

Major W.H. “Howdy” Martin Camp #1241

SONS OF CONFEDERATE VETERANS

Athens, Texas

HOWDY HERALD

VOLUME 7, ISSUE 4
JULY 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

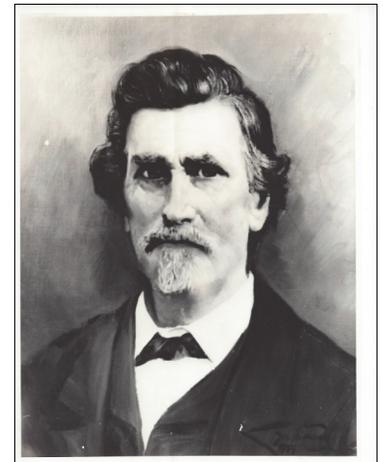
1823-1898

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 July 10, 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 14 members and quests present. Everyone enjoyed light refreshments.
5. Cmdr. **Teems** called meeting to order and introduced our speaker, **Dr. Danny Sessum** who gave a historical presentation on the CSA 17th Calvary dismounted from Texas. He has authored 2 books on Confederate history which he had for sale and he autographed those books purchased.
5. Adjutant/Treasurer **Don Bentley** read the minutes of our June 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 \$5.00 late charge.**
6. Cmdr. **Teems** presented **Bryan Sifers** a graduation check for \$50.00.
7. Cmdr. **Teems** reminded us of following date:
7/18-23/17 – National Reunion in Memphis, TN at the Cook Convention Center.
8. Chaplain **Jim Abney** was elected delegate to the National Reunion. He stated there were 3 proposed amendments to be voted on and he needed to know how to vote on them. The amendments are as follows:
Concerning the breaking away of the Sam Davis Youth Camp so as to be a separate entity. Camp vote YEA.
The SCV logo to only be displayed from front of clothing only. Camp voted Yea.
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. Camp voted NAY.
9. Motion made and seconded to award Chaplain **Abney** with travel expenses to reunion in the amount of \$100.00. Motion carried.
10. Chaplain **Jim Abney** asks for at least three volunteers for rapid response team for the Trans-Mississippi 8th Brigade Army. Chaplain **Abney** made a list of volunteers and their contact information.
11. Chaplain **Jim Abney** requested that camp members should watch over the W. H. (Howdy) Martin monument and report any unusual activity. **Don Bentley, Terry Teems, Ron Freeman, David Miller and Steve Sifers** volunteered to do so.
12. Cmdr. **Teems** took the following prayer requests:
Nations leaders, first responders and our military
Our federal government
Chaplain Abney's safe travel and successful reunion.
Preservation of southern heritage.
Family who lost 2 year old son in accident.
13. Before adjourning, Chaplain **Abney** gave the benediction and Cmdr. **Teems** lead all in singing of "Dixie".

Adjutant/Treasurer Don R. Bentley



The following article was written in August of last year by Ms. Lorra B. Chief Writer for SilentSoldier.usa, a blog she publishes. I know it's an old article but yet the situation about our flags, both Confederate and American, isn't getting better, it's getting worse.

Think about the situation now as more and more institutions of supposedly higher learning are banning not only Confederate and American flags but monuments and historical markers of our Confederate veterans!

This article inspired and reminded me of our duty as Sons of Confederate Veterans. Hope it will do the same for you.

Banning The Patriotic Display of the American Flag, The New Norm? A Terrorist Act? Racist?

Over the last few years Americans seem to be receiving a clear message, flying Old Glory could not only be offensive to some people and therefore deemed inappropriate (or even racist) but punishable by law as well.

Most Americans remember a day when patriotically flying the American flag brought the US together with warm feelings for a nation loved. Today, however, Americans are forced to worry if their proud display of loyalty will either offend someone or land them in trouble with the law.

The latest of innumerable flag-flying controversies comes from Henderson, NV, when an Army veteran was told that the flag he had proudly been displaying at his apartment complex couldn't be displayed the way it had been for the last 3 years.

"You may have seen Ken Jackson's giant American flag being flown at the Crystal Creek apartment complex, located at Green Valley Parkway and Warm Springs Road," reports Fox5 News. The management at Crystal Creek have now decided that Jackson can no longer fly his flag the way he wants to or face a fine of \$25 a month until he complies.

