dorian A. Burleson is a 22-year-old poet hailing from the scenic Appalachian Mountains of Bakersville, North Carolina currently residing in Tennessee. He has dedicated himself wholeheartedly to the pursuit of his passion for poetry. Best describing his poetry as transgressive, gritty realism. A proud member of the cousining page & proud Burleson, his family ties can be traced from the very first beginnings of the Burlesons in the Carolinas.



Looking in the Wishing Well:

Joan Nita Strutton: Granddaughter of Lillie Maud Burleson Hitchcock Burrow



The longer Lillie stared at the water the clearer the face became.

When Lilly Maude Met Bob

Lilly Maud Burleson Hitchcock Burrow described her childhood as very difficult. Everything was scarce and they had to work extremely hard all spring and summer to prepare for the winter months. They planted huge gardens and canned as many vegetables as they could. She grew up around the San Saba, TX area. The weather was usually dry, hot, and dusty in the summer months. Her parents were Arkada and Pleasant Wright Burleson. She married very young, which was not at all uncommon during the 1800s, and they were blessed with two children, a boy, Pleasant Wright Jr., and a girl, Ima, right away. Because of a lack of medical care and difficult situations, a third child, Ruth, passed away. Her husband died of cholera while she was still a very young woman. After a great deal of contemplation and planning for her and her children's future, they relocated to east Texas traveling the entire way in a covered wagon with other family members. To her, it seemed like an eternity to get to their destination as she listened to the rumble of the wheels on the rough terrain. They were all quite weary of the dusty, hot trail but they really looked forward to the move and being with relatives. Upon reaching her destination in the Linden, TX area, they settled in with family members. One day she went to the well to get some water and when she looked down into the well, she saw a reflection of a very handsome face. She was frightened at first and looked away several times. She said she knew the reflection was the face of the man she would marry next. After a few days

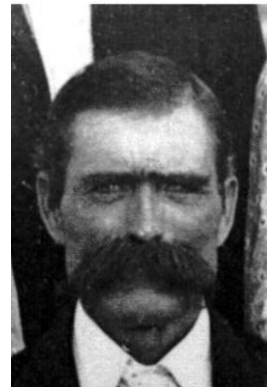
of settling in she went to a church function in town that everyone looked forward to participating in. She even learned how to spit snuff for a contest they were having. It was there that she first met Robert Wade Burrow. She recognized the good-looking young man immediately as being the face she saw in the well. It was love at first sight for both. After a short courtship, they were married. They were fortunate to have four sons and a daughter together.

My dad was their first child together, and he was born September 27, 1918. I always loved hearing their love story and it used to give me eerie chills when she told it to me. It seemed supernatural and I guess in a way it was. This is a very sentimental story of young love that lasted their lifetimes.

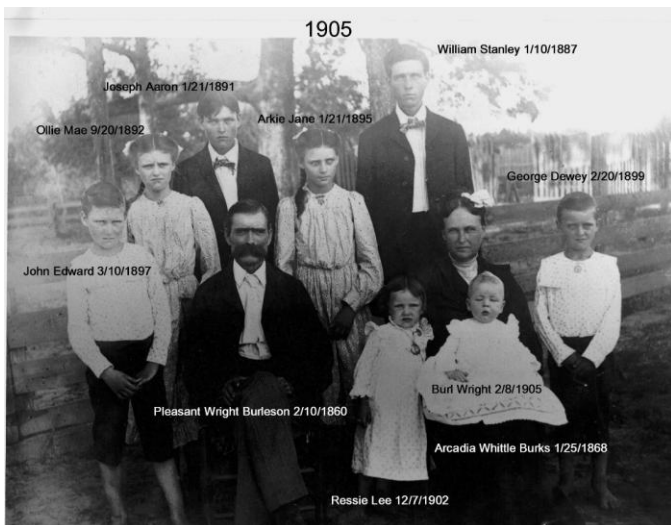
Granny's favorite saying was "Everybody goes up fools hill at least once, but some go more." She was uneducated, but one of the smartest women I ever knew.



Lillie Maude Burleson



Pleasant Wright Burleson



Dr. Joan Strutton

Dr. Joan Strutton has worked in the education field for several years teaching and counseling. She is a certified English teacher and a certified special education teacher with an endorsement in mental retardation. Her master's degree is in counseling, and she is a certified vocational counselor, special education counselor, and all-level school counselor. Her doctorate is in counselor education and supervision with a doctoral minor in secondary and higher education. She has taught special education, and fourth grade, as well as working as a school counselor on the primary, elementary, middle school, and high school levels. She has taught at the university level for the last several years and has been a program director of two school counselor programs in addition to being a counseling clinic director. She is a Texas-licensed professional counselor and supervisor and is active in several counseling organizations. She currently teaches in the Behavioral Sciences Department at Southeastern Oklahoma State University. Joan has agreed to join our BFRG Researchers. She will be excising her skills as a councilor and educator by writing on the effects of grandparents sharing family information with grand children.



