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Rangers moving up DPS ladder



Randy Prince



Chance Collins









Todd Snyder

Jason Taylor

AUSTIN – Following the approval of the Texas Public Safety Commission, the Texas Department of Public Safety (DPS) has announced promotions of multiple staff members to leadership positions within the agency. The promotions are effective Sept.1.

"The duties and responsibilities entrusted to DPS by the Texas Leadership and Legislature are critical, and leaders of this agency play an integral role in ensuring those duties are fulfilled," said PSC Chairman Steven Mach. "We are grateful for the dedication and selfless service by DPS' top leaders who will soon be retiring. Thankfully the department has established a deep bench of outstanding leaders throughout the agency. We are eager to begin working with the new leadership team as they take the agency forward."

"As the baton is passed from one leadership team to the next, I have no doubt that the individuals being promoted will continue to build on the great work of their predecescontinued on page 3



GUEST SPEAKER Heather Martin (center) is surrounded by family and friends following her presentation at Saturday night's dinner during Reunion Weekend. Heather, daughter of retired Texas Ranger Chief Hank Whitman (2nd from right), spoke on the tremendous boost her TRAF scholarship afforded as she completed her undergraduate, Masters and PhD degrees. She uses her training in her job as a scientific intelligence officer for the U.S. Military. From left is Dave Wilson, TRAF vice chairman who presented Heather with a Ranger-style .45 caliber pistol, Chairman Constance White, who presented her with a TRAF benefactor membership, and Chance Collins, who is a regional director for the DPS and the incoming Texas Ranger chief, effective Sept. 1.

^{Chairman's report -} **'Friend sharpens friend' hits home**

By Constance White TRAF Chairman



Constance White

The Texas Ranger Association Foundation recently hosted the annual Retired Texas Ranger Reunion, and I would like to thank all who were involved in its success!

A special thanks to our executive director Liz Myrick and her team of TRAF staff and dedicated volunteers for the seamless execution of the weekend's activities.

Thank you to the Texas Rangers, both active and retired, and the TRAF board of directors who were all integral in everyone enjoying the festivities.

With each reunion comes the anticipation of a homecoming, and I am always grateful for the new bonds of friendship made over this special weekend.

I had the pleasure of escorting Ranger Royal McMullin's widow, Cristina, to the reunion, and I want to thank her for her courage and personal tribute to her husband during the memorial service.

She also asked that I convey her appreciation for the kindness and caring support shown to her. She knows she has a home with TRAF as part of her extended Ranger family.

Our special guest speaker, Dr. Heather Martin, was eloquent with her words in describing how TRAF's investment of her scholarship received in 2008 laid the groundwork for her remarkable career. As a U.S. Air Force Officer, she served our nation by supporting our military men and women in combat.

As she transitioned from active duty military into her current civil service role with the Department of Defense she is bringing balance to the national debate on border security, and building the intelligence tools to be used in combat and humanitarian operations of the future.

As the daughter of a Texas Ranger, Heather is an example of how a TRAF investment has the ability to yield an unimaginable return. We are all so proud of her and appreciate her efforts in traveling from Washington to join us.

Texas Ranger Chaplain Kenny Ray opened the reunion's memorial service quoting Proverbs 27:17, "As iron sharpens iron, so a friend sharpens a friend."

This defines and demonstrates the encouragement and love we share with one another, and a legacy specific to TRAF and the Texas Rangers. We all come from different backgrounds, yet we are connected by a common bond and a purpose for serving others.

Gathering for the annual reunion reminds us that the men and women of the Texas Rangers are not alone on their selfless journey. While they continue to protect and defend the citizens of Texas, TRAF provides a link of steadfast support for them and their families.

I believe "friend sharpens a friend" is an underlying theme of the newly produced TRAF video which can be found on our website.

While it focuses on the Rangers defending their mission, it provides insight to the integrity and importance of what makes us stronger together through sacrifice and friendship.

