

# Straight Talk

*The Newsmagazine of the Former Texas Rangers Association*



## PHASE II CONSTRUCTION SLATED TO BEGIN LATE 2020

Dear FTRA and FTRF members, it is my honor and privilege to share some very exciting news! On May 18, 2020, the FTRF Board of Directors approved, and President Joe B. Davis signed, pre-construction and financing development contracts for Phase II of the Texas Rangers Heritage Center! The company that will oversee construction of our state-of-the-art history and education museum is Swinerton Construction, a 132 year-old firm founded in San Francisco, but with offices in both Dallas and Austin. The project will be fully financed through efforts of Griffin-Swinerton, a joint-venture that develops financing for public-private partnerships, including government, universities, and non-profit organizations (like ours).

Capital Campaign fundraising will continue throughout (and beyond, if needed) the approximately 18-month construction period. The goal is to raise total funds to pay off the financed amount by, or shortly after, construction is completed. The grand opening date is to be determined, but will likely occur in mid-late 2022, just in time for the Two-Hundredth Anniversary of the Texas Rangers! The relationship with Swinerton Construction was facilitated through FTRA/FTRF member Mike Gault--great-grandson of legendary Texas Ranger Captain Maney Gault—whose life-long friend, Mr. Stacy Rudd, is the operations manager for Swinerton-Dallas.

(Continued on pg.7)



# PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

## Former Texas Rangers Association

### OFFICERS

*President*  
**Lance Coleman**  
*1st Vice President*  
**Lane Akin**  
*2nd Vice President*  
**Alvin Schmidt**  
*3rd Vice President*  
**Sr. Capt. H.R. Block**  
*Secretary*  
**Jeanne Wallace**  
*Treasurer*  
**Joe B. Davis**  
*Historian*  
**Jody Ginn, Ph.D.**  
*Associate Historian*  
**Mike Cox**  
*Chaplains*  
**Rusty Frasier**  
**Lt. Kenny Ray**  
**Rev. Clayton Smith**

### DIRECTORS

**Lance Coleman**  
*Chairman of the Board*  
**Ralph Wadsworth**  
*Vice Chairman*  
**Jerry Clements**  
**Joe B. Davis**  
**Ray Martinez**  
**Capt. Dan North**  
**Phil Ryan**  
**Milton Wright**

### Director Emeritus

**Bob Dale**, *deceased*  
**Rev. George Frasier**, *deceased*  
**Bill Gunn**, *deceased*  
**Joe Hunt**, *deceased*  
**Rudolfo Rodriguez**, *deceased*  
**Capt. Carl Weathers**, *deceased*  
**Capt. John Wood**, *deceased*

### Historian Emeritus

**Connie Rodriguez**



### GREETINGS FROM THE TEXAS HILL COUNTRY

I am honored for the opportunity to serve as your Association president for 2020- 2021. Ralph Wadsworth recently turned over the reins to me, and I'm excited for the future of our organization. For those who don't already know me, I am a Life Member in the Association, a "Major" in the Foundation, and have served as a Foundation board director for the past four years.

I began my career with DPS in 1982, serving with the Highway Patrol in Austin and Georgetown. I then served as an instructor at the DPS Academy in Austin for four years. I was first appointed to serve in Company D of the Texas Rangers in 2003. In 2010, I retired from DPS September 30, 2009, and in 2010 I joined the Office of the Inspector General at the Texas Department of Criminal Justice, where I am currently Captain in command of the Special Operations Division.

One of my first projects as president of the Association will be to develop a custom certificate for Life Members. I'm also excited to work with the Foundation on the completion of the Texas Rangers Heritage Center, Phase II, which is slated to begin later this year. Like the rest of you, I was disappointed that we had to cancel the 2020 Annual Meeting and temporarily suspend marker ceremonies due to Covid-19. However, I am looking forward to starting things back up and seeing you all at the Foundation's annual Silver Stars & Six Guns Gala on October 10, 2020, and at the 2021 Annual Meeting, next May.

