

*Merry Christmas!*



www.thetexasrangers.org • December 2015 • Issue 13

Houston Classic in March

# Clay shoots big fundraisers

Taking the lead from Co. F's successful sporting clays shoot in San Antonio, two more regional shoots are in the history books and a third is scheduled March 18 in Houston for Co. A.

On Oct. 17, Co. E staged its clays shoot in San Angelo, and the regional fundraiser had tremendous support from volunteers and participants alike.

More than 250 people turned out, and a great finishing auction put the gross revenues over the \$100,000 mark. Overall Co. E deposited a net profit of \$66,324.04 into the Texas Ranger Association Foundation coffers.

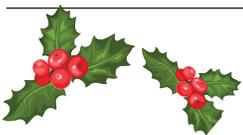
Jerry Wellborn and Dave Wilson were co-chairmen of the shoot, and members of the steering committee were Susan Wellborn, Janna Wilson, Jim Chionsini, Dave Conlon (borrowed from Co. F), Joshua Turner, Trish Updike (volunteer event coordinator), Suzi Reynolds and Danny Updike.

Rangers attending were Major Crayton McGee, Jeff Strain, Jeff Vajdos, Robert Losoya, Lt. Jason Dudley, Royal McMullen, Randy Lewis, Phillip Breeding, Lt. Chris Clark, Brian Burney, Nick Hanna, Joel Callaway, Joel Kite and Billy Mims.

Retired Rangers taking part were Bob Bullock, Jess Malone and Kenny Wadsworth. Auctioneer Mike Smith graciously donated his time and created energetic bidding from all sides of the room. New director Conlon and his wife Teresa contributed more than \$17,000 in sponsorship and auction bids.

On Nov 7, Ranger/TRAF Co. D held a clays shoot in Edinburg. The shoot was preceded by a reception the night before and followed the night of the shoot by a fiesta sponsored by the host committee.

*Classic continued page 10*



## We've changed our name



You'll notice something new this TRAF edition.

We've changed our name.

After a lot of research and studying the nearly 200 years of Texas Ranger history, we felt the bland title "Newsletter" didn't reflect the action that makes up the life of a Texas Ranger.

We wanted something with pep in it. Your communications

committee came up with the name Star Journal. We also looked over nearly every conceivable type style, too.

We wanted the name to reflect the Rangers, so what better than the star. We also considered the Rangers sitting around campfires making notes to themselves with a stub of a pencil for their future reports back to their superiors. So we added journal.

And don't challenge us whether or not they had pencils back in the early days. Lead pencils were invented in 1564.

We hope the distinctive new name meets with your approval, and you'll be happy showing it off to your friends.

We still intend for the content to be about Rangers, their kids and TRAF activities.



*Frank Huff*



*Rudy Rosales*



*Joshua Mason*



*Jason Taylor*



*Jay Womack*



*William (Rudy) Flores*



*Tony Arnold*



*Marquis Cantu*



*Billy Mims*



*Wende Wakeman*

# Chief announces promotions, retirements, transfers



*Michael (Todd) Martin*

Texas Ranger Chief Randy Prince has announced multiple promotions, retirements and transfers, effective during the months of November and December.

Frank Huff has been promoted to Captain — Administration — at Austin headquarters. He had been a lieutenant at Co. A in Huntsville.

Rudy Rosales has been promoted to Staff Captain — SWAT — at Austin headquarters. He had been a lieutenant, SWAT, in Austin.

Joshua Mason has been

promoted to Ranger, Co. D in Laredo.

Samuel (Cody) Lankford has also been promoted to Ranger, Co. D in Harlingen.

Jason Taylor has been reassigned as Captain — Public Integrity Unit, Austin headquarters, from administration, Austin.

Jay Womack and William (Rudy) Flores have retired as Rangers from Co. B in Texarkana and Palestine, respectively, both effective at the end of November.

Tony Arnold is retiring from Co. C in Lubbock effective at the end of December.

Marquis Cantu has been transferred from Ranger Co. F in Llano to Burnet.

Billy Mims has been transferred from Ranger Co. F in Hondo to Austin.

Wende Wakeman has been transferred from Lieutenant, Co. D in Laredo

to Lieutenant, Co. A in Huntsville.

Michael (Todd) Martin has been transferred from Ranger, Co. B in Longview to Co. B, Texarkana.



## Featured Retired Texas Ranger--

# Ralph Wadsworth had 29-year DPS career

*(Editor's note: This is a continuing series highlighting retired Texas Rangers.)*

By Bill Hartman  
TRAF Editor

Retired Texas Rangers have a lot in common, but the one thing that stands out in a conversation is their near perfect recollection of times and events during their service.

Ralph Wadsworth of Mesquite is certainly no exception. After studying his questionnaire he provided the Star Journal on his life and career, and after reading his oral interview that's archived at the Texas Ranger Hall of Fame and Museum, it's amazing how many exacting details are embedded in his memory.

He and his twin brother Ray were born on a rural farm in Ellis County, and like most farming youngsters back in the day, his education consisted of what school time he could carve out of a day after helping his family with the crops.

After a series of family moves from farm to farm, Ralph and Ray both decided to quit Midlothian High School in the 10th grade.

Ralph and Ray were two of four sons and four daughters born to Lone and Martha Wadsworth.

