

Major W.H. “Howdy” Martin Camp #1241

SONS OF CONFEDERATE VETERANS Athens, Texas

HOWDY HERALD

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**THE CHARGE TO THE
SONS OF CONFEDERATE
VETERANS**

“To you, Sons of Confederate Veterans, we submit 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 he loved and 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
General Commander
United Confederate Veterans
April 25, 1906*

William Harrison “Howdy” Martin

1823-1898

In 1861 during the War Between the States, William Harrison Martin enlisted in the Confederate Army and served in Company K of the 4th Texas Infantry that was assigned to Lee’s Army of Northern Virginia. Martin gained his nickname because of his refusal to salute superior officers. Instead, he would politely tip his hat and say “howdy.”

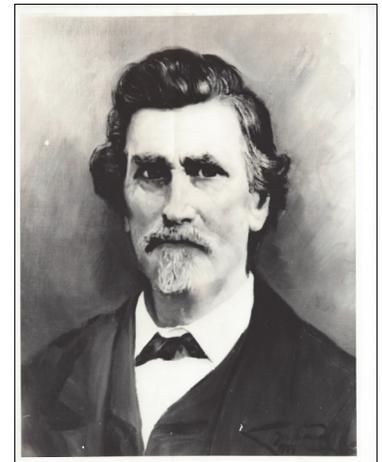
According to the Texas Historical Commission, Howdy Martin fought in the Eastern theater of operations in all of the fighting. After the signing of the surrender terms at Appomattox, Major Martin and Captain W. T. Hill led the remaining members of Hood’s Texas Brigade back to the Lone Star State.

He was born September 2, 1823, in Twiggs County, Georgia, to Benjamin and Charlotte Martin. His early schooling was in Alabama where he was admitted to the Bar. In 1850 he moved to Athens, Texas, and started a law practice in Henderson County. He represented Freestone, Limestone, Henderson, and Navarro counties from 1853 to 1858 in the Texas Senate. Answering the call, he raised a company of volunteers that became a part of Hood’s Texas Brigade. In April, 1864, he was promoted from captain to major. After the war, Martin was elected district attorney. He married Martha E. Gallimore of Navarro County and the couple had seven children. He was later elected to the U.S. House of Representatives in 1887 and served in the 50th and 51st Congresses 1887-1891 before retiring again to his farm near Athens.

Howdy Martin was a member of the Hill County Camp of Confederate Veterans when he died at his final home in Hill County on February 5, 1898. A lawyer, a Confederate officer who served the entire Civil War and a congressman, at 76 years old Major Howdy Martin was buried at the Hillsboro City Cemetery.

Read more about Howdy Martin’s life, family and career on our camp website.

www.martincamp.org



Do your duty in all things. You cannot do more, you should never wish to do less.

General Robert E. Lee

Spotlight on Our Camp

1. Our August 10th SCV Howdy Martin Camp Meeting was held at the Calvary Baptist Church Gym with Commander Jimmy **Abney** presiding. After first recognizing our guests, Chaplain Jim **Day** was asked to give the blessing for our pot luck dinner.
2. Quartermaster Dale **Sifford** next led the pledges to the flags and the reading of The Charge. We had **31 guests and members present**.
3. Cmdr **Abney's** historical program included the CD "The Truth Concerning the Confederate Battle Flag" by **Pastor John Weaver**. With the Battle Flag constantly in the news, it was a perfect time for our camp to hear this very informative CD that was from an experienced pastor's viewpoint. In addition, 2nd Lt Cmdr Ron **Freeman**, Compatriot Bob **Lynch**, and Cmdr **Abney** each took a turn to share their thoughts about their trip to the SCV Nationals in Richmond, Virginia.
4. In the absence of Adjutant/Treasurer Dr Jim **Ogburn**, 1st Lt Cmdr Joey **Ables** read the minutes of our July meeting and Chaplain Jim **Day** relayed from Dr **Ogburn** that our camp's finances remain sound. The minutes were approved as given.
5. Cmdr **Abney** reminded members that annual dues need to be paid by August 1st. Chaplain **Day** collected several payments to give to Dr **Ogburn**.
6. A discussion followed concerning the September 19th Wreay Cemetery Dedication. Quartermaster Dale **Sifford** said he will obtain written directions, but it is located off of Hwy 19 North to County Road 1861. Cmdr **Abney** asked for volunteers for an honor guard and noted a cannon crew will be needed.
7. Cmdr **Abney** called for a work day at the Arms Cemetery for August 15th at 9am. Since Chaplain **Day**, his wife and Webmaster Mike **Burton** mowed on July 2nd, members were asked to bring a chain saw, weed trimmers, and rakes for a quick cleanup. Taking care of the Arms Cemetery has been declared months ago as an extended camp project.
8. Chaplain **Day** shared that he contacted the man who sold several members a SCV vest when he was at the Canton Trades Day. He offered to sell additional vests for \$30 each including shipping. At the next meeting those who bought vests will bring them for sizing.
9. Advisor Bunny **Freeman** shared that the Athens Review section of the Bethel News included news of members attending the recent SCV Nationals in Richmond, VA. In addition, Chaplain **Day** said the Mabank Monitor and the Athens Review printed details of the date, time and place of our August meeting and included our camp website.



