

⑦ 20 FEB 1996 - Called REL, II, II at his home (409) 395-6061

A lady answered and called REL, II, II to the phone. She [presumably his wife] called him "Bob". I informed Bob of the schedule. He plans to come to the lecture in Tom Ball. I will spend the night of 50N 14 APR 1996 in Tom Ball and then drive to Grimes Co, TX to spend the day on MON 15 APR 96. Bob will be with me. He agreed to an "open house" at the Baptist Church in Bedias. It is just on the edge of town. The open house will be 2-4 PM. He will alert local family members who are mostly of the older sort. Bob has been retired several years. Bob mentioned that the wealthy U in Ft Worth, TX had money and then "Miss Tandy" and became really wealthy.

⑧ 15 APR 1996 - See Notes of RPL/SSU Sojourin to TX 4-17 APR 1996
Visited Grimes Co, TX. Bob was in hospital and could not host us for lunch in his home. However, his son REL, II, II and Robert's wife Denise took over the home and served a nice lunch. Robert showed us the house REL, I built in 1917 and in which I, II, III & IV have lived. III (Robert) lives there now. Robert & Bob enjoy discussing the Civil War. On the evening of the 15th, Bob's wife Mary Kathryn came for a visit in the hotel and said Bob did not get excited about many things but our visit was one of them. She said Bob would

⑧ - CONTINUED

call on his mother for help on complicated issues at the Bank even after she retired. She was very sharp. Mary Kathryn indicated that Bob did not maintain contact with the "cities" upchurches. She & Bob used to go to Europe each year until they got a place in NV and then they would spend 6 months out of each year there. Bob, his wife & three children contributed the BOD of the Bedia Bank.

⑨ Obituary for REL U, II read in TX 11 MAY 1996 Katie Laura Nohles to RPA. Apparently, this appeared in an unnamed TX newspaper on 10 MAY 1996

5/10/96

UPCHURCH

ROBERT E. LEE (R.L.) UPCHURCH, son of R.E.L. and Fannie Davis Upchurch, was born April 4, 1922 in Bedias, Texas. He died May 8, 1996. Mr. Upchurch received a B.A. Degree, Magna Cum Laude, from the University of Texas at Austin in 1943. He later graduated from Harvard University, Boston, Massachusetts with a Masters Degree in Business Administration. He served in the South Pacific during World War II as a Naval Lieutenant aboard the U.S.S. Calcaterra. He was honorably discharged from active duty in May, 1946 and the U.S. Naval Reserves in October, 1954. After completing military service, Mr. Upchurch returned to Bedias, Texas where he began a career with First State Bank. He retired as president in 1989 after 43 years of service, but remained chairman of the board until his death. The bank prospered tremendously under his leadership. Mr. Upchurch was a prominent landholder and rancher in Grimes County, Texas. He was a lifelong member of the First United Methodist Church of Bedias. He was also an accomplished gourmet cook, spoke several foreign languages, enjoyed traveling, genealogy and was an

avid reader. In recent years, he and his wife, Mary Kathryn, spent much of their time at their home in Incline Village (Lake Tahoe), Nevada. Mr. Upchurch was a beloved husband, father, and grandfather. He was known for his principles, integrity and honesty. He is survived by his wife of 44 years, Mary Kathryn Dyer Upchurch, daughter and son-in-law, Candi and John Barousse of Galveston, Texas, daughter Kathryn L. Upchurch of Richardson, Texas, son and daughter-in-law Robert and Denise Upchurch of Bedias, Texas, adored grandchildren Devin Leigh Upchurch and Robert E. Lee Upchurch IV and cousins Nancy Heath Cole and Jesse B. Heath, Jr. Funeral services will be held at 2:00 p.m. Saturday, May 11, at J.M. Day Funeral Home in Madisonville, Texas with Rev. Rudy Pace officiating. Interment: Bedias Methodist Cemetery. For those desiring, the family suggests donations to the American Cancer Society. Visitation at funeral home Friday 3:00 p.m. until 9:00 p.m. and on Saturday 8:00 a.m. until service time. The family will be present at the funeral home to receive friends Friday evening 5:00 p.m. until 7:00 p.m.

J.M. DAY FUNERAL HOME, 514 E. Main, Madisonville, Texas, 77864. 409-348-2621.

⑩ A letter 25 MAY 1996 Roy White Jr to RPA shows the item in ⑨ appeared in Houston Chronicle 10 MAY 1996

⑪ Item Reid in Ltr 25 MAY 1996 Roy NMN white, p 100A

Obituaries

Robert E. Lee 'R.L.' Upchurch

April 4, 1922 - May 8, 1996
MADISONVILLE — Services for Robert E. Lee "R.L." Upchurch II, 74, of Bédias will be 2 p.m. Saturday at J. M. Day Funeral Home in Madisonville.

The Rev. Rudy Pace will officiate. Burial will be in Bédias Methodist Cemetery. Visitation will be 8 a.m. to 2 p.m. Saturday at the funeral home.

Mr. Upchurch died Wednesday. He was a prominent landholder and rancher in Grimes County. He served in the South Pacific during World War II. He then returned to Bédias and worked for First State Bank. He retired in 1989 as president after 43 years with the bank. He remained chairman of the board until his death.

He was a lifelong member of First United Methodist Church of Bédias.

