

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

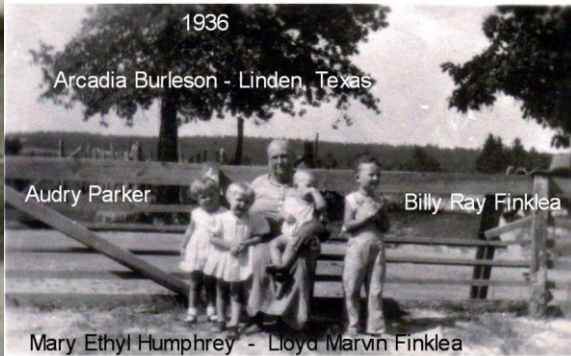
of settling in she went to a church function in town that everyone looked forward to participating in. She even learned how to spit snuff for a contest they were having. It was there that she first met Robert Wade Burrow. She recognized the good-looking young man immediately as being the face she saw 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.

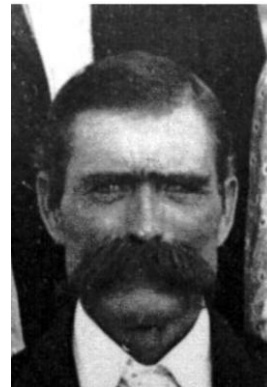
Granny's favorite saying was "Everybody goes up fools hill at least once, but some go more." She was uneducated, but one of the smartest women I ever knew.



Lillie Maude Burleson



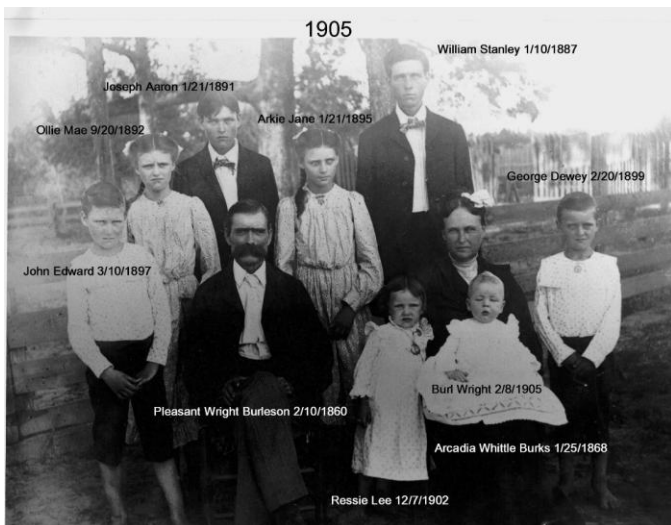
1936
Arcadia Burleson - Linden, Texas
Audry Parker Billy Ray Finklea
Mary Ethyl Humphrey - Loyd Marvin Finklea



Pleasant Wright Burleson



Arcadia Burleson abt. 1937



1905
Joseph Aaron 1/21/1891 William Stanley 1/10/1887
Ollie Mae 9/20/1892 Arkie Jane 1/21/1895 George Dewey 2/20/1899
John Edward 3/10/1897
Pleasant Wright Burleson 2/10/1860
Burl Wright 2/8/1905
Arcadia Whittle Burks 1/25/1868
Ressie Lee 12/7/1902



Joseph Aaron Ressie Lee Myrtle Vida
Lillie Maude
John Edward Celeste Inez
Arcadia Whittle Burks Burleson
Pleasant Wright Burleson's wife & some of the children

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

