

Major W.H. “Howdy” Martin Camp #1241

SONS OF CONFEDERATE VETERANS

ATHENS, TEXAS

HOWDY HERALD

VOLUME 2, ISSUE 3
MARCH 2014

William Harrison “Howdy” Martin

1823-1898

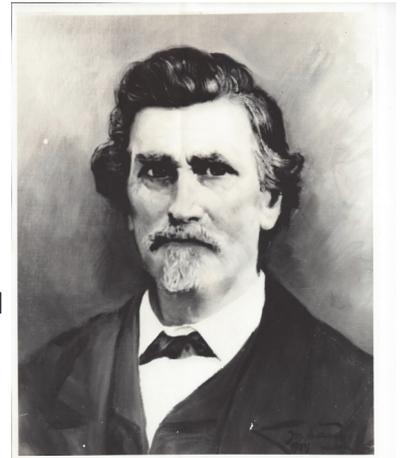
In 1861 during the War Between the States, William Harrison Martin enlisted in the Confederate Army and served in Company K of the 4th Texas Infantry that was assigned to Lee’s Army of Northern Virginia. Martin gained his nickname because of his refusal to salute superior officers. Instead, he would 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 major battles until the end 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.

Sources: *Handbook of Texas Online*, *Athens Review* 1998-2-11 and 2012-1-20



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

Read more about Howdy Martin’s life, family and career on our camp website.

www.martincamp.org



Jimmy Abney and Jessie Giles

Spotlight on Our Camp

1. The March Camp Meeting was held at the Calvary Baptist Church Gym with Commander **Jimmy Abney** presiding.
2. Following Cmdr Abney's welcome and introduction of guests, **Bob Lynch** led us in prayer prior to our meal
3. Quartermaster **Phillip Albright** led the pledges and salutes to the flags and reading of the Charge to the SCV.
4. Cmdr **Abney** recognized our guests. Including visitors and members, we had 18 present.
5. 1st Lt **Joey Ables** introduced Aide de camp and Historian **Jessie Giles** as our program speaker. Jessie has attended the Sam Davis Camp and shared his memories with us. His slide show included a brief history of the camp including its namesake. His pictures walked us through a camper's day of classes including the cannon drill, musket shooting,

infantry commands, period dances and games and even field trips. His video allowed us to see the ladies in beautiful gowns and handsomely dressed men at the ball.

6. Adjutant **Jim Ogburn** shared several pictures he had made to give our camp an update on the Arms Cemetery project. Pete Edison and he have recently erected a sign on the property and have initiated the required paperwork to acquire a historical marker from the State. Dr. Ogburn attended a Henderson County Historical meeting to discuss the Arms Cemetery status. Our camp's veteran at Arms is George Grayson who was a Private under Howdy Martin's command. Discussion followed concerning cleaning a marker that can not be read. He also shared pictures from 1971 and 1973 of past groups with previous Arms Cemetery signs. Our camp cleanup project is planned for March 29 at 10am. Dr. Ogburn presented to the camp a beautiful, large dedication wreath which he special ordered to be used at future appropriate camp ceremonies.
6. Adjutant/Treasurer **Jim Ogburn** read the minutes from February and gave the camp's financial report.
7. Commander **Abney** had the honor of swearing in our new member **Gary Boren**.
8. Cmdr **Abney** proposed we order personalized camp logo ink pens to be given away at recruiting activities. He also noted that our camp meeting was announced on Facebook for the first time.



