



Charism

Call



Texas Society, Military Order of Stars and Bars



Volume 8, Issue 2

August in the Year of Our Lord 2012

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FROM THE TEXAS SOCIETY COMMANDER

Gentlemen of the Texas Society
Military Order of the Stars and Bars

The San Antonio, Texas National Convention was a great success. David Whitaker and his committee did an outstanding job in the planning of this event. The number of Texas members attending was large; anyone not attending missed a really enjoyable time. It had been 35 years since a National Convention had been held in Texas; and we did ourselves proud. Perhaps we even set some new goals for future conventions.

We have a new Commander General, Toni Turk; a most capable and dedicated leader. He will take our Society into the future, and we should give him our continued support.

Now we are ready to focus on our Texas Chapters. We hope to reunite with some past members, and gain new ones.

I am very proud of the Texas Society Chapters; the work they have done, and are doing. At the 2012 National Convention, I heard nothing but good things about you all. Our Chapter Commanders and members are doing a great job.

Our 2013 Texas Society Reunion will be held in Tyler, Texas. Details will be sent at a later date. This is a central location, and hopefully will be attended by all of us.

It is my pleasure to serve as your Society Commander, and I hope if any of you have questions or concerns, you will let me know. I am at your service.

Sincerely,

Glenn W. Toal, Commander
Texas Society, Military Order of Stars and Bars



“Freedom is never more than one generation away from extinction. We didn’t pass it to our children in the bloodstream.

“It must be fought for, protected, and handed on for them to do the same, or one day we will spend our sunset years telling our children and our children’s children what it was once like in the United States where men were free.”

President Ronald Reagan

Clarion Call

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**Texas MOSB Convention-2013
Will be held in Tyler, Texas.**



**The Hereditary Societies of Texas
Annual Meeting
October 26-27, 2012 - Houston**

The Texas MOSB has been invited again to participate in this heritage weekend. Several of our members attended last year, and likely will attend this year also. It was a nice opportunity to meet folks with interest in history across the centuries of our country's growth. The societies meet jointly for lunch and dinners. During the day on Saturday, the several hereditary societies break out into individual meetings.

Full details including room rates, registration fee, meeting agenda, menu and meal costs, etc. are available by request to Bob G. Davidson, Texas MOSB Chief of Staff. All requests for the registration packet must be made by October 1, 2012.

Email: graycirce@gmail.com
or Telephone: (903) 581-7851.



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**Historic 75th National
MOSB General Convention
San Antonio, June 7-9, 2012**

by Bob G. Davidson DCS, Editor

It was a wonderful convention!
(See Report - pages 5-6-7 of this issue)

The August issue of the MOSB Officers Call Magazine also included a really good report on the convention by Roger Thornton of Australia. Attending this convention with his wife, was one of the most important things ever for him. Also included was a complete list of awards. See below for awards won by Texans.

(Hope we didn't miss anyone)

There was quite a lot of discussion about proposed changes to the MOSB national constitution and bylaws, but no mention in the Officers Call of the outcome. As of this writing, the MOSB website has not posted any changes.

Outgoing Commander General Max Waldrop is to be commended for his stewardship of our organization for the past two years. National officers for the next two years are Commander General Dr. Toni R. Turk DCS and Lt. Commander General Howard Johnson. We are lucky to have men of such ability who are willing to give of their time and talent. David Whitaker DCS of Houston was the Convention Chairman and, with his staff, did an outstanding job.

Awards for Texans

1. Cmdr. General Dr. Toni R. Turk DCS - Robert E. Lee Silver Chalice and Pelham Legion of Merit
2. Past Texas Cmdr. James C. Templin - ATM Gold Star and Pelham Legion of Merit
3. Barbara Turk - Varina Howell Davis
4. Texas Society - Editor Bob G. Davidson - Taylor Award-Best Society Newsletter
5. Dr. Tom Clinkscapes and Larry Wilhoite Read Meritorious Service Medal
6. Ennis Chapter 273 - Buckner Award for 100% membership retention.

Three Awesome Messages from the Internet

1. The Finger Print of God

...For the inquisitive...wonderful and worth watching.
Only God could've come up with this!

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=e9MwNm0gXd8&feature>

2. My Name is America,

by Todd Allen Herendeen...A new memorable song.