May God continue to watch over the men and women of our Texas Ranger family.

Promotions & Transfers -Chief promotes major, captain; 9 transfer



Jason Dudley

Texas Ranger Chief Randy Prince has announced the appointment of Jamie Downs as major, Co. C in Lubbock. Downs had been captain, administration, at headquarters in Austin. His move was effective June 1.

Jason Dudley was promoted from lieutenant, Co. C in Lubbock, to captain, administration at headquarters.

Prince also announced the transfers of Lt. Michael Parker from Co. F, Waco to Co. C, Amarillo; Lt. Scott Stevenson, Co. B, Garland, to Co. C, Lubbock; Lt. Roland Villarreal from Co. E, El Paso, to Co. D, Weslaco; Ranger Cody Langford, from Co. D, Corpus Christi to Sinton; and Ranger Randy Aguirre, Co. D, Sinton to Beeville.

Also, Ranger Gustavo Sanchez from Co. E Midland to Co. E El Paso; Ranger Joshua Mason from Co. B Longview to Co. B Texarkana; Ranger Nicholas Castle from Co. B Palestine to Co. B Tyler; and Ranger Chad Daniel IV from Co. D Laredo to Co. B Garland.

The chief also announced the retirements of Ranger James Barnet, Co. D, Beeville, effective April 30 and Lt. Jay Foster, Co. C, Amarillo, effective May 31.



Jamie Downs

Rangers moving up DPS ladder -

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sors," said DPS Director Steven McCraw. "I look forward to working with this team as they take on new challenges to bolster the work being done by thousands of dedicated men and women in our department."

Randall Prince is being promoted to Deputy Director of Law Enforcement Operations. Prince will replace Deputy Director/Colonel David Baker, who is retiring Aug. 31. Prince currently serves as the Division Director and Chief of the Texas Rangers, a position he has served in since October 2014.

Prince previously served as the director for DPS Region 5 in Lubbock, which encompasses Panhandle and West Texas area counties.

Prior to that, he was Texas Ranger Company Commander in Lubbock. During his career with DPS, Prince has held assignments in the Texas Highway Patrol, Criminal Law Enforcement Division and the Rangers Division, serving in multiple duty stations throughout the state.

Along with more than 29 years of law enforcement experience, Prince also holds a Master Peace Officer Certificate; is a graduate of the FBI National Academy; and a graduate of the Governor's Executive Development Program. Prince was a collegiate athlete and graduate of Texas State University with a BA in criminal justice.

Freeman Martin is being promoted to Deputy Director of Homeland Security and Chief of Staff. Martin will replace Chief of Staff/Deputy Director Robert J. "Duke" Bodisch, who is retiring August 31. Martin is the current Regional Director for DPS Region 6 in San Antonio.

He began his career with DPS in 1990 as a Highway Patrolman in Winnie. He transferred to Lubbock in 1995, later promoting to Corporal. In April 1999, Martin promoted to Sergeant in the Narcotics Service and was stationed in Houston. In March 2002, he promoted to Texas Ranger Sergeant and remained in Houston.

In January 2008, he promoted to Texas Ranger Lieutenant in Austin, and Inspector within the Audit and Inspection Office in 2009. In May 2009, he promoted to Texas Ranger Captain in Houston, where he later promoted to Texas Ranger Major.

In September of 2014, Martin was promoted to director of DPS Region 6. Martin is a graduate of the Northwestern University School of Police Staff and Command, and has received numerous awards and commendations during his tenure with DPS.

Chance Collins is being promoted to Division Director and Chief of the Texas Rangers Division. Collins currently serves as the Regional Director for DPS Region 7 - Capitol Region in Austin. Prior to that, he served as the Assistant Division Director for the Texas Rangers. Collins began his career with DPS in 1993, and his previous assignments include Commander of the Special Weapons and Tactics (SWAT) Team; Texas Ranger Reconnaissance Team; Texas Ranger Major of Co. F in Waco; and Texas Ranger in San Antonio, Harlingen and Houston.

