

Major W.H. “Howdy” Martin Camp #1241

SONS OF CONFEDERATE VETERANS

Athens, Texas

HOWDY HERALD

VOLUME 5, ISSUE 2

FEBRUARY 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

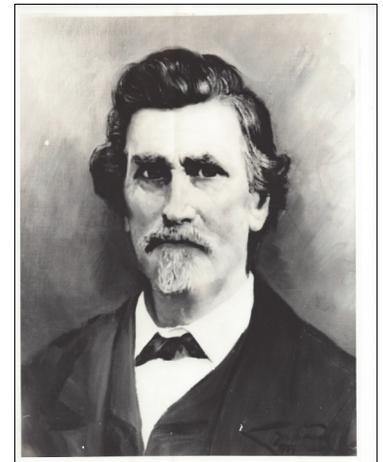
1823-1898

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*



Commander Terry Teems welcomes guest speaker **Bruce Lehowicz**.

Spotlight on Our Camp

1. Our February 13, 2017 SCV Camp Meeting was held at the Calvary Baptist Church Gym with **Commander Terry Teems** presiding.
2. **Quartermaster David Miller** led the pledges and salutes to the flags and reading of the Charge to the SCV.
3. **Chis Perryman** presented our camp with Confederate flags on behalf of his mother who is now in an assisted living facility, with the request that they be placed on Confederate graves in Athens area cemeteries.
4. **Chaplain Jim Abney** gave the invocation and blessing for the food. We had 20 guests and members present to enjoy our pot luck menu of various Italian dishes and desserts. Everyone seemed to enjoy their meal.
5. **Cmdr. Teems** called meeting back to order and introduced our guest speaker from Grand Saline, **Bruce Lehowicz**, an acquaintance from the gun show. He displayed and described his collection of 45 years of artifacts he had dug up and obtained from various museums and some belonging to his great grandfather. The Confederate belt buckles and an original Confederate decoder were of particular interest.
6. **Adjutant/Treasurer Don Bentley** read the minutes of our January meeting as well as the financial report. Both approved by the membership present.
7. Under old business, motion was made and seconded to rescind previous approval of the wording of our pledge to the Constitution and revert back to traditional pledge to the American flag. Motion approved by majority of members present.
8. **Cmdr. Teems** also noted some of the following dates for us to remember:
 - 2/25 Camp officer training at Hooks, TX..
Re-enactment at Groveton Texas
 - 4/01 Living History at Camp Ford in Tyler, TX.. All day event
 - 4/7-9 Activities at Battle of Pleasant Hill, LA.
 - 4/26 Confederate Memorial Day. Flags to be placed on graves in Athens Cemetery prior to this day.
 - 4/28-30 Confederate Battleground Mexia Re-enactment and living history day. **Sgt at Arms Buster Horn** asked for volunteers to help out on Friday the 28th with the expected 400+ students. Battles will be Saturday and Sunday and camp members may participate on Buster's cannon crew.
 - 5/05-07 Battle of Ft Jefferson, Marshall. Civil War Living History-Day of Learning at the Diamond Don RV Park.
9. Arms Cemetery ownership questions still pending as of this meeting.
10. **Cmdr. Teems** presented **Mrs. Teresa Day** with a Resolution certificate in memory of her husband and our **Chaplain, Jim Day**.
11. Prayer Requests:
 - Bunny's sister, **Janice Lovelle** having tumor surgery Feb 27
 - Cmdr Terry Teems** upcoming surgery Feb 16
 - Nations leaders, military and all first responders
12. Before adjourning, **Chaplain Abney** gave the benediction and **Cmdr. Teems** lead all in singing of "**Dixie**".



Adjutant/Treasurer Don R. Bentley

As mentioned in my article in the January newsletter, we must educate ourselves on the correct reasons for the Northern aggression against the Southern Confederacy and the truth about those that instigated it. When misinformed educators spread their incorrect knowledge on the subject, here's what happens.

The following is the results of the predominantly misinformation on the subject in our schools not only of the educators but the students as well. I have taken the liberty to reproduce the article from CBSDFW.com in its entirety.

"Middle-Schoolers Ceremoniously Vote to Remove Confederate General's Name from School"

Chrystal Montaperez loves John B. Hood Middle School. The 14-year-old 8th-grader from southeast Dallas is in conflict with her personal loyalties: She tells her social studies teacher that the school's name doesn't mean the same as it did decades ago, but she doesn't support a call to change the name.

"It wouldn't change who we are, the way we act," Montaperez says.

John B. Hood was a highly praised General in the Confederate Army. His bravery and heroism are noted by historians. In the 1950s, Dallas School District leaders named several schools in honor of Confederate fighters from the Civil War, who seceded from the U.S. in the effort to preserve slavery. Many of those schools today enroll large numbers of students who are descendants of slaves.