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=6TPgJSZf5Vw>

3. Portrait of a Warrior

Outstanding story and tribute to Texans

Ken Pridgeon, Baytown, Texas Museum

Google "Portrait of a Warrior" (Texas Country Reporter) - YouTube Portrait of a Warrior
Posted on August 4, 2012 by hardnox1

Please take the time to see this...then wipe the tears and thank God for this good man. On a quiet street in an old downtown building, behind an unassuming store-front, you'll find a monument to Heroes. Each portrait depicts a fallen soldier, a child who will never return to their parents; but even though they are gone, one dedicated volunteer has adopted them all. That man is Ken "The Dauber" Pridgeon and the place is "Portrait of a Warrior Memorial Art Gallery" in Baytown, Texas.

Ken's ambition is to paint a portrait of every fallen Texan, five hundred to date. (Iraq and Afghanistan.)



An Irish Friendship Wish

May there always be work for your hands to do;
May your purse always hold a coin or two;
May the sun always shine on your windowpane;
May a rainbow be certain to follow each rain;
May the hand of a friend always be near you.

Texas Child

Blessed is the child who is Texas born,



Where the wind blows free

And the sun shines warm;

Where children grow up to be honest and true,
To believe in themselves and in what they can do.

Dew-sprinkled mornings, star-studded nights,

Fields strewn with wildflowers,

big-city lights,



Sand-dollar beaches, and Hill Country streams,

Wild western vistas as wide as your dreams.

It's all a part of the state you call home,



And a part of your heart,

wherever you roam.

Tall tales 'round the campfire,

or on grandma's knee,

Rich with legends and

heroes, a proud history.



So dear Texas child, just revel in glory!

Some day you'll write your own Texas story.



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Provided by 2012 MOCB San Antonio Convention

Laus Deo!

Sent along by Zenda Benton

One detail that is never mentioned is that, in Washington, D.C. there can never be a building of greater height than the Washington Monument. With all the uproar about removing the ten commandments, etc., this is worth a moment or two of your time. I was not aware of this amazing historical information.

On the aluminum cap, atop the Washington Monument in Washington, D.C., are displayed two words: *Laus Deo*.

No one can see these words. In fact, most visitors to the monument are totally unaware they are even there, and for that matter, probably couldn't care less.



Once you know *Laus Deo's* history, you will want to share this with everyone you know. These words have been there for many years; they are 555 feet, 5.125 inches high, perched atop the monument, facing skyward to the Father of our nation, overlooking the 69 square miles

which comprise the District of Columbia, capital of the United States of America.

Laus Deo! Two seemingly insignificant, unnoticed words. Out of sight and, one might think, out of mind, but very meaningfully placed at the highest point over what is the most powerful city in the most successful nation in the world.

So, what do those two words, in Latin, composed of just four syllables and only seven letters, possibly mean? Very simply, they say 'Praise be to God!'

Though construction of this giant obelisk began in 1848, when James Polk was President of the United States, it was not until 1888 that the monument was inaugurated and opened to the public. It took twenty-five years to finally cap the memorial with a tribute to the Father of our nation, *Laus Deo*. 'Praise be to God!'

From atop this magnificent granite and marble structure, visitors may take in the beautiful panoramic view of the city with its division into four major segments. From that vantage point, one can also easily see the original plan of the designer, Pierre Charles l'Enfant...a perfect cross imposed upon the landscape, with the White House to the north, the Jefferson Memorial is to the south, the Capitol to the east and the Lincoln Memorial to the west.

A cross you ask? Why a cross? What about separation of church and state? Yes, a cross; separation of church and state was not, is not, in the Constitution. So, read on. How interesting and, no doubt, intended to carry a profound meaning for those who bother to notice.

Praise be to God! Within the monument itself are 898 steps and 50 landings. As one climbs the steps and pauses at the landings the memorial stones share a message. On the 12th Landing is a prayer offered by the City of Baltimore; on the 20th is a memorial presented by some Chinese Christians; on the 24th a presentation made by Sunday School children from New York and Philadelphia quoting Proverbs 10:7, Luke 18:16 and Proverbs 22:6. **Praise be to God!**

When the cornerstone of the Washington Monument was laid on July 4, 1848 deposited within it were many items including the Holy Bible presented by the Bible Society. **Praise be to God!** Such was the discipline, the moral direction, and the spiritual mood given by the founder and first President of our unique democracy 'One Nation, Under God.'

