

Major W.H. “Howdy” Martin Camp #1241

SONS OF CONFEDERATE VETERANS Athens, Texas

HOWDY HERALD

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JUNE 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

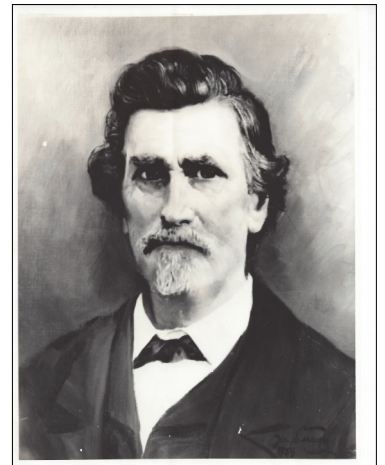
1823-1898

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 June 8th SCV Howdy Martin Camp Meeting was held at the Calvary Baptist Church Gym with Commander **Jimmy Abney** presiding. After recognizing our guests, Compatriot **Don Bentley** was asked to give the blessing for our dinner.
2. Quartermaster **Dale Sifford** led the pledges to the flags and the reading of The Charge. We had 32 guests and members present.
3. Cmdr **Abney** introduced our guest speaker "**Muddy Waters**" who gave an interesting presentation and display regarding weapons used in the "War Between the States." His display included knives, rifles, pistols and assorted weaponry used in the conflict.
4. Compatriot **Don Bentley** read the minutes from the May meeting which were approved as read.
5. Adjutant/Treasurer **Dr Jim Ogburn** read the financial report. He reported that Calvary Baptist Church rental of the facility was paid up to August, 2015. Acceptance of his report was motioned, seconded and approved as reported.
6. Cmdr **Abney** presented a certificate and a medal from the General Headquarters in Columbia, TN to **Mrs. Jan Giles** for her continued outstanding work and assistance provided to our camp.



"Muddy Waters" displayed his personal collection of weapons and artifacts of the War Between the States.



Cmdr Abney presented a "Ladies Appreciation Award" certificate and medal to Mrs. Jan Giles.

7. Cmdr **Abney** reported that the **Howdy Martin Camp received the "Four Star Camp Award" for the second year in a row.**
8. Cmdr **Abney** reported that our "**Howdy Herald Newsletter**" received the SCV **third place award** in the State of Texas. This announcement was also made at the Temple SCV 2015 Reunion. The camp unanimously voted to present the original award to Chaplain **Day** and wife **Teresa** for their outstanding work as editor of our newsletter. Cmdr **Abney** called them during the meeting to notify them of our decision and they were so appreciative. Adjutant/Treasurer **Dr Jim Ogburn** volunteered to obtain a copy for the camp records.
9. Cmdr **Abney** presented a camp membership certificate to our new members, **Hody Potterfield and David Miller**.

10. Cmdr Abney presented the "Gold Cross" certificate and medal to 1st Lt Cmdr **Joseph Ables** and Aide de Camp **Jessie Giles**. Cmdr **Abney** received one as well. Adjutant/Treasurer **Jim Ogburn** received a "Silver Cross" certificate and medal. 2nd Lt Cmdr **Ron Freeman** was presented a "Bronze Cross" certificate and medal.
11. Cmdr **Abney** reported on the State SCV Reunion where he was elected 1st Lt Cmdr of the Eighth Brigade. The new 8th Brigade Cmdr is **Dennis Brand** and 2nd Lt Cmdr is **Marc Robinson**. He named all of the new state officers whose names can be found on the SCV Texas website.
12. Discussion was presented for delegates to attend the National Convention in Richmond, VA to be held July 15-18th. Applications are available in the current SCV magazine. Cmdr **Abney** plans to go and would like another delegate to attend with him and share expenses.
13. Cmdr **Abney** 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. Please see Cmdr **Abney** for more information if you would like to attend.



Right: **L Freeman, Dr Ogburn, J Ables, J Giles and Cmdr Jimmy Abney** are holding their certificates/medals received for Outstanding Service in answer to The Charge.



