



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

# **NEWSLETTER**

**Bedford, Texas..January 2013**



## ***REENACTING THE W.B.T.S.***

**JAN. MEETING Jan. 31 , 2013**  
**Catfish and Company**  
**900 Airport Freeway #110**  
**Hurst, Texas 817-581-3912**  
**Eat at 6:15 Meeting at 7:00**

Join us our own compatriot, James Madewell, shares his knowledge and experiences in reen-actment. The photo above, taken at Shiloh, is one of the many he'll have as a part of a power-point presentation and discussion. Help start the new year by supporting our camp and enjoying some good fellowship and catfish.

# **TAYLOR CAMP OFFICER INSTALLATIONS TO BE HELD AT JANUARY MEETING**

By this time in our lives, most of us have been making New Years' Resolutions for decades. The older we get, the fewer we make because we know ourselves well enough to ....well, you know.

Here's an easy one to keep. Resolve to have perfect attendance at all the meetings of the Taylor Camp this year. That's ten Thursday evenings with friends and fried catfish. Not too scary a specter to face.

Our friend Ben Hatch, the Commander of the Third Brigade of the Texas Division, SCV, will be at our meeting to swear in our new officers. Please join us!

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## **IF YOU'RE MARCHING WITH US IN THE STOCK SHOW PARADE ON JANUARY 19, PLEASE NOTE...**

Ben Hatch, a veteran of many such parades, has some advice for us. We should meet at the corner of Third Street and Pecan Street in downtown Fort Worth no later than 9 a.m. After we're all assembled, he can lead us in a group to our next rendezvous.

Ben says there'll be plenty of street parking there. You might also consider bringing a snack and something to drink because we'll have some waiting to do. Hopefully, we can find a place to get out of the wind to wait.





## **FORMER CAMP COMMANDER HONORED DEC. 21**

On Friday morning, Dec. 21, five Taylor Camp members placed a commemorative bronze plaque and engraved granite stone at the grave of Compatriot Lonnie Palmer, who passed away last May 18. He was buried in Prairie Mound Cemetery near Argyle in Denton County.

The members who took the stone to the cemetery included, l-r David Stewart, Bob Gresham, Ron Parker, Mike Patterson, and James Alderman, who took the photograph.





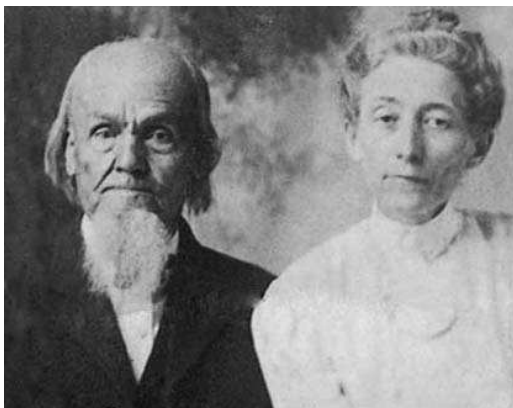
## KENNEDALE CSA VET GETS A MARKER AFTER 88-YEAR WAIT

Early on Sunday afternoon, December 2, we braved the 80-degree winter blast and installed the latest in a series of VA markers for our Tarrant County CSA veterans. Mike and Marilyn Patterson set the stone after the Wounded Warriors parade in Fort Worth.

Garrett's was the first stone resulting from our internet offer to do the leg work in getting any eligible Tarrant County vet a rock. Descendant Carolyn Green of Longview, Texas got in touch with us. From the day the app was mailed to the VA to the day the stone arrived....thirty-eight days. That's probably a function of the VA having far less applications to process than they did a year ago, and our practice of sending good, complete documentation.

Mr. Garrett served in Co. A, 24<sup>th</sup> Tennessee Infantry. The Garretts came to this county from Walker County, Georgia about 1880. They lie buried in Hudson Cemetery.