Joan Strutton

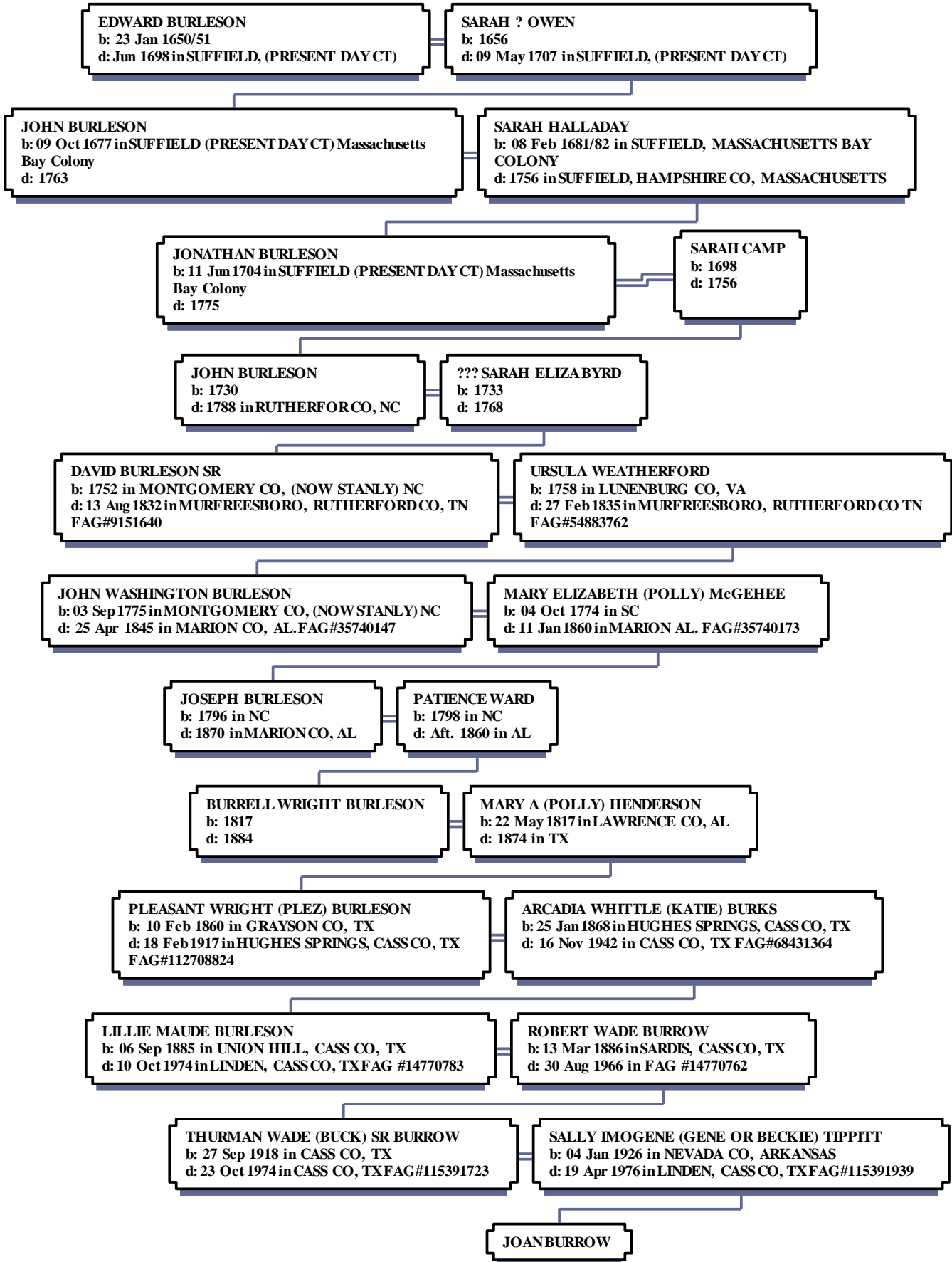


Lillie Maude & Bob Burrow

Acknowledgements:

Wikipedia, Family Search, and Dr Joan Strutton

Direct Descendants of EDWARD BURLESON





THE HORROR OF JAY BURLESON



Jim Burleson

BFRG Research

jimburlison8554@gmail.com

Exploration of the various art forms one might choose, horror films doesn't readily come to mind...certainly not by a Burleson...from Hartselle, Alabama. Jay Burleson is a successful film maker, actor, writer and director of what many call "slasher" movies. They are indeed scary and bloody. He descends from the Alabama pioneer, Jonathan Burleson. BFRG followers would no doubt, be familiar with his uncle David A. Burleson of "Burleson's Heaven." Taking his unorthodox path in the movie industry, Jay has formed an impressive resume that include President of Sleep Creature LLC, President of Sign Me Up Productions and Editor/Videographer of Cornerstone Entertainment, all combining into a multimillion dollar enterprise.



As the completed movies piled up, so did the awards. Burleson's movies are well thought of in this very specific genre. Industry reviewers term them "low budget" but Jay prefers "no budget." He has a loyal fanbase. Halloween equals peak season for horror films.



You won't see Academy Award winners acting in horror films typically. But you will recognize many faces in Burleson movies. All report enjoy working with Jay and accept return appearances. They enjoy his fast-decision creativity.



