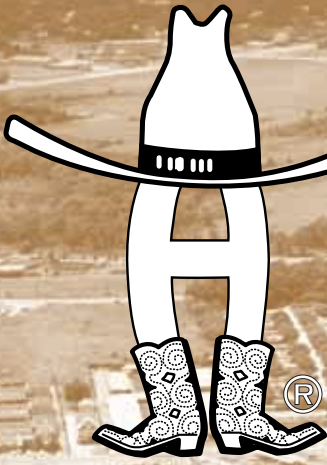


HOUSTON LIVESTOCK SHOW AND RODEO™

February 2002 - Vol. X, No. 1



MAGAZINE



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The Cover

The Astrodome rose from the prairie between the Texas Medical Center and Loop 610 with Colt Stadium in the background.

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A M E S S A G E F R O M T H E
P R E S I D E N T

Do you feel it? That ripple of excitement and air of anticipation for the 2002 Houston Livestock Show and Rodeo™ is here! Preparations are long under way, the Rodeo METRO Express tents are already up, the entertainers have been announced and the tickets are on sale. The next thing we need is you!

You have already heard how historic this year will be as we say goodbye to Reliant Astrodome and Reliant Hall, but you may be surprised by all the wonderful tributes we have in store. There will be a special cowboy prayer that was written especially for our Show by Red Steagall, a rendition of the national anthem by Asleep at the Wheel, an amazing evening highlighting the legends of RODEOHOUSTON™, and other surprising and heart-warming moments.

Yes, 2002 will be a year that you won't want to miss. It also will be a year that your neighbors, friends and family shouldn't miss. As part of the Hospitality Plus pledge this year, Show volunteers are not only committing themselves to serving as ambassadors of the Show, but are making the effort to invite those that haven't been to the Show in recent years or at all. It will truly be an extraordinary year, and an event that

Houstonians, Texans, and livestock show and rodeo enthusiasts around the globe should be here to see and take part in.

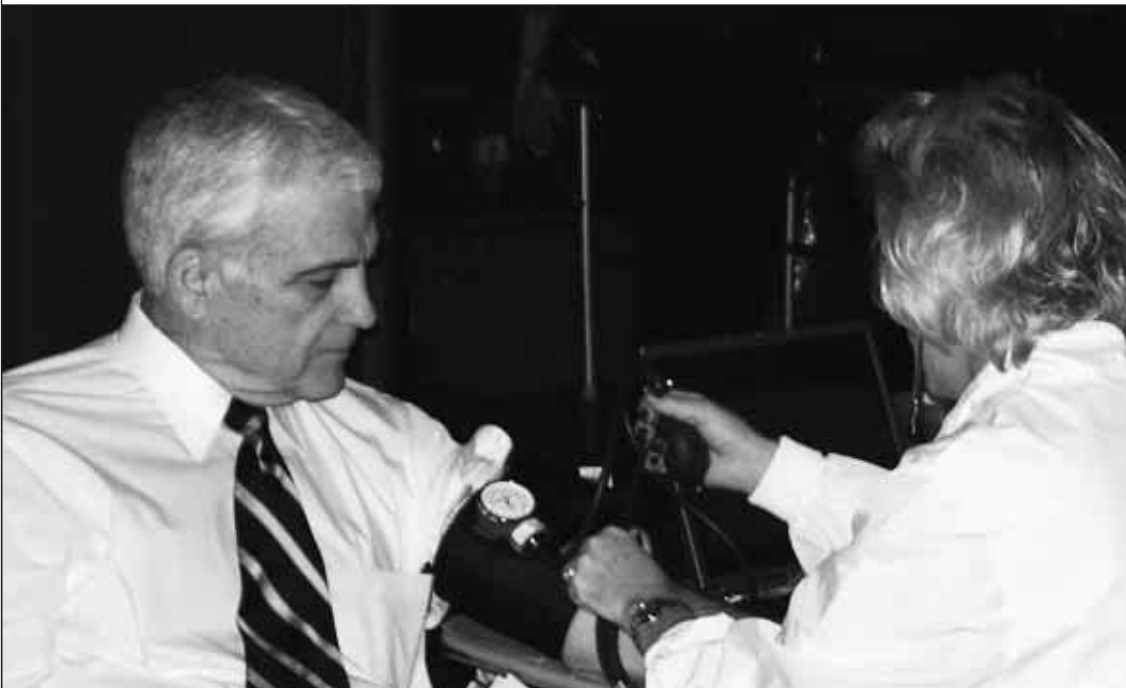
Show fans should be easy to spot with a unique line of Houston Livestock Show and Rodeo merchandise available. You will notice something new when you visit the Official Rodeo Merchandise Stores in Reliant Hall and Reliant Arena — volunteers behind the counter from the Rodeo Merchandise Committee. And, as a special opportunity, a discount on Show merchandise will be offered to all committee volunteers. Stop by and check it out!

Wear your comfortable boots, ride the bus and join us for a Houston Livestock Show and Rodeo you will never forget!

P. Michael Wells



President



Thanks to everyone who rolled up a sleeve in support of the Houston Livestock Show and Rodeo Blood and Food Drive.

THANKS FOR DOME MEMORIES

By Teresa Ehrman

For most people who live in the nation's fourth largest city, the Reliant Astrodome truly is the "Eighth Wonder of the World." Former Houston mayor Judge Roy Hofheinz — the force behind the construction of the Astrodome — bestowed the nickname upon the stadium back in 1965. It has been part of our city's identity and culture ever since it opened. It was renamed Reliant Astrodome in 2000.

"I've built a lot of things in my life, but the Astrodome surpasses them all," Hofheinz said after the stadium was completed. "This doesn't mean it's perfect. But, within the limitations of \$45 million, I think it's as perfect as it's possible to be."

Originally named the Harris County Domed Stadium, the facility was renamed the Astrodome a short time later. Dubbed an "architectural masterpiece," the Astrodome officially opened on April 12, 1965, when a crowd of 42,652 watched the Houston Astros play the Philadelphia Phillies.

Some might argue that the Reliant Astrodome's life didn't officially begin until the first Houston Livestock Show and Rodeo™ was held there in 1966. Many people vividly remember the Show's exciting transition to the enormous complex, but few were as deeply involved in the daunting planning and decision-making efforts as H. Stuart Lang Jr., Show president from 1963 to 1966 and current Executive Committee member.

As early as 1962, it was evident to Lang that the Show's then-current home, the Sam Houston Coliseum, no longer was large enough to accommodate all of the activities and events. "We got to the point where we weren't able to have the chicken, rabbit or hog shows because there was simply no more room," recalled Lang.

"We couldn't even hold the horse show on the grounds because there wasn't enough space," he added. "We held activities outside in tents and were losing many exhibitors. We knew if we didn't do something soon, the Show wouldn't make it."

Then came the offer from Hofheinz to Show officials to host the annual event at the Astrodome. Lang and the Building Committee analyzed the Show's financial situation and assessed the organization's future and potential profitability in the new venue.

Critics declared the mere consideration of the Show's moving to the Astrodome a huge mistake and predicted the event would never last at such a huge facility. After all, it was the largest building of its kind in the entire world. It had seating for 45,000 — more than five times the capacity of the Coliseum.

Even Lang realized it would be hard to fill those seats, but he knew it was a move the organization needed to make in order to survive and, ultimately, become the world's largest livestock



A ring of concrete and steel encircled the area to be covered by the Dome, in which many events would be played out and untold memories would be made over the next 37 years.

show and rodeo. The very near future would prove critics wrong and affirm what Lang believed all along.

After months of critical discussions, intense negotiations and marathon meetings, the Houston Sports Association — the Astrodome's management company — and the Show inked the deal before the 1965 festivities at the Coliseum began.

As the event came to a close that year, Show officials, volunteers and virtually everyone involved with the organization dealt with a host of mixed emotions. Despite the cramped quarters, chaotic logistics, poor security and exhibitor drop-off, the Coliseum was still “home.”

Everyone knew that a significant chapter of the Houston Livestock Show and Rodeo was closing on that last day of the event in 1965, and they celebrated at countless parties. The Houston Fire Department was forced to shut down the Corral Club because it was overcrowded with revelers.

Of course, there was the exchanging of stories and memories of the past, one last nostalgic drink, and tears of sadness. But no one could have imagined the excitement awaiting just around the corner in the Show's new home.

The entire Houston community eagerly awaited the 34th annual Show, which kicked off Feb. 23, 1966, with a crowd of 25,340 enthusiastic spectators. The first stars to perform in the event's new home were Milburn Stone and Ken Curtis, who played Doc and Festus, respectively, in the hit television show “Gunsmoke.”

It was definitely a grand year. The entire lineup of stars graced the cover of the 1966 souvenir program. Once again, the horse show was reunited with the rest of the Show under one roof. Skyboxes became a new concept. The Grand Champion Steer sold

for a record \$15,000. Golf carts became a new mode of transportation to navigate through the massive complex. And, the number of international visitors doubled from the previous year.

Committee members, who previously had earned silver badges for their volunteer service, for the first time wore gold badges like those of Show officials and committee chairmen. The Show also introduced its new logo, the “Bowlegged H,” in celebration of its new home.

For those who were convinced the Show never would come close to seeing even a fraction of the Astrodome seats filled, their doubts quickly were squelched by Jimmy Dean's Friday-night performance, which entertained a crowd of more than 40,000.

