

Major W.H. “Howdy” Martin Camp #1241

SONS OF CONFEDERATE VETERANS

Athens, Texas

HOWDY HERALD

VOLUME 9, ISSUE 4
SEPTEMBER 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

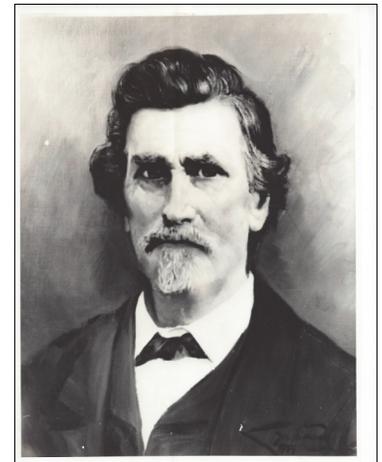
1823-1898

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



Above Left: Cmdr **Teems** welcomes our September guest speaker **Dr. Jerry Hopkins** of Center, TX

Our September 11, 2017 SCV Camp Meeting was held at the Calvary Baptist Church Gym with Commander **Terry Teems** presiding.

Chaplain **Jim Abney** gave the invocation and blessing for the food.

Quartermaster **David Miller** led the pledges, salutes to the flags and read the Charge to the SCV.

We had 24 members and quests present. Everyone enjoyed our light refreshments.

Cmdr. **Teems** called meeting to order and introduced our quest speaker, **Dr. Jerry Hopkins** who gave a historical survey of Jefferson Davis.

Adjutant/Treasurer **Don Bentley** read the minutes of our August meeting as well as the financial report. Both approved by the membership present. He also reported that he had collected dues for a total of **25 members**.

Commander of the ATM, **Johnnie Holley**, and 2nd Lt. Cmdr. Texas Division **Dennis Brand** were present to award Chaplain **Jim Abney** the Meritorious Service medal and Cmdr. **Dan Dyer** the Distinguished Service medal. Cmdr. **Holley** gave a brief summary of recent developments and updates stemming from the National Reunion.

Cmdr. **Holley** stated the next state reunion would be held on June 8-10, 2018 at Fredonia Hotel in Nacogdoches, TX.

Ms. **Teresa Day** reported that 59 Confederate flags were placed in the Athens Cemetery and that she replaced 8 of those flags. She also reported that flags at Shelby Cemetery had also been replaced.

Surgeon **Steve Sifers** was commended for his revitalization of the Arms Cemetery.

Chaplain **Jim Abney** made the Texas Division financial report available to anyone interested.

Chip Perryman donated 100th Anniversary mugs to the camp to be donated to the Athens Historical Museum.

1st Lt. **Ron Freeman** reminded camp that we needed to be vigilante in keeping watch of W. H. Martin historical marker.

Cmdr. **Teems** took the following prayer requests:

- Ron Freeman's** mother and sister.
- Bunny Freeman's** brother
- Annette Brown's** mother-in-law
- Annette's** grandson's teacher
- All hurricane victims
- Our state and country leaders, first responders and military

Chaplain **Abney** closed with prayer and Cmdr. **Teems** lead all in the singing of "**Dixie**" and adjourned the meeting.

September Camp Meeting



Above: Guest **Dr. Hopkins** and Adjutant/Treasurer **Don Bentley** about to enjoy their refreshments.



Above: Commander of the Army of the Trans Mississippi **Johnnie Holley** spoke of "Monument Issues."



Above Left: 2nd Lt. Cmdr. Texas Division **Dennis Brand** presented to our Chaplain **Jim Abney** the Meritorious Service Medal and Cmdr. **Dan Dyer** the Distinguished Service Medal.



Above: Adjutant/Treasurer **Don Bentley**

Adjutant/Treasurer Don R. Bentley



The following article appeared on the CNN website on August 21, 2017. Everywhere we turn, we see big business cities, and states caving in to the ill-informed and just down right ignorant demands of a minority. It seems those in power seem to put the almighty dollar and left-wing politics before truth and preservation of our Southern Heritage. As our Commander of the Trans Mississippi Army Johnnie Holley stated at our last camp meeting, we are losing this battle.