14. Adjutant/Treasurer Dr **Jim Ogburn** asked to speak concerning a clean-up day at the Arms Cemetery before Father's Day. Our camp voted to be caretakers of this small cemetery that is the final resting place of Quartermaster **Dale Sifford's** Confederate ancestor. He recommended Saturday, June 13th. Volunteers are needed and should please contact him for questions or directions to County Road 3800 which is about 3 miles north of Murchison.
15. The **Wreay Cemetery** dedication is to be held on the third Saturday in September. Please make plans to attend.

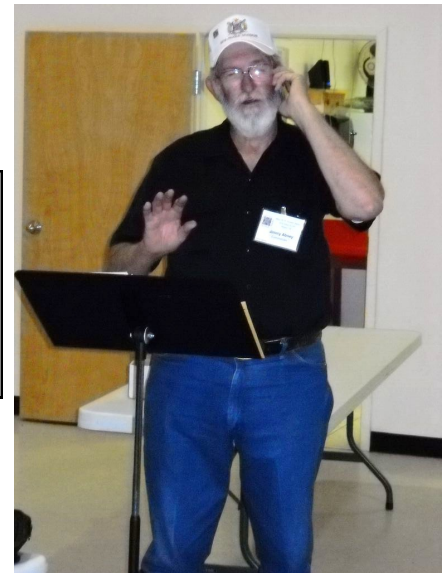
Left and Above: **32 Howdy Camp Members and Guests** enjoy a wonderful pot luck dinner and good fellowship.



16. Adjutant/Treasurer **Dr Jim Ogburn** discussed the possibility of establishing an Order of the Confederate Rose group whose purpose would be to assist the SCV in its historical, educational, benevolent and social functions. Several ladies already participate in Black Rose activities at our Howdy Camp memorials.
17. Two new camp members, **Bryan Sifers**, son of **Steve**, and **Jim McCormick** were given affirmative votes of approval for memberships. Three other prospective members are working on their membership applications.
18. Adjutant/Treasurer **Dr Jim Ogburn** suggested a book club. He recommended the reading of **The South was Right** by brothers **James Ronald Kennedy** and **Walter Donald Kennedy** as the first book for us to read and possibly later discuss. **Don** was our guest speaker some time ago and several traveled to hear him speak at the John H. Reagan SCV Camp 2156 in Palestine.
19. Prayer requests were asked for **Ron Freeman** and also his mother, **Jim Day**, and **Bunny Freeman's** mother for future surgery. We learned that **Bob Gene Davidson** passed away on June 7th. His funeral was June 10th in Tyler. **Bob** was the originator of the Annual Tyler Camp Ford Living History. He served on the board of the Camp Ford Historical Association.
20. Compatriot **Don Bentley** led the benediction and the singing of "**Dixie**."



Left: During our meeting Cmdr **Abney** called our **Howdy Herald** editor **Jim Day** and his wife to share with them some outstanding news.



Above left: Cmdr **Abney** presents new membership certificates to **David Miller** and **Body Potterfield**.

Right: **FOUR STAR CAMP AWARD** for the second year in a row!



Texas Division Reunion in Temple, TX June 5-7, 2015



SCV Officers 2015-2017

Left: Texas 8th Brigade Cmdr **Dennis Brand**,
1st Lt Cmdr **Jimmy Abney** and
2nd Lt Cmdr **Marc Robinson**



Above: Program from the State Reunion
Right: Cmdr **Jimmy Abney** brings in the Howdy
Martin Camp Flag
Below Left: TX Cmdr **Johnnie Holley** opens the
118th TX State Reunion
Below Right: TX Order of the Stars & Bars **Jack Dyees**



2015 Confederate Heritage Rally Sesquicentennial Event Shreveport, LA May 30th



FACES AT THE RALLY

Top left: TX Division prepare for parade
Top right: Howdy Camp Cmdr J Abney
Middle left: TX Division Cmdr J Holley
Center: Parade enters downtown
Middle right: Crowd on courthouse lawn
Bottom left: CSA Monument
Center left: Councilman of the Army of Trans Mississippi Paul Gramling speaks



Commander Jimmy Abney

From the Commander

Greetings,

These are exciting times to be a part of the Sons of Confederate Veterans. Having just returned from our State SCV Reunion, I am excited and eager to see what the remainder of 2015 has in store for not just our own Howdy Martin Camp, but for our Brigades, our Divisions, and our State SCV groups as well. As we all strive to answer The Charge, it is becoming more and more evident to me that the future of our organization has never been more promising. I am proud and I know you are too!

