# Fort Smith Public Library

3201 Rogers Avenue • Fort Smith, Arkansas 72903 • 479-783-0229 • www.FortSmithLibrary.org

Finding Aid For: Leo Burke

**Dates:** 1902 to 1977, bulk 1930 to 1937

Size: 1 box; 0.42 linear feet

**Creator/Collector:** Leo Burke and family

Call Number: Special Collection (SC)

Language(s): English

**Abstract:** Leo Glynton Burke was born in 1912 to Albert and Gertrude (Butcher)

Burke. The family lived in Missouri until 1922 when Albert, Gertrude, and their four children moved to Oklahoma. Leo died in a car accident on December 20, 1936. The collection, which dates from,1902 to 1977, contains correspondence, photographs, and ephemera. Most of the items

are from Leo's time in Barnsdall High School.

**Subject Terms:** Leo Glynton Burke

Burke Family Family History

**Access Restrictions:** Collection is open for research.

**Copyright:** Copyright restrictions may apply. For further information contact the

repository.

**Preferred Citation:** [Item], [Series], Leo Burke, [Container#], Family Collection, Fort Smith

Public Library, Fort Smith, Arkansas.

**Acquisition Information:** Donated in memory of Leo Burke.

**Repository:** Fort Smith Public Library, Barbara Walker Genealogy and Arkansas

History Collection, Fort Smith, Arkansas

Finding Aid Created By: Rachel Sanford, 2022

**Processing Information:** The collection was found orderly and sectioned out. During processing

the papers were placed in files and labelled based on what each section was about. The collection came with the title "Leo Burke," but it isn't all

about Leo and some of it was added to after she died. The

correspondence dated September 14, 1967, from Libbey to Lula Burke had water damage so the letter was typed keeping the original spelling and making a best guess on what it said where it was damaged. The typed letter is clipped to the original. All staples and paperclips were

removed and replaced with archive paperclips. The collection was processed by Rachel Sanford in July 2022.

## **Collection Details**

**Biographical Note:** Burke Family

1873 Albert D. Burke born March 21 in Missouri, Leo's father.

1882 Gertrude E. Butcher born November 6, Leo's mother

1898 Albert Burke and Gertrude Butcher marry December 17 in

Missouri

1902 December 18 Beatrice Burke was born in Camden, Missouri

1905 Buell Oliver Burke was born July 18

1912 Leo Glynton Burke was born

1917 MacAvoy R. Burke was born October 111922 The Burke family moved to Oklahoma

1936 Leo Burke is killed in a car accident December 20

1938 MacAvoy marries Iris Squires

1961 Gertrude died
1962 Albert died
1981 MacAvoy died
1984 Buell died

**Scope and Content:** 

The Leo Burke family collection dates from 1902 to 1977 and includes photos, ephemera, correspondence, and scrapbooks. The bulk of the records is from 1930 to 1937 on Leo Burke, paying special attention to her time in Barnsdall High School.

The "Correspondence" series ranges from 1933 to 1967 and includes letters written to members of the Burke family. Most of the letters are from grandchildren to Albert and Gertrude.

"Miscellaneous" ranges from 1905 to 1975 and has items that didn't fit into any other folder. There are records for the music at a wedding, a check, and a high school commencement.

The "Family Members" series is filed alphabetically and contains a variety of records. Beatrice's delayed birth certificate application, records of Leo's death in a car accident, memorabilia, and certificates can all be found in the files.

The "Photographs" series, which dates from 1917 to 1977 has several photograph scrapbooks, loose photographs, and photo negatives. The Memory Book has no dates, but based on the people in the photographs it looks to be around the 1920s to 1930s. The photo pages are placed so the hole punches on the left is the front page, then photos are listed the way you read a book: left to right, top to bottom.

**System of Arrangement:** 

This collection is organized into five series: "Series 1. Correspondence" "Series 2. Miscellaneous," "Series 3: Family Members," "Series 4. Photographs," and "Series 5. Ephemera." The records of this series are filed chronologically when possible.