Being farm-raised made a lasting impression on Ralph and his brother where they learned the importance of hard work and that family comes first.

Ralph has proved that over the long haul. He and wife Peggy have been married for more than 61 years. They raised a daughter, Sherri Lynn and two sons, Jack (Ralph Jr.) and Jody Glenn.

They're also the proud grandparents of grandchildren Karri Sewell Pritchard, Billy Sewell Hobbs, Trey (Ralph III) Wadsworth and Alexandra Wadsworth. They also have seven great grandchildren and two great-great grandchildren.

At age 18, Ralph joined the U.S. Air Force, followed six months later by brother Ray. While in the service Ralph



**Ralph Wadsworth**

began his law enforcement career, serving four years in the air force police.

His service ended in 1955 and a year later he began his career with the Texas Department of Public Safety with his first assignment in Brenham where he spent the next three and a half years.

"Brenham was a wonderful place with great people, and we really felt at home," he said. "If it hadn't been so far from Peggy's people, we'd probably have spent my entire career there."

That was followed by a 17-year DPS assignment in Mesquite. One of his more memorable assignments was in Dallas as part of the DPS team working the presidential trip of

President and Mrs. John Kennedy.

Ralph's assignment was to drive five Texas congressmen and, as he recalls, they were in the eighth or tenth car behind the president. After the shooting they went first to the Trade Center, then to Parkland Hospital, where the president was pronounced dead.

Ralph spent more time at Parkland, standing guard over a recovering Gov. John Connally, who was critically wounded in the Kennedy assassination shooting.

After his 21-year stint in the DPS, Ralph tested and was promoted to Texas Ranger on Jan. 1, 1977.

To show you his tenacity, Ralph quit high school in the 10th grade, but in 1954 he received a GED (general education development diploma) from Midlothian High.

In 1970 he enrolled at El Centro Junior College in Dallas and received an Associate Arts degree in 1973. He followed that by enrolling at Abilene Christian College (metro college in Dallas) and graduated in 1976 with a 3.36 grade-point score and a B.S. degree in Criminal Science.

"The more I was around Rangers, the more I was impressed with their work," Ralph said. "So I made my application." Among other Rangers who influenced Ralph's decision were Ed Gooding, Charlie Moore, Capt. G.W. Burks, Bob Badgett, Lewis Rigler, Capt. Pete Rogers and

*Wadsworth continued page 9*

## Chairman's Report--

# Soldiers and Ranger make unique mix

By *Jim Chionsini*  
TRAF Chairman



*Jim Chionsini*

The 13th Patriot Outfitter's Soldier Appreciation Hunt at our No Name Ranch near Christoval is history. What a memorable one it was.

Five soldiers stationed at Fort Hood made the trek west in late November and enjoyed a weekend of fellowship, being in the outdoors and whitetail deer hunting.

This hunt is the brainchild of Bob Stratmann and Deke Davidson. Patriot Outfitters is made up of Christian men from Georgetown Baptist Church, who serve soldiers stationed at Fort hood.

Over the years the faith-based group has hosted more than 60 soldiers at No Name and untold numbers at other locations. The soldiers are from all over the United States. One was from Mexico.

All have had multiple deployments to Iraq and Afghanistan, some as many as five

times. Some have been to Bosnia and other corners of the world.

One was in the building when Dr. Nidal Hasan, the Muslim terrorist at Fort Hood, began shooting his fellow soldiers. He went back in time after time, eventually rescuing seven who had multiple injuries.

He testified several times before congress and eventually convinced them to change their stance and dispose of the inane "workplace violence" label so soldiers could receive benefits they justly deserve.

He told me that for him it was the ultimate betrayal. He expected to be shot at in Iraq but not in a safe zone on home soil.

Attendees at this hunt over the years have been awarded medals for bravery including many silver and bronze stars, several with valor.

Over the years countless people have volunteered their time to make this event special for the soldiers. We've had untold law enforcement officers, including members of sheriff departments and Texas Rangers stop by to tell the soldiers thanks for their sacrifices.

We've had a unique mix of both active and retired Rangers take part in this tribute. The soldiers idolize

the Rangers, and it's safe to say vice versa.

We've had a U.S. Navy SEAL Command Master Chief, a state senator who was the only survivor in his area to survive the 9/11 attack in the Pentagon and the chief U.S. Astronaut, who also was a Navy SEAL prior to becoming a high flyer.

They all take their time and on their own dime to come by and tell these men job well done.

The similarities between the military and law enforcement are amazing. Especially the Rangers. All the enforcement groups bravely go after bad guys, do their jobs without wanting or expecting fanfare and love our country to their cores.

At the conclusion of every hunt, I always hear a volunteer say they got more out of the weekend than the soldiers. All feel they're better people for having been with the soldiers.

My wife Macy and I are fortunate and blessed to have No Name Ranch where we can decompress before going back to the real world after the last soldier departs. It takes a couple of days to get your emotions in check before heading back to town.

Thank God for our military and the Texas Rangers.



## Grants continuing for Foundation in 2015

The Texas Ranger Association Foundation received its second grant of \$75,000 from the Ed Rachal Foundation of Corpus Christi during 2015.

The funds will be expended exclusively on scholarships.

The first \$75,000 grant was

awarded to TRAF by the Rachal Foundation in 2014.

