

# Talking Burleson #1

By JD Burleson

Well I have been doing this for over 20 years, and I don't know how many times people (my wife for one) asked what we are doing? Well we started back in 1995 with our first meeting in the basement of the Stanly County Library, and we would hear the Library will "close in 5 minutes" well then we would go out the sidewalk and continue our discussions. This continued for several years and Hilda Snuggs volunteer the use of Miss Lena Burleson's Farm House and we have been there ever since.

Yesterday we had a very special meeting, Cass Gannaway, came from Tennessee, she is a descendant of William and Jane Burleson Castle, who moved to Miss in 1834. Jane Burleson is the daughter of Isaac Burleson Sr. and William Castle is descendant Thomas Cassel a American Rev War Patriot we will be honoring by placing his Marker in the Castle Meeting House Cemetery.

I met Cass around 9:30 and we went to Albemarle to meet with the other members of the BFRG around 11:00. (Cass, JD, John Hoyle, and Nancy Burleson, Hilda Snuggs, Sue Forrest, and Chad Howard) We started talking and everyone was enjoying sharing Burleson information and we discovered it was after 1:00 and we hadn't eaten. So we went to the Handy Mart at Burleson Square to have lunch and more talking.

Then we went to 4 different Cemeteries, the first was the Castle Meeting House where the BFRG is in the process of clearing out for the Ceremony. Second we took Cass to see the location where Thomas Castle received two land grants back in the late 1700s and early 1800s. We then went to the Springer Cemetery where Isaac Burleson Sr. in buried and where we placed a marker for him back on May 28, 1994. That was a long walk in the cemetery. Then we went to the Burleson #1 and #2 Cemetery and John Hoyle Burleson, point out some of the early home places for our Burleson Ancestors, where each one had received land grants for. By now we are hungry again so we back to Handy Mart for supper, and more Talking Burleson, and before we realized it was 9:00 and I had told my children I would be home between 6 or 7, but I think I could have stayed all night. I enjoy nothing better than sitting and listing to John Hoyle, explain our early Burleson History, I know I have heard it a 1000 times but it is always interesting hear it again. Our group is so blessed to have a researcher like John; he is so complete and never accepts anything that can't be documented.

Twenty + years ago I asked my Mother if she knew who my Fathers' grandfather was and she said no but I need to ask my father's sister, and that started a trip that I still enjoy today. Now listen I realize we call this Talking Burleson, but you don't have to be a Burleson to be interested in this history, and if your family has lived in Stanly Co, NC, I will bet that if you go back far enough the two family meet.

L/R Sue Forrest, Nancy and John H Burleson, Cass Gannaway, JD Burleson, Hilda Snuggs

