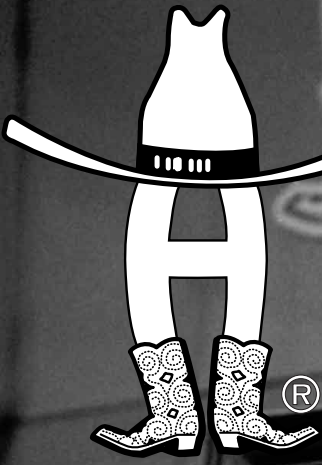


HOUSTON LIVESTOCK SHOW AND RODEO™

May 2002 - Vol. X, No. 2



# MAGAZINE



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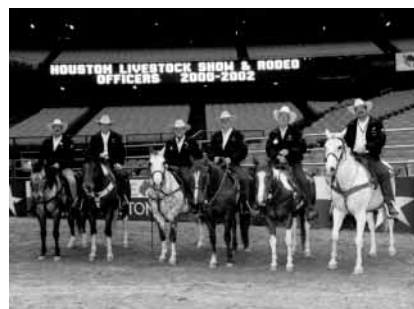
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Sterling High School senior Shay Brunson borrowed chaps and posed for photos from different angles to create the inspiration for his Grand Champion Work of Art, "A Cowboy's Prayer – September 11th."

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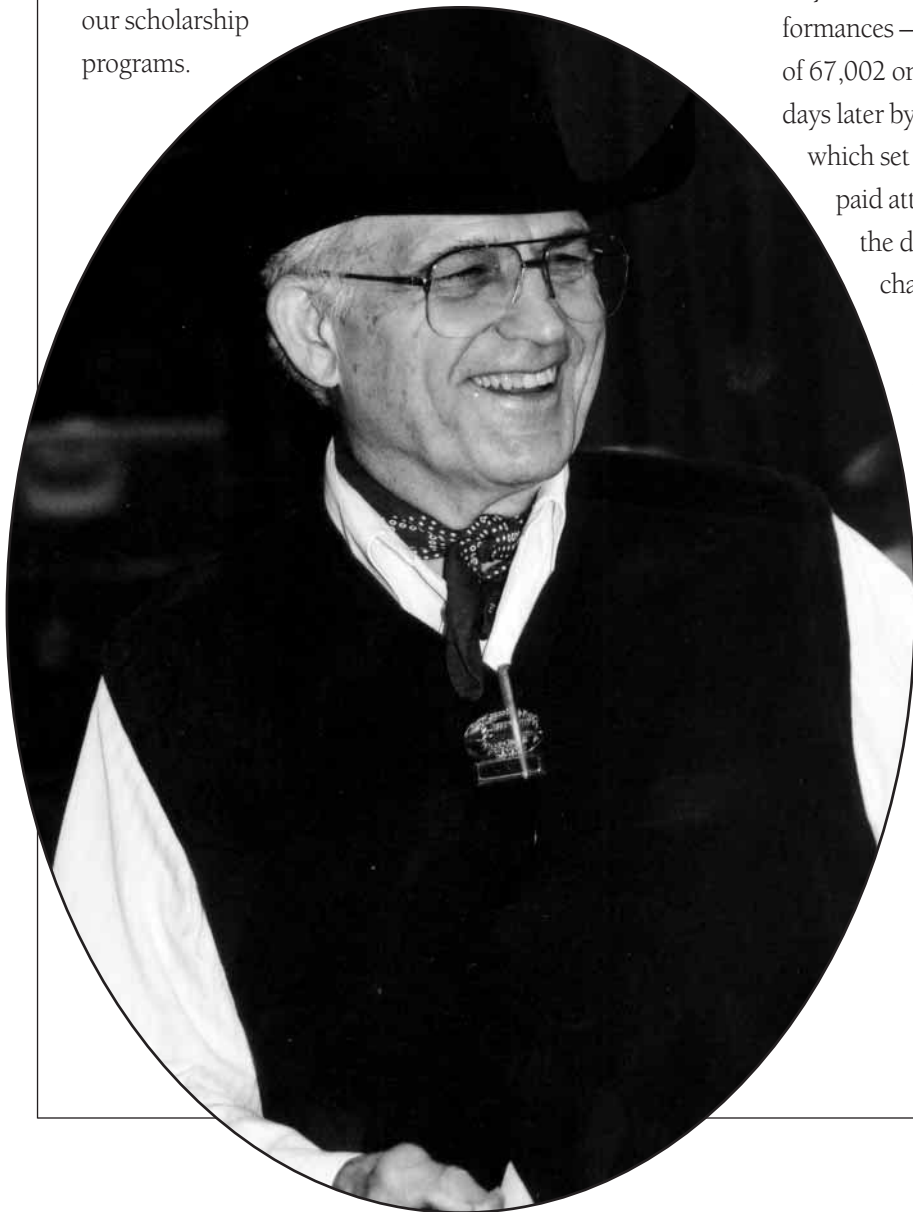
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# A MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

It was with a great deal of emotion and satisfaction that we said farewell to the Reliant Astrodome in our Dome Finale on March 3, 2002. Much has been accomplished in our 37 years in the Dome and Reliant Hall. The Show evolved from one of the best rodeos in Texas to the greatest rodeo and livestock show in the world. But, this is not all of the story. The Houston Livestock Show and Rodeo™ has become one of the largest educational charities in America.

This 37-year period has seen the Houston Fat Stock Show mature into a totally different entity through:

- The impact it has had on the lives of some 18,000 Texas young people through our scholarship programs.



- The probable life-changing influence we have through the RITE program that is giving children, pre-k through second grade, the chance for success through early development of reading skills.
- Encouraging countless numbers of young people to develop agricultural knowledge and skills through FFA and 4-H.

This era truly has been historic. Our legacy has been defined but not completed.

The 2002 Show was a huge success with records set at every junior market livestock auction as well as at the School Art Auction. The rodeo contestants left their marks in the history books, as did those watching the RODEOHOUSTON™ performances — Go Tejano Day set an all-time attendance record of 67,002 on Feb. 24, only to have that record broken seven days later by the Dome Finale performance of George Strait, which set an all-time, all-events Dome record of 68,266 paid attendance. This is history. In 2002, we celebrated the dramatic era that was ending. But now, we must change our focus to the future — a new era!

There is a new challenge — an opportunity possibly greater than in 1966. We know that through commitment to our goals and hard work, we excel. We will have a magnificent new facility in 2003. Let's strive to expand our legacy for the next 37 years. Imagine the impact we can have on the level of our accomplishments by 2040. "To whom much is given, much is expected."

P. Michael Wells  
President and Chief Executive Officer

# The Pride of Country Music



By Nan McCreary

For veteran country music artist Charley Pride, the thought of performing in the Reliant Astrodome with a star-studded lineup at the March 2, 2002, Legends of RODEOHOUSTON™ in Concert was enough to make a man proud!

“I think there’s a feeling in Houston that the Astrodome and Charley Pride are synonymous,” said Pride, reflecting before his 37th and final performance in the Eighth Wonder of the World. “To me, being invited to play as one of the ‘legends’ is part of that association.”

And, a legend he is. From his first appearance in the Dome in 1970 to his last — with fellow legends Mac Davis, Larry Gatlin and the Gatlin Brothers, Naomi Judd, and Kenny Rogers — Pride’s music has spanned not only generations, but also 32 years of Houston Livestock Show and Rodeo™ history. Pride is so much a part of the Show’s musical entertainment that, when he was inducted into the Show’s Star Trail in 1997, he was called “Mr. Livestock Show and Rodeo” by then Show President Jim Bloodworth.

The admiration is mutual. “I’ve always felt welcome here,” Pride said. “The Dome has been a great part of all that I’ve accomplished and all of the fans that I’ve made over the years. It’s good to be back.”

In a Show steeped in history and talent, Pride’s star shines as one of the brightest. Over the past 30 years, he has built a legacy of 36 number one hit singles, sales of more than 70 million albums and a quadruple platinum album. Today, he remains one of the top 20 best-selling country artists of all time. On RCA records, Charley Pride is second in sales only to Elvis Presley, who was inducted posthumously into the Show’s Star Trail the same year as Pride.

This longtime Rodeo favorite has been a mainstay, performing in 1970, 1972-1987, 1989, 1991 and 2002. In fact, Pride holds the Show record for the number of years performed (20), the number of performances (37) and the number of fans enter-



tained (1,337,593). He is one of only three artists who have played before more than 1 million fans in the Dome. The other two are George Strait and Reba McEntire.

Pride was the first of these performers to reach the 1 million mark, having done so in 1983. Even by today's standards, that was no small accomplishment. "Today, the Dome holds over 58,000 concert fans," he said. "Back then, the Dome only held 44,000, so I feel real good about setting that record."

Pride said he built his fan base at the Show by playing the "dog days," those Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays that no one else wanted to play. "I played those days for quite a while," he remembered, "and then, finally, they told me I could name which Saturday night I'd like to perform."

Pride's success with Houston audiences is a testament to the singer's desire to connect with his fans. "Music is a way of expressing feelings," he said. "The songs I choose to sing are songs with lyrics that fit the emotions I want to convey." According to Pride, making that connection with fans in the Dome was not always easy because of the Dome's size and the problems with "slapback," or music bouncing off the steel beams. "I've always had my own band and my own sound crew, and we learned how to make adjustments so we didn't get that slapback," he explained. "We figured that if we could conquer the sound in the Dome, we could play anywhere in the world."

And, play he did. Pride said that, once he mastered the acoustical challenges of the Dome, he felt in harmony with his fans, even though the audience was some distance from the stage. "If my fans could hear me, even if they couldn't see me up close, I could still get the response and reaction from them that I tried to seek when I was onstage," he said.

