



Today @ RoyOMartin®

“... an old tradition, a new beginning.”

New Year, New Leadership

Poole becomes CEO; Martin III continues as Chairman and CIO



CEO E. Scott Poole (left) and
Chairman and CIO Dr. Roy O. Martin III

Leadership transitions say a lot about a company.

They reveal whether an organization is built around one person or strengthened by generations of steady preparation. For over a century, RoyOMartin has prepared well.

Last November, as the company marked its 102nd anniversary, Dr. Roy O. Martin III shared that he would step back from his role as chief executive officer. On January 1, 2026, E. Scott Poole officially assumed the role of CEO, becoming the first leader in RoyOMartin’s long history who is not a member of the Martin family.

Dr. Martin continues to serve as chairman of the board and has taken on additional responsibilities as chief investment officer. His leadership remains firmly woven into our future.

Scott was appointed CEO by the Board of Directors after serving as president and chief operating officer since 2019. His promotion reflects decades of steady, proven leadership.

“Scott has demonstrated extraordinary leadership, integrity, and commitment throughout his 40 years with the company,” said Dr. Martin. “He has helped shape our growth, our culture, and our operational excellence. He understands our business deeply, and he cares about our people and our values. He is the right leader to guide RoyOMartin into its next century.”

Poole’s career began nearly four decades ago in forestry. From there, he advanced through operations and executive leadership roles, helping drive record growth, expand our product lines, and strengthen our reputation as a premier employer and industry innovator. He knows this business from the ground up. More importantly, he knows our team members.

“Roy has been a guidepost for me for many years, and he will continue to be.”

— CEO E. Scott Poole
on his predecessor, Roy O. Martin III

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Leading with Purpose

In this premiere episode of our new podcast, we open the door to a meaningful moment in RoyOMartin history. Chairman and CIO Dr. Roy O. Martin III and CEO E. Scott Poole sit down together to talk about legacy, responsibility, and the future of leadership at RoyOMartin. It's an honest, heartfelt conversation between two leaders who care deeply about our people and the path ahead.

This podcast also marks the launch of our *Beyond the Board* initiative. It's a deeper look at the forces shaping our industry, our markets, and our shared future. Explore the full market report on our website.

Join the conversation about who we are, where we're going, and how we lead *Beyond the Board*.

Watch the Podcast ▶



Read the Market Report ▶



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"I am deeply honored to continue serving this remarkable organization in a new capacity," Scott said. "Our success has always been rooted in our people, our values, and our commitment to doing what is right for our team members, our customers, and our communities. I look forward to building on that legacy as we move confidently into the future."

When speaking about our manufacturing future, Dr. Martin put it plainly. "Scott is going to bring us to another level. We are going to have new products that are competitively priced. We have the resources and the commitment to this business."

Scott sees this moment as part of a much larger story. In 102 years, RoyOMartin has navigated wars, depressions, recessions, and pandemics. Leadership transitions are not new to the company. They are something we prepare for.

The only thing different this time is Scott's last name.

"This transition will be seamless," Dr. Martin said. "Scott understands what has worked and what will make us successful in the future. He is about as Martin as any of the Martins."

Scott is quick to point back to Dr. Martin. "Roy has been a guidepost for me for many years and will continue to be."

Reflecting on his 40 year career, Scott shared what has kept him here. "The company's commitment, from a moral and ethical standard, convinced me it was the right place to be. Every day, I get to learn something new."

That mindset speaks to who we are.

RoyOMartin has always been bigger than one person. It is a legacy built on values, strengthened by preparation, and carried forward by people who believe in what we do.

Roy O. Martin III Receives Doctorate Degree from Louisiana Tech University

Louisiana Tech University recently conferred a Doctor of Humanities degree upon Roy O. Martin III, recognizing his exceptional professional achievements, distinguished civic leadership, and unwavering support of higher education. As Dean Gary A. Kennedy, Ph.D., shared, “Mr. Martin served as the driving force behind the creation of the Louisiana Tech University Forest Products Innovation Center, a facility that will advance forestry education, research, and cutting-edge discovery.”

