

TRHFM Email Newsletter
Official Historical Center for the Texas Rangers
Sponsored by the City of Waco

September 2013

FEATURE ARTICLES

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Ranger"
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NATIONAL THANK A POLICE OFFICER DAY



Saturday, September 21st is National Thank a Police Officer Day. In addition to our Law Enforcement admission discount, we are offering police officers 15% off their gift shop purchases that weekend - September 21st and 22nd. Just show your badge at the register to receive the discount.

Stories like [this one](#) about a Texas officer wrapping a ticket around a \$100 bill are why we say "Thank You!"

Tom Lea Trail



Tom Lea, courtesy Tom Lea Institute

The Tom Lea Institute in El Paso celebrates one of Texas' most noted artists during the month of October. The Texas Ranger Hall of Fame and Museum is delighted to participate in this celebration as part of the Tom Lea Trail, along with several other museums throughout Texas.

Lea is known for his painting and murals, but is also quite well known for his work as an author and illustrator. He also served as a war correspondent for *Life Magazine* during WWII.

The TRHFM is privileged to have several artworks by Lea, including:

Yonder's Fort Fisher and Here's a Recruit, oil on canvas, 1968
[Gift of the Artist, 1968]

A Little Shade, oil on canvas, 1965
[Gift of the Brown-Olds Corporation, 1968]

Ranger Escort West of the Pecos, pencil on paper, 1965
[Gift of Dr. H. F. Connally, 1968]

These works will be on exhibit in the Hall of Fame through the summer of 2014, along with several of the books Tom Lea wrote and illustrated. For more information on Tom Lea Month and the Tom Lea Trail visit the www.tomleainstitute.org.

Sales from the nonprofit Texas Ranger Museum gift shop benefit the preservation and education activities of the Museum. The gift shop is open 9:00 am to 4:30 pm daily. We ship worldwide.

IN THE PRESS



Please [click here](#) to read "Texas Rangers: Two centuries later, the job remains the same" by Brett Thorne of the San Marcos Community Impact Newspaper.

RUDY MAXA'S WORLD



On August 17th Executive Director Byron A. Johnson was interviewed by Rudy Maxa on "Rudy Maxa's World" radio program. They discussed the upcoming Texas Ranger Bicentennial in 2023.

Rudy Maxa is the host and executive producer of "Rudy Maxa's World," a travel series featured on US public television and air in 121 countries in 22 different languages.

TEXAS RANGER CARDS



A Little Shade, Tom Lea, 1965.

"German Female Texas Ranger"

Interest in the Texas Rangers is worldwide. Recently, Gisela Pütz of Germany inquired about the history of female Texas Rangers. Here is a copy of our email conversation with her.

My name is Gisela Pütz, and I'm living in Germany. I'm a real great fan of the tradition of the Texas Ranger; therefore, I'm a member of a "Western Club," which celebrates the Texas Ranger organization. Our members of the club are organized like a company...the leader is the Captain and there are also Lieutenant and Ranger. We called ourselves the "Texas Ranger Lubbock C Company." If you are a member for one year or more you have first the status candidate and after a while you get the Ranger Star.

Question:

Is it possible for a woman to be an official Texas Ranger? This answer may be distinguished between the "old time" and the present age.

Answer:

There were no female Texas Rangers in the 19th century. The first women were given Texas Ranger commissions in the 1930s. They were (1) given Ranger commissions to manage confidential records, or (2) were security guards at the Texas governor's mansion. Women became 'regular' Texas Rangers in 1993, and there are several female Rangers in service today.



Our line of Texas Ranger cards have a new website!

Licensed by GrandmasUnplugged, these handmade cards feature historic images from the Armstrong Research Center archives.

Please visit www.txranglercards.com

Sales of the cards benefit the preservation and education activities of the Museum.