Anticipating his final performance in the Dome, Pride reflected on the lasting connection with his Houston fans. "I've always liked playing the Dome," he said. "You sell a million tickets, and, over the years, you know that someone likes you." Pride noted that this wasn't his first "last stand" in the Dome. In October 1999, he was invited to perform the national anthem for the last regular season game for the Houston Astros' 35th and final season in the Dome.

If there was any doubt about Charley Pride's legendary status in Houston, it was erased when he took the Dome stage for

the final time during the Legends of RODEOHOUSTON in Concert. Pride was greeted by a sellout crowd of 58,412 enthusiastic fans, and, true to form, he didn't let that crowd down. He sang three songs that long have been considered Pride classics: "Is Anybody Goin' to San Antone?," "Kaw-Liga" and "Kiss an Angel Good Morning." These songs, like Pride, are part of the Show's legacy.

Because the 2002 Show was the 37th and final year in the Dome, Pride's place in the venue's history is assured. And, so is his place in country music history. In 1993, Pride accepted a long-standing invitation to join the Grand Old Opry, becoming its first African-American member. In 2000, he was inducted into the Country Music Hall of Fame.

Dozens of Pride's chart toppers now stand as modern classics. "Kiss an Angel Good Morning" helped Pride land Country Music Association Awards as Entertainer of the Year in 1971 and Top Male Vocalist in 1971 and 1972. Other memorable standards include "I'm so Afraid of Losing You Again," "Mississippi Cotton Picking Delta Town," "Someone Loves You, Honey," "When I Stop Leaving I'll Be Gone," "Burgers and Fries," and "You're so Good When You're Bad," to name a few.

Pride is proud of this legacy, and rightly so. "Most artists have maybe one or two signature songs," he said. "I'm fortunate enough to have four or five." Asked which song is his favorite, Pride replied, "The song I'm singing to my fans at the moment."

While his place in music history is well established, Pride is not one to rest on his laurels. He still is going strong and continues to record music and perform internationally. Pride's vast discography includes 31 gold and four platinum albums. He also has written an autobiography, "Pride, the Charley Pride Story," published in 1994. In the book, Pride recalls his hard-scrabble childhood in Mississippi, his years as a semiprofessional baseball player, his enduring marriage and great moments in his music career. Pride and his wife of 44 years, Rozene, currently divide their time between homes in Dallas and Branson, Mo.

Charley Pride, with his golden baritone voice and his incredible collection of music, remains one of the great legends in musical entertainment. And, for those who attended his many performances in the Dome, that voice and that music will long reverberate as Pride's legacy to Houston and to the Show.



*A pioneer in the music industry and a longtime favorite of Houston fans, Charley Pride leaves a permanent mark in the Show's history as the entertainer who performed more shows for more fans in the Reliant Astrodome than any other entertainer.*

# 50 Things You Missed if You Didn't Attend the



*In less than 24 hours, the floor of the Reliant Astrodome was converted from a dirt-filled rodeo arena to concert seating for approximately 7,000 fans on Terraplas portable flooring.*

1. Brilliant, sparkling colors filled the sky above Reliant Park from the fireworks display during the World's Championship Bar-B-Que Contest.
2. Running to raise dollars for scholars, the 15th annual Conoco Rodeo Run wound through downtown Houston and resulted in an \$80,000 donation to the Houston Livestock Show and Rodeo Educational Fund.
3. An amazing display of trailers, chutes, portable buildings and other equipment overflowed from the North Annex of Reliant Arena. No, it wasn't equipment from commercial exhibitors; the shiny, new equipment was the work of FFA members in the Agricultural Mechanics Project Show.
4. As a brindle-colored bull came out of the chute, the little cowboy smiled and waved his hat to a crowd of parents and friends. While this little cowpoke may be headed for competition in RODEOHOUSTON™ someday, on this visit, his bull of choice was of the mechanical variety.
5. If watching the thrills and spills during the rodeo wasn't enough to get adrenaline pumping, visitors could get a rush on the newest addition to the carnival — the Mega Drop. The almost 15-story ride is the only portable, free-fall tower operating in the United States and drops passengers about 120 feet.
6. The Show hosted 2,001 foreign visitors from 50 countries — including Algeria, Denmark, Greece, India, Ireland, Jamaica, Kazakhstan, Nigeria, Paraguay, Turkey and Venezuela.
7. Rodeo paid attendance topped 1 million for the eighth consecutive year, for a total of 1,091,951 visitors. General attendance was 1,563,662.
8. Nine of the 19 rodeo performances were official sellouts, and average attendance for all 20 performances was 54,598.
9. 68,266 fans filled the seats and concourses for the March 3 concert finale and set a Reliant Astrodome record for paid attendance, topping the prior record set by Wrestlemania.
10. The paid attendance of 67,002 for the Go Tejano Day rodeo performance featuring Los Tigres del Norte and Ramon Ayala on Feb. 24 broke RODEOHOUSTON's previous all-time paid attendance record. It will remain in the history books as the second largest RODEOHOUSTON paid attendance in the Reliant Astrodome and the largest crowd at a performance that included a rodeo.
11. Las Adelitas de San Antonio, an all-female mariachi group from San Antonio, took first place in the Mariachi Contest, with second place going to Mariachi Festival.
12. The Reliant Energy Multimedia Spectacular showed visitors the "Power of Tradition" in a moving vignette highlighting the history of the Show and its 37 years in Reliant Astrodome and Reliant Hall. For one Rodeo visitor, the showing of the archived footage was the first time she had heard her grandfather's voice.
13. Lone Star Legend Award honoree Mike Cervi celebrated his 30th year as stock contractor for RODEOHOUSTON.
14. Feature announcer Bill Bailey broadcast the final grand entry from the Bill Bailey Wagon, which was the first time he had ever ridden in his own wagon during the rodeo-starting festivities.
15. With a standing ovation from tens of thousands of spectators, it was longtime volunteer Emmett Evans who shut the gate on the final RODEOHOUSTON in the Reliant Astrodome.
16. The RODEOHOUSTON finals were not only one of three pay-per-view events; they were broadcast via Armed Forces Television and included special messages to the men and women serving worldwide.
17. The Top Dollar title was awarded to Dan Mortensen of Billings, Mont. In addition to his \$17,144.96 rodeo winnings, Mortensen received a \$25,000 bonus and a new truck as winner of RODEOHOUSTON's Top Dollar Award.
18. The final rodeo champions in the Reliant Astrodome were: bareback bronc riding — Jeffrey W. Collins, Redfield, Kan.; barrel racing — Amy Dale, Graham, Wash.; bull riding — Justin Andrade, Grover Beach, Calif.; calf roping — Justin C. Maass, Giddings, Texas; saddle bronc riding — Dan Mortensen, Billings, Mont.; steer wrestling — Brad Gleason, Touchet, Wash.; and team roping — Matt Tyler, Weatherford,

# 2002 Houston Livestock Show and Rodeo™

Texas, and Wayne Folmer, El Paso, Texas. The “High Flyin’” Award went to Jason McClain of Kiowa, Colo.

19. Lone Star Legend Awards were presented to: **Community Leaders** — Judge Bill Elliott, H. Stuart Lang Jr. and Louis M. Pearce Jr.; **Rodeo Stars** — Mike Cervi, Shawn Davis, Quail Dobbs, D.J. “Kajun Kid” Gaudin, Don Gay, Martha Josey, Larry Mahan, Dean Oliver and Wilbur Plaugher; **Entertainers** — Mac Davis, Larry Gatlin, Rudy Gatlin, Steve Gatlin, Naomi Judd, Charley Pride, Kenny Rogers and George Strait.
20. Each day, up to 28 youngsters lined up for the race across the Dome floor in the calf scramble. Calf scramblers showed their determination performance after performance — with one hanging on to halter his calf after the calf repeatedly sat on his head.
21. Barrel racer Janae Ward of Addington, Okla., competed in the final year in the Dome, winning the second go-round and second overall. Thirty-seven years earlier, her grandmother was among the first barrel racers to compete in the then-new Astrodome.
22. The newest members of the Houston Texans stopped by RODEOHOUSTON on their first day on the team. Following their selection in the expansion draft on Feb. 18, Tony Boselli, Marcus Coleman, Aaron Glenn, Jermaine Lewis, Seth Payne, Jamie Sharper, Gary Walker and Ryan Young made their way to the Dome floor for an introduction and a special presentation of RODEOHOUSTON jerseys and belt buckles.
23. Some 40,068 pounds of beef made its way to the Dome floor for the championship selection, and 1,307 pounds of Charolais steer emerged victorious when Brandy Murchison of Pflugerville, Texas, led out the Grand Champion Junior Market Steer.
24. On Sunday, Feb. 24, the spotlight was on the selection of the Grand Champion Junior Market Goat, which was auctioned in the junior market auctions for the first time.
25. After winning Reserve Grand Champion Junior Market Lamb at the 2001 Show, Sam Silvers of Killeen, Texas, went all the way to the top at the 2002 Show and took home honors for exhibiting the Grand Champion Junior Market Lamb.
26. Shay Brunson bounded onto the stage at the School Art Auction waving an American flag and then dropped to one knee to replicate the pose from his Grand Champion Work of Art, “A Cowboy’s Prayer – September 11th.”

*continued on page 16*

*Seventeen-year-old Brandy Murchison gave her Charolais steer, Popcorn, a goodbye kiss before the Grand Champion Junior Market Steer headed to the auction ring, where he sold for a record \$600,001.*



# A CUT ABOVE

By Teresa Ehrman

***According to the National Cutting Horse Association, there is more than one Super Bowl in America. Sure, there may be the one hosted by the National Football League, but there also is one that takes place in the horse world. The event is the NCHA World Championship Finals, and it is held each year in Reliant Arena at the Houston Livestock Show and Rodeo™.***

In the sport of cutting, it is the premier event — the ultimate showcase for open-class and nonprofessional-class cutters who participate in NCHA weekend shows throughout the year. Only the top 15 open-class horses and the top 15 nonpro riders are invited to compete in the head-to-head format in Houston.