This recognition comes by recommendation of the College of Applied and Natural Sciences in acknowledgment of Mr. Martin’s visionary leadership in advancing sustainable forest products manufacturing across Louisiana and the South, his tireless advocacy for the university’s Forest Products Innovation Center, and his transformational philanthropy that continues to strengthen workforce development, education, and research throughout the region.

His decades of service to state and community organizations, and his model of civic engagement grounded in faith and commitment to the betterment of others, serve as an inspiration for us all.

“I was shocked and humbled by this honor that President Jim Henderson and Dean Gary Kennedy conferred upon me,” stated Martin. “My wife Kathy and I were overwhelmed by their kindness and respect. I believe that this honor recognizes the body of work accomplished by the RoyOMartin employees and the charity of the entire RoyOMartin family and company. As the proverbial quarterback of the team, I receive the prize, but this honor is shared by the World Class team of RoyOMartin and the 100-year-old values of the RoyOMartin family.



Dr. Roy O. Martin III (center) is pictured with Dr. Gary Kennedy, Dean of the College of Applied and Natural Sciences (left) and Dr. Jim Henderson, President of Louisiana Tech University.

Martin continues, “Louisiana Tech is committed to sustaining our Louisiana forest products industry and leading the charge to develop new products, new processes, and revolutionary research using Louisiana’s best forestry research lab. Thank you from the bottom of my heart to President Henderson, Dean Kennedy, and the RoyOMartin CEO, Scott Poole.”

Congratulations, Dr. Roy O. Martin III on this well-deserved honor!

Texas Forestry Leaders and Lawmakers Tour Corrigan Facility

In February, RoyOMartin and Walsh Timber Company welcomed members of the Texas Forestry Association (TFA) and local legislative candidates to our OSB facility in Corrigan, Texas. It was an opportunity to move beyond conversation and provide a clear, firsthand look at how responsible forestry supports local communities and drives economic impact across our region.

The day began in the woods with a tour of a logging site, offering a firsthand look at stewardship in action. Guests also toured the mill, where team members shared insights into our operations. They experienced the full journey from raw material to finished board and met the skilled men and women who make it possible every day. We’re proud to help connect policymakers and partners with the real work and real people behind the materials that help build Texas.



Pictured (L–R): Rob Hughes, TFA; David Alders, Past-President of TFA; Scott Townsend, RoyOMartin Director of OSB Manufacturing; Josh Oliver, Corrigan OSB Plant Manager; Trent Ashby, District 9 State Representative; Jessica Karlsruher, Congressional Candidate; Rocky Thigpen, County Commissioner; Jeff Rogers, President-Elect of TFA; and Landon Lohmann, Corrigan OSB Production Manager.

Union Pacific Provides Key Assist to RoyOMartin's Rail Safety Campaign

Last Fall, RoyOMartin launched a focused rail safety campaign to reinforce a simple but critical message for team members who work around railroad tracks: always put safety first. Led by Logistics Manager Jacob Stockton at the Alexandria corporate office, the initiative was built to strengthen awareness, sharpen habits, and support our core value, *I Believe in Zero Now*. The goal was clear. No shortcuts. No assumptions. Zero incidents.

To strengthen the effort, RoyOMartin partnered with Union Pacific Railroad, a longtime commercial partner that serves three of our wood product facilities. Stockton reached out for guidance on rail safety messaging and communication ideas, including support for a series of safety videos produced by our communications team. Union Pacific responded with resources, collaboration between safety and communications teams, and a shared commitment to reinforcing safe behaviors. Their support reflected a relationship built on decades of trust and mutual respect.

The partnership extended beyond planning. At Union Pacific's suggestion,



Union Pacific participated in RoyOMartin's Safety Day, helping reinforce public safety with this valued customer's team.

members of their Operating, Marketing and Sales, and Public Affairs teams joined us for Safety Day on October 15, delivering two rail safety sessions. Earlier in the year, four Union Pacific team members also led a Rail Safety Lunch and Learn at our Alexandria home office, providing practical insight and real-world expertise that deepened the impact of the campaign.

The campaign itself included instructional and inspirational safety

videos, hard hat stickers, additional signage at rail crossings near our facilities, and safety messaging displayed across our internal television network. Together, these efforts strengthened awareness across our operations and demonstrated what is possible when strong partnerships align around a shared belief.