The mission of the Ed Rachal Foundation is to provide support to benefit of charitable, scientific, literary or educational purposes within the State of Texas.

In October, TRAF received another

\$25,000 grant from the Houston Livestock Show and Rodeo, which is the second year of this funding.

From 2010-2012, TRAF has received \$45,000 from the Houston show to support an education initiative with the museum.

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# TRAF scholars take military route first

The Texas Ranger Association Foundation scholarship recipients will increase by two students this spring.

Both are young men who have chosen service to our country on their path to earning a college degree.

Jammy Shawn Downs will be entering college as a freshman in January after serving four years as an 11-B Infantry Soldier in the United States Army.

Jammy was stationed at Fort Hood with the 3rd Cavalry Regiment. He was deployed to RC East Afghanistan Camp Clark for nearly six months and in his words "had many different hats" as far as his job on deployment.

He was a designated marksman and a fire team leader. He was the lead Guardian Angel "GA" for his troop, which is basically a bodyguard escort for officers and allied civilians.

His awards and citations include National Defense Medal, Army Good Conduct Medal, two Army Commendation Medals, Non-Article 5 NATO Medal, Global War On Terror Service Medal, Afghanistan Campaign Medal, Army Service Medal, and Overseas Service Ribbon.

Jammy graduated from West Texas High School, in Stinnett, in 2010.

He will be attending McLennan Community College in Waco. Jammy is the son of Texas Ranger Jamie Downs, Co. F.

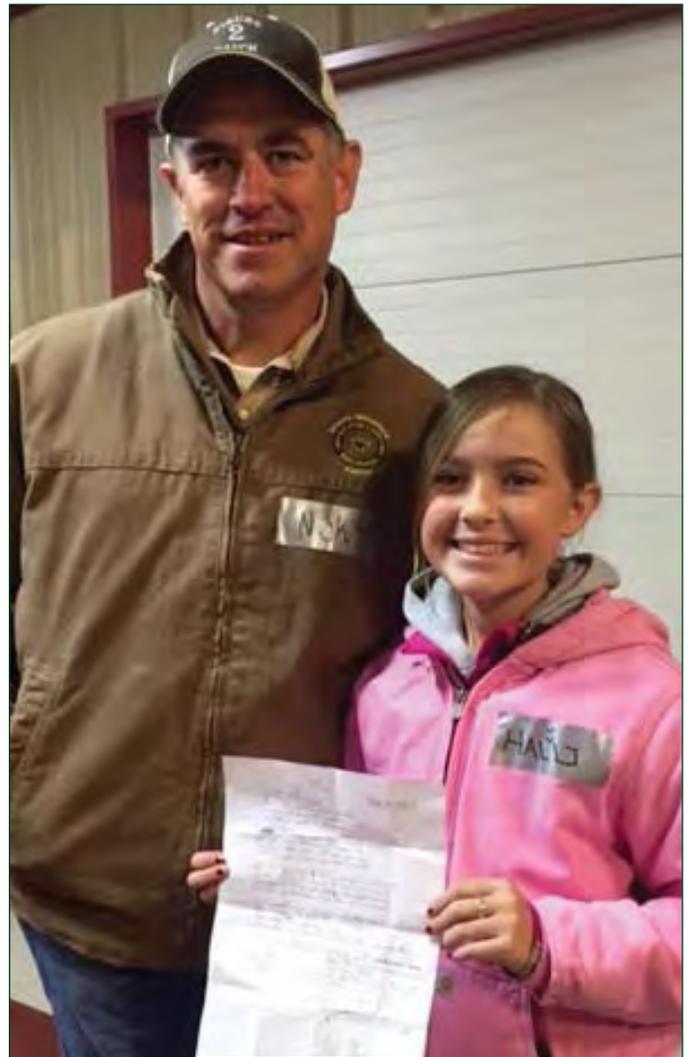
Pierson Wayne Parker graduated from Wylie High School in Abilene in 2015. Following graduation, he



**Jammy Shawn Downs**



**Pierson Parker**



**HALLI HANNA**, 12, daughter of Co. E Texas Ranger Nick Hanna of San Angelo, read a poem she wrote to five U.S. soldiers who were guests at the 13th Patriot Outfitters War-Wounded Appreciation Hunt at a Cristoval ranch owned by TRAF Chairman Jim and Macy Chionsini in mid-November. Halli's poem was about the U.S. flag and our country. In paraphrasing, she said, "Look at me and know I understand the sacrifices you make for all of us. You are my heroes, and I salute you."

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*Scholars continued page 7*

East Texan admires honesty--

# Rusty got early start with TRAF

By Bill Hartman  
TRAF Editor

T.D. (Rusty) Howell is not a man who minces words, but when he says something, you ought to listen, because it's from the heart and means something.

When we asked Rusty to fill out his TRAF director's questionnaire, he did a great job, succinct and to the point.

For example, on the question "why do you support the Texas Rangers," he cut to the chase" by simply saying, "It's the best investment for my time and funds I can find."

Back in the days of silent movies, the action often got boring until the movie had a chase scene of some form or another. Cutting to the chase means getting to the point, the crux, which is exactly what you get from Howell.

Rusty lives in Marshall and represents Co. B on the board of directors. He serves on the strategic planning committee.

He joined the foundation "some time during the first year after it started." He said, "Sonny Spradlin, Bob Bustin and Glen Elliott asked me to donate and join."