I am awed by Washington's prayer for America Have you ever read it? Well, now is your unique opportunity, so read on!

'Almighty God; We make our earnest prayer that Thou wilt keep the United States in Thy holy protection; that Thou wilt incline the hearts of the citizens to cultivate a spirit of subordination and obedience to government; and entertain a brotherly affection and love for one another and for their fellow citizens of the United States at large. And finally that Thou wilt most graciously be pleased to dispose us all to do justice, to love mercy, and to demean ourselves with that charity, humility, and pacific temper of mind which were the characteristics of the Divine Author of our blessed religion, and without a humble imitation of whose example in these things we can never hope to be a happy nation. Grant our supplication, we beseech Thee, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.'

Laus Deo!

When one stops to observe the inscriptions found in public places all over our nation's capitol, he or she will easily find the signature of God, as it is unmistakably inscribed everywhere you look. You may forget the width and height of 'Laus Deo', its location, or the architects, but no one who reads this will be able to forget its meaning, or these words:

'Unless the Lord builds the house, its builders labor in vain. Unless the Lord watches over the city, the watchmen stand guard in vain.' (Psalm 127: 1)

Editor's Note: The Washington Monument remains closed for repair of damage due to earthquake on August 23, 2011.

MOSB National Convention - San Antonio

Dear Members of the Texas Society:

As you know, the Texas Society and the Texas Chapter #5 joined in sponsoring the national MOS&B Convention. This was the first time in 35 years for Texas to host this event. I am proud to say that the convention was a great success and we leave big shoes to fill. Several old timers told me it was the biggest and the best convention ever. I have attended the last eight conventions and I do not doubt what the old guys are telling me. We had 150 people there, a record.

The team that put this convention together put a lot of their time and money into this event and I am grateful for their help. Cmdr. Glenn Toal and the whole Texas Society supported the convention with needed financial help; Cmdr. Jim Templin assembled a color guard that was as professional as I have seen. Watching them come down the aisle followed by the bagpiper was a sight to behold. We have the best color guard in the Order.



**Bob Davidson, Tommy Jones, Larry Wilhoite,
Glenn Toal, Jim Templin, John Davis**

Cmdr. Ray Stocks and wife/Adjutant Kathy Stocks (Super Girl) were the main worker bees; Lt. Cmdr. George Williamson and wife/photographer Shelia were indispensable in their help with the Menger Hotel people who, incidentally, were great to work with. Lasca Bourgeois, our secret weapon serving as number one hostess, was her usual great self; Dinah, my wife, ran errands and was our "Gofer" because she has a basket on

her walker. We called her "Step-n-fetch it." I also had three of my grandkids there to do the heavy lifting. I had others just standing in line waiting to help. How could we lose? There are too many for me to properly thank.



**Sheila Williamson, Kathy Stocks, Dinah Whitaker,
Lasca Bourgeois, George Williamson, Ray Stocks,
David Whitaker, Convention Chair**

Mainly I want to thank the Texas Society and my chapter for supporting this event with the donation money and by coming to the convention. Everyone in the Order knows about the great Texas Society and about Texas and the Alamo. And of course, Texas had the largest number of people there. Also we had several that traveled a long distance to be with us, namely one couple that came from Australia, another from Chicago, one from Connecticut; others from California, Oregon, Colorado, Michigan, and Missouri. And certainly from all over the south. A good time was had by all.

Once again, thank you for your support. I am greatly appreciative.

David G. Whitaker DCS
Convention Chairman





Past TX Cmdr. and Mrs. Gary L. "Nux" Loudermilk,
Past TX Cmdr. and Mrs. Gary M. Loudermilk, DCS,
Mr. and Mrs. Ewell Loudermilk



