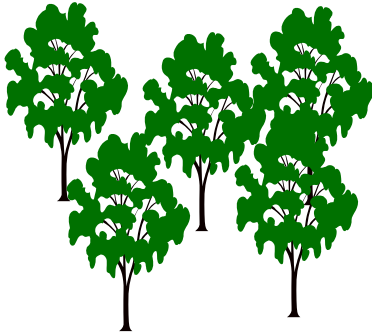


HISTORY OF PECAN TREES OF GILBERT

In 1919 Clyde married Linda Harsh. They lived on the south side of the original farm. Frank died in 1940 and Clyde took over the farm and moved into the larger home. His mother moved to Chandler to live with her daughter, Viola, who was a teacher there. Later she moved with her daughter to Phoenix where she lived until her death in 1951.



Clyde and Linda had three sons: Ray, Earl and Robert. Linda died in 1947. In 1949 Clyde married again to a widow, Dorothy Simmons. Clyde and Dorothy had one son: Clyde Paul. Clyde and Dorothy still live on the original farm (1984).

Frank D. Rowell Family

Dr. Frank D. Rowell with his wife and small son came to Gilbert about 1912 and located on the north side of Elliot Road just west of the Consolidated Canal. He planted the pecan orchard, some of which is still standing. He had been a practicing medical doctor in the east. After coming here because of his health, he became an animal doctor.

Dr. Rowell served on the School Board from 1918 until 1922 and was influential in getting the first school established. Dr. Rowell was also instrumental in starting the first Bank of Gilbert. Associated with him were Charley Hoffman, W. A. Anderson, J. Irwin Burk (first secretary) and Abe Cosby (first cashier).

Several years after his first wife died, Dr. Rowell married again to Anna Louise Wallace. She brought her two children from the former marriage to join the family on East Elliot. The story is told that the second Mrs. Rowell threw the doctor's instruments down the well so that her children would not harm themselves with them.

Dr. Rowell was also Justice of the Peace for a time. Bill Wallace and Anna Wallace (Cocklin) enjoy returning to Gilbert to visit with their friends from the early days. Anna attended Gilbert High School and was Valedictorian of her graduating class in 1941. She graduated from ASU in 1945 with honors and went on to Stanford University to complete work to become a registered Physical Therapist. She worked in San Francisco for 2 years, and then married H. W. Cocklin. Anna and H. W. moved in with her mother on East Elliot in June 1949 and lived there until their home in Phoenix was completed.