

Major W.H. “Howdy” Martin Camp #1241

SONS OF CONFEDERATE VETERANS Athens, Texas

HOWDY HERALD

VOLUME 3, ISSUE 7
JULY 2015



**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

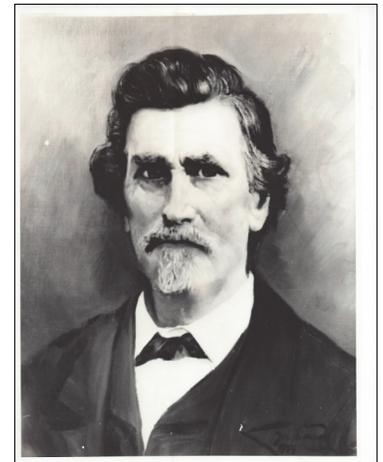
1823-1898

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 July 13th SCV Howdy Martin Camp Meeting was held at the Calvary Baptist Church Gym with 1st Lt Cmdr **Joseph Ables** presiding. Commander **Jimmy Abney** was traveling to the SCV Nationals in Richmond, VA along with 2nd Lt Cmdr **Ron Freeman**. After recognizing our guests, Quartermaster **Dale Sifford** was asked to give the blessing for our dinner.
2. Quartermaster **Dale Sifford** next led the pledges to the flags and the reading of The Charge. We had **32 guests** and members present.
3. Adjutant/Treasurer **Jim Ogburn** presented our historical program entitled "**Current Heritage Violations.**" He shared his research of recent disturbing events surrounding our Battle Flag with a most informative media presentation. He strongly suggested that camp members have a watchful eye on our local CSA veteran graves.
4. Following **Dr Ogburn, Bradley Ford** and his wife, **Stephanie**, from the Corsicana Captain J L Halbert SCV Camp 359 asked to speak. They wanted to share with us the most recent mandated changes that have occurred at the Confederate Reunion Grounds near Mexia. Such changes included that all Confederate flags be removed and will they eventually be replaced with appropriate plaques. On the East Texas SCV Facebook page, she has posted more details of this decision.
5. Adjutant/Treasurer **Dr Jim Ogburn** read the financial report. Acceptance of his report was motioned, seconded and approved as reported. The minutes from the June meeting will be read for approval at our August meeting.



Right: Webmaster **Michael Burton** is a presented a Certificate and Silver Medal for his constant work to our outstanding Howdy Camp Website by 1st Lt Cmdr **Joseph Ables**.



6. 1st Lt Comdr **Joseph Ables** presented a certificate and a Silver Medal from the General Headquarters in Columbia, TN to **Webmaster Michael Burton** for his outstanding work in developing and maintaining our camp website.
7. Adjutant/Treasurer **Dr Jim Ogburn** welcomed our new Howdy Camp member **Chaz Westmoreland**. He also introduced three guests whose applications for camp memberships are pending.

Left: **Dr Ogburn** visited with guests whose applications are pending. Next to **Ogburn** is **Buster Horn** and **Jeff Thompson** and friend.

- 7. Adjutant/Treasurer **Dr Jim Ogburn** welcomed our new Howdy Camp member **Chaz Westmoreland**. He also introduced three guests whose applications for camp memberships are pending.
- 8. Dr. Ogburn announced that the Texas Division Red Diamond Camp 2193 is hosting the Texas for Leadership Training on Saturday, August 1st in Texarkana, TX. The fee is \$25 before July 18th and \$35 after that date. He said to date that Cmdr Abney and himself are planning to attend. Please see Cmdr **Abney** for more information if you would like to go.
- 9. The **Wreay Cemetery** dedication to be held on the third Saturday in September. Please make plans to attend.



Adjutant/Treasurer **Dr Jim Ogburn** stands at the podium during his heartfelt presentation entitled **“Current Heritage Violations.”** He did an excellent job highlighting just small segments of the current media war aimed at destroying our Southern Heritage. Our camp applauded his efforts to boldly speak the truth and encourage us all to be aware of events in the news.



Above & Below:
Howdy Camp members enjoyed a time of good fellowship and another great pot luck dinner prior to the monthly business meeting.

