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May 14, 2020

Texas Ranger Hall of Fame Newsletter

Sponsored by the City of Waco

Official State Historical Center of the Texas Rangers

Home of Texas Ranger Bicentennial 1823-2023

Peace Officers Memorial Day - May 15th



Every May 15th, Peace Officers Memorial Day recognizes the more than 800,000 serving local, state and federal law enforcement officers in the United States, and those who have made the ultimate sacrifice or were injured in the line of duty. The observance takes place during National Police Week.

The [**National Law Enforcement Officers Memorial Fund**](#) in Washington D.C. estimates that since 1791 more than 21,000 officers have given their lives. An average of 163 names

are added to their number each year.

In 1961, President John F. Kennedy designated May 15th as a day to honor peace officers. In 1994, Bill Clinton directed the United States flag to be flown at half-staff in honor of the fallen officers.

TRHFM Honors Police Officers, Active Military and Veterans



Peace Officers Memorial Weekend

The Texas Ranger Hall of Fame and Museum honors our nation's heroes with Peace Officers Memorial Weekend from Friday, May 15th through Sunday, May 17th. Active duty and retired Law Enforcement Officers will receive free admission to the Museum while their family will receive discounted admissions (with valid id or documentation).



Military Appreciation Weekend

The Texas Ranger Hall of Fame and Museum honors our nation's heroes with Military Appreciation Weekend from Saturday, May 23rd through Monday, May 25th. 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).

Honoring the Sacrifice and Service of the Texas Rangers

The Texas Ranger Hall of Fame and Museum is a permanent memorial to the service and sacrifice of the estimated 8,000 men and women who have served as Texas Rangers for almost 200 years. The Texas Rangers, now a division of the Texas Department of Public Safety, are an elite law enforcement agency in Texas acting as an investigative force for major crimes, mass shootings, public corruption and more.

Often times law enforcement officers are soon forgotten after retirement and few records for their service exist. Our goal is to recover and preserve what can be known about each Texas Ranger, to assure they will be remembered so that their descendants will know something more than just a name. We do this in six ways:

- **Roster of Active Duty Texas Rangers** - The TRHFM exhibits in the Hall of Fame lobby and online a roster of actively serving Texas Rangers arranged by their duty stations within the seven Texas Ranger Companies. The exhibit is popular among school aged children who dream of one day becoming a Texas Ranger. To see the Texas Ranger serving in your area, please [click here](#).





Schoolchildren in awe of the active-duty Texas Ranger wall.

- **Roster of Living Retired Texas Rangers** - Upon retirement, those Texas Rangers wishing to do so complete a survey of their career in law enforcement, including service as peace officers, deputy sheriffs and more. These biographies are uploaded to the *Distinguished Service* roster online and exhibited in the Hall of Fame with rotating artifacts from retirees. Please [click here](#) to search the database.



A rotating exhibit, *Distinguished Service* highlights items from retired Texas Rangers.

- **A Permanent Research Center** - The Tobin and Anne Armstrong Texas Ranger Research Center, a library and archive, preserves the history of the Texas Rangers

from their founding in 1823 to the present. Many Texas Rangers donate their case files, scrapbooks, personal papers and photographs upon retirement. Leading historians donate their research files and collections of rare books to the Armstrong Center. These collections are then used by Ranger descendants and by schoolchildren to study their heroes. Please [click here](#) to learn more about the services provided by the Armstrong Research Center.



A donation in 2012 of Ranger Headquarters records extending back about 40 years. Two truckloads arrived containing 170+ boxes of case files, operational reports and other records. As a whole, they are a snapshot of the Texas Rangers at the turn of the 21st century.

- **The Hall of Fame State Memorial** - A State Memorial created in 1971, it commemorates 31 Texas Rangers who made significant contributions to the development of the field or sacrificed their lives in the line of duty under extraordinary circumstances. Inductees are selected by the Texas Rangers. Please [click here](#) to see biographies of Inductees.



Paintings and photographs of the 31 inductees line the walls of the Hall of Fame.