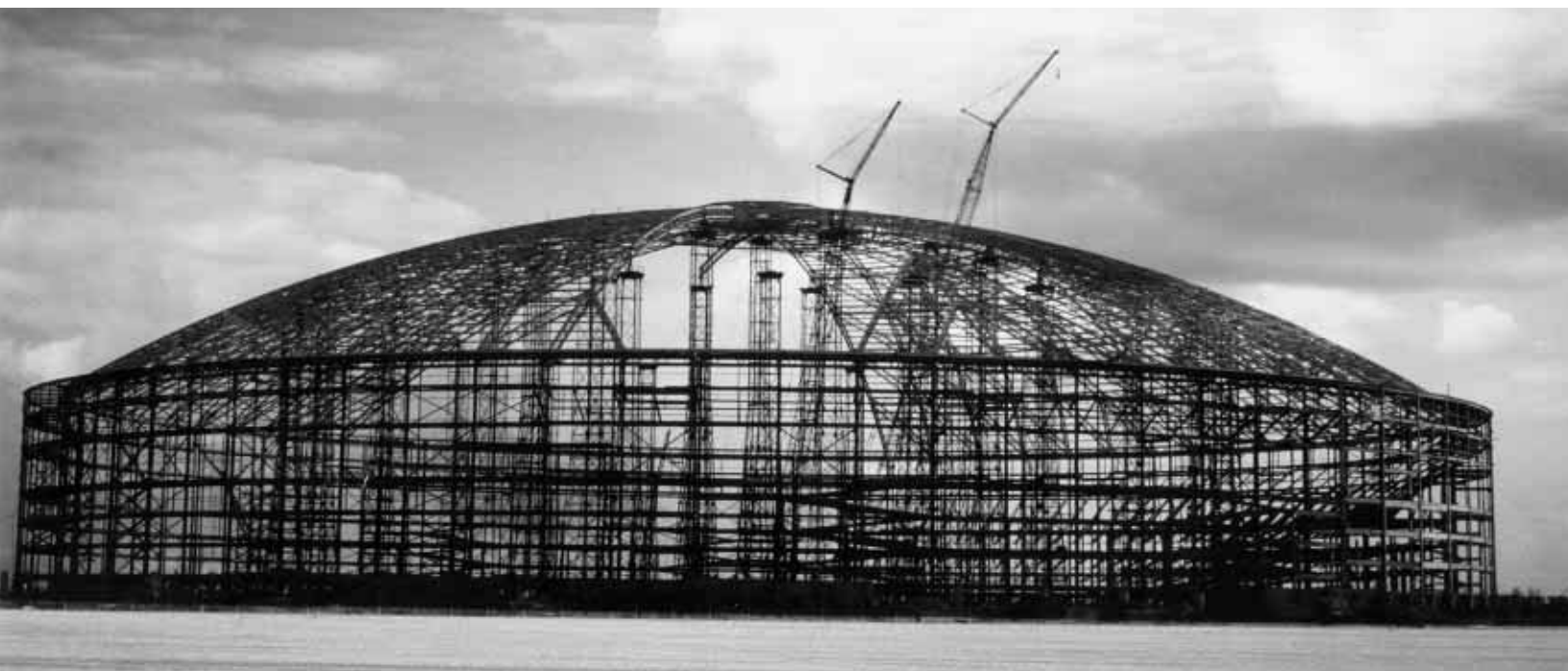
“It was an awesome and exciting time,” Lang said of the inaugural Show in the Astrodome. At the close of the 1966 Show, everyone, from the volunteers and politicians to media and the public, gave the Show's new home a resounding vote of approval.

Following the Show, Lang hosted a reception celebrating the overwhelming success of the first Houston Livestock Show and Rodeo in the Astrodome and paid tribute to all who were involved in making it such a success. Weeks later, Lang was honored for his outstanding service and leadership during three of the most critical years in the life of the Show.

It was truly the launch of a new era in the Show's rich history — one that would harvest countless more wonderful memories throughout the next four decades.

In fact, there have been a myriad of exciting moments in the Reliant Astrodome — the traditional, yearly “slapping” of the Grand Champion Junior Market Steer, live satellite uplinks to space

continued on page 8



The Dome's massive skeleton provided a preview of the shape of things to come.

Show Health

By Gina Steere

The Houston Livestock Show and Rodeo™ season has arrived. The entire family has been waiting to spend the day touring the livestock show and the carnival. The petting zoo is definitely on the kids' list, and don't forget about the stick-horse rodeo. Then, it's off to watch all of the rodeo events and a favorite performer. However, in order to stay healthy during these festivities, Showgoers should use common sense and heed some helpful advice.

Winter months are known for coughing and sneezing, and during the Show when the temperatures are fluctuating and the air is filled with a variety of aromas, some visitors to the Show are affected. "The 'rodeo crud' can take three different forms: influenza; allergy or respiratory infections; and, of course, the common cold," said Dr. Dan Lehane, a physician and Show lifetime vice president.

Influenza, or "the flu," is the least common of the three but can have a forceful presence in large crowds such as those present at the Rodeo. Allergic reactions are more common and are often brought on by visiting areas where livestock is kept. "Pollen counts already in the air because of the time of year are accentuated by the hay in the stalls, pet hair and dander," said Dr. Dowd Yarborough, chairman of the Health Committee. If visitors are around it only once during the year, the problem can be forgotten until they come in contact with the allergens again. The most prominent component of the rodeo crud is, of course, the common cold. People sneezing and coughing in the middle of large crowds, shaking hands with friends or touching items in common areas are all great ways to pass along cold germs.

The best way to ward off these illnesses and not let them lessen the fun of the visit is to be prepared before leaving home and to take extra precautions. "Take advantage of those yearly flu shots," said Yarborough. "If you have allergies or respiratory problems continuously and are already taking prescription medication, bring it with you. Take over-the-counter items to help alleviate the symptoms. Visitors and Show volunteers should take proper steps not to come in direct contact with the animals if they are allergic to pet hair," Yarborough warned.

In order to avoid the common cold, Lehane suggested the fol-

101



Parents like this group of mothers from Katy, Texas, who bring small children to the Show, often find strollers a comfortable choice of transportation.

lowing: "Wash your hands frequently and try to keep your hands away from your face. Be sure to use tissues to cover your sneeze or cough. That always helps to avoid passing cold germs around."

Those who plan on spending time at the Show should always remember to take their time and plan for many breaks — the Show encompasses a huge area. Drink plenty of water, and stop to rest often. Wearing appropriate shoes can alleviate tired feet and backaches. Those who enjoy wearing cowboy boots should make sure they are comfortable and fit well. Boots with rounded toes tend to work better for people who have foot ailments such as corns. Another suggestion is to bring an extra pair of shoes to the Show.



There's no need to worry about children visiting the petting zoo and Destination: AGVENTURE and then trying to find a restroom to wash their hands. One of the newest additions to the 2002 Show will be hand-washing stations.

Even with thorough preparation — packing medications, bringing along useful equipment, dressing comfortably and planning time wisely — accidents still happen. For example, Mike Durham, chairman of the Safety Committee, indicated that the first aid booths assist people who have suffered from falls. "People tend to talk to each other as they walk along and not watch where they are going. That contributes to many stumbles and falls," said Durham.

Visitors who find themselves in need of medical attention should know that the first-aid stations are all available and ready to assist them. There are doctors and nurses available to address many medical needs, and these professionals have access to medicines and medical equipment.

Get the most out of the Show experience by planning ahead, following basic safety precautions and keeping informed of the Show's many health-related services. Taking these steps will provide the comfort of knowing that, once at Reliant Park, all that is left to do is have a fun day at the Show.

Drinking plenty of water is a good way to stay refreshed and hydrated during a visit to the Show.

Going to the Show in a group is a common situation, but for those with back problems, it can cause difficulties. Others in the group should be made aware of the situation and encouraged to walk more slowly and allow time for everyone to take a break. Visitors who know they have problems walking long distances can bring lightweight, portable seats that can easily pop open. Then, stopping to rest is convenient and easy to do, even when waiting in long lines. A new option for visitors to the 2002 Show is wheelchair, motorized scooter and stroller rental available in AGVENTURE Plaza. The Show's Directions and Assistance Committee will staff the rental booths.

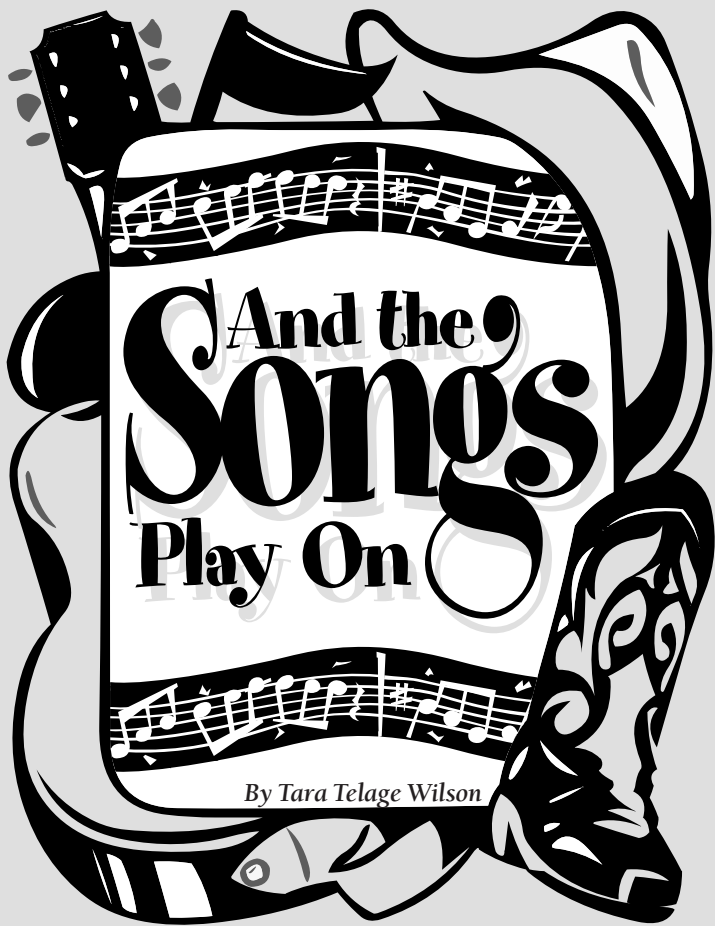


Making sure both parents and children take breaks when needed will result in a more enjoyable experience for all.

