



COL. E. W. TAYLOR  
SONS OF CONFEDERATE VETERANS #1777

# NEWSLETTER

Bedford, Texas.....January 2011

## Join Us As We Begin the New Year

On Thursday evening, January 27, we'll meet to begin our new year. We want to take this opportunity to thank Compatriot Lonnie Palmer for his two years of service as Camp Commander. He typifies that which is best in our group...with a willingness to serve ably and effectively. We appreciate his leadership by example.

At our last meeting in 2010 the following men were elected to serve during the new year: Robert Gresham will be the new Camp Commander; Richard Trawick will serve as 1<sup>st</sup> Lt. Commander; Mike Patterson will be the 2<sup>nd</sup> Lt. Commander; and James Alderman will continue his excellent work as Adjutant. The appointment of a color bearer is pending.

We look forward to a year of service, camaraderie, and work in honoring the memory of our Confederate ancestors and the principles for which they stood.



### JANUARY PROGRAM

COINAGE DURING THE WBTS. Join us as we see a power-point presentation and hear some interesting stories about the coins our ancestors had...or wished they had...in their pockets. The cent above, for instance, had a history interesting enough that a whole book was written about it.

### JANUARY MEETING-January 27, 2011

Catfish and Company  
900 Airport Freeway #110  
Hurst, Texas 817-581-3912  
Eat at 6:15 Meeting at 7:00

**GRAVE MARKER  
DEDICATION  
FEBRUARY 19, 2011  
AN OPPORTUNITY FOR  
SERVICE**

Deena Harrison writes to us: **“We need volunteers for a color guard, honor guard and 21-gun salute. In appreciation, we are serving a complimentary lunch following the ceremony. We would greatly appreciate the help and participation of uniformed CSA volunteers. If you have any questions or need additional directions, please let me know. Thanks! Please join us as we honor another CSA Veteran!”**

*You, Your Family and Guests are Invited to Join  
Mid-Cities Bluebonnet 2429 UDC  
As we Remember and Celebrate the  
Life and Confederate Service of  
Pvt. Silas Baggett, Jr.*

*Co. D, 2<sup>nd</sup> Arkansas Cavalry*

***Saturday Morning, February 19, 2011***

***10:00 a.m. Grave Marker Dedication Ceremonies***

***Historic Watson Cemetery***

*Oldest Cemetery in Tarrant County*

*Please bring lawn chairs. Thanks.*

*Northbound Hwy. 360 Service Rd., Just S. of I-30*

***12:00 Noon, Complimentary Lunch***

***Historic West Fork Presbyterian Church***

*Directions: Northbound on Hwy. 360, Exit Ave. K*

*Go East-bound on Ave. K, Cross the Railroad Tracks*

*Turn Left on 109<sup>th</sup> St.; Turn Right on Santerre St.;*

*Church is on Left*

*For additional information, please contact:*

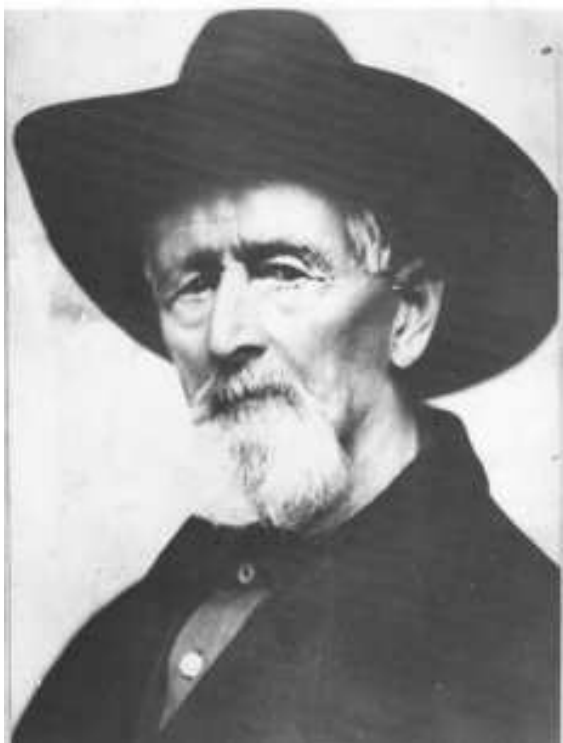
*Dorothy Norred, President [djnorred@yahoo.com](mailto:djnorred@yahoo.com)*

*Jan Barrett, Monuments and Markers Chairman*

*[jbarr2@flash.net](mailto:jbarr2@flash.net)*

*Deena Harrison, Descendant of Veteran*

*[dharrison@dfwairport.com](mailto:dharrison@dfwairport.com) 214/536-7951*



WILLIAM LETCHWORTH HURST, known here as Uncle Billy, was a familiar figure in this community for over fifty years.

