

Major W.H. “Howdy” Martin Camp #1241

SONS OF CONFEDERATE VETERANS Athens, Texas

HOWDY HERALD

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NOVEMBER 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

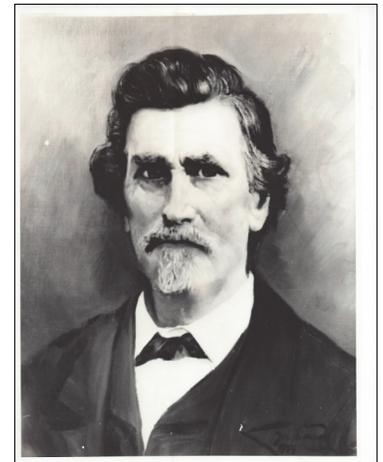
1823-1898

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 November 9, 2015 SCV Camp Meeting was held at the Calvary Baptist Church Gym with Commander Jimmy **Abney** presiding.
2. Quartermaster Dale **Sifford** led the pledges and salutes to the flags and reading of the Charge to the SCV.
3. Compatriot Don **Bentley** gave the invocation and blessing for the food. We had 27 guests and members present to enjoy our traditional Thanksgiving Feast. Members brought turkey, dressing and gravy with rolls, casseroles, vegetables, assorted desserts and fried chicken. It was all delicious and plenty for everyone to have seconds!
4. Cmdr **Abney** introduced our guest speaker **Marc Robinson** of the John H Reagan Camp 2156 of Palestine. The focus of his program was on the 12th Texas Calvary led by Colonel Parsons. The 12th Texas Calvary had a substantial presence in Freestone County and in various Arkansas counties. Their leaders kept the Confederacy advised of enemy movements in the areas they were assigned to. They were noted for excellence in drilling practices and battle strategies.
5. Adjutant/Treasurer Jim **Ogburn** read the minutes and financial report for October 13, 2015. Both approved by the membership. All dues sent to national headquarters with 20 members discontinuing their membership due to non-payment of dues.
6. Commander **Abney** reminded us of the upcoming 8th Brigade Annual Meeting to be held at the Jalapeño Tree in Athens on November 20, 2015 at 6:00 PM. Members and their wives are invited to attend. Everyone is responsible for their meal.
7. Commander **Abney** discussed what our Howdy Camp would like to do to assist and help other camps for 2016.
8. Commander **Abney** opened floor for the nominations for camp officers for 2016. Nominations for each office were approved by a show of hands and a final vote will be held at the December meeting. All members are encouraged to be at the December meeting to make additional nominations and to vote on the above nominees.
9. In other business, discussion was conducted regarding our move to the Jalapeno Tree, namely the displaying of our flags and the possibility of losing our meeting place at Calvary Baptist church in the event that the Jalapeno Tree does not work out. It was discussed that the move was voted on and approved at October meeting. After much discussion Adjunct/Treasurer Jim **Ogburn** made a motion to pay \$75.00 for the next quarter to Calvary Baptist Church to assure we have a place to meet in the event there are complications with the move. Motion was seconded and approved.
10. Cmdr **Abney** led the discussion of our camp float in the Athens Christmas Parade. Chaplain **Day** submitted our application. Adjunct/Treasurer Jim **Ogburn** referred to the parade rules several times to help answer questions. It was recommended to decorate much like last year. The theme for the parade is "Merry Christmas Veterans – Welcome Home". Volunteers to assist in decorating the float are asked to meet at the **TVCC parking lot about 4:00** just as we did last year. Please bring your decorations to help make our float the best ever in honor of our veterans.
11. Next on the agenda was our Christmas Party/December Meeting which will be held at the Athens' Jalapeno Tree. In making out your gift list for the holiday season, it was suggested that all members consider donating \$5.00 to the Heritage Fund. Several donations were received and others can donate on-line. **NOTE: Meeting Changed to Calvary Gym!!!**
12. Cmdr **Abney** called for names for our camp Prayer List and several requests were added as well as praise for answered prayer. Prayer was requested for **Pete Ericson**, Chaplain Jim **Day** and our country.
13. Before adjourning, Compatriot Don **Bentley** led the benediction and all sang "**Dixie**".



Marc Robinson

Major Howdy Martin Camp
THANKSGIVING FEAST 2015
November 9, 2015

Right/Below: Guests and Members are in line for a real Thanksgiving Feast.



Right: While Thanksgiving Dinner desserts are passed out, every one enjoyed hearing **Marc Robinson's** presentation entitled "The 12th Texas Calvary" which included a very information slide show.