Best Regards,

**Lance Coleman, President  
 Texas Ranger, Retired**

### TABLE OF CONTENTS:

TRHC EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR- 1 & 5

CHAIRMANS THOUGHTS- 6

1894 WINCHESTER .30-.30'S- 8

HAPPY TRAILS MEMORIAL- 10

TEXAS IRON- 14

CALENDAR OF EVENTS- 15

# PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

## Former Texas Rangers Foundation



I hope this finds all of you in good health and hopefully avoiding the terrible virus that has affected the lives of people around the world. I want to take this opportunity to bring all our members up to date on how all this has caused disruptions in the Former Texas Rangers Foundation and Association. Since the last "Straight Talk" there has been a lot of changes in our lives that has affected everyone in the state, this country, and around the world. I never dreamed that I would ever see businesses shut down, mass unemployment, and the many deaths all caused by the Coronavirus. I don't know anyone that hasn't been affected in some way or another.

I hope and pray that all of you are doing well and staying safe. It appears things are gradually trying to return to normal but it will take a while to get there. As you probably know, it has affected how we operate the FTRF and FTRA being a non-profit. We have had to close the office and the Texas Rangers Heritage Center to the general public since March. Thanks to a Federal Loan through the Pay Protection Program we were able to secure funds for the salaries of the staff where we could still maintain operations of the office which was our main concern. These funds took us to June 15th. This loan will not have to be paid back as long as we meet these

requirements set out in the loan agreement.

We also applied for another federal loan thru the small business association. We applied for the maximum in the amount of \$150,000.00 and it was approved. This loan has to be paid back but payments do not start for 12 months. The interest rate is 2.75% and can be paid in 30 years or before. This should give us another 5 or 6 months of operation funds.

We also applied for \$10,000 through the Small Business Administration and was approved for \$6,000.00 this does not have to be paid back and can be used as needed. I want to thank Jody Edward Ginn, Ph.D., Executive Director of TRHC, and Erin Hall, my assistant for getting the paperwork done to secure these loans. It has literally kept our office operating as our funds were running out.

We have also looked at other ways to cut operating expenses. I contacted our landlord and he agreed to cut our monthly rent by \$500.00 a month. This will save us \$6,000.00 a year. I can't thank him enough for his generosity and support during this difficult time. We have also cut back on the maintenance of the TRHC. We have nearly 12 acres there that needs mowing, edging, fertilizing, watering, and general maintenance. We are doing our best to keep it up as we have a lot invested in the landscaping.

We had to cancel the FTRA membership meeting that is held annually in May because of the Coronavirus. This is the first time in my many years that we had to do this. Due to the rise in cases of the virus, our offices are currently closed to

