

UPCHURCH & ALLIED FAMILIES ASSOC.



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FROM THE EDITOR

As this year draws to a close I would like to thank our readers who graciously and thoughtfully contributed stories and/or suggestions for our newsletter!

Also please read our year-end message from our President, Dr. Tom Upchurch, which outlines progress of the past year and ways in which we may contribute to UAFA.

Next month we will publish our BIG newsletter, FOOTPRINTS, a creation of our founder, Dr. Phil Upchurch with many articles and input from our UAFA leaders, writers and Coordinators. Please send in your articles, photographs and old family stories to share with our readers. I am hoping to start a research column for those who may have run into a brick wall or want to communicate with others from a particular area, DNA group, Allied family or Upchurch family clan.

Happy Holidays

House Bill Establishes 'A Christmas Story Family Day' In Ohio

April 14, 2022

Two northeast Ohio lawmakers are introducing a bill to create a day recognizing the holiday movie classic "A Christmas Story" that was filmed in Cleveland.

Representative **Terrance Vincent Upchurch** of Cleveland and Representative **Tom Patton** of Strongsville are sponsoring **House Bill 623**, which would designate November 18th as "A Christmas Story Family Day" in Ohio because that was the date in 1983 when the movie was released in theaters.

The film tells the tale of a little boy and his quest to get a Red Ryder BB gun for Christmas.



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and supporting
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After opening YouTube, enter
"Upchurch and Allied Families"
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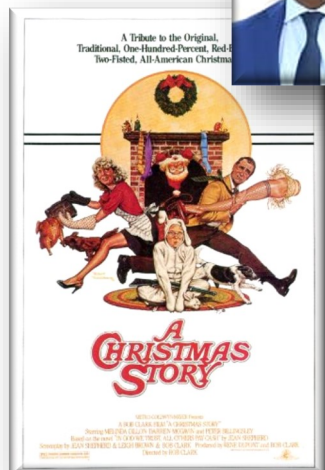


[Upchurch & Allied
Families on Facebook](#)

House Bill Establishes 'A Christmas Story Family Day' ...

The movie used a house on West 11th Street in Tremont that is now a museum for the fictional family's home and shot several scenes at Public Square (Right).

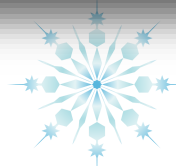
[Upchurch \(33\)
ran for re-
election to the
Ohio House of
Representatives
to repre-
sent District
20. He won in
the general elec-
tion
on November 8,
2022.](#)



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(Picture courtesy of the [A Christmas
Story House and Museum](#))





Bull Attacks Bowman Upchurch, Miracle Saves Him

By
**Mae Davenport
Cox**



Bowman Franklin Upchurch (1884 - 1957), son of Charles Wesley Upchurch and Julina Perrine.

The bull backed away still warily eyeing Bowman for any signs of life.

It was about 1908 or 1909, when Bowman Upchurch was living in the Clinton, area in northwestern Oklahoma, that a bull nearly did him in. This is a tale that has told and retold through the years as numerous relatives have repeated it and marveled at the miracle that took place.

Next to Bowman's farm was a fenced field pasturing a huge bull and several horses. Mixed in with the horses was a skittish, little colt. It was quite young and for some reason wouldn't let anyone come close enough to touch or pet it. But it was to become the miracle colt of our tale ...

Bowman was well aware of the huge bull and the dangers it posed. However, one day the bull was no where in sight so Bowman decided to cut through the field. But as luck would have it, the bull spied him and came charging after the intruder.

There was no way Bowman could make it to the fence and safety though run he did with all his might. But the raging bull overtook him, pawed the ground, and attacked. Throwing its head back and forth it gored at Bowman, while its hooves trampled with deadly force.

Bowman, curled into the fetal position trying to avoid those fierce horns and hooves, remembered that bulls stop their attacks when the prey is dead. So, all curled up, he closed his eyes, and played dead.

