Texas Heritage Museum Annual Membership Form

Please use a ballpoint pen.

☐ Individual $25 ☐ Family $35 ☐ Business $50

☐ Patron $100 ☐ Benefactor $250

Name:_____

Address:_____

Phone:_____ Email:_____

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 11 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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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_____

CARD NUMBER_____

SIGNATURE _____

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

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

The Texas Heritage Museum newsletter

Lasting Legacies

Vol. 2 No. 1 Summer 2009

Letter From the Director

The Texas Heritage Museum has had an exciting past quarter. To begin with, I am excited to announce that the 81st Texas Legislature designated the Medal of Honor Memorial at Hill College as the official state memorial to Texas-born Medal of Honor recipients. These efforts could not have been possible without the strong support of Senator Kip Averitt, Representative Jim Pitts and Hill College President Dr. Sheryl Kappus. For our memorial to receive this designation, it took two legislative sessions, more than three years of work and numerous trips to Austin. The bill designation is SCR-5 and is one of only 1,168 bills passed by the Texas State Legislature out of 7,609. The museum will have a large celebration to commemorate this event in the near future.

I am also very proud of the Texas Heritage Museum's staff for receiving high remarks with the Museum Assessment Program (MAP) national grant administered through the American Association of Museums. Moreover, I am pleased to announce that THM has received a second national museum assessment grant.

Lastly, I am happy to announce that Kendall Milton, our curator, has installed many new exhibits on small conflicts of war in our Weapons Gallery. She has also created an exhibit entitled "Audie Murphy: Selections from our Collection" being showcased in our traveling exhibit gallery.

THM is actively seeking new ways to improve the fulfillment of the museum's mission. Together we are enhancing your experience – the Texas Heritage Museum Experience.

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

Sincerely,
John Versluis,
Director, THM

Medal of Honor Memorial Designated Official State Memorial

Medal of Honor Memorial

The Texas Heritage Museum's memorial has become the official Texas state Medal of Honor Memorial to Native-Born Texans by the 81st Texas Legislature (SCR-5). It will officially become law on Sept. 1.

Hill College has installed the Texas Medal of Honor Memorial as a tribute to all native-born Texans who have received that distinction, the highest award that can be bestowed on a member of the United States armed forces. Located on the campus of Hill College in front of the Texas Heritage Museum, the memorial serves to enhance the mission of the museum which is to explore the experience of Texas and Texans in wartime and the ways in which that experience continues to affect us today.

Of the more than 3,400 individuals who have received the Medal of Honor, 56 were born in the Lone Star State. The central shaft of the memorial highlights the valor of Texans Audie Murphy and Samuel Dealey, the most decorated members of the U.S. Army and

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New & Returning Team Members

Kelly Roberts joins THM as a summer intern for the HRC. Roberts, currently attending the University of South Carolina, is majoring in International Studies. Having grown up in Hillsboro, she has visited Hill College and the museum several times, loves history and is very excited to work at the museum this summer! Garrett Gohlke has returned for a fourth summer. He is assisting the curator accession and label artifacts donated over the last 40 years.

Gohlke and Roberts

Audie Murphy Traveling Exhibit

Currently on display at the Traveling Exhibit Gallery is "Audie Murphy: Selections from our Collection" which includes: Murphy's movie posters, original artwork, suit, script and photos from the filming of *The Red Badge of Courage*. The exhibit will run through August, and the museum will host matinees of Audie Murphy movies every Saturday at 1 p.m. Please check the "Upcoming Events" section of the website for details and movie titles.

Medal of Honor *(cont.)*

Navy in World War II, respectively. Among the prized holdings of the Texas Heritage Museum are an extensive collection of Audie Murphy's personal artifacts from World War II, the Medal of Honor that was awarded to James Harris, a World War II tank commander and Hillsboro native, and a large number of photographs and documents relating to other Medal of Honor recipients from Texas. The Texas Heritage Museum plans to expand and develop educational programming around the Medal of Honor memorial and to invite Medal of Honor recipients to talk about and share their experiences.

To be considered as a nominee for the Medal of Honor, a man or woman must have demonstrated conspicuous gallantry and intrepidity above and beyond the call of duty and at the risk of his or her life. In paying solemn tribute to those Texans who have exemplified the highest standards of courage, selflessness and devotion to duty, the memorial at Hill College commemorates those who have earned the lasting gratitude and respect of all Americans.