### PRESIDENT

Joe B. Davis, *Texas Rangers, Retired, Fredericksburg*

### VICE PRESIDENT

Joe M. Peters, *Texas Rangers, Retired, Austin*

### CHAIRMAN

Bill Dante, *San Antonio*

### VICE CHAIRMAN

Lance Coleman, *Texas Rangers, Retired, Kerroville*

### SECRETARY

Machelle Morris, *Midland*

### Treasurer

Chip Schweiger, *Texas Rangers, Retired, Houston*

### BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Bill Colston Jr., *Riviera*

Richard E. Dullnig, *San Antonio*

Al Frisch, *New Hall, CA*

Jason Holland, *Bowie*

Joe B. Kercheville, *Comfort*

Jack Martin, *Dallas*

Larry J. Martin, *Houston*

Phil Ryan, *Texas Rangers, Retired, Decatur*

E. Shelton Smith, *Austin*

Greg Thrower, *Houston*

Ralph Wadsworth, *Texas Rangers, Retired, Mesquite*

Lee Spencer White, *Fredericksburg*

Milton Wright, *Texas Rangers, Retired, Richmond*

### ADVISORY BOARD

Tommy Azopardi, *Austin*

Bob Bailey, *Harper*

Clinton Bailey, *Fredericksburg*

Bruce Blakemore, *Dallas*

Sr. Capt. H.R. Block, *Texas Ranger, Retired, Fredericksburg*

F.R. "Dick" Brown, *Rowlett*

Laurie Brown LaMantia, *Austin*

Capt. Clete Buckaloo, *Texas Ranger, Retired, Midland*

Sr. Capt. Bruce Casteel, *Texas Rangers, Retired, Boerne*

Dennis D. Dement, *Driftwood*

Tom C. Doell, *Dallas*

John Eastly, *Austin*

J. Brantley Foster, *Texas Rangers, Retired, Mt. Pleasant*

Homer (Trey) Garrison, III, *Austin*

Mike Gault, *Austin*

Stan Harper, *Arlington*

Brad Hassack, *Austin*

Mike Harvey, *Fredericksburg*

Sr. Capt. C.J. Havrda, *Texas Rangers, Retired, San Antonio*

Paul Holekamp, *Boerne*

Kurt D. House, *San Antonio*

E. D. Lester, *Houston*

Matt Lindemann, *Texas Rangers, Retired, Georgetown*

Larry Mahan, *Sunset*

Willis Marburger, *Houston*

Ramiro "Ray" Martinez, *Texas Rangers, Retired, New Braunfels*

B. J. (Red) McCombs, *San Antonio*

A.L. Mitchell, *Former Texas Rangers, Midland*

Wayne Musgrove, *Mountain Home*

Dustin Payne, *Powell, WY*

Thomas Ratliff, *Texas Ranger, Retired, Kyle*

Tom Roarick, *Fredericksburg*

Chad D. Stary, *Uvalde*

Chief Tauzin, *Ft. Worth*

Ralph Thomas, *Houston*

Ed Vaughan, *Boerne*

George M. "Mitch" West, *San Antonio*

Greg White, *Boerne*

Honorable Ken Wise, *Houston*

Lee Young, *Texas Rangers, Retired, McKinney*

### TRHC EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Jody E. Ginn, PhD, *Fredericksburg*

### LIFETIME DIRECTORS, DECEASED

H. Joaquin Jackson, *Texas Rangers, Retired, Alpine*  
Charles Schreiner III, *Kerroville*

the general public and open by appointments only, you will need to call into the office to schedule. We are slowly getting back to normal but it will take a while to get caught up with the daily operations. Our main focus is to keep the office open, safe and healthy as possible.

There are several ways that our membership can help. One way is simply through a donation or pledge. You could raise your rank in membership or tell a friend about us and encourage them to join with us in our mission. We need your help now more than ever before. It's been some difficult times but with your support we will survive.

Our next scheduled event was going to be the Texas Ranger Day & symposium on Saturday, August 1st. I regret to inform you that it has been canceled due to the Covid 19 situation. We certainly don't want anyone to be exposed to the Corona Virus. The safety and welfare of our supporters is a great concern of ours. It has been re-scheduled for August 7, 2021.

The Silver Stars & Six Guns Gala has also been canceled at the Embassy Suites and Conference Center in San Marcos. It has been canceled for the same reason as the Symposium. It is our biggest fundraiser of the year and will definitely put a damper on our operations funds. We will be having the live auction on October 10th and will move it to the Fredericksburg Texas Rangers Heritage Center Pavilion. In there will be limited seating. It will include a social hour with heavy horderves and an open bar. Everyone will be receiving a letter for this event on how you can participate in the auction if you are unable to attend. We really need everyone's support this year so we can move forward with Phase II.

A ground breaking ceremony has been scheduled for October 24th for Phase II. It will be a big day for the Foundation and we hope all our members and supporters can attend so mark your calendars! You will be getting more information as the details of the event are currently being worked out.

We will be celebrating the 50th Anniversary of the FTRF next year, 1971 to 2021. We are working on several commemorative items. One is the Colt model 1911 .38 super. There will only be fifty of these available to purchase. Please refer to the attached flyer on how you can secure yours. It will only increase in value. THE DEADLINE TO SECURE ONE IS AUGUST 15, 2020.