At RoyOMartin, safety is not a slogan. It is a responsibility we carry for one another every day.



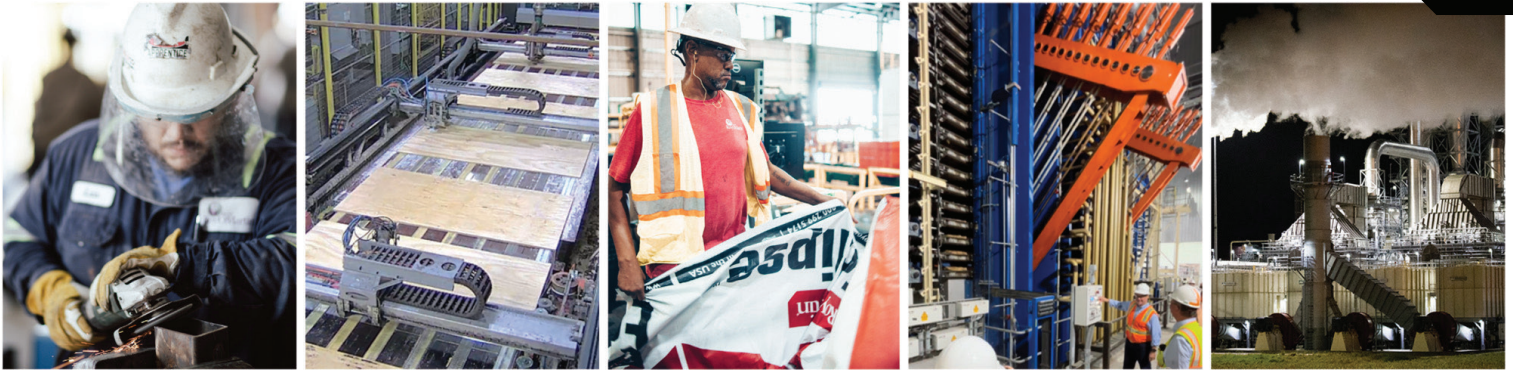
The Heart of Who We Are

Our RoyOMartin Community Heart is proudly displayed at the side entrance of our Alexandria corporate office on North Boulevard. It is more than a sculpture. It is a reflection of who we are.

The artwork was beautifully hand painted by Oakdale Harvesting Technician Brittany Ray. Her design captures the spirit of our company, our people, our products, and the pride we carry in our work every day. Each detail tells a story about building tomorrow together.

This piece is part of the Community Heart Project, a regional initiative led by Explore Alexandria Pineville. The project brings local artists and organizations together to celebrate creativity, connection, and community across Central Louisiana.

We are proud to stand alongside our neighbors in this effort. The heart is here, and it represents the care, commitment, and community that define RoyOMartin.



Powering the Pulse of Progress

Manufacturing isn't just what we do, it's who we are. Every board, every panel, every product carries forward a legacy of innovation, a dedication to our people, and the promise of building tomorrow together.

Like a pulse that sustains life, manufacturing fuels growth. At RoyOMartin, every product reflects innovation, precision, and a commitment to excellence. Advanced automation and state-of-the-art equipment help us produce with efficiency and consistency, while supporting the industries that keep America moving forward.

The People Behind the Progress

Technology may power our facilities, but it's our people who bring vision, leadership, and expertise to every shift. With advanced tools at their fingertips, our teams combine knowledge and innovation to deliver products that meet the highest standards of quality and safety. During October, we

celebrated Manufacturing Month and the men and women who harness technology, embrace innovation, and build stronger communities with every product we create. Together, we're not just making materials, we're building tomorrow.

Yesterday, Today, and Tomorrow

More than a century ago, our founders built RoyOMartin on a foundation of determination and vision. Today, that legacy continues in facilities equipped with cutting-edge automation, modern safety systems, and highly-skilled team members who lead the way.

RoyOMartin is rooted in excellence, serving our stakeholders today, and shaping a legacy of leadership for the century ahead.

The heartbeat of progress grows stronger with every generation.

Women in Manufacturing: Leading with Heart, Building the Future

At RoyOMartin, we believe in the power of women in manufacturing. That belief was front and center at our Women in Manufacturing event hosted at LSUA in October, where we proudly spotlighted six of our outstanding RoyOMartin women.