# **Collection Inventory**

### Container 30: Leo Burke, 1902 to 1977

#### Series 1: Correspondence, 1933 to 1967

- 1 Correspondence, 1933 to 1967
  - 1. Correspondence from Rogers to Burrhead, 1933 December 15
  - 2. Correspondence from Mona Burke to Grandma, Grandpa, and Beatrice, 1949 November 28
  - 3. Correspondence from Macky Burke Jr. to Grandma, Grandpa, and Beatrice, 1949 November 28
  - 4. Correspondence from Mona Burke to Grandma, Grandpa, and Beatrice, 1956 November 25
  - 5. Invitation from Kay Burke to Mr. and Mrs. A. D. Burke and Beatrice to attend her high school graduation on 1956 May 23, sent 1956 May 8
  - 6. Empty envelope addressed to Mr. and Mrs. A. D. Burke and Beatrice from Mona Burke
  - 7. Correspondence from Mona Burke to Grandma, Grandpa, and Beatrice
  - 8. Correspondence from Libbey to Beatrice Coffman, 1967 September 14
  - 9. Correspondence from Meb to her sister, December 4
  - 10. Correspondence from Beatrice Coffman to Kay Glynn McLellan, undated

## Series 2: Miscellaneous, 1905 to 1975

- 2 Miscellaneous, 1905 to 1975
  - 1. Reverend Frank Allie. Lists songs, singers, and flower girls
  - Barnsdall State Bank Check, Pay to Gertrude Burke from Rowe Littles, \$50, 1975
     September 5
     Check was written over, so it reads pay to Rowe Littles from Gertrude Burke
  - 3. An Indian Version of the Twenty-third Psalm
  - 4. Fort Smith High School Commencement, 1905 June 2

## Series 3: Family Members, 1902 to 1966

- 3 Albert Daniel Burke, 1937 to 1945
  - 1. Bank Tax Receipt, 1949 November 11
  - 2. Payment to Ed A. Brashear
  - 3. Release of Real Estate Mortgage, 1937 November 3
  - 4. Release of Real Estate Mortgage, 1945 August 27
- 4 Beatrice Coffman (Burke), 1902 to 1966
  - 1. Vital Record, Delayed Birth Certificate Application, Beatrice Gertrude Burke
  - 2. Certificate of Good Standing, Maysville Guild of Home Weavers, Beatrice Coffman
  - 3. Membership Certificate in the Barnsdall Burial Association, Beatrice Coffman, 1966 March 2

- 5 Leo Glynton Burke, 1932 to 1936
  - 1. Mother-Daughter Banquet, 1932 April 26
  - 2. Junior Senior Banquet, 1932 April 29
  - 3. Business and Profession Women's Club invitation to party honoring the girls of the Class of 1933, 1933 May 1
  - 4. B. P. W. Club Party for Senior Girls, 1933 May 1
  - 5. Commencement Exercises Program, 1933 May 18
  - 6. Commencement Exercises Program, 1933 May 18
  - 7. Baccalaureate Sermon, 1933 May 14
  - 8. Notes from classmates, Office Second Hour, 1933 May 9
  - 9. Notes from classmates, Study Hall and Home Ec II, 1933 May 9
  - 10. Notes from classmates, Study Hall, 1933 May 9-10
  - 11. Notes from classmates shaped like an envelope, Study Hall, 1933 May 10
  - 12. Notes from Classmates shaped like a grid, Study Hall, 1933 May 10
  - 13. Note from Cecil and Ann, 1933 May 11
  - 14. Notes from Study Hall, 1933 May 11
  - 15. Notes from classmates, 1933 May 16 and 27 [On the back] Note from mother 1936 March 22
  - 16. Notes from classmates, 1933 June 5-6
- 6 Leo Burke's Death, 1936 to 1937
  - 1. Correspondence from Chief of Police to A. D. Burke, 1936 December 30
  - 2. Correspondence from Mrs. B. A. Handwork to Gertrude Burke, 6 pages, 1937 January 23
  - 3. Newspaper clipping, Auto Skids on Icy Road; One Dead, 4 Hurt, 1936 December
- 7 MacAvoy Burke, 1933 to 1937
  - 1. The Barnsdall Times, 1933 Graduating Class and Sponsors, 1933 April 27
  - 2. Osage County Burial Association Membership Certificate, Macavoy Burke, Iris Burke, Catherine Burke, and Macavoy Burke Jr., 1943 January 16

## Series 3: Photographs, 1917 to 1977

- 8 Leo Burke, Senior at Barnsdall High School Photo Scrapbook, 1917 to 1932
  - 1. Page 1, Front
    - 1. Henry Forgason and Leo Burke, 1928 July 4
    - 2. Beatrice, Buell, Macavoy, and Leo, 1920
    - 3. Photo of legs
    - 4. Name Plate: Miss Leo Burke, '32 Senior '33, Barnsdall High School
    - Page 1, Back
    - 1. Barnsdall High School Juniors 1930
    - 2. Capitala Mansfield, Leo Burke, and Jewel Anthony at Noel Missouri Summer Resort, 1931 July 4
  - 2. Page 2, List of birthdays
  - 3. Page 3, Front
    - 1. Name plates
    - Page 3, Back
    - 1. Newspaper clipping, News of Interest from Barnsdall Public Schools

