Texas Heritage Museum is proud to help with historic preservation and education by being a member of the following organizations:

AAMG
Association of Academic Museums & Galleries

American Alliance of Museums
Member

Texas Association of Museums

Texas Lakes Trail
Texas Historical Commission
Texas Heritage Trails Program

112 Lamar Dr.
Hillsboro, TX 76645

Hill College

Annual Membership Form

Please use a ballpoint pen.

Name:_____

Address:_____

City:_____ State:___ Zip:_____

Phone:(___)___-_____ Email: _____

Name on Card: _____

Card Type: _____

Card Number: _____

Expiration Date:____/____ CCV:_____

Signature: _____

Please make check or money order payable to Texas Heritage Museum. For your convenience, we also accept VISA, MASTERCARD, DISCOVER & AMERICAN EXPRESS.

- ☐ Individual $25
- ☐ Family $35
- ☐ Business $50
- ☐ Patron $100
- ☐ Benefactor $250

Medal of Honor Memorial Brick Campaign

If you sign up for a membership with the Texas Heritage Museum today, you may also sponsor a brick at a special low price of $75. Using the space below, tell us what you would like your brick to say. Please limit to 15 characters per line and three lines per brick. If you decide to purchase more than one brick, please attach additional information to this form.

Those wanting to buy a brick without a membership may do so at the regular price of $100.

☐ Yes, I would like to sponsor a brick.

_ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _

_ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _

_ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _

_ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _

TEXAS HERITAGE MUSEUM
Home of the Official State Medal of Honor Memorial to Native-Born Texans

LASTING LEGACIES
NEWSLETTER

Vol. 10 No. 2 Winter 2019

LETTER FROM THE DEAN

Dear Texas Heritage Museum Members,

We had some exciting events this fall semester partnering with the Hill College faculty and students, and community members!

On October 23, at the museum during the closing reception, artist Michael Odom presented to 60 Hill College students in Tom Sale's and Mary Ann Cunningham's Art Appreciation classes. This art exhibit titled, "Texas and France," small landscape paintings by Michael Odom, was on display from Sept. 4, 2019 through Oct. 24, 2019.

On November 20, Kathleen Miller's US History classes held a Civil War event at the museum with 100 people in attendance. During this event we had over 50 students prepare different dishes, using authentic Civil War recipes that were judged by the Hill College faculty and staff. We also had Dean of Students, Scott Nalley, prepare beans and Johnnycakes; Director of Bands, Steve Hart, conducted the Hood's Texas Brigade Brass Band; Choir Director/Music Instructor, Dr. Chul Woong "Caleb" Chang conducted the Hill College Chorale, accompanied with piano played by Music Instructor, Larry McCord.

On Nov. 21, at the museum during the opening reception, Steven Barker presented to 62 students in Tom Sale's and Mary Ann Cunningham's Art Appreciation classes. The Texas Heritage Museum will showcase this exhibit in the temporary gallery titled, "An Out of the Way Place," watercolors by Steven Barker from Nov. 4, 2019 through Jan. 24, 2020. Thank you for your continued support of the Texas Heritage Museum at Hill College. I hope to see you all with your families visiting the museum this winter!

Respectfully,

John Versluis
Dean, Texas Heritage Museum
Hill College

John Versluis

WELCOME BACK

The Texas Heritage Museum would like to welcome back to the Museum Spring/ Summer 2018 Intern, Camille Bianca of Whitney as a museum volunteer.

Camille comes to us from Baylor University, where she received her bachelor's degree in anthropology with a minor in museum studies.

"Volunteering at the Texas Heritage Museum has given me the opportunity to further develop my skill set while learning something new everyday. The environment here is both educationally enriching and familiarly warm, as the staff have become like an extended family in many ways," said Camille.

Camille Bianca, Texas Heritage Museum Volunteer

MUSEUM EXHIBIT AND EVENTS

"Camellia and Swan" 42"x60" watercolor on Bristol by Steven Barker featured in the "Out of the Way Place" exhibit

Hood's Texas Brigade Brass Band at the US History Event

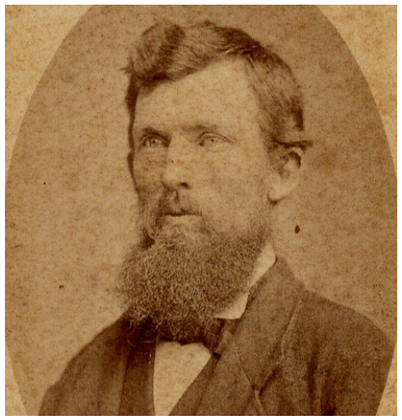
Michael Odom's unnamed painting featured in the "Texas and France" exhibit