Helen Templin



Pam and Larry Wilhoite



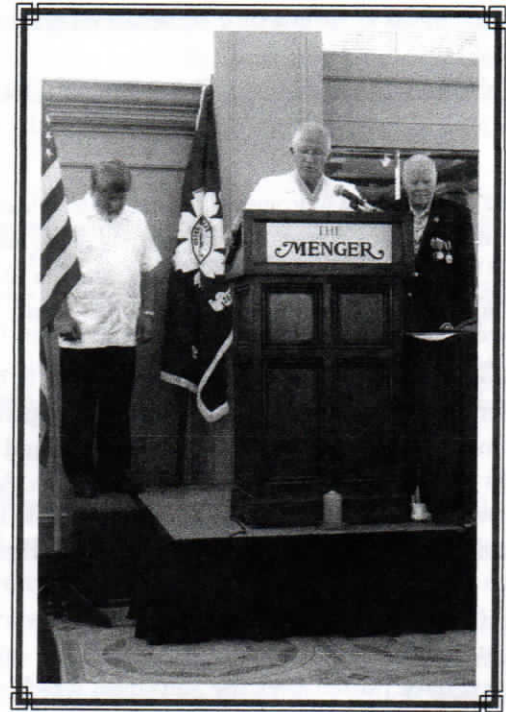
Susie Toal, Lois Davidson, Pam Wilhoite



Some of the recipients of the Varina Howell Davis Award through the years.
This is the highest honor MOSB awards to women. Commander General Max Waldrop at the podium.



Hon. Cmdr. General Bob Davidson DCS presenting the 2012 Honorary Commander General Award to Roger Peter Thornton DCS, Mrs. Thornton, of Australia



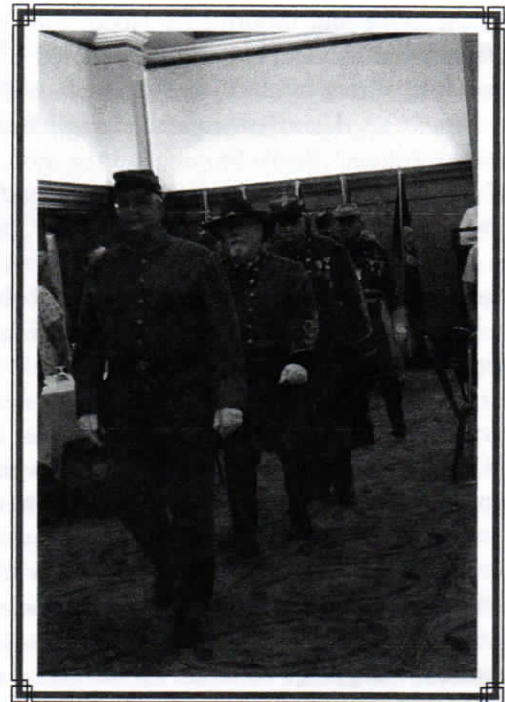
Outgoing Commander General Max Waldrop turns Meeting over to Incoming Commander General Toni Turk, Convention Chairman David Whitaker

Convention Medal

Historic 75th National Military Order of Stars and Bars Convention
June 7-10, 2012
San Antonio, Texas



Past Texas Society Commander Jim Templin receiving ATM Gold Star Award from Commander General Max Waldrop



TX Society Cmdr. Glenn Toal, TX Lt. Cmdr. Larry Wilhoite, Tommy Jones, TX Chief of Staff Bob Davidson DCS Color Guard Commander, Jim Templin, not in picture - standing aside, bringing Guard in to retire colors.

June 1906 Confederate Veteran Magazine

GENERAL STEPHEN DILL LEE ADDRESS AT NEW ORLEANS

When the greetings and welcomes of the hospitable New Orleans authorities had been expressed at the opening of the last great U. C. V. Reunion in New Orleans, Gen. Stephen D. Lee, upon taking the chair as presiding officer, said:

"The United Confederate Veterans are again met in the city of their origin. We are once more the guests of those patriotic and energetic men, into whose labors we have entered and to whom the thanks of all surviving Confederates are due. Again and again we have returned to taste of the inexhaustible bounty of your hospitality, to be refreshed by the patriotism and enthusiasm of this generous and beautiful city.

The flags of France and of Spain, of the Union and of the Confederacy, have floated over the soil upon which we stand, but always over brave men and lovely women, loyal to the best they knew, faithful alike to the living and to the dead, a civilization transplanted like a rare flower of France, blossoming in the New World and bearing exquisite fruit. The Confederate cannot forget the city of the gallant and accomplished Beauregard, the brave and unfortunate Hood, the city where Jefferson Davis loved to walk, and which honored him in his death with an outpouring of loyalty and grief which did honor to the Southern heart. Here is Metairie, where Albert Sidney Johnston speaks in imperishable bronze, and the monument to the Army of Northern Virginia rises, tall and white, like the soul of its great chieftain.