Yet, we can't give in. We must keep educating our families and friends the truth about the "War of Northern Aggression" and its true cause. Here's the article:

Six Flags Entertainment Corp (SIX), which owns 20 amusement parks in North America, removed the Confederate flag on Friday from the three parks that were still flying it, two in Texas and one in Georgia.



The Confederate flag was removed from Six Flags Over Texas in Arlington and Six Flags Fiesta Texas in San Antonio, and from Six Flags Over Georgia outside Atlanta, the company said.

"We're just choosing to display symbols that everyone can support, that being the American flag," Six Flags spokeswoman Sandra Daniels told CNN Money. "We're flying all American flags." She said that some parks were flying their state flags, as well.

Six Flags was founded by Angus Wynne, who established the flagship amusement park, Six Flags Over Texas, in

1961. Angus Wynne wanted to have a flag for every country that represented Texas throughout its history, including the United States, the Confederacy, Mexico, Spain, France and the Republic of Texas.

The company did not explain its decision, but Confederate statues are being taken down across the United States after the violent protests in Charlottesville, Virginia, a week and a half ago. White nationalists, some waving Confederate flags, converged there to protest the removal of a statue of General Robert E. Lee. One attendee was charged with killing a counter-protester, Heather Heyer.

Confederate flags and monuments also came down in 2015, after [Dylann Roof](#) murdered nine parishioners at a historic black church in Charleston, South Carolina. In July 2015, South Carolina legislators voted to remove the Confederate flag from the Statehouse grounds.

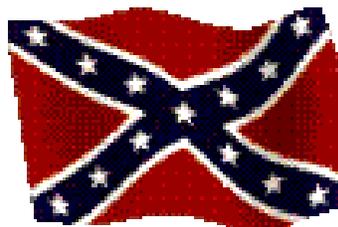
The Confederate flag flown at Six Flags was what was known as the Stars and Bars, with a circle of stars representing the rebel states. It was not the more recognizable red flag with the blue cross with white stars, known as the Confederate battle flag or Tennessee battle flag.

Six Flags has 17 parks in the U.S., two in Mexico and one in Canada.

There you are! I for one will not be taking my kin to Six Flags Over Texas any more. What about you?

Standing up 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

Ron Freeman's mother and sister

Bunny Freeman's brother

Annette Brown's mother-in-law

Annette's grandson's teacher

All hurricane victims

Our state and country leaders, first responders
and military

**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.

They Prayed!

8-21-2011

They were men of Prayer. President Jeff Davis, Generals Robert E. Lee, Thomas J. Jackson, Nathan B. Forest, Jeb Stuart and many others. From the greatest generals to the newest recruits, the men in Gray believed in the presence and providence of Almighty God. In the Confederate camps there was Bible study and worship services led by Godly chaplains, and sweeping revivals where the lost were saved and the saved grew closer and stronger in their relationship with God. And, they prayed.

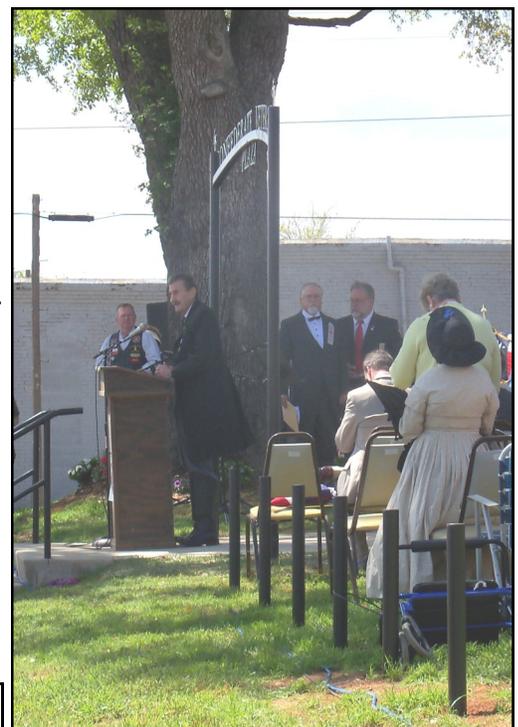
They prayed for their homes and families. They prayed for their brothers in arms. They prayed for their leaders. They prayed for the preservation of their country: The Confederate States of America. They prayed faithfully and fervently for God to help them defend the just Cause for which they fought, and preserve the ideals of our founding fathers. And, following the war they prayed. The question is, do we really believe that God answers the prayers of righteous men?

