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July 2015

Texas Ranger Hall of Fame and Museum Newsletter

Sponsored by the City of Waco Official Historical Center for Texas Rangers Home of Texas Ranger Bicentennial 1823-2023

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Museums Marketplace Wednesday, August 12th 4:00 pm - 7:00 pm John Knox Center

The Museum Association of

Gunfighterology



Bill O'Neal

Hollywood has distorted the reality of Old West shootouts. On Saturday, August 1 at 2:00 p.m., the Texas Ranger Hall of Fame and Museum will host "Gunfighterology." Texas State Historian Dr. Bill O'Neal will examine the reality of historically significant frontier gunfights, including the

strong personalities that accompanied them. Entrance into this event is included with regular museum admission.

Appointed the State Historian of Texas in 2012, O'Neal has been affiliated with Carthage-based Panola College since 1970. He was awarded a Doctor of Letters in 2013 from Texas A&M University - Commerce.

O'Neal has authored more than forty books, including numerous titles focusing on the history of the American West. He has appeared on nationally televised series on TLC, the History Channel and A&E. He will be the recipient of the West Texas Book Festival 2015 Distinguished Author Award. He was presented the lifetime achievement award by the Wild West History Association in 2012.

Doug Dukes, who is writing a book on Texas Ranger firearms, will provide an introduction to firearms technology of the era, and author Bob Alexander will act as emcee. Following the presentation,

Waco's Museums
Marketplace is an annual
trade show designed to
highlight how member
organizations serve
educators, students, and
the general public in our
community. Attendance is
free and open to the public.

News, Guns & Motorsports



Johnny Rowland has enjoyed the Museum so much that he turned those visits and discussions into three radio programs.

Rowland interviewed Byron Johnson, Executive Director, about the history of the legendary Texas Rangers law enforcement organization in three segments.

New, Guns & Motorsports is a radio show and commentary about current events, guns and shooting and firearms issues, automotive and motorsports features, and special music presentations.

In June, News, Guns & Motorsports had over 465,000 downloads.

To listen to the interviews on June 8th, 22nd and 29th, please click here and select the air date. It will automatically download for listening. Enjoy!

In the Press

Dr. O'Neal will be available for a Q&A.

Education in Action

Over the course of the spring semester, the Texas Ranger Hall of Fame and Museum hosted groups led by Education in Action, a Texas-based non-profit agency "...dedicated to empowering young people to be informed and active leaders in their community."



Working primarily with North Texas schools, Education in Action facilitated tours for nearly 70 school groups between February and June as part of their "Proud to be Texan" program. The program, aligned with 4th grade social studies TEKS, included charter bus transportation, t-shirt, pre-visit training for adult chaperones and post-program activities for students. Students had the opportunity to learn about many aspects of Texas history, including the Spanish explorers, Native Americans, geographical regions, immigration, westward expansion, and of course, Texas Rangers! Participants also visited the Bob Bullock Texas State History Museum in Austin.



For more information about the programs offered by Education in Action, please visit www.educationinaction.org.



On June 23rd, Christine Rothenbush, Marketing and Development Coordinator, discussed upcoming events with Marlena Hamilton on KWTX News Ten At Three. We appreciate the publicity and look forward to future interviews.

Locals Love Us Winner!



The Texas Ranger Hall of Fame and Museum was voted one of the top tourist attractions in Waco by residents for the 4th year in a row! We appreciate the Love!

Please click here to see our Locals Love Us listing.

Texas Ranger Glenn Elliott Memorial Highway



In May, the Texas

Frontier Battalion Tribute Rifle

The Rangers trace their roots back to 1823, when Stephen F. Austin, "The Father of Texas", wanted to provide protection for the first settlers in the region. In 1874, Governor Richard Coke organized the Frontier Battalion: six companies of Texas Rangers with seventy-five men in each company. The Frontier Battalion is often called the "first permanent Texas Rangers."



Working in cooperation with the Texas Ranger Hall of Fame and Museum, America Remembers proudly presents the Texas Rangers Frontier Battalion Tribute Rifle, an exciting issue honoring these legendary lawmen of the Texas frontier. For this Tribute, they selected the classic Winchester Model '73 rifle in caliber .45LC. The rifle features a 24" octagonal barrel, a favorite of collectors. Each rifle is decorated in elegant 24-karat gold and nickel. Winchester discontinued production of the Model '73 rifles in the early 1900s but they recently reintroduced this Old West classic.



The left side of the receiver features a legendary image of Company D Rangers, rifles in hand, framed by the Texas Ranger Hall of Fame and Museum logo and a Texas Ranger star, under a banner reading, "Texas Rangers Frontier Battalion."

As part of the licensing agreement benefiting the Museum, serial #1 was donated to the Museum collections and is on exhibit in the lobby.

Only 500 of these Tributes will ever be produced. Please visit the America Remembers website to order a Tribute today.

Distinguished Service Dedication On Saturday, June 20th, active and retired Texas Rangers,

Legislature designated Spur 63 in Gregg County between U.S. Highway 80 and Spur 502 as the Texas Ranger Glenn Elliott Memorial Highway.