Survivors include his wife, Mary Kathryn Dyer Upchurch of Bédias; two daughters and one son-in-law, Candi and John Barousse of Galveston and Kathryn Upchurch of Richardson; one son and daughter-in-law, Robert and Denise Upchurch of Bédias; two grandchildren; and two cousins.

Memorials may be made to the American Cancer Society.

Houston Chronicle

Friday, May 10, 1996

UPCHURCH

ROBERT E. LEE (R.L.) UPCHURCH, II son of R.E.L. and Fannie Davis Upchurch, was born April 4, 1922 in Bédias, Texas. He died May 8, 1996. Mr. Upchurch received a B.A. Degree, Magna Cum Laude, from the University of Texas at Austin in 1943. He later graduated from Harvard University, Boston, Massachusetts with a Masters Degree in Business Administration. He served in the South Pacific during World War II as a Naval Lieutenant aboard the U.S.S. Calcaterra. He was honorably discharged from active duty in May, 1946 and the U.S. Naval Reserves in October, 1954. After completing military service, Mr. Upchurch returned to Bédias, Texas where he began a career with First State Bank. He retired as president in 1989 after 43 years of service, but remained chairman of the board until his death. The bank prospered tremendously under his leadership. Mr. Upchurch was a prominent landholder and rancher in Grimes County, Texas. He was a lifelong member of the First United Methodist Church of Bédias. He was also an accomplished gourmet cook, spoke several foreign languages, enjoyed traveling, genealogy and was an avid reader. In recent years, he and his wife, Mary Kathryn, spent much of their time at their home in Incline Village (Lake Tahoe), Nevada. Mr. Upchurch was a beloved husband, father, and grandfather. He was known for his principles, integrity and honesty. He is survived by his wife of 44 years, Mary Kathryn Dyer Upchurch, daughter and son-in-law, Candi and John Barousse of Galveston, Texas, daughter Kathryn L. Upchurch of Richardson, Texas, son and daughter-in-law Robert and Denise Upchurch of Bédias, Texas, adored grandchildren Devin Leigh Upchurch and Robert E. Lee Upchurch IV and cousins Nancy Heath Cole and Jesse B. Heath, Jr. Funeral services will be held at 2:00 p.m. Saturday, May 11, at J.M. Day Funeral Home in Madisonville, Texas with Rev. Rudy Pace officiating. Interment: Bédias Methodist Cemetery. For those desiring, the family suggests donations to the American Cancer Society. Visitation at funeral home Friday 3:00 p.m. until 9:00 p.m. and on Saturday 8:00 a.m. until service time. The family will be present at the funeral home to receive friends Friday evening 5:00 p.m. until 7:00 p.m.

J.M. DAY FUNERAL HOME, 514 E. Main, Madisonville, Texas, 77864. 409-348-2621.

⑫ Item Reid in Ltr 13
JUN 1996 Mary
Candice U & RPU } →

⑬ See Ltr 11 SEP 1996 Robert E.
Lee U, III & RPU.

REL U, II married in
Nauvoo, Grimes Co, TX

⑭ See Ltr 8 JAN 1997 Mary Candice
U & RPU. REL U, II died in
Bryan, Brazos Co, TX

ROBERT E. LEE U, 4

XID-4964

MICHAEL ENTERPRISES

R. P. UPCHURCH

6 EAGLES WAY LANE

LAKE ST. LOUIS, MISSOURI 63367

[illegible]

24 APR 1996

MR & MRS ROBERT E. LEE UPCHURCH, II

PO BOX 96

BEDIAS, TX 77831

Dear Bob & Mary Kathryn,

This is a multiple purpose letter - first to wish cousin Bob a speedy recovery. I know that such a long stay in the hospital and especially several operations and services in intensive care is a strong challenge. But, Bob, I know you are getting the best of care and I know that your family has been close at hand all the way. I called Robert last night and got an update on your situation. Perhaps when you progress in your recuperation you can hear about this letter of good wishes. I will be thinking of you and would like to hear of your progress. I was very disappointed not to be able to meet you while we

(2-2)

were in Bedier. However, I am writing to let you know that your family did everything possible to make our visit pleasant and profitable. Sallaine and I enjoyed lunch in your lovely home and Robert and Denise were perfect hosts. Jett R. E. L. U, IV tried to contain himself and did a pretty good job. However, he and the dog did have one encounter.

Robert took us on a tour of the community and showed us areas of special historic interest to the Uphurch Family. I was particularly pleased to see the spot where Moses U had his home. Several people came for a discussion. Having the gathering first in the board room at the Bank and then going to the cemetery worked quite well. Now I have to do some follow-up correspondence with those who were present.

Bob, I did get to visit with the rich Uphurch in Ft Worth and have figured

(2-3-)

out that he is of the Sherwood U. class.
I'll have more about the trip in the
next U.B.

Mary Kathryn, it was really nice of
you and Candice to come by our motel
in College Station on the evening of 15 APR.
It was nice to learn more about the
family from you and especially to learn
more about the children and Bob's
mother. She was obviously a very special
person. Your children seem to have inherited
a good level of self confidence from several
family lines.

Bob, as you recuperate and as I catch
up on porousing the many records I
collected in Texas, I hope we can continue
our cooperative effort to document the
history of the Upchurch family. I'll be
thinking of you and will be in touch
along the way. Drop me a line when
you feel like it.