With schools tuning in both in person and online, the next generation saw what leadership, resilience, and hard work really look like. From forestry to shipping, these women shared their journeys and challenges they've faced, the pride they feel in their work, and the passion that drives them every day. It was more than a career showcase. It was a reminder that manufacturing isn't just about machines and materials. It's about people with grit, heart, and purpose.



Scan the QR code to watch the broadcast of the event.



2025 Women in Manufacturing Honorees (left to right): Bryanna Arrendell, Procurement Forester (Corrigan-OSB); Andrea Brossette, Data Analyst (Corporate Office); Patricia Butts, Capital Spares Manager (Oakdale-OSB); Kewanda Cox, Production Team Member (Corrigan-OSB); and Mynecia Holly, Production Team Member (RoyOMartin-Plywood). Not pictured: Tiffany Bullock, Production Team Member, (RoyOMartin-Plywood)

From the stories shared to the energy in the room, one thing was clear: when women lead with heart, great things happen.



The Martin Family Student Success Center Opens at LSUA

Louisiana State University of Alexandria (LSUA), celebrated the grand opening of the Martin Family Student Success Center on January 21, 2026, marking the completion of the university's newest facility. The opening represented the culmination of a multi-year vision to redefine the LSUA

campus experience. The initiative began in 2019 when there was a clear need for a unified student-centered space to accommodate the rapidly-growing university.

Following the completion of infrastructure upgrades and a new entrance tower the Martin Center emerged as the capstone of this comprehensive campus transformation. Construction began in early 2024 and concluded in December 2025. The building officially opened to students at the start of the Spring 2026 semester.

Designed as a central hub for student support, the Martin Center brings together key services that guide students from recruitment to graduation and beyond. Housed within the facility are Admissions and Recruiting, Financial Aid and Student Accounting, First-Year Experience, Advising, Career Development, and centralized student support services, all intentionally co-located to ensure that students receive timely, personalized assistance in one welcoming space.

The center bears the Martin family name in recognition of



their extraordinary leadership and generosity. Through Martin Sustainable Resources LLC and Martco LLC, Dr. Roy O. Martin III and Kathy Kilpatrick Martin committed a foundational gift to LSUA as part of a systemwide investment in higher education. Their support completed the private

match necessary to move the project forward and reflected a deep belief in LSUA's role in strengthening central Louisiana's workforce and economy.

The grand opening celebration brought together donors, students, faculty and staff, elected officials, LSU System leaders, and community partners, many of whom had been part of the journey from its earliest planning stages. Together, they marked not only the opening of a building, but the realization of a long-term vision to align campus infrastructure with LSUA's mission and momentum.

The Martin Center now stands as a tangible expression of LSUA's evolution. It anchors a reimagined campus entrance, supports a rapidly growing student body, and reflects the university's commitment to meeting students where they are and guiding them toward meaningful degrees and careers. As the newest chapter in LSUA's physical and institutional transformation, the center welcomes students and visitors alike into a modern higher education environment.

– Courtesy of LSUA

Inspiring the Next Generation of Women in Manufacturing

Girls Can Too! kicked off its fourth year at the start of the 2025–2026 school year with energy and purpose. We began by introducing the program, connecting with participants, and setting clear expectations for the months ahead.

This year, we are proud to partner with Peabody Magnet High School and Arthur F. Smith Middle Magnet School in Alexandria, Louisiana; Oakdale Middle School in Oakdale, Louisiana; Natchitoches Central High School in Natchitoches, Louisiana; and Corrigan-Camden Junior High School in Corrigan, Texas.

Girls Can Too! launched in 2022 as part of the *RoyOMartin Believes in Women in Manufacturing* initiative. The program connects female leaders from our company with female students in local classrooms. Through mentorship and hands-on lessons, our team members

focus on building confidence, strengthening self-esteem, and expanding awareness of the many career opportunities available in manufacturing.

Mentors do more than teach. They listen. They share real experiences. They model teamwork and leadership. They show these young ladies what is possible through hard work, integrity, and belief in themselves.

This partnership between RoyOMartin and our local schools is built to affirm, inform, and inspire. It places strong women from our organization in front of students who are still discovering their path. Relationships are formed. Confidence grows. Doors open.

