



# THE BURKETT FAMILY

PUBLISHED QUARTERLY BY THE BURKETT HERITAGE FOUNDATION

## *We Will Continue the Newsletter -*

Thanks to several of you who wrote, called, and sent your checks in support of continuing our Newsletter. As I pointed out in the last issue, it appeared extremely doubtful not only as to whether I could continue but also whether or not I even wanted to continue. However, the support I have received thus far indicates there will be enough to justify both the effort and expense. I will send out this issue and see if it produces the additional support which I believe will be forthcoming. There are still several relatives who have not paid the 1997 and/or 1998 dues but who always paid for the past few years and who I believe will continue to do so this year.

I may be responsible for this but it appears that some of our relatives think that Dues are due in June at the reunion which is when many have been paying. However, they are really due at the beginning of the year. Until now, I was financing the first two issues out of my pocket and then recovering my money during the reunion. I should have spoken up before now and cleared that up. Now that I have set it straight as to when they are due, I hope that everyone will be able to shift to paying at the beginning of the year.

Once this issue is received I will be able to judge from the response as to what we will do in the future. Frankly, I am hopeful we can continue because I know from my personal experience that folks will really appreciate and enjoy having this history to read several years from now. I will be sending a postcard advising those who are being dropped from the mailing list for non-payment and at least give them one last chance to continue with us. And as I said before, we have some who cannot afford to subscribe but I think I know who they are and they will continue to receive the Newsletter.

Anyway, my sincere thanks to all who have responded so far. ■

## *Reunion Group Photo -*

I have received a few orders for the group picture made at our reunion last June and these have been mailed. I had originally said they would be 8"x 10". However, when I received the first copies, it was immediately obvious there was not enough room on the sides for framing so they were redone to an 8"x 12" size which is what all future copies will be. If you have ordered a photo but have not received it, it should be arriving shortly. I am still of the opinion that it is a great picture and, if cared for properly, will be around for many, many years for our descendants to enjoy.

I have about 4 rolls of pictures taken by the photographer which I am still working on to find some economical way of making them available to those of you who might be

interested. And I have a camcorder tape which I want to also make available, again at an affordable price. I will have more on these in the next issue as well as at the reunion. ■

## *A Review and Update*

### *on Henry Burkett, Sr. -*

When this Newsletter was first started in 1993, the information we had at that time indicated that Henry and Polly Burkett had nine children. Then in late 1996 I received a copy of the *Final Settlement of the Will of Henry Burkett dated July 25, 1888*. I published a copy of this in Volume 1 1997 along with a very detailed analysis as to the distribution of the assets.

As with most of the documents, this raised a lot of questions because it listed three (3) children more than we knew about. The children we knew about were:

Henry, Jr.

John

Andrew

Jacob

George

James

Mary E.

David

Martha J.

The Final Settlement not only listed these but also listed Malinda, Matilda, and Jeremiah and accorded them equal shares of the estate which would only have taken place if they were children of Henry, Sr. But, as you will see, this raised even more questions.

We have since located information about these three children and also learned that Henry Burkett, Jr.'s middle name was Isaac and that his nickname was "Ike". This was discovered by Gina Burkett Hyche of Jasper, Alabama who has been doing a lot of research using the library in Birmingham. She has been poring through Census records, Tennessee marriage records and the Tennessee Society of Sons of the War of 1812. She found an Index of Pensioners of the War of 1812 which showed Henry, Sr. served from 1813 - 1818. Based on information compiled by StellaB Jackson Jaynes, we had assumed that Henry, Sr. was born about 1796. However, if he served in the War of 1812, beginning his service in 1813 would have made him only about 17 so we now calculate that he was born sometime prior to 1796. I am hoping to contact the Tennessee Society and secure more information about Henry, Sr. such as where he enlisted, where he was born, and where he served during the approximately five (5) years from 1813 to 1818. Also, if he was drawing a pension, it might show where he was living

when he died and perhaps even where he is buried which is something Audy Majors and I have trying to discover for the past three (3) years. Another thing Gina Burkett Hyche uncovered in her research was that Henry Burkett, Sr. was not born in Wythe County, Virginia which I had been led to believe based on information received from another source. However, Gina was able to find out enough about the Henry Burkett who was born in Wythe County Virginia to prove it was not our Henry.

Now let's get back to the children. And again we run into some confusion. The Census of 1860 examined by Gina showed Malinda's husbands name to be S.C. Perryman but the Final Settlement of the Will of Henry Burkett plainly shows his name as J. S. Perryman. Since Census records are known to have had many mistakes and omissions, I am going to assume that J. S. are the correct initials for Malinda's husband, at least until we come across information that proves otherwise.

Gina discovered the wedding date of Matilda and Berry Marcum to be August 26, 1843 which was information I did not have. She also found that the 1860 census did in fact include George and Lucinda Burkett but under the name of **Birkett**. I had been telling her I could not find them in the census. The 1860 census also revealed that John and Paulina Burkett were living in Warren County at that time.

During her search Gina and I not only spoke several times on the phone but also sent information back and forth via the mail. The information she located helped us by adding to what was already known but, at the same time, got us to asking more questions. Much of what follows was included in Volume 1 1997 but is being included here to enable you to follow what will be some deductions and assumptions after having reviewed it.

The heading of the *Final Settlement* states the executor had \$1465.08 to be divided among "eleven (11) heirs making each heirs share \$133.70". However, the actual payments varied slightly among most of the heirs averaging \$133.00 plus some change with the exception of David who received \$131.50; Jacob's heirs who received only \$121.40 for reasons unknown; and John's heirs who received \$131.61. It's John's heirs who have attracted mine and Gina's attention so I am going to re-list the actual distribution for John's heirs to demonstrate why these questions have come up.

Nancy	16.35
Mary	16.50
Margaret	16.35
Jobe	16.35
Balance due Tolbert	16.36
Balance due Cage	4.70
Attorneys for heirs	25.00
Assignees of heirs	20.00
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>131.61</b>

In Volume 1 1997, I had wondered who Tolbert might have been. Based on another look at the distribution, it now appears more than likely that Tolbert was a son of John, not

## THE BURKETT FAMILY

### Publisher

The Burkett Heritage Foundation

### Original Historian

StellaB Jackson Jaynes  
(deceased)

### Current Historian and Editor

Marvin Oliver Webb

### Assistant Editors

Danny Banks  
Audy Majors

### Reunion Manager

Audy Majors

For further information about subscriptions  
and articles write to:

### The Burkett Family

c/o Oliver Webb

15439 Lakeshore Villas Drive  
Tampa, Florida 33613

This is a private and non-profit publication by The Burkett Heritage Foundation for the sole use of Burkett family members and relatives. Reproduction in whole or in part is prohibited without written permission of The Burkett Heritage Foundation.

We wish to acknowledge the contributions made by StellaB 'Nita' Jackson Jaynes in compiling the initial data about our family. Without her efforts, much of the information we have would probably never have been located.

By phone 813/961-1679  
By FAX 813/961-1679

e-mail address hickeywebb@aol.com

Or visit the Burkett Home Page on the World Wide Web:

<http://www.familytreemaker.com/users/w/e/b/Marvin-O-Webb/>

to be confused with the son of Jobe who was named Tolbert Lee and who was born in 1883. It could be that Tolbert Lee was named after an Uncle of the same name since Tolbert in the Settlement would have been a brother of Tolbert Lee's father Jobe and therefor an Uncle. *This is the first assumption but a pretty good one, I think.* But we still have some questions as to who the other heirs were. Let's look at the dates of distribution to see if that helps.

