

Major W.H. “Howdy” Martin Camp #1241

SONS OF CONFEDERATE VETERANS

Athens, Texas

HOWDY HERALD

VOLUME 4, ISSUE 12

DECEMBER 2016



**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

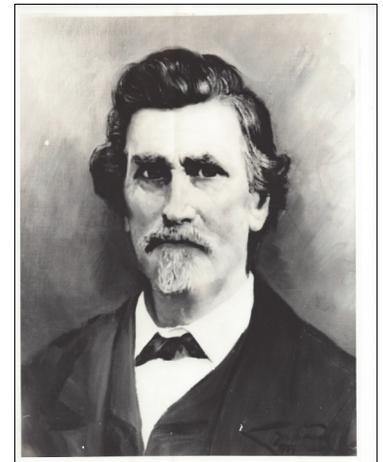
1823-1898

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 December 12, 2016 SCV Camp Meeting was held at the Calvary Baptist Church Gym with Commander **Jimmy Abney** presiding.
2. Adjutant/Treasurer **Don Bentley** gave the invocation and blessing for the food. We had **25** members and guests present to enjoy our Christmas dinner catered by **Mrs. Abney**. Everyone seemed to enjoy their meal.
3. Quartermaster **David Miller** led the pledges and salutes to the flags and reading of the Charge to the SCV.
4. Adjutant/Treasurer **Don Bentley** read the minutes of the November meeting as well as the financial report. Minutes and financial report were approved as presented by the membership present.
5. Cmdr **Abney** stated we were approved for the parade but due to inclement weather parade was cancelled and rescheduled. We were unable to participate.
6. Color Sgt **Terry Teems** placed honor streamer on our flag in memory of Chaplain **Jim Day**.
7. There was no historical speaker due to Christmas dinner.
8. Installation of officers will be held at our January 9, 2017 meeting. **Marc Robinson** will be present to install the officers. Officers were requested to wear uniform if one is available. The following officers for our camp were nominated and approved by acclamation:

Commander – Terry Teems	Surgeon – Steve Sifers
1 st Lieutenant – Ron Freeman	Chaplain – Jim Abney
2 st Lieutenant – Jim Ogburn	Color Sergeant – Bryan Sifers
3 st Lieutenant – Lucas Freeman	Historian – Gaylon Patterson
Adjutant/Treasurer – Don R. Bentley	Aide-de-Camp – David Lowery
Quartermaster – David Miller	Sergeant-at-Arms – James Buster Horn
9. Prayer List:
 - Day family.
 - Charles Sanders health issues
 - Freeman family travels
 - All police department, military personnel, first responders, elected officials and our country's President-elect.
 - Mrs. Abney in her search for quality personnel.
10. Meeting adjourned and Compatriot **Bob Lynch** prayed the benediction and Adjutant/Treasurer **Don Bentley** led our camp in singing of "**Dixie**".

Adjutant/Treasurer Don R. Bentley



Don R. Bentley

Have we thought about what we, as a camp, want to be doing in the upcoming New Year? Are we clear about what our main objective is at the moment? Do we know what we want to have achieved by the end of this

coming year?

If we want to succeed, we need to set goals. Without goals we lack focus and direction. Goal setting not only allows us to take control of our camp's direction; it also provides us a benchmark for determining whether we are actually succeeding. Think about it: Having a million dollars in the bank is only proof of success if one of our goals is to amass riches. If our goal is to practice acts of charity, then keeping the money for ourself is suddenly contrary to how we would define success.

To accomplish our goals, however, we need to know how to set them. We can't simply say, "I want" and expect it to happen. Goal setting is a process that starts with careful consideration of what we want to achieve, and ends with a lot of hard work to actually do it. In between there are some very well defined steps that transcend the specifics of each goal. Knowing these steps will allow us to formulate goals that we can accomplish.

Here are five golden rules to assist us in setting our goals:

The Five Golden Rules

1. Set Goals that Motivate Us

When we set goals for our camp, it is important that they motivate us: this means making sure that they are important to us, and that there is value in achieving them. If we have little interest in the outcome, or they are irrelevant given the larger picture, then the chances of our putting in the work to make them happen are slim. Motivation is key to achieving goals.

We need to set goals that let the community know what we are about and that we are here. Without this type of focus, we can end up with far too many goals, leaving us too little time to devote to each one. Goal

achievement requires commitment, so to maximize the likelihood of success, we need to feel a sense of urgency and have a "we must do this" attitude. When we don't have this, we risk putting off what we need to do to make the goal a reality. This in turn leaves us feeling disappointed and frustrated with our self, both of which are demotivating. And we can end up in a very destructive "I can't do anything or be successful at anything" frame of mind.

Tip:

To make sure our goal is motivating, write down **why** it's valuable and important to us. Ask ourselves, "If I were to share my goal with others, what would I tell them to convince them it was a worthwhile goal?" We can use this motivating value statement to help us if we start to doubt ourselves or lose confidence in our ability to actually make the goal happen.