For the younger Show fans, strollers may be brought to the Show or can be rented. Even older children might become tired of walking or wish to take a nap. A stroller is a perfect place for them to rest while parents continue to take in the sights and keep up with the action. A stroller also allows Show visitors to haul around gear and souvenirs and avoid putting an unnecessary strain on ailing joints or backs. Baby backpacks, front carriers or baby slings also are all great ways to carry small children for long stretches of time. Be aware that babies often are lulled to sleep with repetitious movements such as walking. Check on them periodically to make sure they are not slumped in an uncomfortable position for too long, and take them out often to stretch. Again, make sure they have plenty to drink. Like adults, children need to keep hydrated.



An event as large as the Houston Livestock Show and Rodeo obviously involves walking, but it also can include carrying coats, souvenirs and tired children, which could increase fatigue.



The Houston Livestock Show and Rodeo™ has made a lasting impression on everyone who has been involved with it — Houstonians who have attended for decades, international visitors, Show participants and exhibitors, volunteers, Show staff, and others. Much of the Show's greatness derives from the long list of tremendous performances in the Reliant Astrodome by entertainment superstars. The Show's focus on entertainment, in addition to rodeo and other events, has contributed greatly to its ability to consistently attain the goal of "benefiting youth and supporting education." In fact, the Show's musical entertainment has proven to be as thrilling as the rodeo events, and the Show certainly wouldn't be the same without it.

Fortunately, many of the stars who have awed and inspired us through their performances also have been impacted by the Show, and a few of those performers have

turned their positive impressions of the Show into great country music, allowing the world, and future generations, to hear about the Show. Although, following the 2002 Show, everyone must say farewell to the Reliant Astrodome as RODEOHOUSTON™'s primary venue, the memories of the Dome won't be lost. Instead, the rich history of the Show and its longtime home will play on for years to come, thanks to the celebrated country music songs paying tribute to the Show and to the "Eighth Wonder of the World."

Probably the most well-known reference to the Show in country music can be found in a hit song by Grammy-award-winning entertainers Larry Gatlin and the Gatlin Brothers Band. In their song "Houston (Means I'm One Step Closer to You)," they mention how happy they are to be in Houston, on the last leg of the tour and one step closer to home. According to their song, being close to home is not the only notable thing about being in Houston. This is illustrated in the line that tells the listener how "Singin' at the world's biggest rodeo show was a great time for me and the guys." This reference to the Show is a claim no one could dispute, and it demonstrates the kind of impression the event has had on its visitors, competitors and entertainers alike.

While this song is one of the most recognized tributes to this great city and an incredible Show, the Gatlin Brothers' song is not the only country music reference to the Show and the Dome. Another well-known Houston song is the autobiographical "Telephone Road" by Rodney Crowell, who was born in Houston in 1950. In the song, he wrote of what his life was like growing up in Houston, with references to everything from



The Gatlin Brothers, Steve, Larry and Rudy, have provided many hours of entertainment to Show fans, both in the Dome and with their song "Houston (Means I'm One Day Closer to You)."

dance halls and drive-ins to the ice-cream man. One of the most vivid pictures he paints in this song is of “dirt poor Houston kids” playing in the streets “in the shadow of the Astrodome.” We all can understand from his words how the grandeur of the Eighth Wonder of the World must have impacted and inspired the children who experienced it.

In addition, the Reliant Astrodome and RODEOHOUSTON have been immortalized in songs like “Texas in 1880,” by Radney Foster and Pat Green. In this song, Foster and Green tell of “riding for legendary fame,” waiting for the “nights when Glory comes round . . . and we’ll tip our hats and wave to the crowd.” Where else could this take place but the world-famous Astrodome? They sing of traveling “from Phoenix from Tulsa to the Astrodome, New York City down to San Antone.” This illustrates that there hardly can be a song about rodeo life without mentioning rodeo in Houston.

Another star who has made it a point to sing about Houston and reference the legendary Houston Livestock Show and Rodeo is George Strait. In the song, “If You Can Do Anything Else,” we again can hear the impact of our city and the Houston Livestock Show and Rodeo on music. In this song, Strait sings of the virtues and characteristics of different towns across the country and which would be the most inviting. Of Houston, Strait croons, “Would you like to live in Houston where the cowboys come to town?” Here, he positions the Rodeo as a signature of our city and as a symbol of what Houston has to offer.

It’s not the first time Strait has sung about Houston’s Rodeo. One of his earliest hits was “Amarillo by Morning,” written by Paul Fraser and Terry Stafford. The song reflects a cowboy’s saga of the trials and triumphs of the rodeo circuit, including “they took my saddle in Houston.”

All of these songs have recorded a place in history for the Houston Livestock Show and Rodeo and the Reliant Astrodome by virtue of the singers and songwriters who happened to be impressed enough to create these musical references. But, another song was created specifically for the Show by Mel Garrett. Along with writing special theme songs for the 1990 and 1991 Shows, he wrote and performed a special homage to the Houston Livestock Show and Rodeo in 1989. This song, titled, “God Bless Our Show,” was a heartwarming tribute to the organization and helped to earn him the thanks and recognition of former President George Bush.

As the era of the Reliant Astrodome as the Show’s home ends and a new era in Reliant Stadium begins, it is wonderful to know that, through great music, the history of the Houston Livestock Show and Rodeo in the Dome will live on. Hopefully, new generations of music and musicians will continue to share the magic of the Show in song.



“God Bless Our Show”
By Mel Garrett

*Nowhere in the world,
Will you find so much love,
For the children who grow to lead our land.
And nowhere will you find,
Volunteers who are so willing,
And reaching out to lend a helping hand.
From the doctor to the lawyer,
To the trucker and the housewife,
Many more they all want you to know,
That with all their hearts together,
And the teamwork of their love,
They’ll bring to you this thing they call the Show.*


(chorus)

*It’s the Houston Show,
Let the love in our hearts grow,
For the youth of today,
Let’s help lead the way.
It’s Texas pride that we all know,
Surrounded by love,*

*God bless our Show.
From all around the world,
From every walk of life,
The people come to see this Texas Show.
And they’ll compete against their brothers,
While reaching out their hands,
To share with them the love that we all know.
From the children to the clowns,
To the cowboy all-around,
The world has come to know this rodeo.
And it’s all a part of giving,
Through the efforts of so many,
Who have poured their heart and soul into this Show.*

(chorus)

*God Bless the Show,
Let the love in our hearts grow,
For the youth of today,
Let’s help lead the way.
It’s Texas pride that we all know,
We’re surrounded by love,
God bless our Show.*



continued from page 3

shuttles and hundreds of performances from some of the most famous entertainers in the world.

The Reliant Astrodome holds a splendid history that forever will be etched in everyone's memory. It served as a catalyst for the Show's tremendous growth, allowing one of the premier events in the world to achieve unprecedented success and yield great memories for millions of people. The Reliant Astrodome also gave the Show much of its personality.

"There's definitely a great deal of emotion about leaving the Astrodome," said Show President P. Michael Wells. "It has been so good to us." Wells, like Lang, realizes the potential for even more growth and success in a new, state-of-the-art facility. "Reliant Stadium has thousands more seats, which will help us financially and allow the Show to increase its great scholarship











Workmen look like specks atop the Eighth Wonder of the World prior to the addition of the adjacent Astrohall.

program. And, that's what is most important. That's what we're all about."

Just as in 1965, there will be a host of mixed emotions, the sharing of stories and memories, and tears of sadness. It is likely to be the biggest and grandest farewell party Texas has ever seen.

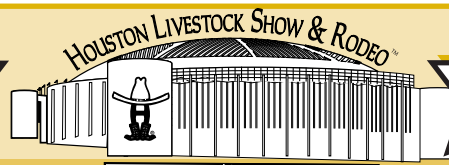
Houston Livestock Show and Rodeo Highlights in the Reliant Astrodome:

-  Two performers have topped the 1 million mark in the number of fans they've entertained in the Astrodome at the Houston Rodeo: Charley Pride and George Strait.
-  Elvis Presley thrilled a total of 295,743 fans at the Houston Rodeo — in 1970 for six shows and in 1974 for two shows.
-  Charley Pride holds the record for the most performances — 36 in 14 years.
-  The all-time record attendance for a performance was set on Feb. 28, 1993, with Selena and David Lee Garza performing to a crowd of 66,994.
-  The first satellite link to space for live conversation with astronauts was March 2, 1996, with the space shuttle Columbia.
-  The most money won, excluding bonuses, at a Professional Rodeo Cowboys Association regular season rodeo was at RODEOHOUSTON in 1994, when Ty Murray won \$31,010.
-  RODEOHOUSTON records in timed events are: 16.83 seconds for Charmayne James, Stephenville, Texas, set (in 1990) in barrel racing; 7.6 seconds for Cody Ohl, Stephenville, Texas, (in 1990) in calf roping; 3.3 seconds for Tom Duvall, Henryetta, Okla., (in 1998) and Trav Cadwell, Oakdale, Calif., (in 2001) in steer wrestling; and 4.5 seconds in team roping, set by Vic Morrison, Wayne, Okla., and Shot Branham, Midland, Texas, (in 1998).
-  In scored events, the RODEOHOUSTON records are: 86 points in bareback riding held by Denny McLanahan, Canadian, Texas (in 1996), J.C. Trujillo, Steamboat Springs, Colo. (in 1980), Lyle Sankey, Branson, Mo. (in 1980), and Sean Culver, Grandview, Wash. (in 2000); 93 points by Myron Duarte, Auburn, Wash., (in 1999) in bull riding; and 88 points by Billy Etbauer, Edmond, Okla., (in 2000) in saddle bronc riding.

