



Texas Ranger Hall of Fame and Museum Newsletter

Sponsored by the City of Waco

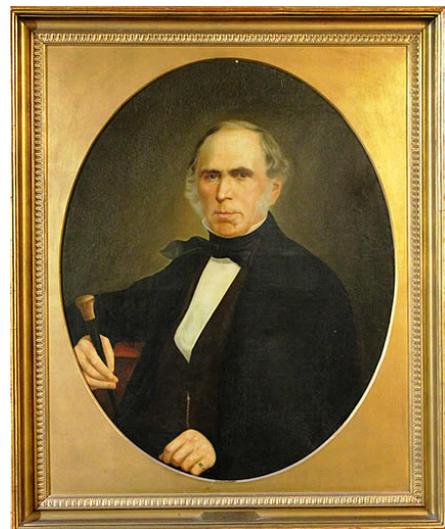
Official State Historical Center of the Texas Rangers
Home of Texas Ranger Bicentennial 1823-2023

May 2017

Preserving a Texas Treasure

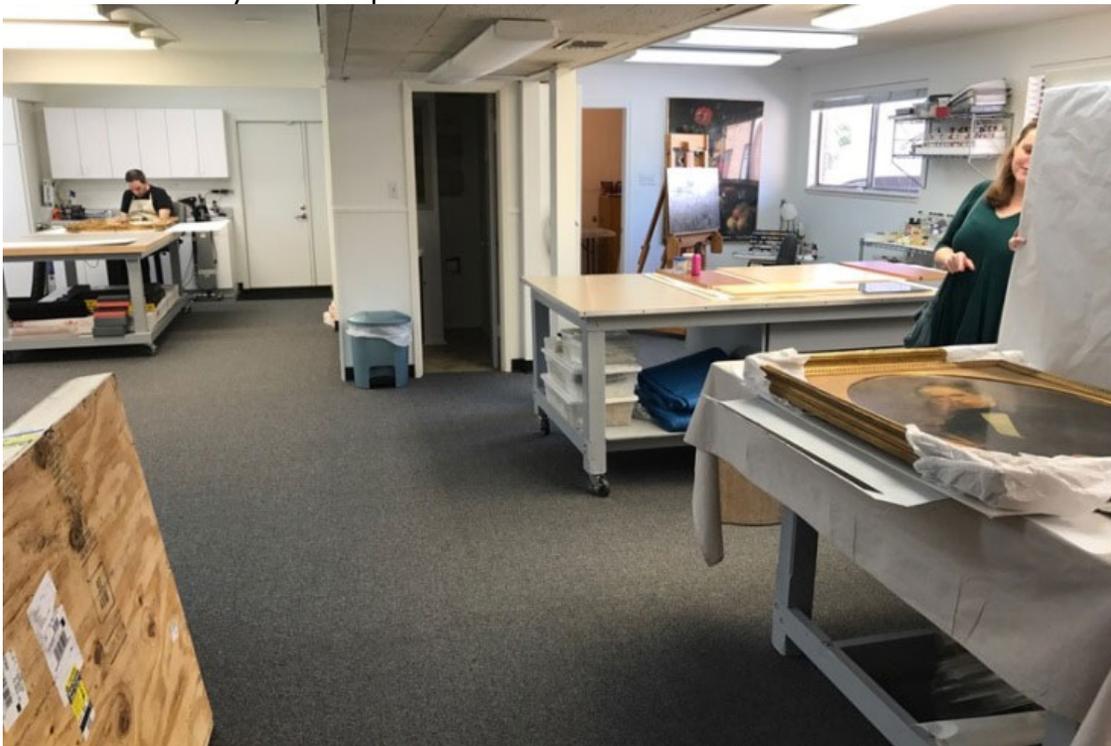
The Texas Ranger Hall of Fame is privileged to safeguard what has been called "the most professional portrait done of Sam Houston." Old Sam was the best known political and military leader of early Texas: commander-in-chief during the Texas Revolution (1836), President of the Republic of Texas (1836-44), US Senator (1846-59) and Governor (1859-61).

Research by Collections Manager Shelly Crittendon identified the portraitist as Charles Edward Schnabel (1821-1883). A German immigrant, Schnabel studied at the Pennsylvania Academy of Fine Arts. Based in Washington D.C., he painted the leaders of the day including Supreme Court Chief Justice and Treasury Secretary Salmon P. Chase, Lincoln's Secretary of War Edward Stanton, and the 11th Vice President George Dallas.



Senator Houston probably posed for the painting between 1846 and 1848 after arriving in Washington as the first Senator from the new state of Texas. In 1849 he wrote "I think more of it than all my likenesses." It remained in the Houston family for more than a century. Thereafter it was owned by several prominent collectors and featured in the *Dictionary of American Portraits*. In 1977 the late James Fowler of Nashville, Tennessee,

donated the painting after the opening of the Texas Ranger Hall of Fame. It is now owned by the People of Texas.



Painting delivered to Anne Zanikos Art Conservation of San Antonio.

Anne Zanikos Art Conservation of San Antonio has been commissioned to remove layers of accumulated grime and darkened varnish from nearly two centuries of candle, oil lamp, and gas-light smoke. The paint layers will be stabilized, and the frame will be repaired. Completion is expected this Fall.

