

THOMAS B. UPCHER

① In Omaha NE Phone book MAY 1982-83

Thomas B. Upcher 451-2163

3048 Evans

Omaha, NE:

Called 18 JUN 82 - No answer. Talked to his  
sister Inez Upcher, whom see

INCEZ

UPCHURCH

2552 Spencer St  
Omaha, Neb. 68111  
June 28, 1982

Robert Phillip Upchurch  
Michael Enterprises  
P.O. Box 35804  
Tucson, Arizona 85740

REC'D  
2 JUL 82

Dear Mr. Upchurch,

I was quite pleased hearing from you, and found your letter and bulletin concerning the Upchurch families to be most interesting. I have mixed feelings about the Upcher name. Sometimes I feel isolated, and then, at times I enjoy a false sense of unique importance.

I am unable to give you too much information about my father's family as he didn't speak of them too much, particularly his mother & father. I believe that he left home at an early age because of the racial conditions that existed there in the south at that time. He was born in Comer, Alabama on June 21, 1892. He did have brothers and sisters, but only one, a sister, is still living. She is getting on in years now. I don't know what her physical and mental condition is at this time, but I intend to write my cousin soon and enquire.

She isn't too well herself, but fortunately <sup>they</sup> do live near each other.

You stated in your letter that you could not find Comer, Ala. on the map; well, I couldn't find my map, so I went to the library. I will admit that Comer isn't easy to find. I don't know what type of map you used, but I suggest that you use a road map, as it would be easier for me in giving you directions of which I'm not very good at doing anyway.

Look for the name Eufaula at the southern - east border of Alabama. Eufaula connects to highway 82 which runs north. Follow that highway line, and within a very short distance, you will run right into Comer.

I do hope that I have been of some help to you in continuing in your research. I will say that it has been interesting learning something about the Upchurch family, but I won't be able to subscribe to the Upchurch Bulletin at the present time. An affluent Upcher, I am not. With the economy as it is, prohibits me from doing so many things that I would like to do.

I do hope though, that I may be able to subscribe later on.

You mentioned in your post script that you had enclosed a card of your main profession, but I found no card; however, you had told me over the phone, when you were at the airport, that you were a professor at the University of Arizona.

Do let me know whether or not you were able to locate Comer. If not I will try it again from a different approach.

So until I hear from you again,

I remain

Yours truly,  
Inez Upcher

NEGRO

JOHN FLETCHER UPTON

① see Inez Upton

John Fletcher Upton b. 21 JUN 1892 (Coker, AL)  
probably left home at an early age. He had a  
son Thomas B. Upton and a dau Inez Upton  
both of whom were living in Omaha, NE  
on 18 JUN 1982. John Fletcher Upton had  
brothers and sisters.

DAVID LEE UPCHER

①

② RPA writing El Paso, TX on 13 NOV 80 found the following UPCHER listing in the phone book:

UPCHER, David Lee atty 3430 Hondo Pass 257-0376  
UPCHER & HEDICKE attyz 3430 Hondo Pass 257-0376.

I called the above no and was told by the Secretary that he is no longer with the firm. She gave me his new address & phone no:

Mr David Lee Upcher  
12271 Woodside Drive  
Saratoga, CA 95070  
Phone 408-257-7346

Note: on 1 JUN 81 I called 408-257-7346 and got a recording saying the number had been changed to 408-221-9695. On calling the latter I got another recording saying the call could not be completed as called - decided to write instead  
RPA

DAVID LEE UPCHER

②

7 JUN 1981

MR DAVID LEE UPCHER  
12271 WOODSIDE DRIVE  
SARATOGA, CA 95070

Dear Mr Upcher,

I am working on the UPCHURCH family using the theory that all white Upchurches in America descend from Michael Upchurch who arrived from England about 1649. In England the Upchurch name was spelled many ways Upshire, Upshur, Upchurch, <sup>and</sup> Upcher. Although some diverse spellings occurred in America the spelling Upchurch was the standard adopted.

In November 1980 I was visiting El Paso, TX and called your firm and learned that you had moved to the above address.

I am very interested in your family name and your family line. Could you drop me a letter and indicate something about your ancestors - their names - where they lived etc.

For the second year I am publishing the UPCHURCH BULLETIN. See flyer enclosed.

Sincerely yours,  
Phil Upchurch  
[ROBERT PHILLIP UPCHURCH]

INEZ UPCHEK

①

20 JUN 1982

MS INEZ UPCHEK  
2552 SPENCER  
OMAHA, NE 68111

Dear Ms Upcher,

Thank you for taking time to talk to me on the phone on 13 JUN 82 when I happened to have a few minutes in Omaha. I have searched my files and find very few present-day families who have the last name UPCHEK. Of course, there are probably a few that I have not come across as there is a big country. My ancestor Michael Upchurch who came to this country from England in 1649 had his name spelled many ways - UPCHUR - UPSHIRE - UPCHEK - UPSHUR, etc. In the early days (1500's - 1700's) the clerks could not spell well and the various spellings were used interchangeably. The descendants of Michael Upchurch settled on the spelling Upchurch within a generation or so. The spelling UPCHEK was one of the more frequent versions used in England in the 1600's.

