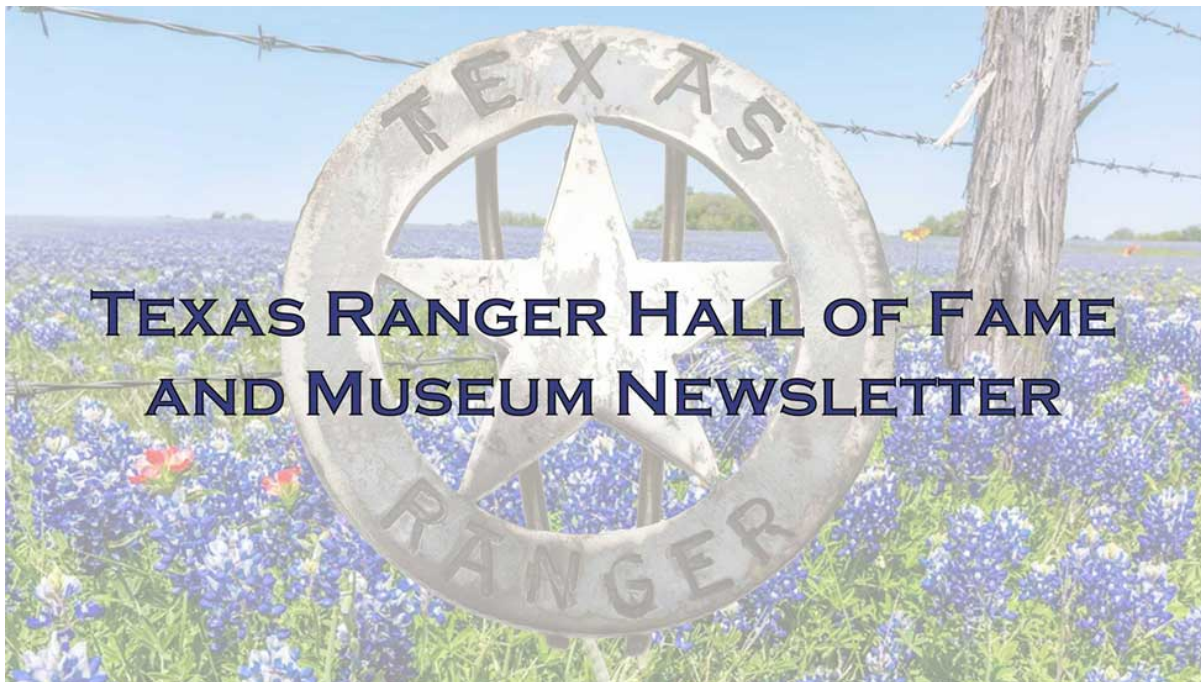


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April 2022

## **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 Cody Mitchell and the Queensland Police**

Texas Rangers often have the opportunity to work with allied agencies around the globe. Ranger Cody Mitchell, who co-founded the [Interdiction for the Protection of Children \(IPC\) program](#), has traveled on several occasions to Australia to conduct training sessions with Queensland Police and others. Ranger Mitchell recently donated items he received from Australian law enforcement personnel to the museum's permanent collection.



**Above:** Ranger Mitchell interviewed by Queensland media  
**Right:** Jon Rouse wearing Ranger Mitchell's cowboy hat

This Queensland police uniform hat belonged to Jon Rouse, who was named the 2019 Australian of the Year. In 2018, Rouse approached Mitchell wanting to trade the Queensland Police uniform hat that he was issued for Mitchell's felt hat. The trade was made, and as far as Ranger Mitchell knows, his felt hat is still on display in Rouse's office, along with the many awards he had received over the years. This appreciation plaque was awarded to Ranger Mitchell alongside U.S. Marshall Michael Bourke on September 5, 2018, for their work with the New South Wales State Crime Command and other international law enforcement agencies in training their departments to rescue missing and endangered children through the [Interdiction for the Protection of Children \(IPC\) program](#).



Additionally, the police hat, epaulette, badge, and patch were given to Ranger Mitchell by a Queensland detective. The epaulette attaches to the shoulder and is used to signify the rank of a police officer. The police hat is adorned with an older crest. The epaulette, patch, and badge all feature the updated seal. Challenge Coins are used by the armed forces and emergency services to reward service members for their exceptional service. The other Queensland Police badge is worn on a lanyard and is used for identification by law enforcement. These items were given to Ranger Mitchell for his work with Queensland law enforcement.

Written by Mikaela Sweet, Museum Intern

### ***Discovering the Legend Featuring Matt Cawthon***

Episode #42 features a presentation with retired Texas Ranger Matt Cawthon. Ranger Cawthon was a Ranger for 17 years and, after his retirement in 2009, had served the State of Texas for over 27 years.

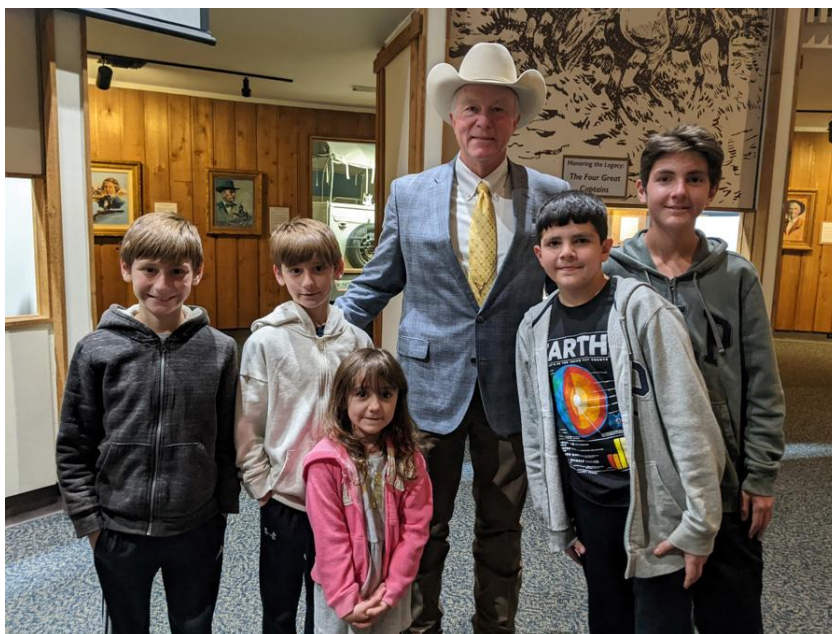
Please click [here](#) to watch the presentation.