Mr. J. Fred Bucy III of Fischer, Texas, and his family are generously underwriting this work as well as the construction of a special exhibit case. The Bucy family had several notable Texas ancestors here at the time of the Republic and Statehood, including several Texas Rangers. We are grateful for this gift to present and future generations.

Please [click here](#) to learn more about the preservation projects Ms. Zanikos has completed.

Leo Bishop's Colt .45

Mark Bishop, the grandson of Texas Ranger Leo Bishop generously donated his grandfather's Colt .45 and holster, along with a knife confiscated from a criminal who attempted to use the weapon on Ranger Bishop. This Colt revolver was manufactured in 1885, several decades before Bishop's Ranger service, but he purchased it and used it during his many years as a Ranger. This Colt was featured in the 1969 publication, *A Pictorial History of the Texas Rangers*. Please see excerpt below:



Leo Henderson Bishop, a native Texan, was born at Junction, Texas on January 15, 1903.... He first served the people of Texas as an inspector for the Livestock Sanitary Commission. Bishop was appointed to the Texas Rangers on May 26, 1932 by Governor Ross Sterling, but lost his job along with the bulk of the Ranger force when Ma Ferguson was elected governor. James Allred was elected governor two years later and Leo Bishop was again appointed to the Texas Rangers in 1935. His first assignment was in San Augustine, where mob rule and general lawlessness prevailed. In ninety days Bishop had turned in nineteen indictments for murder and all of the defendants got sentences from one to 99 years. He was transferred to another duty station for one year, but citizens of San Augustine appealed to the governor to get their Ranger back. Leo Bishop was returned to San Augustine where he served from 1936-1939. The citizens of that city presented him with a pair of Colt six-shooters for the work he did in cleaning up their town. In his career, Bishop produced evidence that led to the conviction of over 100 major criminals. He retired in 1946 after twelve years of service as a Texas Ranger.

[Biographical Excerpt taken from A Pictorial History of the Texas Rangers]

Military Appreciation Weekend

The Texas Ranger Hall of Fame and Museum honors our nation's heroes with Military Appreciation Weekend from Saturday, May 27th through Monday, May 29th. Active duty personnel, retirees and veterans will receive free admission to the Museum while their family will receive discounted admissions (with valid military id or documentation - medals, service records, photographs are accepted).



Register For Summer Camp

Kids, come discover the challenges of life on the Texas frontier! In partnership with the Texas Top Guns Frontier Battalion Company "D" re-enactment organization, the Texas Ranger Hall of Fame and Museum will host its Texas Ranger Day Camp on Friday, June 16th from 8:30 a.m. until Noon. Campers will have the opportunity to interact with Nineteenth Century Rangers as they perform such tasks as making rope, tooling leather and cooking in a Dutch oven. The program will culminate in a performance by the Top Guns!



Registration is open to all children entering the fourth, fifth and sixth grades; registration closes June 12. Campers are requested to wear closed-toe shoes and sunscreen; water and a snack will be provided. \$25.00 per camper. Please call (254) 750-8631 to register.

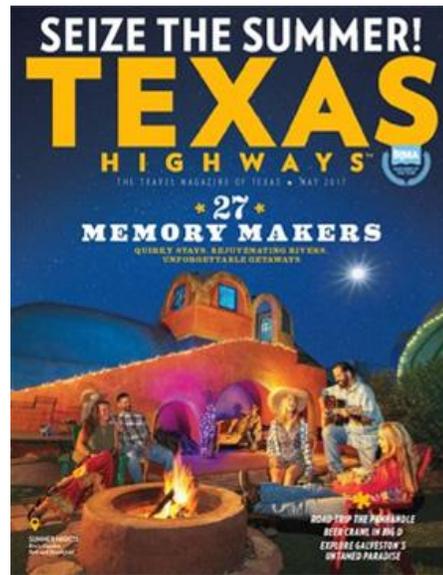
Texas Highways Feature

The Texas Ranger Hall of Fame and Museum is featured in the May issue of

Texas Highways. "Silver Stars and Six Shooters: Waco's Texas Ranger Hall of Fame and Museum" by Dave Montgomery highlights Dave's visit in April and the history he learned while visiting.

The Texas Ranger Hall of Fame and Museum in Waco has just opened for the day, and already nearly 100 fourth-graders pore over exhibits and artifacts chronicling one of the world's most storied law enforcement organizations....

To read the article, please [click here](#).



French Magazine American Legend Feature

The Texas Ranger Museum Gift Shop is featured in the quarterly French magazine *American Legend* by Senior Editor Philippe G. Couvreur. The magazine is dedicated to the American West. Among the items selected for the feature are the official Texas Ranger belt buckle, a hand-tooled leather gun caddy and the first Texas Ranger Bicentennial art print by artist Gary Crouch.

Please [click here](#) to purchase these items.

Viva la France!



Quick Links

[Website](#)
[Gift Shop](#)
[Knox Center](#)
[Education Center](#)
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[Distinguished Service](#)

Education Center

The following groups utilized the Education Center for programs in April:

Texas Rangers
 Waco Foundation
 Prosper Waco

[Museum Video](#)
[Texas Ranger Bicentennial
Bicentennial Video](#)
[Texas Ranger Association Foundation](#)

AFP
NAACP

Newsletter compiled by Christine Rothenbush, Marketing &
Development Specialist

Free Admission During Military Appreciation Weekend

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Offer Valid 5/27/17 - 5/29/17.

STAY CONNECTED:

