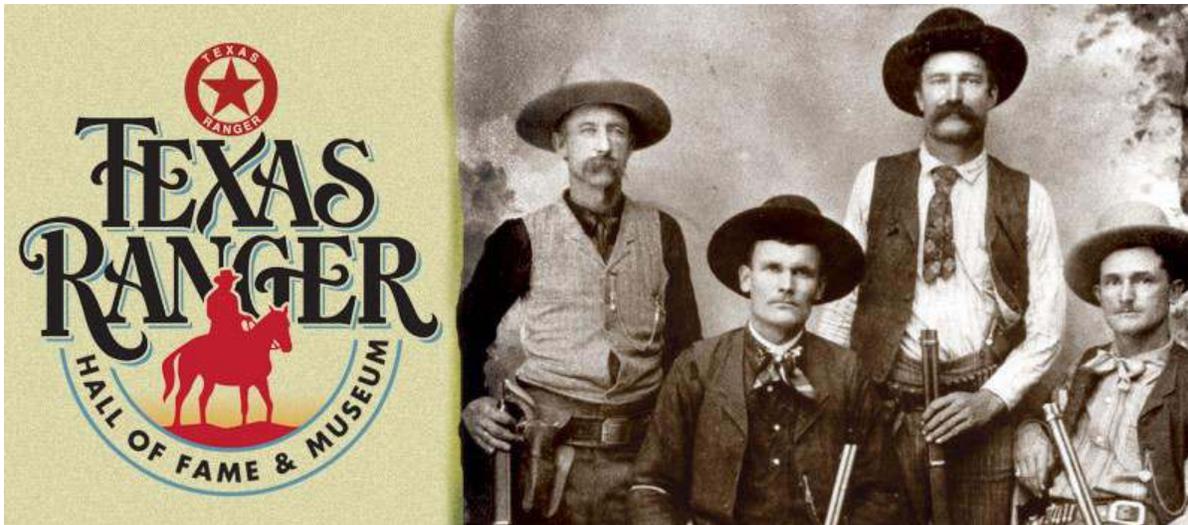


SHARE:

[Join Our Email List](#)

[View as Webpage](#)



September 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

The Texas Rangers: Established In 1823

The Texas Ranger Hall of Fame and Museum has installed two new displays in Garrison Gallery that are part of the introductory exhibit: *The Texas Rangers: Established In 1823*. With the Ranger diorama at the center of the scene, these exhibits explore the figures and factors that shaped early Texas history. The display *Southern Plains Tribes of Texas* explores the various Indian tribes present in Texas at the time of Anglo settlement.

The display *They Brought What They Had* (seen below) highlights the factors that encouraged American settlers to come to Texas, and the tools and weapons they brought with them. Together, these exhibits reveal some of the many factors that were at work in the early years of Texas history and played a part in the Texas Ranger story.





September 25th American Indian Heritage Day

September 25th is *American Indian Heritage Day*. In May of 2012, Governor Rick Perry signed into law Texas House Bill 174 to create *American Indian Heritage Day*, the last Friday of September, to recognize the historic, cultural and social contributions American Indian communities and leaders have made to the state of Texas.

In honor of *American Indian Heritage Day*, TRHFM is featuring a recently updated exhibit that was installed in Garrison Gallery. *Southern Plains Tribes of Texas* showcases some of the Museum's American Indian artifacts, including a pair of Lipan Apache moccasins and a Comanche shield. The colonists in Texas, as well as the Texas Rangers, had a complex relationship with the various tribes found in the territory. While they found an adversary in the Comanche, they often found an ally in other tribes such as the Lipan Apache.



The Comanche dominated the Southern Plains in an area that came to be known as Comancheria (Land of the Comanches.) The nomadic Comanche tribes were widely regarded as expert horsemen and fearsome warriors. As the frontier pushed further west and threatened their way of life, the Comanche fiercely resisted Anglo settlement through deadly raids. This struggle for control of the plains ushered in a period of warfare with the Texans and the U.S. Army that lasted until the military defeat of the Comanches in the

Red River War.

The Lipans are one of several branches of Apache and the tribe most closely associated with the Southern Plains. Apaches were among the first American Indians to ride horses, which enabled them to follow the buffalo and lead a nomadic life. The Apaches arrived in Texas around 1530, where they settled in villages and lived as farmers. By the late 1600s, the Lipans were well established in Texas and often fiercely resisted Spanish colonization. When the Comanches arrived in Texas and gained domination, the Apaches were caught between their enemies. The Lipans retreated and migrated south. As American settlers arrived, many Lipans allied themselves with the Texans against their common enemy, the Comanches, and even enlisted as Texas Rangers.

Please [click here](#) to learn more about American Indian contributions to the Rangers.

Three Best Rated 2020



We are excited to announce that the Texas Ranger Hall of Fame has once again been rated as one of the top "three best places to see" in the Waco area by Three Best Rated.

<https://threebestrated.com/places-to-see-in-waco-tx>

The other two local non-profit educational attractions on the top three list are the Cameron Park Zoo and Waco Mammoth National Monument.

Three Best Rated is a British international tourism site. The ranking is based on a 50-point inspection and on-site visit.