Cmdr Abney & Adjutant/Treasurer Jim Ogburn

13. Ronald Freeman's wife, **Bunny Freeman**, read to us a letter she had found on-line while doing historical research. It was written by Thomas, a Civil War soldier, to his family on May 9, 1865 and published in a Galveston newspaper. Everyone enjoyed her letter.
14. 1st Lt **Joey Ables** conducted the drawing for a Civil War book which he donated from his own collection. It was an autographed copy of Donnie Kennedy's *The South Was Right*. This month's lucky winner was **Ronald Freeman**.
15. Cmdr **Abney** gave **Bob Lynch** a surprise for his March 15th birthday. He was presented a certificate and a medal in honor of his military service.
15. **Jan Giles** asked members to collect cans for Sam Davis Camp funds. She asked that we bring them to our meeting and she will sell them.
16. Cmdr. **Abney** encouraged all members to participate in our Arms Cemetery project on the 29th. He asked that we bring shovels, rakes and a lawn mower. Workers can meet at the cemetery or Abney will be at the church at 10am for those who want to follow him. He asked that we bring drinks and a picnic lunch to eat after the clean up.
15. **Bob Lynch** suggested a political speaker that he thought our members would enjoy hearing. **Ables** agreed and he would contact him and extend an invitation. **Lynch** closed our meeting with a prayer and we all sang *Dixie*.



1st Lt Cmdr Joey Ables and Ronald Freeman



Left:
Cmdr Abney swears in our new camp member, Gary Boren.



Right:
Bob Lynch receives a very nice birthday surprise from Cmdr Jimmy Abney.



Jimmy Abney

From the Commander

Greetings,

Spring is upon us again. It has been a long, cold winter. We have a lot coming up. I hope each of you will join us to make all of the upcoming events for our camp.

One camp project is fast approaching. The clean up at Arms Cemetery is Saturday, March 29th. We need all that can help to come. Please bring rakes, saws, mowers, trimmers and trash bags. We plan on a picnic lunch out there, so let us know what you can bring. We will meet at Calvary Baptist Church at 10am that morning. I hope to see you.

Also, I hope you are making plans to attend the

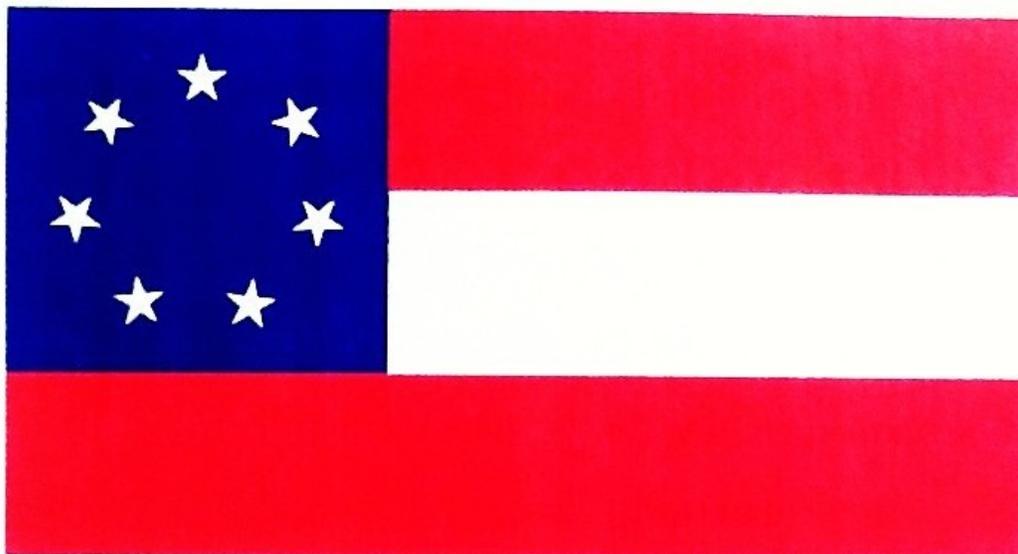
State SCV Reunion in Houston in June. We need to have at least five votes in the election. We will discuss this at the next meeting.

I am sending an application to the State to make us a four-star camp. This is a big honor for our camp. Everyone should be proud that we have made this in only three years. Thanks you for your support for our camp.

Your commander,

Jimmy Abney

Keep the flag flying!!