☺ Sincerely yours,
Phil Upchurch

[ROBERT PHILIP UPCHURCH]

robert upchurch

12-1-95

Dear Coz Phil,

in the current issue of UB just received, you mention that a son of John Tillman Riley Upchurch married in Grimes Co. in 1910. I have never before heard this. Do you know the boy's name?

Δ+Δ ← I have heard the story that two sons of STRU came to Grimes Co. from Red River Co. to get some mules that their uncles, Moses & BURRELL Miles were giving them. And that on the way home in Smith Co. (Tyler) one of the boys took sick & died there.

I do very much appreciate all your efforts in furtherance of knowledge of our family's history.

Sincerely,
Robert



FIRST STATE BANK

of Bedias

BEDIAS, TEXAS 77831

FIRST STATE BANK
OF BEDIAS

BEDIAS, TEXAS

September 25, 1980

R. L. UPCHURCH
VICE PRESIDENTTELEPHONE
713-395-2141Dr. R. Phillip Upchurch
P. O. Box 35804
Tucson, Arizona 85740

Dear Dr. Upchurch:

△ I never knew Ed Upchurch but I did know all of his children
△ by Rosa Whinery (only marriage so far as I know):

- △ Lonnie
- △ Everett
- △ Belve & twins
- △ Ila Faye
- △ Llano (female)
- △ Tollie
- △ Goree
- △ Hermann

△ + △
△ + △
△ + △
△ + △
△ + △

Ed was the illegitimate son of Mary Upchurch, daughter of Burrell Miles Upchurch. The story goes that Ed was sired by a man named McWhorter and that he and Mary wanted to marry, but Miles, being hard-headed, refused to permit it. So Ed, in the 1880 census, I believe it was, was enumerated in the household of Miles as Ed McWhorter, grandson. Later he went by the name of Upchurch.

△ Of course the circumstance of Ed's birth was a great scandal in those days. Legend has it that Miles had brought a slave with him from Alabama, Aunt Sis (her descendants still live hereabouts). By the time of Ed she was of course an ex-slave. She is supposed to have told Mary that she had disgraced her descendants for all time to come. The person telling me this tale remarked, "Now, didn't that prophecy come true! You just look at that trash!" They aren't folks you'd be in any rush to claim kin with.

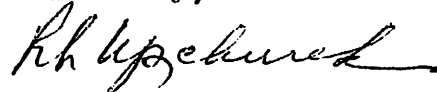
△ for
MARY U
XID-538

△ + + + △ Mary Upchurch later married (1) Hoard, (2) Lewis, (3) Riley Upchurch. She and Riley were first cousins, but by the time they married, both were in advanced years.

You will enjoy Roy White. I believe he enjoys genealogy more than anyone I have ever known.

I very much appreciate all your efforts on behalf of the Upchurch family.

Sincerely,



(7)

P.O. Box 96

Bedias, Texas

February 10, 1996

REC'D
14 FEB 1996

Dear Coz Phil:

I'm still intrigued by the marriage of Benjamin Riley Lipechurch, M.D. in Grimes Co. in 1909. I have searched the marriage records of Grimes and surrounding counties (Brazos, Madison & Walker), and none of them issued him a license. That is not to say that he didn't bring it with him when he came. But why was he here? As the King of Siam said, "It's a puzzlement."

I am pleased to enclose check for further help with the research in England. I don't know why the many of us who have enjoyed the fruits of your labors should not be willing to divide up the financial burden.

I had a call from Mrs. Leslie Lipechurch, Tomball, telling me about the get-together there. I know who the Tomball folks are but am only slightly acquainted with them. I am looking forward to the event and particularly to meeting you and your bride.

Sincerely,

R. L.

ROBERT E.

L.

(9)

U, II

XID-4964

○ 30 SEP 2002 - On this date I examined a packet of records received at an uncertain date possibly 5-15 years ago and previously unprocessed. The packet was labeled REL4, II and it is assumed they all came to me from him although there is no letter of transmittal in the packet. However, they could have come to me via Roy WMM White, Jr. The disposition of the segments of the packet is as follows: - RPH

1. CSA Service of Mom U (XID-2030) - placed in his Profile [s/o Burnell U, GS/o James U, II - Head of Class]
2. CSA Service record for Oliver Hazard Perry U s/o XID-2030 above - placed in his Profile
3. CSA Service Record for James Monroe U s/o XID-2030 above - placed in his Profile
4. Ltr 6 FEB 1967 Max Nightoway to Robert E. Lee U, II placed in their Profile & Ltr & map placed in Profile of John Bartlett U, SR
5. Ancestral chart of Rebecca Reed Humphries put in her Profile
6. Ancestral chart of J. D. U & wife Ruth Mary Talbot placed in her Profile
7. Ltr 30 NOV 1967, 28 JAN 1968 Mrs J. B. Carter, Jr to Roy WMM White, Jr placed in his Profile - Entry 30 SEP 2002
8. Ltr 15 DEC 1966, 31 OCT 1967, 14 FEB 1969 & 25 OCT 1969 penned by Robert E. Lee U, II - placed in Profile of Burnell U - Entry Date 30 SEP 2002

- ① On 30 SEP 2002 RPA processed a packet of information held for 5-15 years under the name of Robert E. Lee U, II. Included in the packet were four letters penned by R E L U, II dated 15 DEC 1966, 31 OCT 1967, 14 FEB 1969 & 25 OCT 1969 - the first 3 to Ray NMN White, Jr and the 4th to Mrs Albert L. Fisher - a researcher for hire in Decatur, GA.

