



UAFA National Home Office | 1130 Kildaire Farm Road, Suite 120 | Cary, NC 27511-4594

FROM THE EDITOR

Allow me to share a message from UAFA Director Jay Buck. Readers of our newsletters can access all past issues by clicking on the following link. In addition to a list of all 7 years of Newsletters and Footprints—a newsletter index is also available at the top of the page. Happy Hunting! <https://www.alliedfamilies.com/uafa-newsletters.html>

Readers are also reminded that our website includes all of UAFA founder Robert Philip Upchurch's Biofiles. If you want to learn more about Frank Drew Upchurch Jr. (whose father is featured in our Upchurches in the News column—page 3) Simply click on the resources tab and navigate to Upchurch Biofiles F-G. You will find a trove of information about Frank Drew Jr and his correspondence with RPU!

Thank you Jay!

Cindy Hale

IN THIS ISSUE

From the Editor 1

The Society of Presidential Descendants 1

UAFA News, Information and Links 2

Upchurches in the News by Jay Buck 3

The Society of Presidential Descendants

The Society of Presidential Descendants was conceived during a White House Historical Association event in Washington, D.C. There, Tweed Roosevelt – great-grandson of President Theodore Roosevelt – and Masee McKinley – a descendant of President Grover Cleveland – recognized a unique absence: although many presidential families had long maintained private associations or informal networks, no national organization existed to bring together the descendants, both direct and collateral, of America's presidents.

From that conversation emerged a bold idea: to create a unifying forum for individuals whose lives are inextricably linked by their shared heritage – a heritage rooted in the lives and leadership of the 45 men who have shaped the office of the presidency. Thus, the Society of Presidential Descendants was born.

Today, housed at Long Island University's Roosevelt School, the Society embodies a vibrant and growing institution committed to honoring the past while shaping the future. Its mission is carried out through three central pillars:

FOSTER COMMUNITY

Descent from an American president is an uncommon and historically significant bond – one that spans generations, geographies, and political af-

filiations. The Society serves as a living bridge among these families, creating a national network where members can connect over shared ancestry, civic values, and personal stories.

Through national reunions, member spotlights, and intimate gatherings at presidential homes and historic sites, the Society cultivates a strong sense of belonging and mutual respect. These events offer descendants the opportunity to celebrate family traditions, explore their unique place in American history, and reflect on the enduring legacy of public service.

In fostering this community, the Society strengthens intergenerational ties and builds a space where history is not only remembered, but also actively lived and shared.

PROMOTE EDUCATION

The Society champions rigorous scholarship and public engagement with the American presidency – its origins, its evolution, and its influence on contemporary civic life. In partnership with educational institutions, including its academic home at Long Island University, the Society supports programming that deepens understanding of presidential leadership and legacy.

Initiatives include speaker series, fellowships, curriculum development, and the recognition of outstanding books and articles that illuminate the presidency's ongoing relevance.



Story Continues on Page 4

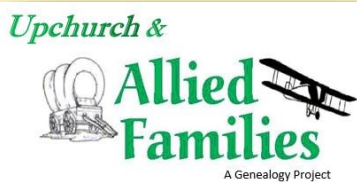


UAFA NEWS & INFORMATION

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

- Dr. David Thomas Upchurch, GA
President
- Woody H Yates, MBA, CPM - NC
Vice President
- Debra Upchurch Heck, MO
Treasurer/Secretary
- Carla Michaels, Cary, NC
Director
- Nancy-Blair Upchurch Ariano, GA
Director
- Staley C. Smith, Apex, NC
Director
- Linda Upchurch Sparks, TN
Director
- Michael R. Upchurch, Raleigh, NC
Director
- Dr. Stephen Terry, NC
Director
- Herbert Jackson "Jack" Upchurch, SC
Director
- Jay C. Buck, Chesterfield, MO
Director

BOARD MEMBER RESUMES



Upchurch and Allied Families
— A resource for linking,
preserving, and supporting
family history.