By no means is Jackson the first to face opposition when it comes to the American flag. In June Rhode Island Firefighters were compared to ISIS terrorists for flying American flags of their trucks.

"They look like a bunch of yahoos," Fred Gralinski of the Central Coventry Fire District said at a board meeting. "Like in the paper, like ISIS in Syria going to take over a city. I don't think they need that big flag on the back of the truck. That's not America to me. Those are a bunch of terrorists. So, I'm going to ask you to take the flag off that truck." Wow, Really?

Let's not forget the student from Fruita, Colorado, who was told that students could no longer fly any flags from their vehicles, including the American Flag. Even *it* was banned.

"They said we can't fly a Mexican flag, Confederate flag, American flag, any flag at all," senior Paxton Streeter complained to NBC 11. "I feel very disrespected that we cannot fly our country's flag in our own country."

This controversy started because a student, senior Colt Chatfield, came to school displaying the Confederate Flag, a flag he had on his vehicle all year. When Chatfield became defiant about removing the flag he was threatened that unless he did so he would lose his graduation rights.

"I don't see how you can pull someone's right to walk in graduation because they were being patriotic," Fruita senior Keegan Bogart said. "My buddy was kicked out for having [a flag] in his truck, and they threatened to expel Colt Chatfield for it, and they told all seniors that they would not

walk [in graduation] if we continued to display flags in the school's parking lot."

The school denied threatening the students but did say the request was made because some flags are "offensive" to some students, and because they were a "safety" issue.

The American Flag is a safety issue?

In Georgia a man was threatened with jail time and ticketed for refusing to take down a flag he had been proudly flying for more than 30 years outside his automotive repair shop.

"It's been there for 30 years," Tom Gieryic told Fox News. "She [code enforcer] told me my flag was in the city's right of way."

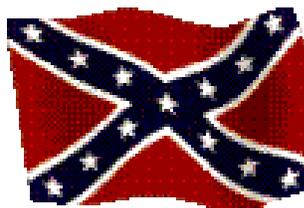
After a few retired Marines came to the auto shop and offered to replace the old flag with a new one, that's when the trouble started. A code enforcement officer met Gieryic at his shop and told him to either remove Old Glory or be faced with fines.

"I was shocked, man – a complete loss for words," he recounted. "I told her I wasn't going to be moving my flag."

If he did not comply, Gieryic was told that he could face 60 days in jail and be fined \$1000 a day.

Harassing, ticketing, threatening jail time, fining and being called terrorists, patriots are bewildered and angry by it all. What once was considered a proud exhibition for Love of Country now seems to be policed, shunned and even being called a racist statement or terrorism by some stretch of the imagination.

So, while we still can, FLY'EM IF YOU GOT'EM!



Standing 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

Chaplain Abney's safe travel and successful reunion.

Preservation of southern heritage.

Family who lost 2 year old son in accident.

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.

God Had A Plan!

7-01-2012

In Genesis 12:2, God promised Abraham that He would make of him a great nation. This promise is repeated in Chapter 17. Then Abraham begot Isaac, and Isaac begot Jacob, and Jacob had twelve sons, the second to youngest being named Joseph. Joseph was sold by his brothers to Midianite merchants who then sold him to Potiphar in Egypt as a slave. (Gen 37:28 & 39:1) Later, Potiphar had Joseph thrown into prison. Joseph went from a favorite son in his father's house, to slavery, then "into the prison, a place where the king's prisoners were bound." (Gen. 39:20)

Although the Scripture doesn't indicate it, we might understand how Joseph may have despaired. He had lived upright and faithful before God and man, he was innocent of any wrong doing, but now h was in prison. He may have wondered why this had happened to him when he was on the side of truth. He may have felt that God had abandoned him, as we might. But, God had a plan.

Most of us know what happened next. Under God's guidance, Joseph went from the king's prison to being the second most powerful man in Egypt. As such, Joseph was able to save his father, brothers, and their families from a great famine and bring them to Egypt where they multiplied and flourished. Of course, after the death of Joseph there would be generations of Egyptian bondage, and the Hebrews did despair. Many thought that God had forgotten them in their plight. But again, God had a plan.