- 4. Page 4, Front
  - 1. The Wise Old Owl
  - Page 4, Back
  - 1. Portrait
- 5. Page 5, Front
  - 1. Name plates
  - Page 5, Back
  - 1. Christmas Card, Louise Margaw, 1930
- 6. Page 6, Front
  - 1. Christmas Card, Lauringly Peba
  - 2. Invitation to Submarine Divisions' Ball, 1930 April 16
  - Page 6, Back
  - 1. Two portraits of women
- 7. Page 7
  - 1. Portrait of girl
  - 2. Photo of 2 men
- 8. Page 8, Front
  - 1. Leo Burke and Glen Fisher, Wolco, 1932
  - 2. Leo and Lottie, 1927
  - 3. Glen Fisher
  - 4. Red Bell, Leo Burke, Squirt Grey, and Opal Fisher, 1932
  - 5. Leo Burke and Macavoy Burke, 1917
  - Page 8, Back
  - 1. Christene Butcher
  - 2. David Trigelle
  - 3. Tom Butcher Jr.
  - 4. Donald Fuller
  - 5. Marie Smith and Tr
  - 6. Della Clark
  - 7. Ada Bibles
  - 8. Jewel Anthony
  - 9. Olola Swift
  - 10. Erin Kennedy (Cuba)
  - 11. Mac Burke
  - 12. Otis Swift
  - 13. Gertrude Burke
  - 14. Clifford Williams
- 9. Page 9
  - 1. Leo 1932
  - 2. Leo 1931
  - 3. Leo 1929
  - 4. Leo 1930
- 10. Page 10, Front
  - 1. Leo Burke, 1928
  - 2. Leo, Mavy, and Lottie, 1927
  - 3. Lottie and Jewel, 1930
  - 4. Leo Burke and Lewis Rylant, 1931
  - 5. Barnsdall Foot-ball Boys, 1930

Page 10, Back

- 1. Mable McAlister and Buell Burke (North Dakota)
- 2. Zoe Simpson and Mac Burke
- 3. Bee Burke and Gertrude Burke
- 4. Gertrude Burke
- 5. Bee Burke and Buell Burke
- 6. A. D. Burke and Buell Burke
- 7. Edwin Wrangle and Donald Fuller
- 8. Lottie Anthony
- 9. Buell Burke and Gertrude Burke
- 10. Maurice Shephard
- 11. Buell Burke and unknown girl (North Dakota)
- 12. Lottie Anthony and Alt McClure
- 11. Page 11, Front
  - 1. Photo of Otis Rogers on a horse
  - 2. Otis Rogers name plate
  - 3. "I could ask you in a "MILL"ion ways to be my Valentine" Card, From Otis Rogers, 1930

Page 11, Back

- 1. Girls sports photo
- 12. Page 12, Front
  - 1. "Will I be your Valentine? Say Ring me up just anytime" Card, From Glen Fisher, 1931

Page 12, Back

- 1. Portrait of Jewel Anthony
- 13. Page 13, Front
  - 1. "You 'auto' accept this proposal and be my Valentine" card, From Rudolph Gamble, 1932

Page 13, Back

1. Portrait of a woman

#### 9 Photographs, 1943 to 1977

- 1. Page 1
  - 1. Truddie and Daddy, 1943 June 27
  - 2. Three women, one man, 1949 August
  - 3. Two women, 1949 August
  - 4. School in background, students grouped together
- 2. Page 2
  - 1. High school in Beaver, Utah, Snow on 1951 May 1
  - 2. Will Burke and Joe Burke 1955, Printed 1956 August
  - 3. Aunt Neruy Burke and Little Joe (crippled boy)
  - 4. Mrs. James C. Burke and son Joe Burk of Joplin, Missouri, 1957 January (second copy, different inscription)
- 3. Page 3
  - 1. Mr. and Mrs. Joe Burke
  - 2. Mr. and Mrs. Joe Burke (second copy)
  - 3. Group of women
- 4. Page 4
  - 1. Hazel Burke, Garden Grove High School Photo, 1957-58
  - 2. Mona Burke

- 3. Senior High School Dance, girl and boy
- 4. Senior High School Commencement, girl and boy (girl in cap and gown)
- 5. Page 5
  - 1. Senior High School Commencement, girl and boy (both in gown holding cap)
  - 2. Senior High School Commencement, girl and boy (both in cap and gown)
  - 3. Jerry and Trudy at Newport Beach taken in July
  - 4. Trudy and Jerry ready to go to Sunday School. Trudy has her Easter suit on.
- 6. Page 6, Front
  - 1. Two men and two women, 1956 November
  - 2. Man and woman with their two children, 1956 November