On Friday over 900 students at Hood Middle School cast ballots in a ceremonial election to remove the Hood name attached to the school since 1955.

Fourteen-year-old Leighton Douglas didn't think twice. He voted to strip the Hood name from the school.

"We shouldn't have to come to school everyday to a name that was oppressive to my family members," he said. *(Emphasis mine)*

The student election was the idea of teacher Cyntoria McDaniel.

"When I found out who John Hood was, I was shocked to know our school was named after him," the math teacher said.

After classroom discussions during lesson plans pertaining to the Civil War, students were asked about a school referendum on the Hood name.

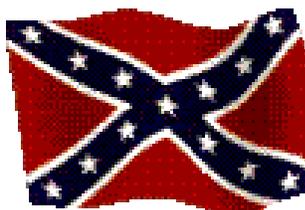
Many students openly discussed their loyalty to the name, despite the history. Others said the school became the brunt of jokes and bullying from others who referenced the school in street slang as the "Hood" school.

When the votes were tallied, 61% of the student body voted to remove the name. The school will now pass the election results to a parent-teacher committee, who'll ask the Dallas School Board to approve the removal of the Hood name. A vote could occur in October.

Reproduced from CBSDFW.com (2/5/2016)

Such actions as this make our mission to preserve and defend our Confederate ancestors, their symbols, monuments and cause of the utmost importance. I doubt very seriously if the teacher, much less the students, even know exactly who General John B. Hood was! Do you? Could you defend his name and honor? Check him out on Google and be informed. If we don't know about our ancestors as Sons of Confederate Veterans, how can we expect the educators and general public to know? We must take our duties more seriously are the next thing you know.....they'll want to change the name of one of the largest Army bases in the country, Fort Hood!

Guess who it's named after?



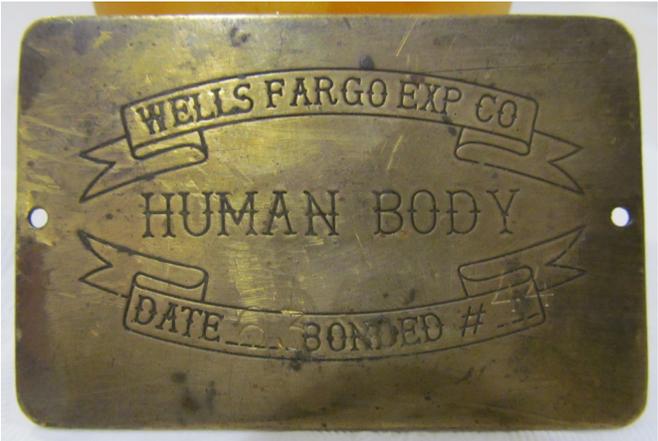
Standing up for Dixie,

Don R. Bentley
Adjutant/Treasurer

Howdy Martin Camp February Meeting

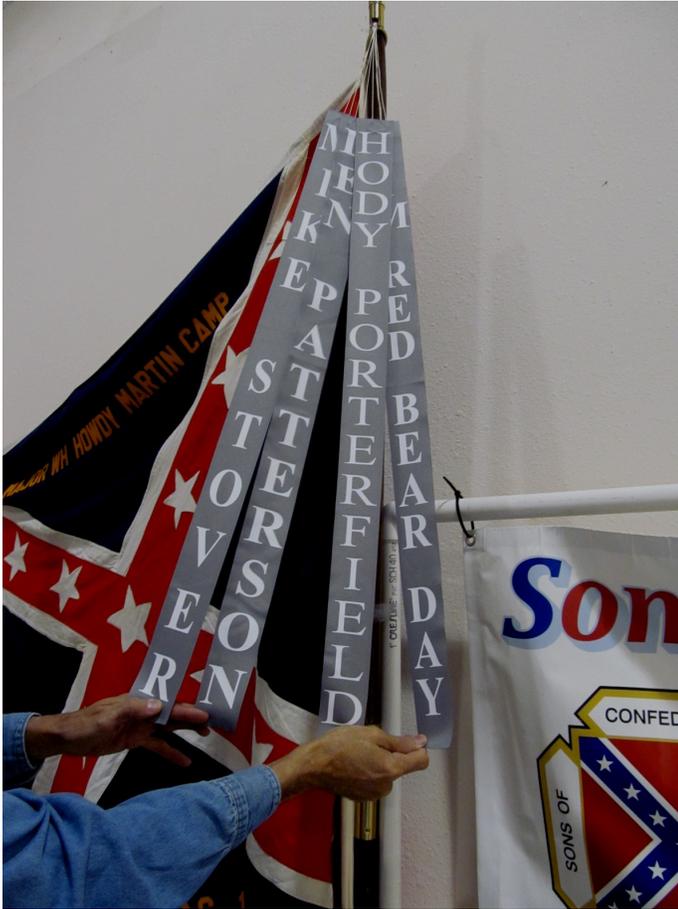


Camp members enjoy a meal together and a great time of fellowship and taking care of SCV Camp business.