A scan of the 4 letters reveal that most of the questions & answers have long ago been resolved in my record system or are not relevant. Hence the letters will not be extended line by line. Most of the emphasis in the 4 letters concerns BOWWELL U and his children. The letters are therefore being placed in the Profile of Bowwell U - Entry date 30 SEP 2002 under cover of this sheet. This sheet is also being crossfiled under Ray NMN White, Jr, Robert E. Lee U, II ↑ Albert L. Fisher (MRS)

- A Paper Trail for a 1960's Researcher trying to help with Upchurch Research.

On 30 SEP 2002 APA received a packet of documents which had been held under the name Robert E. Lee II, II a considerable portion of which included Roy NMN White, Jr. Two items (letters) dated 30 NOV 1967 & 28 JAN 1968 were written by AGNES M. CARTEE (Mrs J. B. Carter, Jr) of Hyattsville, MD. Agnes is not an Upchurch descendant but an earlier generation member in her family married to Upchurch. Agnes was willing to share a lot of Upchurch material she had collected. Most of this was related to the James A, II / Burnell A Subclass. The letters themselves are placed in the profile of Roy NMN White, Jr since they were mailed to him and he has been the prime researcher on the subclass named. However, most if not all of the data in the letters is not new to RPA files. CROSS REFERENCE:

REBECCA REED FROM PARTIES; ROY NMN WHITE, JR

ROBERT E. LEE, II J. B. CARTEE, JR,

EFIRD FAMILY (Ephraim Family History - one and a Shaffer & a descendant and an Upchurch-Montgomery Co, NC)

ROBERT E.

LEE U, II

(12)

XID-4964

From Packed Processed 30 SEP 2002 held 5-15 years under
a label Robert E. L. U, II Max Hightower
- RPU

February 6, 1967

Copy of Map of
Juanita Ernestine
- 30 SEP 2002]

Mr. R. E. Upchurch [ROBERT E. LEE U, II]
First State Bank
Bedias, Texas

Dear Bob:

Enclosed is a shot of a map on portion of Red River
County showing a couple of Surveys in the name of J. B.
Upchurch. I also noted at least one tract showing a Jno.
B. Upchurch as owning a tract. The ownership was posted
in the 1950's so some of the group must be around now or
at least probably then.

Thanks for the credit of interest and the statements.
Sorry abt that!

Yours very truly,

Max
Max

[MAX NIGHTOWER]

MH/eh

Enclosure

[ROY NMAN WHITE, JR]

[JOHN BARTLETT U, SR]

Roy, am enclosing copy of R.R. County land ownership map
received today from my cousin in Mt. Pleasant. He was
correct; there are two J. B. Upchurch Surveys in the County.
The bold type is the name of the Survey (circled) and the
smaller type the name of the owner (Xed). Looks like some
J. B. owned or owns about 1500 acres in one spot. I believe
this is the only case I have ever seen where land is still
in the hands of decedents of the original patentee.

I also talked with the head knocker in the Grimes County
Welfare Office. He is quite interested in history, and he
told me that he could easily find out if James Upchurch was
in fact a Civil War Veteran. This assumes that he enlisted
from Grimes County. He is to let me know about this. He
suggests that an inquiry directed to the Archives in Austin
would point you toward whatever records are available in
regard to any widow's pension Elizabeth may have received.

Robert

12 DEC 1987

W/M ROBERT L. UPCHURCH
P O BOX 76
BEDIAS, TX 77831

Dear Father,

Here is just a note to thank you for the renewal on your subscription for the UB for 1988 and for your contribution to the Upchurch Research Fund. As we all pull together the collection of more information on our Upchurch heritage is made more productive.

In 1987 we made a lot of progress on the Upchurch Family and 1988 holds promise of being even more rewarding. There is still much to be done.

Please let me know of any changes in the family.

All the Best for Christmas and for a Great 1988.

Sincerely yours
Phil Upchurch

[ROBERT PHILLIP UPCHURCH]

11-1-86

15 cont.

Dear Cousin Shub:

I am enclosing check for renewal of my subscription to OB plus an additional amount to be used in any manner you deem appropriate.

Thank you so much for your efforts in researching and printing the history of our family. I read each issue of OB several times.

Also, I thank our cousin, Ray White is due a vote of thanks for his diligence in developing information on our family.

I hope we can meet some day.

Very best regards,
R L Upchurch

ROBERT E. LEE II

(16)

XID-4964

7 DEC 1936

W L WILKINSON

P O BOX 70

DEPTAS, TX 71331

Dear Cousin Robert Lee,

There is just a note to thank you for your renewal for the UB and for your generous contribution to the Upchurch Research Fund. Your personal words of comment are also encouraging. It's nice to know that the UB is read.

There is still I must make it a project to get to the Bryan, TX area where I could arrange to visit you and Ethel and learn more about the Upchurches in Texas.

As a matter of fact you will agree to my anxiety as I wait for a response from the 4 banks in Maryland, Co. MD to whom I have applied for a loan to buy Ford No 3 there. I'll get the loan for sure at only the terms that are in question.

All the Best!

Sincerely yours
Philip Upchurch

{ROBERT PATRICIA UPCHURCH}

ROBERT E. LEE II

XID-4964

(17)

22 DEC 1975

R. L. UPCHURCH
P O BOX 76
DEPTAS, TX 77831

Dear Cousin Bob,

There is just a note to thank you
for your order for UB 86 and for your
contribution to the Upchurch Research Fund.
All of our efforts and contributions added
together help to keep the Upchurch
history project vigorous.