The Sig Sauer 9mm Texas Ranger model will be available for purchase in a couple of months. We have worked out a partnership with Sig and a portion of the sales will go toward the building of Phase II of the TRHC. It is the same pistol that is currently issued to the Texas Rangers. This is a great opportunity for us to get a lot of publicity for who we are and for what we are doing to preserve the true history of the Texas Rangers.

I am excited to report that the Board of Directors have signed a contract with Swinerton Construction Company to begin construction on Phase II. They are a nationwide company that has been in business over 100 years and have built many museums. Last year they did nearly 5 billion dollars in construction. So please be sure to mark your calendar for the ground breaking ceremony that has been scheduled for October 24th for Phase II. This means we will be open for the 200th celebration of the Texas Rangers in 2023. This is no doubt a dream come true for all of our members and supporters and we hope you all can attend. This is an answer to many prayers!

For all the details I refer you to Dr. Jody Edward Ginn's message in this issue. I want to take this opportunity to thank each of you for your continued support and confidence for without you this could have never happened.

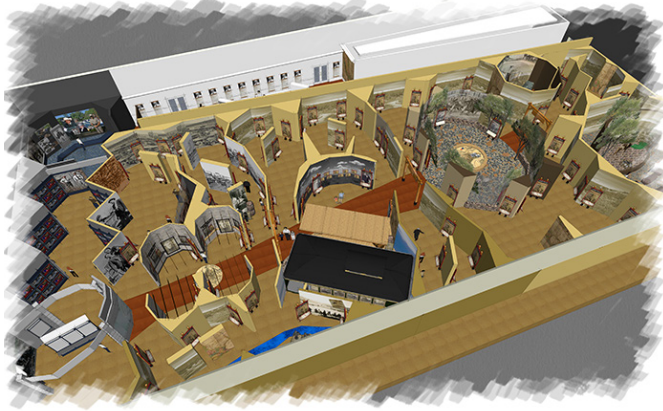
Until next time,



**Joe B. Davis, President  
Texas Ranger, Retired**



## Executive Director Report



(Continued from page 1)

Like Mike, Stacy was raised in Marble Falls, Texas, is a graduate and former football star for both Marble Falls High School and the University of Texas at Austin. Stacy earned a degree from UT-Arlington's prestigious School of Architecture, after completing his football career with the Longhorns, and has decades of experience in construction development and management. Swinerton Construction is the 17th largest general contractor in the world, having completed over \$4Billion in projects in 2019. They are employee-owned, debt free, and top-rated in safety and innovation. They have offices in 19 cities nationwide, and have constructed numerous museums across the continent, and beyond.

It is of particular note the representatives of Swinerton approached the Foundation unsolicited, and specifically asked for the opportunity to become "THE company that builds the Texas Rangers Heritage Center." They regularly express their excitement to be a part of the project, and have committed to both top-quality construction combined with state-of-the-art-cost-saving measures, to ensure that the facility meets the highest standards at the lowest possible cost. Be assured I will keep you all updated as the project progresses.

Please join me in welcoming Mr. Rudd and the rest of the Swinerton crew to the Texas Rangers Heritage Center team!

Sincerely,

Jody E. Ginn, PhD  
Executive Director  
Texas Rangers Heritage Center



# FTRF CHAIRMAN'S THOUGHTS



Hello All,

I hope this message finds you and your family in a place of hope with anticipation of many good things to come. As you know the FTRF exists to support and assist the fulfillment of the mission of the Association. As members we are here to perpetuate the true history and heritage of the Texas Rangers by building and operating a museum dedicated to the Texas Rangers open to ALL for education and commemoration.

With that being said, Phase II is happening very soon! As a non-profit foundation, our fundraising is never ending and never stops. In order to achieve our immediate goals, I am asking each of you to bring in at least one new member of any rank. Thank you to those who have brought in new members. We are very grateful and excited about that, but our numbers need to grow.

I am counting on you to help meet our goals with new members. Don't forget to buy your raffle tickets for the Charlie Schreiner III Colt Revolver Set valued at \$25,000. Tickets are \$100 a piece and only 1000 tickets are being sold. I can tell you we have a limited number of tickets left and they are going fast. The drawing for the revolver will be held on Saturday, October 10th, during the 2020 Gala Live Auction! This auction will be streamed to registered participants so contact the FTRF Office for details.