*Discovering the Legend* is a series of TV programs about Texas Ranger history, artifacts and art, and modern Ranger duties produced in cooperation Waco City Cable Television. More than 40 programs are available on our web site featuring Texas Rangers, historians, and our staff.

### ***Success! Spring Break Round Up***

The Texas Ranger Hall of Fame held its 14<sup>th</sup> Annual Spring Break Round Up on March 12<sup>th</sup>. Begun in 2007 for vacationing parents and children, the event has attracted visitors from throughout the US, Europe and Asia.



Family from The Woodlands, a suburb of Houston, gets a special opportunity to meet a Texas Ranger.

A highlight has been “Ranger Talks” in the Hall of Fame. Current and former Texas Rangers talk with visitors about why they became Rangers, their notable investigations, equipment and field operations over the years. Visitors are invited to ask questions and have their pictures taken with the speaker.



Texas Ranger reenactors who depict the 19<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup> century Texas Rangers, have graciously volunteered to set up outdoor displays. The Texas Top Guns, based in Palestine, Texas, portray the 1870s and '80s with authentic gear, camp equipment, and a chuckwagon offering visitors homemade biscuits and molasses.

### Texas Association of Museums Conference

Last month, Waco had the honor of hosting the Texas Association of Museums (TAM) Annual Meeting! This three day conference brought together museums and cultural institutions from across the state of Texas,



giving them the opportunity to share and learn from each other.

2022 is the first year since the start of the COVID-19 Pandemic that the TAM Annual Meeting was held in person! The theme for the conference was "Growing Together: Tackling the Challenges of Today & Tomorrow", a theme ever-growing Waco can definitely relate to.

Several of our staff were able to attend the conference to learn about updates in the museum field. TRHFM presented about our recent exhibit updates and we were excited to host one of the evening events in our banquet hall.

Overall, it was a great couple of days with a perfect combination of learning and fun. We were happy to welcome in our fellow museum professionals to our wonderful city!



TAM Attendees getting ready for a presentation.



A table decoration from TRHFM's evening event.

The Texas Association of Museums strengthens the Texas museum community through collaborations, connections, professional development, and advocacy.

[Please click here to learn more about TAM.](#)

## Bicentennial Kick Off in Fort Worth

On Texas Independence Day, Dickies Arena hosted a press conference for the Texas Ranger Bicentennial. The Fort Worth Stock Show and Rodeo is proud to support the Texas Rangers and happy to host their first kick-off event during the 2023 Show! Governor Greg Abbott was an honored guest. Thank you to men and women who have been protecting Texas for 200 years.



For more info and learn how to show your support visit [texasranger2023.org](https://texasranger2023.org)

### KXXV Channel 25 Highlights Gonzauillas Collection

KXXV News Channel 25, the Waco ABC affiliate, has created an excellent feature on the donation of the Captain Manuel "Lonewolf" Gonzauillas Collection to the Texas Ranger Hall of Fame and Museum.



[Please click here to watch the newscast.](#)

### Lonesome Dove Exhibit in Temple

Visit our friends at the Temple Railroad and Heritage Museum to see the *Lonesome Dove* exhibit through June 25th.

The Temple Railroad and Heritage Museum is housed in Temple's historic Santa Fe Depot. The permanent exhibits explore working and traveling on the railroad with an emphasis on the Santa Fe Railway.



Capturing the sweeping visual imagery of the original miniseries, the *Lonesome Dove* exhibition that opens today at the Temple Railroad & Heritage Museum presents 55 framed classic images taken during filming by Bill Wittliff, renowned photographer, writer, and executive producer (with Suzanne De Passe) of *Lonesome Dove*. The images, however, are worlds apart from ordinary production stills, depicting an extraordinary union of art, literature, and history. Are you a *Lonesome Dove* fan? Then you won't want to miss this exhibit.

[For more information, please visit http://templerrhm.org/.](http://templerrhm.org/)

### Navasota's Texas Birthday Bash



The 10th annual Texas Birthday Bash 2022 was held on March 4th and 5th in beautiful downtown Navasota. It featured Texas' best country music performers. Staff from the TRHFM were invited to participate with an educational booth at this Texas-sized family fun event. We appreciate the opportunity to meet the folks in the area and encourage them to visit us.

[For more information, please visit www.texasbirthdaybash.com.](http://www.texasbirthdaybash.com)

### Gift Shop Feature

#### Texas Ranger Sweater Knit Koozies

Yarn is made from one plastic bottle collected off the coast.  
\$5.95 + 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](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.



Official Texas Rangers Bicentennial Pin

Trademarked by the Texas Dept. of Public Safety  
Designed by the Texas Ranger Hall of Fame and  
Museum



Please [click here](#) to learn more about the program.



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**ENJOY  
\$2.00 OFF**

Expires 6/1/2022

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

Newsletter Compiled by Christine Rothenbush, Marketing & Development Specialist