Do you believe that when Davis, Lee, Jackson, Stuart and other Godly men of the Confederacy prayed, God said, I have a better idea? Perhaps He did. The Scripture tells us, **"For my thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are your ways my ways, saith the Lord."** (Is. 55:8) Perhaps the great revivals that swept through our Southern armies and continued to influence Southern Christianity during the twelve years of Union occupation and thereafter, was God's better idea. But today, this country is becoming more and more ungodly and moving further and further from the Christian precepts of our founding fathers and Confederate forefathers.

So now we must also be men of prayer. The leadership of our honorable Confederation, like Davis, Lee, Jackson and Stuart, must be men of prayer. We must trust and rely on Him. We must seek and follow His guidance and direction and put our Cause in His hands.

Then when victory is ours and others ask, "How?"

Let it be said, **"They prayed."**



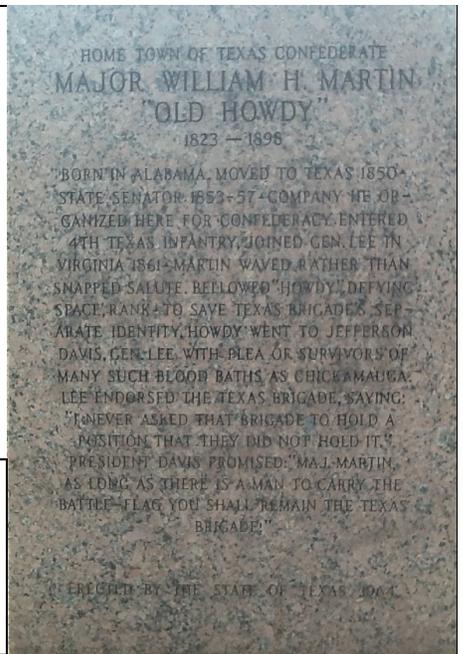
Bro Len speaks at the Confederate Veteran's Memorial Plaza Dedication

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

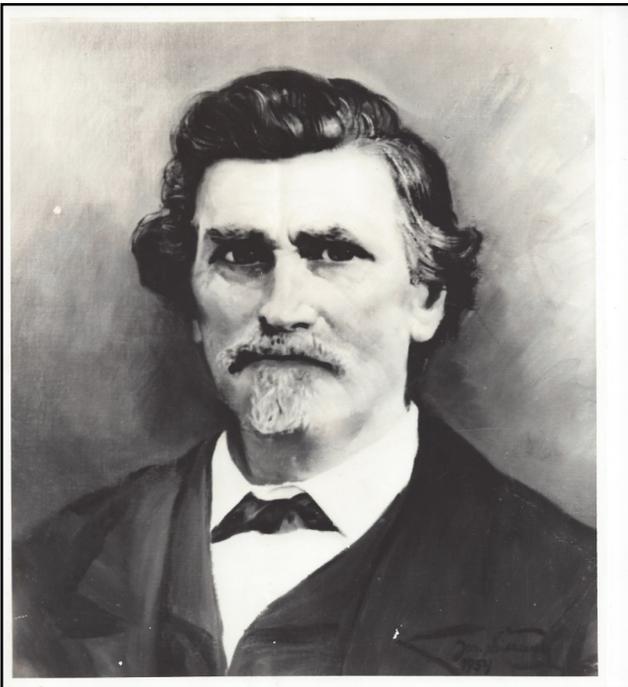


Above: Howdy's Grave, Hillsboro City Cemetery, Hillsboro, TX.
 Right: Howdy's Marker is located in Athens on Hwy 19 South in the Confederate Park.



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.