Clark Gable, Honorary Texas Ranger



Did you know actor Clark Gable, best known for his role in the movie, *Gone With The Wind*, was an honorary Texas Ranger?

Well, Well! Local Boy Makes Good!

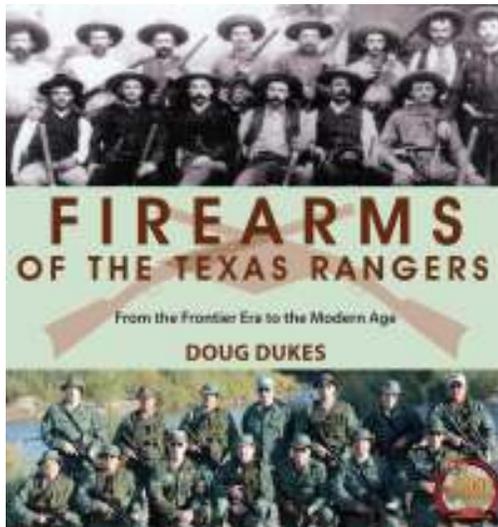
"Clark Gable, who once played stock-theater, not ranch-in Texas, is shown here with the commission by which Gov. James V. Allred made him an honorary Texas ranger. The commission was presented to the movie star, pictured with Jeanette McDonald, by officials of the Texas Centennial Exposition which opens in Dallas, June 6."

- Published in an Ohio newspaper on April 27, 1936.

New Book *Firearms of the Texas Rangers*

Doug Dukes, a native Texan, retired after a lengthy law enforcement career with the Austin Police Department. He now devotes his attention to researching Old West history, as well as writing Western nonfiction.

Firearms of the Texas Rangers: From the Frontier Era to the Modern Age by Doug Dukes, Denton, University of North Texas Press, 2020.



From their founding in the 1820s up to the modern age, the Texas Rangers have shown the ability to adapt and survive. Part of that survival depended on their use of firearms. The evolving technology of these weapons often determined the effectiveness of these early-day Rangers.

Firearms of the Texas Rangers, with more than 180 photographs, tells the history of the Texas Rangers primarily through the use of their firearms. Author Doug Dukes narrates famous episodes in Ranger history, including Jack Hays and the Paterson, the Walker Colt, the McCulloch Colt Revolver (smuggled through the Union blockade during the Civil War), and the

Frontier Battalion and their use of the Colt Peacemaker and Winchester and Sharps carbines. Readers will delight in learning of Frank Hamer's marksmanship with his Colt Single Action Army and his Remington, along with Captain J.W. McCormick and his two .45 Colt pistols, complete with photos.

Whether it was a Ranger in 1844 with his Paterson on patrol for Indians north of San Antonio, or a Ranger in 2016 with his LaRue 7.62 rifle working the Rio Grande looking for smugglers and terrorists, the technology may have changed, but the gritty job of the Rangers has not.



Firearms of the Texas Rangers is available in the TRHFM Gift Shop. Hardcover. \$45.00 + Tax and Shipping. 498 pages. Please call (254) 750-8631 to order your copy.

DPS Announces Three Historic Texas Ranger Promotions





Captain Wende Wakeman



Captain James Thomas



Staff Captain Melba Saenz

Please join DPS as we congratulate Melba Saenz, James Thomas and Wende Wakeman on their recent promotions to the rank of captain in the Texas Rangers. Saenz and Wakeman are the first two female Ranger captains in DPS history, and Thomas is the first-known Ranger in modern history to hold a doctorate degree. Read more about these talented, dedicated professionals: <https://bit.ly/RangerPromotionsAug2020>.

Barrel from Balcones Distilling



A very special thank you to Waco's own Balcones Distilling! Eric, Director of Retail Operations, and Andrew (pictured here) donated a whiskey barrel to use in our upcoming 1920s and Prohibition exhibit. We're excited to incorporate it into the display.

Gift Shop Feature: The Color Red

Is your favorite color red? We have two new red items in the Gift Shop!





Flecked Mug

White or red ceramic mug with flecks of black and featuring a black rim.
\$10.95 + Tax



Felt Flags

\$3.75 + Tax

To shop more items available for purchase, please visit our [Gift Shop online](#), or in person 9am to 4:30pm daily. You never have to pay admission to shop. Sales from the Gift Shop benefit the preservation and education activities of the Museum. Please call (877) 750-8631 or email thestore@texasranger.org to order. We ship worldwide. Thank you!

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.



Official Texas Rangers Bicentennial Pin

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

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

Museum



Quick Links

[Website](#)

[Gift Shop](#)

[Knox Center](#)

[Education Center](#)

[Education Programs](#)

[Research Center](#)

[Artifacts & Exhibits](#)

[Search the Collections](#)

[Active Texas Rangers](#)

[Distinguished Service](#)

[Discovering the Legend](#)

[Ask the Ranger Museum](#)

[Museum Video](#)

[Texas Ranger Bicentennial](#)

[Bicentennial Video](#)

[Texas Ranger Association Foundation](#)

[Facebook](#)

**ENJOY
\$2.00 OFF**

Expires 10/31/2020

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.

Newsletter Compiled by Christine Rothenbush, Marketing & Development Specialist