I hope you enjoy the Council
magazine story and are starting to
reproduce in the UB news.

May 1986 be a healthy and
joyous one for you and your
family!

Sincerely yours
Phil Upchurch

[ROBERT PHILIP UPCHURCH]

23 DEC 1984.

MR R. L. UPCHURCH
P.O. BOX 96
BEDIAS, TX 77831

Dear Cousin Robert,

This is just a note to acknowledge payment for the UB for 1985 and to thank you for your contribution to the Upchurch Research Fund. Such donations are ~~are~~ very helpful in collecting the facts about our family.

Could you drop me a note on the official/unofficial status of the name Robert Edward Lee ^{Upchurch} I. I share in a formal sense that you are Robert Edward Lee Upchurch II and that your father was Robert Edward Lee Upchurch I and that you have a son Robert Edward Lee Upchurch III. Is this correct? When I see the "E" or the "Edward" left out of your name, or your father's, or your son's name is this just a less formal way of writing the name or do one or more of the three of you leave out the "E" or "Edward" officially?

All the best for the New Year
& Thanks for your encouragement.

Sincerely yours
Phil Upchurch
[ROBERT PHILIP UPCHURCH]

MR R. L. UPCHURCH
PO BOX 96
GEORGETOWN, TX 75331

14 MAR 80

Dear Mr Upchurch,

Thank you to acknowledge receipt of your order for a one year subscription to Upchurch Bulletin and of your \$10.00 check in payment for same. The first issue is being sent to you under separate cover.

I enclosed herewith are some extra flyers in case you know of anyone else who may be interested.

I hope you will like Upchurch Bulletin.

Sincerely yours.

Phil Upchurch

[ROBERT PHILIP UPCHURCH]

21 SEP 1980

MR ROBERT L UPCHURCH
P O BOX 736
BEDFORD, TX 76031

Dear Mr Upchurch,

I have been trying to sort out the Upchurches of Greener Co, TX and with the help of Ray White & others have been making excellent progress. One couple, however, on the 1900 Greener Co, TX Census still needs to have the parents identified. The couple is: Ed Upchurch b SEP 1872 in TX or near there M & F wife of Ed - Rosa - b DEC 1877 in NC. Her parents b in MD. He was a farmer.

Ray White suggested I write to you about Ed and that you might not know him but you might be able to ask someone. Ray suggests that Ed U on the 1900 Greener Co, TX is the same as W. E U who wd Mar Rosa Whinery in Madison Co, TX on 7 NOV 1899.

If you can help with the above I will be most appreciative.

I needn't say, I have a trip to Salt Lake City in early Oct and hope to meet Ray for the first time there.

Sent my card

Sincerely yours
Philip Upchurch
(ROBERT PHILLIP UPCHURCH)

10 DEC 1988

MR R. L. UPCHURCH
P.O. BOX 96
BEDIAS, TX 77831

Dear Cousin R & F

Thanks for your recent note. I was
very interested to learn that you own
a second home at Lake Tahoe. Since you
must travel back and forth from time
to time perhaps it would be possible
for you and your wife to stop off
in Tucson to see us on one of your
trips. Whether you travel by car or plane
the detour would not be too great
and we would be happy to have you
learn more about the Tucson area.
Even more important it would be
great to visit about the extended
Upchurch family.

All the Best

Sincerely yours
Phil Upchurch

(ROBERT PHILIP UPCHURCH)

12/5/88

ROBERT E. LEE II

Rec'd 9 DEC 1988

(25)

XID-4964

Dear Coz Phil:

First State Bank
P.O. Box 99
Bedford, TX 77831

Thanks for your letter, and if ever you should come to Texas A+M Univ. in pursuit of your work (or any other reason), please give us a call ("we is in de book"). My wife and I would be most delighted to meet you and your spouse.

Sincerely,

P.S. We own a second home at Inverness Village, NV (on Lake Tahoe) and I recently talked by telephone with cousin Roy White, and he is most avid in exploring our history.

REN

26 NOV 1988

MR R. L. UPCHURCH
P.O. BOX 96
CEDAR, TX 77831

Dear Cousin R. L.

There is just a note to thank you for your renewal on the Upchurch Bulletin for 1989 and for your contribution to the Upchurch Research Fund. There does seem to be a wide interest in the Upchurch Family. Still the responsibility is such that I need all the encouragement I can get. Your support over the years has been most welcome.

Recently a cousin sent me a picture of the Baptist Church just outside of Bedford. One day I shall see it and hope to meet you.

All the Best!

Sincerely yours
Phil Upchurch
(ROBERT PHILIP UPCHURCH)

ROBERT EDWARD LEE U, II

XFD-4964

(28)

1 DEC 1990

ROBERT L UPCHURCH

P O BOX 96

BEDEAS, TX 77831

Dear Cousin R. L.

Thank you very much for your subscription for U B 91 and for your donation to the Upchurch Research Fund. As you can tell from the U B our Upchurch Heritage work continues to gain momentum. Life is very full for us - considering my close family, the University job, the farm and last but not least - Upchurch genealogy. I've got somewhere between 24 and 53 months left before retirement from the University - then I can be serious about genealogy!

If you and your wife still travel this way to your place in Lake Tahoe or for other reasons please plan to stop and see us in Tucson. Sooner or later we'll get to Texas.