In this newsletter you will find pictures of the State Reunion and the 2015 Confederate Heritage Rally Sesquicentennial

Event in Shreveport, LA. Driving over there in the torrential rain was hard, but the weather broke and allowed us to have a magnificent parade. Let me assure you that Texas SCV Camp Members held our own as we marched in unison responding loudly to singing **Dixie** as we entered the courthouse square! Marching in an SCV parade gives my heart a powerful burst of pride and I encourage you to mark your calendar to do so sometime soon.

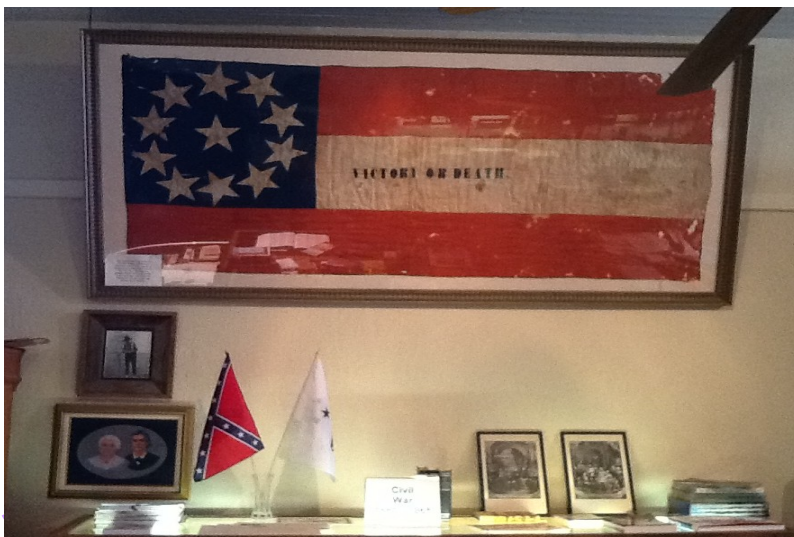
I am sure you have already heard the officer election results at the State Reunion. I am so very proud to be elected to serve as your 1st Lt Commander of the 8th Brigade. I thank each one of you for your vote of confidence in my ability to serve in this very prestigious office. Your 8th Brigade Commander is Dennis Brand and Marc Robinson will serve as your 2nd Lt Commander. We three are totally committed to working together and with you to make our Brigade strong and proud. I am ready to serve and will be available to you at any time.

Lastly, I have made plans to attend the 120th National Reunion of the SCV in Richmond, Virginia and I want to invite others in our camp to go with me. Those dates are July 14-19 and for more information look for a registration form in your May/June *Confederate Magazine* or contact me as soon as possible so we get motel reservations. It is going to be a great time together with compatriots from across the nation. Again, it is an exciting time to be part of the Sons of Confederate Veterans!

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



Prayer Requests

Health issues:

- * Mothers of Camp Members
 - * Jim Day in Houston
 - * Family in the passing Bob Gene Davidson of Tyler
 - * Christians in the USA for standing up for God & what is right!
 - * All upcoming camp activities
- Nationals Richmond, VA July 15-19

Camp Adjutant/Treasurer Jim Ogburn, MD

A big Howdy Welcome to everyone!

As our own Commander recently commented, the Howdy Camp is being talked about among many Texas Division Camps. It is such an honor to have visitors attend our monthly meetings. It is a double blessing for visitors to apply for membership to join us. May I extend a welcome to all of our recent new members and I want you to know that I am available to assist you in any way possible to help you feel at home in your Howdy Martin Camp.