Commander Jimmy Abney presides over our meeting.



Officers meet one hour just prior to the regular monthly meeting.

10. Cmdr **Abney** again reminded our camp that our National SCV Reunion is in Dallas next year and will be hosted by members of **Tyler's Captain James P Douglas Camp 124**. Our Martin Camp has been asked to help make this Reunion the best ever to be held this close to home. Early registration is being accepted now. The website for more information is www.SCV2016.org The Renaissance Hotel in Richardson is the host hotel and rooms are about \$120 per night. The Reunion Dates are July 13-16th.
11. Cmdr **Abney** and Adjutant/Treasurer Dr. **Ogburn** attended the Texas for Leadership Training on Saturday, August 1st in Texarkana, TX. **The Texas Division Red Diamond Camp 2193** were hosts. Cmdr **Abney** gave a positive report of an "excellent training program" that addressed the recent total disapproval of Southern History and how it is being torn down. He shared news of a school in California that will not let any student wear clothing symbolizing the American flag for fear of "offending any other students. He reemphasized his earlier plea for us all to read the South Was Right! He also discussed with us a training class lesson pertaining to the actual slave ships that flew the American Flag!
12. Cmdr **Abney** asked for members to think about ideas for our Christmas Party. Our monthly meeting is December 14th .
13. Compatriot **David Miller** asked about a vendor to order Confederate Flags. Several members shared their positive experiences ordering from Eric in Canton at the **I Am Erica's Flags** located on the Trades Grounds but is open daily. His phone number is **214-957-0385**
14. After paying \$1.00, Cmdr **Abney** reminded new members that the "KITTY" gets \$1.00 if you unintentionally or accidentally say "Civil War" instead of War of Northern Aggression!
15. J. W. Williamson has contacted our camp about helping clean up the **Evan Cemetery** near Lake Palestine. It does have a Texas State Historical Marker as well as a Federal Marker. Cmdr **Abney** will give us more details later.
16. 8th Brigard 2nd Lt Cmdr **Marc Robinson** complimented Cmdr **Abney** for flaying his Confederate Battle Flag in front of his house. Robinson travels that direction often on his way to work and said he always notices it. He also reminded us that **August 29th is the National Flay Your Flag Day.**
17. Advisor **Bunny Freeman** and **Luke** went to the Flag Rally in GBC recently which is now the largest to be held in Texas with over 140 vehicles. **Freeman** was able to pass out over 40 Howdy Camp applications.
18. Prayer requests for this month: Stringbean in the loss of a cousin, Jim Day, Much needed Rain and Our Nation.
19. Chaplain Day closed our meeting with a prayer and led everyone in a very proud round of singing "**Dixie.**"



Flags * Banners * Accessories

Flags of All Types: U.S., State, Seasonal, Decorative, House and Garden Flags, Other Countries, Military, Historical, Novelty, Collegiate, Pro Sports

367 N. Trade Days Blvd. Canton, Texas
service@iamericasflags.com 214-957-0385

Texas Division Red Diamond Camp 219 Leadership Training Conference Texarkana, Texas August 1, 2015



Above: Our Past Texas Division Commander **Johnnie Holley** is seen on the right in small group meeting.
Left: Howdy Adjutant/Treasurer **Jim Ogburn** visits with other SCV Compatriots.
Below: Howdy Commander **Jimmy Abney** and Adjutant/Treasurer **Dr. Jim Ogburn** are seated on the left. To their right is our current Texas Division Commander **Gary Bray**.



