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Texas Ranger Hall of Fame and Museum Newsletter

Sponsored by the City of Waco
Official Historical Center of the Texas Rangers
Home of the Texas Ranger Bicentennial 1823-2023

August 2014

In This Issue

[Texas Roots: The Art of Lee Herring](#)

[Boots & Badges: Celebrating 50 Years](#)

[Chief Kirby Dendy Retires](#)

[Lieutenant Wakeman](#)

[Brazil's "Barro Branco" Military Police Visit](#)

[Texas Ranger Laureates Meeting](#)

[Gift Shop Feature](#)



Texas Roots: The Art of Lee Herring

Opening August 29th

From August 29th to January 11th, the Texas Ranger Hall of Fame and Museum will present *Texas Roots: The Art of Lee Herring*. The exhibit features over 20 works of art by the 2007 State of Texas Artist. Mr. Herring is a master at capturing the American West.

An enthusiastic supporter, Lee has made these works available for purchase as a benefit in support of the Texas Ranger Bicentennial™. A portion of the purchase price will be donated to the Bicentennial Fund to renovate and expand the museum. A full list of artworks and prices will be available at www.texasranger.org/leeherring.html.



Save the Dates

Military Appreciation Day on
Veterans Day - Tuesday,
November 11th

5th annual "Big Texas
Christmas Present" -
Saturday, December 13th



Bonnie & Clyde Video

Check it out! We're on the
news! Learn about Bonnie
and Clyde and Frank Hamer!
Video produced by KWTX.

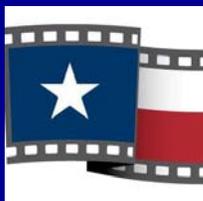
Please [click here](#) to watch the
video.



Tipster Video

This Waco Crime Stoppers
video explains the difference
between a snitch and a tipster
and why it is important to
report crimes and criminal
activity.

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



You are invited!

Artist Lee Herring and the Texas Ranger Hall of Fame and Museum Board invite you to join us for an opening reception on Friday, August 29th from 6:00pm to 7:30pm. Refreshments will be served. For more information, please contact the museum staff at (254) 750-8631.

Boots & Badges: Celebrating 50 Years

September 27, 2014

The City of Waco and Texas DPS/Texas Rangers invite you to celebrate the Golden Anniversary of the TRHFM.



Saturday, September 27th in John Knox
Center at the Museum

5:30 - Round Up: Mix and mingle and view
our new exhibit, *Texas Roots: The Art of
Lee Herring*

6:30 - Dinner Bell Rings: Prime rib and fixin's served by On the Spot
Catering

6:45 - Program: Company "F" commander Major Frank Malinak will speak on the expanded responsibilities of present-day Texas Rangers. Retired Chief Kirby Dendy will share his experiences of 43 years with Texas DPS and the Texas Rangers. Board Vice-Chair Ross Darden will offer a 50 year retrospective on the Museum.

7:30 - Dance 'til the Cows Come Home: Real. Texas. Music. by the Chris Low Band

Individual tickets (\$75) and table sponsorship (\$750) will be available for purchase beginning August 1st. Table sponsorship include six tickets and a Texas Ranger as a table guest. To reserve tickets, please call (254) 750-8631. Seating is limited. Please RSVP by September 17th. For special hotel rates, please contact the Holiday Inn in Bellmead at (254) 799-9997.

Lesson Plans: Texas Empresarios

The Texas Archive of the Moving Image's new lesson plan for grade 4 and grade 7 uses educational films from the 1960s and 1980s to examine the varied experiences of the nineteenth century Texas Empresarios and identify the important contributions of significant individuals, including Moses Austin, Stephen F. Austin, Baron de Bastrop, Martín de León and Green DeWitt. The lesson highlights the Mexican settlement and colonization of Texas and traces the events that led up to the Texas Revolution.

Please [click here](#) to access the lesson plans.



Photography Contest

The Texas Brazos Trail is hosting its annual photography contest to find unique photos that capture the essence of Central Texas culture, heritage and beauty. This contest is intended to raise awareness of the area as a travel destination and capture the true spirit of Texas including (but not limited to): people, attractions, landscapes, nature, architecture, art, history and activities.