I enjoyed attending our State SCV Reunion in Temple recently along with Cmdr Jimmy Abney, Chaplain Jim Day, and Historian Luke Freeman. The Reunion was a great success including the elections of our State and Division Officers who will serve for the next two years. Meetings of fellow SCV members from across the State give individuals inspiration and determination to do their best at home in answering The Charge. If you have not attended an SCV Reunion, please plan ahead and allow yourself the opportunity to go. Next year it will be hosted in Kerrville by the Hill Country Camp #1938.

Our SCV Nationals in Richmond, Virginia is quickly approaching July 15-19th. At this writing, we have two delegates planning to attend. Please ask if you can go to represent our camp. I hope to see you down the road!

Jim Ogburn, MD

Deo Vindice!

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.

It's Offensive!

7-17-2011

Jesus was never one to back down, especially when He wanted to make a point that His audience desperately needed to hear and understand. So, in the face of a lynch-mob mentality, Jesus laid out some of His most direct and challenging teaching. An example of this is John 5:19-47. In these verses He states firmly the extent of His authority. Of course, in verses 16-18 of that same chapter we see that the Jews **"sought the more to kill Him."** Why? Because He was speaking the truth, and it's offensive. Jesus did not fear the reaction of others to His message or works. Because of His commitment to the ministry God had given Him, Jesus attracted the love, loyalty, and devotion of many. However, many others rejected, despised, and sought to destroy Him and His influence. And, this is just as true today as it was two thousand years ago. To many, the truth is still offensive.

As Christians we have been given the responsibility of carrying out the Great Commission given to us by Christ in Matthew 28: 19, 20. Today, as it has always been, the most effective means of reaching a lost and sin-sick world with the love and saving power of Christ is the bold witness of faithful Christians. All the high powered Madison Avenue marketing techniques, dog-and-pony shows, concerts, social events, and other strategies used by many of today's "churches" cannot replace the fearless testimony of our Lord's Saints.

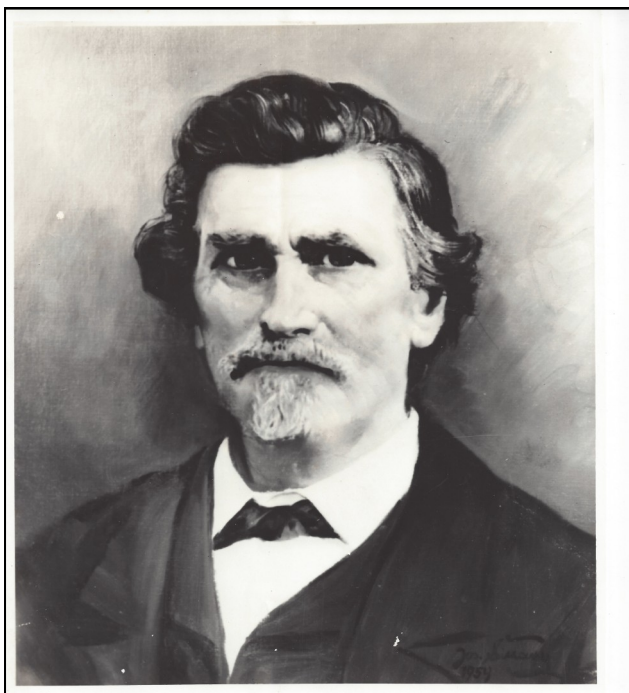
As members of the Sons of Confederate Veterans, we also have the duty and honor of carrying out the Charge given to us by Stephen Dill Lee. Can we succeed? Yes! With God's help and guidance, as we fearlessly present our most worthy Southern Cause, I have no doubt we can and will be successful in fulfilling our responsibility to our brave and our most noble Confederate forefathers.

We must let all those who oppose our just Cause know we are proud of our Southern heritage. We are proud of our Confederate ancestors. We are proud of our Confederate flags and symbols. We are proud to be the Sons of Confederate Veterans, and will proudly proclaim to all who will listen: **The South was right . . . and still is.**

We will succeed because like Jesus, Peter, Paul, and those who served our Confederation before us, we will not be discouraged by the response or attitude of others. We can't help it if someone acts offended. It's the truth, and it's offensive.

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.