The first National Flag of the Confederate States of America

MY ANCESTOR

Camp members share their ancestor's story to honor their service to the CSA

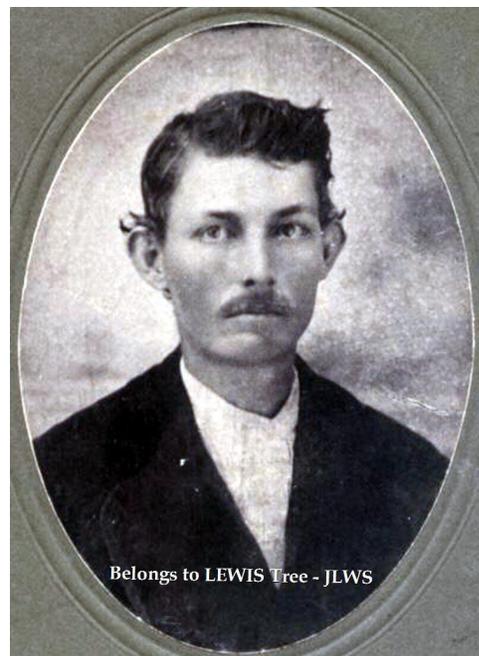
Ira Dabney "Bose" Lewis

1847 — 1915

Great-Great-Great Grandfather of

Lucas "Luke" Freeman

Ira Dabney "Bose" Lewis was my great-great-great-grandfather who served in the War Between the States in Company E of Captain Irwin Rucker's 9th Texas Battalion, under Colonel Jameson. He joined in June or July of 1864. After serving about a year, Bose was discharged in May or June, 1865. He was only about seventeen when he enlisted, but on his application for a pension, those men who served with him said he served like a man.



Bose Lewis married first Sarah "Sallie" Ann Ray and they had four children. When she died he married Mary Elizabeth Perry, my great-great-great-grandmother and they had twelve children.

Many years later, he served as a prison guard at Camp Ford outside of Tyler, Texas. Bose Lewis was only 68 when he was killed in the Mitcham Hotel fire on May 2, 1915. He is buried in the Athens City Cemetery. His is the first Confederate marker on the left as you go into the gates of the cemetery.

Camp Adjutant Jim Ogburn, MD



Howdy to All,

Our camp continues to grow and we are financially stable. I have obtained three Iron Crosses of Honor from the John H Reagan Camp in Palestine. We will install one on our CSA Veterans grave on March 29th, our workday at the Arms Cemetery. Looking forward to that!

Let's all make a big push to recruit new members for the Camp! I am aiming for 5 new members to personally recruit in 2014 in the next two months by June— got two, three to go!

Let's get fired up!

*Jim Ogburn, MD
Deo Vindice!*

TIMELINE FOR THE WAR					
1860	1861	1862	1863	1864	1865
T E X A S					
<p>Texas votes with 10 other slave states for Southern Democrat John C. Breckinridge of Kentucky in the presidential election.</p>	<p>February 18 U.S. Gen. David E. Twiggs surrenders all U.S. military posts in Texas.</p> <p>March 2 Texas formally secedes from the United States.</p> <p>March 5 Texas secession convention passes the ordinance uniting Texas with the Confederate States of America.</p> <p>March 16 Gov. Sam Houston removed from office by action of the convention.</p> <p>July 2 Galveston blockade initiated by <i>USS South Carolina</i>.</p>	<p>August 10 Battle of the Nueces, Kinney County, between Confederates and Hill Country Unionists.</p> <p>October 1-20 Confederates capture and hang suspected Union sympathizers in Cooke County and surrounding area. Forty die in the event known as the Great Hanging at Gainesville.</p> <p>October 8 Federal forces capture Galveston.</p>	<p>January 1 Battle of Galveston. Confederates regain control of the city.</p> <p>September 8 Battle of Sabine Pass. A small unit led by Lt. Dick Dowling repulses small Union force under Gen. William B. Franklin.</p> <p>November 2-6 Federal army and navy occupy Brazos Island and Brownsville.</p>	<p>March – May Texas troops amass in Northeast Texas around Marshall and Tyler to join Confederate action in the Red River campaign in Western Louisiana. Intense fighting at Mansfield, Pleasant Hill and other sites help repulse federal invasion of Gen. Nathaniel Banks.</p> <p>March 19 Federal attack on Laredo.</p> <p>July 30 Confederate forces re-occupy Brownsville.</p>	<p>May 13 Battle of Palmito Ranch (near Brownsville), the last land battle of the Civil War.</p> <p>June 2 Gen. E. Kirby Smith, Confederate States of America, surrenders the Trans-Mississippi Department at Galveston.</p> <p>June 19 U.S. Gen. Gordon Granger, commander of U.S. troops in Texas, arrives in Galveston and orders the enforcement of the Emancipation Proclamation, thereby ending slavery in Texas. The event is later celebrated as Juneteenth.</p>