10. Adjutant/Treasurer **Dr Jim Ogburn** briefly brought up his goal of establishing an Order of the Confederate Rose group to assist our camp in its historical, educational, benevolent and social functions. Several ladies already participate in Black Rose activities at our memorials.
11. Adjutant/Treasurer **Dr Jim Ogburn** reminded us of his idea of starting a book club. He has suggested us all to read **The South was Right** by brothers **James Ronald Kennedy** and **Walter Donald Kennedy** as the first book and we could later discuss it.
12. A drawing was held for two items. The winner of the first drawing for a patch "In Memory of the Brave Who Died" was **Annette Brown**. **Dr. Ogburn** won the second drawing for a "Texas Confederate Flag" that was donated by 1st Lt Cmdr Joey Ables.
13. Prayer requests were asked for Chaplain **Jim Day** who is currently participating in a protocol at MD Anderson and reports he is feeling fatigued but is very positive about his results in this new treatment. Also, may we all please pray for the healing of our nation and an immediate resolution of this war aimed against all of the many historical symbols we have come to honor and respect that represent our great Southern Heritage.
14. Quartermaster **Dale Sifford** led the benediction and the singing of "**Dixie**."

Below : Historian **Luke Freeman** and **Bunny Freeman** participated in the "**Heritage Not Hate Rally**" with more than 100 decorated vehicles that began in Gun Barrel City to Athens on Sunday, July 19th. It showed support for both Southern Heritage and the Confederate Flag. Bunny handed out "**more than 40 Howdy Martin Camp SCV Applications!**" to a very excited crowd!



Above on the left: 1st Lt Cmdr **Joey Ables** and Adjutant/Treasurer **Dr Jim Ogburn** pose with the "**Texas Confederate Flag**" which Dr Jim won!

Left on the right: **Annette Brown** shows off her new patch as 1st Lt Cmdr **Joey Ables** stands by.

Richmond, Virginia July 15-19, 2015 120th Annual Reunion SCV Nationals



Above: At Nationals Howdy Camp Commander Jimmy Abney, 2nd Lt Cmdr Ron Freeman, Compatriot Bob Lynch, and Palestine's John Reagan Camp Adjutant/Treasurer Dan Dyer

Sons of Confederate Veterans

2014-2015 Awards



120th Annual Reunion
Richmond, Virginia

July 15th - 19th, 2015



Left: This picture was made at Stonewall Jackson's monument in Lexington, Virginia. All Lexington City Police Badges have Stonewall Jackson and Robert E. Lee's picture on them.

Jimmy Abney and Ron Freeman at Chickamauga Battlefield



Above from left: 2nd Lt Cmdr Ron Freeman, Cmdr Jimmy Abney and Reagan Camp Adjutant Dan Dyer of Palestine. They are standing in the Appomattox Confederate Cemetery.

From the Commander



Commander Jimmy Abney

Greetings,

I had a good trip to nationals in Richmond, Virginia. The Army of the TransMississippi outnumbered all of the other armies in attendance. We had a lot of support on the way up there and all the time we were at the meetings and all the way back home. Compatriot Bob Lynch was there with 2nd Lt Cmdr Ron Freeman and myself. The Texas camps received eight or more of the National Awards. Our brother camp Tyler's Douglas Camp won several individual awards and we are so proud of them.

One of the Senators from South Carolina in attendance said in regard to removing any flags, he had warned his fellow senators

“don't make the mistake of voting with your emotions”

and then after the first flag came down **they** told him ***“we have messed up and made the biggest mistake in our political career.”*** He said he was extremely disappointed in our government and the others said they may very well not ever win another election. While we were visiting with him, he told us that he is a proud member of his local SCV Camp.

This Nationals was very well organized. Checking in was a very short process that took only about ten minutes to complete. After getting our name badge in the correct envelope all we had to do was register our FIVE voting delegates. There were only five amendments that we did vote on. Three failed and of the two that required a paper vote was one that was concerned with the proper route of any disciplinary action. It was a great time together with compatriots from across the nation. We didn't encounter any protestors at the Convention Center and only heard positive comments and words of encouragement. We visited Stonewall Jackson's grave as well as other historical monuments. At Jackson's grave we talked to a policeman who pointed out to us that his badge has a picture of Lee and Stonewall right on it. He offered for us to take a picture of it, so we did. Just every day was a great day!

Again, it is an exciting time but a very serious time that we all need to be remain steadfast and ready to serve and defend the Sons of Confederate Veterans and our great Southern Heritage! Below is a quote from the 2015 Nationals that I will always remember:

“I will fight for the right to fly my flag til hell freezes over, and then I will fight them on the ice.”



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!

Well, it's that time of year again when we renew our yearly dues for Camp, Texas Division and National SCV. You have all been witnessing the vicious assault on Southern Culture happening in America over the last few weeks. Attacks against the Battle flag of Northern Virginia, attacks against Confederate monuments, attacks on the memory and honor of our Confederate dead. Attacks against Christianity. Did you ever think you would see this day? EVER?

Do what you can and where you can. If your business and personal schedule doesn't allow you to attend our Camp meetings every month, that's OK. Try to attend when possible. We need your input and expertise to help our Camp grow and to help counter the PC elements that are attacking our Confederate Heritage.