FILMS DIRECTED BY
Jay Burleson

DIRECTOR ▾

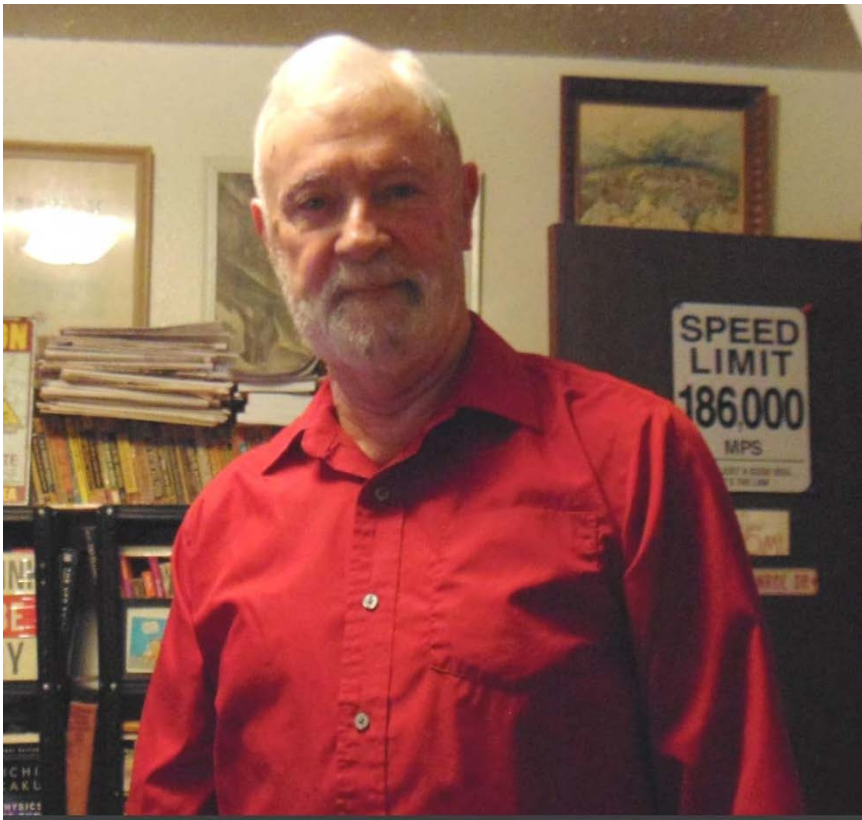




The two "Third Saturday in October" movies are currently shown on Roku TV. Others are available at specialty theatres.



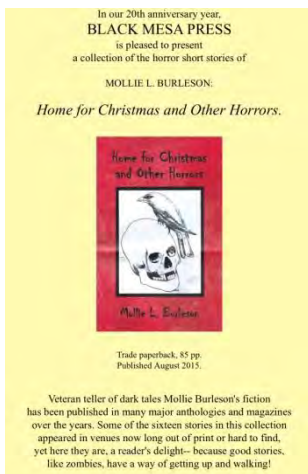
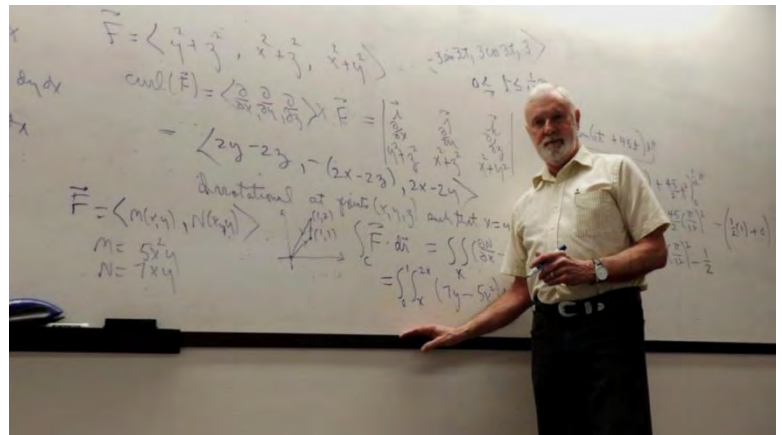
Dr. Donald "Don" Richard Burleson, PhD



Don was born New Year's Eve 1941 in Breckenridge, Stephens, Texas to Wilson "Dick" Leon Burleson and Dorothy Lee Salmon (formerly). His line traces down the Jonathan 1704>John 1730>David 1752 Burleson path. He and wife, Mollie Lois Keating (Burleson) reside in Roswell, New Mexico. Don retired as a Higher Mathematics professor at Eastern New Mexico University. He is a prolific fiction and non-fiction author and acts as state director of MUFON (Mutual Unidentified Flying Object Network) investigator of UFO contacts.



Burleson left Wichita Falls High School with noted talent for mathematics, a gift for imaginative writing and the experience of seeing a UFO personally. Don grew his skills and credentials at universities including Yale and the University of Massachusetts at Amherst. There he achieved bachelor's, master's in English and Mathematics and a doctorate degree in English literature. He holds a "Top Secret" clearance through the U.S. Air Force and is fluent in Chinese.



Don and Mollie have been married forty one years and have blended three sons between them—all grown men. They met at a science fiction conference. Mollie, herself writes and is an accomplished artist; several of Don's books bear images she created. If you follow his Facebook page you will see which science fiction or horror movie they just enjoyed. They also share a keen interest in cryptography.