Prior to his 15 years with the Ranger Division, Collins

held positions as a special agent on the Governor's Protective Detail, and Texas Highway Patrol trooper in Perryton, Austin and Georgetown. He is a former member of the Ranger Officer Involved Shooting Committee, Crime Scene Investigation Committee, and the Unsolved Crimes Investigation Program.

Collins has a BS degree from Wayland Baptist University; graduated from the Federal Bureau of Investigation National Academy - Session 256; the DPS Command College - Cohort 6; and the National Forensic Academy at the University of Tennessee.

Jason Taylor is being promoted to director of DPS Region 2 in Houston, which consists of counties in Southeast Texas. Taylor will replace Regional Director Philip "Duane" Steen, who is retiring August 31. Taylor currently serves as Texas Ranger Major and Company Commander in Houston. Taylor began his more than 19-year career with DPS as a Texas Highway Patrol trooper serving in various duty stations in Region 2.

He also served as a Sergeant/Investigator with the Criminal Investigations Division in the Special Crimes Service in Garland and the DPS Criminal Intelligence Service in Houston. Taylor was then accepted into the Texas Rangers Division – his first assignment was with Co. F - Waco and later with Co. A - Houston.

He promoted to Ranger lieutenant in 2011, captain in 2014, and was subsequently assigned to oversee the Public Integrity Unit (PIU) at Austin Headquarters before promoting to Ranger major in Houston.

Taylor earned a BS degree in criminal justice from Sam Houston State University, and is a graduate of the Northwestern University School of Police Staff and Command. Major Taylor routinely volunteers with Spindletop Youth Charities and the Houston Livestock Show and Rodeo, where he serves on the Emergency Response Team.

He is a four-time recipient of the Houston 100 Club Officer of the Year Award, and has received other awards and commendations, including a DPS Regional Commander's Award and a Company Commander's award.

Todd Snyder has been promoted to Assistant Division Director and Assistant Chief of the Texas Rangers Division in Austin. His promotion was effective May 1. Snyder most recently served as the Major of Texas Ranger Co. C in Lubbock. Snyder has more than 23 years of service with the Texas Department of Public Safety.

He began the DPS Academy in 1996 and was first stationed in Stanton, as a Highway Patrol trooper. His subsequent assignments during his career with DPS have included Texas Highway Patrol, Criminal Law Enforcement and the Texas Rangers – serving in multiple duty stations in West Texas and the Panhandle.

Prior to beginning his career with the department, Snyder served four years with the Nolan County Sheriff's Office, where his assignments included Jailer/Dispatcher, Assistant Jail Administrator and Patrol Deputy/K-9 Handler.

Featured retired Ranger -Bob Prince: "Work was always fun"

By Bill Hartman **Star Journal Editor**

There's something contagious about being around Texas Rangers, both actives and retirees. Maybe it's the energy they have, or the stories they tell or because they have that "it" factor.

Retired Capt. Bob Prince fits all those categories, and he

and his family have a long, successful and deep-rooted commitment to the Texas Department of Public Safety.

Bob is a native of Oklahoma, but like a lot of people, "I got to Texas as soon as I could."

When Bob was growing up, he didn't have law enforcement in mind as a career. After a football career landed him a scholarship at TCU, he graduated from college and his ambition was to coach and teach.

However, after four years at Richland Hills High School in Fort Worth, he had a change of heart and entered the DPS training school in 1964, graduating in 1965. His highway patrol stations were in Denton, Weatherford and Fort Worth.

He was later assigned to

motor vehicle theft, which was one of several specialities he developed over his career. He was promoted to the Texas Rangers division in 1974 and sent to Palestine. He was on the original SWAT team of the DPS.

In 1979 Bob was promoted to sergeant of Co. F in Waco. From 1986 to 1992 he was captain of Co. A in Houston.