I am almost certain that your UPCHEK family and my UPCHURCH family developed



in the same community. I have a fairly good record of which Upchurch moved to Alabama and when. The movement from North Carolina to Alabama took place around 1800-1850. With some more probing we may be able to sort all of this out. I am very interested in the fact that there was an UPCHUR family in Alabama and will keep my eyes open for more evidence.

I have searched my map for COMER, AL and cannot find one. Could you let me know the location of Comer, AL. I will then see what Upchurch lived near there. You told me of your father John Fletcher Upcher, when and where was he born? Is there anyway you can learn his father's name? Did he have any brothers or sisters?

A flyer on the Upchurch Bulletin is enclosed so you can see what I am doing.

If you will send me some bits of information, I will keep the exchange going so we can help each other.

Sincerely yours

Phil Upchurch

[ROBERT PHILIP UPCHURCH]

P.S. There is a redline the card for my main proposition is enclosed.

NEGRO

INEZ

UPCHER

① Notes of 18 JUN 1982 Phone Call.

RPU was in Omaha NE on 18 JUN 82 and had a few minutes for a phone call.

Called I. UPCHER at 451-3875 which is at 2552 Spencer, Omaha, NE 68111.

~~She~~ A person with a deep voice answered the phone and I thought it was a male. She said she was the dau of Mr Upcher who is deceased. She had a cultured voice or only when she mentioned she was black did I become aware of this matter. The Thomas B. Upcher is her husband. Her father John Fletcher Upcher is from ~~the~~ Conover, NC. Her mother was from NC. She does not know her GF. She is interested in the subject of her family and agreed I should write her.

INEZ UPCHER

①

4 JUL 1982

MS INEZ UPCHER  
2352 SPENCER  
OMAHA, NE 68111

Dear Ms Upcher,  
your letter of June 28, 1982 was most welcome.  
with your help I have now been able to locate  
Comer, AL on the map. My problem was that it  
was not in the index and a scanning of the  
map did not locate it. I note that it is in  
Barbour county.

It is quite likely that my records contain  
information on Upchurch in the southeastern  
part of AL but unfortunately my records are  
not organized geographically so I have to depend  
on recall to retrieve information on a geographic  
basis. I have done extensive work on one batch  
of Upchurches N-W-3 of Tuscaloosa and another batch  
just south of Anniston. I will keep my eyes open  
for more Upcher information. The Upcher-Upchurch  
interaction for your line and mine occurred  
in some fashion and it can only enrich our  
history to learn more about it.

My most intensive study of census, wills, deeds, etc has been for NC as that is where I was born and raised, as was my f, gf, ggf + ggf. In due course I will search such records in AL. ~~AL~~ Already I have been provided much information from AL by correspondents. There are summaries of the census records for heads of households for the various states. These census records are very valuable to me. They started in 1790 and were taken every ten years thereafter. In 1850 the census takers started listing every member of the household. The 1900 census for Barbour County very likely would show one or more UPTON households and in one of them there should be your father John Fletcher Upton. Your local library can help you locate the microfilm included.

It would be most helpful to me if you could send me dates of birth, marriage and death and place of birth, marriage, death and burial of all Upton's you can locate. I will maintain a file on the group and share with you what I find elsewhere.

I understand the financial situation. I grew up in a house where you could study astronomy, geology and landscaping without leaving the house or looking out a window! When it rained the house leaked so bad you had to use an umbrella!

I dropped out of high school to go to work and although high school was never completed I went on to get BS, MS & PhD degrees.

Genealogy is a topic you can pursue with very limited resources and it is educational and can be exciting if you are so inclined. I correspond with many individuals who are not in favorable circumstances and with many who have trouble writing. I can tell that you are a refined lady with a positive outlook and I look forward with pleasure to our future correspondence.

Could you send me at this time all the names, dates, places you have in hand or can get easily. Full names of your brothers and sisters and their spouses and children and grandchildren, if any, would be appreciated or would any details on your Aunts & Uncles. The more of this we get in the file the more likely we are to take more steps into our history.

This time I'll make me my card in  
enclose! Hope to hear from you.

Sincerely yours  
Phil Upchurch

[ROBERT PHILLIP UPCHURCH]

INEZ

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15 AUG 1982

I WICKER

2552 SENECA ST  
OMAHA, NE 68111

Dear Mr Wyches,

There is just a note to say that I  
 know your note of July 1982 and that  
 your thoughtfulness in speaking to me  
 is appreciated. I hope this finds you well  
 as at least getting better. I will look  
 forward to hearing from you when  
 you feel like to. Your long work  
 seems to follow its own course and  
 there are many times when it has to  
 be washed.

In due course I hope we can  
 pursue the course of your Wyches some  
 more fully. It is of considerable interest  
 to me.

With best

Very truly yours  
Robert Patrick Wyches

[ROBERT PATRICK WYCHES]

INEZ UPCHER

Rec'd  
8-4-82 July 30, 1982  
2552 SPENCER ST  
OMAHA, NE 68111

Dear Mr. Upchurch

I'm very sorry for having delayed response to your letter of July 4<sup>th</sup> but I became ill, and just haven't been able to do too much of anything.

I'm trying to avoid the services of a doctor, but I just might be forced to do so.

As soon as I'm feeling better, I will resume correspondence.

Please bear with me.

Yours truly,  
Inez Upcher