According to NCHA officials, the race for the top 15 is a grueling one. “Cutters work their horses and show all year long just for a shot to come to Houston and compete for the World Champion title,” said Jeff Hooper, executive director of the NCHA.

There’s certainly no question of the event’s significance and stature — after all, the 2002 competition, which was the finals for the 2001 season, featured 30 contestants vying for a stake in a purse totaling more than \$256,000. While the prize money undoubtedly is a major highlight in this sport’s most important event, there are many other factors that contribute to the appeal and success of this competition.

“The Houston Livestock Show and Rodeo is simply an incredible venue, with the country’s best rodeo, the entertainment, premier livestock and all the other attractions the Show has to offer. It’s a great package,” said Hooper. “These two world-class events really feed off each other, so it’s virtually a guarantee of success for the World Finals.”

As with every other aspect of the Show, committee volunteers are instrumental in the execution and success of the NCHA Finals, and their commitment to ensuring a flawless event hardly goes unnoticed. “Immediately upon arriving, it’s obvious the volunteer force is hard at work here,” Hooper said. “When competitors pull up, a swarm of people surrounds them to help with their trailers, tack, stalling, feed, directions, meals, and just getting the contestants familiar with the grounds and the arena. These cutters compete all over the country and are completely amazed at how Houston runs this event. The hospitality is incomparable. When you see those gold badges, you know you are going to be well taken care of.”

Mike Kelly, assistant executive director of the NCHA, noted that geography plays an important role, too. “Since a majority of the competitors are from Texas, they are thrilled to be competing ‘at home,’” he added. And, “home” is exactly what the Show likes to be known as for this competition. The relationship between the NCHA and the Show dates back to 1982, when the NCHA made its first footprint in the then-Astroarena. Louis M. Pearce Jr., Executive Committee member, former Show president and avid cutter, was instrumental in encouraging the NCHA to move its most prominent competition to Houston from its original home in Amarillo, Texas. The relationship has been going strong ever since.

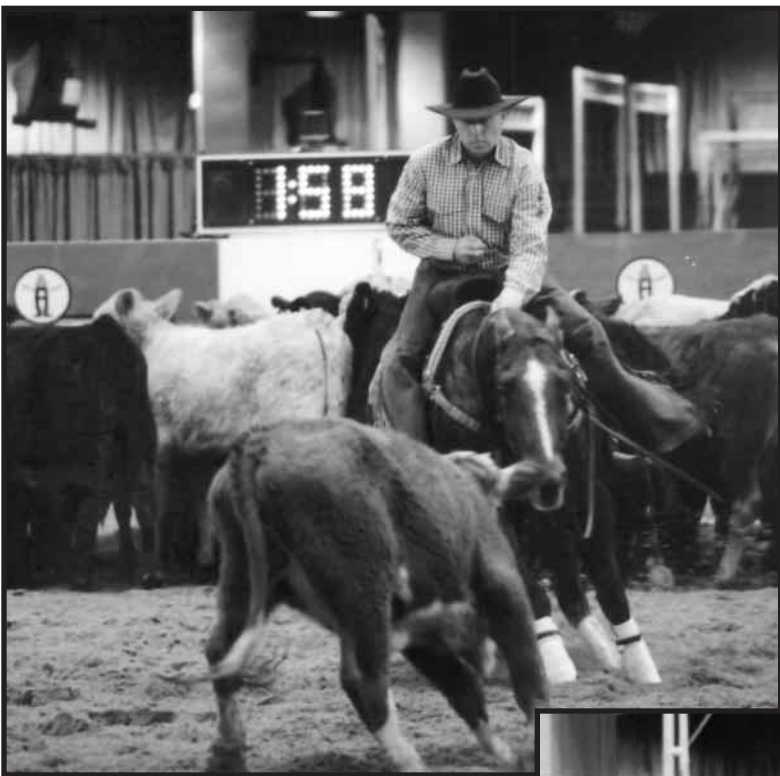
“Not only do we enjoy hosting this event, but it’s an honor. It’s very important to the horse show and to the scope of this organization as a whole,” said Jamie Ehrman, a Show vice president and officer in charge of the horse show and its 13 committees. “Having the NCHA’s most elite event here brings people in from all over the country — from competitors to spectators,” he said. “Many of these individuals might not ever have been exposed to the Show had they not come to the NCHA World Finals. So, it really broadens our presence even further.”

Ehrman also was quick to point out that hosting this influential, prominent event adds to the notoriety of the horse show as well. “It really brings yet another level of prestige to our show, garnering even more recognition for our organization that we’re a first-class event.”

Hooper, Kelly and Ehrman concurred that even the crowd is different for the NCHA Finals. “You’re talking about the very best — the finest athletic horses and the top crop of riders in the country,” Ehrman said. “And, when you have that superior level of competition, it brings more spectators out to watch, and their enthusiasm is incredible. It’s exciting for both the crowd and the participants.”

Show President Mike Wells, an active cutting competitor for many years, noted that hosting the NCHA World Finals really ignites and creates momentum for the entire Show. “Since cut-





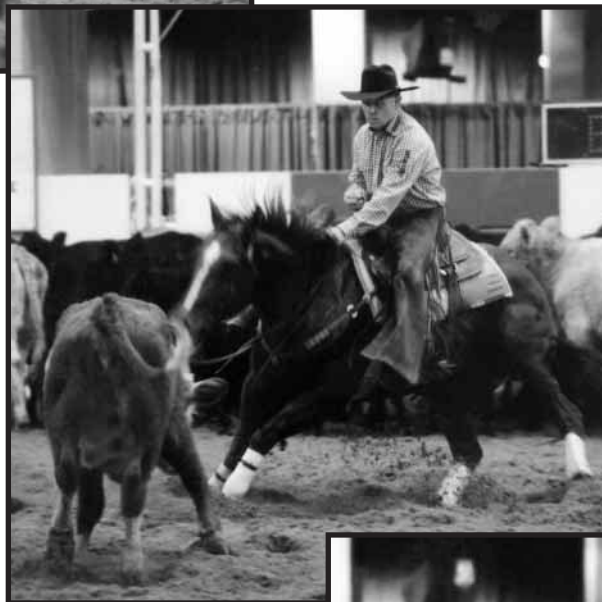
ting is the very first event, it plays an important role in setting the tone for the rest of the horse show. After all, you're crowning a world champion right up front, and that makes for tremendous energy and excitement."

The sport of cutting also has enjoyed remarkable prosperity in recent years, perhaps because of its appeal across all age groups, and among both men and women, said Hooper. "It is a unique sport in that it appeals to the ordinary person as much as it does the professional cutter."

In fact, the "ordinary person" continues to be drawn more and more into the stands of the 6,000-seat Reliant Arena during the NCHA competition. Many of those novice cutting spectators are unaware of the rich and robust history of this sport.

Cutting horse competition was born in the mid-1900s from what was originally a necessary function on cattle drives and working ranches of the 1800s, when individual cows had to be isolated, or "cut," from large herds for branding, medical treatment or grouping purposes.

Once cowboys discovered that this task could be performed easily and efficiently by a specially trained "cutting horse," it wasn't long before the job evolved into a friendly competition where cowboys displayed their skills and showcased the talent of their horses.



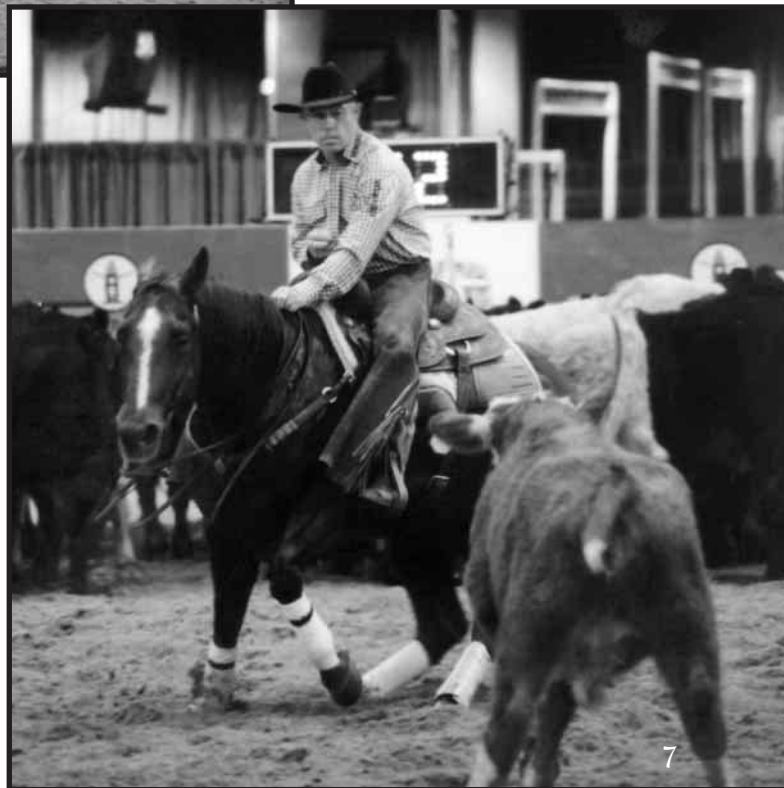
On the ranch, no rules were needed, and certainly no official judges were required. But, in the arena, it's a different story. Once cutting became a formal sport, rules and regulations were established. These days, competitors have 2.5 minutes to exhibit the skills of their extraordinary horses.

In an age of wireless computers, digital video, cellular phones and virtually everything motorized and mechanical, this Old West tradition has not only outlasted technology, it continues to grow in popularity.

Since the NCHA was formed in 1946, the organization has been a trailblazer in the equine industry, all the while continuing its mission of promoting cutting competition, standardizing contest rules and preserving the cutting horse's heritage.

Today, NCHA membership exceeds 14,000, with members throughout the United States and 19 countries. More than 1,400 NCHA-sanctioned shows are held annually, with total purses topping \$26 million.