We love you, Louisiana, where the stern blood of the Anglo Saxon has been touched with the grace and the genius of France. Here amid the very chivalry of patriotism there is welcome for all who prize noble and generous deeds, and most of all a welcome for him who loved his country best and bore her cross of pain the Confederate soldier. We who grieved for this unhappy city in the hour of its capture and humiliation rejoice in its pride today standing second only to New York among American ports of export, your mighty river filled with the ships of all nations, your historic streets alive with the commerce of the world. We behold with satisfaction great railroad systems struggling to enter your gates and the merchants of a thousand cities listening for the murmurs of your markets. We wait the coming of the day when the waters of the Atlantic and Pacific shall mingle together, and on both alike shall float the commerce of this imperial city, when the

sons of those who struggled in vain for Southern supremacy shall here behold a peaceful victory more magnificent than those of their great armies, a commercial supremacy more splendid than their noblest visions, and here beside the Father of Waters shall be realized the capital of their dreams.

We have lost dear friends and comrades since we met together, none more beloved and more honored than the soldier who was recently laid to rest at Arlington. Joe Wheeler won his spurs by true and honorable service. He was a superb cavalry leader, and earned on many a hard fought field the right to lead where brave men follow. When the heart of our common country yearned to express to her Confederate sons that their welcome home was complete, to Wheeler it was given to show on our behalf that every star on the flag was now dear to us, and that we were ready to follow it to the very "Isles of the Sea." It was Southern hands that set star after star in that blue field of glory, and if any more stars are ever planted there, it will be strange if Southerners are not found assisting at the service. Comrades, there is one thing committed to our care as a peculiar trust, the memory of the Confederate soldier. So far as lies in our power, we have striven that history may not lack the evidence of his purity of motive, his fortitude, his heroism. I, for one, do not fear that justice, however long delayed, will not ultimately be done to one of the grandest bodies of men who ever battled for independence or, triumphing over defeat, bound up the bleeding wounds of their country.

There are three things peculiarly left for our concern. One of these is the erection of public monuments to our Confederate dead, not only to our leaders, but, above all, to those private soldiers who made our leaders immortal. We must not overtask posterity by expecting those who come after us to build monuments to heroes whom their own generation were unwilling to commemorate. The South has reached a position of material prosperity which justifies both State and private beneficence to honor the faithful dead.

In all human lot there has nothing better been found for man than to die for his country. If there be any virtue, if there be any praise, this fate is to be preferred above all others. We feel it is well with those who have thus fulfilled the highest of all trusts, the duty of a citizen to his native land, and whatever may have been their private faults, their public service on the field of battle has rightly given them a place with the immortals. Theirs was the martyr's devotion without the martyr's hope. Their generation and their country imposed upon them this high service. They fulfilled it without flinching. They felt that the issue of the battle was with God, the issue of their duty was with themselves.

I urge monuments to the Confederate soldier first for the sake of the dead, but most for the sake of the living, that in this busy industrial age these stones to the Confederate soldier may stand like great interrogation marks to the soul of each beholder.

Let us pass the remainder of our days in such wise that nothing we shall do will bring shame and shared with them the glory of their sufferings, the fame of their victories, the tragedy of their regret that we also were Confederate soldiers. As we overthrow, and that sympathy of their countrymen which covered the defeated as with a mantle of imperishable love, let us also share as best we may their simplicity of heart, their scorn of all ignoble actions, their dignity of soul, that our descendants may say of us with swelling hearts: "He also followed Johnston, he also fought with Lee." To this day there stands carved upon the graves of our English ancestors the symbol of the Crusaders. Their names are forgotten, but the cross remains. So let it be with the Confederate soldier! . . .

And is there any message we would give to the States we loved and on whose behalf we drew our swords more than a generation ago? As we have sorrowed over your devotion, we now rejoice in your prosperity. We chose for you the fortune of war rather than a shameful peace. We battled for your principles rather than yield them, not to conviction but to force. With breaking hearts we bowed beneath the stroke of fate. We chose the only course worthy of Americans. Better defeat than dishonor, better the long, bitter story of reconstruction than tame surrender of the convictions we received from our fathers, the principles which we cherished as the basis of our liberties. We leave our motives to the judgment of posterity. In the choice we made we followed the dictates of conscience and the voice of honor. We sacrificed all that men hold dear for the land of our birth, and, while we have no fear that history will record our deeds with shame, we do not regard even the verdict of posterity as the equivalent of a clear conscience, nor ought we to have been false to our convictions even to win the eternal praises of mankind. If our children shall praise us, it is well, if our own hearts tell us we have fulfilled our duty, it is better.