2002

RODEOHOUSTON ENTERTAINERS

- Feb. 12, 7 p.m. Dixie Chicks, sponsored by Ford
- Feb. 13, 7 p.m. Neil Diamond
- Feb. 14, 7 p.m. Alan Jackson
- Feb. 15, 7 p.m. Clay Walker
- Feb. 16, 3:45 p.m. Pat Green
- Feb. 17, 3:45 p.m. Kumbia Kings and Juanes
- Feb. 18, 7 p.m. Lyle Lovett and Martina McBride
- Feb. 19, 7 p.m. Brooks & Dunn
- Feb. 20, 7 p.m. Bob Dylan
- Feb. 21, 7 p.m. ZZ Top
- Feb. 22, 7 p.m. Mary J. Blige and Brian McKnight
- Feb. 23, 3:45 p.m. Emmylou Harris, Alison Krauss, Patty Loveless and Nickel Creek
- Feb. 24, 3:45 p.m. Los Tigres del Norte and Ramon Ayala y Sus Bravos del Norte
- Feb. 25, 7 p.m. REO Speedwagon and Styx
- Feb. 26, 7 p.m. Willie Nelson and Lee Ann Womack
- Feb. 27, 7 p.m. Kenny Chesney
- Feb. 28, 7 p.m. Clint Black with Lisa Hartman Black
- March 1, 7 p.m. Destiny's Child
- March 2, 3:45 p.m. "Legends of RODEOHOUSTON in Concert"
hosted by Kenny Rogers, featuring Mac Davis, Larry Gatlin
and the Gatlin Brothers, Naomi Judd, and Charley Pride
- March 3 George Strait



RODEOHOUSTON
IN THE RELIANT
ASTRODOME
1966-2002

2002 Houston Livestock Show and Rodeo™

Event Locations

Reliant Astrodome
 Reliant Hall – Ballrooms, Main Arena, East Wing, West Wing
 & Western Heritage Gallery
 Reliant Arena – Pavilion Arena, North Annex, Arena #2 &
 Sales Pavilion
 Fort Bend County Fairgrounds (Rosenberg, Texas)
 Great Southwest Equestrian Center (Katy, Texas)
 Houston Food Bank
 Houston Farm & Ranch Club
 Washington County Fairgrounds (Brenham, Texas)

AGVENTURE Plaza

AGVENTURE Arena (*located in Rodeo Experience*)

ARENA MAIN SHOW

Super Scientific Circus - Feb. 13-18
 The Doggies of the Wild West and
 Calamity Jo's Magical Wild West Show - Feb. 19 - March 3
 Monday – Friday, noon & 5 p.m.
 Saturday – Sunday, 12:30, 3:30 & 6 p.m.

STICK HORSE RODEO

Monday – Friday, 11 a.m. & 5:30 p.m.
 Saturday, 11 a.m., 2:30 & 5:30 p.m.
 Sunday, 2:30 & 5:30 p.m.

RODEO GAME SHOW

with cowboy autograph sessions:
 Weekdays, 4 p.m.
 Saturdays, 10:30 a.m. & 1:30 p.m.
 Sundays, 1:30 p.m.
without cowboy autograph sessions:
 Saturdays, 4:30 p.m.
 Sundays, 4:30 p.m.

AGVENTURE CARNIVAL

10 a.m. to carnival close daily

DESTINATION: AGVENTURE

9 a.m. to 9 p.m. daily

SPINNING AND WEAVING DEMONSTRATIONS

Monday - Friday, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.
 Saturday & Sunday, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.

AGVENTURE TOURS

Monday through Friday, 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.
 - begins at Destination: AGVENTURE

PETTING ZOOS

9:30 a.m. to 9 p.m. daily

RODEO EXPERIENCE

9 a.m. to 9 p.m. daily, including mechanical bull and rock
 climbing
 Live shows daily (see AGVENTURE Arena)

PONY RIDES

9 a.m. to 9 p.m. daily

PIG RACES

Sunday - Thursday, 10 & 11 a.m., noon, 1, 2, 4, 5 & 6 p.m.
 Friday - Saturday, 10 & 11 a.m., noon, 2, 4, 5, 6 & 7 p.m.

Carnival

Monday - Thursday, Feb. 12 – Feb. 28, 4 p.m. to midnight,
 except Feb. 18

Monday, Feb. 18, noon to midnight
 Fridays, Feb. 15 & 22 and March 1, 4 p.m. to 1 a.m.
 Saturdays, Feb. 16 & 23 and March 2, 10 a.m. to 1 a.m.
 Sundays, Feb. 17 & 24, 10 a.m. to midnight
 Final Sunday, March 3, 10 a.m. to midnight

The Hideout

Only patrons age 21 and up admitted to The Hideout after 8
 p.m. Monday – Saturday and after 7 p.m. on Sunday.

TALENT CONTEST

Monday - Saturday, 7 p.m., and Sundays, 6 p.m.
 (no contest Feb. 24-25)

Finals on Saturday, March 2, 6:30 p.m.

Talent Show Championship Showcase -
 Sunday, March 3, 6 p.m.

HOUSE BAND

Feb. 14-16 Bill Hart and the Cardiac Cowboys
 Feb. 21-23 Sonny Boy Terry
 Feb. 28 - March 2 John Evans

HIDEOUT HEADLINERS

9:30 p.m. daily except Sunday; 8:30 p.m. on Sunday
 Feb. 12 David Allan Coe
 Feb. 13 Sonny Burgess
 Feb. 14 Charlie Robison
 Feb. 15 Tammy Cochran
 Feb. 16 Elbert West
 Feb. 17 The Iguanas
 Feb. 18 Darryl Worley
 Feb. 19 Wild Horses
 Feb. 20 Keith Urban
 Feb. 21 Johnny Rodriguez
 Feb. 22 Texas Johnny Brown
 Feb. 23 Blake Shelton
 Feb. 24 Stampede
 Feb. 25 Cooder Graw
 Feb. 26 Rosie Flores
 Feb. 27 Lee Roy Parnell
 Feb. 28 The Hollisters
 March 1 Cross Canadian Ragweed
 March 2 Asleep at the Wheel
 March 3 Red Steagall

Double E Plaza

LIVE ENTERTAINMENT

Monday - Thursday, 4 to 9 p.m.
 Friday, 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. & 4 to 9 p.m.
 Saturday, 11 a.m. to 9 p.m.
 Sunday, 11 a.m. to 8 p.m.

SHOPPING & EATS

RELIANT ARENA AND DOUBLE E PLAZA

Sunday – Thursday, 10:30 a.m. to 9 p.m.
 Friday – Saturday, 10 a.m. to 10 p.m.

RELIANT HALL, AGVENTURE PLAZA AND RODEO PLAZA

Sunday – Thursday, 10:30 a.m. to 9 p.m.
 Friday – Saturday, 10 a.m. to 11 p.m.

Go Texan WEEKEND

CONOCO RODEO RUN

Saturday, Feb. 9, 9:45 a.m., downtown Houston

GO TEXAN CONTESTS

DOMINOES, HORSESHOE PITCHING & WASHER PITCHING CONTESTS

Saturday, Feb. 9, 9 a.m., Reliant Arena

TEAM PENNING CONTEST

Sunday, Feb. 10, 10 a.m., Reliant Arena

QUILT & PHOTOGRAPHY CONTEST WINNERS DISPLAY

Feb. 12 - March 3, Western Heritage Gallery

PARADE

Saturday, Feb. 9, 10 a.m., downtown Houston

WORLD'S CHAMPIONSHIP BAR-B-QUE CONTEST

Reliant Astrodome Parking Lot

Thursday, Feb. 7, 5 p.m. to 11 p.m.

Friday, Feb. 8, noon to 11 p.m.

Saturday, Feb. 9, 9 a.m. to 11 p.m.

Special Events

BLACK HERITAGE DAY

Friday, Feb. 22

COWBOY CHURCH

10 a.m., Feb. 17 & 24, Arena Rooms 1 & 2; March 3, Sales Pavilion

FIESTA CHARRA

Sunday, Feb. 24

GO TEJANO DAY

Sunday, Feb. 24

INTERNATIONAL DAYS

Feb. 13 - 23

INTERNATIONAL LIVESTOCK CONGRESS

Tuesday - Friday, Feb. 19 - 22, The Warwick Hotel

LIL' RUSTLERS RODEO

Feb. 26 - 28

Rodeo

Feb. 12 - March 2

Monday - Friday, 7 p.m.; Saturday & Sunday, 3:45 p.m.

RODEO FINALS

Saturday, March 2, 3:45 p.m.

PAY-PER-VIEW PERFORMANCES

Saturday, Feb. 16 & 23 - 4 p.m. rodeo performances

Saturday, March 2 - 4 p.m. RODEOHOUSTON finals

School Art

Display: Feb. 12 - March 3, Western Heritage Gallery
Awards Presentation: Saturday, Feb. 16., 11 a.m. to 1 p.m.,
Sales Pavilion

Auction: Sunday, March 3, noon, Sales Pavilion

Horse, Donkey and Mule Show

Events are held in Reliant Arena except where noted.