He was born in 1833 in Claiborne County, Tennessee, and came here with his wife and children in 1870, settling first in Eules. He later lived for many years in Bedford, and died in Hurst in 1922.

Many of his family members still live here today. His grandson, Bill Souder, served as post-master of

# GETTING TO KNOW OUR LOCAL CONFEDERATES

Hurst for 25 years, and as Mayor of Hurst for 24 years after that. Mr. Souder's other grandfather was Jeff Souder, a Union veteran who died at Hurst and lies buried there in Arwine Cemetery.

Thus Bill's dad's dad was a Union soldier, and his mom's dad was a Confederate. Mr. Souder may be the only man left in America today who can say that.

Uncle Billy Hurst served as a private in Co. H, 61<sup>st</sup> Tennessee Mounted Infantry. He served from the fall of 1862 until he was released from the military prison at Rock Island, Illinois in March, 1865.

In 1903 he granted the railroad right-of-way across his land, and the stop there was named Hurst in his honor. He was a member of the R. E. Lee Camp of the U. C. V. in Ft. Worth.

Uncle Billy was active until the end of his life. He was a force to be reckoned with when the game was dominoes.

One of his grandchildren remembered seeing him jump into the air and click his heels the day before he died. He had more than one hundred grandchildren. Many of them remembered him well, and their interviews were included in a lengthy biography written in 1980.

Once asked if he'd shot any yankees while he was in the army, he said one day he and a comrade were shooting at an federal who was up in a tree. The yankee fell out of the tree, but Uncle Billy said he didn't know which of them hit him.

He and his wife, Mary Lynch Hurst, had fourteen children, although not all of them lived to be grown. Mrs. Hurst died in 1908 and was buried beside some of their children in Bedford Cemetery. Uncle Billy survived until 1922, and was buried beside her.

# SOME USEFUL INTELLIGENCE

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Finding information about our Confederate ancestors isn't as difficult, and in some ways is less expensive, than it used to be. Lots of things are now available online, and the Dallas Public Library has a collection which will amaze you.

Let's talk about **Confederate pensions**. Every state which granted pensions to Confederate veterans kept their applications and paperwork on file.

You can see the **whole** file, for **every** soldier and state, by simply driving to the Dallas Public Library. It's all there on microfilm, and copies are only a quarter each.

Dallas also has the **Compiled Military Service Records** for all the Confederate soldiers from Texas, Alabama, Tennessee, those raised directly by the CSA government, and many of the Galvanized Yankee files...the same things you used to order from Washington City for big bucks and then wait and wait and wait....

If you need to order several military service record files from Washington consider getting yourself a subscription to **footnote.com**.

Then you'll have quick and easy access to the **Compiled Military Service Records** of **every** Confederate soldier from **every** state whose records have survived. For about the cost of three files, you can get a year's subscription to footnote.



## PLEASE NOTE

Your humble newsletter editor knows about as much about computers as Harriet Beecher Stowe knew about slavery. He lacks the requisite synapses to learn most software programs. He has managed to learn the rudiments of Powerpoint, and so will be forced to present your monthly Newsletter in that format. He will present to you what he has in his hands at the end of business on the 15<sup>th</sup> day of each month. He appreciates your input and support.

# CONFEDERATE PENSION HELPS...

Many states now have their Confederate pension indexes online:

<http://www.floridamemory.com/collections/pensionfiles/PensionSearchResults.asp> [Florida]

<http://www.tsl.state.tx.us/arc/pensions/> [Texas]

<http://www.odl.state.ok.us/oar/docs/pension.pdf> [Oklahoma]

[http://www.ark-ives.net/documenting/confed\\_pensions.asp](http://www.ark-ives.net/documenting/confed_pensions.asp) [Arkansas]

<http://www400.sos.louisiana.gov/archives/gen/cpa-alpha.htm> [Louisiana]

<http://www.archivesindex.sc.gov/onlinearchives/search.aspx> [South Carolina]

[http://ajax.lva.lib.va.us/F/?func=file&file\\_name=find-b-clas10&file\\_name=find-b-clas10&local\\_base=CLAS10](http://ajax.lva.lib.va.us/F/?func=file&file_name=find-b-clas10&file_name=find-b-clas10&local_base=CLAS10) [Virginia]



AN INTERNET SURPRISE! While looking at a group of photos taken during the 75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration at Gettysburg, we were thrilled to see A. H. Yeager, 96, of Cleburne, Texas. Mr. Yeager died in 1940 in Cleburne. He and his wife were both pensioned by the State of Texas.



