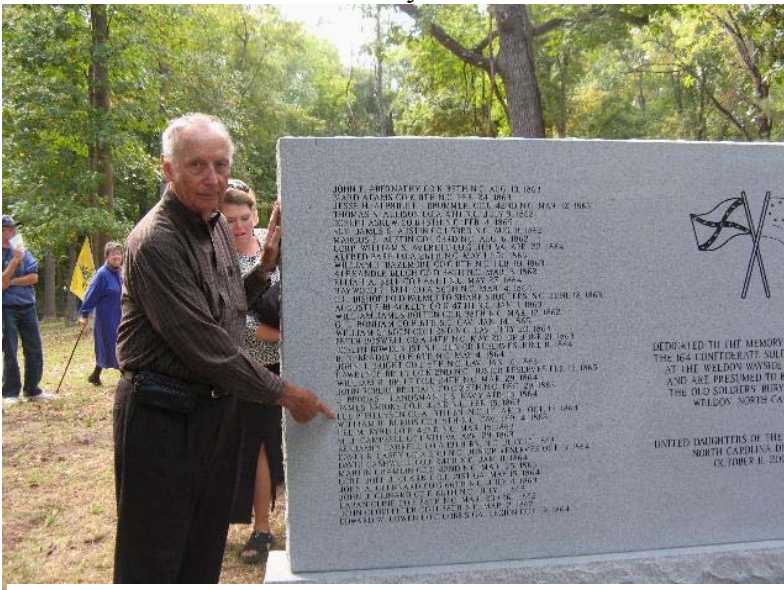


“Happenings”
 October 21, 2009

We had a wonderful Reunion. I will have pictures and a full report soon. I believe everyone had a great time, I know I did.

We would like to introduce Bob Cree to all of our Burleson Family. Bob has done a great deal of work on our Burleson Family History. Bob lives in VA and doesn't get to attend our meetings, but he is a great help in our genealogy research. Bob's mother is Judy Burleson Cree, a daughter of US and Mollie Furr Burleyson, Howell and Judith Burris Burleson, Billie, Isaac Jr. and Isaac Sr.

We all want to thank Bob for sending pictures of the Confederate Memorial Marker Dedication Ceremony, at Weldon Confederate Cemetery, Weldon NC. The Ceremony was Sunday, October 11, 2009. The ceremony was sponsored by the United Daughters of the Confederacy, NC Division. Lee Burleson is buried in this cemetery and his name is on the Marker.



This is Bob with the Marker pointing to Lee's Name



I am including a great deal of information that many of you may already know, but we have many new people on our mailing list. I wanted to insure everyone can follow this.

We want to thank the BFA, for allowing us to use these articles from their Bulletin.

These family histories were written by Mr. Raymond C. WATKINS. Pvt. Lee BURLESON was Mrs. WATKINS' BFA#171 great-great-grandfather. We urge others to write their ancestor's military history and send them in for publication in the "Bulletin."

Pvt. Lee BURLESON of Stanly County, North Carolina,
Confederate States Army

Lee BURLESON, formerly spelled BURLEYSON, age 36, a farmer in Stanly County, N. C., enlisted in the Confederate Army at Albemarle, the county seat, on June 30, 1861.

Lee and his wife Elizabeth (called Betsey) age 36, had seven children. Their names were: Adam, age 14; Mary, age 12; Nathan, age 10; Jonathan, age 8; Eva, age 6; Noah, age 4; and Joseph, age 1.

When Lee enlisted he was made a private in Company H, 14th Inf. Regt., N. C. Troops. Company H was known as the "Stanly Marksmen" and the officer-in-charge was Capt. R. ANDERSON.

The 14th Regt., 1000 strong, was formed at Garysburg, N. C., early in June, 1861, and consisted of ten companies, A through K. The head officers were: Col. Junius DANIEL of Halifax County, Lt. Col. G. S. LOVEJOY of Wake County and Maj. Paul E. FAISON of Northampton County.