In 1992 he returned to Waco as captain of Co. F. He retired at midnight in October, 1993, and at 7 a.m. the next day took up his new position in private prison management.

"In every job I've ever had, I always looked forward to going to work," Bob said, and that has never changed. During his years with the DPS, Prince help organize departments like motor vehicle theft, SWAT and he was the division's first forensic hypnotist. He participated in hostage negotiations and the Ranger homicide task force.

He was also on the team in 1985 that safely rescued a 13-year-old Alvarado girl, Amy Mitchell, who was kidnapped on the way to school.

The daughter of an Alvarado bank director was abducted by two men who led Rangers and other lawmen on a 100-mile-per-hour air and ground chase with gunfire covering three counties.

Bob and his late wife, Betty, have four sons, Jarrell, Bobby Darrell, Randall and Brad. Two of the four have DPS ties. Brad is retired from the DPS, Jarrell is a stockbroker and Bobby Darrell is an orthopedic surgeon.

Randy is presently Chief of the Ranger Division and in September becomes deputy director of law enforcement operations for the entire DPS, the No. 2 job in the department.

All four of the Prince sons each have a son and a daughter, and Bob has three great-grandchildren.

"I could not possibly be any happier with our family," Bob said.

Of Randy's rise in the DPS, Bob said, "I have so much pride in him, both professionally and what kind of father and husband he is. He was always supportive of my career, and certainly me of his."

Bob chuckled when he said, "Randy was always a fun-loving boy growing up, but he always knew when and how to be serious. The boys' coach once told me in football they would hit anybody when needed, but Randy liked to hit 'em." Randy, like Bob, played college football while attending Southwest Texas State.

"Betty and the boys were always so supportive of my job as a Ranger and with the DPS," Bob said. "That's so important in law enforcement."

THE OLD ADAGE of the acorn not falling far from the family tree certainly fits Randy Prince and his dad, retired Texas

Ranger Capt. Bob Prince. Capt. Prince spent nearly 30 years

with the Texas Department of Public Safety as a DPS Troop-

er and Ranger. Son Randy will take over as deputy director

of law enforcement operations for the entire department on

Sept. 1, moving up from his post as Chief of the Rangers.



Hall of Fame report – Revolver, Gold Coin, Badge on want list

By Byron Johnson Ranger Museum Director



Supporters have requested a list of artifacts "most wanted" for the Texas Ranger Bicentennial[™]. They are essential to sharing the history of the legendary Texas Rangers with future generations.

Remarkable gifts have been made, treasures that now belong to you. Rudolph Gleichman, a Pennsylvania collec-

Byron Johnson

tor, donated a c.1838 Bowie knife-presented by Jim Bowie's brother Rezin to Texas Ranger Capt. William Y. Lacey.

Margaret Hickman presented an 1836 Ranger commission awarded by Sam Houston to her ancestor for the capture of Santa Anna.

Donors, collectors and corporations have permanently associated their names with the Texas Rangers through such gifts to the patrons of Texas.

Most Wanted

#1. The association of Samuel Colt and the Texas Rangers began in 1839 when the Republic of Texas bought Paterson revolving pistols and long arms for its Navy. In 1843 Sam Houston disbanded the Texas Navy, sending surplus Colts to the Texas Rangers.

Captains Jack Hays and Sam Walker welcomed the revolver, an equalizer when they were outnumbered by 5-1 or more. This led to other legendary Ranger Colts: Walker, Dragoon, Army & Navy models, Peacemaker and Model 1911.

Our display Paterson is on loan from the National Cowboy & Western Heritage Museum in Oklahoma. Eventually it must go back, leaving us without the most important firearm of the Texas Rangers. (It's a colt .35 caliber No. 5 Texas Paterson, c.1838-40).