More Great News! Our offices and the Texas Rangers Heritage Center are now open again. Any suggestions or questions please call us. Remember, "IT'S ALL ABOUT THE KIDS!"

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Bill Dante". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Bill Dante  
Foundation Chairman

To All Members -

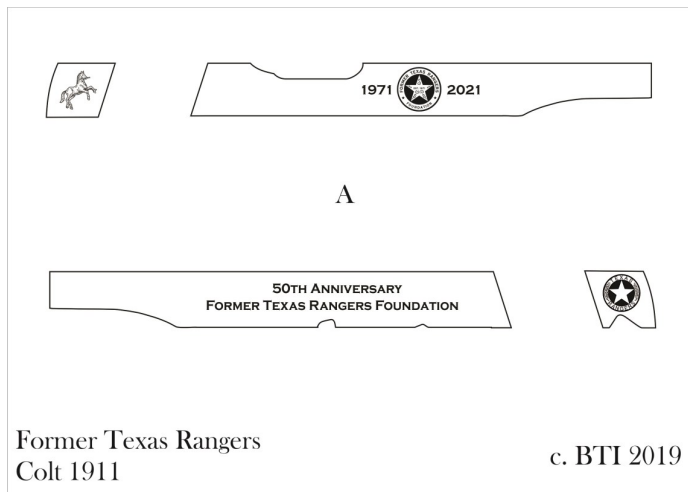
We are aware that a recently released book is being promoted as a new, revelatory history of the Texas Rangers. We understand that numerous reputable scholars of the genre were not consulted by the author or publisher prior to the book's release, and those scholars have raised questions about at least some of the excerpts referenced in the advertising campaign and media reviews. We share their concerns that certain facts as presented may not comport with the historical record, and anxiously await publication of their fair and honest reviews of the book in question.

We will keep you apprised as to developments.

Thanks for your continued support and stay safe!

Joe

## FTRF 50th Anniversary Colt .38 Super



Former Texas Rangers  
Colt 1911

c. BTI 2019

### Competition .38Super

Upswept Beavertail Grip Safety, Undercut Trigger Guard, Dual recoil spring system, Novak fiber Optic sights, series 70 firing system.

Includes all above plus: gun smithing, high polish of all blue parts, special commemorative deep laser etch 2 sides of slide. Faux ivory grips with scrimshawed Texas Ranger badge included with factory G10 grips. Only 100 units to be produced. Orders will be filled on a first come, first served basis. Note: Special serial numbers are no longer available due to BATF rules.

Estimated delivery: minimum of 150 days after final order

Price: \$1500++ (purchaser responsible for taxes, shipping & FFL transfer fees.  
Price reflects a \$200 reservation fee made payable to FTRF.)

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City/ST/Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

# pistols reserved: \_\_\_\_\_ Reservation fee: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Former Texas Rangers Foundation  
103 Industrial Loop, Ste. 700 ★ P.O. Box 3195 ★ Fredericksburg, Texas 78624-3195 ★ TIN# 23-7150500  
Phone: 830-990-1192 ★ Fax: 830-990-1121  
[www.TRHC.org](http://www.TRHC.org) ★ Email: [Joe@FormerTexasRangers.org](mailto:Joe@FormerTexasRangers.org)

An ordering window with instructions is listed above, with delivery expected in late Spring 2021  
Deadline to order is AUGUST 15, 2020

## 1894 Winchester .30-30 Saddle Ring Carbines Commemorating the Former Texas Rangers Foundation



A Winchester 1894 16" octagon barrel, engraved saddle-ring carbine in .30-30. Gold plated with special serial number and FTRF medallion. Members receive 30% off the retail price of \$2,695.00 for a total of \$1,886.50, with a portion of sales going to the Foundation.