Top Hands Horse ShowFeb. 8-9

Paint Horse CuttingFeb. 12

Cutting Horse CompetitionsFeb. 12-17

National Cutting Horse Association World Finals

.Feb. 14-17

Quarter Horse ShowFeb. 18-23

HLS&R Premier Horse SaleFeb. 23

Palomino Horse ShowFeb. 25-26

Paint Horse ShowFeb. 27 - March 1

Arabian and Half-Arabian Horse Show

(Great Southwest Equestrian Center) .Feb. 28- March 1

Donkey and Mule ShowMarch 1-3

Appaloosa Horse Show

(Great Southwest Equestrian Center)March 2-3

Shuttle Bus Service Schedule

Rodeo METRO Express sponsored by Ford and Your Texas Ford Dealers

WORLD'S CHAMPIONSHIP BAR-B-QUE SPECIAL

(Please note: Last inbound bus departs lots at 9:30 p.m.)

Thursday, Feb. 7, 5 p.m. to midnight (all lots)

Friday, Feb. 8, noon to midnight (Reed Road HLS&R Lot and Enron Field Lots will begin service starting at noon; all other lots will begin service at 5 p.m.)

Saturday, Feb. 9, 9 a.m. to midnight (all lots)

DAILY SHUTTLE SERVICE BEGINNING TUESDAY, FEB. 12

REED ROAD HLS&R LOT

Continuous shuttle service from 5 a.m. to 1 a.m. Monday - Thursday; 5 a.m. to 2 a.m. Friday - Sunday

ENRON FIELD B AND C LOTS

(service begins on Wednesday, Feb. 13)

11 a.m. to 1 a.m. Monday - Thursday; 11 a.m. to 2 a.m.

Friday; 9 a.m. to 2 a.m. Saturday - Sunday

ALL OTHER LOTS

5 p.m. to midnight Monday - Thursday; 5 p.m. to 2 a.m.

Friday; 9 a.m. to 2 a.m. Saturday - Sunday

SHUTTLE LOT LOCATIONS:

Aramco Services Company at 9009 West Loop S.

Delmar Stadium

Enron Field B and C Lots

METRO Eastex Park and Ride

METRO Fuqua Park and Ride

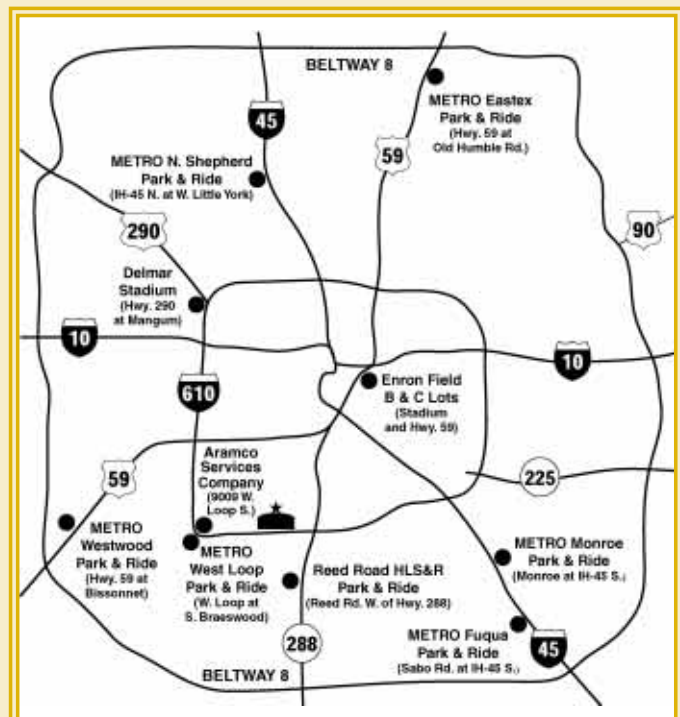
METRO Monroe Park and Ride

METRO North Shepherd Park and Ride

METRO West Loop Park and Ride

METRO Westwood Park and Ride

Reed Road HLS&R Park and Ride



2002 Houston Livestock Show™

Auctions and sales indicated in bold.

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 13

Belgian Blue Cattle Show
Brahmousin Cattle Show

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 14

Agricultural Mechanics Project Judging

Gelbvieh Cattle Sale

Gelbvieh Cattle Show
Llama and Alpaca Halter Classes
Red Brangus Cattle Show
Red Poll Cattle Show

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 15

Agricultural Mechanics Project Results and Awards

Llama/Alpaca Performance Classes
Open Breeding Rabbit Specialty Shows
Piedmontese Cattle Show
Pinzgauer Cattle Show
Romagnola Cattle Show
Sheep Dog Trials

Texas Longhorn Cattle Sale

Texas Longhorn Cattle Show

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 16

Angus Cattle Show
International Brangus Cattle Show

Limousin Sale

Llama Youth Showmanship and Costume
Lloan-A-Llama Competition
Maine-Anjou Cattle Show
Open Breeding Rabbit Show
Open Cavy Show
Open Rabbit and Cavy Costume Contest
Sheep Dog Trials
Youth Cavy Show

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 17

Commercial Female Sale (Houston Farm & Ranch Club)

Hereford Cattle Show

International Brahma Cattle Sale

Limousin Cattle Show
Polled Hereford Cattle Show
Sheep Dog Trials
Zebu Cattle Show

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 18

International Braford Cattle Sale

International Brahma Cattle Show (Females)
Youth Breeding Rabbit Show
Youth Rabbit Judging Contest

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 19

Braford Cattle Show
Braunvieh Cattle Show
4-H and FFA Horse Judging Contest
International Brahma Cattle Show (Bulls)

International Simbrah/Simmental Cattle Sale

Open Boer Goat Show
Youth Breeding Rabbit Show

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 20

Beefmaster Symposium
Braunvieh Sale

Open Dairy Goat Show

Red Angus Cattle Show

Registered Range Bull Sale (Houston Farm & Ranch Club)

Shorthorn Cattle Show
Simmental Cattle Show
Simbrah Cattle Show

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 21

Charolais Cattle Show

Charolais Sale of Sales

Santa Gertrudis Cattle Show

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 22

Junior Breeding Beef Heifer Show
Junior Breeding Beef Scramble and Livestock Judging Contest
Heifer Show

Junior Breeding Gilt Show

Scramble Heifer Banquet

South Texas Beefmaster Breeders Association Classic Sale

South Texas Beefmaster Breeders Association Futurity & Sale

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 23 – FFA DAY

Intercollegiate Meat Judging Contest

Junior Breeding Beef Heifer Show

National Santa Gertrudis Cattle Sale

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 24

4-H and FFA Meats Judging Contest

Junior Breeding Beef Heifer Show

Junior Market Goat Show

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 25

Intercollegiate Wool and Mohair Judging Contest
Junior and Senior Intercollegiate Livestock Judging Contest
Junior Market Barrow Show
State FFA Tractor Technician Contest

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 26

4-H and FFA Livestock Judging Contest

Junior Commercial Steer Sale

Junior Market Barrow Show

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 27

Grand and Reserve Champion Market Poultry Selection

Junior Market Barrow Auction

Junior Market Steer Show

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 28

Junior Market Lamb Show

Junior Market Poultry Auction

Junior Market Steer Show

FRIDAY, MARCH 1

Junior Market Lamb and Goat Auction

Junior Market Steer Show

Wool to Wardrobe

SATURDAY, MARCH 2 — 4-H DAY

4-H and FFA Dairy Judging Contest
Junior and Intercollegiate Range and Pasture Plant
Identification Contest

Junior Market Steer Auction

Open and Junior Breeding Sheep Show

Open and Junior Dairy Show

Wildlife Habitat Contest

SUNDAY, MARCH 3

Open & Junior Breeding Sheep Show

Don't Miss This in 2002!

Hospitality Plus

After a successful inaugural year in 2001, the Hospitality Plus program is back! Houston Livestock Show and Rodeo™ volunteers are already signing their commitment cards and receiving their 2002 pins featuring Reliant Astrodome and both Texas and American flags. The special focus of the 2002 program is to get members of the community who have not been attending the Show to come out and enjoy this special, final year in Reliant Astrodome and Reliant Hall.

Volunteers are asked to make the following commitment: "I am committed to support the Houston Livestock Show and Rodeo as a member of the 2002 'Hospitality Plus' team. I understand that I am committing to acting as an ambassador for the Show in my neighborhood and at my job. I will do my very best to convince someone that did not attend the 2001 Show to join us for the 2002 Show. I also commit to provide exceptional customer service to our customers, visitors and guests. I will proudly wear the Hospitality Plus pin and do my part to make the 2002 Show a success."

Commitment cards and pins are available at Show committee meetings or through committee chairmen and staff coordinators.

Keep It Clean

An addition in AGVENTURE Plaza will be the presence of hand-washing stations near the petting zoos. Waterless, hand-washing gel will be available at several free-standing kiosks for visitors of all ages.

Rove Around in a Rental

Strollers, wheelchairs and motorized scooters will be available for rental at Reliant Park near AGVENTURE Plaza. Rental booths will be manned by volunteers from the Show's Directions and Assistance Committee.

Park It Here

There will be a few new options for visitors to the 2002 Houston Livestock Show and Rodeo when it comes to parking. Prepaid and limited daytime parking will be available on a first come, first served basis.

Season parking is available for \$200 through the Houston Livestock Show and Rodeo ticket office. This includes parking and in-and-out privileges for all 20 performances. The spaces are located on the west side of Kirby Drive off of McNee Street.

Pre-sold only through Ticketmaster, performance parking is available for \$10 plus a service charge. These spaces located west of Kirby Drive are very limited and include in-and-out privileges.

Visitors arriving at the Show between 7:30 a.m. and noon on weekdays can take advantage of daytime parking on the Reliant Park grounds. Daytime parking is available only at the gate for \$5, and visitors must be out of the parking area by 3 p.m. There are no in-and-out privileges with this parking option.