We hope a collector, corporation or major donor would consider gifting or sponsoring a Texas No. 5 Paterson to the men who made it legendary—the Texas Rangers. (Estimated sponsorship, depending on examples available, \$85,000 to \$150,000).

Texas Ranger Badges

#2. The museum collection of Texas Ranger commissions and badges spans three centuries. They are publicly-owned symbols of honor, trust and authority preserved for future generations. Each with a known history of service—including three which were flown on the Space Shuttle in 2002 to the International space station.

Ranks and the composition of badges have changed. The rank of "Sergeant" has been replaced by Texas Ranger. "Major," a Ranger rank last seen in the 1830s, has replaced "Captain" for company commanders.

Gold badges for ranks above Lieutenant, made of 50peso Mexican gold coins, have been replaced by gold-plated silver due to gold prices. Gold badges are still authorized at private expense.

Texas Rangers and Texas DPS have granted permission to update the badge collection for the upcoming Texas Ranger Bicentennial[™]. A business or donor is sought to underwrite them for the permanent collections.

They will receive their name on the exhibit credit panel, publicity in our newsletter, and a presentation photograph if the donor or corporation desires.

- 50-peso Gold coin for display
- 50-peso Gold badges: (a) Chief, (b) Assistant Chief, (c) Major
- Gold-Plated Silver badges: (a) Chief, (b) Assistant Chief, (c) Major
- · Texas Ranger (current) Silver Badge

(Sponsorship of 7 badges, coin and exhibit modifications, \$12,500).





MEMBERS OF THE Greatest Generation, all in their mid-90s and all veterans of World War II, were all honored guests at the annual Reunion Weekend luncheon in Waco. All live in the Georgetown-Sun City area and were brought to the reunion by Betty Schleder, who is honorary chairman of the Austin Honor Flight which ensures all vets get to see the WWII Memorial in Washington. Ranger Chief Randy Prince (left) and Asst. Chief Todd Snyder (right) and TRAF director Bob Stratmann (third from right, who helped with the arrangements,) welcomed (I-r) Patrick Henry, Howard Spiker, Betty Schleder, Gerald Obermeyer and Howard Konetcky. All were presented TRAF certificates.

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OBITS		
Retired Ranger's daughter dies	Jeanie Ward, daughter of retired Texas Ranger Haskell Taylor, died June 2, 2018. Services were June 16. Burial followed at Forest Park East	Cemetery, 21620 Gulf Freeway, in Webster. A reception followed at Friendswood United Methodist Church.
Retired Captain's daughter dies	in Midland after a sudden illness. She is the daughter of retired senior Asst. Ranger Capt. Gene Powell and his wife, Sue Powell. A memorial ser-	were deeply involved building the church. Friends report Gene is suffering from Alzheimers, and this is their third
Annette Powell Dreyer, 58, passed away May 5 at West Campus Hospital	vice was to be May 19 at Faith Baptist Church in Round Rock. The Powells	child to have passed away.
Cancer claims major's wife	Debra and Brooks had DPS and Ranger assignments in Harlingen, Weslaco and Eagle Pass before set-	two sons, Joshua and Jordan; grand- daughter, Elizabeth, sisters Lisa Heim and Janet Banfield; and two brothers, Gilbert and Marcus Gonzales.
Funeral services were held for Debra Ann Long, wife of retired Texas Ranger Brooks Long, on May 5 in Katy.	tling in Ozona. They moved to Hous- ton to be closer to her family and con- tinue her treatments against cancer. She is survived by her husband,	The family requests donations be made to M.D. Anderson Cancer Cen- ter.



RANGER LT. SCOTT Stevenson made a presentation on the Texas Rangers in May at Co. B headquarters in Garland. Among those attending were Danko Brcerevic, chief economist for the Republic of Serbia fiscal council, (I) and Dejan Kosanin, chief police advisor for the Serbian Ministry of Interior (right). At the time Stevenson was stationed with Co. B, but has since moved to Co. C in Lubbock.



