

Christine Walker

From: Texas Ranger Hall of Fame and Museum [news@texasranger.org]
Sent: Friday, September 17, 2010 1:03 PM
To: christinew@texasranger.org
Subject: News from Texas Ranger Hall of Fame and Museum

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Texas Ranger Hall of Fame and Museum

September 2010

Education Center Update

Central Texas has a new educational asset: a state-of-the-art classroom and training center in the Texas Ranger Public Safety Education Center. It is available for qualifying nonprofit organizations hosting programs related to safety, well-being, crime prevention, and good citizenship. It is also available as training space for volunteers and persons delivering such programs.

Since the opening of the Education Center in June, the facility has drawn the interest of nonprofit groups in Waco. The Waco Foundation has helped with promoting the center in their email newsletter and on their [website](#). The Greater Lacy Lakeview Chamber of Commerce featured an article about the center in the September issue of the *Lacy Lakeview Community Newsletter*.

Examples of reservations include a car seat safety training and program in April with KidSafe, a program of Hillcrest Baptist Medical Center. The Waco Police Department reserved the center for training sessions, and the center will host 50 Girl Scouts from the Bluebonnet Council for a CSI program in October.

Area nonprofit organizations are invited to an open house at the center on Wednesday, September 29, 2010, from 3 to 5pm. Refreshments will be provided courtesy of Chick-fil-A. Please contact Kristen Reichert, Education Coordinator, at 750-8631 to RSVP for the



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event or for more information on the center.

The Texas Ranger Public Safety Education Center is a cooperative project of the City of Waco, the Texas Department of Public Safety and the Texas Rangers.

Construction Update

On September 7, 2010, the Waco City Council approved the Texas Ranger Hall of Fame and Museum Request for Proposals for the construction of the Armstrong Texas Ranger Research Center. This library and archives facility was founded in 1976 to house and preserve Ranger service records, correspondence, photos, criminal case files, books and other irreplaceable documents going back to the 1830s. The Center's staff assists students, teachers, genealogists, authors and movie and television producers on a myriad of projects, and they help Texas Rangers solve decades-old "cold cases." The family of Tobin and Anne Armstrong joined with the Texas Ranger Museum to lead a drive to improve and remodel the Research Center. After three decades the modest 1,000 square foot facility will be expanded to an approximately 4,500 square foot facility. The renovations will:

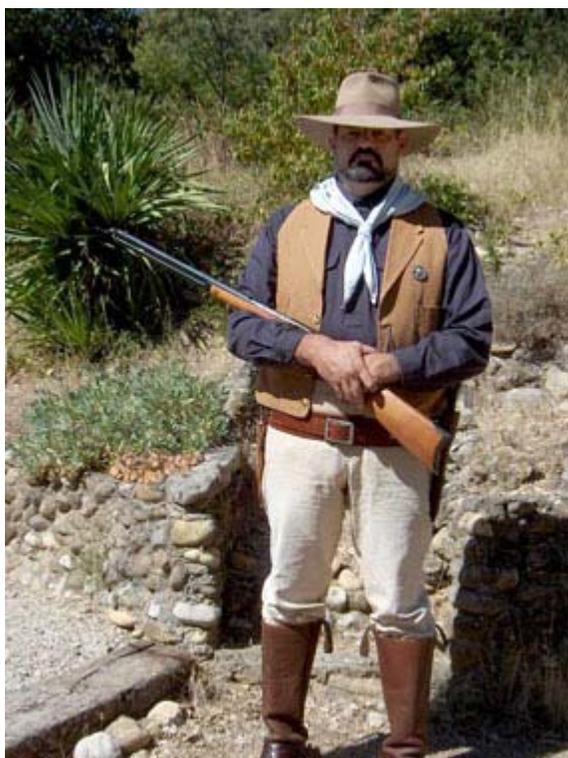
- Increase the capacity to house the growing collections, which span three centuries
- Improve work areas for short and long-term researchers
- Add processing space to clean, sort and inventory collections
- Improve environmental controls and fire suppression
- Create a small gallery to exhibit important documents

John Knox Texas Ranger Memorial Center construction is well underway. The new windows and drywall are being installed, finishes have been selected, and handicap ramps are poured. The construction is slated to be finished by the start of 2011.



John Knox Texas Ranger Memorial Center

Texas Rangers in France



The Texas Rangers are respected worldwide as an international symbol of justice. The museum staff knows about Texas Ranger reenactment groups in Germany and the Ukraine, to name a few. This month, we were pleased to learn that there are reenactors in France. One reenactor, Richard Oeil, emailed the museum information on his interest in the Texas Rangers. Here are his comments and a photograph of him dressed as an early Texas Ranger.

[My name is Richard OEIL.](#)

[Where are you located in France?](#)

[I live in France, in the Alpes de Haute Province, in the village of Malijai.](#)

What is your profession?

I am a former professional soldier (paratrooper). I was also blue helmet [*U.N. Peacekeeper*] for two years in the former Yugoslavia. I was wounded in 1995 during my last stay in the former Yugoslavia in the multi-national battalion. I left the army in 1999 [*because of injuries in the line of duty*].

Since I am a draftsman (I plan to house).

Which reenactment groups do you belong to?

I'm not part of a reenactment group, but I am a friend of several groups, including one that reenacts the 2nd U.S. Cavalry.

I will also present the Texas Rangers to the public during the festival of country music. The festival brings together the collections of old cars, horses, Indian scholars, and people passionate about the American West.

How did you become interested in the Texas Rangers?

When I was young, I saw a program about Texas that got me a lot more interested. I wanted to live in Texas, but I was too young. Subsequently, I read the book "Texas" by James A. Michener, and inside, he spoke of a young Texas Ranger. I wanted to learn more about the Texas Rangers. I researched, and the further I go, the more I developed a real passion for these extraordinary men!

Are there other Texas Ranger reenactors in France? We know of groups or individuals in Wales, Germany, Belgium and England.

There is [*a Ranger reenactor*] in almost every old west group in France, and there are quite a few!

Best Regards,

Rick

Save
\$2.00

Save \$1.00 off adult admission for up to two adults. No cash value.

The museum is open 9 am to 5 pm with the last guest admitted at 4:30 pm. The museum is located off I-35 Exit 335B University Parks Drive in Waco, Texas. For more information, call (254) 750-8631 or visit our [website](#).

Offer Expires: December 31, 2010

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