



February 2019

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

Free Admission for Federal Employees on February 16th-18th



The Texas Ranger Hall of Fame and Museum will offer free admission to Federal Employees, contractors and their immediate family members on the weekend of February 16th-18th. We honor and respect your service and perseverance during the recent challenges.

To receive free admission please bring identification confirming federal employment or contract status (such as a business card, I.D. badge, etc.).

We appreciate all that you do.

New Website Survey

The new Texas Ranger Hall of Fame and Museum website has been up for over a year now, and we want to make sure it is serving you.

We have designed a survey to understand how you navigate our website. There are five topics to find, with questions about how easy or difficult they were to locate. Please let us know if you can't find something. By answering all of the questions, you are helping us to improve it for everyone.



The Texas Ranger Hall of Fame and Museum is located on the banks of the Brazos River, proudly sponsored by the City of Waco and sanctioned by the State of Texas. We preserve the history and inspire appreciation of the Texas

When beginning the survey, please open our website to the front page. You can either have both the survey and our website open on your computer, or you may pull up our website on your phone.

Start the survey by clicking [here](#).
Access our website by clicking [here](#).

Thank you for your support!

Spring Break Round Up

Please join us at the Texas Ranger Hall of Fame and Museum on Saturday, March 9th from 10:00 AM to 2:00 PM for our annual Spring Break Round Up. Bring your family down to meet Texas Ranger reenactors and meet a serving Texas Ranger.



Spring Break Round Up will kick off our 2019 summer program ***Texas Ranger Talks***. An active duty or retired Texas Ranger will talk about their experiences and take questions on March 9th at 10:00 AM and 2:00 PM. Be sure to stop in and listen before or after enjoying everything else Spring Break Round Up has to offer.

Activities are included with regular museum admission. Please see our [website](#) or [Facebook event page](#) for more details.

Thanks to Our Visitor Services Team!

Last year our Visitor Services team assisted 96,491 guests from around the world. Their goal is to make everyone feel welcome as they explore the history and heritage of the

Texas Rangers.

We are open 362 days a year, and just five full and part-time staff welcome and orient families, bus tour groups and school tours—sometimes all at the same time! Most of our visitors are from outside Central Texas, so they also guide them to restaurants and the many other museums and attractions of Waco.



Pictured left to right: Susan Blackwood, Jeremy Youngs, Lisa Daniel, and Dominic Villa.
Not pictured: Tanis Federwish.

In the store, they run a full retail operation assisting visitors with unique souvenirs, gifts and toys. Internet purchases are shipped worldwide to places like Sweden, Germany and Australia where the Texas Rangers are legendary.

For 54 years our purpose has been education and preservation. Admissions and Store revenues fund these vital programs, generating a record \$789,634 in 2018. We thank the 4.5 million guests and uncounted numbers of international customers who make our service possible.

We appreciate our extraordinary staff who make this possible: **Lisa Daniel**, Visitor Services Manager for an amazing 39 years; **Jeremy Youngs**, Assistant Manager (7 years); and our front-line veterans **Susan Blackwood** (10 years), **Dominic Villa** (4 years) and newcomer **Tanis Federwisch**. How good are they? The 93% very good-to-excellent ranking on TripAdvisor is a tribute to them.

The Texas Top Guns

We were very happy to welcome members of the Texas Top Guns re-enactment group to our museum this month! The group visited the Hall of Fame to discuss educational programs for the upcoming Texas Ranger Bicentennial™.

Hailing from the Palestine area, the Top Guns demonstrate frontier life skills specific to 1870s-'80s Texas Rangers. Along with doing educational programming at the museum, the Top Guns also work with area school districts and other nonprofit groups.

Because of their historical accuracy and commitment to education, the Texas Top Guns have been designated as official participants in the Texas Ranger Bicentennial™.



Interested in seeing the Texas Top Guns? Look for them at Spring Break Round Up on March 9th!

New Billboards

Look for our new billboards on I-35! A special thanks to the Waco Convention and Visitors Bureau and Waco and the Heart of Texas for their sponsorship to make this happen.



Visitors from Germany

After reading about the Texas Ranger Hall of Fame in a recent issue of Germany's *Magazin fur Amerikanistik (Journal of American History)*, Eberhard Doster made a special trip to the museum while visiting Texas for his niece's wedding.

An avid Wild West Shooting Club Member in Germany, Eberhard was excited to see all that the museum has to offer. While visiting, Eberhard and his family were able to meet Texas Ranger Lieutenant James Thomas. To top off an incredible trip, he even became a Junior Texas Ranger. Eberhard said that although the Junior Texas Ranger Program is typically for children "it touched me on the bottom of my heart."



If you or anyone you know is interested in becoming a Junior Texas Ranger, you can [click here](#) to learn more about the program. Official Junior Texas Rangers will receive: an honorary Junior Ranger certificate signed by an Active-Duty Texas Ranger, a child's badge, a family admission pass, and their name on the rolls of the Junior Texas Rangers on our website. There is a \$35 donation per Junior Ranger which supports the educational and preservation programs of the Texas Ranger Hall of Fame.

New White Canvas Tote Bag in Museum Store

New canvas tote bags from Marshes Fields & Hills. These bags feature an interior pocket, white rope handles and features a stylized Texas Ranger Badge on the front. Perfect for any Spring Break beach going! \$48.00 + Tax



To shop more items, please visit our [Gift Shop online](#), or in person 9am to 4:30pm daily. You never have to pay admission to shop.

Sales from the Gift Shop benefit the preservation and education activities of the Museum. Please call (877) 750-8631 or email thestore@texasranger.org to order. We ship worldwide. Thank you!

Lonesome Dove Exhibit at Bell County Museum



If you are a fan of *Lonesome Dove*, the Bell County Museum in Belton, Texas is hosting an exhibit on the famous TV miniseries. The exhibit includes photographs taken by *Lonesome Dove* screenwriter Bill Wittliff and various Western bronze sculptures.

The exhibit will be open until April 15th, 2019 and you can learn more about it by going to the Bell County Museum's [website](#) or watch [KWTX's story](#) about the exhibit.

Texas Ranger Bicentennial™ Partners Program

The Texas Rangers are a Texas Legend and an American Heritage™. They will commemorate their landmark 200th anniversary in 2023.

We are seeking \$100.00 individual and family contributors to help safeguard this Texas and American Heritage™ for future generations. With a \$100 contribution, you will receive:

1. A limited-edition enameled bronze pin featuring the official Texas Ranger Bicentennial™ seal
2. A certificate signed by an active or distinguished retired Texas Ranger
3. Your name or family name on the online roster of Bicentennial Partners™
4. A one-time-use family admission ticket (admits 4) to the Museum.

\$90 of the contribution qualifies as a charitable contribution for Federal Income Tax purposes. The Texas Ranger Hall of Fame is a 170(c) government-owned nonprofit.

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



Official Texas Rangers Bicentennial Pin
Trademarked by the Texas Dept. of Public Safety

Designed by the Texas Ranger Hall of Fame and Museum



Quick Links

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Education Center

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

Texas Rangers

Presences, Power, and Passion Ministries

City of Waco

Cooper Foundation

**ENJOY
\$2.00 OFF**

Expires 3/31/2019

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.

Newsletter Compiled by Audrey Ladd, Education Programs Manager