LEFT PHOTO:

NITA AND JOEY McCarty joined new and old friends alike at the annual Retired Ranger reunion in Waco. McCarty is a TRAF director and benefactor who is also responsible for the large gifts from the Ed Rachal Foundation, which have benefited many of TRAF's programs, including scholarships and emergency relief. The McCartys live in Garden Ridge.

RIGHT PHOTO:

LONGTIME FRIENDS Cheryl Iselt and Donna Dendy shared a conversation at the Reunion Weekend. Cheryl is the administrative assistant to the Texas Ranger chief in Austin, and Donna is the wife of retired Ranger Chief Kirby Dendy from Waco.



All Ranger companies honored by TRAF



TAKING PART IN THE appreciation ceremony at the Reunion Weekend were (top row, I-r), Co. D Director Rick Hernandez, Co. F Director Tom Schleier, Co. C. Lt. Kenneth Bond, Co. B Director John Palmer, Co. C Director Scott Egert, Co. E Director Jerry Wellborn, TRAF Chairman Constance White, Co. A Director Russell Molina and Co. H Director Carl Lambert. Bottom row (I-r) are Co. D Major Brian Burzynski, Co. F Major Corey Lane, Co. C. Major Jamie Downs, Co. E. Ranger Nick Hanna, Co. A Lt. Wende Wakeman and Ranger Chief Randy Prince.

During a stressful 2017, all seven Texas Ranger companies weathered unexpected natural and made-made tragedies and losses.

But as is their norm, they persevered with integrity and dedicated service to the citizens of Texas.

During his Friday report at the Retired Ranger Reunion Weekend dinner, Chief Randy Prince recalled many of the unforgettable events, including the unprecedented search and rescue operations during and following devastating Hurricane Harvey, the investigation at the mass shooting at Sutherland Springs Baptist Church, the Santa Fe High School shootings, the loss of three DPS officers in the line of duty and the loss of an active Ranger after a courageous bout with cancer.

During Saturday's dinner, the Texas Ranger Association Foundation paid tribute to all active Rangers.

Under the direction of TRAF Chairman Constance White and other directors, appreciation plaques were presented to representatives of all Ranger companies.

The plaques are:

"On Behalf of the Texas Ranger Association Foundation, thank you for your service and for the sacrifices you and your families continue to make to the citizens of Texas. May these plaques be a reminder to all Rangers that TRAF will continue to be of support through days ahead. God bless you and thank you for your service."

Contributors to Star Journal

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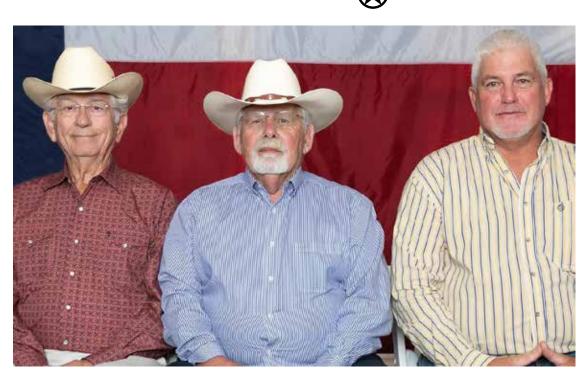
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TRAF Volunteer Ladies



TRAF VOLUNTEERS are ultra-important to the success of the Reunion Weekend. They make the wheels turn smoothly from start to check out, all with friendly smiles on their faces. Volunteers on the front row (I-r) are Karen York, Marsha Ashwell, Amber Perkins, Lori Tergerson and Brianna Simpson. In back (I-r) are Ranger Brad Weatherford, Marilyn Tittle, Marsha Wiley, Barbara Pratt, Tania Federwisch, Susan Mercer, Lindsay Hatfield and Ranger Jake Burson. The two Rangers had big roles, also, in the weekend success.