We are proud to invest in the next generation and even prouder to watch these young ladies discover that they are capable of more than they ever imagined.



Girls Can Too! participants and mentors at Peabody Magnet High School in Alexandria, La.



RoyOMartin team members mentor student participants at Oakdale Middle School in Oakdale, La.

ROMU—Management Program Strengthens Leaders from Within



RoyOMartin University's Management program concluded its 2025 cohort with a graduation ceremony in December. This program is intended for leaders already in place within the company, such as supervisors, team leaders, superintendents, or managers. These participants have proven leadership abilities with a track record of success. The program utilizes four key components to stretch participants beyond their comfort zones: formal classroom training, experiential learning, intentional mentor relationships, and cross-departmental assignments.

Pictured (left to right): Brooke Taylor, director of talent and communications and program facilitator; Melanie Chapman, talent and engagement manager; E. Scott Poole, CEO; Jeff Johnson, OSB operations manager; Chris Wheat, OSB business project manager; Kevin Suarez, process engineer; Dr. Roy O. Martin III, chairman and CIO; Landon Lohmann, OSB production manager; Justin Whitcher, corporate purchasing manager; Jacob Stockton, corporate logistics manager; and Scott Blood, corporate safety manager.

How RoyOMartin Products Improve Jobsite Efficiency

For contractors and builders, jobsite efficiency is critical. Delays, inconsistent materials, and unnecessary waste can cut into profits and slow delivery times. That's why more professionals are turning to RoyOMartin for durable, precisely manufactured lumber and panels that are designed with construction speed and quality in mind.

In today's labor-constrained market, every hour saved matters. Materials that reduce installation time, limit waste, and require fewer cuts on-site can make a big impact. RoyOMartin products are developed with this goal in mind—providing consistent sizing, longer panel lengths, and advanced features that save time and reduce labor.

RoyOMartin's lumber and panel products are built for efficiency. The true cost savings come from quality and durability, paired with longer panel lengths that eliminate the need for horizontal joints. Fewer joints mean less time spent cutting and less need for blocking materials.

Less Waste, More Productivity

Wasted material is wasted money. RoyOMartin panels are manufactured to tight specifications, allowing crews to use more of each sheet. With longer lengths available, you get better wall coverage with fewer seams. That means fewer mistakes and faster work on the jobsite.



Applications Across the Jobsite

RoyOMartin offers specialty panels for every part of the build:

Subflooring: TuffTier OSB® and SmartCore Sturd-I-Floor® provide squeak-free stability.

Wall Sheathing: Choose from TuffStrand-WRB™, StructWall®, TuffStrand® XL, SmartCore® Pine Siding, and WindBrace® for strength and weather resistance.

Roof Decking: Eclipse® OSB radiant barrier panels reflect heat and keep attics cooler.

From single-family homes to large multifamily developments, RoyOMartin has the products to support every scope.

Because RoyOMartin operates a vertically integrated supply chain, their mills stay active year round. RoyOMartin takes no market-related downtime and remains committed to delivering the products you need, when you need them.

Customer service is at the heart of RoyOMartin's operations. Whether you're looking for bulk shipments, a custom product mix, or delivery scheduling support, our sales and logistics team works to meet your needs.

To start your order or ask about a specific product, contact our sales team.



Sr. HR Director Connie Baker (from left), HR Manager Joel Byram, and Vice President of HR Dr. Donna Bailey were on hand to accept the Go Natchitoches Award.

Plywood Plant Receives Excellence in Industrial Production Award

In February, RoyOMartin-Plywood team members proudly represented our company at the Natchitoches Area Chamber of Commerce Go Natchitoches Awards. These annual awards shine a spotlight on local businesses and individuals who embody the Go Natchitoches mindset by going above and beyond for the community and leading the way in their industries.

RoyOMartin was honored to receive the Excellence in Industrial Production Award, recognizing a business in the industrial sector such as manufacturing, oil and energy, construction, or other large-scale production that demonstrates outstanding performance, innovation, and measurable impact. It highlights operational excellence, workplace safety, and meaningful contributions to the local economy.