UPCHURCH & ALLIED FAMILIES LINKS

- [UAFA—Home](#)
- [Description of UAFA](#)
- [Newsletter Archive](#)
- [Join UAFA](#)
- [Transcribed UAFA Biofiles](#)
- [Board Member Resumes](#)
- [Contact Form](#)
- [Contribute](#)
- Jay Buck, Office Manager
jay.buck@alliedfamilies.org

Cindy Hale, Editor
UpchurchRoots@gmail.com

Brenda Carbon, DNA Project
Italia19@aol.com

Access to Upchurch Office/Library in
Cary, NC – Carla Michaels
cjm400@gmail.com

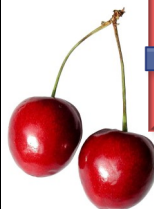
Family Trees In Ancestry.com:

Debra Upchurch Heck -Upchurch
Family Trees (Upchurch Clans)
Contact Linda Upchurch Sparks
lusparks@eplus.net

Jay Buck - Allied Family Trees (Families
closely associated with Upchurches) -
Contact Dr. Steve Terry for info —
sdterry@ncsu.edu



[Upchurch & Allied Families
on Facebook](#)





Upchurches in the News

By Jay Buck

Upchurch and Allied Families Assoc.
P. O. Box 3856
Chesterfield, MO 63006



Mayor Frank Drew Upchurch

Jollification is defined as “a lively celebration with others or merrymaking”. In 1928 St. Augustine Mayor Frank D. Upchurch asked for the good citizens of his town to set aside the period of July 5 th to July 17th for just that purpose. With a reunion of the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks occurring in Miami during that time span, the good mayor may have seen an opportunity to welcome the Elks, and their pocketbooks, to St. Augustine as they continued their journey southward.

Mayor Calls on Citizens to Aid In Entertaining Period of Jollification Covers July 5 to 17

Mayor Frank D. Upchurch, himself an Elk, and personally interested from the standpoint of membership, and as a city executive in the great influx of Elks into St. Augustine this month while en route South to Miami, has issued a proclamation declaring the period from July 5 to July 17 to be one of jollification, and calling upon citizens and merchants to decorate their homes and places of business, in order to create an atmosphere of hospitality, and cordial greeting for the visitors. The proclamation follows:

Frank Drew Upchurch Sr. (1894 – 1986) was the son of John Jones Upchurch and Susan Katherine Hawkins. He was the great-grandson of Gilbert and the great-great grandson of Nathan Upchurch, head of Upchurch Clan #3. This Upchurch line first found its way from North Carolina to Florida in the years prior to the Civil War. Frank’s sons and grandsons have followed in his footsteps the field of law and public service.

To the City of Saint Augustine— A PROCLAMATION—

Whereas, it is the good fortune of the State of Florida to be again favored with another great National Convention, the Reunion of the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks in Miami, Florida, July 9th to 13th, occasioning the passage through the City of Saint Augustine of many thousand of Elks and their families by automobile and rail to and from the Convention City,

Now, Therefore, I, Frank D. Upchurch, Mayor-Commissioner of the City of Saint Augustine, Florida, do hereby proclaim that during the period of July 5th to July 17th, 1928, a period of jollification be observed in commemoration of the visit of the Elks of the Nation, and in addition, invite all citizens and merchants to fittingly decorate their homes and places of business during the period mentioned.

Done and ordered at Saint Augustine, Florida, on Saturday, June 23, 1928.

FRANK D. UPCHURCH,
Mayor-Commissioner,
City of Saint Augustine,
Florida.

(Seal of the City of St. Augustine, Florida).

The Saint Augustine Record 1928

For more information, please read the Editors column.

JAY





The Society of Presidential Descendants

Continued from Page 1

The Society is also committed to making these educational resources accessible to wider audiences, from students and scholars to history enthusiasts and the general public.

By fostering intellectual curiosity and critical inquiry, the Society helps ensure that the lessons of the presidency are preserved and passed down with thoughtfulness, nuance, and integrity.

PRESERVE LEGACY

Presidential families hold a unique role in safeguarding the intimate and often untold stories behind some of the most pivotal moments in American history.

The Society is dedicated to preserving this legacy for future generations.

Through initiatives such as oral history projects, digital archives, historic preservation efforts, and commemorative events, members contribute to a broader national memory. Whether restoring a family home, recording first-hand accounts, or supporting museum exhibitions, the Society works to protect the personal and cultural heritage of the presidency.

In doing so, it affirms the significance of these stories—not as relics of the past, but as vital touchstones that continue to shape American identity, lead-

ership, and democratic ideals.

Together, these three pillars—community, education, and legacy—form the foundation of the Society of Presidential Descendants. Rooted in history but oriented toward the future, the Society offers a singular platform where those connected by presidential lineage can honor their heritage, contribute to civic life, and inspire future generations to engage with the principles that have guided the American presidency for over two centuries.

[The Society of Presidential Descendants Officers](#)



Plus Joseph Biden