2. Set SMART Goals

We have probably heard of SMART goals already. But do we always apply the rule? The simple fact is that for goals to be powerful, they should be designed to be SMART. There are many variations of what SMART stands for, but the essence is this – goals should be:

- Specific.
- Measurable.
- Attainable.
- Relevant.
- Time Bound.

Set Specific Goals

Our goals must be clear and well defined. Vague or generalized goals are unhelpful because they don't provide sufficient direction. Remember, we need goals to show us the way. Make it as easy as we can to get where we want to go by defining precisely where we want to end up.

Set Measurable Goals

Include precise amounts, dates, and so on in our goals so we can measure our degree of success. If our goal is simply defined as "To reduce expenses" how will we know when we have been successful? In one month's time if we have a 1 percent reduction or in two years' time when we have a 10 percent reduction? Without a way to measure our success we miss out on the celebration that comes with knowing we have actually achieved something.



Don R. Bentley
continued

Set Attainable Goals

Make sure that it's possible to achieve the goals we set. If we set a goal that we have no hope of achieving, we will only demoralize ourselves and erode our confidence.

Set Relevant Goals

Goals should be relevant to the direction we want our camp to take. By keeping goals aligned with this, we'll develop the focus we need to get ahead and do what we want. Set widely scattered and inconsistent goals, and we'll fritter our time away.

Set Time-Bound Goals

Our goals must have a deadline. Again this means that we know when we can celebrate success. When we are working on a deadline, our sense of urgency increases and achievement will come that much quicker.

3. Set Goals in Writing

The physical act of writing down a goal makes it real and tangible. We have no excuse for forgetting about it. As we write, use the word "will" instead of "would like to" or "might." For example, "We will reduce our operating expenses by 10 percent this year," not "We would like to reduce our operating expenses by 10 percent this year." The first goal statement has power and we can "see" ourselves reducing expenses, the second lacks passion and gives us an excuse if we get sidetracked.

Tip 1:

Frame our goals statement positively. If we want to improve our retention rates say, "We will hold on to all existing employees for the next quarter" rather than "We will reduce employee turnover." The first one is motivating; the second one still has a get-out clause "allowing" us to succeed even if some employees leave.

Tip 2:

If we use a to-do-list, make ourselves a To-Do List template that has our goals at the top of it. If you use an action program, then our goals should be at the top of our Project Planning Guide.

Post our goals in visible places to remind ourselves every meeting of what it is we intend to do. Put them on our walls, desk, computer and, bathroom mirror or refrigerator as a constant reminder.

4. Make an Action Plan

This step is often missed in the process of goal setting. We get so focused on the outcome that we forget to plan all of the steps that are needed along the way. By writing out the individual steps, and then crossing each one off as we complete it, we'll realize that we are making progress towards our ultimate goal. This is especially important if our goal is big and demanding, or long-term.

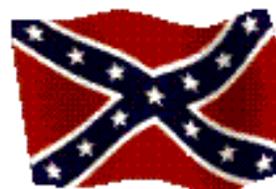
5. Stick With It!

Remember, goal setting is an ongoing activity not just a means to an end. Build in reminders to keep ourselves on track, and make regular time-slots available to review our goals. Our end destination may remain quite similar over the long term, but the action plan we set for ourselves along the way can change significantly. Make sure the relevance, value, and necessity remain high.

Key Points

Goal setting is much more than simply saying we want something to happen. Unless we clearly define exactly what we want and understand why we want it the first place, our odds of success are considerably reduced. By following the Five Golden Rules of Goal Setting we can set goals with confidence and enjoy the satisfaction that comes along with knowing we achieved what we set out to do.

So, what will we decide to accomplish in the New Year? Got some suggestions? Your newly elected officers have an open mind and are willing to listen. One more thing, don't make suggestions that you are not willing to be a part of. Ideas are cheap....accomplishing them takes commitment and dedication.



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

- *Day family *
- *Charles Sanders health issues
- * Freeman family travels
- *All police departments, first responders, military personnel, elected officials and our country's President-elect
- * Mrs. Abney in her search for quality personnel

**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 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
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.

God Needs You!!

1-29-2012

For nearly forty years I have stood before dozens of congregations, as either a pastor, evangelist, or visiting minister, and preached thousands of sermons. However, of all the messages I've delivered, there are no more than six or so that I have preached more than once. One such message is titled, "An Old Man and a Stick." During this message, I recount various Bible stories of how greatly God used simple, small, and seemingly weak people to accomplish monumental tasks. Then after each account, I would remind the congregation of how God used an old man and a stick.

The old man and a stick is, of course, Moses. God used Moses to confound the most powerful man on earth, and defeat the greatest empire in the world. Moses then led a nation of millions in a desert wilderness for forty years. It was Moses who received God's Law, and wrote the first five books of the Old Testament. When God called Moses and sent him to Egypt to begin this great work, he was just an eighty-year-old man with a walking stick.