Bruce Lehowicz displayed numerous artifacts and answered questions as members admired them after his presentation. Also note the Wells Fargo body tag that was nailed to a coffin to ID a CSA Veteran's body.

Memorial Ribbons added to SCV Camp Flags



Above: Memorial Ribbons attached to our own Major W H Howdy Martin Camp #1241 Flag.

Below: Woodville Camp #1790 Compatriot explains the importance of the Memorial Ribbons on their camp flag at the recent graveside service for Lifetime Member Curtis Melvin Day 1927-2017.



Following the tradition of SCV Camp LTC Phillip Alexander Work Camp #1790 in Woodville, our Howdy Martin Camp Flag now proudly carries a "Memorial Ribbon" with the names of our compatriots who are no longer with us. However, they will always be proudly remembered wherever our Camp Flag is posted.

*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

Bunny's sister, **Janice Lovelle** having tumor surgery Feb 27

Cmdr Terry Teems upcoming surgery Feb 16

Nations leaders, military and all first responders including our Police, EMS and other First Responders

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.

Who Gets the Credit? 6-17-2012

It has been said and often repeated that, "One man and God is a majority." This is true, since God alone is a majority. God has never needed great numbers to accomplish His purpose. 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 were totally destroyed.

The point is, that without God 32,000 Israelite soldiers would not have been nearly enough. But with God, 300 was plenty. The reason for God's reduction of Gideon's army is explained in verse 2 of chapter 7. Simply: God wanted the credit for Gideon's victory.

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) Then in verse 29, he explains why: "That no flesh should glory in His presence." Again, God expects to receive credit for what He does.

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, as God gives us strength, direction, and success, we must remember why we succeed. We must remember who gets the credit. In doing so we will prevail against our enemies, and say, as Paul said to the church in 1 Corinthians 15: 27:

"Thanks be to God, which giveth us the victory..."

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

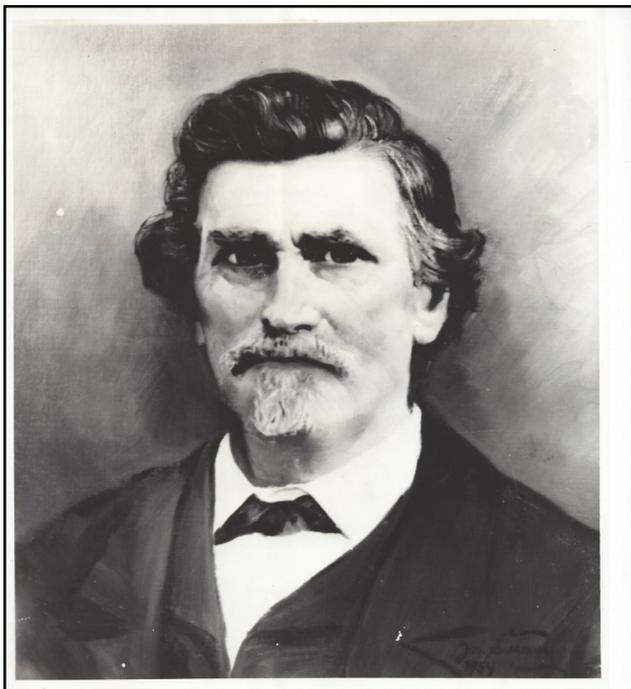
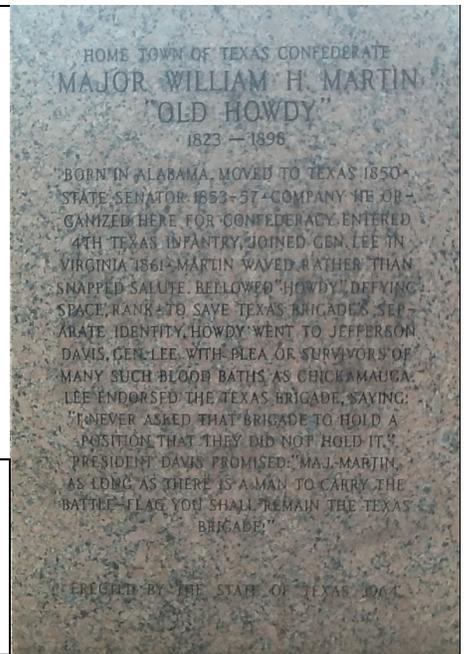


William Harrison Martin

"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.



Above: Major W. H. Howdy Martin

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

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.