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February 2021

## 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

### Ranger Gooding's Rodeo Ropes



When one thinks about horsemanship and Texas Rangers, Captain Jack Coffee Hays comes to mind. In 1844, Hays formed the Texas Rangers into an unorthodox, highly effective "special force" capable of moving fast and operating behind enemy lines. He incorporated Indian guerrilla tactics, adopted centuries-old Hispanic styles of frontier horsemanship, and introduced new technology such as Colt's five-shot revolver and revolving rifle.

Starting on horseback, pick-up trucks have replaced the horse for every day use; however, horsemanship is a skill that Texas Rangers continue to employ.

On January 19, Staff Lt. Trampas Gooding donated four colorful rodeo ropes used in a Team Roping competition. Gooding is one of a handful of Texas Rangers who participates in the rodeo circuit.

Team Roping, also known as Heading and Heeling, is a rodeo event that features a steer (typically a Spanish *Corriente*) and two mounted riders. The first roper is referred to as the "header", the person who ropes the front of the steer, usually around the horns,

but it is also legal for the rope to go around the neck, or go around one horn and the nose resulting in what they call a "half head". Once the steer is caught by one of the three legal head catches, the header must dally (wrap the rope around the rubber covered saddle horn) and use his horse to turn the steer to the left.

The second roper is the "heeler", who ropes the steer by its hind feet after the "header" has turned the steer, with a five-second penalty assessed to the end time if only one leg is caught. Team roping is the only rodeo event where men and women compete equally together in professionally sanctioned competition, in both single-gender or mixed-gender teams.

As a trained horseman, Staff Lt. Gooding trains other Texas Rangers on horsemanship – something that was once commonplace in 1823 but not today. When needed, horses are used by Texas DPS, the Rangers and the Texas Department of Criminal Justice (TDCJ). In fact, if there is a prison break, TDCJ must have a licensed law officer on patrol with them as they conduct the manhunt. Horses and dogs are used to track and recover the convict. Many times, that accompanying officer is a Texas Ranger.

Knowing how to ride a horse is a skill that is still utilized in the 21st Century. We are excited to have these ropes as an example of modern horsemanship for our collections.

### **Reality and Pop Culture: CW's *Walker* and the Real Texas Rangers**

Want to learn more about The Real Texas Rangers? With the new TV series *Walker* coming out this month, the Museum partnered with the Fox and CW networks to create a series of mini documentaries featuring retired Texas Rangers Captain Richard Sweaney and Sergeant Matt Cawthon. Please [click the link](#) to watch all three videos.





Sgt. Matt Cawthon



Capt. Richard Sweaney III

### **New Rangers Guided Tour**

In January, we hosted a training for new Texas Rangers and gave a guided tour of the museum. Welcome aboard! We look forward to helping you in your careers as Texas Rangers and documenting that legacy in the Tobin and Anne Armstrong Texas Ranger Research Center.



### **Top 10 Facts About the Texas Rangers That Just Might Surprise You**



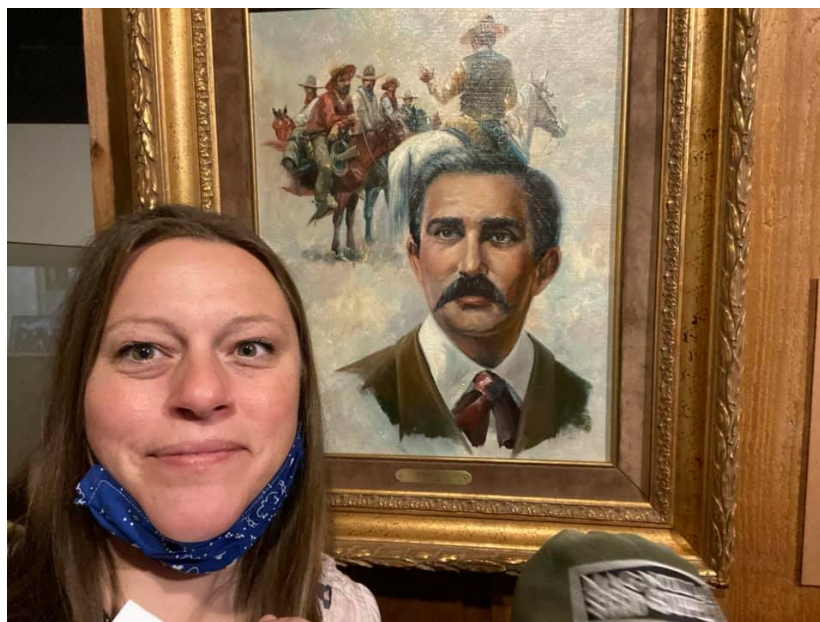
"Top 10 Facts About the Texas Rangers That Just Might Surprise You" was written by Paul Ehrlich on December 23, 2020 for the *Texas Hill Country Magazine*.

