

Biographies of West Virginia statehood leaders were prepared by Marshall University Humanities Program graduate students enrolled in Dr. Billy Joe Peyton's Fall 2010 "Historical Studies" class at Marshall's South Charleston campus.

By Kelly L. Pruett

### **John Hawxhurst**

John Hawxhurst, delegate from Fairfax County, was born in New York and immigrated to Fairfax County with his brother, Job, about 1845. They were part of a massive influx of Northerners to Fairfax County. John and Job Hawxhurst first settled in the Vale area of Fairfax County. Here they operated a grist mill. At the beginning of the Civil War, John and his brother Job were among the few Fairfax County citizens to vote against the secession referendum. John was eventually appointed a delegate to the wheeling convention which created the State of West Virginia in 1863.

Sources:

Johnson, William Page, *The Fare Facs Gazette: The Newsletter of Historic Fairfax City, Inc.*, Volume 3, Issue 4, Fall 2005