



Texas Ranger Hall of Fame Newsletter

Sponsored by the City of Waco

Official State Historical Center of the Texas Rangers

Home of Texas Ranger Bicentennial 1823-2023

December 2015

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Interview with Red Steagall



On November 3rd, Red Steagall and his film crew came to the Museum to interview Executive Director Byron Johnson about the Museum and Texas Ranger history.

Singer, songwriter, poet, author, cowboy and TV-show host, Red

Steagall, recently added a new television show, *Red Steagall Is Somewhere West of Wall Street*, to his list. The show airs on RFD-TV.

"My quarter horse Grey Dog and I are off to explore the people, places and stories of the American West," said Steagall. "We will discover the horses and the history of ranches like the 6666 Ranch, Pitchfork Ranch, Waggoner Ranch, JA Ranch, King Ranch; just to name a few. We will visit museums that present and perpetuate the image and lifestyle of the American West."



Lone Star History Conference

Friday, April 29th -
Saturday, April 30th

Join us for a two-day history conference featuring renowned speakers and leading historians on Texas Ranger history. Stay tuned for more information.



End of Year Donations

As the year comes to an end, please remember the Texas Ranger Hall of Fame and Museum for your 2014 tax-deductible donations. The Museum can accept donations of cash, stocks, and in-kind services.

For more information, please contact Christine Rothenbush, Marketing and Development Coordinator, at (254) 750-8631. Thank you.



Left to Right: Film crews record Red Steagall and Byron Johnson as they sit down to discuss Ranger history for an upcoming episode of *Red Steagall Is Somewhere West of Wall Street*.

The episode featuring the Texas Ranger Hall of Fame and Museum will air on the evenings of Mondays, January 4th and April 4th at 9:30PM EST.

Please [click here](#) for more information about Red Steagall and the TV Show. Please [click here](#) to find the RFD-TV channel in your viewing area.



New Ornament Available

New pewter snowflake ornaments feature the Museum logo on one side and the Texas Ranger badge on the other side. \$19.95



To purchase the

Big Texas Christmas Present

Join us for 'Big Texas Christmas Present', brought to you by Allen Samuels Dodge Chrysler Jeep Ram, benefiting Compassion Ministries.

Compassion Ministries is accepting gift items including: children's toys, household goods to furnish apartments, gifts for teens and adults, and professional clothes for women. Compassion Ministries helps women and families who are homeless or on the verge of homelessness into permanent housing and employment. They provide a transitional housing facility, as well as financial training and other services.

For supporting this worthwhile cause, donors will receive one free admission pass to the Texas Ranger Hall of Fame and Museum. Each pass is good for 48 hours.



Thursday, December 10th, join Big 95, Compassion Ministries, and the Texas Ranger Hall of Fame and Museum for the Big Patio Party at Don Carlos Mexican Restaurant at 4651 Interstate 35 South from 5pm to 7pm.

Friday the 11th, bring your donations to the Texas Ranger Hall of Fame and Museum from 9am to 5pm.

Saturday, December 12th, come to Allen Samuels Dodge Chrysler Jeep Ram at 201 W Loop 340 from 11am to 1pm. Big 95, Compassion Ministries, the Texas Ranger Hall of Fame and Museum, and Mi Familia

ornament, please call toll free (877) 750-8631 or [email the store](#). Sales from the Gift Shop benefit the preservation and education activities of the Museum.



Holiday Schedule

The Museum is closed on Christmas and New Year's Days to enjoy time with our families. We will reopen at 9:00 am the day after.

'Tis the season for gifts! The Museum Gift Shop asks that all orders be placed by Friday, December 18th for guaranteed Christmas delivery. Thank you!



Helping Waco Hispanic Museum

Byron Johnson, TRHF Executive Director, has been a consultant for the new Waco Hispanic Museum. His role and the announcement of the new museum were featured in the article, "Hispanic Museum to Take Root at South Waco Community Center" by J.B. Smith for the *Waco Tribune Herald*.

Please [click here](#) to read the article.



In the Press

Car Club will be there, and you can make your donation, win prizes, and learn more about the people you are helping.