He's been on the board continuously except for a three-year period when he became an emeritus member. He rejoined the board in 2003.

Rusty is a graduate of Texas A&M University where he majored in horticulture.

He is the past chairman, president and owner of



**T.D. (Rusty) Howell**

Howell Oil & Gas.

In addition to his longtime service to TRAF, Howell is on the Marshall Economic Development Corp., East Texas Baptist Criminal Justice board and the Harrison County Industrial Corporation board.

His favorite part of being a member of the foundation is meeting and associating with other members, Rangers and their families.

His greatest impact from being around the Rangers and board members is witnessing the blessings that Ranger retirees and their families receive from the foundation.

His favorite personal memory with the foundation was watching Glen Elliott and Max Womack re-connect at the annual meeting.

What makes him passionate about the Rangers is simple — "Their organizational strength and their credibility."

If someone asked him about becoming a benefactor of the foundation, he'd tell them, "Don't hesitate a moment. Do It."

Rusty's favorite book is the Bible, and his hobbies include ranching, hunting and "living the good life."

His final two questions actually go hand in hand. "What has he enjoyed seeing over his years on the board and what character traits does he value in others?"

"I've enjoyed watching the growth of the Rangers over the years, and honesty and credibility are my favorite traits in people," he said.

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## **Scholars** cont. from page 6...

joined the United State Marine Corps and went to boot camp at the Marine recruit depot in San Diego on July 6.

He graduated on Oct. 2 with the rank of private first class and also received his expert rifleman medal.

He will complete Marine combat

training in December where his specialty is in the area of field communications.

Pierson will begin college as a freshman at Texas State University.

During his curriculum to earn his degree in criminal justice, he will be on reserve status with the Marine

Corps.

Pierson says his plans are to go active duty following graduation for a few years, and he eventually would like to pursue a career in law enforcement.

Pierson is the son of Texas Ranger Michael Parker, Co. C.

## Executive Director's report--

## Regional sporting clay shoots a success



Liz Myrick

By Liz Myrick, TRAF Executive Director

It is the holiday season when family and friends and celebrations come to mind. We have much to celebrate for our Ranger programs.

The new regional sporting clay shoots have been big successes! Since the first one in May, 2015, we've raised over \$150,000. Thank you to all the volunteers and supporters in Co. "F", Co. "E", and Co. "D".

We're looking forward to another successful event on March 18<sup>th</sup> with Co. "A" in Houston. Save the date and join us! Details will be forthcoming.

We hope you're continuing to enjoy the TRAF newsletter. With its many contributors and director Bill

Hartman at the helm it continues to get better. It's even earned an official name, The Star Journal.

Just a few reminders:

- Christmas is just around the corner. Be ready with our custom hand-tooled leather pistol totes! We have them in stock and more are coming.

- We also have clay Texas Ranger Christmas ornaments from Castroville Pottery. Call the TRAF office or see our merchandise page for ordering information.

- December is a great time to give a tax-deductible donation and show your support for the Texas Rangers for scholarships, the Reunion and the Ranger assistance program.

- The TRAF Winter Meeting is scheduled for the weekend of Feb.

19-20 in San Antonio. Details to come!

Finally, with our senses filled with holiday glee and the merriment rush to the finish, I hope we all remember to slow down a bit, enjoy the moments with loved ones near and cherish the memories of those who are with us in spirit.

I am so grateful on this day, and for each one to come, that we live in a safe place thanks to all those brave souls and their families who have given so much so that we might live in peace.

Though it is a debt I cannot repay, a gift I cannot reciprocate, it is a privilege I endeavor to earn. Thank you, Texas Rangers, Keepers of Peace.

Merry Christmas!

## Chief Prince report --

## Rangers remain ready during word's turmoil

By Randy Prince, Chief, Texas Rangers



Randy Prince

As of this writing, the world's news organizations are focused on the horrific criminal acts of terrorism in Paris, the lock-down in Belgium, terrorists' arrests in Germany and Turkey, the downing of a Russian airliner, the bombing in Mali and finally the bombing of a bus in Tunisia.

Our world is replete with the dangers and the ever increasing threats from international terrorists requiring governments to initiate high alert warnings to its citizens.

Currently, United States citizens are under a world-wide terrorism travel alert.

The recent capture of criminals originating from war-torn countries or areas consumed in strife and conflict,

using stolen passports in their attempt to illegally enter the United States, illustrates why the Department of Public Safety and the Texas Rangers are engaged in the vital duties and responsibilities of border security and protection.

Our troopers, special agents and Rangers remain on the front-lines of the border in this battle to secure this country from transnational drug gangs, smugglers and international terrorists.

Indeed the name "Operation Secure Texas" reminds us that our role in the vital interest of safeguarding our border cannot be underestimated.

Global terrorism will always be a concern.

Whether we are engaged in border security operations or routine state police operations, we must stay vigilant to protect ourselves, our families, our state and our nation

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## Letters to TRAF

Dear TRAF,

Thank you for continuing to send me the Texas Ranger Association Foundation newsletters. Though my beloved husband, Tom Sloan, who was on the board of directors (financial committee) passed away in September, 2014, I love reading the newsletters.

It does my heart good to read about the Rangers and those who still serve on the board, especially Vern Foreman. He was one of our favorites along with Benny Vanacek.