8/9/1886	Nancy	4.50
9/6/1886	Attorney for heirs	25.00
11/11/1886	Assignee of heirs	10.00
11/11/1886	Assignee of heirs	4.50
11/28/1886	Jobe	4.50
2/6/1887	Jobe	11.85
5/6/1887	Margaret	4.50
9/15/1887	Mary	16.50
12/6/1887	Assignee of heirs	5.50
12/20/1887	Nancy	11.85
1/11/1888	Margaret	11.85

7/25/1888	Balance due Tolbert	16.36
7/25/1888	Balance due Cage	4.70

Since Nancy, Jobe, Margaret and Mary received their payments directly and Tolbert was to receive his directly, it would appear the "Attorney for heirs" and "Assignee of heirs" did not represent any of them plus the Attorneys and Assignee's were receiving payments in between the time other payments were being made. Now, if we assume the Attorney's and Assignee's did not represent any of the *named* children, then the first conclusion would be that the Attorney's and Assignee's represented some *unnamed children*. I called Laura Burkett Durham, a granddaughter of Jobe and a daughter of Tolbert Lee Burkett, and asked her if her father ever spoke of any Uncles. She told me all she could remember was that her father said he never knew his Uncles *because they both went to Texas*. For now, I guess we will have to go with Tolbert and Cage *possibly* being children of John and wait for something more concrete to turn up about additional heirs. ■

### ***More Relatives Located ! —***

About a week ago, I got to thinking about the gaps we have in our family history. I knew there must be someone out there also searching so I went to the Internet and for about two hours sat in front of the screen and read and searched until suddenly *bingo!* The following message seemed to leap off the screen at me.

Subj : Burkett/ Tennessee  
 Date : 95-11-10 18:47:05 EST  
 From : TBeng  
 Posted on : America Online  
 Trying to locate parents or siblings of Henry Burkett b. abt

1795 VA and parents and siblings of Mary Epley, b. abt 1800, NC. These two were married 1819 in Greene Co., TN and moved to Maury Co. finally settling in Cannon Co., TN before 1850.

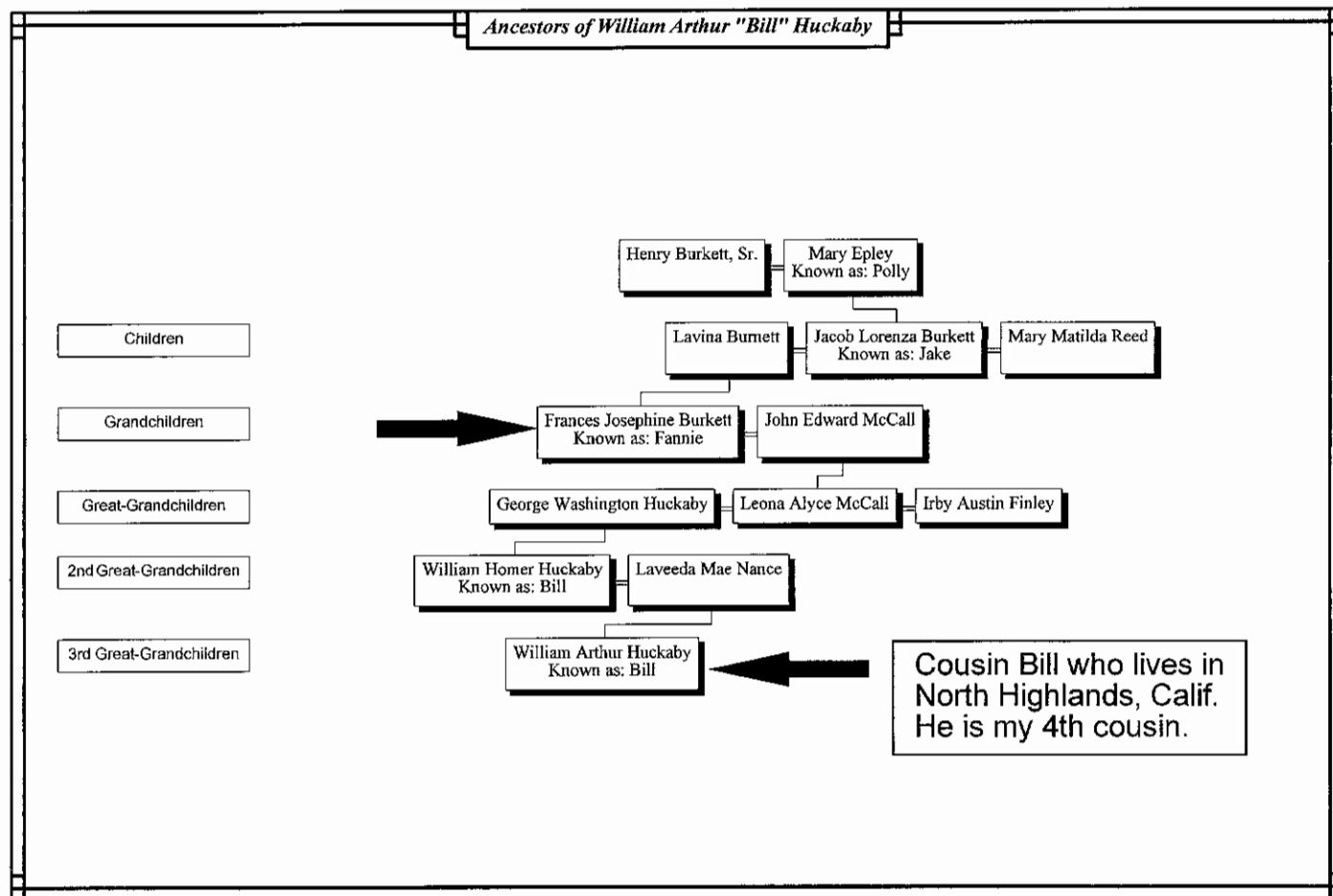
Well, there was no mistaking that message. That was definitely our Burketts so I sent an email message to TBeng@aol.com and asked if they were still active in their search and were still on line since the above message was posted in 1995. I got an answer back very quickly to the effect that he was still online and still interested. I told him they (Henry and Mary "Polly") were my third great grandparents and he came back that they were *also his third great grandparents*.

By now, we knew we were related and began exchanging details. Turns out that TBeng@aol.com is William A. "Bill" Huckaby in North Highlands, California. He is a descendant of Jacob Lorenza Burkett and his first wife Lavina Burnett. I prepared a 3-ring binder full of printouts of all of my information about descendants of Henry and Polly along with selected issues of Newsletters which contained articles relating to Jacob and descendants. I put that in the mail and sent him an email message advising him of the mailing.

Before proceeding further, let me review the information we have about Jacob for those who have not received all of our Newsletters and may not be able to understand the relationship. Jacob Lorenza Burkett was the sixth of 12 children born to Henry Burkett, Sr. and Mary "Polly" Epley. In 1865 Jacob left middle Tennessee with wife Lavina, their 7 children, and some of their Epley Uncles and Cousins — Daniel, William, David, George, and their families. They traveled overland to Memphis where they loaded their livestock, wagons, household goods, and families on large flatboats and sailed down the Mississippi river to New Orleans. At New Orleans they took passage on an ocean ship to Galveston, Texas. They then traveled by train from Galveston to Brenham, Texas which was the end of the rail line at that time. They next traveled by ox wagons and horseback to Burnet and Lampasas counties in central Texas arriving Christmas Day in 1865. (It seems ironic that Jacob was to die 10 years later on Christmas Day 1875.)

Henry Burkett, Sr. died in March of 1875 and Jacob returned to Tennessee to help settle his estate. When he returned to Texas, he brought with him his mother, Mary "Polly" Epley Burkett, 2 sisters, Mary C.E. Brown and sons, and Martha J. and William Young and their children. Just a few months after Jacob brought his mother and sisters to Texas, he died from lingering effects of battle wounds received during the Civil War. He had served as a Lieutenant in the Confederate Army.

The 7 children Jacob and wife Lavina brought to Texas were George, Joe, Mary, Sarah, Jim, Jane, and Fannie. Jim and Jane were twins. James H. "Jim" was the one who developed the famous Burkett paper shell pecan — a delicious round pecan. Some of you will recall my surprise when I arrived in Abilene, Texas in the middle of an afternoon in 1994 and was served a piece of pecan pie at the



Motel where I stopped. When I asked the waitress what kind it was, she said it was a Burkett pecan pie!! However, I think she was as surprised when she asked me why I asked what kind it was and I told her I was out there searching for Burkett relatives and it was one of them who had developed the Burkett pecan. Later in my trip, I stopped at a Department of Agriculture station in Brownwood, Texas and spoke with a state expert on pecans who told me that, unfortunately, no one had kept up on the Burkett pecan as far as improving its' resistance to disease, etc. and that other pecans were now more favored than the Burkett. When I visited an A.J. Burkett in Abilene, turned out we were not related, he took me into his backyard and showed me 3 Burkett pecan trees!

