

Major W.H. “Howdy” Martin Camp #1241

SONS OF CONFEDERATE VETERANS

Athens, Texas

HOWDY HERALD

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AUGUST 2017



**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

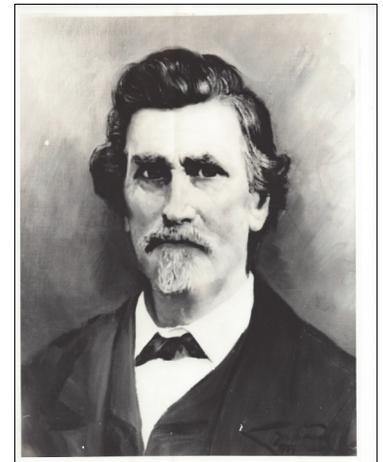
1823-1898

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 later admitted to the Bar. In 1850 he moved to Athens, Texas, and started a law practice in Henderson County. He proudly represented Freestone, Limestone, Henderson, and Navarro counties from 1853 to 1858 in the Texas Senate. Answering the call to defend his beloved South, 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 14, 2017 SCV Camp Meeting was held at the Calvary Baptist Church Gym with Commander **Terry Teems** presiding.
2. Chaplain **Jim Abney** gave the invocation and blessing for the food.
3. Quartermaster **David Miller** led the pledges, salutes to the flags and read the Charge to the SCV.
4. We had 16 members and guests present. Everyone enjoyed light refreshments.
5. Cmdr. **Teems** called meeting to order. Our scheduled guest speaker, Ms Betty Hollowell, was unable to attend. **Mrs. Bunny Freeman** had copies of Ms Hollowell's book, **The Story of Henderson County from 1929-2012** for sale at \$25.00 per copy.
6. Adjutant/Treasurer **Don Bentley** read the minutes of our July meeting as well as the financial report. Both approved by the membership present. He also reported that invoices for dues had been mailed by National and that dues must be paid before September 1st to avoid a \$10.00 late charge.
7. Cmdr. **Teems** presented **Ms Teresa Day** with a "Guardian Pin".
8. **Ms Teresa Day** discussed the MIA bracelet for Viet Nam veterans who are still missing in action.
9. Chaplain **Jim Abney** reported on the National Reunion the amendments were voted on with the following results:
Concerning the breaking away of the Sam Davis Youth Camp so as to be a separate entity. Passed
The SCV logo to only be displayed from front of clothing only. Did not pass..
Camps must have 7 or more members to retain national status. Proposal to change to 10 or more to start a camp with no less than 7 members after start-up to retain national recognition. Did not pass.

He also reported that the National Reunion was a success with Texas being very well represented. He reported that the National Museum project is still in need of donations and the new camp in Hawaii had 9 members. The 2018 national reunion will be held in Franklin, TN. The 2020 national reunion will be held in Jacksonville, FLA.
10. Under new business:
The possibility of eliminating our camp 2nd and 3rd Lieutenants was discussed. Decided to leave as is until new officers are elected in November.
Application for new member **John P. Daniels** was read and approved.
Future speakers at our meetings will be **Dr. Jerry Hopkins** and **Mr. Scott Bell**.
11. Cmdr. **Teems** took the following prayer requests:
Nations leaders, first responders and our military
Our federal government
Preservation of southern heritage and our camp..
Asst. Mgr. at Brookshire's loss of father.
Ron Freeman's mothers biopsy.
Lora Roberts and **Diane Justice**
12. Before adjourning, Chaplain **Abney** gave the benediction and Cmdr. **Teems** lead all in singing of "**Dixie**".