Next camp meeting April 3rd

Camp meetings are on the First Thursday of each month. We meet at the Calvary Baptist Church in Athens on the corner of Hwy 175 East and Crestway Drive. Meetings begin at 6:30pm with a pot luck dinner furnished by members. Guests are welcome and you may bring your family.

Upcoming dates:
March 29th Arms Cemetery Cleanup Project, Murchison
 Bring your shovels, rakes and a picnic lunch!
 Meet at Arms or at the church at 10:00am!

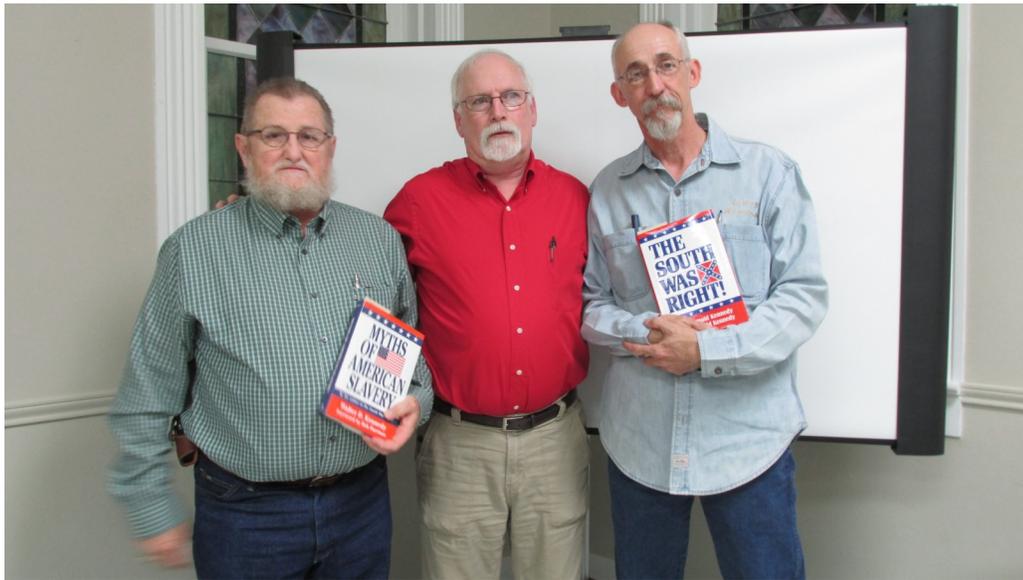
WELCOME TO THIS MONTH'S ISSUE OF THE HOWDY MARTIN CAMP #1241 NEWSLETTER

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 Thursday camp meeting.
 Jim Day

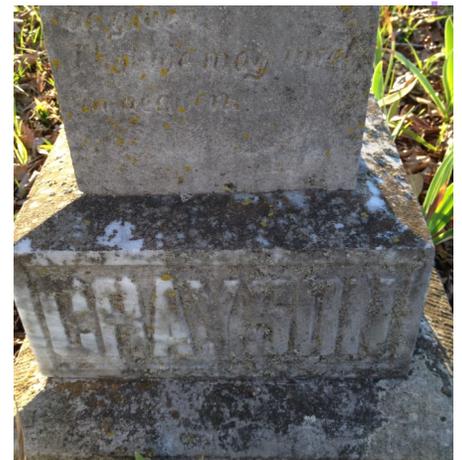
February 2014 Camp Activities

February 18th in Palestine

3rd Lt Cmdr David Lowry and Chaplain Jim Day attended the John H Reagan Camp #2156 February camp meeting. Special guest speaker was Donnie Kennedy, author of numerous Civil War books including *The South Was Right* and *Myths of American Slavery*. Both enjoyed his presentation, meeting Kennedy and visiting the camp members.