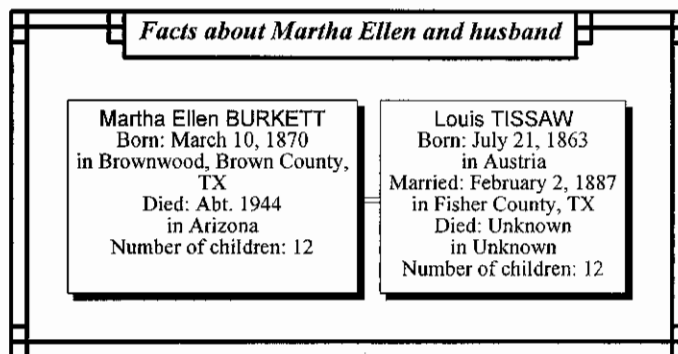
To get back to Jacob, it was his youngest daughter, Frances Josephine "Fannie" that Cousin Bill Huckaby is descended from — see above chart. Fannie was the youngest of the children being only about one year old when the family left Tennessee for Texas.

In the meantime, Bill has been emailing me info about our relatives which I have now entered. I might add at this point that Bill is not retired as I am and doesn't have the time I do to devote to this but he has certainly done a lot in the short time we have been in touch.

In one of my messages, I told Bill I had almost no information about Jacob's second wife, Matilda Reed, and had only the names of their 4 daughters. Bill came right back

and told me her full name was Mary Matilda Reed and gave me some information about the 4 daughters. I have prepared a chart which is shown on the next page. Because of the number of children, I have only included names on this chart but Bill also provided me with a lot of dates and other information.

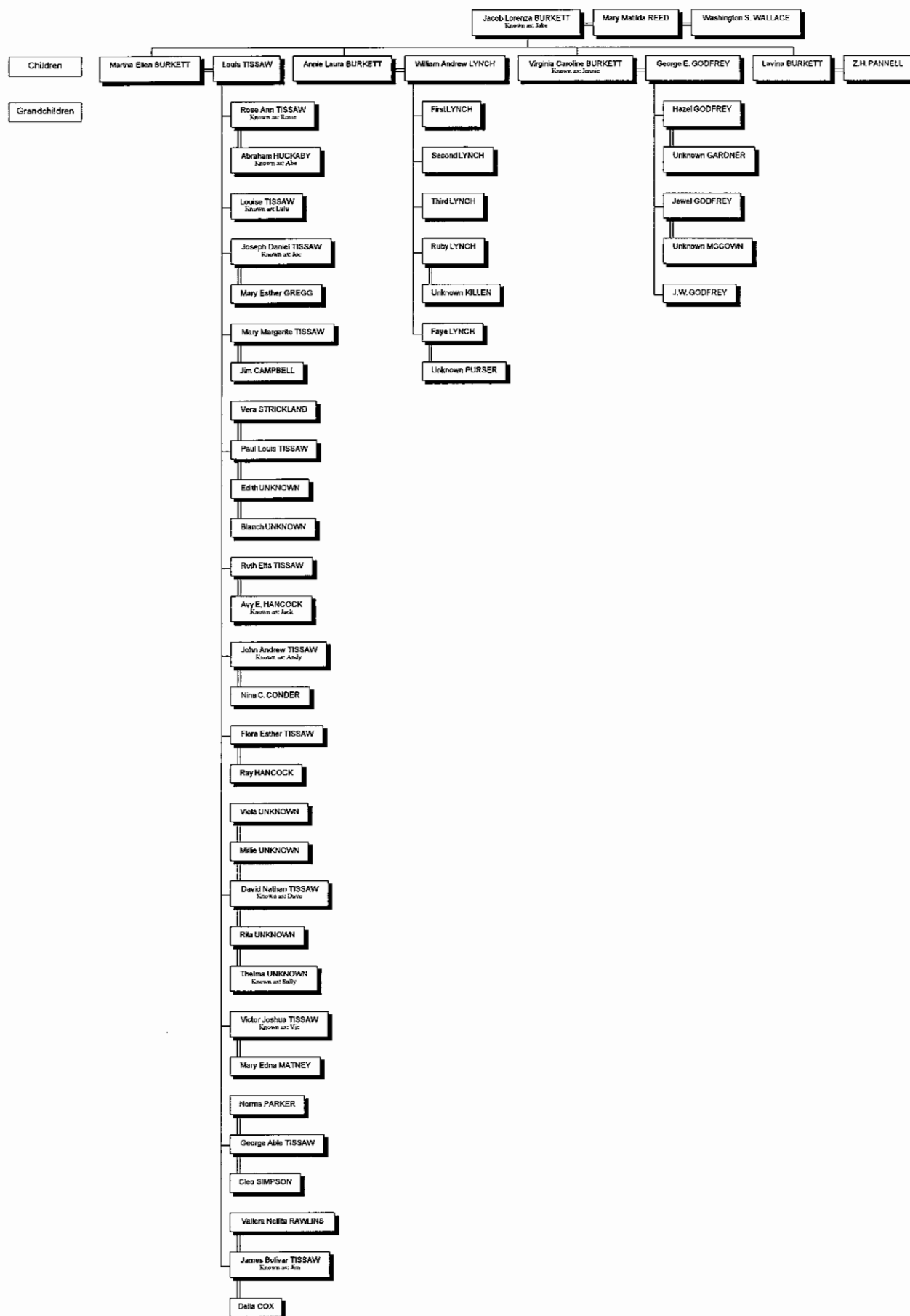
From the chart on the next page, you will see the four (4) daughters of Jacob and Mary Matilda were Martha Ellen, Annie Laura, Virginia Caroline, and Lavina.



In communicating with Bill, I told him I found I had entered a note from StellaB which read, "She (Martha Ellen) had married a millionaire and moved to Arizona but that did not change her sweet ways". Apparently, Bill got a chuckle out of that because his response was, "I am sure there are many descendants of Martha who would get a real kick out of that statement. I really doubt that Louis

*continued on page 6*

*Descendants of Jacob Lorenzo Burkett and Mary Matilda Reed*



was ever a millionaire, though he may have had some monies and property by the time he died. His occupation was a bee-keeper". Bill then went on to tell me he had a copy of Louis' obituary and that he knew where an old picture of the family exists. He did add that Martha Ellen had a great grandson who won the California lottery several years ago but didn't identify at this time who the great grandson was nor how much he won. In closing, he added that Martha Ellen did divorce Louis and marry another individual before she died. *(Seems like a drastic step after 12 children!)*

#### Facts about Annie Laura and husband

Annie Laura BURKETT  
Born: Abt. 1872  
in Burnet County, Texas ?  
Died: Abt. 1968  
in Unknown  
Number of children: 5

William Andrew LYNCH  
Born: Unknown  
in Unknown  
Married: Unknown  
in Unknown  
Died: Unknown  
in Unknown  
Number of children: 5

Annie Laura and her husband had 5 children. We do not know the names of three of them but we do know the two known daughters, Ruby and Faye Lynch, married men by the last name of Killen and Purser respectively.

#### Facts about Virginia Caroline and husband

Virginia Caroline BURKETT  
Known as: Jennie  
Born: Abt. 1875  
in Burnet County, Texas  
Died: Abt. 1959  
in Unknown  
Number of children: 3

George E. GODFREY  
Born: Unknown  
in Unknown  
Married: Unknown  
in Unknown  
Died: Unknown  
in Unknown  
Number of children: 3

Jennie, as she was known, and husband George Godfrey had three children, Hazel, Jewel, and J.W. Hazel married a man by the last name of Gardner; Jewel married a man by the last name of McCown; and we do not know if J.W. married.

