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December 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

Leica BLK2GO

Texas Rangers have always been on the cutting edge of technology. We enjoy watching them get trained on new advances at the Museum as we saw this November when Morris gallery became a testing area for the new BNLK2GO. In 2011 the Texas Rangers began applying state-of-the-art land surveying technology to criminal investigations. They acquired a dozen Leica Geosystems ScanStation C10 Laser Scanners and tripods. Tested in and around the Museum grounds, and utilized in many cases such as the Sutherland Springs Church shooting in 2017, these have proven to be a valuable resource.



The Leica BLK2GO is a handheld imaging laser scanner that creates a 3D digital map while you walk through a space. It is the fastest and easiest way to scan a large building, structure or environment. The BLK2GO takes millions of accurate measurements to recreate the space around you in 3D. The BLK2GO doesn't need a tripod.



In 2019, Leica donated a ScanStation C10 to the Museum. It is currently on display.

Ho! Ho! Ho! Our Wish List

Ho! Ho! Ho! We made Santa a wish list!

1. Sponsor for exhibit mannequins – both male and female bodies
2. Portable projector – for educational purposes off-site (libraries, community organizations, school presentations...)
3. Tablets (PC not Apple) – for our store employees to sell merchandise off-site and use at marketing events
4. Sponsor for Texas flags – for “Texas Ranger” bronze sculpture and by front doors (inquire for sizes)
5. Black Table Linens – for both 8-ft rectangular and round tables for museum functions



Please call for any questions. Thank you!

2020 Year of COVID: How did the Texas Ranger Hall of Fame Fare?

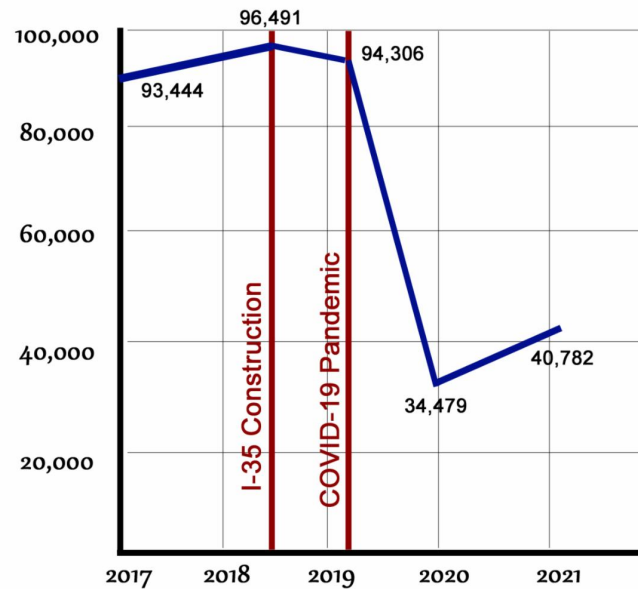


**American
Alliance of
Museums**

Better than most! According to the American Alliance of Museums, 2020 was catastrophic for most historical museums. Thanks to City of Waco support, exceptional staff dedication, and enduring interest in the Texas Rangers, we have resumed normal operations.

- Before COVID, the average museum comparable to us welcomed 28,766 persons a year; our normal attendance was well above 94,306. In 2020 the average US history museum lost 73% of its attendance averaging 7,861 visitors. We saw a 64% decrease to 34,479 visitors -- still 4.4 times above the national norm.

Attendance FY 2017-2021



- Steadfast support by the City of Waco meant that we lost none of our employees. The care and security of the collections remained a top priority and ongoing effort. Comparable museums saw 55% of their workers furloughed or laid off.
- In 2020 most comparable museums were closed more than open, a median of 227.5 days. We were only closed for 51 days thanks to staff preparation, safety precautions, and collaboration from museums like the Dr Pepper Museum.

We recognize and thank the staff, the City of Waco, and our colleagues at other museums for their support.

DeSoto Police Department Transfers Historic Weapons

Police Departments across the United States operate programs to help curb gun violence by accepting and disposing of unneeded or unwanted firearms. After a case is resolved, firearms used in the commission of those crimes can be destroyed. Occasionally, officers recognize weapons that have a historic importance and contact us as an official State repository.

The DeSoto Police Department's recent Voluntary Gun Surrender community outreach program took in over 250 weapons. They recognized two weapons as having historical value. Sergeant Williams and Corporal Ziegler from DeSoto PD presented them to the Texas Ranger Hall of Fame on behalf of the police department.