Additionally, the Trail has several sponsored categories that award extra prizes for best photos including one from Waco & The Heart of Texas.

The submission deadline is August 17th. Fan favorite voting takes place August 18-24th, and the winners are announced on August 29th.

Please [click here](#) to learn more and to submit a photograph.

Chief Kirby Dendy Retires

A Standard of Service in the Texas Rangers

Texas Rangers Chief Kirby Dendy retires August 31st after a remarkable 43 years of service. At his retirement he will be the longest continually serving officer in Texas DPS.

He joined Texas DPS in 1971 and served as a Highway Patrol Trooper in Fort Stockton and Waco. In 1979 he was selected for the Narcotics division, spending eight years tracking and executing drug seizures and working undercover. He was selected for the Texas Rangers division in May 1987 and stationed in Fort Worth until 1992 when he was promoted to Lieutenant and transferred to Midland.



Lt. Dendy was named Captain of Company "F" in 1995. During his 16 year tenure at Co. "F" he found time to enthusiastically support the development of the Museum. He supervised the design of the new Co. "F" Headquarters building and Education Center and found time to serve a term as Chair of the museum Board. New ranks were introduced to the Texas Rangers in this period and Captain Dendy became Major Dendy.

In 2011, Major Dendy was promoted to Assistant Director of Texas DPS and assumed ultimate responsibility as Chief of the Texas Rangers. Of his career, Texas DPS Director Steven McCraw stated: "His extensive experience made him uniquely qualified to lead this unparalleled team of officers, Kirby has consistently upheld and shown an unwavering commitment to the values of this department, and he has demonstrated the leadership skills essential to serving as head of the Texas Rangers."

At 43 years as a State lawman, Chief Dendy served longer than legendary Rangers Capt. Bill McDonald (27 years) Capt. John R. Hughes (28 years), Capt. Frank Hamer (26 years), Capt. M.T. Gonzauillas (30 years), Capt. Clint Peoples (33 years) and even Col. Homer Garrison, Jr. (39 years).

Lieutenant Wakeman

Historic Appointment

Congratulations! The Texas Department of Public Safety (DPS) announced the promotion of Texas Ranger Wende Wakeman to the rank of lieutenant, making her the highest-ranking female in Texas Ranger history.

"Texas Ranger Wende Wakeman's promotion is the direct result of her exemplary service and unwavering commitment to protecting Texans and upholding the department's core values of integrity, excellence, accountability and teamwork," said DPS Director Steven McCraw. "I am confident she will continue to serve the department well in this new leadership position."



"I am thankful for the trust and confidence placed in me by DPS, and I am



Education Center

In July, the following groups used the Texas Ranger Education Center:

- CenTex African American Chamber of Commerce
- Department of Assistive and Rehabilitative Services
- HCCAA HeadStart
- Association of Fundraising Professionals
- Parents Against Crime Coalition
- Department of State Health Services
- Superior Prenatal
- Waco Convention Center

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- [Website](#)
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- [Museum Video](#)
- [Texas Ranger Bicentennial](#)
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honored to serve in the Texas Rangers, which have such a rich history within the state and the entire law enforcement profession," said Wakeman. "I look forward to the new opportunities and challenges ahead."

Wakeman joined DPS in 1998, serving first as a Texas Highway Patrol trooper in Sulphur Springs and New Caney. She later promoted to narcotics sergeant in 2003, and in 2008, she joined the Texas Rangers in Conroe. Beginning August 1st, Lt. Wakeman will be stationed in Laredo.

In addition to her service with DPS, Wakeman is a graduate of the National Forensics Academy, a certified forensic hypnotist and a graduate of the International Association of Chiefs of Police Women's Leadership Institute.

Article courtesy DPS Newsroom

Brazil's "Barro Branco" Military Police Visit

International Exchange

On July 28th, eight military police officers of the "Barro Branco" from Sao Paulo, Brazil visited Texas Ranger Company "F" Headquarters and the Texas Ranger Hall of Fame and Museum. The officers are in their second year of a three-year training program to become Lieutenants.