RoyOMartin® FORESTRY SERVICES



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- Timber harvesting supervision

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- Pheasants/Quail Forever
- LDAF
- Other agencies as available
- USWFS

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- Invoicing and collection of damages
- Administration of land-use permits and documents
- Compliance checks and monitoring of activities

Wildlife Management Services

- Hunting-lease administration and management
- Population surveys and assessments
- Development of management plans and monitoring
- Habitat enhancement
- Food plot development and implementation
- Endangered / threatened species recognition and management

Long-Term Land and Timber Management

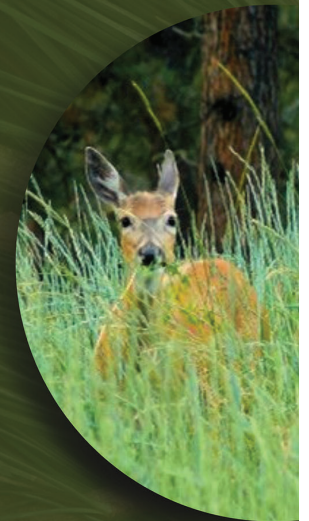
- Development and implementation of management plans
- Harvest planning and scheduling
- Timber stand improvement recommendations
- Asset protection and security
- Wildlife and/or recreation enhancement and management
- Timberland investment analysis
- Growth and yield modeling
- Road Construction
- Fireline Maintenance

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- LiDAR data
- Custom aerial imagery
- GPS footprint of forest management activities
- Soils mapping
- Drone services

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- Herbaceous weed control
- Quality-control plots
- Survival / stocking plots



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Importance of Merchandising in a Timber Harvesting Operation

Timber harvesting is often seen as simply cutting down trees and sending them to a mill, but in reality it is much more complex. At its core, timber harvesting is a business focused on using natural resources to create economic value. The real success of a logging operation depends not just on cutting trees, but on how well each part of every tree is used. This process is called merchandising, and it is one of the most important parts of modern, sustainable logging.

Merchandising means deciding what product each section of a harvested tree should become. Instead of treating all logs the same, loggers carefully sort them based on size, quality, and shape. This turns logging from a basic extraction job into an efficient system that increases profit while reducing waste.

The major benefit of good merchandising is making the most money possible from a timber harvest. Different parts of a



tree are worth very different amounts. For example, a typical pine tree can be divided into four main products: poles, sawtimber, chip-and-saw, and pulpwood. Poles and sawtimber bring the highest prices, while pulpwood is worth much less. A straight, high-quality section of a tree can be used for sawtimber and turned into products like lumber or plywood. Smaller, crooked, or damaged sections are better suited for pulpwood, which is used to make paper. If a valuable sawtimber log is mistakenly sent to a pulp mill, the landowner loses money.

To prevent this, logs are sorted carefully in the field. Well-trained and skilled loggers sort the products at the site. Foresters check the merchandising during the harvest to make sure the trees are being merchandised correctly. If mistakes are found, they help correct them so future errors can be avoided.

Merchandising is also important for reducing waste and respecting the resource. Trees take many years to grow, and each one represents a long-term investment. Using every part of a tree wisely ensures that nothing is wasted. In the end, good merchandising is what turns logging into responsible forest management, benefiting both the landowner and the land.

RoyOMartin foresters, technicians, and logging contractors take pride in the best possible merchandising of each stem to bring the highest return to each client.

– Grant Cutrer, Timber Marketing Forester

Prescribed Burns Are Essential for Healthy Forests

In North America, fire has been used for thousands of years as a tool to accomplish various objectives. Early humans used fire to cook food, provide warmth, build tools, and to alter landscapes for the purpose of growing food and creating areas for settlement. Today, fire is used to achieve some of these same objectives, as well as a few others.

Prescribed burning is defined as the controlled use of fire to manage land. At RoyOMartin, we use two types of prescribed burns: site preparation burns and understory burns.

Site prep burns are conducted on an as-needed basis. These typically take place during the warmer, drier months of the year, after all timber within a stand has been renewal harvested. In some instances, a large amount of non-merchantable woody debris is left on site following the logging operation. This debris, also called “logging slash,” is problematic for other site preparation



operations and, if not addressed, will negatively impact tree planting as well. The removal of logging slash by use of fire helps ensure the establishment of high-quality, well-stocked pine plantations, and returns nutrients back into the soil as well.