- **Roster of Those Killed/Died in the Line of Duty** - The Texas Ranger Hall of Fame and Museum staff estimates that fewer than 1% of the individuals who have served as Texas Rangers were killed or died in the line of duty. A Ranger is considered to have been killed in action, KIA, if they were killed while attempting to enforce the laws of the state. A Ranger is considered to have died in service, DIS, if the death was a result of illness, accident, or some other means not associated with one's duties. Please [click here](#) to see the list.



Saving a Hero's Place donated an Honor Chair memorializing all fallen Texas Rangers since 1823 for display in the Hall of Fame in 2015.

- **Roster of Company Commanders** - Last but not least, the Museum with assistance from Texas DPS maintains and compiles a list of commanders from 1823 to the present. Please [click here](#) to see the list.



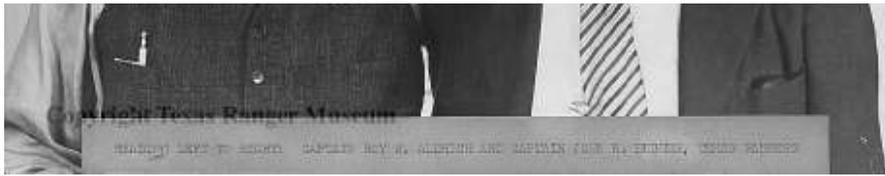


Photo of Captain John R. Hughes and Captain Roy W. Aldrich, head and shoulders. Front caption reads "Reading Left to Right: Captain Roy W. Aldrich and Captain John R. Hughes, Texas Rangers". Date unknown, likely 1940s. The men worked together in the Texas Rangers. Photo can be found on our online database, <https://texasranger.pastperfectonline.com/>

You Too Can Preserve and Honor the Legacy

The Texas Ranger Bicentennial in 2023 is a state-wide celebration. We encourage organizations to participate during the Bicentennial year, 2023. Are you a member of an organization in which your members may want to participate in the celebration? We hope you'll take these event suggestions back to your board meeting and discuss them. Once you pick an event, please contact the Museum to request the official Bicentennial Seal of Approval.



Mount Enterprise Friends of the Library patrons enjoy a Baked Potato dinner before presentations by Christine Rothenbush, Marketing & Development Coordinator, and (above) Texas Ranger Chris Baggett, Co. "B" in Tyler.

Types of Organizations:

- Municipal public library
- Regional historical association
- Local history museum
- Schools and homeschoolers
- Community book club
- City Parks & Rec department
- History department of colleges and universities
- Gun collector group
- Scouting: Boy Scouts, Girl Scouts, Camp Fire...

Types of Bicentennial Events:

- City-wide parade
- Summer reading book club
- Group travel tour of Texas history and TRHFM
- Community display of borrowed Texas Ranger items
- Chili cookout or fish fry
- Luncheon with speaker from our Bureau
- School essay, podcast, or video contest

- Local law enforcement group
- Tour operator
- Media: newspaper, film maker, book publisher...
- Western art contest in high schools
- Research and publish a paper/article
- Genealogy workshop and lock-in at library
- Children's coloring contest (see Activity Sheets)...

Texas Ranger Bicentennial™ Partners Program

Be part of the Texas Ranger Bicentennial! The Texas Rangers will commemorate their landmark 200th anniversary in 2023. With a \$100 contribution, you will receive:

1. A limited-edition enameled bronze pin featuring the official Texas Ranger Bicentennial™ seal
2. A certificate signed by an active or distinguished retired Texas Ranger
3. Your name or family name on the online roster of Bicentennial Partners™
4. A one-time-use family admission ticket (admits 4) to the Museum.

\$90 of the contribution qualifies as a charitable contribution. The Texas Ranger Hall of Fame is a 170(c) government-owned nonprofit.

Please [click here](#) to learn more about the program.



Official Texas Rangers Bicentennial Pin

Trademarked by the Texas Dept. of Public Safety
Designed by the Texas Ranger Hall of Fame and Museum



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<p>ENJOY</p> <p>\$2.00 OFF</p> <p>Expires 7/31/2020</p>	<p>Save \$1.00 off regular adult admission for up to two adults. Coupon not valid on discounted senior or military admission. No cash value.</p> <p>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.</p>
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Newsletter Compiled by Christine Rothenbush, Marketing & Development Specialist