From the Commander

Greetings,

I would like to extend a big rebel yell to all Howdy Martin Camp members who attended our November meeting. With the world around us in political turmoil, innocent people being murdered by terrorists and the media constantly looking for dirt to report, our camp proudly comes together once a month to conduct the business of honoring our own Confederate ancestors. It is good that we pause and block out the crimes of the world and fellowship with one another and show love and devotion to The Charge. I do not mean to sound negative because that is the exact opposite of my words to you today. However, we must stick together and lift each other up so that the Howdy Camp can grow and continue to be the lighthouse to the 8th Brigade Division. Leaders have obligations to those who look up to them. Like it or not our Howdy Camp has grown to the point that we are visualized as "Leaders!" It is our duty in answering The Charge to tell the true history of the South and to never forget the sacrifice they made.

December is a busy month for us. We have voted to have our meeting and Christmas party at the local Jalandro Tree Restaurant. Well I need to report that those plans have been **cancelled**. Their corporate management has said we can not display our flags. The 8th Brigade meeting had a very disappointing turn out this past Monday night at this restaurant. That is when we were told we could not bring in our flags for this meeting nor our planned December Christmas party. As your Commander I made the decision to cancel our reservations for December 14th. I have made several calls and members are working on an alternative location. You will be receiving emails, texts and calls to keep you informed.

Secondly, we have submitted our Camp application to participate in the Athens Lighted Christmas Parade on December 5th. Please bring any decorations and candy to help make our float grabbed the attention of all those hundreds of people who come to this parade. Brother Day will have the lights already on his trailer and will get in line at TVCC about 4:00. Let's meet there just like we did last year and put the winning finishing touches of our float. Dress up in uniform and either ride on the trailer or walk beside it. Chin up, shoulders back, and step out proud to be a SCV member of your Howdy Martin Camp.



Commander Jimmy Abney

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. At the August Camp meeting, members voted their approval to special order a reproduction of the flag for use at various Howdy Martin Camp events.

November 20-22

Civil War Weekend Liendo Plantation
 38653 Wyatt Chapel Road, Hempstead, Tx
 979-826-3126 <http://liendoplantation.com> or Liendo Plantation on FaceBook

Things to do.....
Places to go.....



Top left: The beautiful plantation home is surrounded by all of the activities. Here the northern troop reenactors march to the battlegrounds. Above: Visitors enjoy a battle but may also walk around camps to see behind the scenes such as these Southern men plan their strategy! Left: Shopping with numerous Sutler's is worth the drive. Complete uniforms or beautiful dresses can be found among the dozen plus vendors.

December 5

Athens Lighted Christmas Parade
 Meet at TVCC Parking 4:00

December 14

Howdy Camp Meeting and
Christmas Party —
 Calvary Church Gym @6:30
 Catered by Brenda Abney Menu:
 Chicken n Dressing, Trimmings, Dessert





Jim Ogburn, MD



Camp Adjutant/Treasurer Jim Ogburn, MD

A big Howdy Welcome to you and Happy Thanksgiving!



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.

First, I do hope we all have a wonderful and blessed Thanksgiving with family and friends. Second, please keep in mind that we have on the agenda our new officer elections. I am free to talk to any one about the nominations made at our last meeting. Of course additions can be made to this list. Camp officers hold the strength, growth and prosperity of our camp, therefore elections need to take top priority in our thoughts before December 14th. Another thought I would like to share is my own preference to continue to have our meetings at the church gym. The size is so comfortable and since we have been there so long, it feels like home. Your opinion equally matters about this and all camp decisions. I hope to see you for a great meeting and wonderful Christmas dinner on the 14th. Again, if I can answer questions or be of help in any way, drop by or give me a call.

Above: Bro Day shared this taken from the East Texas Sons of Confederate Veterans Facebook page.

Jim Ogburn, MD
Deo Vindice!

Prayer Requests

Health issues:

* **Jim Day** treatments in Houston

Local Needs and our Nation:

- * New Officer Election for our Camp
- * Athens Christmas Parade 4:00 12/5
- * Our next meeting December 14th
- * Pray for the South
- * Pray for those serving in the military stationed away from their families

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.

Jim Day, Editor
7751 County Road 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.

Limitations

11-21-2010

Many of us are concerned about the effectiveness of our confederation. For all of our conferences, campaigns, movements, events and activities we are seemingly stuck in a rut. As someone once said, "The mountain labors and brings forth a mouse." What is it that makes the effectiveness of our efforts mediocre when they could be miraculous? Could our limitations be a result of our own "Hindering Spirits?"

Now, hindering spirits are not floating in the air above us like Humming Birds inspecting a bright red flower. They are within us. And, I venture to name three such spirits which may be found among us today.

First, there is the "fighting spirit." Of course, there is a fighting spirit that is good and proper. We are to endure hardness and fight the good fight. We need an aroused indignation against those who oppose us and all their evil works. Some of our members are peaceful because they do not believe anything enough, or they are too indifferent toward our cause to fight for it. I heard of a soldier who was asked how many of the enemy did he kill. "None," was his reply. "But, I got as many of them as they got of me." Unfortunately many of our members are just about as effective. We need a fighting spirit. However, too often we are fighting each other instead of our common enemy. The greatest danger to our cause is not from without, but from this hindering spirit within.