Understory burning in pine plantations takes place during the colder months of the year, when crop trees are dormant and less susceptible to damage from fire. These plantations must also be

old enough to withstand the increase in temperature caused by the fire. The main objectives for understory burning include fuel load reduction to help reduce impacts from wildfires and to remove undesirable tree species that are competing with crop trees for nutrients and water. The result of understory burning is a healthier and more productive plantation that is also less prone to damage from wildfires.

At RoyOMartin, our foresters are Certified Prescribed Burners. This certification is obtained through the Louisiana Department of Agriculture and Forestry and is essential to the safe and responsible use of fire as a tool to manage our timberlands. Each year, RoyOMartin foresters, along with independent contractors, conduct site preparation and understory burning across our land base to ensure that our forests remain healthy for future generations to come.

– Joe Bischoff, Oakdale Forest Manager

RoyOMartin Educates Students at SECO Career Expo

RoyOMartin team members participated in the Students Exploring Career Opportunities (SECO) event held in November at the Randolph Riverfront Center in Alexandria. This annual event by The Orchard Foundation brings thousands of tenth graders from schools throughout central Louisiana to the expo, where they can visit and interact with various organizations to see what it's like working in different career fields. Our representatives spoke to students about manufacturing wood products and how they are used in construction, and helped them build miniature log cabins.



Chaplain's Corner: Bummer Lambs



Ron Perry
Chaplain

When I first read the story about 'bummer lambs' my mind raced back to my stay on a cattle and sheep ranch, a two-hour train ride from Sydney, Australia. In July of 1968, after nearly a year in the jungles of South Vietnam, I chose to spend my R & R leave in Australia. The Army R & R Center set it up for me. I was welcomed so graciously and immediately became a part of this lovely hard-working ranch family. Since I grew up

working on a farm, I was ready the next morning to join the family with their daily work. While there I rode horses herding cattle and tending sheep, as well as other jobs. After where this young soldier had been for nearly a year, it really was rest and relaxation, as well as delicious meals, hot showers, and quiet sleeping.

I grew up around cattle but not around sheep. Our assignment one day was to move several hundred sheep to a better grazing location. A family member went ahead of us, opened the gate and began calling. The sheep heard, lifted their heads, recognized the shepherd, then responded to the call. Several of us walked behind the herd to pick up the babies and carry them along the way. Most of those little ones appeared to be healthy, normal lambs, and with some assistance they would join their mothers at the end of the trail. Later I was informed that a number of those little lambs were rejected by their mothers and left behind to survive on their own. I remember the family placing those lambs in a safe and warm location in the barn nearest their home so they could give them the care and attention they needed to survive. They were bottle fed warm milk daily and became known as bottle babies.

Recently, I learned that a bummer lamb is an orphaned or rejected lamb that cannot survive without human intervention. These lambs often require round-the-clock bottle feeding and care. They may be rejected by their mothers due to insufficient milk, the presence of multiple lambs when the mother will only accept one, or a possible birth defect. Once a mother rejects a lamb, she will not take it back. However, when humans intervene with care and compassion, the little one forms a bond and recognizes the voice of the shepherd who rescued it. As the lamb matures, the shepherd will return it to the flock. When the shepherd goes out to the field and calls the sheep, the first to come running is the former bummer lamb. I wonder how many of those lambs I carried out of the field that day in Australia and placed in the barn on a warm bed of hay and bottle-fed would have been bummer lambs, but survived because of my intervention.

Even though we may have come from the best homes, we all are bummer lambs. Isaiah 53:6 identifies us when he said: "We all went astray like sheep; we all have turned to our own way; and the Lord has punished Him for the iniquity of us all." The Good Shepherd has provided through His life, death, burial, resurrection, and ascension everything we need to transform us into the sheep who hear His voice and follow Him. If you are feeling rejected, The Good Shepherd, Jesus Christ, is reaching out to rescue you. Let Him nourish you to spiritual wholeness.

Blessings,
Chaplain Ron

Chaplain Ron Perry is a Marketplace Chaplain with whom RoyOMartin has partnered since 1997 to provide free, confidential counseling and other services to our employees.



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