## V. A. HEADSTONE FOR BIRDVILLE CSA VET IN THE WORKS



William G. Nuckolls was a veteran of the 7<sup>th</sup> (Duckworth's) Tennessee Cavalry. He came to Tarrant County from Hardeman County, Tennessee about 1880 and settled near Keller.

Nuckolls' first wife died in 1890 and was buried in Birdville Cemetery. He was later remarried to a widow who was thirty-four years his junior. She survived until 1936.

Mr. Nuckolls died in 1927. Neither his grave nor the grave of his first wife have ever been marked.

Several other veterans also lie buried in Birdville Cemetery in unmarked graves. We are working to get private funding for them or to find living descendants so we may also get VA headstones for them.





# **OUR NEW CAMP FLAG IS HERE!**



A few days ago the mailman delivered our new camp flag, expertly sewn and painted by Compatriot Preston Furlow of Ellis County.

It will be carried by one of our Taylor Camp members, Boone Eustace, in the Stock Show Parade in Fort Worth on January 19.

# ***TAYLOR BATTLE FLAG HAS INTERESTING HISTORY***



We have been shown a most magnificent stand of colors, made for the 3d Texas Infantry, by Mrs. Phelps of New Orleans, now in Havana, and by her sent to be presented to the regiment here. It consists of a regimental flag and a battle flag, all of heavy silk, with bullion stars, and heavy bullion cords and tassels. We doubt if there is another so costly and elegant a stand of colors belonging to any regiment in the service. We doubt not the regiment will be as proud of it, as it is beautiful, and rejoice to know that the exiles of New Orleans, now in Havana, are not unmindful of the soldier battling for the recovery of their homes. Mrs. Phelps was formerly of Brasoria county, in this State.—  
*Houston Telegraph.*

Dallas Herald, Aug. 26, 1863, p. 2

Several units serving in the Trans-Mississippi Confederacy used flags that follow the basic design of the battle flag of the Army of Northern Virginia but wherein the color of the field and the color of the St. Andrew's Cross are reversed.

General Richard Taylor (only son of US President Zachary Taylor) used this odd flag, as did many of his units. Regardless of the possible confused origin of the flag, the troops beneath it scored impressive victories over the invaders of their land.

The flag above was carried by an unidentified Texas unit at the Battles of Mansfield and Pleasant Hill, Louisiana. It is one of only two or three known surviving Taylor flags which were actually carried into battle. It now resides in the collection of the Texas State Library and Archives in Austin.

The first examples of this flag were evidently made in Cuba with the stars and unit designation embroidered in silver wire and the fringe of knotted silk. The Dallas Herald on 26 August 1863 (in quoting the Houston Telegraph) confirmed that this battle flag (and an accompanying "regimental flag") had been made in Havana, Cuba by a Mrs. Phelps, an expatriate from New Orleans temporarily residing on the island and was in Texas by that date. The 3rd Texas Infantry (which received the first flag) was part of the Galveston garrison at that time and was not yet associated with Walker's Division. Researchers now believe that Mrs. Phelps simply misinterpreted a written description she had been given for the correct color pattern of the battle flag when she prepared the flag for the 3rd Texas Infantry.

## A Few Musings from the Incoming Camp Commander. I

have never been much of a fan of “Commander’s Messages,” in newsletters. You won’t see them here very often. News items get other newsletter coverage, and all our members are sentient beings who don’t need obvious things pointed out to them. That being said, here are some ruminations about why folks can’t come to SCV meetings. Like every organization in existence today, there are lots more folks on the rolls than there are active members. The reasons are many, and most of them are valid. Most have to do with the two of the resources we have we value most: our time and our funds.