August Camp Meeting



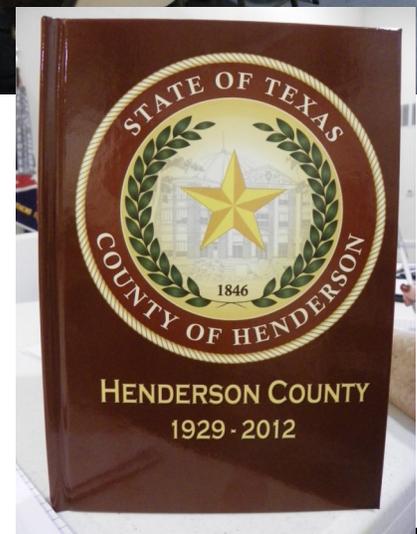
Left: Commander **Terry Teems** welcomes our new member Compatriot **John P. Daniels**



Above Left: Chaplain **Jimmy Abney**, Howdy Camp delegate to the SCV 122nd General Reunion in Tennessee, reports to camp members his experiences and memories of the July Reunion.
Above Right: 2017 Reunion Program and Medal
Below Right: Camp Members enjoy Abney's Report



Above: Mrs. **Bunny Freeman** shared parts of the book The Story of Henderson County 1929-2012 that is available for \$25. It is written by local historian Ms **Betty Hollowell** and is hardback. Ms. Freeman has limited copies available.



Arms Cemetery

Steve Sifers and Bryan Dale Sifers

Right:
New Owners and Property Managers
Howdy Camp **Surgeon Steve Sifers**
and **Color Sgt. Bryan Dale Sifers** have
worked countless hours this summer to
complete a make over of our local
Arms Cemetery. Major work
included cutting down over a dozen
dead trees, cleaning the fence rows,
burning brush and timber, marking all
known graves with flowers, almost
weekly mowing and handling the
damage done by wild hogs, building a
new front fence and adding a beautiful
new sign.
Congratulations to you both!!



Arms Cemetery is located about
two miles north of Murchison.
Turn North at blinking light on
FM 773, drive about 2 miles.
Turn left on County Road 3800
Arms Cemetery is on the left.

Above: Tributes and a Confederate Flag mark the grave of CSA Veteran George W. Grayson. He is the great grandfather of our own Compatriot Dale Sifford. Howdy Camp hosted a memorial service for Grayson October 11, 2014.

Adjutant/Treasurer Don R. Bentley



We just can't imagine how deeply "hatred" ran in the truly dedicated Confederate soldier veins. He hated everything about the United States of America which included the Declaration of Independence, the Constitution and the Stars and Stripes!

The Confederate song "Good Ol' Rebel Soldier" reflects that deep seated hatred. It was composed by Major Innes Randolph, C.S.A... Although the poor grammar and dialect evident in the lyrics to this song suggest otherwise, Innes Randolph was actually a learned man who achieved some fame in his post-war career as a Southern poet.

Randolph attended Hobart College in Geneva, New York and was a graduate of the State and National Law School in Poughkeepsie. During the Civil War he was a topographical engineer and held the rank of Three hundred thousand Yankees is stiff in Southern dust!

After the Civil War he settled at Richmond where he was worked at the *Examiner* while pursuing his poetry and other writing. The poetry of this period was collected and published by his son Harold Randolph after his death. It was in 1868 that Randolph moved to Baltimore and took up the practice of law, continuing his newspaper work with Baltimore newspapers.

Here's the lyrics to the song,

"Good Ol' Rebel Soldier"

Oh, I'm a good old Rebel soldier, now that's just what I am;
 For this "Fair Land of Freedom" I do not give a damn!
 I'm glad I fit against it, I only wish we'd won,
 And I don't want no pardon for anything I done.
 I hates the Constitution, this "Great Republic," too!
 I hates the Freedman's Bureau and uniforms of blue!
 I hates the nasty eagle with all its brags and fuss,

And the lying, thieving Yankees, I hates 'em wuss and wuss!
 I hates the Yankee nation and everything they do,
 I hates the Declaration of Independence, too!
 I hates the "Glorious Union" -- 'tis dripping with our blood,
 And I hates their striped banner, and I fit it all I could.

And I hates their striped banner, and I fit it all I could.
 I followed old Marse Robert for four years, near about,
 Got wounded in three places, and starved at Point Look-out.

I cotched the "roomatism" a'campin' in the snow,
 But I killed a chance o' Yankees, and I'd like to kill some mo'!

Three hundred thousand Yankees is stiff in Southern dust!

We got three hundred thousand before they conquered us.