Arms Cemetery Cleanup August 15, 2015



Above: Luke Freeman moves large limbs to the ever growing burn pile.
Below: It was dry and especially dusty.



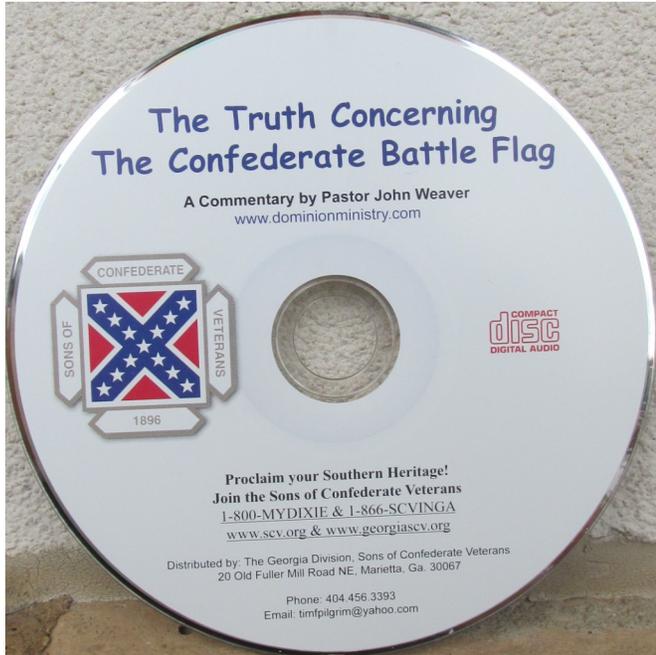
Left: Jim Day, Ron Freeman, Bunny and Luke, Teresa Day

The crowd was small, but we left
The Arms Cemetery looking good
after working
about three hours.
We are currently under a
BURN BAN!
So we could not burn the large pile!



Above: The burn pile can be torched another day.

"The Truth Concerning the Confederate Battle Flag" Pastor John Weaver August Meeting Potluck Dinner & Fellowship





Commander Jimmy Abney

From the Commander

Greetings,

Our Southern Heritage is under attack by every northern liberal in this nation. In the war for Southern Independence, the North tried to eliminate our life and morals because their principles were so different than ours. It has been 150 years since the North forced the South to submit to its rules at the point of a bayonet. I firmly believe that reconstruction has not stopped since 1865. They have done everything to change our culture to try to match theirs. The lies that have been taught in our schools have been a way to make the South feel ashamed of our culture and heritage. Today the War for Southern Independence is still going on. We are being invaded by an army of the North and Northern liberals and misinformed Southerners who all believe the lies told to them and that our fight was not a just fight. They feel we are second class citizens

who should be proud they took us back under their wing. They want us to shut up and forget what we know about the real truth and to not speak of how we were invaded with tax money and how our homes and economy and even our core structure were all destroyed.

We as the Sons of Confederate Veterans need now more than ever to stand up and speak the truth and teach this generation what really happened 150 years ago. Our country is in turmoil because of the government that has been elected and continues to blatantly misuse the powers given to them. The ones we have since sent to represent us do not have the good sense to remove the unfit from office. Be informed about who you vote for. Write letters, make phone calls, and send emails to let the representatives know how you want them to vote on current issues and to represent you despite political pressures and the news media.

I encourage you to attend our meetings and be a part of as many activities and events as possible. You do have a say in the way our camp stands for The Charge. We need your help and support in the fight to keep the history and heritage of the South alive. Daily stand up for The Charge and forever keep the flag flying. Fly your flag today and on August 29th on National Confederate Fly the Flag Day. We have a cemetery dedication on September 19th at 10am at the Wreay Cemetery. If you want to wear a uniform, members own extras and will be glad to let you borrow a coat or hat. We need an honor guard and a cannon crew. Yes, we now have a member with a cannon! Please volunteer and help us with these needs to make this dedication the best dedication that the Major W. H. Howdy Martin Camp has ever put on.

As your Commander and fellow Compatriot, I appreciate your support and look forward to the days ahead.

Your Commander,

Jimmy Abney

“Keep the Flag Flying!”