Christopher Clark Promotion



Congratulations to Lieutenant Christopher Clark!

On June 15th, Clark became the Lieutenant of Company "E" in Midland. He previously served as a Ranger in Company "A" in Bryan.

Baby Back Ribs with Peach Sauce



Summertime is synonymous with grilling and Bar-B-Q in Texas. Juicy Texas peaches mix with cayenne pepper for the perfect mix of sweet and heat on your ribs.

Please click here to get this tasty recipe from Tour Texas website. Enjoy!

members of the Texas Ranger Association Foundation and Robert Holt's family joined the museum board and staff in a dedication ceremony of Distinguished Service: The Retired Texas Rangers.

There are over than 180 retired Texas Rangers living today, more than at any other time in history. The Distinguished Service alcove houses both a changing exhibit of memorabilia from their careers, and a computer display with service history of the living retired Rangers. This information can also be accessed on the internet at http://texasranger.org/Retirees/retirees.html.



Left to Right: Ret. Chief Hank Whitman, Chair of TRHFM Board; Holly Holt Williamson and Andrea Catania, daughters of Robert Holt; and Ret. Captain Barry Caver, member of TRAF Board

This exhibit would not have been possible without the generous support of donors:

A lead gift was made as a memorial by the family of Robert B. Holt of Midland. Mr. Holt, a steadfast supporter of the Texas Rangers, served four Texas Governors as a commissioner and chairman of the Texas Public Safety Commission. We are honored that his daughters, Holly Holt Williamson of Austin and Andrea Catania of Midland, and their families could join us.

The Texas Ranger Association Foundation (TRAF), our partners since 1982, donated matching funds for this exhibit. Their support has enabled us to collect oral histories, publish history articles, and begin educational programs.

Our third donor is the Fiat-Chrysler Foundation of Michigan. The Foundation, in partnership with Ram Trucks, contributed funds to prepare the alcove for the exhibit.

Recap: Summer Camp

In partnership with Texas Top Guns, the Texas Ranger Hall of Fame and Museum hosted a Texas Ranger summer camp on Friday, June 26th.

Open to children entering third, fourth and fifth grades, the camp focused on teaching children about the daily lives of Texas Rangers during the late 19th Century. Campers had an awesome time learning about the basics of roping, cattle branding, basket weaving,

Education Center



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

Community Race Relations Coalition Waco Foundation TATL **Texas Rangers** Waco Center for Youth Volunteer Services Counsel **NAACP** Waco PD Junior Police Academy

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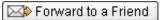












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leather working and cooking on the wild Texas frontier.

Before lunch, campers were treated to a firearms safety skit and demonstration by Texas Top Guns counselors. The Texas Top Guns Sheriff Jim Henry explained the dangers of firearms to instill in the students that firearms are not toys and not to play with them.







Above: Campers learn to rope a calf. Middle: Campers cut biscuits from dough they mixed. Below: Campers learn basket weaving with pine needles and grass.

In the afternoon, campers learned more about the duties of the modern Texas Rangers. As the elite law enforcement agency of the State of Texas, Texas Rangers combine their knowledge, skills and abilities with sophisticated science to track down wanted criminals. Campers learned about many aspects of crime scene investigation. In one experiment, campers practiced chromatography which is the breaking down of components to identify a substance. In this they studied the various colors used to make pen inks to match the ink used in a ransom note. Campers also learned how to identify different styles of fingerprints.

At the end of the day, campers were treated to a Q&A with Texas Rangers Jake Burson and Patrick Peña.





Above: Campers examine their fingerprints. Below: Texas Ranger Jake Burson speaks to the campers.

The staff of the Texas Ranger Hall of Fame and Museum is grateful to the Texas Top Guns and Company "F" Texas Rangers for their continued support of museum programs.

Recap: Ram Trucks on Display

A one-of-a-kind Texas Ranger edition Ram truck was displayed to the public at the Texas Ranger Hall of Fame during the annual Texas Ranger Reunion. Allen Samuels Dodge Chrysler Jeep Ram dealership in Waco partnered with the Texas Ranger Hall of Fame. Alongside the Texas Ranger Ram concept truck were the 2015 Ram 1500 Lone Star and Laramie Longhorn editions and information on Ram Trucks.



The Texas Ranger concept truck is representative of Ram's recognition and support for the renowned law enforcement agency and the Texas Ranger Museum that represents them.

The Ram Texas Ranger edition is painted in shades of a white and silver representing "the white hats and silver badges that the good guys always wear." Texas Ranger badge motif are found throughout the truck interior, on the fenders, tailgate and 20-inch wheels. The upholstery is stitched and decorated with patterns reminiscent of 1800s saddles and tack. Silver five-peso Mexican coins, from which the badges are made, are inset into the doors.



The response from the general public, TRAF members, active and retired Texas Rangers at seeing the truck was overwhelming and enthusiastic. Ram executives have not ruled a future production run based on elements of the concept truck. If you would like to see the concept truck become a reality, please contact your local Ram

dealership to express your support. Thank you!

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: August 31, 2015

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