Last of all, let us remember our less prosperous comrades. If we can perhaps sweeten the last years of those old men, bring back, maybe, the light of other days in their fading eyes, awake in their hearts the great memories, they will bless us in receiving more than we in giving. Many of the States whom they so nobly served are gathering them in soldiers' homes, institutions which combine the beauty of charity with the grace of gratitude. But there are many other old veterans who will never be brought within such hospitable walls and who are left to our personal

charge for such sympathy and assistance as are honorable alike to them and to us. Let each Camp continue its special care for this beneficent labor, and see to it that true comradeship shall cease only when all of us have passed beyond human power to relieve.

To you, mothers of the Memorial Association, will be given the service of commemorating the soldier's virtues in the hearts of those who come after us by the story of the illustrious dead, of comforting the hearts of those who mourn our lost heroes with such ministrations as bespeak the sympathy of the patriot and the loving kindness of those who are familiar with the same sorrow.

To you, Sons of Confederate Veterans, we will commit 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 which he loved and which you love also, and those ideals which made him glorious and which you also cherish. Are you also ready to die for your country? Is your life worthy to be remembered along with theirs? Do you choose for yourself this greatness of soul?

**Not in the clamor of the crowded street,
Not in the shouts and plaudits of the throng,
But in ourselves are triumph and defeat.**

To you, Daughters of the Confederacy, will be given the loving service of remembering the Confederate dead and of ministering to the living who were dear to him and are in need of your help and tenderness. Worthy daughters you shall be of the immortal women, your mothers, who gave to womanhood a new perfection of heroism and a more divine expression of sacrifice and devotion.

To you, brave people of the South, to you, true hearted Americans everywhere, to you, world conquering race from which we sprung.

To all men everywhere who prize in man the manliest deeds, who love in man the love of country, who praise fidelity and courage, who honor self sacrifice and noble devotion, will be given an incomparable inheritance, the memory of our prince of men, the Confederate soldier."

At the conclusion of General Lee's address the bright and beautiful young daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Charles Madison presented him an exquisite group of flowers.



Newsletter of the
Texas Society, Military Order of the Stars and Bars
Glenn W. Toal, Commander

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Opinions expressed herein are the opinions of individual writers, and do not necessarily reflect official positions of the organization.



Military Order of the Stars and Bars Pledge

We, the posterity of the Officer Corps and Civil Officials of the Confederacy, do pledge ourselves to commemorate and honor the service of leadership these men rendered in the Cause of the fundamental American principles of self determination and States' Rights and to perpetuate the true history of their deeds for the edification of ourselves, our society, and for generations yet unborn.



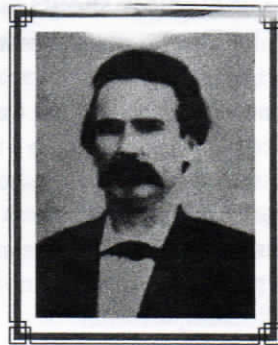
Award Winning Publication
Best Society Newsletter 2012



BOB

TYLER, TX 75703

William Polk Hardeman
1816 - 1898



"Gotch" Hardeman was born in Williamson County, Tennessee, November 4, 1816, and moved to Texas in 1835. He took part in the War for Texas Independence and later in the Mexican War, serving under Ben McCulloch.

His first Confederate service was as a captain of the 4th Texas Cavalry in General Sibley's expedition into New Mexico Territory resulting in being commended by his superior for his

performance at Val Verde. He was promoted to Lt. Colonel and in 1862 to Colonel. He led his command during the Red River campaign of 1864 and the battles of Mansfield and Pleasant Hill and the resulting pursuit of Union General N.P. Banks. Upon the recommendation of Kirby Smith, he was promoted to brigadier general to rank from March 17, 1865.

After the end of the war and until 1874, Hardeman was a planter. He subsequently served as assistant sergeant-at-arms of the Texas House of Representatives, a railroad inspector, and during the last years of his life, he was superintendent of public building and grounds, which was a position that included supervision of the Texas Confederate Soldier's Home.

General Hardeman died in Austin, Texas, April 8, 1898. He is buried in the State Cemetery in Austin.