Shortly after being organized the regiment was sent to Suffolk, Va., Dept. of Norfolk, and until July 9, 1861, was stationed at Camp Bragg about two miles from Suffolk. Then it moved to Camp Ellis, also near Suffolk, and remained there until Aug. 8, when it was sent to Camp Bee (name later changed to Fort Bee). Fort Bee was situated at Burwells Bay on the James River near Smithfield, Va., and was approximately 25 miles from Suffolk. The regiment's stay in Nansemond County, Va. was spent in training, garrison duty, etc. In March, 1862, Maj. Gen. Geo. B. McCLELLAN arrived at Fortress Monroe with a huge army and vast quantities of supplies. His plans were to march up the Peninsula and capture Richmond, the Confederate capital.

When the Confederate government learned of McCLELLAN's arrival, the 14th N. C. Regt. was moved across the James River and occupied a line along the Warwick River. It was called the Magruder Line after Confederate Gen. MAGRUDER.

After a short stay on this line the regiment returned to Fort Bee, but before long it was ordered to recross the James River to Yorktown to face McCLELLAN's army. Before McCLELLAN's army started moving, the pickets of the two confronting forces skirmished almost daily. In April, 1862, the Conscription Act was passed and orders and instructions received from the Confederate Sec. of War caused a reorganization of the military units. New officers in the 14th Regt. were: P. W. ROBERTS, Buncombe County, Colonel; R. Taylor BENNETT, Anson County, Lt. Col.; and ED DIXON, Cleveland County, Major. Company H acquired a new captain, his name was DeBERRY.

By May 1, 1862, only 900 names out of 1000 remained on the roster rolls of the 14th Regiment. It was quite a loss for the regiment. Later in May, McCLELLAN's army began to advance toward Richmond and the following battles resulted:

Battle of Williamsburg, May 4-5, 1862.

During the battle the 14th Regt. occupied the right wing of the Confederate line. The regiment was part of Brig. Gen. R. E. COLSTON's Brigade. This brigade was in the Second Division commanded by Maj. Gen. James LONGSTREET who was in overall command during the battle.

BURLESON FAMILY BULLETIN

MILITARY RECORDS - Stanly County, North Carolina

Pat Burleson

Battle of Seven Pines, May 31-June 1, 1862.

The Second Division covered the right wing in this fight. During the battle, Brig. Gen. Richard H. ANDERSON was temporarily in charge of Gen. LONGSTREET's Division.

Seven Days Battles, June 25-July 1, 1862.

During the seven days the following battles were fought: Beaver Dam Creek, Gaines Mill, Savage Station, Glendale, and Malvern Hill. The overall commander was Maj. Gen. T. J. (Stonewall) JACKSON. Under his command came Maj. Gen. Daniel H. HILL's Division. Then came the Second Brigade led by Brig. Gen. Geo. B. ANDERSON. The 14th Regt., a part of the Second Brigade was commanded by Col. Wm. A. JOHNSTON. On Aug. 5, 1862, Lee BURLESON was discharged by reason of the Conscript Act of April 16, 1862, he being over 35 years of age. His discharge gives his description as follows: height 5'8"; complexion, sallow; eyes, blue; hair, black.

Thirteen months later, on May 2, 1863, he decided to reenlist. He signed up in Stanly County in an artillery company, Co. D, 12th Battalion, Virginia Light Artillery. In membership this was a North Carolina company and its commanding officer was Capt. Louis H. WEBB. In May, 1863, Lee was sent to the Suffolk, Va., area. It was referred to as the line of the Blackwater River, Dept. of Southern Virginia and North Carolina. The commander-in-charge was Maj. Gen. Samuel G. FRENCH. Gen. FRENCH's job was to keep an eye on Union Gen. John J. PECK, who occupied Suffolk with an army of 25,000 men. The Union forces had moved into Suffolk from the Norfolk area on Sept. 22, 1862, and had fortified the town.

In June, 1863, Company D was ordered to Petersburg, Va., for duty under Maj. Gen. Daniel H. HILL. Then on Oct. 3, the company was sent to Fort Clifton, approximately four miles to the northeast of Petersburg. Fort Clifton was located on the south side of Swift Creek near its junction with the Appomattox River. While there, the company was transferred to the 13th Battalion, N. C. Light Artillery and became Company A, but it was still referred to as WEBB's battery.

On Jan. 2, 1864, it left Fort Clifton for Wilmington, N. C., arriving on Jan. 11. On Jan. 15, it was sent to Fort Fisher. While there the company was assigned to Batteries Gatlin and Anderson for coast guard duty and to protect the blockade runners. These batteries were located approximately seven miles north of Fort Fisher.