It is at this premier competition where cutters want to be every year. And, with the NCHA World Championship Finals featuring only the "best of the best," it seems fitting for the competition to take place at the greatest livestock show, horse show and rodeo in the world — where everything is a cut above the rest.



# LONE STAR LEGENDS

By Sonya Aston



*Lone Star Legend Awards were presented to Dean Oliver, Shawn Davis, Donnie Gay, Martha Josey, Larry Mahan, Wilbur Plaugher, Quail Dobbs, Mike Cervi, D.J. “Kajun Kid” Gaudin, Judge Bill Elliott, Stuart Lang and Louis M. Pearce Jr.*

While appreciating the challenges of charging ahead into an exciting new era, the leadership of RODEOHOUSTON™ recognized the personalities whose colorful, forward-thinking determination and energy produced the world-renowned Houston Livestock Show and Rodeo™. In 2002, for the first time ever, 12 dynamic people were recognized with Lone Star Legend Awards. Sharon Camarillo so aptly noted, “we are honoring individuals who have been instrumental in helping to establish the Houston Livestock Show and Rodeo as the premier event of its kind in the country” as she and Bill Bailey hosted the ceremony on the last day of the Show.

Even to the rodeo novice, the love and admiration felt for these visionaries and artists was overwhelming. It was apparent that each of these recipients was selected for his or her passion and dedication. It is through their stories that the colorful history of RODEOHOUSTON was so warmly laid before admirers, both old and new.

Two of the Lone Star Legend Awards categories recognized community leaders and rodeo stars. The leaders provided the venue, while the rodeo stars provided the excitement that has brought more visitors every year.

The community leaders led the Show from the Sam Houston Coliseum to the Astrodome and wildly expanded the fabric of the Rodeo from there. While it is difficult to choose just a few important people, three community leaders were recognized this year.

Judge Bill Elliott used his energy and enthusiasm to help promote the \$20 million parks bond bill needed to build the Astrodome for Harris County. During construction a rainstorm led to the creation of a lake, dubbed “Elliott’s Lake” by the project’s critics. Persevering, Judge Elliott, along with R.E. “Bob” Smith and Judge Roy Hofheinz, helped Harris County to become home to the Eighth Wonder of the World.

While Judge Elliott was building the Astrodome, Stuart Lang was spearheading the move from the Coliseum to the Astrodome. Awarded the Purple Heart in World War II, he came to the Show in 1950 ready for action and joined the board of directors just in time to become one of the major figures in Judge Hofheinz’s indoor stadium project. He currently serves on the Show’s Executive Committee.

Louis M. Pearce Jr., Show Executive Committee member, made sure that the crowds kept coming. A native Houstonian, Pearce, has worked as an influential businessman, a longtime member of the board of directors and a past president of the Show. He is most remembered for his hand in developing the tradition of bringing major entertainers to the Show. He is credited with bringing Elvis to the Show and having saved the day by flying in George Strait to fill in for the ailing Eddie Rabbitt in 1983.

While the community leaders built the stage, nine rodeo stars were recognized for their talents and devotion to the sport that brought the fans year after year. Each of these stars earned



the respect of their colleagues and inspired the young and old alike.

In 1947, at age 18, Dean Oliver got rodeo in his blood and began roping everything in sight, particularly dairy calves. His practice paid off as he went on to become the World Champion All-Around Cowboy in 1963, 1964 and 1969, won eight world championships in calf roping and was inducted into the ProRodeo Hall of Fame in 1979. He also roped in the Astrodome the first year that it was home to the Show.

One of the original ProRodeo Hall of Fame inductees, Shawn Davis is a three-time World Champion Saddle Bronc Rider, and he qualified for the National Finals 12 times. Davis made the transition from the Coliseum to the Astrodome. He has held many titles, including former president and chairman of the PRCA and Rodeo Man of the Year for two years. Davis is now the manager of the National Finals Rodeo. Davis created the Rodeo Task Force to insure the rodeo fan the highest caliber of competition and sports excitement while maximizing the prize money and benefits for the contestants.

Don Gay was born to be a bull rider. Eight times he won the world championship, and he qualified for the National Finals 13 times, more than any other bull rider in history. He and his dad are the only father-son team in the ProRodeo Hall of Fame, and he also has been enshrined in the Texas Sports Hall of Fame. He broke bull riding's single-season earnings record for eight consecutive years.

A member of the National Cowgirl Hall of Fame, winner of the Senior World Championship and 1999 Female Equestrian of the Year, Martha Josey has plenty to brag about. She is the only RODEOHOUSTON competitor who rode in the old Coliseum, who rode in the Reliant Astrodome and who plans to ride in Reliant Stadium in 2003. In her spare time, she trains and encourages other riders to participate in the wonderful world of rodeo.

Nobody has won more all-around titles than Larry Mahan. His first was as a teenager with the Arizona State High School All-Around Championship. His six All-Around Cowboy titles from 1966 to 1970 and in 1973 came from his hard work in bareback riding, saddle bronc riding, bull riding and team roping. He is one of the greatest champions rodeo has ever produced. His passion for the sport was so great that he learned to fly just so he could make as many rodeos as possible. His talents have spilled out of the arena into the development of his own band, book, movie and line of clothing.

Wilbur Plaughner was named All-Around Cowboy at Madison Square Garden and qualified for the National Finals


Rodeo five times. Then one day, when a substitute was needed, he became a clown. It was a perfect fit. He was the first rodeo clown to carry trained animals on the road. He first came to Houston during the Coliseum days and in 1982 was the PRCA Clown of the Year. He is a pioneer who set the standard for rodeo clowns everywhere.

Quail Dobbs developed an interest in rodeo while still in high school and went to bareback riding school in 1960. At one rodeo, officials were looking for a cowboy to fill in as barrelman. Dobbs stepped up to the challenge and was hooked on being a bullfighter, barrelman and rodeo clown. Dobbs entertained crowds and protected cowboys for 24 years at the Houston Rodeo. He has been recognized as PRCA Clown of the Year and will be inducted into the ProRodeo Hall of Fame on August 10, 2002.

Mike Cervi started in the family business and now owns and operates the largest rodeo company in the history of the sport. He has been the RODEOHOUSTON stock contractor for 30 years, providing superior bucking horses, bulls, steers and calves for world champion competitors. He was named the PRCA stock contractor of the year in 1983 and 2001.

"Kajun Kidd," D.J. Gaudin, began clowning in 1956 and, as Bill Bailey tells it, "never looked back ... except at a few bulls chasing him across the arena!" He is known for his unique walk and the way he worked the crowd. According to Bailey, when he slowed down it was because "every year, brand new bulls ... every year, same old Kajun."

It has been a wild and fast-paced ride from the days of the Coliseum to the days of the new Reliant Stadium, thanks to the many talented leaders and stars that have paved the way to such a wonderful foundation for the growth of the Show.



During the Show's concert finale on March 3, 2002, eight additional Lone Star Legend Awards were presented to entertainers who have made an impact on the Houston Livestock Show and Rodeo. The honorees were Mac Davis, Larry Gatlin, Rudy Gatlin, Steve Gatlin, Naomi Judd, Charley Pride, Kenny Rogers and George Strait.

# Saluting

## THE CHAIRMAN OF THE BOARD

By Bill R. Bludworth

**A**fter 35 years of service, James O. “Jim” Bloodworth, the retiring chairman of the board of directors of the Houston Livestock Show and Rodeo™, has many memories upon which to reflect.

Born in Orange, Texas, he grew up in Houston and attended the University of Houston. Jim is the owner of the Bloodworth Insurance Brokerage firm.

A lover of horses and horseback riding, Jim’s first involvement with the Show came in 1967, when he joined the Horse Show – Quarter Horse Committee. He later became general Horse Show chairman

Jim served as a Show vice president and officer in charge of the Horse Show committees from 1984 to 1986. He later served as chairman of the Lifetime Vice Presidents Committee

from 1986 to 1989. Jim was the first person to hold the position of first vice president of the Show, in 1996, and served as Show president from 1997 to 1999. Since that time, Jim has been the Show’s chairman of the board.

Show life members Jim and his wife, Ruby, have been married 41 years. Ruby is currently president of the Amigas Para Niños, a group of women who support the Show’s junior exhibitors who experience some type of hardship, and she also has served on the Ladies’ Season Box Committee. She previously volunteered as a worker for the Rodeo Institute for Teacher Excellence™ program’s activities.

Jim and Ruby have three children, Susan Yawn, Jim Jr. and Craig. Craig is a member of the Horse Show – Palomino Committee.



*Jim Bloodworth listens intently as Channel 2’s Phil Archer interviews parade marshal and then-Texas Governor George W. Bush at the 1998 Rodeo Parade.*

Jim's hobbies and other activities extend far beyond the Show. He is currently on the boards of directors of both the Boys and Girls Country charity and the Bill Williams Capon Charity Dinner. Jim is a past president and current member of the Waller County Cutting Horse Association. He is also a member of the American Quarter Horse Association and the Tejas Vaqueros, a trail-riding group. From a professional standpoint, Jim is a member of both the Houston and the National Association of Insurance and Financial Advisors.

