Dear Christine,

The year 2010 continues to be an exciting one at the Texas Ranger Hall of Fame and Museum. This newsletter highlights the history of the Department of Public Safety, parent agency of the Texas Rangers.

**DPS Diamond Jubilee**

**75th Anniversary Celebration of the Department of Public Safety**

Regional celebrations for the 75th Anniversary Diamond Jubilee Celebration of the creation of the Department of Public Safety (DPS) occurred on July 26 in Houston, July 27 in Dallas, July 28 in Lubbock, July 30 in El Paso, Aug. 3 in McAllen, Aug. 5 in San Antonio and Aug. 6 in Austin.

As part of the celebration, about 20 motorcyclists rode across Texas during a 13-day trip to all six DPS regional headquarters. Motorcycles were the original vehicles used by the Highway Patrol; cars weren’t used by the Highway Patrol until the 1940s.

One of the items the riders carried was the badge of Patrolman Arthur Fischer, who was the first Highway Patrolman killed in the line of duty. Patrolman Fischer, who was stationed in Brenham, was killed when his motorcycle hit a horse near Carmine on Jan. 18, 1932. The ride honored the 83 DPS officers killed in the line of duty during the agency’s history. Ride participants also carried the DPS Diamond Jubilee flag and flew it at each regional location during the celebration.

The Texas Ranger Hall of Fame and Museum staff was honored to be present at the celebration at the DPS Headquarters in Austin on August 6, 2010. The
museum staff displayed information about the museum and the Texas Ranger Association Foundation, exhibited historic spurs and handcuffs and featured a badge-making activity for children.

About a dozen agencies set up displays in the DPS Academy building. Outside the hall there was a "tent city" of children's educational activities and "hardware" like mobile labs, a helicopter and vehicles. Other activities included: motorcycle safety instructions, getting your photograph taken as a Trooper, dunking a Trooper, SWAT Helicopter Rappelling demonstrations, Lucy from the K-9 Unit and more!

It was a huge success with what looked to be around 3,000+ persons attending despite temperatures topping 105 degrees.

Creation of the Department of Public Safety

The Texas Senate, on Sept. 25, 1934, formed a committee to investigate crime and law enforcement in the state. The committee produced a report in early 1935 that was singularly critical of Texas law enforcement. However, the document also proposed a solution: the creation of a state law enforcement agency to be known as the Department of Public Safety (DPS).

A bill was introduced to create such an agency, which would operate under a three-member Public Safety Commission. The Texas Rangers would be transferred from the Adjutant General's Department and Highway Patrol would be moved from the Highway Department to form a single state police force. The law became effective on Aug. 10, 1935.

Louis Graham Phares

Louis Graham Phares began his law enforcement career in 1925. In 1929, he joined the Highway Patrol as its first Chief. In 1935, Phares along with other state leaders reorganized the Texas Highway Patrol, Texas Rangers, Crime Lab and other law enforcement agencies into the Texas Department of Public Safety. Phares was selected as the first Director of this new DPS agency and served from
September 1935 to May 1936. In May of 1936, Phares stepped down and returned to the leadership of the Texas Highway Patrol.

Chief Phares' work with the Texas Highway Patrol became a model to be emulated by many other State Highway Patrol Agencies. He traveled throughout the Western United States assisting many other agencies in reorganizing or establishing their Highway Patrol organizations.

**The Highway Patrol**

The Texas Highway Patrol began in 1929 as a small group of 50 patrolmen. Although they had full police authority, officers were discouraged from using their authority beyond the enforcement of the state's traffic laws and assisting stranded motorists. After becoming a part of DPS in 1935, the Highway Patrol officer's duties were expanded to allow them full use of their police authority. The Highway Patrol was divided into 12 districts and expanded their force to include 235 patrolmen.

**The Texas Rangers**

The Texas Rangers were 112 years old. With the creation of DPS, the Rangers acquired a professionalism to match their tradition. The Texas Rangers, for the first time in its history, had the benefits of a state-of-the-art crime laboratory, improved communications, and, perhaps most importantly, political stability. In addition, the Rangers were issued firearms, vehicles and other equipment as finances permitted.

Other changes under the new DPS included the Texas Ranger force being reduced to 36 men. Tom Hickman, a veteran Ranger, was named senior captain of the Texas Rangers. Finally, the force was organized into five companies, each headed by a captain.

**Labor Day Special**
Labor Day at the Texas Ranger Museum

For the long weekend ahead, unwind with a good book. We're offering 10% off all books on September 4th, 5th and 6th to help you relax over the upcoming holiday weekend. We can help you choose from our broad selection of titles and topics at the Texas Ranger Museum Gift Shop! Just ask any of our friendly Gift Shop staff for the LABOR DAY SPECIAL and you can SAVE, SAVE, SAVE!

Choose from over a dozen titles including:

**On the Trail of Bonnie & Clyde: Then and Now** by Winston Ramsey

**Texas Rangers: A Century of Frontier Defense** by Walter Prescott Web

**Lone Star Lawmen** by Robert M. Utley

Gift Shop hours are from 9 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. daily. And remember - You NEVER have to pay to go to the Gift Shop! For more information or to see more available books, visit the store or call 254-750-8631.

*Sales from the non-profit Texas Ranger Hall of Fame and Museum store benefit the educational programs at the museum.*

Summer Fun Round Up

Coloring Contest Winners

During Summer Fun Round Up on July 31, 2010 the museum hosted a coloring contest. Below are the winners’ artworks.
Unwind with a good book this Labor Day weekend. Save 10% off all books at the Texas Ranger Museum gift shop on September 4th, 5th, and 6th.

If ordering by phone, mention code TXRanger10BK to receive the discount.

Gift Shop hours are from 9 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. daily. And remember - You NEVER have to pay to go to the Gift Shop!

Offer Valid: September 4th, 5th, and 6th