All the best for the Holiday and the New Year!

Sincerely yours,
Phil Upchurch

[ROBERT PHILIP UPCHURCH]

This clipping vid from West -- in 15 MAR 1979 JH to ROL
 No indication of date of clipping or source - ROL. It
 shows only that
 Robert U is a
 banker in Bedai, TX



Tolbert's Texas

Bedias Awaits Another Shower

By FRANK X. TOLBERT

IN BEDIAS, TEXAS, pronounced "bed-eyes," I showed Banker Robert Upchurch a news story in which some scientists from the Lamont Geological Observatory in Palisades, N.Y., predicted that it's about time for another catastrophic collision between the earth and a giant meteorite from space, causing another shower of tektites.

Tektites are strange, beautiful, glassy stones, believed to be debris from outer space because they have been subjected to more heat than is possible on earth. These jewel-like stones (wild Texas Indians, amazingly, called them "jewels of the moon") fell in several showers at various times over about 1-10 of the earth's surface.

The country around Bedias got a heavy shower of tektites. And these are called bediasites, and are the oldest of the stones from space found on this planet. The bediasites fell about 34 million years ago. These stones can be dated because of traces of uranium, the atoms of which split at a slow, known rate.

"MAYBE BEDIAS will get another shower of bediasites," said Robert Upchurch, and he posed for a gag picture on the post-office steps with the palm of one hand raised tentatively toward the sky. (Bedias town is just west of Huntsville in Grimes County.)

Bedias got the heaviest shower of tektites in the U.S. These little jewels are

usually about the size of a pecan. Sometimes they are much larger.

E. H. (Pots) Barnes, a Bedias rancher, has the best collection. He has one bediasite about the size of a large orange. He keeps the huge tektite in his lock box at the Bedias bank.

Not so many tektites are found around Bedias nowadays, mainly because there is little plowing. Most of the former croplands have been converted to pastures in recent decades.

According to my information, tektites fell in only two other locations in the United States, a small shower in Georgia and a lighter one on Martha's Vineyard Island in Massachusetts.

ACTUALLY, the UPI news story I showed to Bedias citizens was about an article in the current (July) issue of Scientific American, in which the Lamont Observatory scientists said that tektites appeared to have been "deposited at the same time the earth's magnetic field went through one of its periodic reversals." And the reversals seem to "coincide and may have been triggered by a big meteoric hit." The most recent encounter "between the earth and giant object from space occurred 700,000 years ago. Another would therefore seem to be due."

These deposits seem to happen only in certain localities on earth. Is Bedias due another shower?

Incidentally, the article on tektites in the Encyclopedia Britannica is by Dr. Virgil E. Barnes of the University of Texas, who is no relation to Bedias' leading collector of bediasites, Pots Barnes. Dr. Barnes has gone on a number of field trips in search of the moon jewels with Pots Barnes. Rancher Barnes has also taken scientists from Russia and Denmark on searches for the stones.

ALL THE BEDIASITES I've seen are black or dark brown. They also come in green and yellow colors. And they are in shapes of buttons, disks, spherical, elliptical, lenticular, teardrops, and dumbbells.

The first white men to come into the Bedias country were scornful of the Indians' stories that these jewels were flung from heaven.

How could these primitives have known

BEDIAS TOWN and Bedias creek were named either for the Bedia (or Bidai or Vida) Indians, or for a chief of the Ioni Indians variously identified as Bida or Beady Eyes or Bead Eye. Certainly old Bead Eyes and his Ioni Indians were camped in the vicinity in the 1840's when he is mentioned in Republic of Texas documents. (He liked "cegars" and brandy.)

The Bedia Indian tribesmen, down to 42 warriors in 1843, according to Republic of Texas records, lived in bearskin tents between the Trinity and Brazos Rivers.

POST OFFICE
BEDIAS TEXAS
ZIP CODE 77831



ANOTHER SHOWER IN BEDIAS

XFD-4964

351

19 APR 1995

Dear Cousin Robert,

Sallaine and I are most pleased to have your invitation for dinner and an evening in Grimes Co, TX in November 1995 and we accept. At this point plans for the trip require further organization. We are more-or-less obligated to go to CASS CO (Atlanta); Arlington, TX; Richardson, TX; Italy (Eller Co) TX; and Houston (Harris Co, TX). An Upchurch lecture has tentatively been scheduled for Houston, TX and for Grimes Co, TX. There two

locations are not too far apart and I might be better off to give just one lecture. However, there is no problem for two to be given. One cousin has suggested that the old Baptist Church near Bedias might be available for a lecture. I am not worried that only a handful would attend. Any comments you have will be welcomed.

Enclosed is a copy of our schedule for the upcoming TN/NC trip. you can see how this is laid out. We will learn from this experience as this is the first primary family history trip we have taken.

We are looking forward to our trip next November and to having a private visit with you.

Sincerely yours
 Phil Upchurch
 [ROBERT PHILIP UPCHURCH]

(36)

ROBERT EDWARD LEE, II

XFD-4964

P.O. Box 96

Bedias, TX 77831

April 13, 1995

REC'D
18 APR 95

Dear Cousin Phil:

I have read with more than considerable interest the pieces in the last two issues of UPCHURCH Bulletin concerning our heritage in England and early-day America.