A Winchester 1894 16" barrel, engraved saddle-ring carbine in .30-30. Silver plated with special serial number and FTRF medallion. Members receive 30% off the retail price of \$1,945.00 for a total of \$1,361.50, with a portion of sales going to the Foundation.



A Winchester 1894 20" barrel, saddle-ring carbine in .30-30. Features special serial number and FTRF medallion. Members receive 30% off the retail price of \$1,695.00 for a total of \$1,186.50, with a portion of sales going to the Foundation.

- Manufactured by J.B. CUSTOM INC.
- For questions or sales, contact Jim Buchanan  
Shop: 260-338-1894 / Cell: 260-417-2099
- Buyer responsible for FFL, fees, shipping & other taxes



# The Legend, The Lore, The Law

## Limited Edition of 35 Bronze Castings



Approximately 29"L x 16"D x 20"H; base 13"D 29" x 2"H

**\$15,900** plus tax & shipping

Created by third generation sculptor Dustin Payne, the monumental of this piece resides at the Texas Rangers Heritage Center in Fredericksburg, TX. This limited edition bronze is being offered with a 50% deposit to reserve an edition number. The remaining balance plus shipping is due at the time of casting. As of July 2020, numbers available are #26–34.

Current casting time of 12–16 weeks after order.

Contact the Foundation Office for more details and to reserve yours today!

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Credit Card: \_\_\_\_\_

Exp: \_\_\_\_\_ CVC: \_\_\_\_\_ Requested No. \_\_\_\_\_



### Former Texas Rangers Foundation

PO Box 3195

103 Industrial Loop, Ste 700

Fredericksburg, TX 78624

Phone: 830-990-1192

Fax: 830-990-1121

www.TRHC.org

**Just In!!**

**Individual pieces of the maquette are available in Limited Edition!**

**\$4900 plus tax & shipping**



# HAPPY TRAILS



## In Memory of FTRA Member, Col. James Blackburn Adams, 1926-2020

Colonel Adams served as Director of the Texas Department of Public Safety and Chief of the Texas Rangers from January 1, 1980 until May 31, 1987. Even though Col. Adams was recruited to the position from outside of the DPS, he was well-respected for his strong leadership. Many Rangers appreciated that he took a personal interest in major investigations, often staying in direct contact with them for regular updates and providing support, as needed.

AUSTIN – Texas Department of Public Safety (DPS) Director Steven McCraw today issued the following statement on the death of former DPS Director James B. Adams.

“Colonel Adams had a storied career in law enforcement, one that was filled with accomplishments and accolades, and he leaves behind a legacy that still benefits the law enforcement profession today,” said Director McCraw. “During his seven-year tenure at DPS, Colonel Adams provided outstanding leadership and fully supported the men and women at DPS who risked their lives daily to protect and serve Texas. After more than 30 years, DPS continues to benefit from his legacy, and on behalf of the men and women of DPS, I extend our sincere condolences to his family.”

Colonel James B. Adams became the Director of DPS on January 1, 1980, after his retirement from the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) as [Associate] Director [the #2 position at the FBI]. Colonel Adams was born in Corsicana, Texas, in 1926. He served in the U.S. Army during World War II, and upon returning home to Texas, he attended Baylor University where he earned a Bachelor of Arts and [law degree, and who honored him as a Distinguished Alumnus in 2007.] Colonel Adams served as a prosecuting attorney before being elected to serve in the Texas House of Representatives — a position he would leave in 1951 to begin his career with the FBI as a Special Agent.

FTRF President Joe B. Davis (Texas Ranger Retired) and the Board of Directors wish to express their appreciation for Colonel Adams’ law enforcement service, his support for the FTRA/FTRF, and extend their condolences to his family.

# TEXAS RANGERS *and* HISTORY SYMPOSIUM

**CANCELLED DUE TO COVID-19**



## ★ (HISTORY SYMPOSIUM)

TICKETS: \$20 PRE-EVENT  
\$25 DAY OF EVENT  
*includes lunch and parking per person*

Come meet ACTIVE Texas Rangers.  
They will be here and speaking about their field specialties.