May 12, the company was sent to Masonboro Inlet (nearby) to protect the State salt works. On May 15, Federal ships appeared and attacked the salt works. The company, using two 3-inch rifled cannon, drove them off. One blockader was disabled and had to be towed away. A week later gunners at Fort Fisher shelled it, scored hits and it sank.

May 23, a detachment of eight men with two brass field pieces was sent to protect the Wilmington-Weldon Rail Road bridge over the north-east branch of the Cape Fear River. The bridge was located on the edge of Wilmington. Leaving Lt. McNEILL with one section at the bridge, Capt. WEBB with the other proceeded (next day) to Bannerman's Bridge and hence on the Holly Shelter Road, where being joined by a company of cavalry advanced to a position at a bridge over Shaking Creek to repel a threatened Federal raid from New Bern.

On June 5, 1864, they were ordered to Weldon, North Carolina. The men and artillery traveled by rail while Lt. HORNE led the horses by country roads. The company arrived on June 12.

In Weldon, the duty was outpost and garrison. While there Lee BURLESON became ill and was confined in the Confederate military hospital.

He died on Oct. 15, 1864, and was buried in the small military cemetery nearby. The doctors diagnosed his illness as "intermittent fever" (probably malaria).

His son, Adam, 17 years of age, who had just joined the Confederate army, was in Weldon at the time, but did not know that his father was stationed there and had just died.

The military cemetery contains about 100 burials and is located (now) approximately 150 feet opposite 1022 W. First St. (then known as Water Street). It is owned by the United Daughters of the Confederacy who had a granite monument erected in the center of the square.

The hospital building, which had been a Methodist Church, burned after the Civil War.

Note: Information from family and official sources. Lee married Elizabeth "Betsey" ALMOND.

Pvt. Adam BURLESON of Stanly County, N. C., Confederate States Army.
(Mrs. WATKINS great-grandfather.)

Adam BURLESON, formerly spelled BURLEYSON, son of Lee and Elizabeth (Betsey) BURLESON was born in Stanly Co., N. C. near Albemarle. On June 1, 1864, at age 17, he enlisted in the Confederate army at Camp Holmes, Raleigh, N. C., and he became a private in Company G, 1st Inf. Regt. N. C. Junior Reserves. The Muster-in roll gave his description as follows: height, 5'7½"; complexion, fair; hair, light; eyes, blue.

After a short period of training he was sent to a post at Weldon, N. C. While in Weldon he did not know that his father, Lee, age 39, was dying in the local Confederate military hospital of "intermittent fever". His father passed away Oct. 15, 1864, and was buried in the nearby Confederate military cemetery. On that same date, Oct. 15, 1864, Adam was transferred to Company D, 28th N. C. Inf. Regt., a combat-hardened unit serving in the Petersburg, Va. siege lines. Adam joined this unit at Petersburg. During that period the 28th Regt. was part of the Third Army Corps commanded by Lt. Gen. Ambrose P. HILL. Under this corps were Wilcox's Division, commanded by Maj. Gen. Cadmus M. WILCOX and Lane's Brigade, commanded by Brig. Gen. James H. LANE. The following infantry units were in Lane's Brigade: 7th N. C. Regt., 18th N. C. Regt., 28th N. C. Regt., and the 37th N. C. Regiment.

During the fall and winter of 1864-65, Wilcox's Division held the left of the Third Corps front at Petersburg. This six-mile front, located south and southwest of town, extended from Fort Gregg to Burgess' Mill. Gen. LANE's Brigade occupied the section of the siege line just east of Fort Gregg and included the fortification known as Fort Lee.

During the last half of 1864 and the first quarter of 1865, the Union Army, commanded by Maj. Gen. U. S. GRANT, hammered away at the thin-spread Confederate line. The Confederate army, badly out-numbered and short on food, clothing, medical and military supplies and equipment, was in a bad way.

Finally, on April 2, 1865, the Union forced through the outer defenses of Petersburg at Fort Gregg and Lane's Brigade was cut in two. The survivors retreated to the inner line, but this too was soon pierced and the Federals, at one point, broke through to the Appomattox River. Petersburg was doomed.

