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April 2021

Texas Ranger Hall of Fame Newsletter

Sponsored by the City of Waco
Official State Historical Center of the Texas Rangers
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Ask the Ranger Museum Featuring Captain Sweaney

Ask the Ranger Museum Episode 4 is here! Retired Texas Ranger Captain Richard Sweaney, who specialized in forensic hypnosis and tracking, discusses his career in the Texas Rangers. A special thanks to all our followers who submitted questions for the interview.



Please [click here](#) to watch Captain Sweaney's interview.

New Exhibits in Morris Gallery

Beginning in early 2020, the TRHFM Collections Department began an ambitious project of updating exhibit content and displays. Scheduled for completion this month, Morris Gallery has been completely updated with new artifacts and exhibits. Morris Gallery details the vast history of the First Century of the Texas Rangers, from the Texas Revolution in 1835, Prohibition and its repeal, invention of the automobile and its popularization by outlaws, to the corrupt administrations of Governors Miriam "Ma" and James "Pa" Ferguson and the formation of DPS in 1935.



Top: The Frontier Battalion 1874-1900
Below: Texas Rangers During Prohibition 1920-1935



The project involved months of exhibit renovations, lead by Assistant Collections Manager Rachel Smith, and help from independent researchers, community partners, and the City of Waco. It will enable us to better explain this history. Smith said, “The goal was to create a clear chronological history of the Rangers, introduce new perspectives, and create more engaging displays. I love the new politics display, and the roulette wheel is my favorite new artifact.”

Make sure you check out Morris Gallery on your next visit!

Ranger Phillips Receives Outstanding First Responder Award

The 100 Club of Central Texas will host its 38th Annual Awards Ceremony on Saturday, April 24, 2021. During the event, Ranger Gary Phillips will be presented with the Outstanding First Responder Award. Here is a summary of his nomination by Major Corey Lain:



Ranger Gary Phillips serves in Company "F" of the Texas Ranger Division stationed in Georgetown, Texas, Williamson County. Ranger Phillips joined DPS in 1999 and promoted to Ranger ranks in 2009.

As a veteran Ranger in Company "F", Ranger Phillips has led or served in a leadership role in numerous complex and often high-profile situations. Some of these high-profile incidents include the 2016 Twin Peaks Outlaw Motorcycle Gang Shooting in Waco, Sutherland Springs Church Shooting in 2017, the Austin Bomber in 2018, and the Austin Riots of 2020.

Ranger Phillips' outstanding leadership, work ethic, and dedication to improving himself and others bring unequaled credit to himself, the Texas Ranger Division, and the Department of Public Safety. Therefore, it is my honor to nominate Ranger Gary Phillips to receive the Outstanding First Responder Award to recognize his exemplary work as an Outstanding Law Enforcement Officer and an Outstanding Team Leader.

*Respectfully,
Corey Lain
Major of Company "F"
Texas Rangers*

Founded in 1983, The 100 Club of Central Texas provides immediate financial and emotional assistance to first responders, emergency medical technicians, firefighters, and law enforcement officers, and their families when there has been a line of duty death or critical injury.

Please [click here](#) to read the full recommendation by Major Lain.

"Tracking the Texas Rangers"

Follow the historic trails of the Lone Star Lawmen through west Texas from San Angelo to El Paso in the article "Tracking the Texas Rangers" by Mike Cox for the April issue of *True West Magazine*.

Explore the history and heritage of the old West from Fort Concho National Historic Landmark in San Angelo, to the grave of infamous outlaw John Wesley Hardin in El Paso. Cox provides more than enough stories and suggestions to set any Old West history buff off on a West Texas adventure.



Photograph courtesy *True West* archives.

San Angelo was founded across the North Concho River from Fort Concho in the late 1860s and quickly gained a rowdy reputation as a frontier crossroads in which Texas Rangers were called in more than once to enforce the law.

Please [click here](#) to read the article.

The Guns Hollywood Made Famous

The J.M. Davis Arms and Historical Museum in Claremore, Oklahoma recently opened a new exhibit entitled "The Guns Hollywood Made Famous". The guns are examples of the

ones we all know so well from movies and television. They include models seen on beloved shows such as: *The Lone Ranger*, *Star Wars*, *True Grit*, *Dirty Harry*, *Firefly*, *Jurassic Park* and many more!



Davis Museum curator, Jason Schubert, puts the finishing touches on the "The Guns that Hollywood Made Famous" exhibit.

Please [click here](#) to learn more about the J.M. Davis Arms and Historical Museum.

Please [click here](#) to watch a preview of the exhibit.



One Man, Two Worlds

An exhibit on a Texas legend has arrived at the History of West Museum, in West, Texas. The touring exhibit on Comanche chief Quanah Parker and his mother Cynthia Ann Parker is on display there through May 1. The exhibit, "One Man, Two Worlds," features reprints of some 25 photographs of Quanah, his family and world, taken largely around the turn of the 19th century after he had led his tribe to the Kiowa-Comanche reservation in what was then the Oklahoma Territory. His leadership as his tribe transitioned to reservation life and a sharp eye for business made him successful and respected in his Oklahoma community, with President Theodore Roosevelt among his advocates.



Photograph courtesy Roy Aydelotte, *Waco Tribune-Herald*

Please [click here](#) to learn more about Quanah Parker and this exhibit.



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In Memoriam: Author Larry McMurtry



Larry McMurtry, the Texas-born novelist who authored *Lonesome Dove*, *Terms of Endearment* and *The Last Picture Show* and won an Oscar for co-writing the adapted screenplay for *Brokeback Mountain*, has died. He was 84.

Larry Jeff McMurtry was born on June 3, 1936, in Wichita Falls, Texas, and raised on a ranch in nearby Archer City. He graduated from North Texas State College in Denton in 1958 and earned his master's degree from Rice University in Houston in 1960.

McMurtry was the author of 29 novels, including the Pulitzer Prize-winning *Lonesome Dove*, three memoirs, two collections of essays and more than 30 screenplays. He wrote five pages a day — no more, no less — on a manual typewriter.

For all his accomplishments, McMurtry is probably best identified with *Lonesome Dove*, published in 1985. The subsequent four-part miniseries, starring Robert Duvall and Tommy Lee Jones and featuring a teleplay by William D. Wittliff, collected seven Emmy Awards and was a ratings smash for CBS in 1989, drawing an average of 26 million viewers a night.

"People are always telling me that I had everything to do with [the miniseries]," McMurtry told NPR's Linda Wertheimer in 2009. "The people that had everything to do with it are the producers, the writers, the set designers, all the people that actually worked on it. I was never on the set. I turned the key in the ignition. I didn't drive the car."

He followed *Lonesome Dove* with the 1993 sequel *Streets of Laredo* (which became a 1995 CBS miniseries starting James Garner and Sissy Spacey) and the 1995 and '97

prequels *Dead Man's Walk* (a 1996 ABC miniseries featuring F. Murray Abraham) and *Comanche Moon* (a 2008 CBS miniseries starring Steve Zahn).

New Youth T-Shirts

Giddy Up! These new youth t-shirts are adorable! The red "Wild West Animals" glows in the dark. The gray features a pony surrounded by flowers. Available in sizes youth xsmall to large. \$14 Each + 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.

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
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**ENJOY
\$2.00 OFF**

Expires 5/31/2021

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