Tom loved the Rangers so much! I love reading about the children of Rangers who are attending college with the help of the scholarships provided by the directors.

I loved the Rangers reunions and meeting all of them and their wives.

May God continue to bless the Texas Rangers.

Sincerely,  
Sharla Sloan

Letter to TRAF,

Thank you all very much for your kindness and generosity to me and my family during my recovery.

Sincerely,  
Wesley Doolittle  
Texas Ranger  
Co. A Conroe

*(Editor's note: Parker Hanna is the son of Texas Ranger Nick Hanna, who is in Co. E stationed in San Angelo.)*

Dear TRAF:

I am grateful and happy to say that I have received your generous

scholarship. Being a college student and working a part time job makes for a busy schedule and a lot on my plate.

Getting this scholarship gives me the peace of mind knowing that the financial burden of college isn't resting solely on my shoulders.

For that peace of mind a million thank yous just wouldn't be sufficient.

I am truly blessed with the opportunity I have, and I will strive to reach my full potential.

With TRAF's timely help I was able to buy two/ much needed books and pay off my tuition for the semester.

For a lack of a better way to express my gratitude, with all my heart, thank you!

Sincerely,  
Parker Hanna

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### **Wadsworth** cont. from page 3...

decision were Ed Gooding, Charlie Moore, Capt. G.W. Burks, Bob Badgett, Lewis Rigler, Capt. Pete Rogers and Sgt. Grady Sessums.

Ralph's first Ranger assignment was Co. A in Houston, and you can still have him relate to cases he worked there and he quotes them like scripture, filling in each blank with his detailed memory.

He remembers names and people like they happened last week.

He was in Houston 15 months before transferring to Co. B and moving back to Mesquite where he and Peggy had lived.

Unfortunately, Ralph lost his twin Ray at age 42. Ray worked as an aircraft mechanic in the service and continued that type work after the military. He later joined the SMU Security Service, and at his death was a lieutenant.

While active in the Rangers, some of Ralph's specialties were capital

murder, aggravated robberies, rape and forgery investigations.

In both Ranger stations he worked with countless other Rangers over the years and feels like it's a homecoming each year at the Ranger reunion.

Ralph retired from the Rangers in 1985 at the urging of a friend and joined as a corporate security officer for Sunbelt Savings and Bank of America for 14 years. At his retirement, he was the chief investigator.

"Being a Ranger is a special calling," Ralph says. "My wife Peggy was and is my greatest supporter. She never complained or interfered with my law enforcement duties."

Ralph says courage, determination, respect and integrity are the top four character traits essential in the Ranger Service. "My advice to someone just joining the Rangers is to strive to do your best in all endeavors."

"The Texas Ranger Association Foundation has a proven record of support for hosting and financing the annual Texas Ranger Reunion, and I'm very thankful to all foundation members," he said.

Ralph's also a second vice president of the Former Texas Rangers Association in Fredricksburg. He's a deacon, Sunday School teacher, assistant treasurer and 50-plus year active member of Edgemont Park Baptist Church in Mesquite.

His favorite reading is about Texas and the Southwest and most recently read "Texas Rising" (early Texas Ranger history) by Stephen L. Moore.

Other than reading, he plays 42, sings and plays guitar (mostly gospel and bluegrass) at community centers.

But Ralph's best trait is his keen memory. If you want to know about a Ranger investigation or a name, give him a call.

## Hall and Museum report --

## Requests at museum world-wide

By Byron Johnson,  
Director Texas Ranger Museum



Byron Johnson

Participating in international relations is not standard fare at many museums. However, for nearly a half a century the Texas Ranger Hall of Fame and Museum has been honored to welcome families, politicians and government leaders from across Europe, Asia, the Americas and Australia.

Some are drawn by the history and heritage of the Texas Rangers. Others are fascinated with fictional Rangers—from the pages of Zane Grey's novels to Walker Texas Ranger.

The stories about these visits, among the more than four million visitors to the museum, are wonderful.

During his presidency, George W. Bush frequently hosted dignitaries and VIPs at his Prairie Chapel Ranch in nearby Crawford. The Hall of Fame hosted several events for him.

When Mexican President Vicente Fox visited the Ranch in 2004, the Department of State hosted a small state dinner for the Mexican presidential staff in the Hall of Fame.

Secret Service agents set up an observation post on the roof and perimeter patrols. Museum security was never so good.

On another occasion President Bush's staff "lost" a certain Midwest governor. He slipped his escort and visited the Hall of Fame and Museum incognito.

The museum staff was unaware of the visit until the Secret Service called asking, "Is a certain visiting State governor in the museum?"

"Don't know, what does he look like?" He turned up after a quick search of the galleries.

Two of the most notable visits came from behind the former Iron Curtain. In 2001 Russian President Vladimir Putin visited with President Bush at the Ranch.

During the visit the State Department called the museum with a request, "The Russian ambassador's wife (Svetlana Ushakov) would like to visit the museum and meet a 'real' Texas Ranger. Can you arrange it?"

Fortunately Lt. George Turner was available. When the black SUVs pulled up he did a meet-and-greet, toured the facility with them and stood for pictures.

I couldn't resist asking a Russian Federal Security agent how Mrs. Ushakov knew about the Texas Rangers.