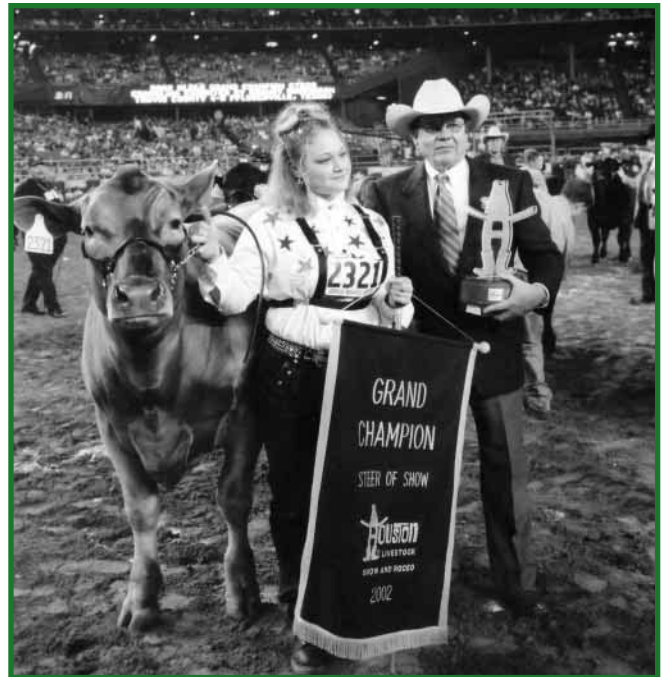
During the 1999 Show, on a horse given to him by the Show's Executive Committee and officers, Jim won the Reserve Champion trophy at the Cutting Horse Show in the \$10,000 amateur class. He finished third overall in the same class at the 2002 Show.

Jim has been through some very busy as well as very exciting times in his capacities as a Show executive. Although the negotiations with Harris County, the city of Houston, the National Football League and the Harris County-Houston Sports Authority with regard to the new Reliant Stadium and Reliant Center consumed hundred of hours, he considers the occasion when he signed the agreement that would move RODEOHOUSTON™ into Reliant Stadium one of the most important and proudest moments of his tenure as Show president. This agreement gave the Show signage rights as well as a revenue interest in the facility's naming rights.

Even with the 70 years of great history the Show has under its belt, Jim said the "greatest days are still ahead. The new



*In 2002, Jim qualified for the finals and took third place overall in the Show's amateur cutting horse competition. Photo by Don Trout.*



*Photo by Frank Martin.*

Reliant Stadium will offer our Show many opportunities," referring to the 11,000 additional seats as well as the naming and signage rights.

By way of his continuing duties as a lifetime member of the Show's Executive Committee, Jim intends to remain active in the Show. He offered the following advice and challenge to new committee volunteers, "As a committeeman for the Houston Livestock Show and Rodeo, you are joining the team of one of the greatest volunteer organizations in the world. I encourage you to dedicate your efforts to make the Houston Livestock Show and Rodeo the best it can be."

The Show is greatly indebted to Jim Bloodworth for his strength and guidance during some very trying and busy times. The fruits of his efforts will be appreciated and enjoyed for many years to come. The Show gives thanks to Jim and says "farewell" to a great leader with the hope that he can now find the time to enjoy his cutting horse and maybe to do a little bird hunting.



*Jim was the first Show president to ride his horse in the Reliant Astrodome while welcoming rodeo fans. Photo by Frank Martin.*

# RETIRING VICE PRESIDENTS

By Cheryl Kennedy

## RICHARD BUDDEKE

Serving as a vice president of the Houston Livestock Show and Rodeo™ has been a great experience for Richard Buddeke. Topping his list of memories during his tenure as a vice president are the opportunities he's had to meet and greet various scholarship winners. "They've put a face on all the work we do," said Buddeke. "Meeting the students makes the future look positive, indeed."

Buddeke first attended the Show in the early 1980s, and soon thereafter he became a life member and joined a Corral Club committee. He was elected to the Show's board of directors in 1992, and in 1997, he became general chairman of all 16 Corral Club committees. As a vice president, he served as officer in charge of the Corral Club committees.

Buddeke rides the Salt Grass Trail with the Magnificent 7 Wagon, and he also is a charter board member of the Cowboy Heritage Association. His wife, Susan, also a life member of the Show, served on the Communications – Broadcast Committee.

His advice to future vice presidents is that they take every available opportunity to be involved in all facets of the Show. "Meet all the people you can," he said. "Get to know about as many committees as you can, and participate in everything as much as you can."

One thing is certain — this cowboy will not be riding away into the sunset. Buddeke says he will be working with the Lifetime Vice Presidents Committee in the future, and he plans to continue to be involved with the Corral Clubs. "I can't just walk away," he said.

## JERRY H. HICKMAN

According to Jerry Hickman, the ability of the thousands of Show volunteers to work together never ceases to amaze him. "Just look at how well we've done these past two years with all the construction," he said. "I think it bodes well for future Shows."

Hickman began attending the Show in the late 1970s but did not become a member until 1987, when lifetime vice president C.R. "Bob" Devine encouraged him to join. He joined the International Committee and soon became interested in the Steer Auction Committee, where he later served as chairman. Born in Port Arthur, Texas, Hickman is the owner of Tower Energy, a natural gas company based in Houston. His wife, Dana, is a life member of the Show, and they have two daughters.

As a vice president, Hickman served as officer in charge of the Events and Functions, Sheep and Goat, Speakers, and Steer Auction committees. Hickman said he plans to continue his involvement with the Show through the Steer Auction Committee, and he looks forward to the future. His advice to future vice presidents is to prepare to work hard.

"You will feel as honored as I am, but you will also work hard, and when you are done, you will feel very tired," he said. "But it will have all been worth your efforts." Hickman is consistently impressed with the tremendous impact the Show has on people's lives and has no doubt the Show's benefits will continue. "These are exciting times, and some of the most exciting are yet to come," he said.

## G.R. "RAY" HINSLEY III

Serving as one of the Show's vice presidents has been among G.R. "Ray" Hinsley's highest honors. "It's been incredibly rewarding to meet the scholarship recipients and their families," Hinsley said. "It's also been very rewarding to get to know many of the Show volunteers."

Hinsley's involvement in the Show all began with his father, George R. Hinsley Jr., who was a Show vice president in the early 1990s, making them one of the few father and son teams to serve the Show as vice presidents.

Following Hinsley's graduation from The University of Texas in 1983, lifetime vice president Willard Mercier challenged him to join the Swine Auction Committee and sell pigs. Hinsley said that watching the students in the show ring was what sold him on the Show.

His involvement with the Show has extended to many other committees. In addition to serving on the International Committee, he was instrumental to the formation of the Resource Renewal Committee in 1990 and served as its first chairman. Since 1994, he has served on the Horse Show – Quarter Horse Committee. Hinsley was elected to the Show's board of directors in 1990. As a vice president, he served as officer in charge of Grand Entry, Lamb and Goat Auction, Transportation, and Veterinarian committees.

As a result of serving as a vice president, Hinsley said, he appreciates how well the Show is organized. "I can't think of any organization that has volunteers with the level of commitment and longevity we enjoy," Hinsley said. "The reason our volunteers are so committed is because our cause is so justified." In recalling the various scholarship winners, he said he's never met a group of students who were more focused and goal

oriented. “They know exactly what they want to do, and how they have prepared themselves is impressive,” he said. “They come from all areas, they have values and morals, and certainly a lot of credit goes to their parents.”

Hinsley lives in Richmond, Texas, and has two sons G.R., 9, and Brycen, 6. His advice to future vice presidents is to prepare for a lot of work but to realize it will be the most rewarding experience of their lives.

### JOHN A. HUTCHISON III

According to John Hutchison, it has been the friendships he has developed during his almost three decades of involvement with the Show that have had the most impact on his life. “I’ve developed friendships I will keep a lifetime,” he said.

His career with the Show began in 1974, when a friend encouraged him to join the Group Ticket Sales Committee. He liked it so much that he became a life member in 1977 and began to explore other committees. In 1978, he joined the Calf Scramble Donors Committee. He rose through the ranks and served as chairman from 1988 to 1990. He also served on the Calf Scramble Advisory and International committees.

Hutchison and his wife, Judy, have two children and five — soon to be six — grandchildren, and they enjoy spending time at the family ranch in Welcome, Texas.

As a Show vice president, he served as officer in charge of the Black Go Texan, Calf Scramble, Calf Scramble Advisory, Calf Scramble Donors, Calf Scramble Greeters and International committees.

“I hope to continue to be involved with the Calf Scramble committees and the International Committee,” said Hutchison. “My wife and I also plan to continue to make some of the international trips.”

He said by far his most sentimental moment was riding with the other retiring vice presidents in the last grand entry held in

the Astrodome. “We started off in front and ended in back,” he said. “We were the last five to ride out, and it’s something I will never forget.”

Hutchison cautions future vice presidents never to lose sight of the many contributions of the Show’s volunteers. “It’s important to recognize volunteers and make sure they know their input is meaningful and important to the continued success of the Show,” he said.

### LUCKY LONG

Lucky Long said time has flown by since he was elected a vice president of the Show. “When you’re first elected, you think it will never end. Then, all of the sudden, it’s over, and you have to think ‘where has it all gone?’” said Long.

It was back in 1983 when Long was encouraged by his friends, Hap Hunnicutt and Grover Kelley, to become a member of the Show and serve with them on the Breeders Greeters Committee. “I’m very grateful for their encouragement. I’ve made friends I will have a lifetime,” he said.

Over the years he rose through the ranks, and he served as chairman of the Breeders Greeters Committee from 1993 to 1995. He also served on the Parade Committee and was elected to the Show’s board of directors in 1994.

His vice president’s responsibilities have included serving as officer in charge of the Breeders Greeters, Commercial Exhibits, Graphics and Signage, Health, and Magazine committees. In 2002, Long also served as officer in charge of a new committee, Rodeo Merchandise, which Long reported had tremendous success in its first year.