REPRESENTING CO. A at the Reunion Weekend for retired Rangers in Waco were Milton Wright, Capt. Dan North and Kenneth Parks. (Not pictured is Ronnie McBride).



AS IS NORMALLY the case, Co. B had a large turnout of retirees. They are (front row, I-r) Capt. W.D. Vickers, Capt. James Wright, Capt. David Byrnes, Capt. Richard Sweaney and Capt. Tony Bennie. On row two (I-r) are Terry Welch, Tracy Murphrey, Johnny Waldrip, Richard Shing and Ronnie Griffith. On row three (I-r) are Eddie Almond, Ronnie Pettigrew, Tom Davis, Lane Akin and Brantley Foster.



RANGERS WHO represented Co. C are (front, I-r) Capt. Carl Weathers, Jackie Peoples, Marshall Brown and Marshall Thomas. In back are (I-r) Jimmy Hailey, Tony Arnold and Warren Yeager.

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After retirement, Bob worked for three private prison companies that kept merging with others.

In 2009, he joined La Salle Corrections, which was a Louisiana company with one jail facility in Texas. Today the company has 12 in Texas and operates in five states. "The owners are fine, Christian men and it's a pleasure working for them," Bob noted.

Bob's assignment is governmental liaison, and he works with officials of the U.S. Marshall's Service, immigration departments, sheriffs' offices plus state and federal prison representatives.

La Salle hosts and cooks the barbecue lunch at the annual TRAF reunion weekend golf tournament.

Bob lives on a family ranch near Ivanhoe in Fannin County where he also raises a small herd of cattle, three horses, buffalo and donkeys. That's also where his prize tractor is located. "I don't have much spare time, because there's always something to mend or build around a ranch," he said.

Bob is an outspoken fan of the Texas Ranger Association Foundation. "These people of TRAF are an answered prayer the way they help Rangers, those still active and those of us retired. They are living angels, if there are such things.

"These TRAF members get such pleasure out of doing things for others. They are the most unselfish group of people I've ever known."

Bob's an avid reader, going through one to two books a week. "I'm not much of a TV guy, but like a lot of us, Lonesome Dove is my favorite movie along with anything featuring John Wayne."

Honesty and credibility are important traits Bob admires in others. His advice to young men and women seeking careers in law enforcement includes being a self starter, be dependable, flexible and adaptable.

"In checking out Ranger prospects, I know they like to see how they relate to their partners and families and will they make good, reliable witnesses if called on."

With the high standards expected of Texas Rangers, Bob sees a bright future for the division. "The camaraderie between actives and retirees is absolutely amazing, and with the professionalism expected, it'll continue to be a great opportunity for young people."





THOSE WHO WORE badges for Co. E were (front, I-r) Capt. Barry Caver, Bob Favor and Capt. Jerry Byrne. In back (I-r) are Calvin Cox, John Billings, Kenny Ray and David Hullum.



CO. F, STATIONED in Waco is another that always has a big turnout at the reunion. Front row (I-r) are Ray Nutt, Johnny Aycock, Clayton Smith, Capt. Bob Prince, Jim Denman and Matt Cawthon. Second row (I-r) Rocky Millican, Thelbert Millsap, Kyle Dean and Rocky Wardlow. Third row (I-r) are Mark Leger, Jimmy Schroeder and Jimmy Jones.



H CO. IS headquarters in Austin. Retirees from this company are (front, I-r) Chief Hank Whitman, Capt. H.R. Block and Col. James Wilson. Second row (I-r) Chief Kirby Dendy, Asst. Chief Bryant Wells and Asst. Chief Jim Miller.



THERE'S A GOOD chance that Lubbock was mixed in the conversation with this quartet during the Ranger Weekend Reunion. Retired Ranger Jackie Peoples and wife Shelby had dinner with Becky and TRAF director Scott Egert, who are from Lubbock. Peoples was in Kerrville as a high patrolman and the family moved to Lubbock when he was commissioned in the Texas Rangers.