Sure enough the bull backed away though it was still warily eyeing Bowman for any signs of life. Bowman didn't budge and only opened one eye keeping track of the bull. Sure enough, the creature finally lost interest and went on its way.

Bowman was badly injured. Bleeding and in dire pain, all he could do was crawl, slowly and tediously. His progress towards home was slow and painful, and it took everything inside him to pull himself along the ground... a few feet at a time. Then came a miracle.

That shy little colt came strolling over to Bowman close enough he could touch it. Then it moved even closer. The colt stood firm as Bowman managed to pull himself up enough to get a firm grip on the colt, and by holding it's tail could hang on. The colt then drug him across the field to the fence near Bowman's house.

His family heard him yelling and quickly ran to his rescue. Bowman had severe injuries all about his face, body, and legs. His wife frantically sent for the doctor and began trying to clean some of the wounds. One relative said he had several broken bones along with all the cuts and bruises.

It took a long time for Bowman to recover and return to work. Meanwhile, his family had no income, and therefore no means of purchasing food, clothing and necessities. One of his children, Bessie Upchurch Starbuck, would remember,

Those were tough times!



BUCKHEAD

C. W. Upchurch and son, Rutherford, are in the Cheyenne country at the bedside of Bowman Upchurch, who is very sick.

The Lexington Leader, Lexington, Oklahoma. July 2, 1909



Mae's interest in the background of her Upchurch kin led to southern Cleveland County, Oklahoma where they were early-day settlers and descend from Upchurch Clan 16—Harmon U.

Mae has identified over 500 pioneer families through old tax records, land patents, censuses, burial records, and old newspaper articles for folks on their memorials at Find A Grave and elsewhere. She may be contacted at mae@coxok.com



Greetings One and All!

We hope you have enjoyed our monthly [newsletters](#) this year. If you haven't been receiving your copy, contact [Jay Buck](#) and he can add you to our mailing list. This year in addition to the newsletters we have published, we have added 63,000 new ancestors to our Ancestry.com trees, often with extensive supportive documentation and photos; added hundreds of transcriptions of handwritten research notes to our [webpage](#) so that the material is available, searchable and easier to read; added information about Upchurch family reunions into the [webpage](#); continued to expand our [Facebook page](#); worked with Wake County NC Genealogical Society on a huge cemetery documentation project; continued to work on tough genealogy problems using DNA research; and have maintained our National Office and Library in Cary, NC.

Contributors and volunteers make UAFA possible.

We must have cash to pay for software, office expenses, legal and accounting fees, Internet fees, etc. We are also building the Robert P. and Sallaine S Upchurch Endowment Fund to help assure that the treasure of information we have accumulated will continue to be available to anyone far into the future.

As 2023 is quickly approaching, we hope you will consider maximizing your impact on the work we are doing at UAFA while achieving potential savings on your taxes. We are a certified non-profit organization and contributions are usually tax deductible, but you should consult with your tax advisor for any question about your specific circumstance.

When you decide to contribute, please let us know if you prefer to have your contribution applied to ongoing expenses or to the Robert P and Sallaine S Upchurch Endowment.

- **You can mail a check to UAFA, PO Box 3856, Chesterfield, MO.**

To send a contribution by credit card or PayPal [click here](#).

To see many other ways that might work better for you such as Charitable Gift Annuity or Charitable Remainder Trust, [click here](#).

We need volunteers to help with:

Genealogy research and documentation. Contact Linda Sparks at lusparks@eplus.net

Legal advice, accounting and management. Contact Tom Upchurch at tomupchurch41@gmail.com

Newsletter, especially Upchurch or Allied Families Stories. Contact Cindy Hale at Upchurchroots@gmail.com

If you have questions about contributions, contact jay.buck@alliedfamilies.org

If you have questions about how contributions are used, contact tomupchurch41@gmail.com and I will provide you with copies of our budgets and financials.

Thank you for considering a gift of your time or resources to UAFA. We hope you have a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

Tom Upchurch

President, Upchurch and Allied Families