

# LEOH Trip The Woodlands

December 16, 2021



The trip began with a slight “bump in the road”. It was a warm day, and the AC on the county bus was not working. Another bus, with working AC, was definitely needed!

Everyone waited patiently in the parking lot for another bus to arrive, and we made it to our destination slightly late, but in comfort!



Thanks in large part to the vision of oil industry investor George P. Mitchell, The Woodlands is a master-planned community that won a Special Award for Excellence in 1994 from the *Urban Land Institute*, and in 2021 was rated the #1 “Best City to Live in America” by *Niche*.

Located in a heavily forested area, The Woodlands has maintained much of the wooded landscape throughout, even as businesses and population thrive and grow. This has made the township a beautiful and nature-friendly area for both businesses and residents.

The Woodlands is divided into eight villages, which are subdivided into neighborhoods. Each village has its own amenities, while remaining close to the Town Center and Waterway commerce and entertainment. The township continues to rebuff the idea of incorporation.

As of 2021, the population is well over 100,000.



Following a tour by bus to view some of the sights and lights, it was time for an early dinner! Those who chose to enjoy a walk to the restaurant, rather than a ride, strolled by the water and viewed holiday lights in the pavilion and park area.







Our strollers enjoyed seeing beautiful lighted displays and landscaping, on the way to the restaurant.  
Peeking out of the trees is none other than a statue of George P. Mitchell.



# TEXAS MARINES MEDAL OF HONOR MONUMENT CONTRIBUTORS

**★ VALOR ★**  
**THOMAS R. and JEANINE EARLY**  
 In Memory of Cleland E. Early and Jacob N. Early

**★ VALOR ★**  
**BURT & HERMYS CABANAS**  
 In Honor of all Marines who have served our country.

**★ VALOR ★**  
**THE ROBERT & JANICE MCNAIR FOUNDATION**  
 With Appreciation for valiant service to our country.

**★ VALOR ★**  
**BENCHMARK HOSPITALITY INTERNATIONAL**  
 In Honor of these "Bravest of the Brave" Texas Marines.

Patrick & Colleen Hosford

Mr. & Mrs. Thomas Koops

**★ MEDAL ★**  
 William C. Leigh

Marine Corps League, EasTex Detachment #779

Woodforest National Bank

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 Carey of Houston - Thomas Nielsen  
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 Ms. Rita McClure - Director's Assistant

**IN KIND CONTRIBUTORS**  
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 Stuart Rosenberg  
 Tartaglia Construction -  
 Mike Tartaglia

United States Marine Corps  
 Band Brass Quintet  
 Ted Washington Photography  
 The Woodlands Development Company  
 The Woodlands Symphony Chorus  
 and Maestro Dagang Chen

**DEDICATED MAY 25, 2007 • SCULPTOR J. DAVID NUNNELEY**  
**MEDAL OF HONOR RECIPIENTS IN ATTENDANCE**  
 Wesley L. Fox - Guest Speaker Arthur J. Jackson Allan J. Kellogg, Jr. David H. Mc Nerney  
 Texas Marines Medal Of Honor 501(c)(3) Fund Directors  
 Thomas R. Early, Burt Cabañas, Jeffrey T. Early, Patrick E. Hosford

MEDAL OF HONOR VALOR

UNITED STATES MARINE MEDAL OF HONOR

TEXAS RECIPIENTS

**WORLD WAR II**  
 2nd LT William James Robinson, 22, San Antonio  
 P - 1943 Sicily  
 PFC Charles William Adams, 21, Clarksville  
 P - 1944 Iwo Jima  
 1st LT Bill Latham, 27, Exeter  
 P - 1943 Iwo Jima  
 SGT William George Howell, 22, San Grande City  
 1943 Iwo Jima, 1943 1944  
 1st LT William Oscar Hawkins, 29, El Paso  
 P - 1943 Iwo Jima

**KOREAN WAR**  
 1st LT Frank Nicks Mitchell, 29, Indian Gap  
 P - 1950 Hamson  
 S SGT Ambrose Guillen, 23, El Paso  
 P - 1951 Pusan  
 PFC Willie Lloyd Mitchell, 21, Waco  
 P - 1951 Sangju  
 2nd LT George Herman O'Brien, Jr., 28, Fort Worth  
 1952 The Hook, FGD, 2002  
 Hospitalman John Edward Kinner, 21, Houston  
 P - 1952 Korea

**VIETNAM WAR**  
 PFC Alfred Lee Wilson, 21, Abilene  
 P - 1968 Quang Tri Province  
 LCPL Thomas Elbert Cook, 18, Amarillo  
 P - 1969 Cam Lo  
 SGT Alfredo (Freddy) Gonzalez, 21, Edinburg  
 P - 1968 Thanh Thien  
 LCPL Richard Allen Anderson, 21, Houston  
 P - 1969 Quang Tri Province  
 PFC Oscar Palmer Austin, 21, Nacogdoches  
 P - 1968 Da Nang  
 2nd LT Terence Galligan Grant, 22, Corpus Christi  
 P - 1968 Quang Tri Province  
 LCPL Miguel Keith, 18, San Antonio  
 P - 1971 Quang Ngai Province  
 P - ARMED POSTHUMOUSLY

TEXAS MARINES MEDAL OF HONOR MONUMENT CONTRIBUTORS

★ VALOR ★

★ MEDAL ★

★ DUTY ★

IN KIND CONTRIBUTORS

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A few of our members chose to ride the free Pavilion trolley, while enjoying the sights in the park. Others chose to continue their walk, eventually arriving at the restaurant.





Time for dinner at ***The Goose's Acre Bistro & Irish Pub!***

Our large group took over a main dining area, to enjoy food, drink, and conversation.

The pub originated in Midleton, County Cork, Ireland, directly in front of "The Goose's Acre", so named because geese gaggles grazed there in the 1800's. The pub opened in 1886, and then was handed down through the years to family members.

In 2005, the pub was forced to close to make way for new development. Luckily, two visitors to Ireland decided to purchase the pub and ship it across the Atlantic, promising to continue the pub's traditions, and keep many of the furnishings.

Years earlier, prior to the pub closing in Ireland, the geese grazing area was removed.

A verse lamenting the removal is carved on the pub bar:

*"They shot the felon who stole the goose from out the acre, but let the greater felons loose, who stole the acre from the goose"*



Exiting the pub, everyone was treated to beautiful lighted displays along the waterway.





Our bus tour continued throughout neighborhoods and around Town Center.

Pictures taken through bus windows are never ideal, but everyone was afforded great views!







We were honored to have  
Mr. and Mrs. Claus join us  
on our trip!

Thanks to Ann for yet  
another great trip.

Thanks to our bus driver  
for making it a safe and  
comfortable one!

