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Victoria Public Library Presents Author Panel on Texas Rangers

On July 31st the Victoria Public Library will present a panel of authors featuring Chuck Parsons, Dr. Harold Weiss, Jr. and Dr. Paul Spellman for a book signing and discussion on the lives of Texas Rangers. The program begins at 10 am in the Bronte room at the Victoria Public Library located at 302 N. Main.

John B. Armstrong, Texas Ranger and Pioneer Ranchman: Lawman and Rancher

By Chuck Parsons

"Texas, by God!" cried notorious killer John Wesley Hardin when he saw a Colt .45 pointed at him on a train in Florida. At the other end of the pistol stood Texas Ranger John B. Armstrong. Hardin's arrest assured Armstrong a place in history, but his story is larger, fuller, and even more important--and until now it has never been told.

Chuck Parsons is the author of eleven books and many articles on Texas and Western history. He resides in Prairie Lea, Texas.

Captain J.A. Brooks, Texas Ranger

By Paul Spellman

James Abijah Brooks was one of the four Great Captains in Texas Ranger history. Born and raised in Civil War-torn Kentucky, a reckless adventurer on the American and Texas frontier, and a quick-draw Texas Ranger captain who later turned in his six-shooter to serve as a county judge, Brooks embodied the raucous era of the late nineteenth and early twentieth-century American West.

Paul Spellman teaches Texas and American history at Wharton Junior College. He is a native Texan and has authored five books. He lives in Richmond, Texas.

Yours to Command: The Life and Legend of Texas Ranger Captain Bill McDonald

By Harold Weiss, Jr.

Captain Bill McDonald is the most prominent of the "Four Great Captains" of Texas Ranger history. His reputation as a gunman rested upon his easily demonstrated marksmanship, a flair for using his weapons to intimidate opponents, and the publicity given his numerous exploits. His ability to handle mobs resulted in a classic tale told around campfires: one riot, one Ranger.

Harold J. Weiss Jr. is Emeritus Professor of History, Government, and Criminal Justice at Jamestown Community College. Weiss has published numerous articles and essays on the Texas Rangers and western law and order. He lives in Leander, Texas.

For more information contact the Victoria Public Library at 485-3302 or visit www.victoriapubliclibrary.org.