#### Facts about Lavina and husband

Lavina BURKETT  
Born: Abt. 1876  
in Burnet County, Texas  
Died: Abt. 1893  
in Unknown

Z.H. PANNELL  
Born: Unknown  
in Unknown  
Married: Unknown  
in Unknown  
Died: Unknown  
in Unknown

There were no known children of this marriage and, if you will look at the born and died dates for Lavina, you will see

she was only about 17 when she died, if those dates are correct. I had wondered in a previous Newsletter, and still do, if this daughter was named after Jacobs first wife, Lavina, who came to Texas from Tennessee with Jacob.

Jacob married Mary Matilda Reed about 1869 and their first daughter, Martha Ellen, was born March 10, 1870; the second daughter, Annie Laura, was born about 1872; their third daughter, Virginia Caroline, was born about 1875; and the last daughter, Lavina, was born about 1876 which would have been after Jacob died December 25, 1875. At some point after Jacob died, Mary Matilda and her children moved to Fisher County, Texas. By about 1881, Mary Matilda had married a man named Washington S. Wallace and it is not known if she and the children had already moved to Fisher County when she married Mr. Wallace or they married elsewhere and then moved to Fisher County. Since Martha Ellen and Louis Tissaw were married in Fisher County, it is an assumption but not an absolute fact that the family was living there. Looking at the map below you can see that Fisher County is to the northwest of Abilene which is a pretty good distance from where they were living when Jacob died.



The square indicates Fisher County

You will recall that when Jacob's first wife, Lavina, died in about 1868, he had to place the children with folks who were willing to take them in so the family was split up until Jacob married Mary Matilda Reed in about 1869. At that time, the children were again brought back together. So Mary Matilda Reed began with a family of seven (7) children whose approximate ages at that time were:

George	18
Joseph	13
Mary	11
Sarah	9
James	7 twins
Jane	7 twins
Frances	4

By the time Jacob died in 1875, Mary now had a total of 11 children to care for counting the four (4) daughters she and Jacob had. At his death, the children's approximate ages were:

George	24
Joseph	19
Mary	17
Sarah	15
James	13
Jane	13
Frances	10
Martha Ellen	5
Annie Laura	3
Virginia C.	1
Lavina	Infant

We still do not know how long after Jacob died Mary Matilda and the children continued living at their place on the Pecan Bayou near where it runs into the Colorado River. Maybe down the road we can find a will or land sale record which will give us an idea. By the time Mary Matilda married again to Washington S. Wallace in 1881, the children's ages were approximately:

George	30	married 1879
Joseph	25	married June 11, 1882
Mary	23	married unknown
Sarah	21	married 1877
James	19	married unknown
Jane	19	married 1880
Frances	16	married March 23, 1882
Martha Ellen	11	
Annie Laura	9	
Virginia C.	7	
Lavina	6	

So you can see that the first seven (7) children were either already married or got married shortly after Mary Matilda married Mr. Wallace. This brings up the question of when Mary "Polly" Epley Burkett, Jacob's mother, went to the Williams Ranch to live with her sister, Annie Williams. We don't really know that Mary Epley Burkett ever lived with Jacob after they arrived in Texas in 1875. There was no reason for me to do so but I had assumed that his mother lived with Jacob since he took her with him when he returned to Texas following his trip back to Tennessee after his father died. We have always believed that Jacob returned to Tennessee to help settle the estate but even that is now suspect because Henry Sr.'s will specifically left everything to his wife Mary until her death. Therefore, Jacob's trip to Tennessee *might* have been to simply get his mother and two (2) sisters and bring them to Texas. By 1875, Jacob had already married Mary Matilda Reed and they had ten (10) children living with them and Jacob's mother was now 75 years old. With this question in mind, I went back and checked and found that John Williams, the founder of the Williams Ranch and husband of Annie Epley Williams, Mary's sister, died in 1871 which was four (4) years before Mary went to Texas with Jacob. Therefore, it's entirely possible that Mary went to live with sister Annie when she first arrived in Texas in 1875. This is all of the discussion about Jacob until I receive more information from Cousin Bill Huckaby. ■

*So many ancestors, so little time*

*From The Huntsville Times*  
*May 26, 1944 -*

## Almon Burkett Taken By Death

Engine Room Foreman  
Of Dallas Mills Due  
To Be Buried Saturday

Almon Lee Burkett, 71, foreman in the engine room of the Dallas Manufacturing Co., died this morning at his home, 402 Stevens avenue, after a long illness.

Funeral services are set for tomorrow morning at 11 o'clock in the Dallas Church of Christ, with Rufus Underwood conducting the rites. Burial will follow in Maple Hill cemetery, with Laughlin-Service directing.

Active pallbearers will be Percy Chisolm, Tom Haggard, James Clark, Herman Lee, Herman Cantrell and Robert Reese.

Selected to be honorary pallbearers are Louis Wise, Dave Edgman, Wallace Ealy, J. E. Gunn, Jr., L. C. Wilkerson and Dr. M. M. Duncan.

Survivors are the widow, Mrs. Nancy Burkett; four daughters, Mrs. Ben Majors and Mrs. G. H. Chisolm, both of Huntsville, Mrs. Q. E. Carroll, Birmingham, and Mrs. Frank Hunter, Macon, Ga.; two sons, J. B. Burkett and Andy Burkett, both of Huntsville; two sisters, Mrs. Julia Underhill, Smithville, Tenn., and Mrs. Luther Newby, McMinnville; one brother, T. L. Burkett; 23 grandchildren and one great-grandchild.

Mr. Burkett, born in Cannon county, Tenn., had been a resident of Huntsville 31 years. He had been employed at Dallas Mills several years. He was a member of the Church of Christ.

*The above article just came into my possession and I thought it would be of interest to some of our younger relatives. This was my grandfather, a son of Jobe Burkett, a*



grandson of John Burkett, and a great grandson of Henry Burkett, Sr. Some of may have noticed they misspelled Audey Burkett's name as "Andy". The great-grandchild referred to was Danny Banks. ■

### *Some never before published pictures*

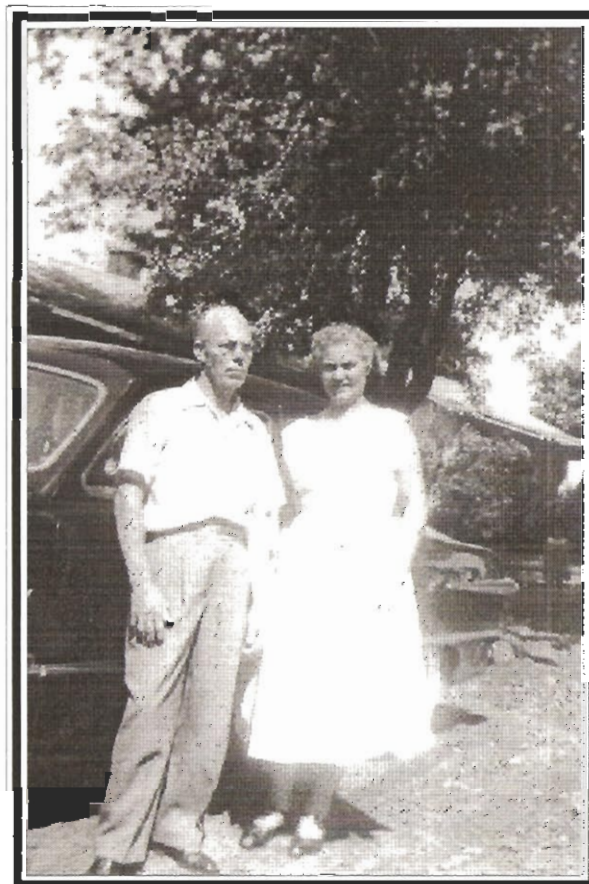
This is a school picture of Louise Carroll, daughter of Leva Burkett Carroll and Everett Carroll. The year is unknown unless Louise can tell me. I think the handwriting on the bottom of the picture is that of my mother, Martha Burkett Webb Hunter, who was an Aunt to Louise.