We can go on to speak of Moses, who went from living in the luxury of a king's palace to a desert shepherd. We can think of David, the Babylonian captivity, and all the trials of the Hebrew Nation. In the new Testament, we are told of the imprisonment and death of John the Baptist, the Lord's Apostles and other Christian Saints. And most importantly, the crucifixion of Christ. But in all of this, God had a Plan.

We know the South was right and was on the side of truth. The Southern Armies were more Christian, moral and honorable. But, the South lost its bid for independence. Then followed the suffering and humiliation of Union occupation. Since then, the Union has constantly and with determination mocked and vilified everything Southern. So now, many Southerners agree and believe, what they've been taught and brought up to believe, that the South was wrong, their Confederate forefathers were criminals, Robert E. Lee was a traitor, Abe Lincoln was a great man, and our Southern heritage is a legacy of shame. It seems that the bad guys are winning. But we should not despair, because I believe God has a plan.

We may not know what God's plan is. But, we do know that there is a purpose in everything He does. God always has a plan and a purpose. The Bible tells us, **"And we know that all things work together for good to them that love God, to them who are the called according to His purpose."** (Rom. 8:28) God has a plan and purpose for you and me. I believe that God has a plan for the Sons of Confederate Veterans. What we must do is trust Him, follow His guidance, understand that He is still in control of every situation, and accept His authority and Lordship in our lives.

It is my prayer that every member of the Sons of Confederate Veterans would turn to Christ and put their life and future in His hands. May God bless you as you serve Him in faith, and our just and most worthy Southern Cause with honor.



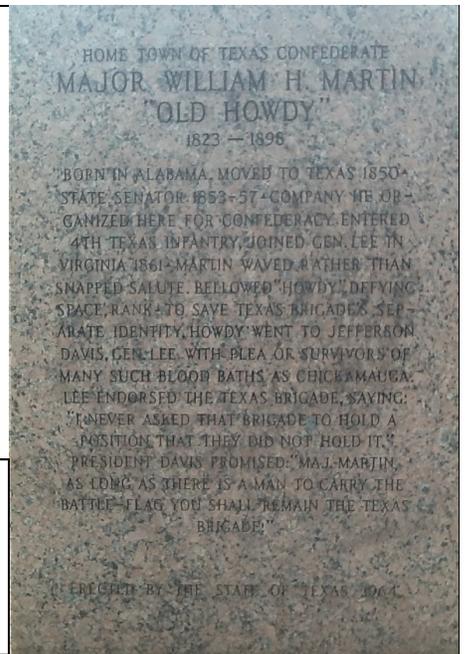
Bro Len speaks at the Confederate Veteran's Memorial Plaza Dedication

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

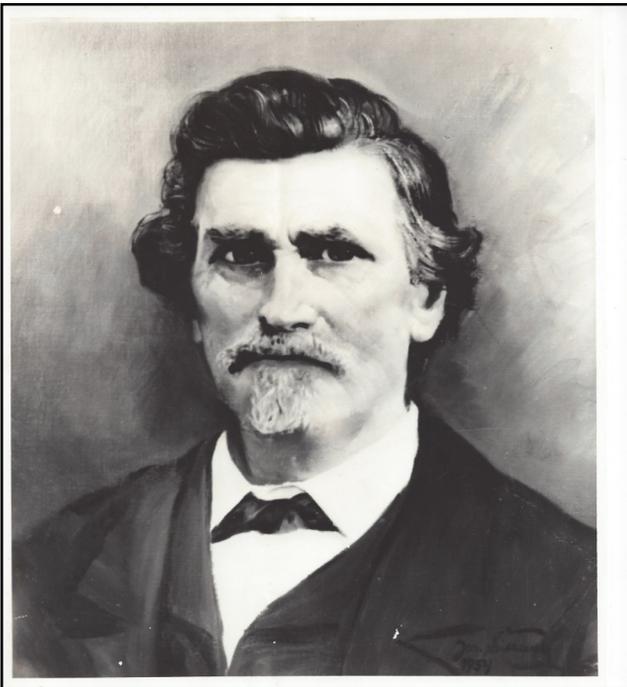


Above: Howdy's Grave, Hillsboro City Cemetery, Hillsboro, TX.
 Right: Howdy's Marker is located in Athens on Hwy 19 South in the Confederate Park.



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.