But, while these new options are available, remember that someone else can do the driving when you ride the Rodeo METRO Express from 10 satellite locations.

Taking a New Direction

Do you have a favorite spot in downtown Houston where you watch the Rodeo Parade? If you do, you will want to make sure that it is still on the new parade route for 2002:

- Start at Smith Street and Texas Avenue,
- East on Texas Avenue to Milam Street,
- South on Milam Street to Bell Street,
- West on Bell Street to Louisiana Street,
- North on Louisiana Street to Clay Street,
- West on Clay Street to Smith Street,
- North on Smith Street to Walker Street,
- Concludes at Walker Street and Bagby Street.

RODEOHOUSTON on Your Television

During 2002 RODEOHOUSTON™, live performances will be available via pay-per-view every Saturday and will feature world champion rodeo athletes as they compete for nearly three-quarters of a million dollars in seven professional rodeo events: bareback riding, barrel racing, bull riding, calf roping, saddle bronc riding, steer wrestling and team roping.

The 2002 pay-per-view events include:

Saturday, Feb. 16

RODEOHOUSTON Live - 4 p.m. CST

Saturday, Feb. 23

RODEOHOUSTON Live - 4 p.m. CST

Saturday, March 2

RODEOHOUSTON Championship Finals Live - 4 p.m. CST

The live performances will be available on pay-per-view throughout the United States. RODEOHOUSTON also is available in Canada on cable and satellite, in South America on satellite and worldwide on Armed Forces Television.

For more information, call 1-800-RODEOTX.

Take That Ticket Back

Don't forget that unused Rodeo tickets can be returned as a charitable contribution for those unable to use their tickets. There are three ways to turn back tickets:

Turn back tickets in person at the Show ticket office and receive a charitable donation receipt.

Turn back tickets by phone. Call 713.791.9000, ext. 523. Show operators will ask a series of questions, including the name on the ticket, the seat location and a unique ticket order number found on the ticket.

Turn back tickets by fax. Fax a copy of the tickets to 713.794.9539.

Receipts for tickets turned back by phone or fax will be mailed to the original purchaser after the Show. When turning back tickets by phone or fax, the tickets must be secured to ensure that the tickets cannot be inadvertently used.

Hall of Fame

By Susan K. Williams

The Astrohall was decked out in celebration of the Show's 40th Anniversary in 1972 with a building full of animals, exhibitors and spectators.



During the 1960s, the nation's economy was experiencing a period of sustained growth. Houston, especially, began a growth pattern, aggressively expanding and annexing new suburban development, reshaping its boundaries as it strove to become a competitive metropolitan area.

In the mid-'60s — April 12, 1965, to be exact — Houston became the talk of the world as it held the official grand opening of the first domed stadium. People came from across the globe to view this marvel of architecture. But, Houston and the Houston Livestock Show and Rodeo™ were not finished astounding the country and the world.

That same year, construction began on the world's largest livestock exposition building, also touted as the world's largest convention center. Spanning 500,000 square feet, approximately 12 acres, the Astrohall was climate-controlled. Designed in a giant "Y" shape, it is 75 feet tall and has housed the permanent offices of the Houston Livestock Show and Rodeo since it opened its doors. The very first event to be held in this \$3 million shining, new exhibition hall was, of course, the 1966 Houston Livestock Show™.

Houston also was the center of the newest pioneering adventure — the race into space. In honor of Houston's significance to the country's space program, the Harris County Domed Stadium was renamed the Astrodome, and to maintain the theme, in 1965, Houston's baseball team, the Colt .45s, was renamed the Astros, and the exhibition hall became known as the Astrohall.

Built by the Show, the Astrohall was donated to the citizens of Harris County at no cost to taxpayers in 1966. The new building had an effect on everyone and anyone who came in contact with this brick and mortar marvel.

For the first time, the Show's permanent offices could be located in the same building as the livestock show. Show employees spent weeks packing, moving into their new headquarters and unpacking. What wasn't realized at the time was the amount of distance between and around the domed stadium and exposition hall. Although directional signs were in place, it was easy to become lost in the giant complex. Electric carts became the mode of transportation to assist in moving material from one site to another.

Finally media personnel were able to have their own desks in the new media room. And, unlike the crowded Coliseum with its limited accommodations, there was a telephone available for each media representative. No longer would they all have to share the two telephones allotted to the media at the Coliseum.

Private offices, interview rooms and a luxurious reception area created an exciting ambience for visitors. In 1966, another first was introduced to the Houston Livestock Show and Rodeo. A bulletin board was installed outside the president's office, and Betty Browne, secretary to General Manager Dick Weekley, posted daily schedules of all meetings, judgments, auctions and any other pertinent information. Thus, the Show's first communications system for volunteers and committee operations was born — a long way from today's Internet and e-mail messaging systems.

The new exposition building truly was built with livestock exhibitors in mind. For the youth exhibitors, a dormitory was installed that could house up to 1,000 boys. Four judging arenas that could seat 1,600 people and an auction arena that held 800 people were provided for the exhibition and sale livestock. Special areas were built for both swine and sheep.

Large ramps enabled horse and cattle trailers easy access to the stalls, and 42 truck docks were located strategically to permit efficient and easy loading and unloading of materials and supplies.

"Before the exhibition hall was built, the livestock were penned under the bridges around the Sam Houston Coliseum," said Stuart Lang, Show president from 1963 to 1966. "Hogs were housed under the bridge at Buffalo Bayou, and the horses were stabled at the old Pin Oaks Stables on Loop 610. For three years, we had to discontinue the showing of rabbits and chickens because of the smell they created under the Coliseum.

"The new exhibition hall turned what once was a minor-league stock show into the world's largest and finest stock show in the world," added Lang. "We outgrew the Astrohall in that first year. Breeders came from all over the United States, and the



Show was finally able to include premier Register of Merit livestock championships."

Show committees, particularly the Corral Club Committee, were affected by this new addition. Because of its Western look, the former Fast Draw Club, the Colt .45s' private club, which stood next to the old Colt Stadium, was moved to the west entrance of the exhibition hall where it became the Show's central Corral Club. The next year, in order to accommodate the many people who became Corral Club members, a new Corral Club was built inside the exhibition hall.

The Corral Club wasn't the only entity growing by leaps and bounds. In 1968, the exhibition hall was enlarged by four acres to increase the demanding need for more exhibit space and meeting rooms. In 1973, two more acres were added to increase space needed for permanent administrative offices, meeting rooms and exhibit space as well as the new Super Sale Salon, which functioned as the site of the junior market auctions and commercial animal sales until 1991. In 1975, the 6,000-seat Astroarena was completed to accommodate the growth of the various horse shows, and most of the horse stalls were moved into the new facility. And finally, in 1980, even more space was added to both the east and west wings of the Astrohall.

Chicago and New York previously held the distinction of being cities of choice for large conventions and trade shows, but all that changed when the new Livestock Exposition building opened its doors. For the first time in its history, the National Association of Homebuilders left its Chicago digs and headed for Houston. January 1968 saw the beginning of a long tradition as the newly created exhibition center became home to the annual conference.

Today, the exhibition hall is known as Reliant Hall, a change due to Reliant Energy's purchasing naming rights for the entire complex in 2000. Since opening its doors, the hall has enjoyed playing host to some of the country's largest events, including the petroleum industry's Offshore Technology Conference, and, in 2001, the three-day WrestleMania®'s Fan Axxcess. The Hall also is the site of Texas' largest gun show, a four-time per year event. Reliant Hall has seen everything from dog shows, boat and RV expositions, to baby expos and children's fairs.

It even became a mobile field hospital on June 14, 2001, following Tropical Storm Allison, which left Houston's hospital system seriously compromised with bed shortages and flooded emergency rooms. The Reliant Hall unit was staffed with 12 physicians, and included an emergency room, operating rooms, critical care unit, lab, pharmacy and X-ray machines, offering a full spectrum of medical care, including dental and psychiatric care.

After the 2002 Show, the next step for Reliant Hall is demolition. Although future visitors to Reliant Park will no longer be able to wander the halls of the building, they will be able to trace the footsteps of the past across a new parking area.

Is There a Doctor in the House?

By Whitney Horton

Asking if there is a veterinarian in the house at the Houston Livestock Show and Rodeo™ is much like asking if there is an Aggie in the barn. Lifetime director and official Show veterinarian Dr. Tony Barcelona proudly wears both hats simultaneously. Literally the gatekeepers of the Show for the past 51

Commission to follow the rules and regulations for each animal. “We are pretty strict. If you can get into the Houston Show, then you can get into any show in the U.S.,” said Barcelona.

Although his office usually is at “the horse gate,” Barcelona also may be found driving his maroon and white, sticker-clad,

three-wheeled electric cart, providing his services wherever necessary. Whether at a gate helping a road-weary contestant with certificates, in a stall doctoring a horse or helping a bovine association with blood typing, Barcelona always remains on call to help. “It is so enjoyable to ride through the cattle barn and sit and visit with people that come back year after year after year. Whether agriculture teachers, county agents or families with new generations now showing, I look forward to seeing friends and meeting new people each Show. Hearing fathers introduce me to their children as ‘the man



Livestock show veterinarian Dr. Tony Barcelona makes rounds on his mobile clinic.

who doctored my calf when I was showing’ — I love the Show and love working with the people of the Show,” said Barcelona.

Veterinarians and student interns also can be found in Reliant Hall busily collecting urine specimens under the direction of Veterinarian Committee Chairman Dr. Terry Dobson. Veterinarian Committee members began their work in 1989, when Show management recognized the importance of providing a safe, wholesome product to the American public and recruited members of the Greater Houston Large Animal Practitioner Association to test animals for chemical residue. In 1995, the group became the Veterinarian Committee.