The picture below shows Louise with father Everett Carroll on the left and boyfriend or husband Carl Smith on the right. I say boyfriend or husband because I don't know if Louise and Carl were married at the time this picture was made. I do know they have been married almost 46 years.



Now here is a picture of Louise's parents, Leva Burkett Carroll and Everett Carroll. The date of the picture is unknown but that appears to an early 1950's Ford and it appears to be fairly new so let's guess the picture was made in the early 1950's.

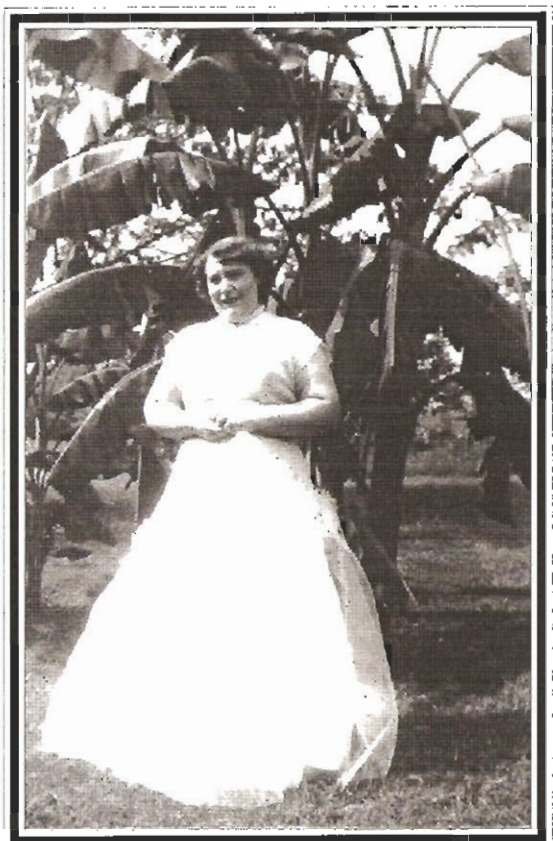


Below on the right is Leva Burkett Carroll with one of her sisters, Martha Burkett Webb Hunter, my mother. Notice they were both carrying gloves which was the style in those days. The back of the picture is stamped "Graf's Studio June 12, 1951 Bessemer, Ala."

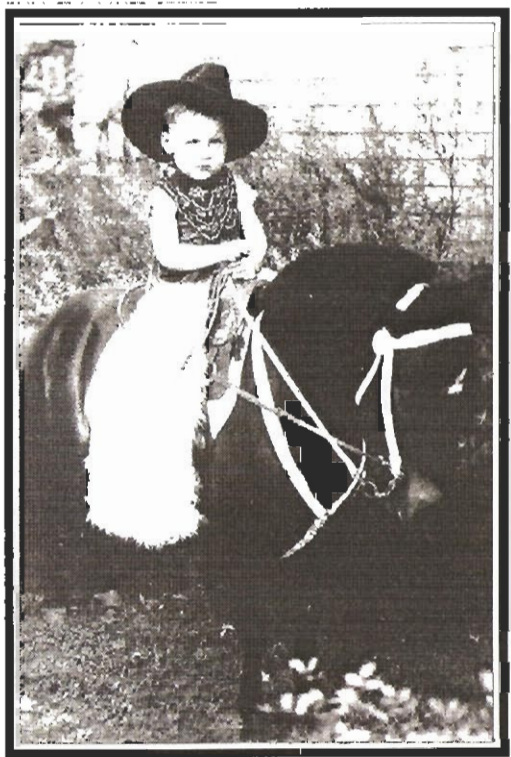




Now here is a picture of Margaret Gerette Carroll, another daughter of Leva Burkett Carroll and Everett Carroll. We knew her as Gerette. Again, the date is unknown.

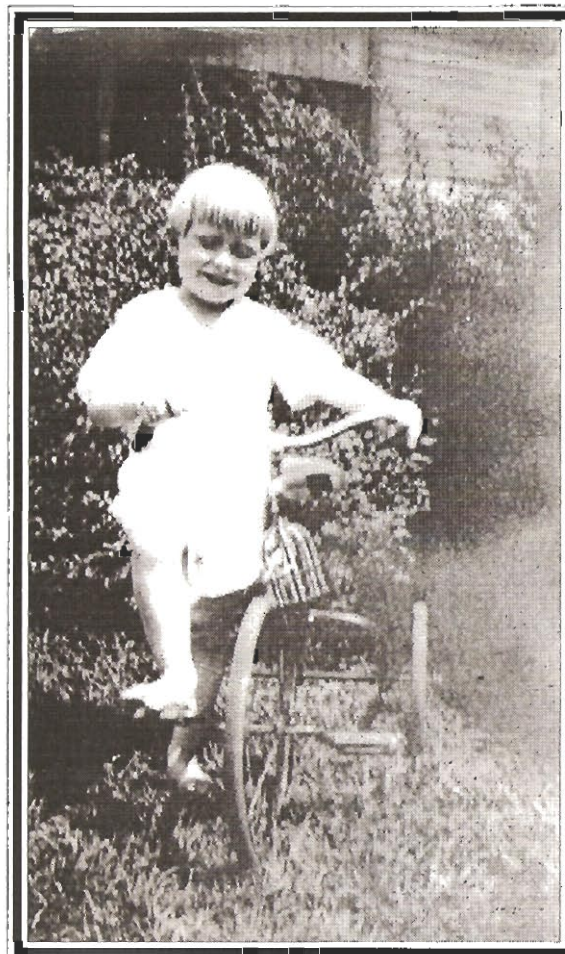


Now here are some pictures of other relatives. If anybody happens to know the dates or even the approximate dates, I would appreciate hearing from you.



The cowboy bottom left is Buddy Burkett, son of J.B. Burkett, grandson of Almon Lee Burkett. In Volume 1 1995, I published a picture of Audy Majors on a pony dressed as a cowboy and I know Buddy probably snickered at the time never dreaming that this picture of him would ever show up! What say you, cousin?! It was very popular in those days for a photographer to come around with his pony and cowboy clothes and get pictures of young boys.

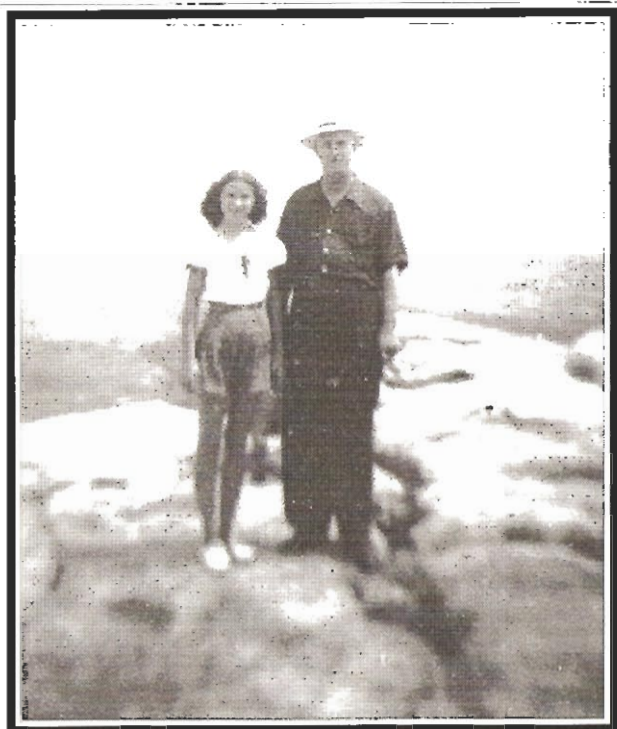
The picture below is of Herman Chisholm, son of Ara Burkett Chisholm, and grandson of Almon Lee Burkett. As I said, no date is known but the picture was probably taken at 400 McKinley Avenue in the Dallas Village community of Huntsville, Alabama because the family lived there during Herman's "growing up" years.



