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December 2020

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

Last Call! TRHFM Preparing for the Future Survey

The Texas Ranger Hall of Fame and Museum and the City of Waco have contracted with international museum and attractions consultant Jack Rouse Associates (JRA) of Cincinnati to develop a comprehensive plan for the future of the Museum. Founded in 1964 and opened in 1968, TRHFM has welcomed more than 4 million visitors over its 53 years of service. Originally designed for 20,000 visitors a year, it was welcoming almost 100,000 persons worldwide before COVID.



Preparing for the Future: Texas Ranger Hall of Fame and Museum Survey

We need your opinions!

Your thoughts and experiences will provide valuable guidance as we develop a plan for the future. JRA has provided planning services for many history, science and technology museums worldwide.

We would appreciate receiving your feedback by **Wednesday**, **December 9th** so that we can study and incorporate the data. **Thank you for your participation**.

Take the Survey

Tafoya's Quest

Have you ever been amazed at how an artist can really capture movement in sculpture? *Tafoya's Quest* is one outstanding example by Covelle Jones, 1980.



José Piedad Tafoya was a Comanchero in the 1860s who traded with nomadic tribes, like the Comanche, on the Llano Estado. Tafoya traded livestock and other goods with the Comanche and their allies, and frequently traveled between Texas and his native area of New Mexico. The sculpture depicts an active scene, with three riders brandishing their pistols at an unseen threat behind them. The sculpture is now on display in Taub Hall.

Gift of Dr. Jon Williamson, in honor of his father, Dr. W. E. Williamson, Jr., M.D.

Now Booking Webinars for 2021!



Looking for a COVID-19 friendly way to have a speaking event or field trip? The Texas Ranger Hall of Fame and Museum is now offering virtual presentations and webinars about different topics in Texas Ranger history.

These presentations can be adapted for any age group or schedule. School presentations have been aligned with Texas Essential Knowledge and Skills (TEKS) requirements.

Check out our website to learn more!

Donation from the Texas Ranger Association Foundation

Since the 1980s, the Texas Ranger Association Foundation has supported the historical and preservation programs of the Texas Ranger Hall of Fame. This has included exhibit renovations, oral history program, research and articles on the TRHFM web site and the creation of an Education division.



Despite the challenges posed by COVID, the Foundation has continued its annual support with a \$5,000 check presented by retired Assistant Chief of the Texas Rangers Frank Malinak to Director Byron Johnson. We appreciate the generosity of the Texas Ranger Association Foundation and its members.

The Tucked-In Rangers

Do you tuck your pants into your boots like the early Texas Rangers? Please <u>click here</u> to read "The Tucked-In Ranger" from *TrueWest Magazine*.



2020: Highlights From the Year

2020 was a year of challenges requiring creativity and adaptability. Here are highlights from the last 12 months.

- Spring Break Round Up: Our annual Spring Break Round Up in March became
 the only in-person event in 2020. It was a success with Texas Top Guns and Texas
 Legends reenactment groups setting up camp to welcome visitors. Texas Ranger
 Travis Dendy discussed Ranger operations today, including the use of drone
 technology. To watch his interview, https://wccc.tv/video/discovering-the-legend-35-travis-dendy/
- Facebook & Educational Content: With the possibility of closure due to COVID, the social media team began brainstorming on ways to keep the educational mission of the museum active and available to the public. In doing so, we grew to over 5,000 Likes & Followers on Facebook. We created: "Guess the Artifact," "Story Time with Audrey," "Journal Prompts" and more. Find these on our website at https://www.texasranger.org/texas-ranger-museum/education/
- Ask the Ranger Museum: With the suspension of our summertime "Texas Ranger Talks" program, we created a new television program, "Ask the Ranger Museum".
 Please visit https://wccc.tv/program/ask-the-ranger-museum/ to watch the first three episodes featuring Ranger Lt. James Thomas, author Doug Dukes and Ranger Cody Mitchell.