EDUCATION CENTER



The following groups utilized the Education Center for programs during the month of August:

- HCCAA HeadStart
- Waco I.S.D.
- Midway I.S.D.
- AgriLife Extension Service - Texas A&M University
- Altrusa International Communities In Schools Mission Waco

BENEFIT FOR WEST



I ... the "German female Texas Ranger" stand in front of the new flagpole (which was hard work for husband) with the TEXAS flag. I got this as a present on my birthday on 27.07.2013 and was very happy about it.

Change in Command: Co. "F" Leadership



Major Alvin A. Alexis

On August 31, 2013, Alvin Alexis, Major, Company "F" San Antonio retired from the Department. Major Alexis began his career with DPS on October 18, 1988. He was promoted to the Rangers on June 1, 1994. Alexis was promoted to Lieutenant on September 1, 2004, to Captain on September 1, 2008 and to Major on July 1, 2011.

Effective September 1, 2013, Captain Frank Malinak will be promoted to Major of Company "F" and return to Waco. Malinak originally received his gold Captain's badge from Major Alvin A. Alexis of Company "F." Major Malinak became a Ranger on August 1, 1993. He transferred to Company "F" as a Sergeant in Bryan/College Station on August 1, 1995. Malinak was promoted to Lieutenant in Co. "F" on November 1, 2009 and stationed at the Waco Headquarters on the Museum premises. His promotion to Captain at the Austin Headquarters was effective February 1, 2012. In Austin, he coordinated Headquarters operations and special assigned investigations.



Company "F" begins in the north in Hill County (south of Dallas-Fort Worth) and ends in Frio and Atascosa Counties (south of San Antonio). On the East it extends from Freestone County (Fairfield) to Kerr County (Kerrville) in the West.

Please join the museum board and staff in wishing Major Alexis a relaxing retirement and in welcoming back Major Malinak.

On August 22nd U.S. Senator Ted Cruz, R-Texas, and the McLennan County Republican Party held a benefit to help rebuild the town of West, Texas.

It was our honor to host this benefit. West was devastated when a fertilizer plant exploded on April 17th.



BEACH PARTY BENEFIT



The Northwest Waco Rotary Club held their annual Beach Party in Knox Center on August 17th benefiting college scholarships. The rental was sponsored by Wardlaw Claims Service.

On February 14, 2012, Malinak's wife Lesley pins the gold Texas Ranger captain's badge.

Donors Sought for Unique Items

On September 21st Heritage Auctions in Dallas will offer the remarkable John N. McWilliams Texas Ranger Collection of early Texas Ranger items. The Texas Ranger Hall of Fame is seeking benefactors to donate, or make long-term loans, of selected items. Donations qualify as tax deductible under IRS regulations. Recognition will be given to the individual or corporation/business for their preservation of Texas Ranger history.



NEW TEXAS LAWS



On September 1st, ten new traffic and criminal laws will go into effect. Please [click here](#) to read

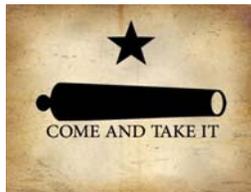
about the new laws.

20th ANNIVERSARY FOR
CAMERON PARK ZOO



Celebrate the 20th anniversary of Cameron Park Zoo in Waco, Texas. Founded in 1993, the zoo will have several special events throughout 2013, including a concert by *The Voice* contestant and local resident, Holly Tucker, on September 14th. Please [click here](#) for more information.

GONZALES, TEXAS



Celebrate "Come & Take It!" with Gonzales, Texas! The dates for the Come & Take It Festival are Oct. 4, 5, and 6, 2013. The Come & Take It Festival celebrates the firing of the first shot of the Texas revolution on Oct. 2, 1835, which took place near Gonzales. Please [click here](#) for more information.

CORYELL COUNTY, TEXAS



Coryell County Heritage



John S. "Rip" Ford Half-Plate Ambrotype, circa 1858. Courtesy Heritage Auctions.