They died of Southern fever and Southern steel and shot,
 But I wish we'd got three million instead of what we got.

I can't take up my musket and fight 'em now no more,
 But I ain't a'gonna love 'em, now that's for sartain sure!
 I dAnd I won't be reconstructed, and I do not care a damn!

I do not want no pardon for what I was and am,
 And I won't be reconstructed, and I do not care a damn!

See what I mean about the hatred! We may think that it was a bit harsh but when one see's his friends and kin folks blown to pieces, it has a tendency to instill this much hatred. We were not there and perhaps will never understand it. Yet, it is what spurred them on to fight for what we believe, as they did, a just cause.

May we never forget.



Standing up for Dixie!

Don R. Bentley
 Adjutant/Treasurer

*I salute the
Confederate
Flag...*



*With Affection,
Reverence and
undying
devotion*



*To the Cause
For Which It
Stands.*



Flags - Banners - Accessories

Eric & Erica Rumbo
367 North Trade Days Blvd.
Canton, TX 75103
(214) 957-0385

E-mail:
service@iamericasflags.com

www.iamericasflags.com

Eric in Canton has supplied our Howdy Camp with flags for many years. If you are needing a specialty flag, call him.

Prayer Requests

Nations leaders, first responders and our military
Our federal government
Preservation of southern heritage and our camp..

Asst. Mgr. at Brookshire's loss of father.

Ron Freeman's mothers biopsy.

Lora Roberts and Diane Justice

Just as a reminder, our
Second Monday Camp Meeting
is published in the Athens Daily Review
in its Community Calendar each day for
the week prior to our meeting!

**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 refreshments furnished by camp members followed by a short historical program. Guests are welcome and you may bring your family.

WELCOME TO THIS MONTH'S ISSUE OF THE
Major W H Howdy Martin SCV Camp1241
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.

T Day, Friend of the Martin Camp SCV
7751 CR 3713, Athens, TX 75752
903-676-8760



*The Significance
Of Membership In
The Sons Of
Confederate Veterans*

*Cannot Be Overstated. The Veterans
Themselves Entrusted Their Legacy
To The Sons... A Responsibility Not
To Be Taken Lightly. Ours Is Truly
A Heritage Of Honor. Deo Vindice.*

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.

That's Life!

10-02-2011

In the midst of a fiery sermon, a preacher asked the congregation, "Who wants to go to heaven?" Of course everyone raised their hand . . . except for one young man near the back. The preacher noticed and repeated the question. The young man still did not raise his hand. So, the preacher looked at the young man and asked, "Son, don't you want to go to heaven when you die?" "Oh, yes!" The young man quickly replied. "When I die, but I thought you were getting up a load to go now."

I suppose it's true what a comedian once said during his monologue, "Everyone wants to go to heaven, but no one wants to die" Certainly, life is our most precious asset. Our life and the lives of those we love and care about is the one thing we most value. It therefore seems strange that so many ignore that which gives and preserves life.

The Prophet Amos writes, **"For thus saith the Lord unto the house of Israel, Seek ye me and ye shall live."** (Amos 5: 4) Amos is not giving Israel a good idea or suggestion. It is a warning and a requirement from God Himself. He goes on to say in verse 6, **"Seek the Lord, and ye shall live; lest He break out like fire in the house of Joseph, and devour it, and there be none to quench it in Bethel."**

In the days of Amos and his prophecy, about 750 BC, Israel was wicked and rebellious. As a result of their sinful and Godless conduct, they were bringing death and destruction on themselves and their nation. The same is true of our country today. The further it moves from God and the Christian values of our founding fathers, the faster it accelerates toward disaster and ruin. This also applies to any and all who are living without hope and without God in this world.