*Committing a crime in Texas has never been a good idea. Law enforcement in the Lone Star State has a history of being strict. One reason why Texas law enforcement has such a fearsome reputation is the Texas Rangers.*

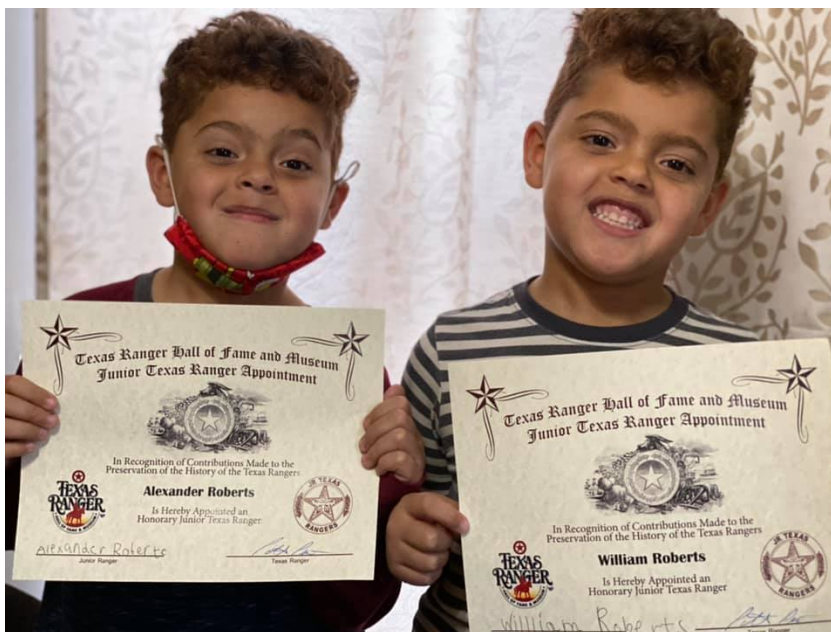
Please [click here](#) to read the full article.

## Greetings from Kristie Herlong of Ohio

*Wednesday, December 30, 2020 is my birthday. The day started out at a bakery before driving to Waco to check out Magnolia Market At The Silos and eat at the food trucks. We ran in the rain to make it to the Texas Ranger Hall of Fame and Museum to meet my great great great grandfather. The boys became Jr. Texas Rangers, and I was just so happy to be there. Afterwards we checked out the Waco Mammoth National Monument dig and ended the day with Blue Bell Ice Cream and Big Red while talking about movies...my family's favorite conversations.*



*My Great great great grandfather, John B Jones is one of the 31 Texas Rangers in the Hall of Fame. Something even more exciting is he moved to Texas when he was 4 years old in 1838, when Texas wasn't even a state. This means that I'm able to be part of the Daughters of the Texas Republic. Today as part of my birthday gift we were able to learn all about my family! Loved it!! It was such a treat! And I was able to grab books so I can read all about him! So much to learn and I'm very proud to be a part of such heritage!*



The Junior Ranger paperwork came in the mail on January 15, 2021 and these two guys were super excited. They said their oath (very seriously) and signed their names. We have two very proud Junior Texas Rangers and the little badges to prove it.

- Kristie Herlong, Bellefontaine, OH

**We're on Instagram!**



Instagram

The Texas Ranger Hall of Fame social media team decided to launch 2021 with the creation of a Museum Instagram account!

**The Texas Ranger Museum**  
**(@txrangermuseum)**

We encourage you to follow us on Instagram and Facebook. There will be some different content on both platforms.

**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!

## Sterling Silver Charms

Need a Valentine's Day gift? We have new Sterling Silver Texas Charms.

- Teeny Tiny Texas \$6.25 + Tax
- Big Texas \$26.95 + Tax
- Texas with Waco Tag \$20.95 + Tax
- Assorted Texas Charms \$13.95 + Tax (Big Tex, oil rig, spur, hearts, medium Texas)
- Texas Ranger Badge \$30.00 + Tax



To shop more items available for purchase, 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](mailto:thestore@texasranger.org) to order. We ship worldwide. Thank you!

## 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:

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. 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



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**ENJOY  
\$2.00 OFF**

Expires 3/31/2021

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](http://www.texasranger.org).

Newsletter Compiled by Christine Rothenbush, Marketing & Development Specialist