### **SPECIAL GUEST SPEAKERS**

Chance Collins, Chief of the Texas Rangers

Lieutenant Wende Wakeman  
1st female Lieutenant in the Texas Rangers



For tickets to the Symposium, call 830-990-1192 or visit [TRHC.org](http://TRHC.org)  
Texas Rangers Heritage Center 1618 East Main St Fredericksburg, TX 78624





Our historic 4 Six's Chuck wagon getting a good deep cleaning by Edward Parson's, World Champion Chuck Wagon Cook.

**-JUST IN-  
CALENDAR UPDATES**

*August 1st*  
**Texas Ranger Day**  
CANCELED DUE TO COVID RESTRICTIONS

*October 10th*  
**Silver Stars & Six Guns Gala**  
CANCELED DUE TO COVID RESTRICTIONS

*October 24th*  
**Maj. John B. Jones Masonic Membership Meeting**  
CANCELED DUE TO COVID RESTRICTIONS



**Texas Rangers-2019-Fredericksburg, TX  
Texas Rangers Heritage Center**

SIG SAUER, INC. OF NEWINGTON, NH HAS PARTNERED WITH THE FTRF TO PRODUCE A VERY SPECIAL SIG P320 9MM HANDGUN, AS AN EXCLUSIVE LICENSED PRODUCT WITH A PORTION OF SALES PROCEEDS DIRECTLY BENEFITING THE FTRF, A 501-C3 NON-PROFIT.

THIS HANDGUN IS USED BY ALL 13 DIVISIONS OF THE TEXAS DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY WHICH INCLUDES THE TEXAS RANGERS AND NOW ALL BRANCHES OF THE UNITED STATES MILITARY. THE P320 HAS A REPUTATION FOR ACCURACY AND RELIABILITY AND WE ARE EXCITED TO PARTNER WITH SIG SAUER IN THIS SUPPORT AND RECOGNITION OF THE FTRF MISSIONS.

THIS EXCLUSIVE EDITION OF THE NEW SIG P320 IS AVAILABLE TO ORDER THRU SIG'S NETWORK OF AUTHORIZED DISTRIBUTORSHIPS AND FFL DEALERS IN EARLY SPRING 2020. INFORMATION ABOUT THIS OPPORTUNITY IS AVAILABLE THRU JOE DAVIS OR LEONARD BUCSANYI AT 830-990-1192.



**SIG SAUER**  
NEVER SETTLE

## Texas Iron Guns of the Texas Rangers

*By: Bob Moser, Capt USA retired  
FTRA Weapons Historian*



In this article we will discuss 4 of the special Texas Ranger offerings from Colt, Baretta and Sig Sauer. There are many Texas Ranger commemoratives on the commercial market. We will mention those that are not really a commemorative but rather a special offering available only to serving Texas Rangers. In 1984, Baretta with permission of the Texas Department of Public Safety, produced a Special Texas Ranger Edition. Baretta U.S.A. targeted 100 units of the Model 92 SB, 9mm pistols to be produced. Less than 40 were actually purchased by serving Texas Rangers. The serial number was the Rangers' seniority number within the Ranger Service. I have serial #14, which belonged to retired Lt. Bob Favor. The slide on these Baretta's has a fine stamping that reads "1823 to 1984 Texas Rangers". The limited production numbers of this offering make it highly collectable.

The next special offering was from Colt in March of 1984. This is often confused as being a commemorative but this was specifically offered to serving Texas Rangers. Colt was granted permission to produce a very limited number of 94 total, Single Action Army model revolvers in .45 Long Colt, blue finish with 4 ¾ inch barrels. The backstrap is engraved with "Texas Rangers" and a seniority number of the Ranger inlaid in silver 1 through 94. The original cost of these revolvers created a challenge on what was then a Rangers salary. In some cases, the Ranger allowed a close friend or relative to purchase and retain his designated revolver. The Colts were shipped to each of the 94 Rangers with a historic Colt factory letter. These Colt SAA revolvers have become highly collectable and have brought auction prices from 12 to 18 thousand dollars. I am fortunate to have #84, Buster Collins and #54, Ralph Wadsworth. The Buster Collins gun has had from the beginning, a nylon strap applied and the hammer has never been cocked. This is known in the world of gun collecting as "unturned" and greatly increases its value.