***It's hard to believe that someday I will be an ancestor!***

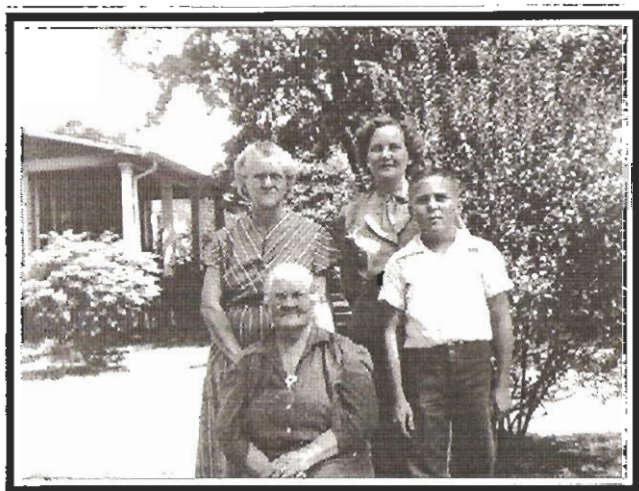
The first picture on the next page is that of Mary Elizabeth "Martha" Majors with Frank Hunter, stepfather of Joan "JoAnn" Webb and Oliver Webb. Following a visit to Huntsville by Martha Burkett Webb Hunter, Frank Hunter, and JoAnn Webb who were living in Knoxville, Tennessee at the time, Martha returned to visit with her cousin JoAnn and this picture was made in the Smoky Mountains in 1947.





*Mary Elizabeth "Martha" Majors and Frank Hunter*

Now here is a picture of **four (4) generations**.



*Seated is Nancy Bogle Burkett (Mrs. Almon Lee Burkett)  
Standing on the left is daughter Ova Burkett Trapp  
Majors. Standing on the right is Mildred Trapp Banks,  
daughter of Ova, granddaughter of Nancy, and mother of  
Danny Banks, great grandson of Nancy.*

The next picture at the top of the column to the right is that of the granddaughters of Grannie Burkett who were present at the time. It does appear that the above picture was made at the same time because both Grannie Burkett and Mildred are wearing the same dress in both pictures. What the occasion was that brought them together is something I don't know at this time. In the above, Danny appears to be maybe 10 - 11 years old which would have made the year about 1953. Mildred Banks thinks it more likely the picture

was made in the summer of 1953 or 1954 looking at all of the short sleeves.



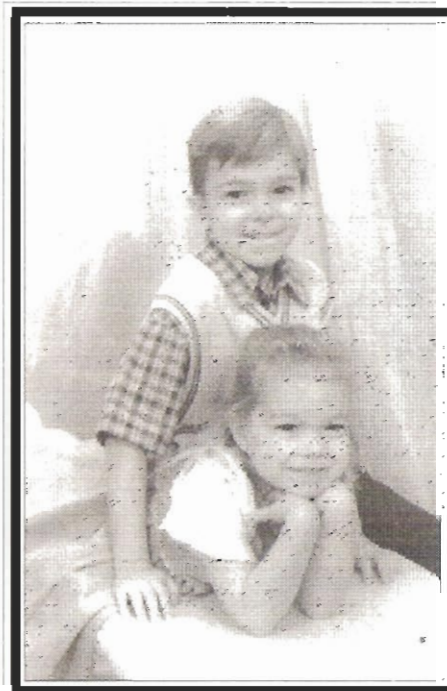
*Granddaughters with grandmother Nancy Bogle Burkett  
(Approximate ages are shown in parenthesis)*

*Front row : Joan Webb (20), Grannie Burkett (81), Debbie Burkett (4), Alma Trapp Edgemon (31)*

*Back row: Mildred Trapp Banks (33), Kathleen Majors Andrews (27), Loretta Chisholm Patterson (24), Nancy Majors (20), Martha Majors Teague (23), Betty Jo Burkett (20), Louise Carroll (17)*

The two preceding pictures were made in the front yard of 400 - 402 Stevens Avenue, Dallas Village, Huntsville, Alabama. The house is no longer standing. If anybody knows the date, please let me know.

The picture below is more recent than the above and is of the grandchildren of Mary Joan Webb McMahon.



*Billy John(7) and Caroline Joan Fitchett(4)  
They live in Long Island, New York.*





The above was made May 16, 1993 before I was able to scan photo's into our Newsletter. This was a trip by several cousins to the Church of Christ in Oak Grove, Tennessee to visit the grave of our great grandmother, Rebecca Caroline Burkett who was the wife of Jobe Burkett. Jobe Burkett is buried in the cemetery behind the Church of Christ at Sugar Tree Knob, Tennessee which is just a few miles away. From left to right those cousins making the trip were Danny Banks, Oliver Webb, Buddy Burkett, Audy Majors, Loretta Chisholm Patterson, Herman Chisholm, and John Almon Carroll. The grave marker is that of Rebecca Caroline and the flowers were prepared by Loretta Chisholm Patterson.

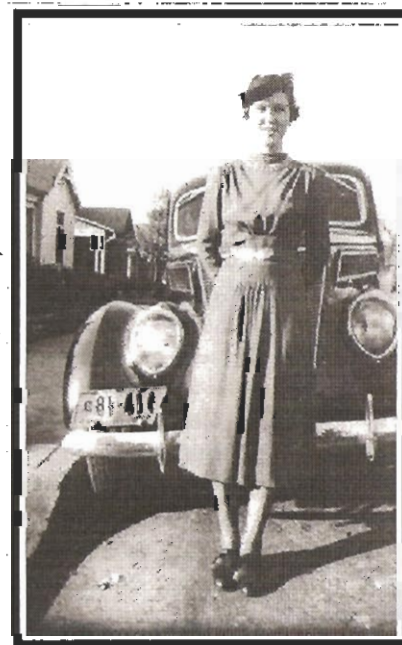
### *Some Comments About Pictures -*

I plan to put every picture I have into the book I am working on. Therefore, any pictures you send me will also be placed in that book. I know many of you have pictures of children and/or grandchildren which should be a part of our family history but which you have not sent me. I don't know if it's because of lack of time, lack of interest, or what. But I do know those pictures are out there and I would like to have them for the Newsletter and for the book. So I want to ask one more time. Will you please get copies made and send to me or loan them to me and I will get copies made and return your originals. I understand that many of you don't have as much interest as I do in compiling this book about our family but I will guarantee that at some point in the future there will be descendants of yours who will be either happy you sent them or sad that you didn't so, please, take the time and send them.

*A family tree can wither if nobody  
tends its roots.*

### *Who is this ? -*

I am determined to find out who this is in the picture to the right. I have printed this picture before and got no response. It was in with a bunch of pictures I received from relatives but nobody seems to recognize the lady. The tag is Tennessee state c81-414 and the year is 1937. I lean toward her being an Elrod - don't ask me why, I don't know. Help somebody !



## The Historian's Corner

Oliver Webb



I can't tell you how delighted I am to have gotten in touch with Cousin Bill Huckaby in California. I am really hopeful he will be able to add significantly to the information we have about our relatives who went to Texas. However, even with his help, I believe we will still be missing several branches of the family but we'll have to just keep searching.

---

***" . . . whoever said seek and ye shall find was NOT a genealogist . . . "***

---

I have had an email message from Linda Lawrence who said she was a Grissom but that the Grissom's and Burkett's were related because her 3rd great grandmother was a Burkett. I have responded to her but, as of now, have not received another message from her.

Earlier in this issue I spoke of my communications with Gina Burkett Hyche, a daughter of Kenneth Burkett of Jasper, Alabama and a granddaughter of Audey and Agnes Burkett. In the package Gina sent me were three (3) letters from StellaB Jackson Jaynes to Audey and Agnes. These letters were dated July 26, 1973; August 22, 1973; and December 20, 1973. Most of what StellaB wrote has been covered before but I want to quote one paragraph from her letter of July 26, 1973. "Family traits and characteristics of the Burketts fascinate me. You spoke of the Burketts being slow. Yes, most of them are, but that may be a good trait which prevents regret over hasty actions or words. Honesty is another good trait of many Burketts. Their neighbors as well as official records vouch for that. Another Burkett trait is assistance to the sick and needy." This last sentence ties in very well with a phone call I received Monday, May 11, 1998.