The Bible has a lot to say about life. The Gospel according to John alone mentions the words "Life" and "Live" over 50 times. In John 5: 2, Jesus says, **"And they that hear shall live."** In John 11: 26, Jesus tells us, **"And whosoever liveth and believeth in me shall never die."** And in John 6: 47, Jesus says, **"Verily, verily, I say unto you, He that believeth on me hath everlasting life."** Again in John 14:6, we are told by Jesus, **"I am the way, the truth, and the life: no man cometh unto the Father, but by me."** And the Scriptures go on. The Bible, Old Testament and New, is all about God's promise of life. But, in John 5: 40, Jesus also warns all those who attempt to live without Him, **"And ye will not come to me, that ye might have life."**

In Amos' day time was running out for Israel. Today, time is running out for the U.S. In fact, time is running out for the human race. But, all is not hopeless. God still calls upon us to seek Him and live. Jesus said, **"Whosoever believeth in Him should not perish, but have everlasting Life."** (John 3:16)

This is our Lord's promise to all . . . and, that's life.

Bro Len speaks at the Confederate Veteran's Memorial Plaza Dedication

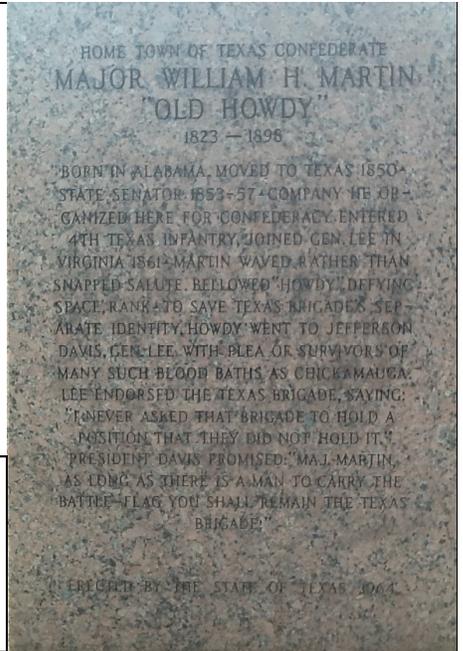


William Harrison Martin

"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

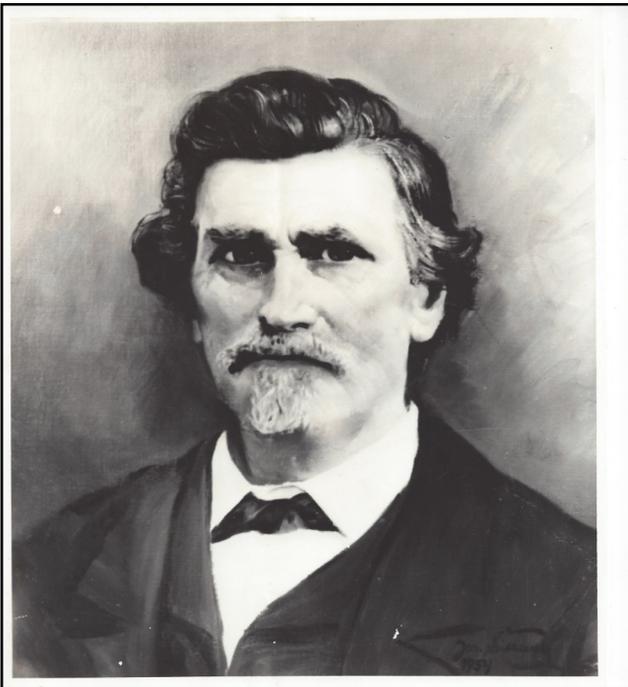


Above: Howdy's Grave, Hillsboro City Cemetery, Hillsboro, TX.
 Right: Howdy's Marker is located in Athens on Hwy 19 South in the Confederate Park.



Camp Officers 2017

- Commander — Terry Teems
- 1st Lt Commander — Ron Freeman
- 2nd Lt Commander—Jim Ogburn, MD
- 3rd Lt Commander— Luke Freeman
- Adjutant/Treasurer — Don R. Bentley
- Chaplain— Jimmy Abney
- Color Sgt — Bryan Sifers
- Sgt at Arms —James Buster Horn
- Quartermaster — David Miller
- Webmaster— Michael Burton
- Historian— Gaylon Patterson
- Aide de Camp — David Lowry
- Surgeon — Steve Sifers



Above: Major W. H. Howdy Martin

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.