



Texas Ranger Hall of Fame Newsletter
 Sponsored by the City of Waco

October 2012

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Donation from the Krist Foundation



The Krist Foundation of League City, Texas, has contributed \$10,000 in support of renovations to the Texas Ranger Hall of Fame. Foundation chair, Ronald D. Krist, is one of the most distinguished trial

Dear Christine,

As 2012 winds down, we are gearing up for exciting events around the State and improvements at our Waco headquarters. This newsletter will focus on Museum events, outreach and the further development of your Texas Ranger Hall of Fame. Thanks for helping preserve the unique heritage that is the Texas Rangers!

Artifact Spotlight

The Texas Ranger Hall of Fame and Museum received an antique handmade chair as a gift from the Gus Knox Fariss Family. According to Knox family lore, this chair was brought to Texas from Pennsylvania on a covered wagon more than 150 years ago. It was the last item loaded onto the wagon and the first item unloaded when it got to Texas. The handmade chair was passed down to the donor, Inge Fariss, by her father-in-law. The chair is hand-carved wood with a cowhide seat. According to Mrs. Fariss, the cowhide was applied when wet, tied into place with leather thongs, and then allowed to dry in place providing a sturdy, durable seat for the travel-weary Knox family.



Left: Handmade wooden chair with rawhide seat, c. 1850
 Above: Texas State Police badge, c.1870

The Texas Ranger Hall of Fame and Museum recently received on loan an 1870 Texas State Police Badge from Donald Yena. The formation of the

lawyers in Texas. He was a member of the Texas Public Safety Commission from 1992 to 1997 and its Chair in 1993. The Texas Ranger Hall of Fame and Museum is grateful for the support of the Krist Foundation.

Save the Dates



Saturday, Oct 20th - Wild West Festival in Grapeland

Saturday, Oct 20th - Alton C. Allen Historical Conference in Hallettsville

Sunday, Nov 11th - Military Appreciation Day at the Museum

Thursday, Nov 22nd - Thanksgiving (Museum closed)

Saturday, Dec 8th - Big Texas Christmas Present at the Museum

Tuesday, Dec 25th - Christmas (Museum closed)

Wild West Festival



Join us at the 5th annual Wild West Festival at Salmon Lake Park in Grapeland, Texas on Saturday, October 20th from 9:00 am to 5:00 pm.

Texas State Police was a result of the Police Act of 1870 and authorized 257 men to serve as state-wide law enforcement at a time when lawlessness and violent crimes were very high. Though the State Police were generally successful in their endeavors, the organization was highly controversial and on April 22, 1873, the law that had created the organization was repealed. Leander McNelly served as a member of the State Police along with thirty-six others who went on to become Texas Rangers. This badge was recovered in the downtown Austin area many years ago by a bottle hunter.

Barbs, Bullets & Blood

On Saturday, September 29th, the Texas Ranger Hall of Fame and Museum hosted 'Barbs, Bullets & Blood: The Wire War That Revolutionized Texas.' Four well-known researchers and authors - Bob Alexander, Clifford R. Caldwell, Harold D. Jobes and Michael Barr - shared their knowledge of one of the truly amazing chapters in Texas history - the struggle over the introduction and acceptance of barbed wire in the Lone Star State, as well as its lasting impact on our everyday lives. In addition, guests enjoyed samples of Texas Ranger queso made by ChefEase and sold in HEB stores across Texas.



The Texas Ranger Hall of Fame staff is grateful to our presenters, Steve Murray of ChefEase and Texas Top Guns for their participation. For more information on the event and the history of barbed wire, please [click here](#) to read "Brazos Past: Unraveling Steel Ribbon in Texas" article from the Waco Tribune.

We will sell merchandise from the gift shop and have a drawing for attendees.

Among the activities are a cowboy art show, cowboy poetry, costume contest, reenactments by Texas Top Guns, chuck-wagon lunch and a raffle for a BBQ grill and smoker. For more information, call (903) 549-2134. We look forward to seeing you there!