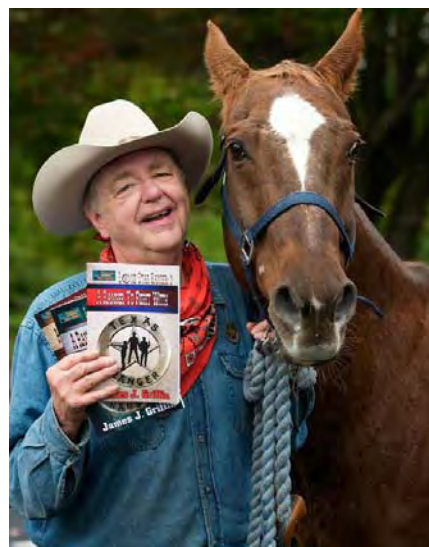
For more information visit:

www.allensamuelsdcj.com
www.compassionwaco.com
www.kbgo.com
www.texasranger.org

Longtime Pop Culture Donor Jim Griffin Visits Museum

James "Jim" Griffin made a return visit to the Museum on October 27, 2015. It had been a good number of years since his last visit, so Jim was anxious to see some of the new exhibits that the staff have installed in recent years. After many years of generous support, the Museum staff put together a small exhibit honoring his many pop culture contributions.

Mr. Griffin, a native New Englander who grew up in the 1950s, writes novels that harken back to a bygone era. His books feature the age-old characters of the "white hats versus black hats." Jim began writing Western novels in 2005 after receiving encouragement from friends, including James Reasoner, the author of *Texas Wind* and the *Civil War Battle* series. All of his novels "are traditional Westerns featuring a strong Texas Ranger hero." (*Texas Ranger Dispatch*, 2005)



According to Jim, his love of the Texas Rangers was inspired by his favorite childhood show, *Tales of the Texas Rangers*, which spawned a comic book collection. This in turn gave birth to a lifelong love of Texas and the Rangers. He reports that his love of memorabilia really took off after the introduction of the *Walker, Texas Ranger* television series. Jim reassembled his old comic book collection and began to seek out every issue of Texas Ranger magazine he could get his hands on. At the conclusion of his search in 2006, he donated all 206 issues to the museum's library and archives.

The Texas Ranger Museum was highlighted in the article "Football not only attraction in Waco for WVU fans" by Laura Haight for the *Charleston Gazette-Mail* in Charleston, West Virginia.

Please [click here](#) to read the article.



Featured on Fixer Upper

Are you a fan of *Fixer Upper* on HGTV? The third season starts December 1st and will feature images of the Texas Ranger Hall of Fame and Museum.

Please [click here](#) to learn more about the show.



In the Press

Our partnership with Ram Truck Division and the Texas Ranger Ram Concept Truck were featured in the article "The Texas Rangers: Legendary Law Enforcement & Dodge Trucks..." by Johnny Rowland in the December issue of *Chrysler Power Magazine* on newsstands now.



Jim Griffin stands next to a new exhibit featuring a few of his pop culture donations from over the years.

Jim Griffin has generously donated signed copies of his published works as well as an extensive collection of pop culture Texas Ranger memorabilia to the Museum. His love for mid-century Ranger memorabilia has been a great help to this institution. Jim is also an avid horseman, and he and his horse Yankee participate in Western re-enactments, book signings and other events throughout the year.

Ranger Pena's Wedding

On Saturday, November 7th, Michelle Cadena married Texas Ranger Patrick Pena in John Knox Memorial Center at the Texas Ranger Hall of Fame and Museum.

Both native Texans, Michelle was raised in Bastrop, and Patrick was raised in Littlefield (near Lubbock). Patrick and Michelle met at DPS Headquarters when they were both 20 years old and became friends. Michelle, a 2006 graduate, worked at DPS Headquarters while attending Sam Houston State University for a criminal justice degree. Patrick worked as a security guard and enrolled in the DPS Trooper Academy the following year.



Cold Case Investigation

Texas Ranger Unsolved Crimes Investigation Team and DPS seek leads in 1982 murder case in Liberty County.

Please [click here](#) for more information.



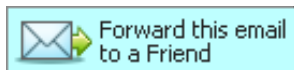
Education Center

The following groups utilized the Education Center for programs in November:

- Texas Rangers
- Baylor Alumni Association
- NAACP
- Communities in Schools

Quick Links

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- [Education Center](#)
- [Education Programs](#)
- [Research Center](#)
- [Distinguished Service](#)
- [Museum Video](#)
- [Texas Ranger Bicentennial](#)
- [Bicentennial Video](#)
- [Texas Ranger Association Foundation](#)



Graduating in December 2002, Trooper Pena was stationed in Waco. As he advanced in his career, first to Narcotics and then to the Rangers, he moved around the State, but always remembered Waco with fondness.

