

information about the grand opening of John Knox Texas Ranger Memorial Center.



New Collections Artifacts Donated

The Texas Ranger Hall of Fame and Museum recently received a generous gift from the family of Sheriff John P. Kirk. Sheriff Kirk's Great-Grandson, Dave Deison, of Weatherford, Texas, presented to the Museum a Colt Second Richards Conversion of the Model 1860 Army Revolver and a Gold-Topped Ebony Cane. The Colt revolver and cane were presented to Sheriff John P. Kirk on August 12, 1891 by the Texas Sheriff's Association in Lampasas, Texas in recognition of his service as the last elected City Marshal of Austin, Texas.

The Colt Second Richards Conversion of the Model 1860 Army Revolver was manufactured by Colt in 1871 and is the transitional model manufactured between the First Model Richards Conversion and the Richard Mason Models. In other words, the pistol was converted from cap and ball to use metallic cartridges. The revolver was engraved by L.D. Nimschke, who also made the pearl grips at his workshop in New York City.

The Gold-Topped Ebony Cane, made by Lyon, Maker, is engraved with the Sheriff's name and presentation date.

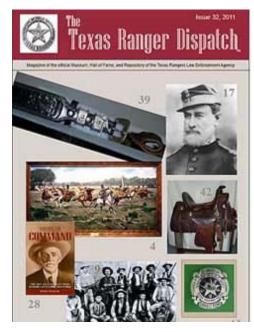
The Collections Department will be working on an exhibit featuring these extraordinary artifacts early in the New Year.





Colt Second Richards Conversion of the Model 1860 Army Revolver and Gold-Topped Ebony Cane, presented to Sheriff John P. Kirk by the Sheriff's Association of Texas, Lampasas, August 12, 1819. Gift of Sheriff Kirk's Great-Grandson, Dave Deison. Cat. #2010.051

A New Texas Ranger Dispatch



The newest issue of *The Texas Ranger Dispatch*, a free magazine, is available online. Articles include:

Frank M. McMahan: A Faithful and Reliable Officer Jesus Sandoval: McNelly's Enforcer Book Excerpt from *Yours to Command: Life and Legend of Bill McDonald* Routine Collections Maintenance And more!

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To read the issue, click here.

Success! The Big Texas Christmas Present

On Saturday, December 11, 2010, the Texas Ranger Hall of Fame in partnership with Big 95 KBGO radio station and Friends for Life hosted the Big Texas Christmas Present. Visitors were encouraged to donated new, unwrapped gifts to be distributed to 4,000 elderly Central Texas citizens in exchange for admission into the museum. The event included a car show by Estrella Car Club and caroling by Stonhenj Players. The museum greeted over 125 donors and filled over 8 boxes with donations ranging from shampoo and conditioners to space heaters, lap blankets, slippers and plush animals. Thank you to everyone who participated and made the holidays extra special this year for so many.







Honorary Texas Rangers

One of the most beloved fictional Texas Rangers is Cordell Walker played by Chuck Norris on *Walker, Texas Ranger.* In early December, the Public Safety Commission voted 4-0 to name Chuck Norris and Aaron Norris as Honorary Texas Rangers. Aaron Norris, Chuck's younger brother, was a stunt coordinator and producer of the television show.

"The *Walker, Texas Ranger* television series ran from 1993 to 2001 and reflected well on law enforcement in general and on the Department of Public Safety in particular," said Steve McCraw, Director of the Department of Public Safety.

Texas Governor Rick Perry presented the brothers with a designation as an honorary member at the Texas Rangers office in Garland, a Dallas suburb.

Both Chuck and Aaron Norris join John Wayne and President George H. W. Bush as Honorary Texas Rangers.

In Memorium

On December 23, 2010, we learned of the passing of *The Lone Ranger* announcer Fred Foy. Below is a link to a story about his life and career. He always will be remembered. Our thoughts are with his family.

Article about Fred Foy