Alton C. Allen Historical Conference



Research Librarian, Amanda Crowley, will attend the 16th Annual Alton C. Allen Historical Conference hosted by the Lavaca County Historical Commission in Hallettsville, Texas, where she will present on Texas Ranger history, researching rangers, and the new Armstrong Research Center. For more information on the conference, [click here](#).

News 92 FM Interview



On September 20th,
Executive Director Byron A.



For arranging a free presentation of Barbs, Bullets, & Blood for your historical association or civic group, contact author Bob Alexander at (972) 435-2662.

Cindy Leon Visits TRHFM

On September 10th, the Board and staff welcomed A. Cynthia "Cindy" Leon, the current Chair of the Texas Public Safety Commission. The five members of the Commission are appointed by the Governor and confirmed by the Senate to review the operations of DPS including the Texas Rangers. Other members of the Commission are Carin Marcy Barth of Houston, Ada Brown of Dallas, Allan B. Polunsky of San Antonio and John Steen of San Antonio.

Mrs. Leon resides in Mission, Texas. She served as a Captain in the U.S. Navy Reserve and earned a master's degree in public administration from the University of Colorado at Boulder. She is also a graduate of the Federal Executive Institute in Charlottesville, Virginia, and served as Regional Director for the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development. She is a life member of the Naval Reserve Association, Navy League, U.S. Naval Institute and the Reserve Officers Association. She is also a member of the International Women's Forum and Leadership Texas, and past chair of the Dallas-Fort Worth and San Antonio Federal Executive Boards.

Mrs. Leon toured the museum with her husband, Hollis Rutledge, visiting the new Armstrong Texas Ranger Research Center, the Company "F" Headquarters building, and Education Center. Mr. and Mrs. C. Tom Clowe, Jr. represented the Texas Ranger Museum's advisory board.

Johnson was interviewed on News 92 FM in Houston about the history of the Museum and the history of Hispanics serving in the Texas Rangers. The interview was scheduled in conjunction with Texas Hispanic Heritage Month. News 92 FM is a 24-hour all news radio station.

Williamson County Sun Article



On September 12th, the Museum was featured in an article about things to see when visiting Waco in the Williamson County Sun Newspaper. The paper has been published on the Square in Georgetown since 1877.



Left to Right: Tom Clowe, Carla Haynes Clowe, Cindy Leon, Hollis Rutledge, Lt. James Scoggins

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Winner of Best in Tourist Attractions and Best in Reception/Event Facilities

Texas Ranger Education Center

In June 2010, the Texas Ranger Hall of Fame and Museum opened the Texas Ranger Education Center, a cooperative project of the City of Waco, the Texas Department of Public Safety and the Texas Rangers. The Education Center, available by application at no cost, provides area nonprofit organizations with a state-of-the-art classroom for programs and training related to safety, well-being, crime prevention, and good citizenship.

Promoted by Captain Robert K. Mitchell, the Education Center gives the many organizations that teach the core values of personal responsibility and public service a place to fulfill their missions. Since opening, over 100 different nonprofit and governmental agencies have used the free facility. Some of the educational programs have included: car safety seat installation course, tutoring for the math and science TAKS test, citizen's police academy training, Girl Scout workshops and more.

The Texas Ranger Education Center allows organizations to focus resources on delivering services rather than paying for facility rentals, which in turn has impacted McLennan County citizens. As a Sul Ross Elementary event organizer once said, "We were able to use the money that we normally have to spend on renting a facility to buy more toys and clothing for the students who were definitely in need."



During the week of August 6th, over 20 new Texas Rangers participated in a weeklong training session in the Texas Ranger Education Center.

To learn more about the Texas Ranger Education Center, visit [our website](#) or contact us at (254) 750-8631.

Gift Shop Feature

Are you ready for Oktoberfest? Texas Ranger beer steins are now available for purchase in the gift shop.



Sales from the nonprofit Texas Ranger Hall of Fame and Museum gift shop benefit the preservation and education activities of the Museum. Call toll free (877) 750-8631 or email [the store](#) to order one today. The gift shop is open 9:00 am to 4:30 pm daily CST. We ship worldwide.

**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: December 31, 2012

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