The night of April 2-3, 1865, the Confederates evacuated the city, crossed the Appomattox River, and then retreated west toward Amelia Court House, Va. A few hours later, Richmond, the Confederate capital, was evacuated and Federal forces marched in.

BURLESON FAMILY BULLETIN

OLD FAMILY LETTERS

Mary Cornelius Sweetman

(No salutation on letter itself, but sent to Mrs. Lee BURLESON (Elizabeth) in Stanley County, N.C.)

"Nancemon County, VA., June the 13th, 1861.

Lea BURLESON is well at this time and hopping these few lines will find you enjoying the same health. The war is not as I expected. Times is hard. We are not far off from the enemy. We heard that they was fighting in fourteen miles of us, fighting at Fort Monroe in Va. I want you to write to me as soon as you get this letter. Write to Nancemon, Suffolk, Nancemon County, Va. That I would like to see you all. We come on to Raleigh and staid one week, from there we come to Gargersburg and staid another week. To William BURLESON, Issic BURLERSON, David ALMOND, Absolom BURLESON that I don't beseech(?) you to volunteer. We are bound up here as same as Negrows would be under us. I have made a heap of money in Raleigh and in Gargersburg. Our orders are not to drink liquor nor to play cards any more. It is the orders of our Captain. We are expecting we will have to fight in a few days before you would be drafted I would volunteer. I saw more soldiers in Gargersburg than you ever expected we would see. We all agree very well in the camps. I am coming back as soon as my twelve months is out, whether discharged by the Govner or by the Captain. We may be though sooner discharged by a bullet. Me and my brother is moving together in one squad. We shall stay at Suffolk, Nancemon County, Va., till we are call to go into the field of battle. I want you to write to me how you are all doing for I am very much dissatisfied. I am in the 4th Regiment. There is about one thousand one hundred men in the Regiment. This day we have fastday and I expect we will have a good many more fastdays but it will be because we can't get it. It may be the last time that I will have the opportunity to write to you and if I never write to you any more try and meet me in heaven my brother was sick about two days. He took some pills and is well and hearty again. I don't know that I have any thing more to write you at present."

We thank Mrs. Raymond WATKINS, member #171, for sending the above and the information that Pvt. Lee Burleson was in Co. H, 14th N.C. Inf. Regt. In the latter part of the war he was transferred to Co. A, 13th Battalion, N.C. Light Artillery. He died Oct. 15, 1864, and was buried in Weldon, N.C., in a small military cemetery located about 150 feet opposite 1022 West First Street. About 100 Confederate Soldiers are buried there.

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Raymond Watkins is the husband of Maxine Lambert, daughter of Mac Lambert and Anna Belle Burleson Lambert, Odell and Emma Burleson, Adam Burleson, Lee Burleson, Isaac Jr. Isaac Sr.

THE BURLEYSON VINEYARD

By Bob Cree,

Grandson of U.S. Burleyson

Visiting the Burleyson vineyard was always a highlight in my visit with my grandfather Ulysses Shakespeare Burleyson who lived in Albemarle, NC. Incidentally, Grandpa always spelled his name with a "y" although all his children dropped the letter.

The vineyard was on a hillside on a farm owned by Grandpa Burleyson that he called the Poplin Place. The farm was just west of Long Creek on what is now the Hwy 52 bypass but in those days, there was no bypass.

According to my memory, the vineyard was started in the late 1930s and was producing well until the time

of World War II. U. S. Burleyson's son, Edward Macon Burluson, was key in its development but left the operation in the early days of the war and was in the Army. At the same time, U. S. Burleyson's other sons were either in the military, in defense work, or just not available to work the vineyard which required much more work than most people realize. This left Grandpa as the primary care giver at age 72.

I remember during one of my visits that some of my Stanly County friends and I were going swimming in the Creek so Grandpa gave each us a bunch of grapes to take with us. While swimming, a neighbor (I guess for there were not many homes in the area) came by and accused us of stealing Mr. Burleyson's grapes. We never convinced him that they had been given to us. Incidentally, during that same swim, we saw a large (at least it was large to me then) water snake in the creek coming directly towards us. We all left as fast we could, crawled under a barbwire fence with one exception. One of the boys caught his pants on the barbwire and could not get loose. Finally with torn pants, he joined the rest of us in flight. The vineyard went down rapidly with no one to give it the tender loving care it needed but while it was operating, I enjoyed every visit there. I always thought the grapes were for making grape jelly but later I learned that people bought grapes for other purposes.