Chief Michael Horak, Director and Chief of College Police at Eastfield College PD, works with the Academy and was able to facilitate a Texas visit for cadets. Eight members, led by cadet Carlos Pires, traveled to Texas for the first International Police and Cultural Exchange program with the Eastfield College Police Department sponsoring the cadets.

The cadets visited Texas attractions, including Dealey Plaza in Dallas, NASA and the Galveston Seawall, attended a Texas Ranger Baseball game, and toured the new George W. Bush Presidential Library and Museum on SMU Campus. The visit also included courses on Texas history and law enforcement. When the cadets learned what "a thin blue line" is, they dubbed their group "the thin blue line family."

Company "F" Lieutenant Jamie Downs shared his experiences as a Texas Ranger. The students learned about the current duties of the Rangers and the structure of the Rangers and DPS. The group was given a guided tour of the museum by Christine Rothenbush, Marketing and Development Coordinator.



Facts about the Academy and Sao Paulo:

- There are currently 200 cadets in the lieutenant training Academy.
- The cadets receive \$1500 a month in pay while attending the training and are in their early to mid-20s.
- Sao Paulo is one of 26 states in Brazil.
- In Sao Paulo the military police have experienced 100 officer-on-duty deaths since January. It is one of the highest-risk areas in Brazil to work as a police officer.

Please [click here](#) to watch a YouTube video of their academy. NOTE: The video is in Portuguese, but you will see their structure and discipline.

Texas Ranger Laureates Meeting

Planning the Future

A goal of the Texas Ranger Bicentennial™ is to expand and modernize exhibits at the Texas Ranger Hall of Fame and Museum. To that end a group of distinguished historians and authors are guiding the creation of a detailed "road map" for each of the eras of Texas Ranger history.

On July 19th, scholars of the Frontier Battalion and the Special Force era of 1874-1901 met for a workshop in the Armstrong Texas Ranger Research Center. The purpose was to map out the history, political and economic climate, personalities and events of the period. The six hour session resulted in a wealth of information and insight into the period.



The participants are responsible for dozens of books and articles as well as unpublished research on the Texas Rangers and the Old West:

- Bob Alexander, author of a dozen books about the time such as *Winchester Warriors: Texas Rangers of Company D* and *Riding Lucifer's Line: Ranger Deaths along the Texas-Mexico Border*.
- Rick Miller, author of *John B. Jones and the Frontier Battalion* and many other books on western desperados.
- Harold Weiss, author of *Yours to Command: the Life and Legend of Capt. Bill McDonald* and *Tracking the Texas Rangers*.
- Chuck Parsons, author of *Captain L. H. McNelly, Texas Ranger* and co-author of *Texas Ranger N. O. Reynolds, the Intrepid*.
- Doug Dukes, author of a forthcoming book on Texas Ranger firearms, field tactics and command.
- Jan Devereaux, author of *Pistols, Petticoats and Poker* and scholar of Texas frontier women's history
- Donaly Brice, author of *The Governor's Hounds: The Texas State Police, 1870-1873* and coauthor of *A Lawless Breed: John Wesley Hardin, Texas Reconstruction, and Violence in the Wild West*

Gift Shop Feature

Leather Gun Cases

These handmade pistol caddies/pouches are specially made for the Texas Ranger Hall of Fame in the Texas prison system (Texas Dept. of Corrections). Available in very limited quantities, the exterior is hand decorated heavy-weight leather decorated with a stylized Texas Ranger badge design. The cases come in two colors of leathers.

This case will carry the most popular standard pistols and revolvers today, in addition to many antique pistols. The case is fleece lined and has a zipper and D-ring that can be secured with a combination or keyed lock.



To order, please call (877) 750-8631 between 9am and 4:30pm Central

time or email thestore@texasranger.org. Sales from the Gift Shop benefit the preservation and education activities of the Museum. We ship worldwide.

**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: September 20, 2014

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