The FSB agent showed me a picture of his young son dressed as a frontier Texas Ranger. "Every afternoon in Moscow we have the *Lone Ranger on TV*; next month we get *Walker Texas Ranger*."

One of the most touching requests came from an army officer stationed in Afghanistan as part of the US mission. Prior to deployment, one of his men had bought one or more Texas Ranger coffee mugs at the gift shop.

Army officers frequently met with tribal leaders and exchanged small gifts to foster trust and cooperation. On one visit a tribal leader noticed the coffee cup and remarked that he knew about the Texas Rangers.

Not the baseball team or US Army Rangers, but the Texas Rangers. The mug was one of the best received gifts that they had to exchange.

After confirming with command at Fort Hood, the museum sent a couple of cases of mugs to the unit with the compliments of the Rangers and City of Waco.

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**Classic** cont. from page 1...

The event had gross revenues of more than \$62,000, and when final accounting is completed, net income is estimated at \$27,000.

Members of the planning committee were Rick Hernandez (chairman), Trey Martinez, Steve LaMantia, Jay Wise, former Chief Hank Whitman, Lacy Jemmott (event coordinator) and Rangers Major Brian Burzynski, Lt. Rick Rivera, Lt. Corey Lain and Lt. Wende Wakeman.

Additional Rangers taking part

and lending a hand were Major Crayton McGee from Co. E, Randy Aguirre, Chris Callaway, Tony DeLuna, Bobby Garcia, Donato Vela, Roland Villarreal, Robert Hunter (retired), Cody Lankford, Rudy Jaramilli (retired) and Gary Stone (retired).

On March 18, Co. A Rangers/TRAF, headquartered in Houston, will stage its regional clays shoot at American Shooting Centers on Westheimer Parkway (see a hold-the-day promo in this edition).

Like the previous shoots, there will be 10-stations for shooting, 100 birds for four-man teams. A live auction is also planned following the event.

Members of the Co. A planning committee are Constance White, Russell Molina, Bill Hartman, Kitch Taub, Bob Dabney, Carl Lambert, Hank Whitman, Lacy Jemmott plus Rangers Major Jeffrey Collins, Lt. Kip Westmoreland and Lt. Wende Wakeman.

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Sweatshirt (assorted colors)

**\$25**



Texas Ranger T-Shirt

**\$25**



Golf Shirt (assorted colors)

**\$45**

*Price includes tax.  
Shipping not included.*



Liz.Myrick@thetexasrangers.org  
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# Scenes from the Co. D Sporting Clay Shoot



*TRAF SCHOLARSHIP winners took part with their fathers in the Co. D sporting clays shoot and festivities on Nov. 4 in Edinburg. They are (l-r) Ranger Tony DeLuna (Corpus Christi) and his son Travis and Ariana Rivera and her dad Ranger Rick Rivera (Weslaco).*



*TRAF DIRECTOR Rick Hernandez, who was chairman of the Co. D Sporting Clay Shoot in Edinburg, examines one of the firing stations with Ranger Roland Villarreal, Co. D -- Harlingen. Hernandez and his committee are already making plans for their next shoot in 2016.*



*TRAF DIRECTORS Jerry Wellborn and Tom Schleier join Major Brian Burzynski at the Co. D Sporting Clay Shoot in Edinburg. Wellborn and Schleier were both co-chairmen of the shoots sponsored by Co. E and Co. F, respectively. Major Burzynski, who was on the planning committee for the Co. D outing, and his Rangers were all outfitted in special TRAF/Ranger shirts for the occasion. Schleier was also on a shooting team.*

*NEVER TOO YOUNG to enjoy an outing with his dad, Ryan, 2, and his dad, Robert Montalvo of Premont, look over the beautiful buckles that went to the winners of the Co. D shoot in Edinburg. Robert was one of the shooters in the Nov. 7 Ranger/TRAF event. They drove nearly 60 miles to enjoy the sporting clay contest.*



*ARMED AND READY to hunt the next station at the Co. D Texas Classic Sporting Clays shoot in Edinburg was Linda Tovar, who is senior public affairs manager for the H-E-B border region. H-E-B was the title sponsor for the first annual shoot.*

# Photos from the Co. D Sporting Clay Shoot



RANGER CHRIS Callaway, McAllen, got a chuckle out of Co. D Lt. Rick Rivera, Weslaco, giving him instructions on how to shoot the sporting clays. Callaway and Rivera and the other Rangers made a big impression with their fellow shooters and guests.



RANGER RANDY Aguirre, Sinton, and Co. D Lt. Corey Lain, Corpus Christi, admire one of the shotguns one of the lucky participants in the Texas Rangers Classic won on Nov. 7 in Edinburg. The Co. D sponsored Sporting Clays was the third in new annual regional TRAF/Ranger fundraisers put together by each of the Ranger companies.

## Obituaries --

### Harold Eugene (Sonny) Wardlow

#### Ranger's dad dies at age 77

Harold Eugene (Sonny) Wardlow, 77, died Nov. 24 at his home in Whitney. He was the father of L.R. (Rocky) Wardlow, retired Texas Ranger from Co. F and current chief of police at Horseshoe Bay.

Funeral services for the elder Wardlow were in Hillsboro with graveside services in Bristow, Okla.