Burleson has published dozens of fiction and nonfiction books:

BOOKS BY DONALD R. BURLESON

Fiction

- Lemon Drops and Other Horrors* (Hobgoblin Press, 1993)
Four Shadowings (Necronomicon Press, 1994)
Beyond the Lamplight (Jack O'Lantern Press, 1996)
Spiders and Milk (audiobook, Necronomicon Press, 1996)
Flute Song (Black Mesa Press, 1996)
The Roswell Crewman (Black Mesa Press, 1997)
Arroyo (Black Mesa Press, 1999)
A Roswell Christmas Carol (Black Mesa Press, 1999)
Wait for the Thunder: Stories for a Stormy Night (Hippocampus Press, 2010)
A Capitalist Christmas Carol (Black Mesa Press, 2010)
The Roswell Genes (Black Mesa Press, 2016)

Nonfiction

- Four-Dimensional Tic-Tac-Toe* (Educator Books, 1971)
Cryptograms and How to Solve Them (Educator Books, 1972)
Topics in Precalculus Mathematics (Prentice-Hall, 1974)
Topics in College Algebra (Prentice-Hall, 1974)
Topics in Mathematics (Prentice-Hall, 1977)
Elementary Statistics (Winthrop, 1980)
H. P. Lovecraft: A Critical Study (Greenwood Press, 1983)
Lovecraft: Disturbing the Universe (University Press of Kentucky, 1990)
Begging to Differ: Deconstructionist Readings (Hobgoblin Press, 1992)
The Golden Age of UFOs (Black Mesa Press, 2001)
UFOs and the Murder of Marilyn Monroe (Black Mesa Press, 2003)
UFO Secrecy and the Fall of J. Robert Oppenheimer (Black Mesa Press, 2009)
Lovecraft: An American Allegory (Hippocampus Press, 2015)

Over 100 short stories have come from Don; here's one example:

FWOO

by

Donald R. Burleson

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Nancy Lyman had a monster living under her bed.

Or in corners of the room where furtive shadows gathered, or in the closet when the door was open a crack so that something could look slyly out from the darkness there. Somewhere, watching her, waiting for its chance, something lived in her bedroom. Always had.

Well, in truth, not quite always. For a time it had faded into the uncertain landscape of the barely-remembered. But after many years' absence, it was back. And somehow its return made the passage of those many years seem unnaturally quick, in the troubled waters of her memory.

She hadn't actually seen it, at least not clearly; but she knew that it was back.

When she had been a little girl, the thing had been there, watching, always. When she had grown older, it had receded, like some noxious tide on the shoreline of her perceptions, and her false sense of security had let her tell herself that the thing had never been real, had vanished like a puff of air when her mind, her emotions grew older, so that she saw the world not through the febrile eyes of a nervous child but through the prosaic eyes of a busy young woman who had no time for monsters.

She had seldom thought of the thing during her young adulthood, her middle years, her later years with Tom and the children. It was, after all, only a typical infantile fantasy, a typical nightmare of childhood. When you thought about it, there was something almost laughably trite about the very idea, a monster under the bed, a goblin in the closet, a lurker in the shadows.

But with her own children off and gone, and with Tom dead now, the terrors of her youth were gradually reasserting themselves. Maybe they had never really been absent, but only ignored, repressed by a blasé pseudo-sophistication of the mind. Maybe she had been kidding herself all these comfortable and complacent years.

Maybe the thing had never really tired of watching her. Maybe she just hadn't noticed.

She folded her evening paper decisively, as if putting away these haunting notions as well, and surveyed the living room. It was cosy here on the sofa, in this warm wash of lamplight, and she disliked the thought of getting up and going to bed. Well, she hadn't finished her milk, and that was a ready-made reason to linger. Sipping from her glass, she thought of those far-off days, when a highstrung little pigtailed girl had been so afraid of--

Fwoo.

That's what her grandfather had called it.

Sometimes, he had told her in his mock-horrific tones like some old-time radio announcer, sometimes you'll hear it call its name when everybody else just thinks it's the wind outside the window at night. But *you* know that it's saying *Fwoo, Fwooooooo*, and you know that it's talking to nobody but you.

Nancy got up and carried her glass to the kitchen sink, and headed for the bedroom. Her mom would always get mad at Gramps for subjecting her to such stories. Nancy paused in front of the mirror over the dresser beside her bed, and her mother's face, alive again, seemed to stare back in place of her own now wrinkled visage. "Dad, why *do* you insist on telling her such things? It's going to give her nightmares." Had she spoken aloud just now, mimicking her mother's oft-repeated complaint, or was this the dry, lifeless voice of memory? She didn't know, and she guessed that it really didn't matter.

When she was in bed with the lights off and with the top of the sheet pulled up to her chin, she felt that those intervening decades had never happened, that she was still the frightened little wide-eyed girl who had listened to her grandfather's creepy tales in spite of everything. What was it Gramps had said about the name. . . ?

Sometimes when it moves under your bed, or turns over, slowly, like some great dusty insect in the dark, or scuttles across the carpet just below where you can see, it makes a dry sound: *ffffw--*, like it wants to tell you its name, but it's teasing you, not saying it right out. Of course, a lot of things sound like that, so you can't ever be sure, can you? Sometimes it doesn't finish saying its name, and sometimes after it starts saying it, off there somewhere in the shadows of your room, the wind picks up and finishes it, outside your window: *Fffffwooooooooooooo*, and you're glad, at least, that it seems to be outside after all, and maybe can't get in. But sometimes when you pull the covers up, it starts sounding like that: *ffffw--*, and you wonder. . . .

She shuddered, now, to remember what he had said next.

When you pull the covers up, he had said, and it makes that quick dry sound, you try to tell yourself that maybe it's not the thing after all. Maybe everything is all right.

But maybe not. And then if it ever finishes saying its name, right there in the dark and lonely room with you. . . .