WIVES HAVE ALWAYS played an important role and are singled out at the Reunion Weekend. Left to right are Janie Dean, Cindy Miller, Kelly Hill, Ivey Shing and Carol Dean. All are wives of retired Rangers, except Kelly Hill, who is the wife of Tony Hill of Perryton, a TRAF emeritus director.

Executive director's review -Reunion 2019 — we'll meet again

By Liz Myrick TRAF Executive Director



Another reunion is in the books! We appreciate everyone for coming out and hope that you and yours had a great time. We always do our best to be efficient and to accommodate.

The team we've assembled to work at the reunions is second to none. This

year the "Ranger Back Up Squad" arrived early on Friday morning ready to go. Their cheerful and persevering attitudes make the work a pleasure.

They stayed late Saturday packing and moving with the speed and precision a military unit would be proud. I cannot imagine going into "battle" without this crew.

Every year, we learn a little more, find better ways to do things, try to work with the best vendors we can, and pray that we'll have good fortune in the things outside of our control.

To paraphrase what I've heard Chief

Prince say in the past about the Rangers, we may not always get it right, and we won't always be perfect, but we can always give a perfect effort. I can say with the utmost confidence and sincerity that a perfect effort was given by many this year to make it a special weekend.

We had great silent and live auctions. After everything has been counted, we raised \$44,000. Silent Auction Chair Jerry Wellborn and his wife, Susan, do an outstanding job recruiting and collecting items, and Ranger Lt. Matthew Lindemann rallies

Executive director's review continued from page 14

and organizes the donations from Rangers.

Chairman Constance White organized the live auction and Ranger Nick Hanna did a fantastic job in his first gig as a live auctioneer.

Some of the funds raised are donor-designated for the emergency relief fund and the rest go to offset the cost of putting on the reunion. We are grateful for each item donated and for those who bid on the items.

It's an important element of the reunion as it's the only fundraising piece that helps pay for costs of the weekend's events.

When I think of people who help make the weekend a success, I must give a large thank you to Byron Johnson, director of the Texas Ranger Hall of Fame and Museum.

He and his staff are always at the ready to do whatever is needed for the reunion. From the set up and use of their facilities to helping us tidy up, tote loads of supplies, adjust the room temps, give tours that weekend, borrowing carts and training on their AV equipment, we could not be more grateful.

Even in the simplest of event details and the day-to-day planning, I'm reminded of the importance of the reunion and I learn more each year to appreciate what it means.

As Rangers are promoted, and friends pass on, the relationships and memories do not. At the reunion new memories and new friends are made, intergenerational bonds are built and family connections are strengthened.

I've pondered what the Rangers might be if the reunion simply ceased to happen. It's incomprehensible. The gap would be immense, the value of the history is priceless. I'm grateful to be a part of it.

Our busy season doesn't stop after the reunion. The scholarship process for 2018-2019 is underway with many of the applications received. We'll begin getting letters out in the coming weeks. Our 2017-2018 school year was record-setting for number of scholarships awarded. We anticipate this year will be similar. It's rewarding to get progress updates on the returning students and meet new Ranger families.

This brings home the importance of the upcoming Clay Shoots which are vital in supporting the scholarship program and other TRAF programs.

We'll have a busy few months traveling the state to for the first shoot in San Antonio on Aug. 24, then Dallas, Lubbock, San Angelo, and finally Edinburg. These are a lot of fun and we hope you'll join us and help us raise money for such a worthy mission.

We love seeing old friends who come out every year, and we welcome new ones! You don't have to be a pro to enjoy a great day of sun, good food and hanging out with the Texas Rangers! What could be better?

Texas Ranger Association Foundation *Star Journal*

Constance White, Chairman Dave Wilson, Vice Chairman Rick Hernandez, Treasurer Thomas Schleier, Secretary Liz Myrick, Executive Director Bill Hartman, Editor

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