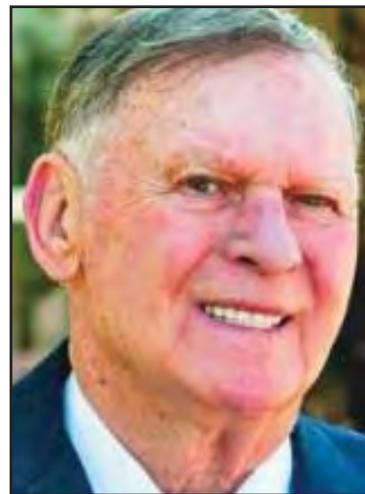
### Jose Jarmillo

#### Father of retired Ranger dies at 84

Jose Jarmillo, father of retired Ranger Lt. Rudy Jarmillo, Co. B, died Nov. 22 in Round Rock.

The elder Jarmillo was born in Woodsboro and lived in Sinton 40 years before moving to Round Rock in 2005. He was retired from San Patricio Electric Coop in Sinton where he worked 27 years.

### R.E. (Sonny) Spradlin



R.E. (Sonny) Spradlin

#### Founding Foundation member dies

FUNERAL SERVICES were held Oct. 20 for R.E. (Sonny) Spradlin, 85, of Kilgore.

Spradlin died Oct. He was a founding member and a Director Emeritus of the Texas Ranger Association Foundation.



### Norma Mae Brock

#### Mother of Co. B Aide dies at 87

Noma Mae Brock, 87, mother of Debbie Tindell died in early October. Funeral services were in Tyler and buri was at Whitehouse Cemetery.

Tindell is an administrative assistant for Co.B in Tyler.

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**Chief** *cont. from page 8...*

from this menace that is the greatest threat to world security in the 21<sup>st</sup> century.

But even with all the disturbing events unfolding throughout the world; the signs of increased security in our own country in the wake of various civil unrest, we indeed, have much to be thankful for.

As we join our families, during the holidays and give thanks that we should be giving daily and most times do not; know that I am grateful to be able to serve in the greatest law enforcement agency in the world with an even greater privilege to serve in the Texas Ranger Division.

We should be thankful for the unwavering support shown by our families and the selfless leadership provided by our state legislators, DPS commissioners and our director.

The police profession and the military both have unique customs, traditions and culture but the first reason and purpose for their existence is public protection of a populace that can sometimes seems unconcerned and uncaring for the welfare of the military and police.

But it's organizations like the Texas Ranger Association Foundation that show so much patronage for the Texas Ranger Division.

It never lets Rangers or their families forget they are appreciated and supported, which was recently illustrated by board members spearheading fundraising events in the different companies.

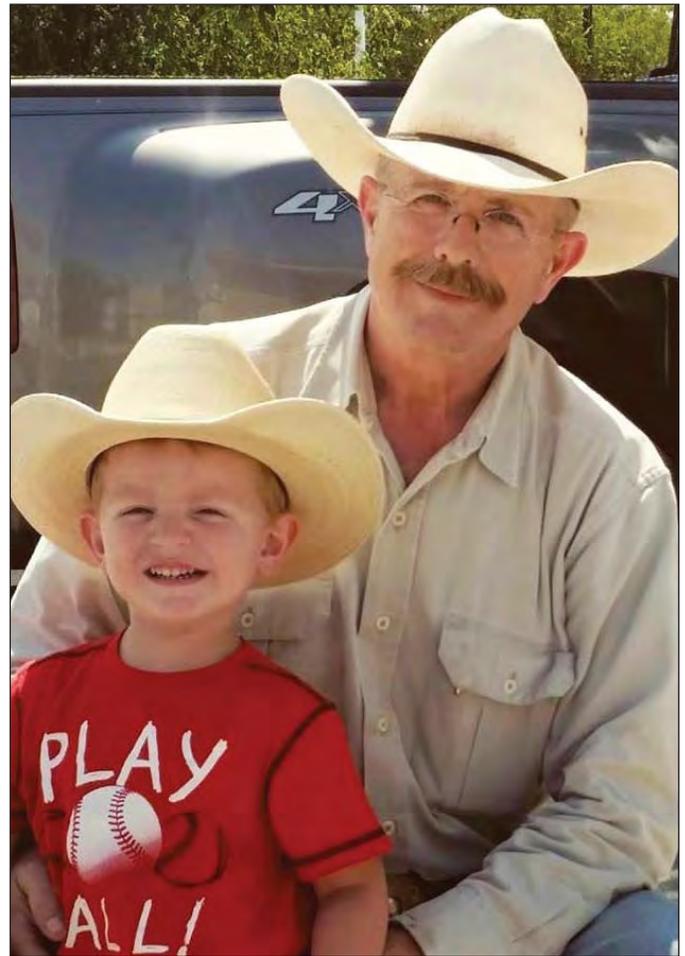
On behalf of the Texas Ranger Division, we honor the dedication of our fellow law enforcement partners who stand with us on the front lines in protecting this country and for the men and women wearing the uniform of our armed forces and making the sacrifices each day to keep us safe.

We are most thankful for those who have paid the ultimate price for freedom even though some around us seem unconcerned, uninformed and unappreciative that these acts of heroism, dedication and patriotism were undertaken for us—all of us—in this, our beloved state and country.