“Howdy’s Flag” is framed and is proudly displayed at the Henderson County Historical Museum located at 217 North Prairieville Street in Athens. In 2014 members voted their approval to special order a reproduction of the flag for use at various Howdy Martin Camp events.



Jim Ogburn, MD



Camp Adjutant/Treasurer Jim Ogburn, MD

A big Howdy Welcome to everyone!

My fellow Compatriots I sincerely apologize for not being able to attend our August meeting. I had an unexpected and very serious computer problem that could not be ignored. I assure you I was there in spirit. I have just returned with Commander Abney from the Texas Leadership Training that was hosted by the Texas Division Red Diamond Camp 2193 in Texarkana and I feel like a SCV Cheerleader! I want to scream, shout, jump (maybe) and yell! This was an excellent training session and I will share more with you at our meeting or perhaps when I see you! I can't be shut up and you won't either after I share some of the excellent ideas that we heard that Saturday.

As I noted last month, it is that time of year again when we renew our yearly dues for Camp, Texas Division and National SCV. I know Commander Abney brought this up at the August meeting because Chaplain Jim Day brought me your money! Thank you so much for your faithfulness in support of our young and thriving camp. We are growing and as a large camp we will be experiencing new advantages and perhaps some disadvantages. Please step up and help with these "growing pains!" They can be as simple as what just happened. I was not able to be there to take your dues, but others brought it to your attention and the money got to me the next day. It is called **ANSWERING THE CHARGE!** Help us **KEEP OUR Four Star Camp Award** by having all of our dues turned in at the September Meeting. Way to go!

It is my sincere hope that we will not continue to witness the vicious assault on our Southern Culture across American like it has the last few weeks. But, do not become complacent and feel the battle is over. Numbers do count and we certainly have caring, talented and dedicated members who will share ideas to bring victory and honor to our ancestors.

I say again, read "The South was Right" by the Kennedy brothers. Then read it again. What we do to answer The Charge today just might be in the news tomorrow!

Jim Ogburn, MD
Deo Vindice!

- Prayer Requests***
- **Jim Day in Houston**
 - **Stringbean Lowry in his loss of a family member**
 - **RAIN!!!**
 - **Christians in the USA for standing up for God & what is right!**
 - * **All upcoming SCV camp activities**
 - * **Defenders of Southern Heritage**

Howdy Martin Camp meetings are on the Second Monday of each month.

We meet at the Calvary Baptist Church Gym in Athens on the corner of Hwy 175 East and Crestway Drive. Notice of our camp meetings may be found listed in the Athens Review Newspaper in the Community Calendar section.

Meetings begin at 6:30pm with a pot luck dinner furnished by members followed by a short historical program. Guests are welcome and you may bring your family.

**WELCOME TO THIS MONTH'S ISSUE OF THE
HOWDY MARTIN CAMP #1241
HOWDY HERALD NEWSLETTER**

It is our goal to share the news of all members of our camp in such a way that this newsletter and all that follow will honor and pay respect to all past and present family of our great Southern States. Members are encouraged to bring to our camp meetings articles for submission to this publication. The deadline for entries is the Monday following our regular 2nd Monday camp meeting.

Jim Day, Editor
7751 CR 3713, Athens TX 75752
903-681-5313

This Chaplain's Message is dedicated in memory of Brother Len Patterson for his years of service to his Lord and to the Sons of Confederate Veterans. Our Camp #1241 has been honored to receive permission from Ms Patterson to reprint Brother Len's messages that were written from his heart to share his testimony of salvation through Jesus Christ Our Lord.

It's an Honor!

8-28-2011

It is an honor and privilege to be members of the Sons of Confederate Veterans. (This can also be said of our Sisters with the United Daughters of the Confederacy.) It is an honor to uphold and defend the brave Confederates who stood against the invaders of our country with courage, faith, and determination. It is a privilege they bestowed upon us, their descendants. They entrusted us with their story, their history, their memory, and their sacred honor, and we must not fail them. Against all oppressors and obstacles, we must stand together united in that purpose.

And, how is that to be done? Consider the story of Gideon as told in book of Judges, chapters six through eight. The land of Israel was being oppressed by great hordes of Midianites and Amalekites. Under God's direction, Gideon sent out a call to arms throughout Israel, but only 32,000 responded. God told Gideon that it was too many, and the number was reduced to 10,000. Again, God said it was too many and ultimately reduced Gideon's force to a mere 300 men. Gideon and his small band were victorious, and the vast army of the oppressors was totally destroyed.