→ Perked & Research Fund - RPH R.F. p. 3-1995

I am enclosing check for \$1,000, to be used at your discretion, in furtherance of additional research. It seems to me that we may be on the verge of a significant advance in knowledge. Maybe not. But, nothing ventured, nothing gained.

In November when you come to Texas, I hope you will be in or near Grimes County. It would be my very great pleasure to meet you and to have you and your wife as my dinner guests for an evening.

Sincerely,

Robert L. Upchurch

XJO-4964

MICHAEL ENTERPRISES
P. O. BOX 387
Wentzville, MO 63385

14 FEB 1996

R. L. UPCHURCH

PO BOX 96

BEDIAS, TX 77831

Dear Cousin Robert,

I thank you for your letter of 10 FEB 1996 and for your donation of \$200 towards the bill of Professor Ransome. I wrote to 23 people I thought might be willing/interested/able to participate. The response has been encouraging and we should be able to meet the obligation without undue pressure on any one person.

I am glad you explored the matter of Benjamin Riley II, M.D. Maybe we will learn more in due course. Enclosed is a copy of my 1 Page 4 Item Biopile for him. Note that he and Minerva and her brother were in Walker Co, TX in 1910. I have heard that the marriage license has to be taken out in the county of residence of the bride - then I have heard the license has to be taken out in the county where the marriage is to be performed. I am not sure which is correct. Maybe Benjamin lived outside of Grimes Co, TX.

and disowned. Minerva who either lived in Grinnell Co or had lived there or her parents lived there. Thus Grinnell Co became a part of the picture at the time they were married but without Benjamin spending any time to speak of there. Perhaps the license will show up in due course.

In the next day or so I hope to work on the final details for the trip to TX. It is set for 4-17 APR 96 and several events are set but several more have to be put in place. I am looking forward to the trip as is my wife.

☺ Sincerely Yours
 Phil Upchurch
 [ROBERT PHILIP UPCHURCH]

XID-4964

[illegible]

February 1, 1996

Enclosed is a copy of the January 26, 1996 report of Professor David Ransome on what he learned about the Upchurch families that lived in the area near the Brington Church in Huntingdonshire Parish in England during the period 1580-1630. You will recall that this is the area from which our ancestor Michael Upchurch I departed for America about 1638 as documented by Professor Ransome's first report published in the UB.

I am writing to you and a few others to give an opportunity to participate financially in paying the \$1225.00 bill of Professor Ransome. Please know that you are not obligated to participate. I am prepared to pay whatever portion of the bill necessary to discharge the obligation to Professor Ransome. However, it seems reasonable to give others the chance to share this joy.

The hopes for this research were to identify the parents of our Michael U. I. This has not been accomplished but I feel the Professor has done a creditable job of searching the records (even reading Latin) and preparing a report. This report will be published in full in the UB in due course. I will add notes which will make the report more readable and meaningful for our readers and for others who may take this work a step forward. This work, even with my notations, will not excite the UB readers. However, this is a scholarly work and it deserves to be made a part of the American record for present and future Upchurch generations. This work dove-tails well with work done by Belle West and Associates, but goes beyond what they did.

At this point, I do not visualize a further contract with Professor Ransome, although he seems willing. If a financial backer for such a third assignment appears, the work would be worth undertaking. I do feel his charges are reasonable.

I will welcome any comments you have on the enclosed report and look forward to continued collaboration with you on our mutual interest in our Upchurch heritage.

Sincerely yours,

Phil Yachnick

Robert Phillip Upchurch
Editor, UB

Enclosure: report/Ransome

Robert Lee - your past support has been appreciated. If this is not your "cup of tea" or if you have given your limit, I will hope to see you in April understand - Phil U

XID-4964

MICHAEL ENTERPRISES
P. O. BOX 387
Wentzville, MO 63385

R. L. UPCHURCH

PO BOX 96

BEDIAS, TX 77831

14 MAY 1995

Dear Cousin Robert Lee,

Our face is red. We recently sent in a \$40 check in response to our mailing of a 2nd invoice for the U.B. (which 2nd invoice went out quite late this year). You were on the 2nd invoice mailing list by mistake as you had already paid for the 1995 U.B.. I'll return your money if you so desire. However, tentatively, I have placed \$25 in the Research Fund as you directed and for the other \$15 we have marked you paid for the 1996 U.B.. If that is not OK let me know. Sorry for the error.

We are excited about our TN/NC trip. My slides for the two Uplunch lectures have just come back and we have bought a new slide projector and a new tape recorder. Enclosed is a copy of our tentative schedule and an announcement for the Zehulon lecture. We can consider this a test run for how a similar trip to TX can work next fall.

with All Best Wishes!



(C) Sincerely yours
Phil Upchurch
(ROBERT PHILIP UPCHURCH)

41

ROBERT EDWARD LEE 4, II.

XIN-4964

MICHAEL ENTERPRISES
P. O. BOX 387
Wentzville, MO 63385

ROBERT LEE UPCHURCH
PO BOX 96
BEDIAS, TX 77831


4 JAN 1995

Dear Cousin Robert Lee,

Thank you for your renewal on the 1995 UB and for your donation to the Upchurch Research Fund. Such funds are especially useful for purchasing reference books and for funding the work Professor Ransome is doing on our English Ancestors.

we are getting more settled in our
new situation as each day goes by.
sooner or later we will make a
trip by car to Texas and I will certainly
want to see Grimes County. There is a
lot of Upchurch heritage there.