Page 6, Back

- 1. Man and woman, 1956 November
- 2. Girl and boy
- 7. Page 7, Front
  - 1. Man and woman
  - 2. Four children

Page 7, Back

- 1. Two women
- 2. Man and woman, 1957 July
- 8. Page 8, Front
  - 1. Woman in front of car
  - 2. Flower bush in front of window

Page 8, Back

- 1. Tree and plants, 1957 July
- 2. Garden in front of house, 1957 July
- 9. Page 9, Front
  - 1. Boy and his dog
  - 2. Girl with cat and boy with dog

Page 9, Back

- 1. Woman on porch, 1958 June
- 2. Front porch of house, 1958 July
- 10. Page 10
  - 1. Potted plants, 1958 July
  - 2. Two boys and two girls
- 11. Page 11
  - 1. Cecil Clifton, Sargent, Born 1911 July 21 at Mannford Oklahoma, Died 1936 February 23 at Mineola Texas
  - 2. Portrait of woman
- 12. Page 12, Front
  - 1. Family portrait, man and woman with child

Page 12, Back

- 1. Photo of a boy in front of a waterfall
- 13. Page 13
  - 1. Photo of house
  - 2. Group of people in a house
  - 3. Alberta and Shorty at the breakwater near Coos Bay, Oregon, 1977 July
  - 4. Ron and Bruce near Coos Bay, Oregon, 1977 July
- 14. Page 14
  - 1. "Unken" Shorty

- 2. This is Mon and her husband Layton. The kids are Mona's two youngest, Kelly and Billy, and Lyton's youngest son, Scott. Or course I've got my nose stuck in along with the Black Angus Cattle
- 3. Back row: Trudy, I, and Shorty. Front Row: Jerry and Hazel. This is in their living room.
- 4. Standing is Shorty. Jerry, Trudy (in green), and Hazel

#### Memory Book, undated

- 1. Page 1, Front
  - 1. Memory Book Title Page

Page 1, Back

- 1. 3 women and one man
- 2. Page 2
  - 1. Girl in front of car
  - 2. Boy doing a headstand
- 3. Page 3
  - 1. (Back row, left to right) A. D. Burke and Gertrude (front row, left to right)

Beatrice and older woman

- 2. Little boy in a hat
- 4. Page 4, Front
  - 1. Two men and a woman, posed photography
  - 2. Girl outside of a school

Page 4, Back

- 1. Man outside
- 5. Page 5, School photo
- 6. Page 6
  - 1. Beatrice in front of car
  - 2. Woman outside
- 7. Page 7
  - 1. Girl sitting on fence
  - 2. Girl sitting on slab of rock
  - 3. Couple embracing in front of car
- 8. Page 8
  - 1. Girl with a flower box
  - 2. Boy and a girl
  - 3. Three men
- 9. Page 9
  - 1. Mildred Hays
  - 2. Joe Hope
  - 3. Girl in garden with book
- 10. Page 10
  - 1. Beatrice
  - 2. Couple sitting on slab of rock
  - 3. Two girls
  - 4. Woman on porch with coat and hat
- 11. Page 11
  - 1. Woman with two children
  - 2. Woman with three kids and a dog

- 3. Girl outside of house
- 4. Man and woman with a child
- 12. Page 12
  - 1. Girl standing on deck outside of house
  - 2. Man in garden
  - 3. Buell Burke
- 13. Page 13
  - 1. Girl outside holding fan
  - 2. Man and woman outside at a creek
- 14. Page 14
  - 1. Two men
  - 2. Man and boy
  - 3. Two girls and a boy
- 15. Page 15
  - 1. Woman and man
  - 2. Man with hand on hip
  - 3. Man and woman
  - 4. Two women and a man
- 16. Page 16
  - 1. Man squatting and holding two figurines
  - 2. Man and girl in garden
  - 3. Man with glasses
- 17. Page 17, Front
  - 1. Harlan, Paul, Esther, and Vivian
  - 2. Man and woman in front of car
  - Page 17, Back
  - 1. Man looking up at cactus
- 18. Page 18, Front
  - 1. Boy dressed up
  - 2. Woman outside of house
  - 3. Classroom photo
  - 4. Family swimming in creek
  - Page 18, Back
  - 1. Two women and a man
  - 2. Boy with a man in background
  - 3. Girl
  - 4. Four women
  - 5. School photo
- 19. Page 19, Front
  - 1. Man holding hat
  - 2. Portrait of woman in hat with feathers on one side
  - 3. Portrait of boy
  - 4. Portrait of woman in hat with feathers on both sides
  - 5. Woman standing outside
  - Page 19, Back
  - 1. Man standing on porch
- 20. Page 20
  - 1. Woman sitting on fence
  - 2. Woman standing outside