Under the inspiration of God's Spirit, the Apostle Paul writes,

"But God hath chosen the foolish things of the world to confound the wise; and God hath chosen the weak things of the world to confound the things which are mighty; and base things of the world, and things which are despised, hath God chosen, yea, and things which are not, to bring to nought the things that are: that no flesh should glory in His presence."
(1 Cor. 1:27-29)

These verses tell us that since God uses foolish things, weak things, base things, things which are despised, and things which are not, He can use you and me. God doesn't need our money, our strength, our youth, or even our courage. He just needs us. He needs us to be faithful and committed to Him, and the work He has called us to do. I believe that our Lord has a plan and a purpose for the Sons of Confederate Veterans, and that plan includes those who are faithful and true to our Cause.

Simply, God needs you!

But, we also need God. Moses would not have succeeded, or even attempted the work God called him to, without God's help. My prayer for each member of our honorable Confederation is that we seek God's will and guidance in the work committed to us by General Stephen Dill Lee, which is as it should be.....

....our defining characteristic.



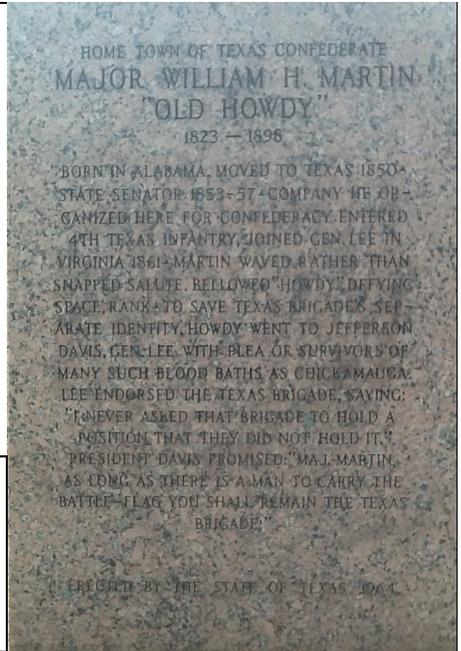
Bro Len speaks at the Confederate Veteran's Memorial Plaza Dedication

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.



HOME TOWN OF TEXAS CONFEDERATE
 MAJOR WILLIAM H. MARTIN
 "OLD HOWDY"

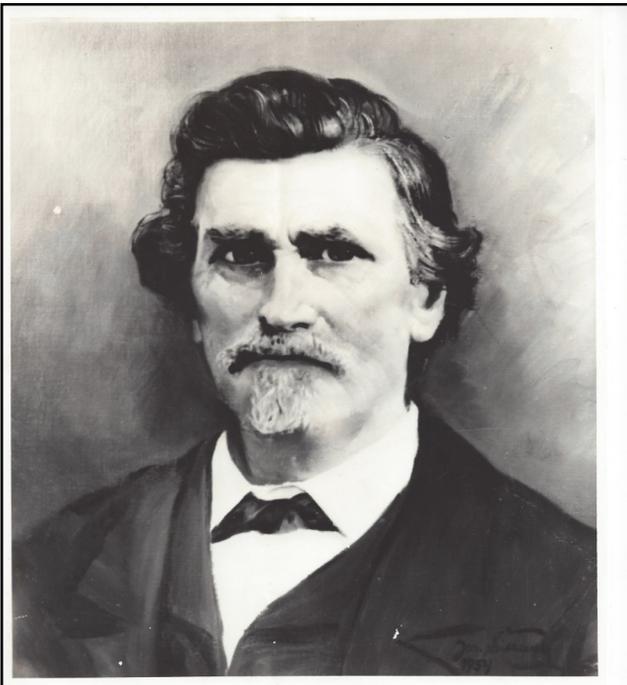
1823 — 1896

BORN IN ALABAMA. MOVED TO TEXAS 1850. STATE SENATOR 1853-57. COMPANY HE ORGANIZED HERE FOR CONFEDERACY ENTERED 4TH TEXAS INFANTRY, JOINED GEN. LEE IN VIRGINIA 1861. MARTIN WAVED RATHER THAN SNAPPED SALUTE. REELOWED "HOWDY," DEFYING SPACE. RANK: TO SAVE TEXAS BRIGADES SEPARATE IDENTITY. HOWDY WENT TO JEFFERSON DAVIS, GEN. LEE WITH PLEA OF SURVIVORS OF MANY SUCH BLOOD BATHS AS CHICKAMAUGA. LEE ENDORSED THE TEXAS BRIGADE, SAYING: "I NEVER ASKED THAT BRIGADE TO HOLD A POSITION THAT THEY DID NOT HOLD IT." PRESIDENT DAVIS PROMISED: "MAJ. MARTIN, AS LONG AS THERE IS A MAN TO CARRY THE BATTLE FLAG YOU SHALL REMAIN THE TEXAS BRIGADE."

ERECTED BY THE STATE OF TEXAS 1904

Camp Officers 2016

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



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.