Sergeant David Williams and Corporal Bryan Ziegler, DeSoto Police Department

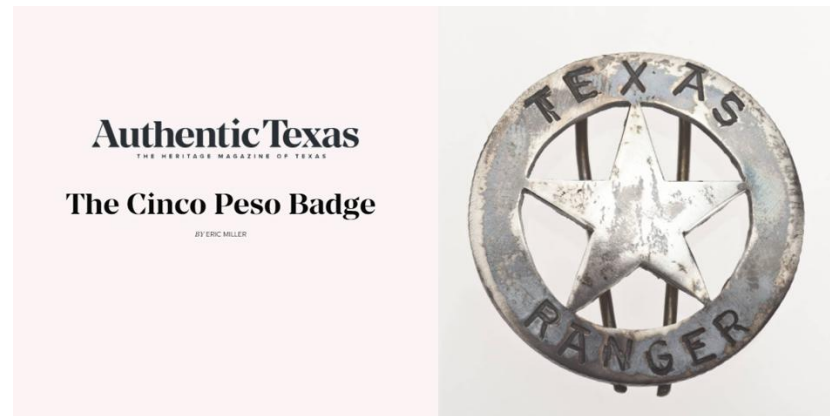
- A first-generation Colt Single Action Army revolver manufactured in 1878 featuring ivory grips. It was modified by having its front sight and ejector rod removed to make it faster to draw from a holster. The barrel was shortened from 7.5 inches to just 4 inches. Please see [Colt Single Action Army](#) for more information.

- An imported Belgian-made W. Richards Double-Barrel shotgun manufactured in the late 1800s used for hunting. Please see [Westley Richards & Co. LTD](#) for more information.

Our thanks to the DeSoto PD for their generous donations which now belong to the People of Texas. Please [click here](#) to read about this donation in *Focus Daily News*.

History of the Cinco Peso Coin

We are featured in *Authentic Texas Magazine* article by Eric Miller about how silver Mexican Cinco Peso coins were turned into the world-famous Texas Ranger Badge!



Please click here <https://authentictexas.com/the-cinco-peso-badge/> to read the full article.

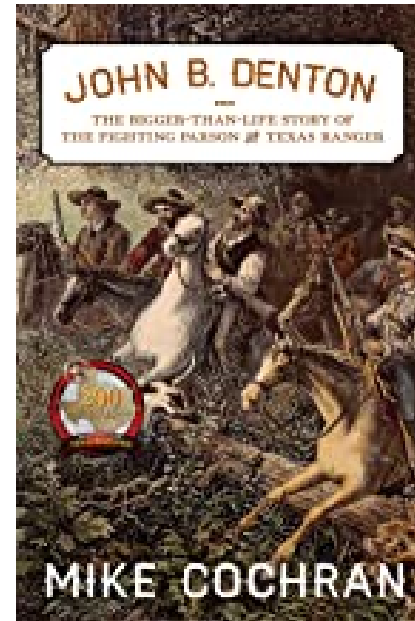
New Bicentennial Book on John B. Denton

Cochran, Mike. *John B. Denton: The Bigger-Than-Life Story of the Fighting Parson and Texas Ranger*. Denton: University of North Texas Press, 2021. Hardcover. 256 pages. \$29.95 + Tax.

Denton County and the City of Denton, Texas are named for pioneer preacher, lawyer, and Texas Ranger John B. Denton.

John B. Denton was an orphan in frontier Arkansas who became a circuit-riding Methodist preacher and an early settler to North Texas. He answered a call from William B. Travis to bring Methodists to the new Republic of Texas. Denton then became a Texas Ranger on the frontier, ultimately being killed in the Tarrant Expedition near modern day Fort Worth and Arlington on May 24, 1841.

The book is available for purchase in the Museum Gift Shop or call (877) 750-8631.



Ranger Reunion 2021 Recap

Every year active and retired Texas Rangers all get together for the annual Ranger Reunion held in Waco. This year's reunion happened in November. Organized by the Texas Ranger Association Foundation, the Texas Ranger Reunion gives both active and retired Rangers a chance to see each other and honor past Rangers. The Rangers also get to spend some quality time with each other—swapping stories, eating good food, and even fitting in a few rounds of golf. Texas Rangers have been celebrating at Ranger Reunions since the late 1800s.



Baby Announcement

Join us in welcoming Creed Malachi Swick, 8lb. 21.5". Born to Scott and Lindsey Swick on October 14, 2021. Siblings are Benjamin, Adam, Kolt, Kyson and Lily Swick. Ranger Scott Swick is stationed in Amarillo, Company "C." Congrats!



Gift Shop Feature

Holiday Brass Ornament

Includes gift box for easy storage. Reads "Celebration of Texas Rangers Est. 1823" with historic company photograph in gold tone frame.

\$14.95 + 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 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 1/31/2022

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 Christine Rothenbush, Marketing & Development Specialist