U.S. Burleyson's School Bell

Here are two photos from Bob Cree. He wrote a short paragraph about the bell and U.S. Burleyson, his grandfather. *"Attached are two photos. One is of my Mother- Judie Burluson Cree- holding the bell that my grandfather Ulysses S. Burleyson used when he taught school at the Burleyson School. The other photo is of the bell alone. What stories the bell could tell if it only could talk. The bell now belongs to my sister Lynda Ann Cree Thompson who lives in High Point. She purchased the bell at the auction of the estate of U.S. Burleyson. Her only opponent in bidding at the auction was Hobart Morton. Back at that time, the family would use others to bid so as not to keep "outsiders" from bidding. I remember that Quentin Lowder did the bidding for Hobart Morton but am not sure who bid for my sister. The bell sold for \$12.50 which was a lot of money in those days.*



Ulysses Shakespeare and Rosa "Mollie" Furr Burleyson
Front Row US Jr., US Sr., Mollie, Raymond
Back Row Judie, Dellie, Macon, Theodore, Roxie and Nellie
December 25, 1936





Judie Burleson Cree



This is a photo from Lillie Burleson; it is the First Burleson School. Seated in the middle is U.S. Burleyson, he was the teacher.

Another note about U.S. Burleyson, Sr., he built the brick house at 1433 Charlotte Road next to the old West Albemarle Elementary School. Guess that I am getting old for I remember them building that school. If you stopped by the house today, you would still see his actual signature in the cement at the end of the walk where it joins the public sidewalk. He always had a beautiful handwriting. I sure did not inherit this talent from him.” Bob Cree



U.S and Mollie Furr Burleyson Family,
August 10, 1956
Left/Right, Judie, Dellie, Theodore, US, Jr., Macon,
Roxie, Nellie, Raymond

We would like to Thank William Robert (Bob) Cree for this interesting article and wonderful pictures he sent in to share with the Burluson Family. Bob is proud of his Burluson Heritage and he has done a great deal of genealogy research on the Howell Burluson Family. His Burluson line is, Judie Burluson Cree, US Burluson, Howell Burluson, Billie, Isaac Jr. and Isaac Sr.

Judie Burluson Cree

By: William Robert "Bob" Cree

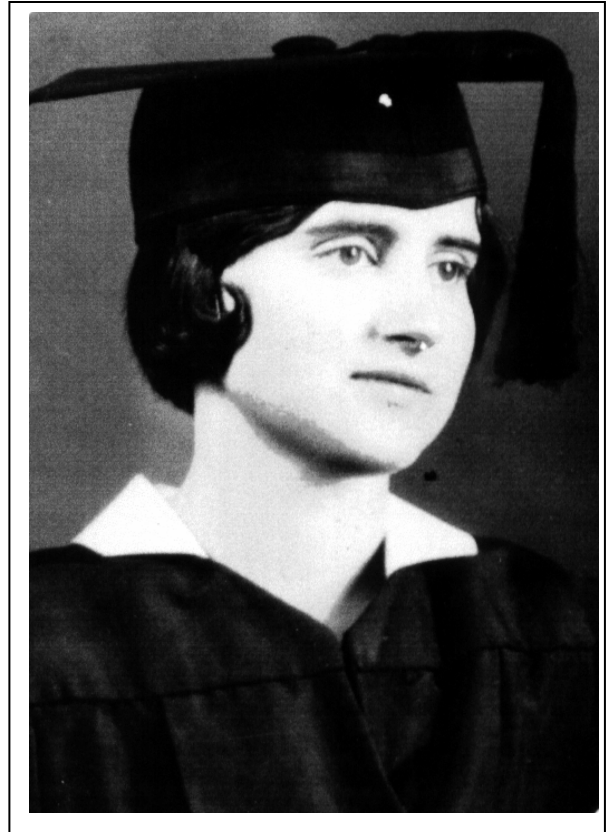
She is the daughter of U.S. Burleyson (also a teacher) and Rosa Lillian Ann "Mollie" Furr. She was born February 1, 1909 at the home of her parents in Bloomington, Stanly County.

