

# THE GROUND ON WHICH I STAND PHOTOGRAPHS BY MARTI CORN

A Photo Essay and Oral Histories from Tamina, A Freedmen's Town



Freed from slavery, some of the precious few who were able to buy their own land created the community, Tamina, in 1871. Located along the railroad line between Houston and Conroe, they built their own churches, stores, and schools, tilled the land, raised hogs, and worked in the sawmills. Today, Tamina is one of the few remaining freedmen towns in the United States. Others have fallen to gentrification.

Although Tamina's story is steeped in history, few paragraphs have ever been published. *The Ground On Which I Stand*, is an exhibit with portraits and oral histories of the people of Tamina, representing different aspects of the community—young and old, black cowboys, ministers, those who have created non-profits to help their neighbors, those whose descendants helped establish Tamina, and those who have made Tamina their home within their lifetime. Their stories tell of a deep-rooted kinship with one another, with their values resting on family and community. Regardless of the challenges faced, their faith, gratitude, and humor always thread their tales.



**June 19-30, 2014**

**Children's Books On Wheels**

9845 Sleepy Hollow, Conroe TX 77485 in Tamina  
Call Rita Wiltz if you need directions 281-844-7596

**Open House, Thursday, June 19, 5:00 - 7:00 p.m.**

**Reception, Saturday, June 21, 5:00 - 7:00 p.m.**

Meet Marti Corn Saturday as she speaks about her experience working with those in Tamina.

**Potluck Picnic, Sunday, June 22, 2:00 - 5:00 p.m.**

Bring food, drinks and a blanket as we share stories of Tamina while listening to music presented by Tamina's Community Singing Group including Johnny Jones.

**Filming Interviews of Tamina Residents, June 19-22**

Share your stories for this documentary film.

Filmmakers from Boulder, Colorado will be present June 19-22 hoping to speak with members of the Tamina community. Through their personal interest in the town, appreciation of the photo essay "The Ground On Which I Stand," and their relationship with Marti Corn, they will be in town to film interviews pertaining to the history, stories, and people of this remarkable community.

**If you are interested in sharing your story with the filmmakers, please contact Marti Corn at 281-367-0800 or [Marti@MartiCornPhotography.com](mailto:Marti@MartiCornPhotography.com).**