And she remembered, now, the horror she had felt as a child, reaching down and pulling the blanket up, and hearing that terrible, sibilant rustle, and fearing that the thing would finish saying its name.

She realized, with this rush of memory, that she hadn't pulled up her blanket now.

She leaned forward, her head just slightly off the pillow, and groped into the darkness near her knees, and found the top of the covers, and pulled them up.

Ffffffw--.

And, after some uneasy reflections, she slept.

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And woke in a more practical state of mind.

Enough was enough. Why should a woman over seventy worry about the idiotic phantasms of childhood?

She spent the day cleaning the house, and paid particular attention to the bedroom, where in the calm light of day everything was normal. No matter how different everything might look at night, this familiar scene offered nothing to disturb the mind right now: the bed, the dresser, the wicker

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But in the evening, reading again in that snug cone of lamplight on the sofa and sipping a cup of herbal tea, she dreaded going to bed. She was sleepy, and hadn't intended to stay up very late, but maybe she'd start reading that new novel tonight after all, and have another cup of tea. She told herself that she wasn't just making excuses, that she needed no reasons to read some more if she wanted.

But in her heart she knew better, and it was with an uneasy sigh that, only a few pages into the novel, she finally gave it up and rose from the sofa and switched off the lamp and started getting ready for bed.

Predictably, from all too much experience, nothing in the bedroom looked the same after she was in bed, the sheet tucked under her chin. Strange objects loomed about her in the shadows. Beyond the windowpanes, out in the night, a forlorn little wind moaned at the window like some strange little beast wanting to be let in. She felt jittery about reaching down in the dark and pulling the covers up. She found herself wondering, and not for the first time, why she didn't just pull all the bedclothes up to start with, and not have to grope for them in the dark. But it was her habit, had always been, to pull just the sheet up at first, and later the blanket. And besides, to pull all the covers up to start with, as she easily could--wouldn't that be a concession to her fears, a somehow shameful concession that she was unwilling to make? No, she wasn't altering her habit for some foolish fantasy.

But, reaching down in the dark, she thought: how foolish is it? What if there's really something. . . .

Pausing, her arm out from under the sheet, vulnerable, she looked around the room, feeling the darkness almost palpably close around her face like some oppressive mantle. Out there in the dark, the vague outline of the low table was somehow disturbing. Or was the source of the impression what was *on* the table? What could that low, dusky shape be, if not her milk-glass bowl? Nothing but overwrought nerves could have suggested that it moved craftily, or even slid off the table altogether. No, it was still there, had to still be there, and still just a bowl. How could it be otherwise?

And how could there be anything on the dresser, any low, flat shape, a shape that wasn't there before, as if something (from the table?) had slithered up there like some obscene, flat sea-creature in a sea of darkness. . . . She rubbed her eyes. Certainly not; there was nothing on the dresser, could be nothing on the dresser, nothing but what belonged there. When she blinked, the disturbing impression seemed to recede, though something of the feeling remained.

But she couldn't let herself dwell on those feelings. Swallowing, taking a deep breath and letting it out slowly, she flexed her fingers and reached down into the dark and pulled the blanket halfway up.

*Ffffff*w--

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Fffffw--

She froze, listening, thinking about the sound, trying not to think about the sound but thinking about it anyway.

Nothing, silence. Just a sad little moaning of the wind at the window.

Her eyes, a little more accustomed to the dark now, surveyed what she could see of the dim, shadowy outlines in the room. Low table, wicker chair, dresser. All normal. Nothing on the low table, nothing on the dresser but what should be there. How could she have imagined that some low, flat, lurking shape--

But no more of this. The blanket needed to come the rest of the way up. She flexed her hands again, and pulled.

Ffffffffwooooo.

It had to be the wind, of course, that last bit of sound. But in any case there was a problem. A blanket shouldn't cling, shouldn't fasten itself to you like some great sea-bottom nightmare. But it did, and she realized, with a sense of irony that almost made her laugh out loud, that she had pulled up not the blanket, but the thing itself.

Home for Dinner

by Mollie L. Burleson

Nellie loved animals. All animals. She had been a shy, retiring sort of person and had turned in childhood to animals for love and comfort. She was fond of quoting Byron who had once said: "I love not man the less, but nature more."

She had grown up in a small town in Iowa and, at nineteen, had married young, handsome Michael Mulligan, a sure-fire traveling salesman. Mike had wooed her, won her, and had taken her away to the bustling, growing city of Roxbury, New Hampshire. He was at first madly fond of his young and naive Nellie, but in too short a time had begun to neglect her. His out-of-town trips lengthened and became more frequent.

When Nellie begged him to stay home more often, he would say stubbornly that his kind of job required lots of hard work and effort. Besides, he would say, she liked all her creature comforts, didn't she?

Well, Nellie did like her pretty home and all the good food on her table, but she did miss Mike, for he was gone a great deal of the time. Still, there were her animals.

The Mulligans' home and the woods surrounding it were a menagerie. Nellie kept two dogs, three cats, a canary, various goldfish, and one slightly scruffy-looking guinea pig. But her woodland friends were her favorites, because one had to work really hard to cultivate wild animals as pets. Nellie had.

She had not only coaxed the blue jays and cardinals to eat from the feeders while she stood close by, but had tamed one rascally-looking squirrel to eat from her hand. The squirrel's name was Matilda.