With All Best Wishes for the New Year!

 sincerely yours
Phil Eschbach

{ ROBERT PHILIP UPCHURCH }

XID-4964

[illegible]

12 DEC 1993

Many thanks for your renewal on the
UB for 1994 and for your generous contribution
to the Upchurch Research Fund. Such donations
allow for the purchase of important reference
documents which aid greatly in our efforts
to document the Upchurch family history.

If you still travel west from time to time we would be pleased to have you stop by Tucson. Sometime in 1994 I plan to retire from the University and move to Lake Saint Louis, MO where I will continue to be active in genealogy, farming and possibly other enterprises.

With deep appreciation for your continued
interest and support! ☺ Sincerely yours
Phil Upchurch
[ROBERT PHILIP UPCHURCH]

(45)

ROBERT EDWARD LEE U₁

XID 4964

MICHAEL ENTERPRISES

P. O. BOX 35804

TUCSON, ARIZONA 85740

13 DEC 1992

R. L. UPCHURCH
P.O. BOX 7022
INCLINE VILLAGE, NV 89450

Dear Cousin Robert Lee,

This is just a note to thank you for your renewal on the U₁ for 1993 and for your donation of \$25.00 to the Upchurch Research Fund. We are making great progress and are getting participation from a lot of folks. Still there seems to be a great challenge remaining.

I have noted your Nevada address and we will send all copies of the U₁ and other correspondence to you there. Please let us know if you change back to Texas.

I hope this finds you in good health. Have a merry Christmas, a great 1993, and drop by Tucson to see us!



Sincerely yours
Phil Upchurch

[ROBERT PHILIP UPCHURCH]

XID-4964

48-1

6 DEC 1995

PO BOX 96

Dear Cousin Robert,

Thank you for your renewal on the U.S. for 1996 and for your \$35 contribution to the Lynchburg Research Fund as a memorial to your father. The memorial will be documented in the next issue of the U.S. We have obligated the Research Fund to pay \$1,000 to Professor Ransome for work he is doing this fall in England. I recently had a message from him. His report will be delivered in the first quarter of 1996. I hope for some useful information.

Thanks also for your comments on the two sons of John Tillman Riley U. I assume the marriage you mentioned is on page 137 (copy enclosed). Note that the marriage was of a grandson of John Tillman Riley U. The grandson.

48-2

2-

was Dr Benjamin Riley II. Can you shed any more light on the marriage or on the participants?

Thanks for the story about the miles and the two sons of JTR II. I have entered this in the Profiles of both sons, copies of which are enclosed.

Enclosed herewith is a copy of my Master Outline for the John Tillman Riley II Family including Continuation Section 13A. If you know how we can extend the documentation on this family please let me know. Perhaps you have personal knowledge of some details not shown.

Note that the Profile of Benell Turner II shows he died in Red River Co, TX (which may or may not be true). Presumably the trip for the miles was made in the early 1860's.

We continue to look forward to our TX trip now scheduled for MAR/APR 1996. I'll keep you informed. It appears that the Upchurch Lecture for SE Texas will be in Tom Ball, TX but I still want to visit Grimes County. I'll keep you posted on plans.

P.S. Thanks for your kind comments.

Phil II



sincerely yours
Phil Upchurch

[ROBERT PHILIP UPCHURCH]

XID-4964

R. P. UPCHURCH

LAKE ST. LOUIS, MISSOURI 63367

[illegible]

ROBERT LEE UPCHURCH

PO BOX 96

BEDIAS, TX 77831

Dear Cousin Robert Lee,

The planning for our Texas trip is now pretty well finished. Enclosed are a dozen copies of the flyer we are sending out. Let me know if you need more.

Lennie Upchurch of Tomball tells me you
 have agreed to help as regards the lecture
 at Tomball. That is very kind of you. She
 was somewhat concerned that our "open house"
 at the Bedian Baptist Church on Monday
 15 APRIL 1996 would mean that people would
 not go from Bedian to Tomball. I don't
 think that will be a big factor. Note that
 our schedule (as per the flyer) shows I will
 be "available for discussion" in the motel
 in Houston on the evening of SAT 13 APR
 and in Bryan (College Station) on The

49-2

-2-

evening of MON 15 APR. I really don't know how many people will come by for a visit but it seemed right to offer.

We regret that we are unable to accept your most generous offer to spend the night in your home. We have already made arrangements and have sent out flyers indicating that we will be in the motel for visiting. Please be assured that we are honored by your invitation and that we are most pleased to have arrangements to be with you at Tomhall and in Grimmer County. I have heard a lot about Grimmer County and hope that you will be able to show us the area and explain the "lay-of-the-land".

Looking forward to meeting you and your wife.

P.S. - Please not enclosed change of address sheet.

Phil U



Sincerely yours
Phil Upchurch

[ROBERT PHILIP UPCHURCH]

(50)

ROBERT EDWARD LEE U, II

XID-4964

robert upchurch

REC'D
11 MAR 1996

Dear Col Phil,

as I told you on the phone, we are looking forward to meeting you and hearing your lecture on April 14 in Tomball.

My wife and I would like to invite you and your spouse to spend that night (and so long thereafter as you care to stay) with us in Bedias. We have a large house and PLENTY of room. Having you as guests would be a delight.

Sincerely,
Robert Lee

P.O. Box 96
Bedias, TX
77831



FIRST STATE BANK
of Bedias

BEDIAS, TEXAS 77831