Adjutant/Treasurer Jim Ogburn, MD visited the ARMS Cemetery in Murchison in preparation for our Camp Clean-Up Project on March 29th



Do your duty in all things. You cannot do more, you should never wish to do less.
General Robert E. Lee

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 Bro Len's messages that were written from his heart to share his testimony of salvation through Jesus Christ Our Lord.

A Lost Cause?

We've all heard the Confederate States of America and all it stood for and fought for referred to as a "lost cause." Of course, we lost the War for Southern Independence, and as a result we lost our country. We also lost the opportunity to publicly denounce the likes of Lincoln, Sherman, and Butler for the war criminals they were. We lost the right to fully enjoy our proud Southern heritage, and show proper respect for honorable men like Lee, Jackson, and Forest. Many would even deny us the right to honor our brave and noble Confederate forefathers. Yes, a lot was lost at Appomattox Court House on April 9th, 1865 but not the Cause!

In fact, the Confederate Cause is alive and well, and getting stronger every day. Throughout this country, people are getting tired of big government. They're getting tired of Democrats. They're getting tired of Republicans. They're getting tired of Washington bureaucracy. They see hundreds of billions of their hard-earned tax dollars being used, abused, misused, and squandered, while tax paying citizens are fighting to keep their homes and jobs: And they're getting tired of it! The result is, more and more people are beginning to embrace the Confederate Cause. They just don't know it.

Jesus said in John 8:32, "And ye shall know the truth, and the truth shall make you free." Today, people everywhere are becoming more and more aware of the truth. And the truth is, "Big Brother" is getting bigger and more demanding and intrusive, while the concept of "we the people," upon which this country was founded, is being brushed aside. If one person or a small group of people, complain about a manger scene in front of a courthouse, or the Ten Commandments in a public building, or a monument honoring our brave Confederate soldiers in a town square, or a Confederate Battle Flag in the upper corner of a state flag, then they are removed, and "we the people" are not asked or consulted. People in this country are beginning to grow weary of truth and freedom being replaced by political correctness and personal agendas. They're beginning to see that the South was right, and still is. They just don't know it.



Bro. Len Patterson, TH.D.
1941-2013
Past Chaplain, Army of Trans-Mississippi

As the Sons of Confederate Veterans, we are charged with the "vindication of the cause for which (our Confederate forefathers) fought." Now it seems that the Cause is not only on the road to vindication, but acceptance by the vast majority of the country. The desire to restore the United States and the Constitution envisioned, and fought for, by our founding fathers, is truly a just and worthy cause. It was the cause of the Confederacy. And, it is rapidly becoming the cause of the people of the United States. Maybe they don't know it but we do!

My prayer today is that God will bless the Sons of Confederate Veterans and our just and most worthy Cause.

Bro. Len Patterson, Th.D
Past Chaplain, Army of Trans-Mississippi
Sons of Confederate Veterans

....Dates to Remember

March 22 — Camp Ford, Tyler It is a re-enactment so dress in uniform if you would like to participate. The Sons of American Revolution will conduct a flag disposal ceremony for all who bring flags.

March 29— Arms Cemetery 10:00am Meet there or follow Cmdr Abney from Calvary Baptist Church

April 3 — Next camp meeting 6:30pm. Bring a guest!

April 4,5,6— Pleasant Hill, LA 150th Anniversary Battle re-enactment on original battlefield

April 12, 13 — Mexia Confederate Reunion Grounds Battle re-enactment

April 26 & 27 — Mansfield, LA Also 150th Anniversary Battle re-enactment

April Birthday— 28 Jim Day

May 3 — Jefferson Civil War Symposium

June 6,7,8— Texas State Reunion Convention in Houston. We need 5 members to vote. You may make reservations at the Hilton or LaQuinta—for discount advise them you are with the SCV

July 17,18,19— National SCV Convention in Charleston, SC

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 this Newsletter are their own and do not necessarily reflect official positions of the SCV Howdy Martin Camp #1241. 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.