There are many rare, original images of Texas Rangers from the 1840s - 1890s of luminaries including Capt. John C. (Jack) Hays, Capt. Samuel Walker, John Salmon (RIP) Ford and others. Many are on rare early photographic formats such as daguerreotypes, ambrotypes, and ferrotypes. The collection also includes a large document collection with items from the Mier expedition, the Mexican War and the Frontier Battalion.

Over the years Mr. McWilliams has generously permitted the Texas Ranger Hall of Fame to display copies from his collection for educational purposes. The collection is now being dispersed by sale, and important items may disappear into private collections for decades or overseas.

This is an opportunity for benefactors to give this history to present and future generations.

How to do so:

1. Please contact Christina Stopka, at the Armstrong Research Center, Shelly Crittendon, Collections Manager, or Byron Johnson, Director, at 254-750-8631.
2. The staff will be glad to discuss your sponsorship and specific items which we believe are historically important.
3. Please review the items at: [Heritage Auctions Website](#)

Thank you.

Day is a celebration on October 12, 2013 where Texans come together to celebrate our heritage and the history of the place we call home. Please [click here](#) for more information.

QUICK LINKS

[Website](#)
[Gift Shop](#)
[Knox Center](#)
[Education Center](#)
[Education Programs](#)
[Research Center](#)
[Museum Video](#)
[Texas Ranger Bicentennial](#)



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Armstrong Center Repository Completed

The "heart" of the Tobin and Anne Armstrong Texas Ranger Research Center is its extensive and irreplaceable collection of archives and books. Proper storage is vital to ensuring that the case files, photographs and records of the Ranger service are preserved for future generations.

The staff recommended the same type of professional storage units used by the National Archives, Library of Congress and other major repositories. Each massive unit can house more than a thousand pounds of records and is easily moved with one hand.



Left: Installation. Right: Completed shelving.

Two groups of benefactors stepped forward to make the purchase of these units possible. In 2011 and 2012 former museum Board Chairman Joe Hinton and wife Betty made donations toward this end. Mr. Hinton is the nephew of Ted Hinton, a Dallas police officer who was on the posse that ended the notorious crime spree of Bonnie & Clyde. Joe Hinton's leadership and support of the Armstrong Center, and other capital projects was instrumental.

In 2012, Spindletop Charities, Inc. a distinguished Houston foundation supporting youth charities, made completion of the repository possible. Their contributors and staff know the importance of the Texas Ranger service and its ideals to children and young adults. Their foundation Board also wished to honor a late trustee, Mr. Robert E. Rose whose philanthropy and leadership in the oil and a gas industry was legendary. Their support was recognized in the prominent Spindletop Tower of the Armstrong Center named in grateful recognition to the foundation and the memory of Mr. Rose.

We extend our thanks to the Hintons and Spindletop Charities for preserving the Texas Ranger heritage.

ICE Presentation



On July 31st, museum staff traveled to Dallas to present to members of the Immigration and Customs Enforcement (I.C.E.) training academy. Our Education Coordinator, Casey Eichhorn, talked about the history of the Texas

Rangers from their inception in 1823. He also shared information about the roles modern Texas Rangers play in the investigation and apprehension of fugitives from justice, including cases where they worked alongside federal agents.

The U.S. Immigrations and Customs Enforcement (I.C.E.) is the principal investigative arm of the U.S. Department of Homeland Security. Created in 2003, ICE now has more than 20,000 employees in offices in all 50 states and 47 foreign countries. ICE's primary mission is to promote homeland security and public safety through the criminal and civil enforcement of federal laws governing border control, customs, trade and immigration.

The museum staff appreciate the invitation to participate in the ICE training academy events.

Save

Police officers receive 15% off their gift shop purchases during the weekend of National Thank a Police Officer Day. Just show your badge at the register to receive the discount. The Texas Ranger Hall of Fame and Museum gift shop is open 9am to 4:30pm daily.

15%

Offer Valid September 21 and 22, 2013.

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