After dating for three years, Patrick proposed on a private tour of the State Capitol in Austin at the feet of "Goddess of Liberty" statue on top of Capitol building.



On November 7th, Ranger Pena and Michelle were married at the Texas Ranger Hall of Fame in John Knox Memorial Center. When asked why they chose Knox Center and the Museum as their wedding venue, Ranger Pena replied, "It's who we are. There's a lot of history here. All our family and friends thought it was really special because a lot of them have never been here before."

Congratulations Patrick and Michelle! We wish you the best!



IPC Program Comes to Georgia and England

Texas Ranger Cody Mitchell and DPS Lieutenant Derek Prestridge co-founded the Interdiction for the Protection of Children (IPC) Program in 2010. Officers using the program have rescued over 100 missing and endangered children since its founding. This nationally recognized program trains troopers and other law enforcement officers how to recognize suspicious behavior in children and adults leading to the identification and recovery of abducted and missing children.



Photograph courtesy Georgia Department of Public Safety.

Mitchell and Prestridge have traveled across the US training officers in other states. Most recently, the program was brought to Georgia. Members of the Georgia Department of Public Safety participated in an Interdiction for the Protection of Children class the week of November 16th. Agencies pictured are the Georgia State Patrol, Georgia Bureau of Investigation, Georgia Center for Child Advocacy and the Texas Department of Public Safety.

Additionally, the IPC training has drawn interest from as far away as Canada and UK.



Durham Constabulary became the first police force in the country to use new techniques to prevent crimes against children. Pictured are Dr. Joe Sullivan, an internationally renowned expert on offender behavior, and Chief Constable Mike Barton. Photograph courtesy Chris Booth from *The Northern Echo*.

Chief Constable Mike Barton of Durham in Northern England announced

the launch of the IPC program in the article "Durham Police Rolls Out Training to Tackle Child Sexual Exploitation" in *The Northern Echo* by Gavin Havery.

POLICE in the North-East are rolling out new training imported from America to protect children from sexual abuse.

Officers from Durham Constabulary earlier this year became the first in the country to use methods pioneered by the Texas Rangers in the United States.

About 400 frontline officers have taken part in the Intervene to Protect a Child programme (IPC) and learnt how behavioural signs can indicate that someone could be a child abuser.

Please [click here](#) to read the full article.

Texas Ranger Glenn Elliott Memorial Highway

On Tuesday, November 10th, Texas Highway Spur 63 in Longview was renamed after Texas Ranger Glenn Elliott.

Ranger Elliott served 38 years as a Highway Patrolman and Texas Ranger (1961-1987), investigating both high profile and routine cases with dogged determination. He wrote two books with his biographer, the late Robert Nieman, *Glenn Elliott: A Ranger's Ranger* and *Glenn Elliott: Still a Ranger's Ranger*, which detail many of those cases.



Among the people in attendance were law enforcement officers, Texas State Representative David Simpson and Dennis Elliott, Glenn's son. "I'm not easily caught without words, but this is fantastic. It means a lot to our family," Dennis told the crowd. "You love the man that served this town, and that means a lot to us."



Photograph courtesy the *Longview News-Journal*.

Elliott is honored at the Texas Ranger Hall of Fame and Museum with an exhibit, a permanent archive of his papers, and numerous articles and oral

history files.

Please [click here](#) to see more photographs from the dedication and to read the article "Longview Highway Renamed for Texas Ranger" by Glenn Evans for the *Longview News-Journal*.

Please [click here](#) to read Ranger Elliott's oral history on his life and career.

The Burson Brothers



On Thursday, November 19th, a television news feature broadcast by the CBS affiliate in Waco, KWTX, showcased two brothers - Jake and Joshua Burson - who currently are Texas Rangers. The Burson brothers are believed to be the first set of brothers to serve simultaneously as Texas Rangers since DPS was formed in 1935.



Joshua Burson
Lubbock



James "Jake" Burson
Waco

Please [click here](#) to watch the segment entitled "Texas Ranger Brother Tandem: The Burson Boys."

**Save
\$2.00**

Save \$1.00 off regular adult admission for up to two adults. Coupon not valid on discounted senior or military admission. No cash value.

The museum is open 9am to 5pm with the last guest admitted at 4:30pm. The museum is located off I-35 and University Parks Drive in Waco, Texas.

For more information, call (254) 750-8631 or visit www.texasranger.org.

Offer Expires: January 31, 2016