Read "The South was Right" by the Kennedy brothers. Then read it again. I have. Read your Confederate Veteran magazine COVER TO COVER. I do. We can all do this. And lastly, dear Compatriots, we can pay our SCV dues in a timely fashion to further the Cause.

We have one of the best Camps in the Eighth Brigade — not even four years old upon recharter, and we have won **FOUR STAR CAMP** two years running, and just won third place in the Texas Division for our **Howdy Herald Newsletter**. We now have **FIFTY-EIGHT MEMBERS** and we are growing! I am so proud of our Howdy Martin Camp and I know you are too!

There is a move afoot in Tyler to "ban Confederate flags from Oakwood Cemetery." Tyler!! Not Virginia, Not Georgia, Tyler!! We need to stand ready to help our fellow compatriots in the Douglas Camp in Tyler to combat this tyranny. We are on the front line too. I have personally replaced "removed" Confederate flags in a local cemetery!

What will we do to honor The Charge today?

Jim Ogburn, MD
Deo Vindice!

Prayer Requests

Health issues:

- **Jim Day in Houston**
- **Don Bentley**
- **Ron Freeman and family**
- * **Christians in the USA for standing up for God & what is right!**
- * **All upcoming SCV camp activities**
- * **Defenders of our 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.

Power!

4-15-2012

We are all aware of the importance of power and know it comes in many forms. There's solar power, turbo power, nuclear power, and of course gasoline, diesel, and electric power, and more. Power is what makes things run. Power makes things go. And as a rule, the more power something has, the faster it will run and the farther it will go.

People in positions of influence are said to have power. There is strength, or power, in numbers. Then there is financial power. Most things take money to accomplish. And a lot of money can accomplish a lot of things. If we want to reach our goals and if we want to get from where we are to where we want to be, we will need the power necessary to get there.

This is not only true of you and me as individuals, but it is also true of our Confederation. For the Sons of Confederate Veterans to be successful in its appointed mission, it needs some form of power. But, what form? We don't have the power of numbers. We don't have a great deal of money. There aren't people of power and influence joining our ranks for fear of damaging their political careers. So what do we do? Where do we look for our source of Power?

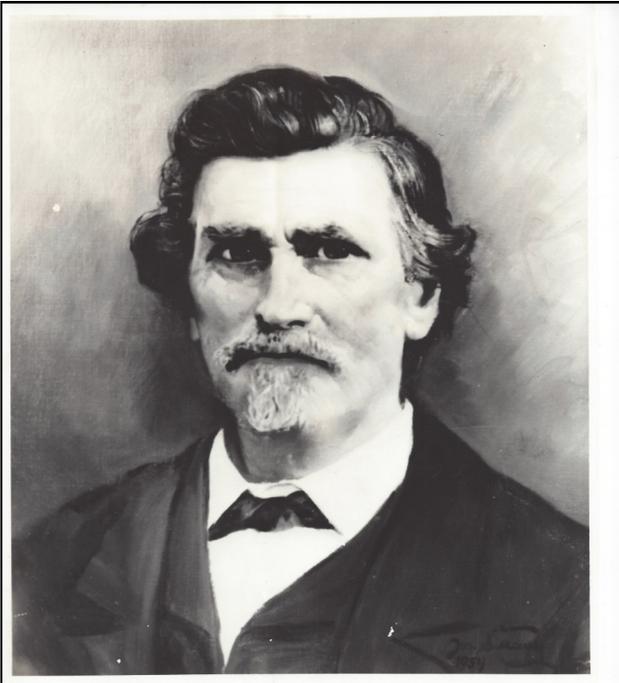
The answer, of course, is God. Anyone who could create a world out of nothing, sustain it by His word, and alter it at His will has power beyond our wildest imagination. God is the most potent power in the universe and will always accomplish what's intended. Jesus was the most powerful man to ever live because He subjugated Himself to the Father's power. Everything He did, He did under God's direction and guidance. As a result, Jesus could say,

"All power is given unto me in heaven and earth." (Matt. 28:18)

Nothing in existence can compete with God's power. It can never be defeated. Therefore if we, as individuals or as a Confederation are sustained by God's power, we can never be defeated either. However, we must understand that God's power cannot be acquired by work or effort. It is a gift. And there's only one way to receive it: through Christ. We must trust Him, commit ourselves to Him, and receive Him as our Savior and Lord. Then and only then, God supplies the rest of what we need. He is the final key and our source for the power to grow, strengthen, and overcome all obstacles to succeed, not only in our own lives, but also in our just and most worthy Cause.



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



Above: Major W. H. Howdy Martin



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

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

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.