Texas Heritage Museum
Annual Membership Form

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

Please use a ballpoint pen.

Name:_____

Address:_____

City:_____ State:_____ Zip:_____

Phone:_____

Email:_____

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

NAME ON CARD_____

CARD TYPE_____

EXPIRATION DATE_____ SSC#_____

CARD NUMBER_____

SIGNATURE _____

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 want 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.

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Texas Heritage Museum
Hill College Campus
112 Lamar Drive
Hillsboro, TX 76645
museum@hillcollege.edu
(254) 659-7750
www.hillcollege.edu/museum

The Texas Heritage Museum's mission is to explore Texas and Texans during wartime and how those experiences affect us today.

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

TEXAS LAKES TRAIL
TEXAS HISTORICAL COMMISSION TEXAS HERITAGE TRAILS PROGRAM

TEXAS ASSOCIATION OF MUSEUMS

NewsletterVol7Iss1.indd 1

Texas Heritage Museum
Home of the Official State Medal of Honor Memorial to Native-Born Texans

Lasting Legacies
Newsletter

Vol. 7 No. 1 Summer 2015

Letter from the Dean

Dear Texas Heritage Museum Members,

Thank you all for attending the Texas Heritage Museum "50 Years in the Making" celebration last fall! I would like to take this opportunity to thank the museum staff, Hill College staff, and Fort Graham Chapter, Texas Society Daughters of the American Revolution for all the hard work preparing for the 50th celebration!

The 48th Hill College Press publication, a two-volume set of books, *More Texas Burial Sites of Civil War and Reconstruction Era Notables*, has arrived! Limited signed and numbered editions of this publication are only available to members of the museum. A limited quantity of the membership editions were printed, so buy a copy before it is too late. This member edition can be purchased for $30.00 plus tax. More information about this publication is detailed on the inside of this newsletter.

The Texas Heritage Museum for the third year is participating as a Blue Star Museum. Blue Star Museums is a collaboration among the National Endowment for the Arts, Blue Star Families, the Department of Defense, and more than 2,000 museums across America to offer free admission to the nation's active duty military personnel including National Guard and Reserve and their families from Memorial Day, May 25, through Labor Day, September 7, 2015.

If you have not visited the museum this year please do so. Through Labor Day, in the temporary gallery you may view "The Forgotten War, United States Siberia and North Russia Expeditionary Forces 1918-1920". This exhibit is showcasing my personal collection and research of over 20 years on United States intervention in Russia.

The 2015-2016 Texas Heritage Museum Membership Banquet will be held this fall. We will keep you all informed of this upcoming event in the months to come.

Thank you for your continued support of the Texas Heritage Museum at Hill College!

Sincerely,

John Versluis

John Versluis
Dean THM

THM Celebrates *50 Years in the Making*

This past year Texas Heritage Museum celebrated *50 Years in the Making* with an exclusive four-day extravaganza that brought together music, exhibits, lectures and events.

6/8/2015 10:36:49 AM

Baylor Graduate Interns at THM

The Texas Heritage Museum would like to take this opportunity to introduce everyone to our newest intern, Chris Paulos.

Paulos started his curatorial internship at THM on May 18 and will stay in the residence halls at the Hill College campus throughout the summer.

Paulos, who comes to us from Austin, Texas, is a Baylor graduate student and is currently working towards a Master of Arts in museum studies.

"I am into History." Paulos stated, going on to say that he likes going to museums as well as collecting old manuals on weapons and technology.

"I think it's great that you don't even have to leave Hillsboro to be able to visit a good museum!" Paulos added.

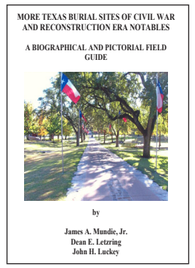
When asked what his plans for the future are he said, "My goal is to work at a museum as a collections registrar."