Some of Long’s greatest memories as a vice president are the many opportunities he had to meet with scholarship winners. “To talk to these students and learn about the impact the Show is making in their lives is something I will never forget,” said Long. “I swell with pride every time I think about these students

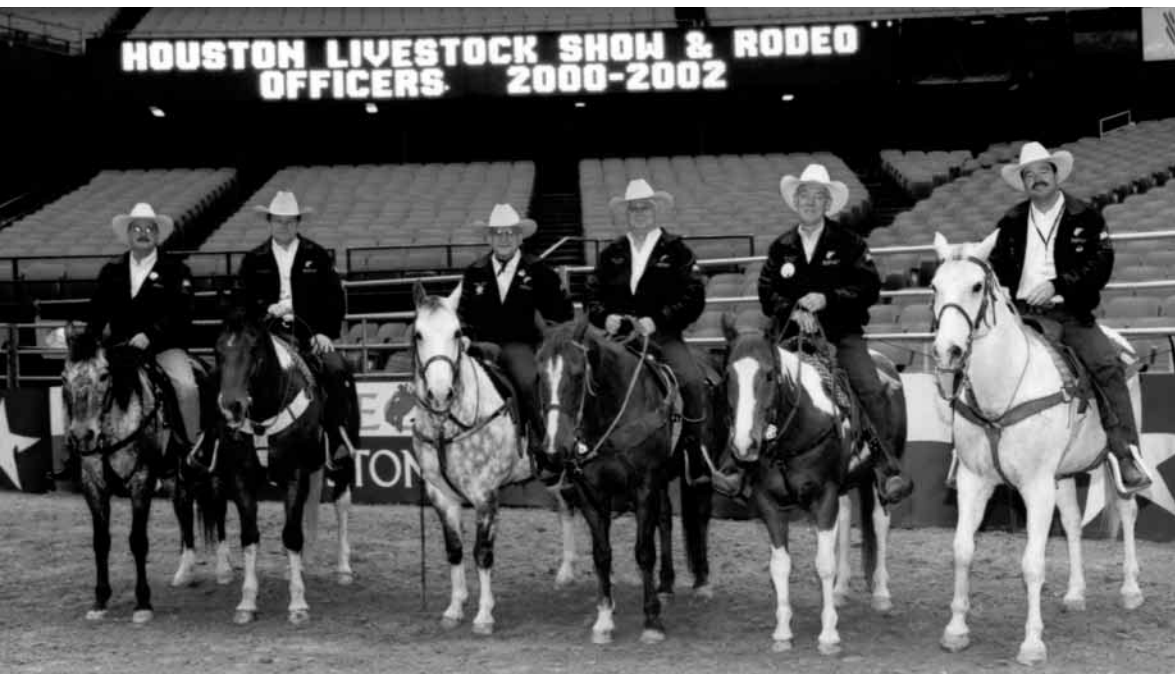
and their potential for the future.”

Long’s wife, Debbie, also is active with the Show.

His advice to future vice presidents is to take time to get to know about the committees they are responsible for overseeing, which will contribute to the overall success of the Show.

*Show President P. Michael Wells, third from left, poses with retiring vice presidents John A. Hutchison III, Richard Buddeke, Jerry H. Hickman, Lucky Long and G.R. “Ray” Hinsley III.*

*Photo by John McCaine.*



# DOMES

## Is Where the Heart Is

Since it opened in 1965, the Reliant Astrodome has been a memory maker. More than 141 million people have visited a countless variety of events in the Dome, including baseball, football, motocross, destruction derbies, numerous unique sporting events, concerts of all kinds, and, of course, the Houston Livestock Show and Rodeo™.

After 37 years, it is hard to predict what will stand out as the top Dome memory in someone's mind. Many Dome patrons had a tough time singling out their number one memory, while others knew without hesitation.

Standout memories included a little of everything: Earl Campbell, the Oilers and "Luv Ya Blue" to monster truck rallies; the Billy Jean King versus Bobby Riggs tennis match; the 1968 University of Houston versus UCLA basketball game of the century; calf scrambles and chuck wagon races; various concerts; the Astro Buddies; and even a personal jet pack flight demonstration.

### Rodeo Roundup

Christie Kelley brought her daughters, Rebecca, 5, and Allison, 3, to RODEOHOUSTON™ for the first time in 2002, and they visited the petting zoo. Christie has been coming to the Dome since she was a little girl. "I showed steers here for two years and had a great time," said Christie. "However, my best memory of the Dome is the chuck wagon races. I just love those."

Some Dome visitors did not have the luxury of multiple visits, but that did not diminish the memory. Lane Hullar, 10, for example, claimed that his first visit was definitely one he will never forget. "I rode the mechanical bull today, and it was so much fun," said Lane. "I also loved the chicken on a stick!"

Twenty-one-month-old Alexander might have come the farthest from his original home to attend the last RODEOHOUSTON™ at the Dome. His parents, Denise and John, adopted him from Russia six months earlier. "Alex loved the petting zoo, and his father cannot leave without a sausage on a stick," said Denise.

### Take Me Out to the Ballgame

There is a special memory that 42,217 souls share with Fred Duncan. He was one of the lucky folks who experienced something 37 years ago that they will talk about for the rest of their lives — the first indoor professional baseball game. Duncan, originally from Beaumont, Texas, was just 17 on April 9, 1965. "Walking into the Dome and looking around was really some-



Christie Kelley's daughters, Rebecca and Allison, were ready to feed the animals in the petting zoo.

thing. It was the largest room I, or anyone, had ever been in," he said. "That year they even played on real grass," Duncan added. Duncan also shares a Show-related experience only a number of people can claim; he has attended the Houston Livestock Show and Rodeo every year since 1966.

Baseball is also Jim and Lonnie Bratsakis' favorite Dome experience. "We were there for Mike Scott's no hitter in '86," said Jim. "The playoff game in '98 was really one to remember," claimed Lonnie. Another highlight was Drayton McLane's opening day. "The Dome handed out baseballs, and people were throwing them onto the field. It was wild!"

### Getting Caught With Your Pants Down

"Although I showed heifers here and have fond memories of the Dome each year, my favorite memory was when one of my ag students was participating in the calf scramble," said Sam Hollingsworth, agricultural science teacher at Hawkins High School, just north of Tyler, Texas. "The calf got its hoof caught on the boy's jeans, and they were ripped off, leaving him standing in the dirt in his underwear. When the class went to a restaurant the next day, he was on the front page of the Houston Chronicle. We have the pants hanging in the hall at school," he said.



## All Shook Up

Frances Stelzig Butler has been coming to the Dome as an exhibitor since its inception. Her fondest memory was of working the booth three days before her son was born on March 6, 1981. “Although it cannot compare with the birth of our first son, another amazing memory was seeing Elvis. I will never forget the way I felt the moment he walked off the stage in his white outfit,” she said.

Show volunteer Terry Gust, a Pasadena, Texas, native, has served on Show committees for 30 years. Gust said seeing Johnny Cash and Elvis Presley live at Rodeo performances meant a lot to him. His favorite memory was judging FFA events through the years. He said, “After all, that is what the Dome and Rodeo is all about.”

## Ice Capades on Parade — Say What?

Some of the most vivid memories are the ones that never happened. One patron — who shall remain nameless — said, “My favorite Dome memory is the Ice Capades. I just loved those fantastic ice shows. I can still see it. The whole Dome floor covered in ice, and the skaters gliding gracefully around.” After her companion suggested that she might be thinking of another arena, her final thought was, “How come they don’t have those pretty ice shows in the Dome anymore?”

## Cougar Time

“I remember seeing the first football game played in the Dome when the University of Houston was recruiting me,” said Jerry Gardner, tri-captain for the 1969-70 Cougar football team. “Another exciting memory was seeing Larry Gatlin perform at the Rodeo, because he played football with me at UH and used to play music on the weekends at the Steak & Ale Restaurant on the Gulf Freeway. When he moved on up and played in such a big venue, it was very exciting.”



*Frances Stelzig Butler fondly remembered Elvis on stage at the Rodeo.*

## It’s All Good

Rosemary Roach said that when her boys, Tim and Bob, were younger, she took them to their first Houston Livestock Show and Rodeo. “We did every ride at the carnival, saw everything at the livestock show and then went to see the Rodeo and the Gatlin Brothers. My boys slept through the whole thing,” she said.

Although Ken Lindemann of Hockley, Texas, has been to the Dome many times and said all his memories are great ones, whereas Aaron Arms, a 16-year-old exhibitor from San Antonio, was on his first visit to the Show, they have something in common — both agreed the Dome is still the Eighth Wonder of the World.

Whether you call it the Reliant Astrodome, the Dome or the Eighth Wonder of the World, you already can call it “missed.” Houstonians and visitors alike share fond memories of the Dome. Although most agree that the new stadium is a welcome necessity, all agree that the Reliant Astrodome is a big part of Houston’s history and always will hold special memories for them.



*After being adopted from Russia six months earlier, 21-month-old Alexander made his first trip to the Houston Livestock Show and Rodeo with his parents, Denise and John.*

*continued from page 5*

27. A majority of the junior auction grand champion and reserve grand champion records were broken. The prices for the top winners were: Grand Champion Steer, \$600,001\*; Reserve Grand Champion Steer, \$300,000; Grand Champion Lamb, \$100,000; Reserve Grand Champion Lamb, \$60,000; Grand Champion Goat, \$100,000\*; Reserve Grand Champion Goat, \$60,000\*; Grand Champion Barrow, \$140,000\*; Reserve Grand Champion Barrow, \$75,000\*; Grand Champion Pen of Broilers, \$146,000\*; Reserve Grand Champion Pen of Broilers, \$120,000\*; Grand Champion Turkey, \$145,100\*; Reserve Grand Champion Turkey, \$85,000; Grand Champion Work of Art, \$130,000\*; and Reserve Grand Champion Work of Art \$70,000. (\*record)



*While the Houston Texans won't be playing in the Reliant Astrodome, eight players from the expansion draft got to see what a Dome full of fans looked like as they were presented with special RODEOHOUSTON jerseys and buckles.*

28. The livestock and horse shows boasted 34,503 entries.
29. Total auction sales (including the Premier Horse Sale and the School Art Auction) tallied more than \$9.5 million. Of this amount, junior auction sales totaled \$7,188,957.
30. Livestock show exhibitors were not the only ones reaching for new heights. Show visitors were showing just how high they could climb at rock climbing walls in AGVENTURE Plaza and in the carnival.
31. The Houston Livestock Show and Rodeo welcomed two Heritage Partners to the 2002 Show: Reliant Energy and Ford.
32. For visitors wanting that unique souvenir from the Reliant



*Saddle bronc rider Dan Mortenson of Billings, Mont., took home RODEOHOUSTON's highest honor, the Top Dollar Award, and \$42,144.96 in prize money.*

Astrodome, bags of "Dome Dirt" were available at a booth between Reliant Hall and Reliant Arena.