This phone call came from Jimmie Lois Wood Williams, a daughter of JoAnna "Dolly" Burkett and James Lafayette Wood. Jimmie Lois called to check on the reunion and to see how the rest of the family was getting along. But during the conversation she told me a story about her mother, Dolly. Dolly was a sister to Almon Lee Burkett (or Aud as he was called) and therefore a sister-in-law to Almon's wife, Nancy Caldonia Bogle Burkett. It seems that in the early 1900's when Aud and Nancy were living in Huntsville, Alabama, Nancy came down with typhoid fever and Dolly came to Alabama to take care of her. At that time, as part of the treatment for typhoid, Doctors said patients were not to eat *anything!* Well, one day Dolly was cooking for the rest of

the family and was cooking cornbread and churning buttermilk. Nancy said she sure would like to have a piece of hot cornbread with butter and some buttermilk. Dolly said she was sorry but she couldn't let her have it because of the Doctor's orders. The next day, Nancy again said she would like at least just one small bite so Dolly gave in and fixed it for her. The next day she had a larger portion and so on for several days. Well, Nancy began to get better and one day the Doctor came by to check on her. She asked the Doctor if she could eat some cornbread and butter and drink some buttermilk. He told her absolutely not. Nancy then told him she had been eating it for several days and was feeling better. The Doctor then said, "Well, you're going to die because you shouldn't eat anything." But she didn't die and Dolly continued taking care of the family and nursing her sister-in-law back to health. Strange medical practices but you have to remember they didn't have all the knowledge, instruments and drugs we have available to us today.

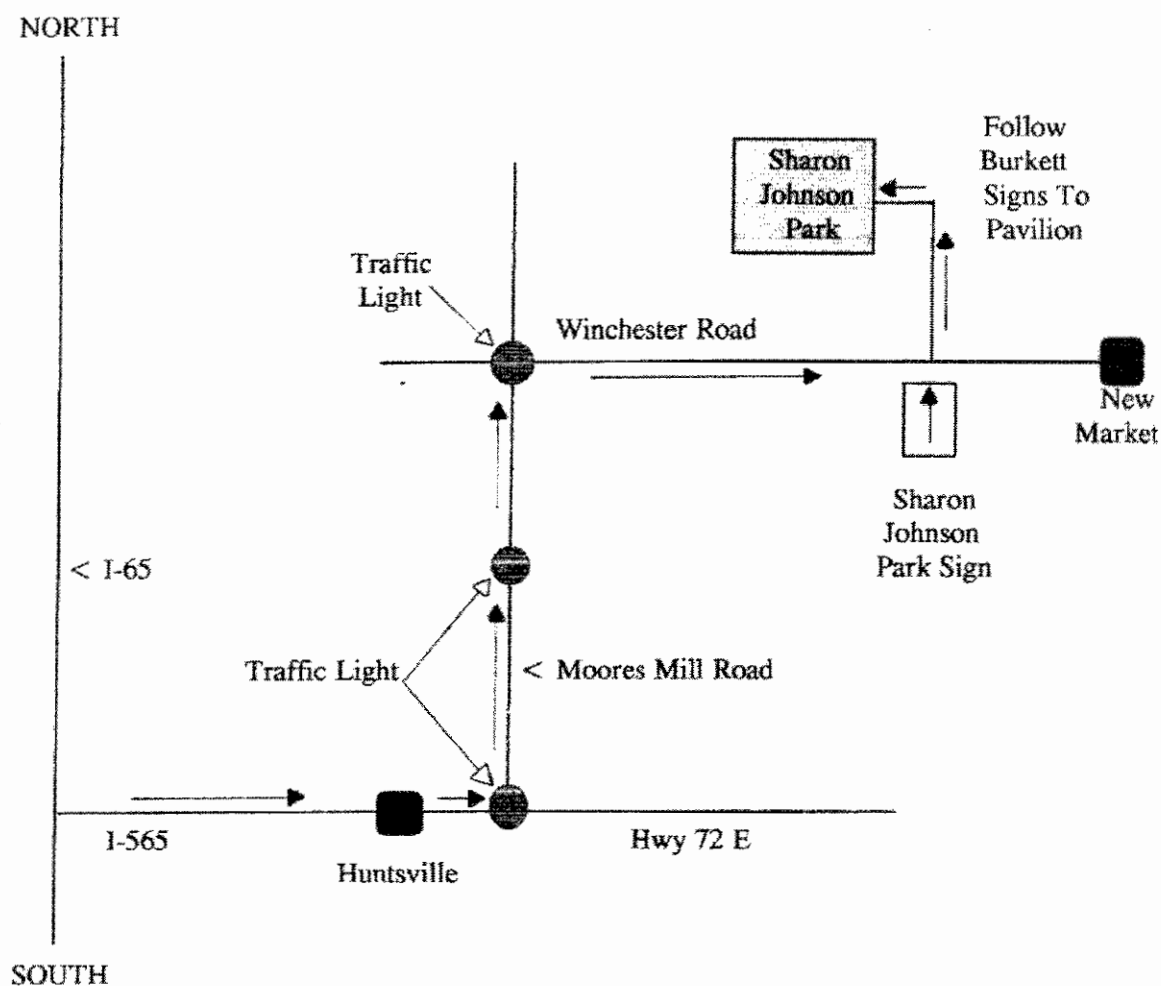
After Jimmie Lois finished telling me the above, I asked her if she knew about my grandfather and her Uncle, Almon Lee "Aud", and his snakebite. She said she didn't so I told her about him hearing a rattlesnake one night and going out to kill it. He picked up a rusty piece of metal and hit at the snake. The metal hit the ground behind the snake and broke causing Aud to fall with his arms outstretched and the snake bit him. They took him to the Doctor who gave him a drink of whiskey and a chew of tobacco and told him he would have to chew tobacco the rest of his life or *the snake poison would come back and kill him!* By the time Aud learned that was not true, he had become addicted to chewing tobacco and continued to chew it for pretty much the rest of his life. Jimmie Lois laughed and said she had never heard that story. (Some of you may recall that I told this story in one of our early issues of the Newsletter.)

I have been delaying this issue hoping to get both some info from Cousin Bill Huckaby plus some pictures from Jimmie Lois Williams. However, time is running out so I'm going to close it out and include that info and pictures in the next issue. ■

---

## Reunion ! Saturday June 20, 1998 Sharon Johnston Park Huntsville, Alabama

This year we will return to the park where we began having the reunions. Some of you will recall that it suffered severe damage from a tornado which forced us to start using Kalea Park. We enjoyed Kalea Park down along the river but it has been sold plus we lost the source of our free tables and chairs so we are moving back to Sharon Johnston Park which has now been rebuilt. One advantage of Sharon Johnston is that rest rooms are built into one end of the shelter. Bring your chairs and blankets. Maps on how to reach the park are on the next two pages. See you there! ■