- 10 Minute Lesson Plans: Postponed school trip field trips, homeschooling and remote learning platforms drove the need for online programs to assist teachers and homeschoolers with content-rich curricula. We developed 10-minute lesson plans and virtual webinars to bring the Museum into the classroom.

 https://www.texasranger.org/texas-ranger-museum/education/
- **Recognition:** Despite the challenges, TRHFM received two recognitions in 2020! The first was by *Money Inc* who ranked us #4 in its "The 20 Best Things to Do in Waco, TX, for First Timers". The second was by *TripAdvisor* who awarded the "Travelers' Choice 2020" certificate to the Museum.
- New Exhibits: The year 2020 also brought new exhibits. The collections
 department worked diligently behind the scenes to bring visitors: "Texas Rangers in
 Pop Culture" at the Waco-McLennan County Public Library, "The Four Great
 Captains", exhibits on James B. Gillett and Marvin P. Burton, "The Texas Rangers:
 Established In 1823", "Texas Rangers During Prohibition" and many more.
- Online Artifact Database: We launched a new database worldwide, so you can browse a selection of the 20,000 artifacts, artwork, photographs and documents preserved for future generations in the permanent collections. These resources are made available to the public for education, research purposes, and personal

enjoyment. Explore the selection of objects, archives and photographs here: https://texasranger.pastperfectonline.com/

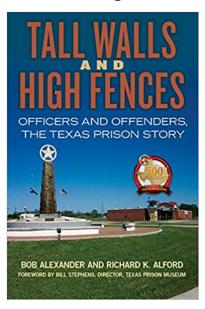
Third Episode Debuts of Ask the Ranger Museum

The third episode of the *Ask the Ranger Museum* video series is an interview with Texas Ranger Cody Mitchell of Company "F" about his career in law enforcement and Interdiction for the Protection of Children (IPC) program. Enjoy!



Please click here to watch Ranger Mitchell's interview on Ask the Ranger Museum.

Tall Walls and High Fences



Tall Walls and High Fences is the first comprehensive history of Texas prisons, written by a former law enforcement officer and an officer of the Texas prisons. Bob Alexander and Richard K. Alford chronicle the significant events and transformation of the Texas prison system from its earliest times to the present day, paying special attention to the human side of the story.

Famous people and episodes in Texas prison history receive their due, from frontier Texas Rangers apprehending and placing outlaws in prison, to the 1974 prison siege at Huntsville. Alexander and Alford pay special tribute to the more than 75 correctional officers, lawmen, and civilians who lost their lives in the line of duty.

The Texas Ranger Museum Store has a wide variety of books on the history of the Rangers and the Old West. Your purchase helps support our non-profit educational and historical preservation programs! Contact us to order at toll free: 1-877-750-8631.

Sporting Clay Tournament with the Texas Rangers

Join us on March 13, 2021 in Dripping Springs, TX and break some clays alongside the real Texas Rangers. The event will benefit the Texas Ranger Hall of Fame and Museum. Participants will divide into teams and shoot tournament style. The winning team will receive a prize and a lifetime's worth of bragging rights. After the tournament is over, participants will enjoy whisky and barbecue.



Come network, enjoy meeting some really interesting people, and have fun. If you have questions, are interested in bulk rates or sponsorships, email info@texasceomagazine.com. All participants must sign liability waivers before the event. For tickets visit, texasceomagazine.com/rangers

Your Holiday Shopping Guide

In the coming days many will begin shopping for gifts for their loved ones. We hope you'll consider the Gift Shop at the Texas Ranger Museum as one of your shopping destinations. We have items for every member of the family.



Browse a selection of items online at https://www.texasranger.org/texas-ranger-museum/shop/.

Texas Ranger Bicentennial™ Partners Program

Be part of the Texas Ranger Bicentennial! The Texas Rangers will commemorate their landmark 200th anniversary in 2023. With a \$100 contribution, you will receive:

- A limited-edition enameled bronze pin featuring the official Texas Ranger Bicentennial™ seal
- A certificate signed by an active or distinguished retired Texas Ranger
- 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. The Texas Ranger Hall of Fame is a 170(c) government-owned nonprofit.

Please <u>click here</u> 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



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ENJOY \$2.00 OFF

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.

Expires 12/31/2020

Newsletter Compiled by Christine Rothenbush, Marketing & Development Specialist