33. Utilizing the easiest way to get to Reliant Park, 758,700 passengers made their way to the Show via the Rodeo METRO Express.
34. In addition to the extensive local media coverage, the Show attracted the attention of CMT News, The Discovery Channel, People magazine, ESPN, TNN, 20/20, Amusement Business, CNN, London Times, The Washington Post and MTV's Web site.
35. From the first night, when David Allan Coe opened The Hideout with a long line of fans packing the tent to capacity, to the final night, with the official Cowboy Poet of Texas, Red Steagall, taking the stage, The Hideout provided a live music dance hall setting for thousands of fans.
36. From piano-playing youth winner Travis Bishop and yodeling teen winner Robyn Mundy to the dancing duo of Josh Zuniga and Nicola Hill taking grand prize in the adult division, the Houston Livestock Show and Rodeo Talent Contest showcased up-and-coming performers of all ages.

- 37. Neil Diamond got up-close and personal with a large number of fans as he made his way around the Reliant Astrodome floor singing, shaking hands and talking to the crowd. He even quipped to one female fan, “I’d kiss you but your lipstick clashes with my shirt.” Some surprised fans not at the concert also had the chance to hear Diamond when he borrowed several cell phones and started talking to people on the other end.
- 38. While everyone from coast-to-coast will remember where they were on Sept. 11, some 50,000-plus Rodeo fans will remember they were in the Reliant Astrodome on Feb. 14 when Alan Jackson sang “Where Were You When the World Stopped Turning?”
- 39. Riding out on horseback, Houston Livestock Show and Rodeo life member and country music superstar Clay Walker said goodbye to Reliant Astrodome with a patriotic salute and a tear in his eye.
- 40. While Waylon Jennings wasn’t on this year’s lineup, many of the Show’s entertainers performed tributes to him after

Jennings died on Feb. 13. Cory Morrow joined Pat Green onstage for Jennings’ “Are You Sure Hank Done It This Way?,” and on consecutive nights, Alan Jackson and Clay Walker sang “Luckenbach, Texas.”

- 41. Getting comfortable in front of a sold-out crowd, Pat Green made his headlining debut on the rotating stage barefoot after kicking off his shoes and socks a few songs into his set.
- 42. ZZ Top showed the audience what it means to be a “Sharp Dressed Man” and delighted fans with their music, their moves and their sparkling jackets. After thrilling fans, ZZ Top made their exit from the Dome floor in their famous “Eliminator” roadster.
- 43. Although they attracted a lot of attention for their bluegrass music, the trio from Nickel Creek received even more notice as they made their way through the carnival — winning a few prizes on the midway as they went — during the taping of CMT’s Top 20 Countdown.
- 44. Willie Nelson and Lee Ann Womack gave fans a live version of their duet, “Mendocino County Line,” when Nelson joined Womack onstage prior to his performance.
- 45. In a touching duet, Lisa Hartman Black rode out singing from a horse-drawn carriage to join husband Clint Black for a couple of songs during their performance on the final Thursday.
- 46. A throat infection didn’t stop Kelly Rowland of Destiny’s Child from joining Beyoncé Knowles and Michelle Williams for a Friday night performance that included a ring of fire and a half-dozen costume changes.
- 47. After the final rodeo performance of RODEOHOUSTON in the Reliant Astrodome, an amazing transformation began as the floor of the Dome was converted from a dirt arena to a Terraplas floor with concert seating for more than 7,000 fans.
- 48. Mac Davis appeared on stage to accept his Lone Star Legend Award while on the cell phone talking to his mother, sharing the moment of awe and excitement with her.
- 49. George Strait’s prerecorded horseback ride past the Show’s new facilities had fans looking for the star outside of the Reliant Astrodome before his entrance.
- 50. With “The Cowboy Rides Away” as his encore finale, George Strait shouted, “Good night, everybody!” and brought to conclusion an evening that included special guest President George H.W. Bush and an end to RODEOHOUSTON in the Reliant Astrodome and the Houston Livestock Show™ in Reliant Hall.

*The patriotic spirit of Show visitors and competitors was evident throughout many events, including the calf scramble.*





# Health

By Gina Steere



*Dr. Timothy Anderson, a member of the Health Committee, examines junior exhibitor Brian Chavis of Spring, Texas.*

**F**or a few weeks each year, the Houston Livestock Show and Rodeo™ becomes a home away from home for junior exhibitors. Along with their animals, these students bring a variety of health issues with them that don't go away just because the students are on the road. The Health Committee offers junior exhibitors an on-site clinic where they can find help and comfort when they need it most. Even though the clinic is designed for the students, no one seeking medical assistance is turned away.

The Health Committee was formed in 1972. It brought together a handful of doctors who assisted students suffering from minor cuts and scrapes and other medical conditions such as allergies associated with bedding material used in the animals' stalls. Today, there are 16 doctors and five nurses on this committee. The physicians include cardiologists, general practitioners and dentists. The clinic was located near the main show arena in Reliant Hall and was open from 7 to 9 a.m., and from 5 to 7 p.m., each day of the Show during the 4-H and FFA activities. There is always one doctor and one nurse on each shift, and everyone on the staff is welcome to work as often as they like during the course of the Show. Morning shifts are always the busiest, with students lining up in the morning to seek help before the Show-day begins.

Allergies, headaches and asthma are just a few of the ailments treated. Numerous medications are readily available and administered as needed. Doctors and nurses on the committee donate the medications and supplies stocked in the clinic. It is equipped with blood pressure machines, examination equipment, bandages and other medical necessities. Dr. Dowd Yarborough, committee chairman, explained that the clinic has many resources available for its patients. "Improving the services we provide is always at the top of our list, and we're always working to increase the level of care we provide our

patients," he said. The Health Committee's main goal is to provide healthcare to the junior exhibitors and any family members who might be traveling with them.

If any student is physically injured during the Show and needs special attention, such as X-rays or sutures, the Health Committee works with the Show's Safety Committee to obtain emergency care. There are unfortunate occasions when an exhibitor might not be able to compete because of an injury sustained while at the Show. Yarborough recalled a tough time when a lamb exhibitor fell and injured her hand. "She was unable to show her lamb because of the injury and needed to have someone else show the lamb for her or risk being disqualified," he said. Under Show rules, a written doctor's excuse must be submitted in order to allow another exhibitor to show the animal. The Health Committee staff is qualified to supply those notes when necessary and allow students to continue to compete. Memorial Hermann Hospital has been an integral part of the Health Committee since the committee's inception by donating its emergency room services to any junior exhibitor who needs assistance.

Even students who lose a dental filling or who break their braces can find help at the clinic. Patients are referred to a dentist on the committee and then may go to that practitioner's office to receive further care.

Every member of the Health Committee works hard to provide patients with the quality care they need to perform well and stay healthy throughout their brief stays at the Show. Keith Steffek, a Show vice president and officer in charge, said, "Our committee provides a very important service to all the junior exhibitors that come to the Show. Our doctors and nurses proudly donate their time out of very busy schedules to help all of these great kids."



# Llama

By Gina Steere

Cute and cuddly llamas can be seen roaming AGVENTURE Plaza's petting zoos at the Houston Livestock Show and Rodeo™, but there are even more to see and admire at the Show's annual Llama/Alpaca Show. The hardworking Llama Committee is responsible for making sure that llamas, exhibitors and visitors all enjoy their time spent at the Show.

The Llama Committee got its start after a llama exhibit managed by five individuals blossomed into a full competition for both llamas and alpacas. The committee now boasts 55 members and has been in existence for more than 14 years.

Exhibitors in the Llama/Alpaca Show compete in halter competitions, performance and leader competitions, and obstacle courses. The animals also are judged on appearance. The show is similar to a horse show, except that the animals are led rather than ridden.

Committee members work an average of 50 hours each during the Show and are charged with setting up the show arena and stall areas, building and maintaining the obstacles used for the competition course, helping unload animals and equipment, and directing exhibitors to their designated areas. A committee-hosted hospitality area, staffed from 7 a.m. to 7 p.m. daily, offers refreshments and a place to relax for the exhibitors. Doug Doyle, a Show vice president and officer in charge of the Llama Committee, said, "Our volunteers are a self-sustaining group of people. They work extremely well on their own in completing any task set before them." During the competition, committee members assist the Alpaca/Llama Show Association-sanctioned judges with score keeping and tracking the entrants.

If that were not enough work to go around, the Lloan-A-Llama program surely would keep volunteers busy. The Lloan-



*Committee volunteers Janis Morton and Linda Townsend make sure the results are in for winning exhibitors in the Llama Show.*

A-Llama program provides a unique opportunity for children who have never experienced the thrill of showing an animal to give it a try. "The camaraderie built over the years between our exhibitors and the volunteers on the Llama Committee has allowed this program to expand and become a great success," said Gene Clark, chairman of the Llama Committee.

This program is quite popular, but space is limited to 50 competitors. Potential participants must submit essays describing why they want to show a llama. The selected competitors are split into age groups and into beginner and intermediate categories, and are given a short training lesson on how to handle and show the animals in the ring. Llamas are well suited for showing with young children because of their pleasant disposition. Llamas are predictable and respond calmly to new situations. "Their gentle nature allows small children to easily interact with them, and the llamas bond with their new leaders very quickly," said Clark.

Each participant is given a hot dog lunch and souvenirs, including a participant ribbon, and trophies are awarded to the winners. Thanks to all the hard work of those committee members who raise money for the program, this competition is free to all children who participate.

