



## HOUSTON LIVESTOCK SHOW AND RODEO™

NRG Park • Feb. 25 - March 17, 2019

P.O. Box 20070 • Houston, Texas 77225 • 832.667.1000 • rodeohouston.com

### Texas Cattlemen's Trail Ride Association

#### Trail Boss

Ricky Nelson – 903-388-5291

#### Assistant Trail Boss

Randall Page – 936-537-0545

#### Secretary

Leslie Nelson Young – 713-249-3164

#### About Ride

Years of Participation: 33

Established: January 1985

Start Date: February 21, 2019

Location: VFW Tomball Texas

Distance: 28 Miles

Number of Riders: 25

Number of Wagons: 2

#### Story Ideas:

Texas Cattlemen's Trail Ride dedicates its time and ride to the preservation of Youth and Education.

Texas Cattlemen's Trail Ride carries a Texas Flag that was flown in Afghanistan during the deployment of Dennis Willson; Son of # 2 Wagon Driver Cliff Willson

Texas Cattlemen's make sure to stop at schools along the way to show and teach the children about the Western Heritage way. On Thursday February 21<sup>st</sup> Texas Cattlemen's stops at Houston Northwest Church School; where the trail riders will be treated to lunch and dessert. The children of the school will also perform a skit for the riders and treats for the horses.



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Willie Nelson Jr aka Billy Nelson started his trail riding in 1955 when he was only 17 years old. Billy Nelson started with Salt Grass when there was only 1 wagon (belonging to Mr. Marks) and just a handful of riders. Back then the riders had to carry everything they needed in their saddle bags. It only took one time to get Billy hooked from there he became a member of Sam Houston Trail Ride where he introduced his 6 children to the trail riding experience. Two still serve on a Committee for the Houston Livestock Show and Rodeo (Keith Nelson "Calf Scamble Committee" and Jason Nelson "Trail Ride Committee") Billy served as Trail Boss for Sam Houston Trail Ride in the early 1970's believed it was 1972, 1973, 1974. Soon after having the chance to serve as Trail Boss he was able to join the Trail Ride Committee (1975). After several years of enjoying Sam Houston Trail Ride Billy decided to start a smaller, family ride which is now known as the Texas Cattlemen's Trail Ride Association. At the young age of 81 he is a Life Time Committeeman (Trail Ride Committee) and the only founder of Texas Cattlemen's Trail Ride who isn't watching from Heaven.

### History

Four friends formed the Texas Cattlemen's Trail Ride Association to promote youth and education through the show. Willie "Billy" Nelson Jr, Bobby Laird, Lyndall Tutt, and Nelson MacKenroth, Billy being the only founder left to keep the tradition going.

Texas Cattlemen's Trail Ride will carry the US Flag honoring the Veterans and also the POW Flag to honor those currently held captive and who have perished while in captivity

The Texas Cattlemen's Trail Ride's goal is safety, having fun, humane treatment of animals, and upholding the image and values of Western Heritage