Then there is the "frivolous spirit." We all like having a good time, and certainly our meetings should be enjoyable. But there is an inherent seriousness in our cause which requires that our manner and conduct match our purpose. The member who thinks of the SCV only as a hobby at which to "play" and have "fun," should be shown photographs of our heroic Confederate forefathers lying dead and bloated on a battlefield. Then they need to be reminded that the very evil forces that killed them are even now attempting to discredit their cause, and erase their memory. How can we think of playing and having fun when the blood of our brave Confederate ancestors cry out from a hundred hillsides, "Where is my honor!"

Finally, there is the "fed-up spirit." There is perhaps nothing more discouraging to our membership than to see someone who has worked long and hard for our Cause leave the SCV in disgust. We all get tired "in" the fight. But, we must never get tired "of" the fight. We will win some, we may lose some, but we must never quit. Our Confederate forefathers fought to defend our country. Now, they are depending on us to defend their honor and preserve their memory. To do this we must repel the hindering spirits that beset us and prevent us from fully accomplishing our mission. Remember.....

"To you, Sons of Confederate Veterans, we submit the vindication of the cause for which we fought..."

This is the responsibility of the Sons of Confederate Veterans, it was not given to any one else, therefore the Charge is, and must be, our defining characteristic. For the sake of our Confederate fathers and our proud Southern heritage, we must go forth into battle believing that God is our Champion and Vindicator. We must believe that, as we trust Him and follow Him, He will strengthen and guide us to victory over the enemies of truth. Psalm 18:2&3 states, "**The Lord is my rock, and my fortress, and my deliverer; my God, my strength, in whom I will trust; my buckler, and the horn of my salvation, and my high tower. I will call upon the Lord, who is worthy to be praised: so shall I be saved from my enemies.**" Then verse 47 goes on to tell us, "**It is God that avengeth me...**"

It is my prayer and sincere desire that our Lord bless each of you in His service, and in service to our just and most worthy Cause. Hebrews. 10:30.....



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

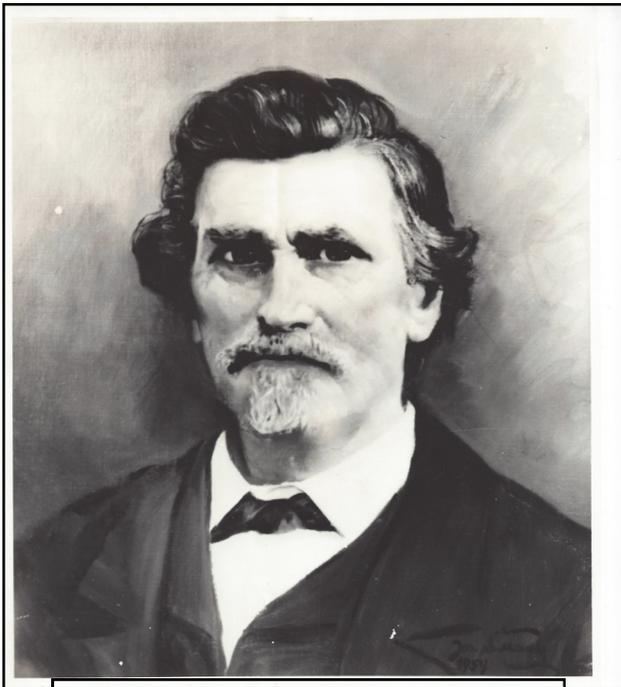
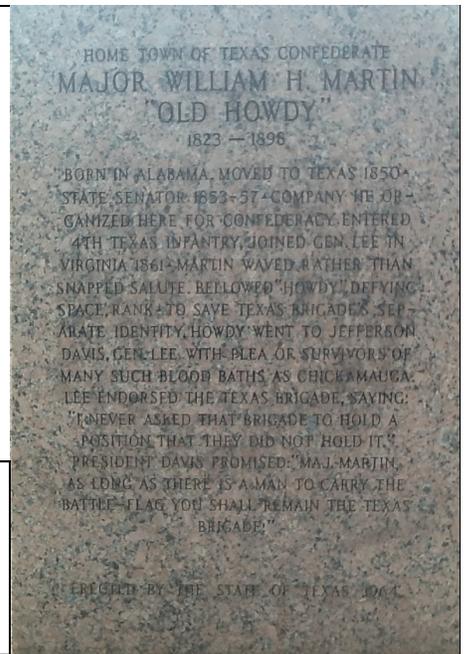
William Harrison Martin
 "Old Howdy"

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



Above: Major W. H. Howdy Martin

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.