Matilda was an unusual animal who was more intelligent than the ordinary, common, garden-variety squirrel. She was cute, cunning, and very bright, and learned her tricks quite readily. When offered a peanut, Matilda would first place one tiny paw upon Nellie's finger and then, very carefully, take the nut and scamper away.

Nellie spent much time that hot, lonely summer playing with and teaching Matilda and Matilda's companions, and she thought quite often of Mike. If only he hadn't strayed quite so often, and hadn't . . . well, he had, and there was no changing it.

She had much to do. Mike, for all the traveling he did, had never missed the Fourth of July at home. It was one time he liked to lie on the lounge with a beer in one hand and a girlie magazine in the other. The Fourth was one of the few holidays when he didn't travel. Besides, he would say, nobody wanted to buy a vacuum cleaner on Independence Day.

Yes, she had quite a lot to do.

The twenty-ninth of June dawned bright and hot and clear, and Nellie arose early and dressed, had her usual orange juice and cereal and, after feeding her house pets, went outside. Matilda was there, waiting.

"Hi, Matilda," she called. "Come and get it."

Matilda fairly flew to her side and ate the imported pecans Nellie had brought her.

"Where are your little friends, Matilda? Call them for me. Come on," Nellie urged, "you can do it."

Matilda regarded Nellie with her head cocked to one side, knowing eyes shining. A throaty thrumming sounded from her mouth as she opened and closed her jaws rapidly.

In what seemed an instant, the pines surrounding the house were full of squirrels. Fat, healthy squirrels. Nellie smiled in satisfaction. Matilda was ready. So was she.

* * * *

Mike Mulligan was home. It was July the third and the afternoon was well advanced as his Toyota pulled into the driveway. Wonder where the old hag is, he thought.

As he stumbled across the threshold, he kicked out at Morgan, Nellie's Siamese, and cursed loudly. "Damn cat, always underfoot! Next time you get in my way, I'll break your lousy neck!" Morgan scurried for safety under the kitchen table.

“Where the hell are you, Nellie?” Mike bellowed.

“I’m here, dear, on the patio,” she answered.

He made his way through the spotless kitchen and out onto the flagstone-paved patio. “What in hell are you doin’ out here? It’s almost time for dinner and here you are loafin’ and the stove’s colder’n a witch’s tit.”

“Now, Michael, why don’t you sit down and relax and I’ll mix you something nice and cold. I can see you’re all het up and frazzled from the heat.”

He looked suspiciously at Nellie, wondering for the thousandth time how she could still hold her temper after all these years. *You have to give it to the old girl, she’s a real cool one. Kind of stupid, but real cool.*

Grunting, he flopped down upon the chaise longue, yawned noisily, and shouted, “Where in blazes is the damn drink?”

The screen door banged closed and Nellie came toward him, a tall, frosty glass in her outstretched hand. “Here you are, dear. Drink it in good health.”

Upon hearing this, Mike groaned. “For Chrissakes, Nellie, can’t you think of somethin’ else to say? Always sayin’ the same thing, year in and year out.”

“I’m sorry, dear, it’s just my way.”

“Just my way,” Mike mocked under his breath, shooting her a look from beneath caterpillar brows. He took a great gulp of the lemonade.

“Well, it’s not gin and tonic, but it’s cold,” he said, and polished it off. “Ahhh.” He smacked his thick, fleshy lips.

“Are you comfortable now, Michael?” Nellie asked.

“Ungh.”

“You know, I’ve been thinking. Been doing a lot of it since you left for Chicago.”

“Yeah, so what?”

“I’ve been thinking about our marriage. Those long, long years. Do you realize that I’ve spent them mostly alone here with my animals? It was hard at first, Michael, but once I began making friends with all the little creatures, it wasn’t so bad.”

Mike continued to eye his wife, but blinked once or twice as he found his eyelids growing heavy. *Boy, I must be real done in, fallin’ asleep in the middle of the afternoon.* It was then that he noticed Nellie’s pet squirrel watching him from beneath a chair.

“You were gone so much, Michael,” Nellie continued, “and I had to have something to keep me sane, so I taught my little animals things. Real nice things, Michael, you should just see. Morgan can open the cupboard for his food, and Taffy can sit up and beg. Why, they all can do all sorts of things, even my squirrels. You just won’t believe what I’ve taught them to do. Dear, are you listening?”

Mike found he could barely nod his head. His glass fell unheeded from his hand and smashed upon the patio stones.

“Why, Michael, are you sleepy? Poor dear. Don’t go to sleep yet. You’ll have time to sleep, later.”

She snapped her fingers, and with a sudden leap, Matilda was upon her shoulders. “Nice Matilda, sweet Matilda,” she crooned.

Nellie settled herself comfortably into her chair and stroked Matilda’s fur. “You thought I didn’t know about your little affairs and those gambling debts, didn’t you? But I did. I’ve known all along. Did you think I was blind not to notice the stains and smudges on your shirts and those long hairs on your lapels? I saw them. I didn’t mind those things. I could forgive them, but I couldn’t forgive what you did to Petey.”

Mike’s eyes rolled around wildly. They were the only part of him that could still move.

“Yes, I know what you did. You’ve always hated my little friends, haven’t you? You only let me have them so I would keep out of your way. But what you did to Matilda’s mate I could never, never forgive. Neither could Matilda.”

At the mention of her name, Matilda’s jaws began to clack.