I am unsure of the location of her elementary school education but assume that it was in the Bloomington area. She graduated from Albemarle High School around 1926 and then attended Wingate Junior College, where she met her future husband and my Father- Archie Gilliam Cree. After graduation from Wingate Junior College she attended Catawba College and graduated there with her BA degree. She was the first in her family to graduate from college, which was most unusual in those days.

Her first teaching position was at the Ridgecrest School in Stanly County. She taught there for one school session and wanted "to see the world" so she accepted a teaching position in a one-teacher school in Delaware. She lived with the Reed family who resided near the school. Most days she walked from home to the school but at times, the family with whom she lived would take her. She would assign various boys to build a fire in the heating stove each day as well as to bring in the required wood. She taught all the elementary grades in the one-room school for one year.

An interesting side note: About four years ago, Mother, my wife-June, and I were talking about her teaching in Delaware, and she remarked that she felt she had not expressed her appreciation to the family she lived with during her teaching year there. My wife asked Mother if she had ever had contact with the family since those days and Mother replied that she had not. My wife picked up the phone, called information and connected with the family where she found both the host husband and wife were still living and, in fact, the wife answered the phone. Mother and the lady carried on a conversation as if they had been apart for only a few months but it had been approximately 69 years. Incidentally, Mother then mailed them a check as a token of appreciation for what they had done.

She left the Delaware teaching position and married Archie G. Cree on December 26, 1930. The ceremony took place at the home of her Father who then resided at 1433 Charlotte Highway in Albemarle (next to the old West Albemarle Elementary School which is now a school administration building). They located in Newport News, Virginia where Archie worked as a bookkeeper in an appliance business owned by his sister's husband. Their first child- William Robert Cree (me) was born there on May 9, 1932. Their other child- Lynda Ann Cree was born in Statesville, NC on January 31, 1939.



Mother did not return to teaching until approximately 1945, the year her daughter started school. She taught at the Winecoff School in Concord, North Carolina. When the family moved to Albemarle in 1948, she transferred to the Endy School located in Stanly County. Dad became an Associational Missionary with the Baptist in Stanly County and later relocated to several other communities. Mother continued to teach transferring each time that Dad moved. The locations included Oxford, NC, Whiteville, NC, and Monroe, NC. She retired from teaching in approximately 1971.

I always considered my Mother as a most dedicated teacher. I remember her sitting up late at night grading the papers her students had submitted that day. I knew my teachers did not grade all my own papers so I asked her why she checked every single paper. Her reply was that if I required the student to use their time to prepare the paper, I owed them time to correct it. She loved teaching but when asked recently if she wished that she could return to the classroom, she replied "no". She did not feel she could face the lack of discipline in today's classroom and the lack of parent support, which appears to be a major problem. I must agree with her.

Until the last few months, Mother has worked to keep her mind sharp even at the age of 92. She would work her daily crossword puzzles and always kept at least five library books on her table. While she continues to do some reading, it is becoming more difficult each day. I wish I could provide more detailed information but her memory is not what it once was.



This photo was taken at the Burleson Family Reunion, October 15, 2000. Judie Burleson Cree was the hit of the reunion, and she was the inspiration and the spark that started the idea for a Reunion to Honor all Burleson related Teachers past and present. David Almond on the left and John Hoyle Burleson on the right were both students of Mrs. Cree in elementary school. As a result of this our 6th Annual Burleson Family Reunion was held on October 21, 2001, and our Recollections Volume IV was published with over 75 teachers recognized, with pictures and bios of most of them. Below are 14 of the Teachers present at our reunion. Some came from as far as Florida.





Judie Bureson Cree at her 95th Birthday Party February 2004
 With Bob Cree on the right and his son Michael Cree on the left and
 Michael's children Rhiannon, Joseph and Thomas

These pictures taken at Judie's 95th
 Birthday Party



Judie Cree with her daughter Lynda Cree Thompson
 Below, Minnie Honbaier Bureson wife of
 US, Jr. and Judie Bureson Cree



Virgie Earnhart Bureson wife of
 Raymond Bureson, son of US Burleyson.



Juanita Bureson (daughter of Theodore, son of US
 Burleyson Sr.) and her daughter Linda