The Llama/Alpaca Show has enjoyed increasing popularity, and the new facilities opening at Reliant Center for the 2003 Show year will allow the program to continue to grow, including the Lloan-A-Llama program. "We will have so much more exhibition space than we do now, and it will allow the popularity of the llama and alpaca program to continue to grow right along with increasing the size," said Doyle.

# 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.*



## **Warner D. Ervin – Black Go Texan**

Volunteering for an organization that supports education was a natural for Warner Ervin. He is superintendent of the South District of the Houston Independent School District. Warner joined the Show as an annual member in 1995 and since has become a life member. Volunteering has become a family affair, with his wife, Melba, and his son, Warner II, also serving on the committee. His hobbies are fishing, riding horses, hunting and ranching.



## **Frank D. Flores – Go Tejano**

Frank Flores joined the Show in 1982 as a life member. He has been a member of the Go Tejano Committee since 1994 and also was a volunteer on the Calf Scramble Donor Committee. Frank is a real estate appraiser for Frank D. Flores, Inc. His wife, Rosie, also serves on the Go Tejano Committee. They have three grown children. In his spare time, his hobbies are hunting, fishing and cooking barbecue, which is his favorite.



## **Byron A. Hamilton – Calf Scramble Greeters**

Byron Hamilton joined the Show in 1985 as a life member, and he is a member of the Calf Scramble Committee. In 1998, Byron was chosen Committeeman of the Year on Calf Scramble Greeters Committee. His sons, Ford and P. Kyle, also serve on committees. Byron is an avid outdoorsman who loves to hunt, fish and play golf. He is employed at El Paso Field Services as Director of NGL Marketing.



## **Norman M. Hubbard Jr. – Trail Ride**

Norman Hubbard joined the Show and the Trail Ride Committee in 1988. He is a life member and was elected to the Show's board of directors in 1997. As a member of the Equipment Acquisition Committee, he holds the honor of being a Platinum Distinguished Donor. Hubbard is president of Hubco, Inc., an asphalt and paving company. His favorite pastime is flying helicopters, and his other interests include ranching, showing Arabian horses, hunting and snow skiing.



## **James Mushinski – Corral Club General**

James Mushinski first joined the Show and the Group Ticket Sales Committee in 1978. Later, he became involved with the Corral Club committees, where he has served as club, division and general chairman. He was elected to the Show's board of directors in 1999. His wife, Jeanette, is a life member and his two daughters, Jessica and Jennifer, ride with the Catalena Cowgirls, assisted by their brother, Jason. James owns Metro Valuation Services and is a fee appraiser.



## **Dan Owen – Horse Show - Appaloosa**

Dan Owen has been a life member of the Show since 1978. In 1997, he joined the Horse Show - Appaloosa Committee and later served as a captain before becoming chairman. He was also a vice chairman on the Group Ticket Sales Committee. His wife, Becky, and son, Thomas, are life members of the Show. He is employed as a banker for Sterling Bank. His hobbies are trail riding, cutting and saltwater fishing.



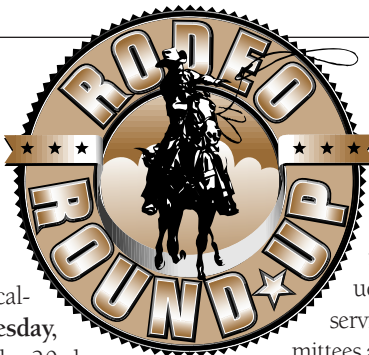
## **Gaylon Patterson – Junior Commercial Steer Feeding & Management**

Gaylon Patterson joined the Show and Junior Commercial Steer Feeding & Management Committee in 1978. He served as vice chairman of this committee for 15 years. Two of his children, Amy and Anson, also serve on the committee. He is a retired livestock supervisor for the Texas Department of Criminal Justice and presently is the ranch manager for Rik-Lin Ranch in Richmond, Texas. Gaylon's hobbies are hunting, fishing and camping.



## **Ollie Schwausch – Corral Club - Special Services**

Ollie Schwausch joined the Show in 1984 as an annual member and since has become a life member. He has served as assistant club chairman for the Corral Club – Press Club and the Main Corral Club. Ollie is a member of the High Bidders and the Hold'em & Hit'em buying groups. His wife, Janice, volunteers on the Communications – Editorial Committee. Ollie is employed with Shell Oil Company as a health, safety and environmental manager. His hobbies are hunting and fishing.



### ★ Write This Down

The 2003 Show dates are official! Mark your calendar to attend rodeo performances beginning **Tuesday, Feb. 25**, and concluding **Sunday, March 16**. The 20-day schedule will include only one rodeo performance each day.

### ★ There's No Place Like Home

The Houston Livestock Show and Rodeo™ offices have been moved to Reliant Center. While the mailing address remains P.O. Box 20070, Houston, Texas 77225-0070, the new delivery address is **8334 Fannin Street, Houston, Texas 77054**. The main phone number is **832.667.1000**, and the main fax is **832.667.1134**.

### ★ No Smoking

When you visit the Show offices, please keep in mind that Reliant Center is a nonsmoking facility — including offices, meeting rooms, exhibition space and concourses.

### ★ We'll Meet Again

All life and annual members are invited to the Houston Livestock Show and Rodeo Annual Membership Meeting on **Tuesday, June 4**. The meeting will begin at 3 p.m. in the 600 series of meeting rooms in Reliant Center. The meeting will include reports from the Show officers, presentation of first-year chairmen pins, and election of the Show's lifetime directors and 2002-2003 board of directors. Show offices and meeting rooms will be open for viewing immediately following the meeting.

The Show's board of directors will meet on **Thursday, June 6**. The meeting will be in the 600 series meeting rooms at 5 p.m.

### ★ A Lifetime Achievement

The 2002 applications for Lifetime Committeeman currently are available from Show staff coordinators and chairmen, or from the Show's Web site at [www.rodeohouston.com](http://www.rodeohouston.com) or [www.hlsr.com](http://www.hlsr.com). The **deadline to submit applications is July 1, 2002**, and may be submitted by fax or by mail.

The designation of Lifetime Committeeman may be awarded to

individuals with a minimum of 15 years of continuous committee service, when age added to years of service equals 75 or greater. No matter how many committees a person serves on, an individual receives only one year of service credit per year, and years of service do not have to be consecutive on the same committee.

Lifetime Committeemen do not count against a committee's designated maximum, but they will have all rights and privileges of active volunteers and will receive a Lifetime Committeeman gold badge. Participation level on committees will be determined in conjunction with the committees' chairmen; however, Lifetime Committeeman will be the only title designation received regardless of responsibilities held on any committee.

### ★ Doling Out the Dollars

More than \$3 million will be awarded to students in Houston and surrounding counties during the **Houston Livestock Show and Rodeo Scholarship Banquet on May 23** in Reliant Center. The Metropolitan, Opportunity and School Art scholarship winners will each receive a four-year, \$10,000 scholarship for their hard work and dedication to advancing their academic careers.

The Texas Family, Career and Community Leaders of America scholarship winners were recognized in Corpus Christi, Texas, on April 27.

### ★ A Season to Remember

If you are currently a season ticket customer and have not received your renewal packet, please contact the Show's season ticket office at 832.667.1080 as soon as possible. The deadline for reserving season tickets and paying the nonrefundable deposit is June 14!

### ★ Hooray!

Two members of the Show's Executive Committee recently were recognized by outside organizations. Show President **P. Michael Wells** was named Outstanding Houston Texas Ex for 2002 and honored at a gala in March. Past President **Hal Hillman** has been named an honorary vice president of the Texas and Southwestern Cattle Raisers Association.



#### **Lois Shanks – Horse Sales Assistance**

Being involved with horses is a great asset for Lois Shanks, who joined the Show in 1990 as a life member. She competes in cutting horse shows on a nonpro level and belongs to several cutting and Quarter Horse associations. When she is not working with horses, she is a marketing director for George M. Shanks, Jr., P.C. In her spare time, she helps with numerous charitable organizations and is very active with Lutheran High North.



#### **Jon R. "Rick" Wilson – Western Art**

Rick Wilson has been active in the Show since 1989 and became a life member in 1991. He previously served as vice chairman of the Western Art Committee and also is a member of the World's Championship Bar-B-Que Committee. Rick is married to Sandra, and they have two children. His hobbies include hunting, fishing and four-wheeling trips in the Rocky Mountains with his family. He is a regional manager for Administaff, Inc. in Kingwood, Texas.

# CALENDAR OF EVENTS

## MAY

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	31	

## JUNE

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 30	24	25	26	27	28	29

## JULY

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	31				

### MAY

- 3-4 Humble/Kingwood Car Show and Cook Off
- 4 Walker County Crawfish Boil and Go Texan Events
- 5 Anderson County Crawfish Boil
- 10-11 New Caney/Splendor Bar-B-Que Cook-off and Events Day
- 11 Victoria County Vasa Pops Spring Cookoff
- 18 Waller County Casino Night and Steak Dinner
- 23 Houston Livestock Show and Rodeo™ Scholarship Banquet
- 27 Show offices closed – Memorial Day
- 31 Bosque County Go Texan BBQ Cookoff

### JUNE

- 1 Bosque County Go Texan BBQ Cookoff
- 4 Annual Membership Meeting
- 6 Board of Directors Meeting
- 7 Channelview/Sheldon Golf Tournament
- 7 Pasadena Golf Tournament
- 11 Freestone County Go Texan Events
- 11 Texas 4-H Scholarship Presentation, College Station, Texas
- 22 Galveston Mainland 2nd Annual Saltwater Fishing Tournament and Dance
- 24 New Caney/Splendor Golf Tournament

### JULY

- 1 Final deadline to clear all outstanding debts with the Show
- 4-5 Show offices closed – Independence Day
- 11 Texas FFA Scholarship Presentation, Fort Worth, Texas
- 13 Alief/Southwest Fajita Dinner



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