“Yes, Michael, I found Petey’s broken little body in the trash after you had hidden it there. I guess that’s when I started planning for this day.”

Tears now flowed from Michael’s eyes.

“Poor, poor Michael. To think it should come to this. No, dear, you’re wrong; I’ve not poisoned you. I’ve just given you something to help you relax. Now, please don’t worry. It won’t hurt—much. Call your friends, Matilda.”

The last images in Mike’s eyes were the trees, alive with squirrels.

“Take him,” was all she said.

Don has produced several poems. Below you will find a short one he honored science fiction writer (Star Trek, etc.) Ray Bradbury.

Into the Moonlight

by Donald R. Burleson

It was a time of strange anticipation. He scarcely knew exactly when this feeling, this moiling complex of feelings, had come upon him, but the sensation was not to be denied, this dark but somehow promising intimation of remarkable things to come. What he sensed was imminent transformation, and though he did not altogether understand what was happening to him, he found the feeling exhilarating.

In some peculiar way it seemed to be putting him in touch with a condition, a life, a *past* that was oddly unlike anything he knew, yet was just as oddly an emerging aspect of himself, of what he really was, what he should and would be.

He flexed his fingers and felt the change coming. There was a whole world of primal instinct, a world of prairie and wind and moonlight, behind the lines of tension and titillation that he felt ranging along his jittering fingers and foreshadowing what they would become.

He felt it too in his jaw, his ears, his feeble eyes that would soon shine with new acuity, his pallid skin that soon would bristle with fur. The recumbent but restless form within him yearned to be free.

And what was setting it free was the leprous light of the full moon. From where he sat inside these walls he could not see it, but in some deep stirring of awareness he knew that out there beyond the walls a wan radiance spread itself over the land and brought with it a timeless liberation.

What struggled to release itself was a ponderous presence, an epitome of stealth and might, an essence of raw and ruthless power. It was the sleek, elegant summation of all that was regal and fearsome, it was the stalking and unchallenged master of the night.

It was the wolf.

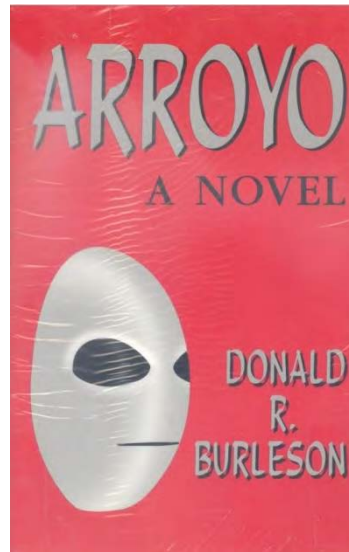
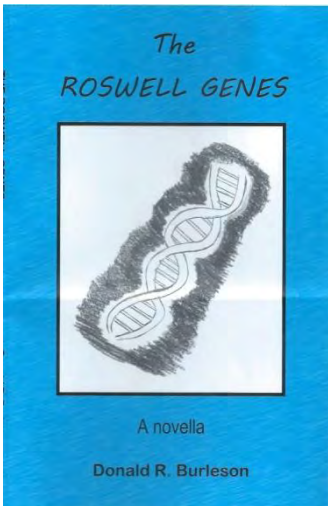
Wolf. This was a name that he had not thought he could name, but which the unstoppable alteration itself proclaimed to him, and it was as if the word itself brought on the change, the evolution into a higher form, the thickening of his fingers into lethal claws. At once, he felt his face elongate into a snout, his mouth erupt with powerful, long, pointed teeth that snapped and hungered for the prey that rested, unaware, nearby. A million years of blood-lust swam together in his febrile veins, and he sprang into life.

It was joyous, this rending and gnawing and slashing, this ripping and chewing his way out into the moonlight. The screams were ecstasy to him, but they lasted only a short time, and soon he was loping across the patio, trailing blood and amniotic fluid and bright shards of bone, sparing only a remorseless glance back at the lifeless form of the mother, a gutted and sunken corpse on her chair in the moonlight. The father, his eyes bulging with horror, scrambled to get away, but not nearly fast enough, and soon a whirlwind of fangs and claws were pulling him apart and a reverberant howl was lofted upon the night wind.

What a glorious way to be born!