Our challenge as we go forward is to remain vigilant in our security pursuits, conduct our law enforcement duties and responsibilities with passion and excellence and be moved to compassion when encountering those less fortunate during this holiday season and throughout the year.

To the Texas Rangers, to the foundation and to the many friends and supporters of both, I say "thank you!"

With respect and appreciation, Randy



**NEW HEADQUARTERS** Company Benefactor Alan Griffin and his grandson, Griffin, are descendants of the late Texas Ranger E.P. Lyons, who rode the plains in the 1860s. Lyons is buried in Pleasanton Cemetery in Atascosa County where he was assigned. Alan is in the oil, gas and ranching businesses and calls Tomball home. Ranger Lyons was on Alan's mother's side of the family. Young Griffin is a seventh generation descendent of the late Ranger.

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# San Angelo Co. E shoot



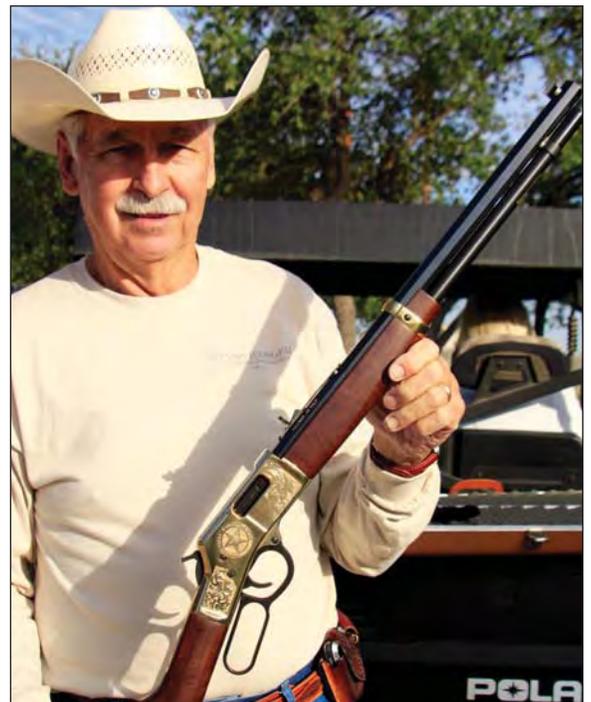
*OVER THE* years, TRAF activities have been successes because of the efforts of a corps of volunteers. The San Angelo Co. E sporting clays shoot was no different. Among the many volunteers who made sure everything was on schedule and fine tuned were (l-r) Patrice Lindhorst, Suzi Reynolds, Trish Aldridge (coordinator) and Dawn Empey. Contributions from volunteers make TRAF-sponsored activities such entertaining events in support of Rangers, both active and retired.



*TRAF DIRECTOR* Dave Conlon stands with Co. E Ranger Nick Hanna at the conclusion of the San Angelo shoot. Hanna is stationed in San Angelo. Conlon represents Co. F on the TRAF board and is a benefactor. His company, TechCon Trenching, was one of the sponsors at the Co. E event. He was also one of the biggest contributors during the post-shoot auction.



*BOSSSES CONFER.* TRAF Chairman Jim Chionsini, Co. E shoot co-chairman Dave Wilson and event/volunteer coordinator Trish Aldridge take timeout to be sure all activities are on schedule during the Oct. 17 sporting clays shoot in San Angelo. Evidently all i's were dotted and t's crossed, because the event grossed more than \$100,000 for Ranger/TRAF programs, with a hefty net profit after all costs were paid.



*JERRY WELLBORN*, TRAF director and co-chairman of the Co. E outing in San Angelo, shows off the specially engraved Henry .45 Long Colt rifle that went to a lucky winner at a drawing during the sporting clays shoot. The rifle was etched by San Antonio engraver Gary Richards. On one side had Texas Ranger themes and on the other an outline of the State of Texas.



*TAKING A BREAK* between shooting stations during the San Angelo sporting clays was Catherine Anding from Bryan. She's the step-daughter of Lt. Chris Clark from Co. E, stationed in Midland. As you can tell from her familiarity with her shotgun, Catherine knew what to do with it.

# San Angelo Co. E shoot



RETIRED TEXAS Ranger Kenny Wadsworth was presented a Texas Rangers Star wallhanging for posting the highest score of all retirees at the Oct. 18 sporting clays shoot. Kenny is now one of the Special Rangers employed by the Texas and Southwestern Cattle Raisers Association.



THIS TRIO OF shooters took part in the first annual sporting clays shooting match, sponsored by the Texas Rangers and the Texas Ranger Association Foundation in San Angelo. These shooters are (l-r) Kyle Cool, David Stewart and Mark Irby. They are all from San Angelo.

SCOTT STEGER of San Angelo was the top bidder for a beautiful pair of engraved Texas Ranger spurs and a hand-made hat rack at the Co. E sporting clays shoot. More than 250 turned out for the beautiful October day in support of the Ranger/TRAF event.

TEXAS RANGER Brian Burney, who is in Co. E stationed in Midland, takes his shots at one of the stations at the Oct. 17 sporting clays shoot in San Angelo. Grading and pulling the clays for Burney are Airmen First Class Derek Richings (l) and Brinette Irazarry, who are stationed at Goodfellow Air Force Base in San Angelo. A number of airmen volunteered their time to help the Rangers and TRAF stage the shoot.