- **“We are tired.”** Valid. Many SCV members are still working, and the thought of having to clean up and get back into a car after a long commute is just too much. Don’t worry about cleaning up. If you smelled good enough to be at work, you’re welcome at our meetings. If anyone reeks, you have my permission to put out the rumor that it’s me.
- **“It costs too much to eat out.”** Valid. Hope and Change have hit many of us very, very hard. Sometimes we just have a small salad, but it’s nice to get out. If you want to wait until seven and miss the meal, that’s fine, too.
- **“It takes too long to drive to the meeting place.”** Valid. I live about six miles away and it takes a half-hour because of traffic. It takes about as long in 2012 to get from place to place in the metroplex as it did in Model T days. Crowded highways and eternal construction have cancelled out the advantage of faster cars.
- **“It costs too much to drive to the meeting.”** Valid. It now costs each of us .25 cents per mile to operate our car, with gas, insurance, maintenance, and license fees and taxes.
- **“Nothing interesting happens at meetings.”** Invalid. We do our best to have timely, interesting, entertaining programs. If you know of something which would make a good program, why not research it and do the program for us? We’ll make you a power-point program to go with it, and all you’ll have to do is press the button on the remote.

Your incoming commander and his wife spent many years as active birders and officers of the Fort Worth Audubon Society. The people who never saw the good birds were the people who stayed home and never went on our field trips. Some of the friends we made there will be our good friends from now on.

The same goes for any special-interest organization like the SCV. The folks who have the fun, who make the new friends, who learn something, and who help in preserving the memory of our Confederate heroes are the ones who take part in the meetings and projects.

***Every good thing comes to us with a price. The cost of attending SCV meetings is very small in relation to the good we can do and the enjoyment we can have. Come see us!!!***



# GETTING TO KNOW OUR LOCAL CONFEDERATES



*James W. Terrill may be shown here wearing his "uniform," such as it was, when he left this community for the service.*

## James William Terrill

was born in Randolph County, Missouri about 1837. He was a son of Benjamin Terrill, a widely-known Baptist evangelist. In 1860, James' parents, Benjamin and Delilah Terrill, joined the Bear Creek Baptist Church in present-day Euless, near their home.

James W. Terrill enlisted in the Confederate service at Fort Worth on March 8, 1862 for a term of twelve months. He became a private in Captain Michael D. Kennedy's Company of the 15<sup>th</sup> Texas Cavalry. By the time he resigned from the service in the summer of 1864, he was Captain of his company.

In the fighting around Atlanta he was wounded three times, the most severe of which cost him his left lung. For the rest of his life he suffered the effects of the wound.

He led a distinguished life after the War, working as a teacher and minister. He fathered a large family of teachers and scholars; one of his sons was Valedictorian of Yale University in 1903.

After the War he served as president of Mt. Pleasant College in Randolph County, Missouri and as president of Winchester Normal School in Winchester, Franklin County, Tennessee. Later still, he founded and was president of Terrill College at Decherd, Tenn.

His stringent stance on prohibition in Tennessee caused the resignation of forty of his pupils on the day following his first speech on the subject. Later he was shot at, had his house set afire, and was hanged in effigy by his enemies. He stayed put throughout those days of threat and held to his principles.

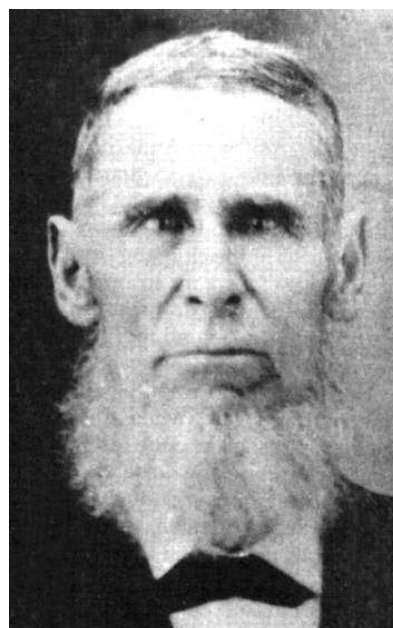
About 1906 Mr. Terrill returned to Texas and settled at Dallas to be near one of his sons. Later he moved to San Angelo, Texas because he felt the climate would be better for him there.