The point is, that without God 32,000 Israelite soldiers would not have been nearly enough. But with God, 300 were plenty. In his first letter to the church at Corinth, Paul writes, "**God hath chosen the weak things of the world to confound the things which are mighty.**" (1 Cor. 1: 27b) God wants us to know that, "**with God all things are possible.**" (Mk. 10:27b)

Today, the Sons of Confederate Veterans face many challenges. We are challenged to recruit and retain members which is something that should be a priority to each of us. We are challenged to carry out the Charge delivered to us by General S.D. Lee over a hundred years ago, which should be our defining characteristic. And this we will do. But like Gideon, we are confronted by great hordes of oppressors.

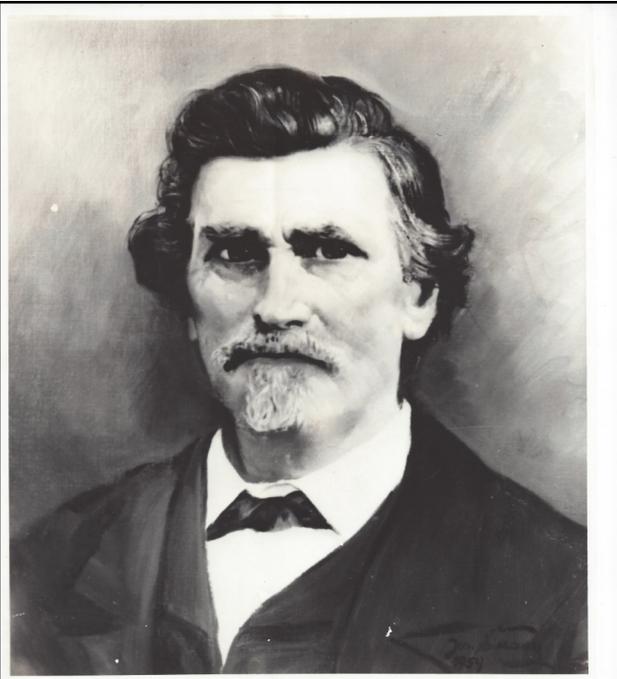
There are many who would tarnish the memory of our brave and noble Confederate fathers and deny them their honor, and who would reduce our proud Southern heritage to a legacy of shame. And perhaps as Gideon, we may wonder how we can be successful against the determined forces that beset us. But, we can succeed if we put our faith and trust in God, and seek His guidance and direction.

However, we must be ever mindful of our dependency on God and His direction and power. Then in the midst of victory, we can say as Paul wrote in **Philippians 4:13**,

"I can do all things through Christ which strengthened me."

**Bro Len speaks at the Confederate Veteran's Memorial Plaza Dedication
in Palestine on April 13, 2013**





Above: Major W. H. Howdy Martin

William Harrison Martin

"Old Howdy"

Bill Martin, Attorney

State Senator

Captain Co. K 4th TX Inf, CSA

Major, 4th Texas, CSA

District Attorney

U.S. Congressman, Texas

Husband, Father, Grandfather

Great Grandfather



Above: Howdy's Grave, Hillsboro City Cemetery, Hillsboro, TX.

Camp Officers 2015

Commander — Jimmy Abney

1st Lt Commander — Joey Ables

2nd Lt Commander—Ron Freeman

3rd Lt Commander— Terence Tisdale

Adjutant/Treasurer — Jim Ogburn, MD

Chaplain— Jim Day

Color Sgt — Terry Teems

Sgt at Arms —Gaylon Patterson

Quartermaster — Dale Sifford

Webmaster— Michael Burton

Historian— Luke Freeman

Aide de Camp — Jesse Giles

The Sons of Confederate Veterans is a genealogical-historical non-profit organization dedicated to preserving the history and honoring the memory of our Confederate ancestors. Opinions expressed by individual writers of the *Howdy Herald Newsletter* are their own and do not necessarily reflect official positions of the Sons of Confederate Veterans Howdy Martin Camp #1241 Athens, TX.

We reserve the right to edit all submissions due to limited space for such material that honors and supports The Charge given to us in the year 1906 that may be found herein. This Newsletter is compiled and submitted to our Webmaster as nearly the same date as possible immediately following our Camp's monthly meeting.