SPOTLIGHT DONATIONS

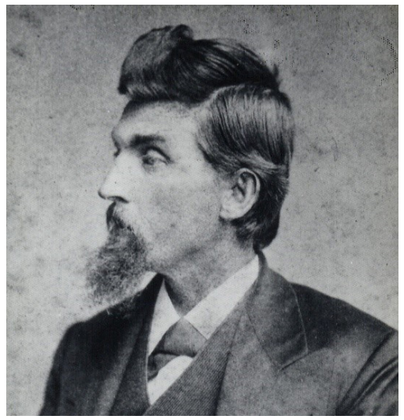
Historical Research Center Donation

The HRC recently acquired a fantastic confederate letter grouping consisting of over 60 letters written by two brothers to their family back home. James Andrew McCurdy and his brother, John Newton Lyle McCurdy, both of Lockhart, Texas (Caldwell County) served as Privates with the Third Texas Volunteer Infantry Company C (Colonel H.N. Luckett's Regiment) from 1863-1865.

Sue Breuer & Virginia C. Kerrigan who are first cousins donated this collection and transcribed all the letters.



John Newton Lyle McCurdy



James Andrew McCurdy

Texas Heritage Museum Donation

The THM recently acquired a WWII sailor uniform grouping of Seamen First Class Andy William Hankins. He served on the USS Spectacle (AM-305)

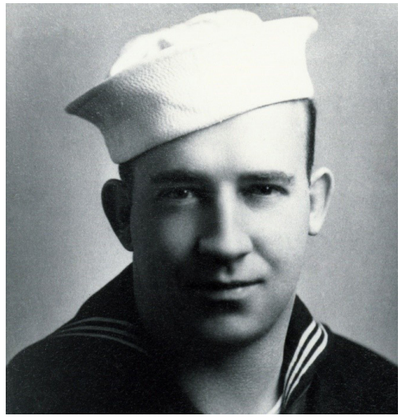


Photo of Seamen First Class Andy William Hankins

which was a steel-hulled admirable class minesweeper.

On May 22, 1945, early that morning, at 8:05, a diving kamikaze crashed into the minesweeper, striking the ship under her port 40-millimeter gun tub, causing extensive damage and blowing many of her crew overboard. Her rudder jammed. She dropped anchor to avoid running over her men in the water. At 8:15, USS LSM-135 began picking up survivors; but, 15 minutes later, the medium landing ship was also hit by a kamikaze and burst into flames. USS Spectacle's losses were: 11 killed outright, four who died of wounds, six wounded, and 14 missing in action. Andy Hankins was one of the 11 killed in action on this day. He was buried on Okinawa Island and later reburied in Whitesboro, Texas. Pat Dunklin who is the niece of Andy Hankins donated his uniform grouping.

Seamen First Class Andy William Hankins' uniform

EAST TEXAS GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY

On Nov. 9, at the East Texas Genealogical Society in Tyler, Texas, John Versluis, Dean of the Texas Heritage Museum gave an overview of the holdings at the Museum.

During this presentation, he used Second Lieutenant Andrew Birdsall Briscoe, Eighth Texas Cavalry, Terry's Texas Rangers, Co. K. and Private William Newby, 40th Illinois Infantry Co. D. as an example of what one might find researching Civil War Confederate and Union ancestors in the Historical Research Center.

John Versluis, Dean of the Texas Heritage Museum, giving presentation

CONTACTS

John Versluis
Dean of Texas Heritage Museum
jversluis@hillcollege.edu

Mary Ann Schneider
Assistant Curator/Archivist
maschneider@hillcollege.edu

Rosa Santos
Museum Receptionist &
Collections Registrar
rsantos@hillcollege.edu

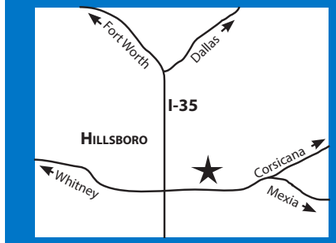
Deloris (Rica) Acevedo
Museum Collections Assistant
dacevedo@hillcollege.edu

Frank Williams, Jr.
Lab Exhibit Assistant
fwilliamsjr@hillcollege.edu

FALL/SPRING HOURS

Gallery & Collections
Mon. - Fri., 8 a.m. - 4 p.m.

Historical Research Center
Mon. - Fri., 9 a.m. - 1 p.m.



Texas Heritage Museum
Hill College Campus
112 Lamar Dr.
Hillsboro, TX 76645
museum@hillcollege.edu
254.659.7750
www.hillcollege.edu/museum

texasheritagemuseum