Wichita Exhibit Hits the Road

The Wichita exhibit that opened in conjunction with Dr. Earl Elam's book *Kitikiti'sh* was so popular the museum decided to take it on the road, and now THM has its own traveling exhibit! Curator Kendall Milton and Maintenance Manager Frank Williams developed a three-panel door exhibit displaying 20 framed, black-and-white photographs from Dr. Elam's research collection. So far, the display has traveled to Abbott ISD and the West Public Library. In August, it will open at the Wichita and Affiliated Tribes Tribal Headquarters in Anadarko, Okla.

Wichita Exhibit

THM Awarded Second MAP Grant

The Texas Heritage Museum has once again been awarded a National Museum Assessment Program (MAP) Collections Management Grant through the American Association of Museums (AAM). The museum staff is excited to be awarded this second MAP grant. These grants are competitive in nature, and the AAM only awards approximately 115 nationwide on an annual basis.

The program provides a confidential process of self-study, peer review and implementation supported through a cooperative agreement with the Institute of Museum and Library Services (IMLS) and AAM. The museum programs of IMLS are the only federal programs solely devoted to assisting museums in carrying out their public service responsibilities.

The Texas Heritage Museum will be able to use MAP as a very valuable assessment in moving forward with its strategic plan and long-range goal of being accredited by the AAM.

Kids Kollege Invades THM

The THM once again participated in Kids Kollege. Hill College has offered this day camp for kids for four years, and the museum is excited to be a part of it. During the second week of July, students spent an hour per day at the museum engaging in activities such as scavenger hunts, mock archeological digs and blacksmithing demonstrations. Special thanks goes to museum member Ken McElroy of Austin for lending the museum his blacksmithing skills.

Hill College Press Offers a Number of Books

Books Forthcoming

Sunrise! Governor Bill Daniel and the Second Liberation of Guam

Books For Sale

- *The Autobiography of Wilburn Hill King: With the 18th Texas Infantry*
- *Brawling Brass, North and South: The Most Famous Quarrels of the Civil War*
- *Cry Comanche: The 2nd U.S. Cavalry in Texas, 1855-1861*
- *Hill College: An Illustrated History*
- *Kitikiti'sh: The Wichita Indians and Associated Tribes in Texas, 1757-1859*
- *Reluctant Rebels: The Eleventh Texas Cavalry Regiment*
- *Touched by Fire: Letters from Company D, 5th Texas Infantry, Hood's Brigade, Army of Northern Virginia, 1862-1865*
- *War Years, C.S.A.: 12th Mississippi Regiment, Major S. H. Giles, Q.M., Original Letters, 1860-1865*

To purchase a book, please contact Rosa Santos at (254) 659-7753 or rsantos@hillcollege.edu.

Research Center Welcomes Visitors

Additions to the Collection

- *Hell Under the Rising Sun, Texas POW's and the Building of the Burma-Thailand Death Railway*
- *Sul Ross' Sixth Texas Cavalry*
- *Okinawa Odyssey*

Message from the Librarian

The HRC was invaded this spring by an army of history instructors seeking to use a variety of primary sources available for class projects. I would like to extend a personal thank-you to all of the researchers with whom I have had the pleasure of assisting in their military history research in my first year as archivist/librarian at the HRC. It is indeed a rewarding profession.

Curator Attends TAM Meeting

Texas Heritage Museum Curator Kendall Milton recently traveled to El Paso to attend her third annual meeting of the Texas Association of Museums (TAM). This was her second and final year as a member of the Programming Committee which developed the sessions and arranged for speakers. One of the sessions she set up included a visit to Fort Bliss and its museum along with a discussion of new and creative ways of exhibiting and interpreting firearms and large weapons.

Milton also presented a short poster session about the THM's recent rebranding campaign which started in earnest last summer and included new brochures and billboards, an updated website, the creation of a museum membership program and a museum newsletter. She plans on attending next year's annual meeting in Bryan/College Station.

Texas Heritage Museum Hill College

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Hillsboro, TX 76645
(254) 659-7750
museum@hillcollege.edu

I-35 Exit 368
Hillsboro, TX

Museum Hours

Mon. - Thurs. 8 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.
Fri. 8 a.m. - 4 p.m.
June - Aug. Sat. 10 a.m.- 5 p.m.
(galleries only)

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In the Know

Did you know that 995 people visited the museum this past quarter, and 92 people used the Historical Research Center?