James W. Terrill died of apoplexy at 6:30 p.m. on February 11, 1918 at San Angelo, Tom Green County, Texas. He was buried in Dallas, Texas in Oakland Cemetery. On March 31, 1939, his body was moved to Hillcrest Cemetery's mausoleum in another section of Dallas.

Mr. Terrill was married four times; each wife lost one child in infancy, but twelve of his children lived to adulthood. This newsletter compiler knew and worked on several historical projects with one of his daughters-in-law, Catherine Terrill, of Grapevine.



## The next in our continuing series on the last surviving veterans of America's wars....



William Physick Zuber (1820-1913), above, was the last survivor of the Texas Revolution fought in 1836. This remarkable man, who was a farmer, soldier, teacher, writer, and amateur historian, left an unparalleled record of himself and his times. He died in Austin and is buried there in the State Cemetery.

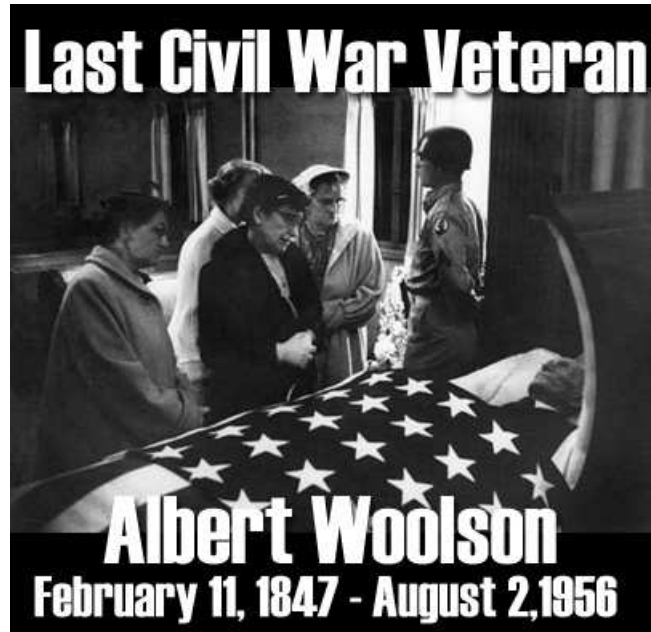
Owen Thomas Edgar (1831-1929), below left, lived longer than any other American veteran of the Mexican War. He served on three different U. S. frigates, enlisting in 1846 and serving until 1849. He died in Washington D. C. and is buried there in the Congressional Cemetery.



The last Union combat veteran in the WBTS was probably James Albert Hard (1843-1953), right, who served in the 37<sup>th</sup> New York Infantry. He died in Rochester, New York.

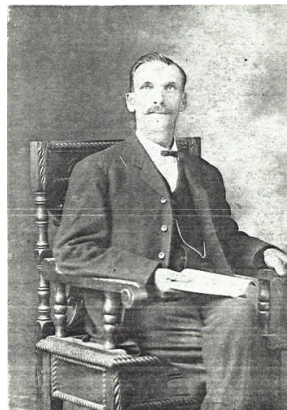


## Last Surviving Veterans, cont.



One other Union veteran survived Mr. Hard. He was Albert Woolson (1847-1956), above, who served in the 1<sup>st</sup> Minnesota Heavy Artillery beginning in 1864, but his company was never in combat. He died in Duluth, Minnesota. Most researchers consider him to be the last verifiable survivor of the WBTS. At <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=5Td4xzS6r2E&feature=related> you can watch a short home movie of him.

One of the best ways to start a scrap, especially in Texas, is to make a statement during a presentation about the identity of the last living Confederate veteran. To many observers who don't have a chicken in the fight, it seems that Pleasant Riggs Crump is the last one who has all the paperwork and credentials in place. A veteran of Co. A, 10<sup>th</sup> Alabama Infantry, he died in Lincoln County, Alabama in 1951, just a few days past his 104<sup>th</sup> birthday. There were a few others who outlived him and who may have served, but they can't be completely documented.







***“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. General Stephen Dill Lee**