Today, Veterinarian Committee members, along with the help

years, Barcelona and his team are responsible for making sure that every animal entering the Show gates complies with the animal health rules of the Texas Animal Health Commission. Barcelona works with Texas A&M University professor Dr. Buddy Faries to train veterinary students to man the three livestock entry gates 24 hours a day during the Show.

Veterinary students check health certificates of every animal entering the Show, and if there is a problem or question, they call Barcelona. Whether a seasoned director riding in the grand entry, a Catalena Cowgirl carrying a flag or an exhibitor with a potential prize-winning steer, each is bound by the Texas Animal Health

of Texas A&M University veterinary student interns, randomly test a total of about 400 animals in Rosenberg, Brenham and Houston. They begin sampling during the sifting process, continue during each competition and complete their testing with all grand, reserve grand, breed and reserve breed champion animals in each category. One of the biggest responsibilities, which the members take very seriously, is maintaining the integrity of the testing. Exhibitors are informed that their animals have been randomly chosen for testing and are moved into a testing area. From that time until the animal urinates, an agricultural science teacher, county extension agent, parent or the exhibitor must be present to witness the sample collection. Sometimes an animal will wait as long as eight hours without urinating, and all the while the patient committee members must wait. Sometimes, after many hours of waiting, an animal will have to return to competition, and as soon as it is in the ring — you guessed it — the process begins anew.

Once a sample is properly collected, it is placed under lock and key. Part of the sample is sent off to a laboratory for testing, while the rest remains under Show supervision for backup should there be any questions. These sampling procedures have been refined over time and are very exact. Although committee members do not like to dwell on the tests that come back positive, it does happen, and consequences are severe. The exhibitor may lose the privilege of showing animals for from two years to life. In addition, all monies, scholarships and prizes previously received by or awarded to the contestant for that year are forfeited.

According to Dr. Greg Knappe, a former Veterinarian Committee chairman, a by-product of the testing program is knowing that the committee is doing a job that is going to benefit every exhibitor at the Show. “We know for a fact that by being in there testing and doing our job properly, that it doesn’t matter whether you’re a ninth-grader that has never shown an animal before or that you are a 12th-grader that has been showing since you were 8 years old. Those animals are going in there, and they are all on equal footing. Every kid has a chance. Every kid that has worked so hard with their project and has done such a good job has got an equal competitive advantage when they get in that show ring. In that ring there is nothing but the quality of the animal and the hard work that is going to allow that kid the chance to win that show.”

In the Reliant Astrodome, animals are carefully safeguarded by veterinarian Dr. Frank Martin. Once referred to by a newspaper as being like the “Maytag repairman,” who never gets



After a specimen has been collected from his steer, a young exhibitor verifies the collection with the veterinarian on duty.

calls, Martin most often is seen on the floor taking photographs as the Show’s official photographer. “Veterinary work always takes precedence, and every once in a while something does happen, and I drop my camera in the dirt. Usually someone sitting on the fence will pick it up. When I have finished treating the animal, I’ll come back, dust it off and try to put the pieces back together. Since I don’t have an awful lot of work to do during the Show taking care of animals, taking pictures makes for a nice combination.”

Although Martin does provide emergency care for hurt animals during the Rodeo, his job primarily involves answering questions about animal behavior and animal welfare, and giving precautionary exams. Owners and exhibitors have a huge monetary and emotional investment in the animals. They are educated about the care of the animals and are so in tune to the normal condition and behavior of the animals that many questions relate to some new behavior that might or might not be a problem. Often, contestants have been traveling for weeks and just want to touch base with a veterinarian.

Martin, who also volunteers care to animal cruelty prevention, respects the care owners and producers give their animals. “In the day-to-day job away from the Rodeo, we see sick and hurt animals. At the Rodeo we see healthy, strong, well-taken-care-of animals. The animals are respected professionals doing a job — a well-cared-for bull who performs well is a beautiful thing to see,” said Martin.

Whether certifying animals entering the Show, maintaining the safety of the American public through testing animals in the Show or ensuring the safety of the professional animals competing in the Show, you can bet there is a doctor in the house.



Lifetime Vice Presidents

By Nan McCreary



Lifetime Vice Presidents Committee Chairman Roy Elledge Jr. (seated left) is surrounded by vice chairmen Freeman Dunn, J.J. Acy, Carolyn Faulk and Ed Stone.

If there is a voice of experience in the Houston Livestock Show and Rodeo™, it is most evident on the Lifetime Vice Presidents Committee. This committee, comprised of past vice presidents, represents years of hard work, experience and lessons learned in one of the largest and most exciting events in the Southwest. Roy Elledge Jr., committee chairman, noting that the members have served in every leadership position in the Show, said, “There is a vast amount of knowledge and information here.”

The Lifetime Vice Presidents Committee, formed in 1982, was the brainchild of two Show veterans, lifetime vice president Freeman Dunn and Executive Committee member Clayton Underwood. These enterprising gentlemen realized that it would be a waste of talent to retire Show vice presidents after their three-year tenures end. Their goal was to establish a committee where these vast resources of experience could be pooled and made available to the Show president and others who could call upon their expertise. Initially, the committee was small, consisting of 30 members, but, as the Show has grown, so has the committee. Today, it is 102 members strong, and boasts years of knowledge and experience accumulated from working with the Show’s nearly 13,000 volunteers and 88 committees. “We have done it all,” said Elledge, who is assisted by four vice chairmen. “All of our members have been involved in the Show for many, many years. We have one member who has served since 1953.”

While members of the Lifetime Vice Presidents Committee often work behind the scenes, they have responsibilities that are instrumental to the Show’s success. One is hosting the Directors’ Club, and another is serving as hosts in the president’s office, where committee members help the Show president entertain civic leaders, politicians, school board members, prominent sports figures and other special guests of the Show.

They also arrange for these guests to ride in the Grand Entry.

Yet another duty of the committee is to attend Go Texan functions held in 60 Texas counties throughout the year. These functions include barbecue cook-offs, parades and other events designed to publicize the Show. The committee also hosts the annual Scholarship Banquet, which honors scholarship recipients and their families.

In addition to these duties, the committee conducts special studies at the request of the Show president. For instance, the committee has researched the functions of a Show committee and made recommendations for expansion, consolidation or other changes that have enhanced the effectiveness of that committee. In conducting these studies, members are assigned tasks that match their knowledge and experience.

“These men and women are a great resource to me and to our staff,” said Show President P. Michael Wells, who serves as officer in charge of the committee. “They have seen a lot of history, and they have insight into events that have happened in the past. I value their opinions and their input.”

Members of the Lifetime Vice Presidents Committee are not ones to rest on their laurels. They are on the committee for life, so their expertise can be drawn upon indefinitely. This suits the members just fine. “This gives us an opportunity to stay active in the Show, plus offer our talents,” said Elledge.

The seasoned veterans of the Lifetime Vice Presidents Committee are an invaluable asset of the Show and are available to anyone and everyone who has a question or a suggestion. They represent the voice of experience — a voice that can be heard throughout the Show.



Rabbit Show

By Ken Scott



Fibber McGehee judged best of breed for the Satin breed as committee volunteer Ronda Lunsford assisted.

When it comes to rabbits, many people believe one rabbit is the same as any other. But, the people who visit the Houston Livestock Show and Rodeo™'s rabbit show quickly learn that not all rabbits are alike.

Some rabbits are quite large. Flemish Giants can weigh as much as 22 pounds, and English Lops have an earspan ranging from 21 to 30 inches measured tip to tip. Other rabbits are quite small. Netherland Dwarfs, for example, can fit comfortably in your hand. They weigh a maximum of 2.5 pounds and have ears that are only 2.5 inches long.

In addition to rabbits, the rabbit show also includes cavies. A cavy is better known as a guinea pig. Cavies, to a large degree, are evaluated on color and coat, but, like rabbits, cavies also are judged on specific standards.

The first rabbit show occurred during the 1943 Houston Fat Stock Show. Only 15 breeds of rabbits were shown that year. Today, with 45 breeds and 90 varieties being shown, the Rabbit Show Committee members recognize that educating visitors is one of their committee's most important jobs.

The 140 members of the committee are a hands-on group — setting up and changing out the cages for the rabbit show, running the individual shows and tearing down the displays at their conclusions. Another important aspect of the committee is the special events and finance subcommittee. This group is responsible for planning and executing all of the special events associated with the rabbit show, including acquiring and raising funds to provide awards for the rabbit show.

During the course of the five rabbit and cavy shows, committee members might carry as many as 3,000 rabbits and cavies from their cages to the judging tables and back again. Because committee members are entrusted with each entry, it is important that they know how to handle the animals properly.

All committee members are required to complete an extensive handling clinic and to be certified in the handling and care of the show animals. "It may look easy, but handling these animals correctly means training and practice," said Rabbit Show Committee Chairman Mary Crawford.

J.L. "Bubba" Butera, a Show vice president and officer in charge of the committee, said, "The Rabbit Show Committee is a unique group of hard working people. They are not only interested in Rodeo; they are real rabbit people. Many of them are rabbit breeders and serve as judges at rabbit shows throughout the year."

In addition to running the various shows, the Rabbit Show Committee is responsible for manning the rabbit display in Destination: AGVENTURE. The display requires a minimum of eight committee volunteers, with members on duty 12 hours a day for the 20 days of the Show. The rabbits displayed at Destination: AGVENTURE give thousands of kids and their parents an opportunity to learn things about rabbits they might not know. "The best thing about being a part of this group is the interaction with kids and the many opportunities we have of educating people about rabbits and cavies," Crawford said.