# NEW AND EASY PLACES TO SEARCH FOR OUR LOCAL CONFEDERATE VETERANS

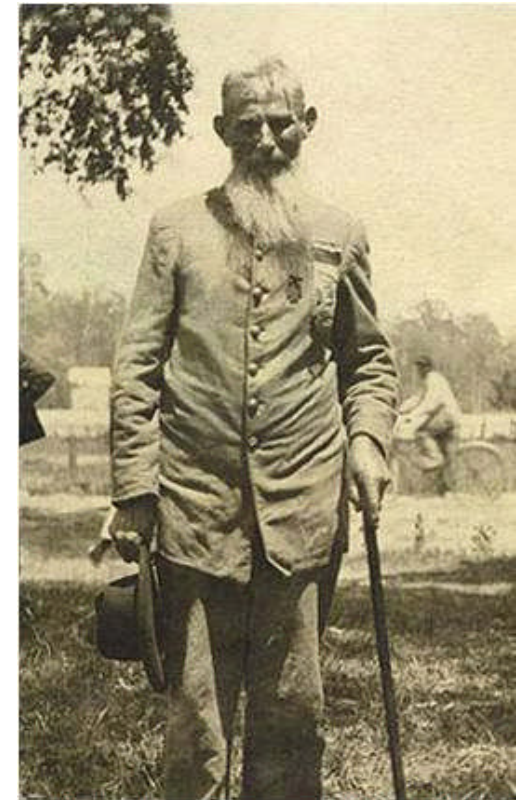
Take a look at some of these rarely-used **online** sources of information on area Confederate veterans. **Fully searchable:**

Mamie Yeary's Reminiscences of the Boys in Gray, 1861-1865 (1912).  
<http://texashistory.unt.edu/ark:/67531/metaph29786/> Lots of Tarrant and Johnson County men's stories in their own words.

Lewis Publishing Co.'s History of Texas, Together With a Biographical History of Tarrant and Parker Counties... (1895)  
<http://www.archive.org/stream/historyoftexasto00chic#page/n3/mode/2up>

Lewis Publishing Co.'s Memorial and Biographical History of Johnson and Hill Counties, Texas... (1892)  
<http://texashistory.unt.edu/ark:/67531/metaph46829/>

Frank W. Johnson, Eugene C. Barker, and Ernest W. Winkler, Texas and Texans, Vol. 4 (1916).  
<http://www.archive.org/details/historyoftexaste04john>



# NEW AND EASY PLACES TO SEARCH FOR OUR LOCAL CONFEDERATE VETERANS

B. B. Paddock, History of Texas: Fort Worth and the Texas Northwest Vol. 3 and 4 (1922):

<http://www.archive.org/details/historyoftexasfo04padd>  
<http://www.archive.org/stream/historyoftexasfo03padd>

B. B Paddock, A History of Central and Western Texas (1911):

<http://www.archive.org/details/historyofcentral01padd>

Lewis Publishing Co., Memorial ;and Biographical History of Dallas County, Texas (1892):

<http://www.archive.org/stream/memorialbiograph02lewi#page/n5/mode/2up>

Lewis Publishing Co., History of Texas: Supplemented with Biographical Mention of Many Prominent Persons and Families of the State (1896):

<http://www.archive.gov/details/historyoftexassu00lewi>  
<http://www.a>



**Searching hints:** Don't just search using surnames...search using town and county names, given names, names of creeks where your folks lived, etc. Use alternate spellings of names, too.







Early in the day of the big snow, Feb. 2010

**Present Totals:**

**548-  
Confederates**

**73-Union**

**8-Both (mostly  
Galvanized  
Yankees)**

**2-Allegiance  
Undetermined**

**The Northeast Tarrant County Civil War Veterans Memorial** is still growing. It's at 2401 Bedford Road, on land belonging to Bedford church of Christ. The biographies on the Website are nearing a half-million words, with lots of photographs. Take a look for yourself at [http://www.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~txtarran/military/civil\\_war\\_vets.htm](http://www.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~txtarran/military/civil_war_vets.htm)



***“To you, Sons of Confederate Veterans, we will commit the vindication of the Cause for which we fought. To your strength will be given the defense of the Confederate soldier's good name, the guardianship of his history, the emulation of his virtues, the perpetuation of those principles which he loved and which you love also, and those ideals which made him glorious and which you also cherish. Remember, it is your duty to see that the true history of the South is presented to future generations.”***

**Lt. Gen. Stephen D. Lee  
Commander-General  
United Confederate Veterans  
New Orleans, April 25, 1906**