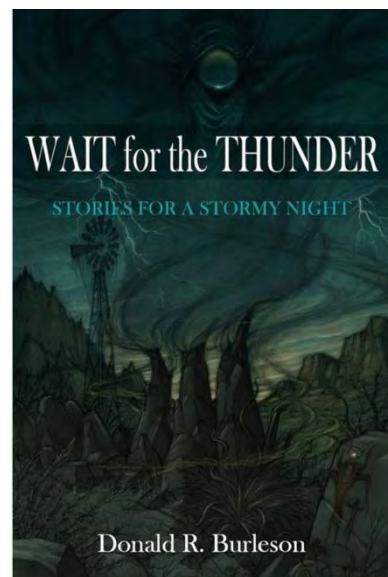
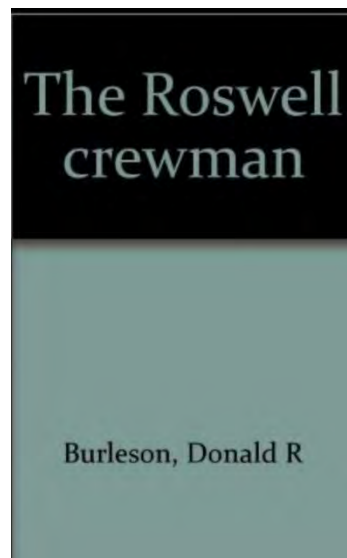
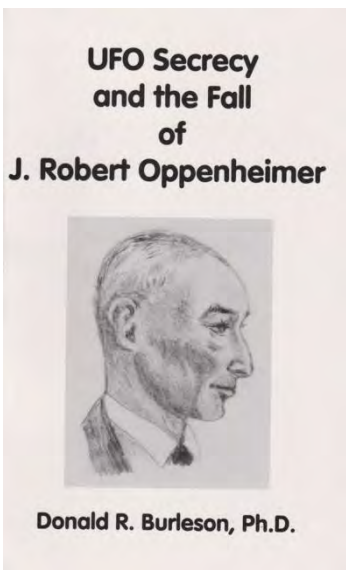
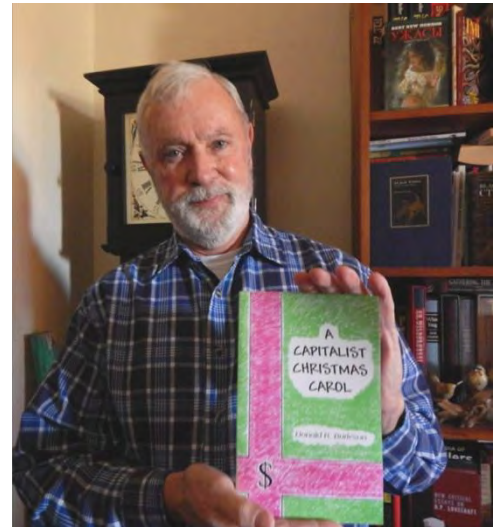
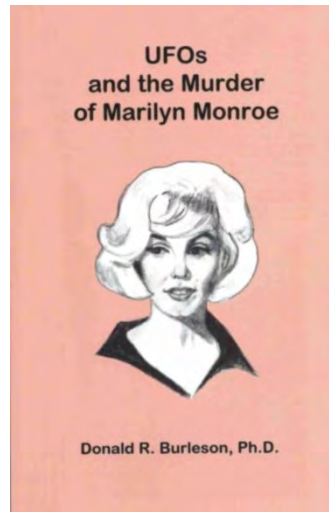
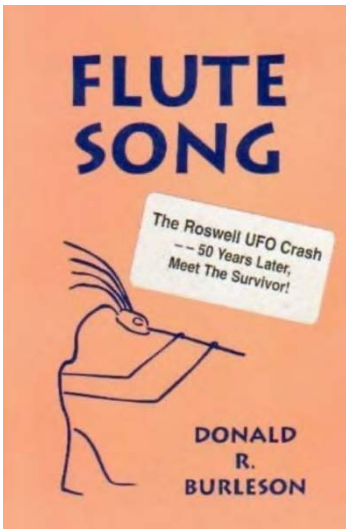
For Ray Bradbury

We encourage you to get copies of our brilliant cousin's books; here are some :



Your prehistoric typewriter fell quiet,
 Dropped to repose with grinning fossil teeth
 And etched itself into the stones of time.
 Yours was the magic hand that made it roar
 And rend the sable night with sounds of thunder,
 Vibrant with the wonder of the words.
 The words have ceased; the echoes never will.
 Dream-wanderer among the icy stars,
 You died as Venus transited the sun,
 Much as you carved your own elliptic path
 Across the pumpkin visage of the world,
 A ghostly smile traced on eternity.
 You've journeyed to October Country now,
 Where whispering shadows gather you to rest.

--Donald R. Burleson
 8 June 2012



We certainly hoped you survived Halloween...



In Search of Any Info: Greenwood Cemetery Legend



Sarah A Budeson Gower

BFRG Researcher

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When I was a teenager, my grandfather, Wayne Shuford Burleson, took me for a 4 wheeler ride up the side of the mountain behind his house to visit our family/community cemetery on Martin's Creek Rd in Barnardville, NC. He was the caretaker of the cemetery and many of my Burleson/Haynes ancestors are buried there.



This summer, JD Burleson traveled to meet my family and I at the cemetery and show us how to safely clean gravestones. It was a great learning experience and we cleaned many of my ancestors' stones.

While we were working, my step-grandmother reminded me of a story that my grandfather had told me: many years ago

(my guess is sometime around or before early 1900s) an African American lady in the community was buried there under a tree (all of which remains now is a stump) after she had “danced herself to death”. I did not think to ask him any further details at the time, and he passed suddenly in 2020. No one else in the family knows any other details beyond what I have mentioned. I have done some research trying to learn the history of the cemetery and it's place in local history but have not come across anything else relating to that story.



According to Find a Grave, the earliest burial (although unmarked) there is of a John McKinney, whose wife Evaline, was born a Greenwood. According to deed records, the land belonged to her father originally, so it is my assumption that she and her first husband are buried there because the land was left to her by her father. At the time, my Burleson ancestors lived next door. The land was left to her children in her will and, in turn, purchased from her descendants by my great grandparents in the 1940s. I include these details in case any connection to these families helps explain the legend. I wondered, if this article reaches anyone with any ties to the cemetery or the area, if you may have heard this legend and have any details to add? Thanks, cousins!