The 3rd special Texas Ranger offering is a Colt 1911 Government Model Gold Cup, 175th Anniversary Edition pistol set sold in pairs with sequential serial numbers, left and right. They are made at the Colt custom shop from Chip McCormic Parts. Chip McCormic's grandfather was a long time Ranger and became Senior Captain in November 1935. The slides are factory engraved, left side "Texas Rangers 1823-1998", the right side with a Texas Ranger badge and "Texas Ranger 175th Anniversary". The design of these pistols was approved and finalized by Senior Ranger Captain Bruce Casteel and the Texas Ranger company Captains. They were only officially offered to serving Rangers. The pair I have was per Colt historical letter, shipped on 8 December 2000 to Waco, Texas.

The 4th official offering was the Sig Sauer, 1911 Texas Ranger Edition. Sig Sauer produced approximately 300 of these Texas Ranger Editions highlighting the 1911 automatic pistol from its inception in 1911 to the year 2011. They offered these exclusively to serving Texas Rangers. The left side of the slide would have the Ranger's name, rank and company factory engraved. The rear of the slide had the Texas Ranger badge. The right side of the slide read "Texas Rangers".

There are more special offerings, but that's another story.....

# CALENDAR OF EVENTS

August 1, 2020 Texas Ranger Day & History Symposium - CANCELED  
Texas Rangers Heritage Center - Fredericksburg, Texas

October 10, 2020 2020 Live Auction! Streamed to registered participants  
TBD Contact the FTRF Office for details

November 19th, 2020 GROUNDBREAKING ON PHASE II  
TBD Details to follow via invitations & emails

December 5, 2020 A Ranger Christmas Wonderland  
2:30 pm - 5:00 pm Texas Rangers Heritage Center - Fredericksburg, Texas

March 13th, 2021 Celebrate Texas! 2021  
TBD Texas Rangers Heritage Center - Fredericksburg, Texas

May 1st, 2021 FTRA Annual Membership Meeting & Reunion  
TBD Texas Rangers Heritage Center - Fredericksburg, Texas

**\*\*Please note: All dates and events are tentative due to current State & Local regulations due to COVID-19 restrictions & guidelines. Updates will be posted on our website, Facebook pages and sent via emails.**



- Tickets available at [www.trhc.org](http://www.trhc.org)



[trhc.org](http://trhc.org)  
(830)-990-1192



[facebook.com/formertexasrangers](https://facebook.com/formertexasrangers)



[requests@formertexasrangers.org](mailto:requests@formertexasrangers.org)

# SUMMER INVENTORY REDUCTION SALE

*(In stock items & colors ONLY)*

Concealed Carry Vests	reg. \$55 sale \$40
T-Shirts	Buy 1, get 1 half off
Books	
Callahan	reg. \$25 sale \$20
Cox	reg. \$25 sale \$20
Parsons	reg. \$25 sale \$20

Applicable sales tax applied. ALL SALES FINAL.

FTRF Member Sgt. Hack has designed masks in support of the Former Texas Rangers Foundation. 15% of the proceeds go to the FTRF.

Go to [www.USWings.com](http://www.USWings.com) to order your collectible mask today!



# Straight Talk

*The Newsmagazine of the Former Texas Rangers Association*

Former Texas Rangers Foundation  
103 Industrial Loop, Ste 700  
Fredericksburg, TX 78624

## STAFF:

Publisher / Graphic Design -  
Will Barkley

Editor-In-Chief -  
Dr. Jody E. Ginn

Copy Editor -  
Erin Hall

## CONTRIBUTORS:

Dick Brown  
Lisa V. Dante  
Duke Davis  
Jody E. Ginn, PhD  
Erin E. Hall

1897 - 2020  
123 years strong!

Volume 45 ★ August 2020