- 21. Page 21, Front
  - 1. Four men
  - 2. Four men and two women
  - Page 21, Back
  - 1. Man under palm
  - 2. Man in front of car

#### Photo Collection, 1927 to 1973

- 1. Page 1
  - 1. Jerry Burke, 10th grade, 12302 Hoggan, Gordon Grove, California
  - 2. Leo Burke
  - 3. Man in hat
  - 4. Leo Burke in coat
  - 5. Churtghen McLillan, 4 months old, born 1972 September 9
- 2. Page 2, Front
  - 1. Two girls in cap and gown
  - 2. Man and woman
  - 3. Woman in cap and gown
  - Page 2, Back
  - 1. Seventh grade, 1927
  - 2. Pantheretts, 1932
- 3. Page 3, Front
  - 1. Junior Class, 1931-32
  - 2. Mac
  - 3. Rusby and Bloat
  - Page 3, Back
  - 1. Senior Class, 1933
  - 2. Gavin Sumpter name tag, President 1933
- 4. Page 4
  - 1. Portrait of H. L. Forgason
  - 2. H. L. Forgason, U.S. Submarine Base S-42, Pearl Harbor, T. H., nameplate
- 5. Page 5
  - 1. Portrait of boy
  - 2. Portrait of woman
  - 3. Portrait of sailor
- 6. Page 6
  - 1. Will and Joe Burke
  - 2. Two men and two women

#### Large Scrapbook, 1932 to 1933

- 1. Page 1
  - 1. Portrait of woman in center of page
  - 2. Fred W.
  - 3. Lottie S.
  - 4. Phillips Park
  - 5. Lottie S.
  - 6. Otis Swift
  - 7. Leo Burke

- 8. Jewel and Lottie
- 9. Jack Floyd
- 10. Lottie
- 11. Otis and Lottie
- 12. Huck and Red
- 13. Otis and Leo
- 14. Clolamac S.
- 15. Lottie S.
- 2. Page 2, Drawing of plant with small cut out photos as the flowers
- 3. Page 3
  - 1. Glen Fisher, Leo, and Red Bell
  - 2. Otis Rogers
  - 3. Macavoy Burke, 1933 May
- 4. Page 4
  - 1. Henry Fargason and Buddy Wentz, San Diego, California
  - 2. Leo Burke
  - 3. Donald Fuller and Leo
- 5. Page 5, Ephemera on a page titled Thanksgiving and Christmas
- 6. Page 6, Front
  - 1. Macavoy Burke, 1933
  - 2. Howard Smith and Mrs. Jess
  - 3. Eunice Gunn and Claude Wells (Rusty and Pop)
  - Page 6, Back
  - 1. Two young girls
- 7. Page 7, Oklahoma Baptist University ephemera
- 8. Page 8, Oklahoma Baptist University ephemera, O.B.U. flag
- 9. Page 9, The Bison, newspaper clippings
- 10. Page 10, Certificate of Promotion to the High School, Leo Glynton Burke
- 11. Page 11, Leo Burke and Joe, Maus Field, 1932 July 4
- 12. Page 12
  - 1. Howard Smith, Corpus Christi, Texas
  - 2. Leo Burke
  - 3. Howard Smith, Rosenberg, Texas
  - 4. Bee Burke, Charley Carney, and Leo Burke
  - 5. Jewel Crowe
  - 6. Velman Lentz
  - 7. Bee, Leo, and Buell, Decaturville, Missouri
  - 8. Mac Burke
- 13. Page 13
  - 1. Sylvester McCrew and Dessie Herd, Muskogee
  - 2. Vernon Heywig and Donald Fuller
  - 3. Henry Fargason and Pal
  - 4. Evelyn Berwick
  - 5. Marcelete Selby
  - 6. Leo Burke and Lewis Rylaub
  - 7. Red Bell, Leo Burke, Leonard Grey, and Opal Fisher
  - 8. Hazel Fisher, Leo Burke, and Opal Fisher

1. 15 envelopes (17 negatives)

# **Series 4: Ephemera, 1932 to 1936**

Leo Burke Ephemera Collection, 1932 to 1936