Chris Paulos

TEXAS HERITAGE MUSEUM
HILL COLLEGE

New and Upcoming Publications

Hill College Press (HCP) was very pleased to announce in January the publication of its newest release: a two-volume set of books titled *More Texas Burial Sites of Civil War and Reconstruction Era Notables: A Biographical and Pictorial Field Guide*. Arranged alphabetically by name, there are more than 1,050 biographical sketches of men and women and photographs of their burial sites in 462 cemeteries in 150 counties in Texas. The set is an extensive follow up of a one-volume book limited to the Civil War period by HCP in 2002 and was researched and authored by James A. Mundie, Jr., Dean E. Letzring, and John H. Luckey, who with one other author joined forces to publish the first book. The subject of the new set does not repeat subjects but is a more elaborate additional presentation of burial sites of individuals of prominence who served the public in a notable capacity, civil and military, during the Reconstruction Era as well as during the war. Included are officers with rank of Major to General and of elected and appointed officials and other "notorious" persons who figured prominently in the war and afterward. The set is designed to be an enduring reference work for persons engaged in biographical, genealogical, and historical studies, being for many a good starting place to begin their work. Copies of the set are available at a reasonable price in the Gift Shop at the Texas Heritage Museum. The publication—the 48th by Hill College Press—was enabled by a grant to the Texas Heritage Museum from the Summerlee Foundation of Dallas.



The 49th work of HCP is in the process of being prepared for publication and is expected to be released in the fall of 2015. The title, *Frontier Horsemen of the Confederacy: Major's Texas Cavalry Brigade*, covers the service of a unit not previously having attracted the attention of many writers and is an admirable presentation of a much overlooked unit. It begins with the service of men from Arizona, California, New Mexico, and Texas who were engaged in 1862 in the Confederate efforts to maintain a foothold in Arizona and then, following the retreat of the failed New Mexico campaign, in Texas being organized as a brigade for patrol duty in the Galveston area. Sent to Louisiana in late 1863 under the command of Colonel—later Brigadier General—James P. Major, a Missourian who had led units at Wilson's Creek, Pea Ridge, Corinth, and Vicksburg, the four-regiment brigade patrolled and fought Union forces in the Red River campaign in late 1863 and in 1864 before returning to Texas after suffering severe casualties. The book has been exhaustively researched by Jim Matthews, a Boy Scout executive in San Antonio, who holds a master's degree in history from Texas Tech University and who has been involved for many years in writing and speaking on subjects related to the history of West Texas and military aspects of the Civil War.

The Forgotten War Exhibit Open Through Labor Day

John Versluis, dean of the Texas Heritage Museum, takes special pride in his latest exhibit. It was the topic of his college thesis, and an area of great interest for this historian.

Was the U.S. excursion into Siberia in 1918 the true beginning of the Cold War? Versluis and other historians believe it may have been. Most of the 15,000 American soldiers, who traversed over 4,000 miles of Russia, had no idea why they were even there.

The grueling adventure and its implications are examined in the new exhibit, "The Forgotten War: United States Siberia and North Russia Expeditionary Forces 1918-1920," which opened September 23 at the Texas Heritage Museum.

Interesting aspects of the exhibit include the revelation that the American forces were led by a general from Hill County. The exhibit also shares a heartwarming love story about another American soldier who falls in love with, and marries a beautiful, young Russian aristocrat.

"We are very excited to be able to present this exhibit, based on over 20 years of research," Versluis said. "It fits well with the mission of this museum, because not only were Texans involved, but a Texas general was part of the command structure."

This exhibit showcases Versluis' personal collection, which includes photographs, uniforms and personal diaries of the American soldiers, gathered during more than 20 years of research on the topic. During his undergraduate work, Versluis received a Western State College Foundation Research grant for his senior history honors scholarly paper entitled "After the Armistice: Why were American Troops in Siberia from 1918-1920?"

Versluis has presented his research at national history conferences and has made new scholarly discoveries providing further insights into the U.S. intervention into Russia.

Medal of Honor Dedication

Five additional names have been awarded the Medal of Honor, Post War and their names are presented honorably on the new addition of the memorial.

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

I-35 Exit 368
Hillsboro, TX

Summer Hours

Mon. - Thurs., 7 a.m. - 5 p.m.

Historical Research Center Hours

Mon, - Thurs., 9 a.m. - 1 p.m.

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