



December 2017

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

Happy Holidays!

From the Staff of the Texas Ranger Hall of Fame and Museum, we wish you and your family a "Happy Holidays!"



Back Row, Left to Right: Dominic Villa, Christina Stopka, Jeremy Youngs, Jude Grochoske, Casey Eichhorn, Rusty Bloxom
Front Row, Left to Right: Shelly Crittendon, Christine Rothenbush, Bryan Warren, Byron Johnson

Book Signing, Lecture and Benefit

The authors of the first two Texas Ranger Bicentennial books joined us on December 2nd to present their work. Darren L. Ivey, author of *The Ranger Ideal*, discussed his work on a three-volume set of biographies on Texas Rangers in the Hall of Fame. Volume I covers the years 1823 to 1861 with such famous Rangers as Jack Hays, Samuel Walker, and John S. "RIP" Ford.



Mr. Darren L. Ivey speaks on Hall of Fame Texas Rangers from 1823 to 1861

Bob Alexander and Donaly Brice presented their landmark work *Texas Rangers: Lives, Legend and Legacy*. The first comprehensive book of the Rangers since 1935; it is the only one to cover the recent history of the Texas Rangers. The first printing of Texas Rangers is now out of print with a few copies remaining in the museum store.

We were grateful to have the Texas Top Guns, a Texas Ranger reenactment group from the Palestine area, join representing the Texas Rangers of the 1870s-80s. Our thanks to the authors, University of North Texas Press and our Texas Ranger Bicentennial™ patrons.



Left to Right: Ivey, Alexander and Brice autograph copies of their books for attendees

According to a 2016 report, one quarter of the 564,708 homeless people in the United States were children. As part of the book signing and sponsored by Big 95 KBGO radio station, guests were granted free admission in return for donating a gift to Compassion Ministries, which specializes in helping the children of homelessness.

While living in Compassion Ministries transitional housing facility, residents are provided services that include family counseling, job training/search, drug/alcohol abuse treatment, daycare, children's programs, transportation, literacy training, health care, social and domestic skills. It is a 6-month program with amazing rates of success.

During their residency, both parents and children may "shop" for birthday and Christmas gifts. As of December, there were 30 children living at Compassion Ministries. Several boxes were filled with children's toys and clothing to household items and jewelry for mom.



Donations to Compassion Ministries: Strengthening Families, Changing Lives

For more information about Compassion Ministries, please visit <http://compassionwaco.com/>.

Lost Credentials

History is rich with many treasures including this letter from Texas Ranger D.M. Nichols. A copy was provided by Dr. Charles Harris III for the archives of the Tobin and Anne Armstrong Texas Ranger Research Center.

Engine cranking is a term used for the turning over, or energizing the engine by some exterior force, normally a starter, but in the old days it was a "crank" that was turned by hand. On November 21, 1918, Ranger Nichols, who was stationed in Kenedy, requested a new commission paper be issued to him as he lost his while cranking his car. Here is his letter to General James A. Harley in Austin.

Kenedy Texas
Nov. 21st /18

Gen James A. Harley
Austin Texas

My Dear Sir;

A few days ago while cranking
my car I lost my commission
paper and have been unable to
find them, and would thank
you for another commission at
your earliest moment.

I beg to remain
yours truly

D.M. Nichols
Kenedy Texas

REPRODUCED FROM THE
HOLDINGS OF THE
TEXAS STATE ARCHIVES

It reads:

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Nov. 21st /18

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*I beg to remain
Yours truly*

*D.M. Nichols
Kenedy Texas*

To see a demonstration of engine cranking, please [click here](#) to watch an episode of *Jay Leno's Garage* featuring a 1911 Packard Model 18.

Ford 1924 Model T

On November 1st, a Ford 1924 Model T rolled up to visit the Texas Ranger Hall of Fame and Museum. We couldn't resist taking photographs of this classic beauty!



The Tin Lizzie has a history with the Texas Rangers. 15 million were produced from 1908 to 1927 at a time when most of the roads in America were unpaved. The Texas Rangers have always experimented with new technologies, and automobiles and airplanes were no exceptions.



In this 1924 photo Texas Rangers Lee Trimble (L) and Arch Miller (R) are driving through the Big Bend country near the Chisos Mountains near Marathon, Texas.

Gift Shop Feature: T-Shirts

The Texas Ranger Museum Gift Shop is the perfect one-stop shop for all your holiday gifts. We have apparel, accessories, home decor, books, children's toys and more! Recently, we received new t-shirt designs. Here are just a few of them.



Purple Women's Longhorn Texas
All sizes available up to 2x
100% cotton

Sage Green Texas Map
All sizes available up to 2x
100% cotton

\$14.95

\$14.95



Blue Texas Ranger Saddleback
 All sizes available up to 2x
 100% cotton
 \$14.95

Army Green Wing Texas Ranger
 All sizes available up to 2x
 100% cotton
 \$16.95

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. Thank you!



End of Year Donations

As the year comes to an end, please remember the Texas Ranger Hall of Fame and Museum for your 2016 tax-deductible donations. The Museum can accept donations of cash, stocks, and in-kind services.

For more information, please contact Christine Rothenbush, Marketing and Development Specialist, at (254) 750-8631 or info@texasranger.org. Thank you.

Quick Links

Education Center

[Website](#)
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[Bicentennial Video](#)
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The following groups utilized the Education Center in November:

Girl Scouts of Central Texas
DPS Criminal Investigations Division
Texas Ranger Association
Foundation
NAACP

Newsletter compiled by Christine Rothenbush, Marketing & Development Specialist

SIGN UP & 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 01/31/2018.