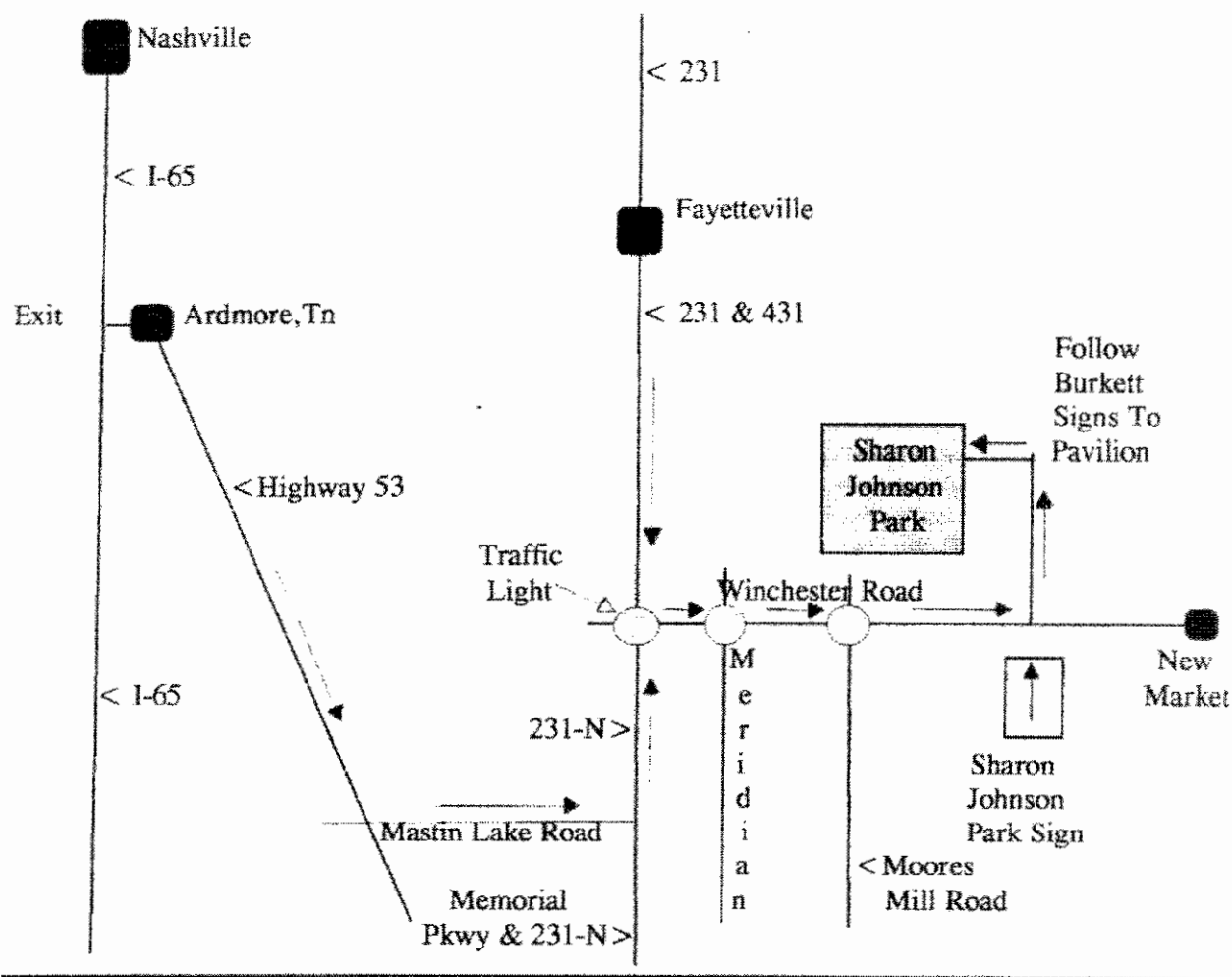


**NOTE: THIS IS A PICTORIAL DRAWING AND IS NOWHERE NEAR SCALE!**

**- DIRECTIONS FROM SOUTH OF HUNTSVILLE -**

Exit I-65 to I-565. Follow I-565 until it ends. There is a traffic light at the end of I-565. Continue over the mountain to the next traffic light which will be Moores Mill Road. Turn left on Moores Mill Road and go to the second traffic light which will be Winchester Road. Turn right on Winchester Road and follow this road toward New Market. Before you get to New Market, there will be a sign with an arrow pointing to your left. Turn left on this road, go a short distance and you will see the Burkett Family Reunion signs directing you to the Burkett Pavilion.





NOTE: THIS IS A PICTORIAL DRAWING AND IS NOWHERE NEAR SCALE!

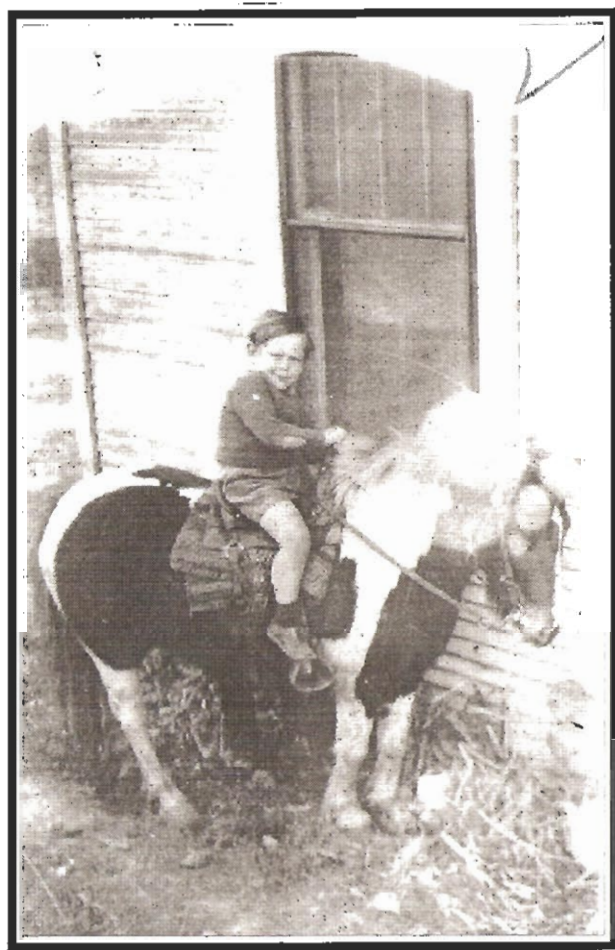
#### - DIRECTIONS FROM TENNESSEE -

##### FROM NASHVILLE -

Follow I-65 south to Ardmore, TN exit. From Ardmore take Highway 53 toward Huntsville. Just as the four lane starts, you will be at Mastin Lake Road. Turn left on Mastin Lake Road and stay on this road until you come to Memorial Parkway - Hwy 231/431 N. Turn left on Memorial Parkway and go to the first traffic light which will be Winchester Road. Turn right on Winchester Road and follow it toward New Market. Before you get to New Market, there will be a sign with an arrow pointing to your left. Turn left onto this road, go a short distance and you will see the Burkett Family Reunion signs directing you to the Burkett Pavilion.

##### FROM FAYETTEVILLE -

Follow 231/431 south to the traffic light at Winchester Road. Turn left on Winchester Road toward New Market. Before you get to New Market, there will be a sign with an arrow pointing to your left. Turn left on this road, go a short distance and you will see the Burkett Family Reunion signs directing you to the Burkett Pavilion.



### Another Cowboy! -

Nobody escapes — if there's a cowboy picture around,

I'm going to find it and print it. This was an almost nationwide method of making money for photographers in days when it was hard to make money. But when given the opportunity to have a photo of a son on top of a pony at a time when cowboy picture shows (movies) were popular, almost every parent would have one made. Do you recognize this cowboy? Why it's nobody but our good cousin Bobby Carroll from down around Birmingham. ■

*Everyone believes in heredity until their children act like fools.*

### 1998 Dues -

For your convenience, I have included the form below which you can cut out, complete, and return with your dues remittance. Several of you have already sent in your payments based on the last Newsletter and, for that, I thank you.

While each and every remittance is important, I want to acknowledge several sizeable contributions which have helped to not only restore our financial situation to a positive status but which will also enable me to do some things which I believe will improve the quality and quantity of the work.

One of the major expenses is that of being on the Internet using AOL. This service costs \$21.95 per month for a total of almost \$264 per year. However, I feel this is crucial to my search for additional relatives and it has already resulted in my locating several relatives.

I very much regret having to say that, if you have not already sent in your remittance, this will be your last issue of the Newsletter if you fail to fill out and return the remittance form below. ■

### 1998 MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION FOR THE BURKETT HERITAGE FOUNDATION

- ☐ Renewal \$15.00
- ☐ I would like to join. Here is my check for \$15.00
- ☐ I can't afford a full membership but here is my donation of \$\_\_\_\_\_.
- ☐ I can't afford it at this time but would like to continue receiving the Newsletter.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Street: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP: \_\_\_\_\_

Make check payable to M.O. Webb and mail to:

The Burkett Family  
c/o M.O. Webb  
15439 Lakeshore Villas Drive #77  
Tampa, FL 33613-1326