Almost 400 youths participate in the rabbit competition, and everyone has opportunities to expand their knowledge along the way. The committee conducts judging contests for individuals and teams that involve questions about how to recognize different breeds and sort animals for quality, as well as written tests. According to Crawford, "Not every household can raise a pig or steer. However, most households can provide the proper atmosphere for rabbits and cavies. This show gives almost every child who wants to, a chance to participate."

Third-Year Committee Chairmen

PROFILES

By Marshall R. Smith III

Every volunteer who wears the gold badge contributes to the overall success of the Houston Livestock Show and Rodeo™. Of the nearly 13,000 volunteers, a distinguished group of individuals holds the position of committee chairman. This continuing series features those leaders who are serving their third and final year as chairmen of their respective committees.



Jimmy Lyons – Transportation

In 1984, Jimmy Lyons became a life member of the Show and joined the Horspitality Committee. Seven years later, he joined the Transportation Committee, and he served in various positions until becoming chairman. He was elected to the Show's board of directors in 1999. His wife, Cindy, a life member, is on the Membership and Llama committees. Their two daughters, Tanya and Jamie, are both life members and in college. Jimmy is the owner of Westwood Construction Services, Inc.



Henry J. Ostermann – Go Texan Contests

Henry Ostermann demonstrated that he likes being a team member when he joined the Show and the Special Children's Committee in 1982. He is also a life member. In 1993, Henry became a volunteer on the Go Texan Contests Committee, and he has since worked his way up, serving as a vice chairman, subcommittee chairman and, ultimately, chairman. He also belongs to an even larger team, the United States Army Reserve, where he holds the rank of colonel. His wife, Mary, is a member of the quilt subcommittee of the Go Texan Contests Committee.



Kevin K. Rech – Commercial Exhibits

Kevin Rech joined the Show in 1984 as a life member. That year, he also became a member of the Commercial Exhibits Committee, and he has spent his tenure exclusively with commercial exhibits. He was elected to the Show's board of directors in 2001. Kevin is an avid supporter of the Houston Metro Go Texan Committee Fort Bend/Stafford subcommittee. He is employed by JPMorgan Chase Bank as a senior vice president. He enjoys spending time with his wife, Diane, and children, Christopher and Megan, at the family ranch.



Rita A. Ruffeno – School Art

Rita Ruffeno became a member of the Show in 1980 and three years later became a life member. She also served as a member of the International Committee. For Rita, the Show is a family affair. Her husband, Mac, is a director of the Show. Her daughter and son-in-law, Jill and Gray Gilbert, as well as her son, MacDonald, and daughter-in-law, Tracy, are all on committees. When Rita is not working with the Show, she likes shopping for antiques, cooking and grandparenting.



Joe L. Schindler – Judging Contest

Joe Schindler, the first chairman of the Judging Contest Committee, has been a life member of the Show since 1980. He also is a member of the Parade Committee and was a team leader on the Corral Club – Sky Box Committee. Joe is president of J.L. Schindler Enterprises, Inc. When he is not working, he loves to team rope, hunt and fish. His wife, Debra, serves on the Steer Auction Committee and was one of the first women to receive that committee's Lady Big Boy Award.



Kathy Somerville – Ladies' Season Box

Volunteering is a family thing for Kathy Somerville. She became a life member of the Show in 1988, the same year she joined the International Committee. Kathy's husband, Paul, is a member of the Executive Committee and is a lifetime vice president. They have one daughter, Courtney, who also is a life member. Kathy is chairman of the Show's Trailblazer Awards Luncheon and serves on many civic organization boards in the Houston area. She loves to ride horses and jet skis at the family ranch.



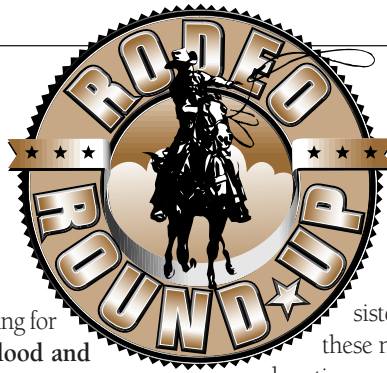
Griffin D. Winn – Steer Auction

Griffin Winn joined the Show and the Steer Auction Committee in 1986 and also became a life member that year. He served for a brief period on the Agricultural Mechanics Committee. A member of the Show's board of directors, Griffin has won the Steer Auction Committee's Top Ten and Big Boy awards for 14 years and received the Chairman's Award in 1997. He and his wife, Johanna, have two children, daughter Laura and son Wes. Griffin is president of G.D. Winn Investments, Inc.



Dowd J. Yarborough Jr., M.D. – Health

Dowd J. Yarborough joined the Show and the Health Committee in 1990 — which is fitting because he has been practicing medicine in Houston since 1974 as a cardiologist and internal medicine physician. He also served for a brief time on the Lamb Auction Committee. Dowd's hobbies are music and horses. He and his wife, Merele, like to spend time at their horse farm in Brenham, Texas, where they raise and race thoroughbred horses. In 1984, he won the Five-Gaited (horse) Championship at the State Fair in Dallas.



★ A Driving Success

December 17, 2001, was an exciting day of giving for the **Houston Livestock Show and Rodeo™ Blood and Food Drive**. Preliminary numbers were 98 donations and only eight deferrals, with additional donations still expected. According to Bill Teague, Gulf Coast Regional Blood Center president and CEO and Show lifetime vice president, "The 98 units of whole blood donated will be divided into about three components each (red blood cells, platelets, plasma, etc.), so you produced about 300 components for patient use! Patients in the 200-plus healthcare facilities we serve in this region use about 2,000 components each day, so you produced about 15 percent of a day's supply for the region."

In addition to the generosity shown by blood donors, many volunteers showed their support by delivering nonperishable food items for the Houston Food Bank. The Show collected \$120 in cash donations and 16 cases of food totaling 609 pounds for the food bank.

★ Add One More

When describing the many functions and activities of Show committees, there is now one more to add to the list — promoting and selling official Houston Livestock Show and Rodeo merchandise. The Show's newest committee is the **Rodeo Merchandise Committee**. Its work will be seen by hundreds of thousands of visitors during the Show as members staff the Official Rodeo Merchandise Stores in Reliant Hall and Reliant Arena. Stop by and check out the 2002 line of merchandise, including the annual jacket and buckle, and other special commemorative items.

★ Box It Up



Steer, swine, lamb and goat auction buyers now have new options for their auction purchase.

- Steer buyers can choose either the **Gourmet Steer Package** which includes 100 pounds of primal cuts or the **Whole Steer Package** which is processed on a standard cutting order and costs an extra \$475.

- Swine buyers have the option of the **Gourmet Pork Package** consisting of 50 pounds

of primal cuts or the **Whole Hog Package** for an additional \$175 that includes the whole carcass cut to standard specifications.

- Lamb and goat auction buyers have the choice of either a 20 pound **Gourmet Lamb Package** or a **Gourmet Goat Package** consisting of a whole goat quartered barbecue style, and it is not dependent on which species purchased at auction.

These new packages will provide a more consistent, high quality product for all buyers. Even with these new options, auction buyers still have the charity donation and the resell and credit account options.

★ What an Appointment!



Texas Governor Rick Perry has announced the appointment of **James M. Windham Jr.**, chairman of the Rodeo Institute for Teacher Excellence™ and an Executive Committee member of the Show, to the state board for educator certification. The board develops certification and continuing education requirements and standards of conduct for public school teachers.

★ The Big Move

After the conclusion of the 2002 Houston Livestock Show and Rodeo, the Show offices will be relocating to Reliant Center. While the post office address will remain the same, the offices will have a new physical address and phone number beginning in late March.

The new phone number will be 832.667.1000.



★ Future Show Dates

With the move to the new facilities for the 2003 Houston Livestock Show and Rodeo also will come a shift in Show dates. The 2003 Show is tentatively scheduled for Feb. 28–March 16.

Tentative Show dates for future years include:

- March 5-21, 2004
- March 4-20, 2005
- March 3-19, 2006
- March 2-18, 2007
- Feb. 29 - March 16, 2008
- March 6-22, 2009
- March 5-21, 2010

★ We're Growing

The full-time Show staff has grown by three. **Lou Callaway** joins the Show as administrative assistant, Buildings and Grounds, Operations Department. **Bidhan Chakma** and **Shahzad Naseer** have joined the Information Systems Department as developers.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

FEBRUARY

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28		

MARCH

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24 31	25	26	27	28	29	30

APRIL

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30				

FEBRUARY

- 2 Conroe/Willis/Woodlands Go Texan Parade
- 2 Lamar/Needville Boot Scootin' Ball
- 3 Chambers County Rodeo Kick-off Dance and Auction
- 5 NASA/Clear Creek/Friendswood Trailride Dinner and Dance
- 8 Houston General Go Texan Clowns Around Downtown
- 12 Katy Bus Trip
- 13 Deer Park Bus Trip
- 14 Galveston/Mainland Bus Trip
- 14 Pasadena Bus Trip
- 18 Fort Bend/Stafford Bus Trip
- 18 New Caney/Splendor Bus Trip
- 19 La Porte Bus Trip
- 20 Liberty County Bus Trip
- 21 Baytown Highlands Bus Trip
- 25 Waller County Bus Trip
- 26 Brazoria Southwest Bus Trip
- 27 Conroe/Willis/Woodlands Bus Trip
- 28 Humble/Kingwood Bus Trip
- 28 NASA/Clear Creek/Friendswood Bus Trip

MARCH

- 2 Matagorda County Fair and Go Texan BBQ Cookoff
- 16 Live Oak County Fair Barbecue Cookoff
- 23-27 Show offices moving
- 29 Show offices closed

APRIL

- 1 Show offices closed

*A complete list of Show events is included on pages 9-12



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