Letter from the Dean

Dear Friends of the Museum,

The Texas Heritage Museum (THM) is gearing up for a fantastic year in 2014. It is very exciting to announce that THM will be celebrating its 50th year of operation of the Historical Research Center, Hill College Press and the museum this upcoming September. Further information will be forthcoming regarding the semicentennial museum celebration this upcoming September.

I am proud to announce the largest preservation digitalization project ever undertaken in the Historical Research Center. The Civil War unit capsule histories, comprised of every Confederate and Union unit and consisting of over 32,000 documents, will be digitized and indexed so the documents will be accessible on the computer. This will make the documents in the research center more accessible to the patrons.

We at THM would like to take a moment to thank those who have served our country, as well as those left behind. If you have a loved one you wish to honor, please keep the Medal of Honor walkway at the Texas Heritage Museum’s “Official State Medal of Honor Memorial to Native-Born Texans” in mind. We encourage all to visit the museum and the memorial at any time.

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

Sincerely,

John Versluis
Dean THM

Texas Heritage Museum Annual Holiday/New Year Sale

They’re here! The holidays are quickly approaching. The THM Gift Shop is here to help by offering from now until January 31, 2013 a 15% discount on all our fabulous gift shop items. Just a friendly reminder the museum will be closed December 13th - January 5th. You will find mugs, stuffed animals, old time toys, bingo games, dog tags, picture frames, scented candles, unique chess sets, not to mention fun books for kids and books on cooking, military engagements and Texas history. Museum patrons and Hill College faculty and staff will receive this 15% discount in addition to their membership and/or Hill College employee discount.

The Gift shop is anticipating the release of two beautiful honor coins showcasing the Texas Heritage Museum, Hill College and The Official State Medal of Honor Memorial to Native-Born Texans, which should become available for purchase during the week of December 9th. We look forward to seeing you.

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

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 TEXANS AND TEXAS DURING WARFARE AND HOW THOSE EXPERIENCES AFFECT US TODAY.

Yes, I would like to sponsor a brick.

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

Please use a ballpoint pen.

Name:_______________________________________
Address:____________________________________
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__________/_______
CARD NUMBER________________________________
SIGNATURE ___________________________________

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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Medal of Honor Memorial Brick Campaign

Texas Heritage Museum Newsletter

Vol. 5 No. 2 Winter 2013

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Deloris (Rica) Acevedo

The present addition to the museum staff is a native Texan, a graduate of the University of Texas at Austin (B.A. English, Spanish minor), and a third generation descendant of a Hillbom family. She most recently worked for the Baylor University School of Music, where her colleagues regularly collaborated with the Hill College Music Department and contributed to the Performing Arts Series. She has traveled extensively throughout the U.S., Europe, Canada, Central America and Mexico, always visiting as many museums as possible along the way. Hillsboro has been Rica’s home for the last seven years and she is committed to living here for the remainder of her life.

When asked about her new position Rita stated, “When I was offered this position, I felt like I’d won the lottery. Not only do I get to spend my work days in one of my favorite environments, but now I have the opportunity to contribute to the Hillbom community and to Hill College in so many ways.”

New and Upcoming Publications

On July 22, the 47th imprint of Hill College Press was released: From the Riviera to Zell Am See, by Lieutenant Commander Rufus Lester Leggett, a native Texan, as introduced, formatted, and revised by the editor of the press. It is a narrative story with commentary of Leggett’s memories and later research of his experiences in World War II with the Texas 36th Infantry Division. A hard-cover consisting of 545 pages and many maps and photos, it is available for sale in the Texas Heritage Museum.

The next publication of HCP will be More Texas Burial Sites of Civil War and Reconstruction Era Notables.

Membership Banquet a Success

The Fourth Annual Membership Banquet with the Hill College Alumni in attendance was held November 7, 2013 in the Hill College Cafeteria.

Prior to the banquet, an Open House was held in the Texas Heritage Museum showcasing The Cold War Civil Defense Hospital exhibit from Johnson County, The Light Crus Doughboys, the longest running band in the history of recorded music, and the World War I heavy machine gun and the World War II submachine guns exhibit in the Weapons Gallery.

A presentation was made by Dr. Earl Elam, Editor and Historian of the Texas Heritage Museum’s Medal of Honor Memorial to Native-Born Texans in his honor for his tenure at Hill College.

Several Texas Heritage Museum service awards were presented to honor College employees and community members. Dr. Sheryl Kappus, President of Hill College, was presented a U.S. flag flown over the Texas Heritage Museum’s Medal of Honor Memorial to Native-Born Texan in her honor for her tenure at Hill College.

Art Greenhaw, a member of the Light Crus Doughboys, was recognized and honored by Joe Shaughnessy, Hill College Librarian, and Eve Bowen, Hill College Library Services Assistant, for his contribution of the Light Crus Doughboys collection housed in the Hill College Library.

Other “notables.” The tombstones are mostly those of officers of the Blue and the Gray who are buried in Texas and a few civilians who were prominent in some capacity in the state during the period of the Civil War and the Reconstruction Era. The work is made possible in part by a substantial grant from the Summerlee Foundation of Dallas. It will be published in two volumes, with data and images formatted alphabetically, A-Z, and with an extensive Appendix and Bibliography that should be of significant use for researchers of the period.

The work will be released in 2014. It will be one of the contributions that the Texas Heritage Museum is making to the ongoing national Sesquicentennial collection of scholarship and projects denoting this important period in the history of the United States.

Membership Banquet a Success (continued)

On July 22, the 46th book published by the Hill College Press, From the Riviera to Zell Am See, A Texas Soldier’s Story by Rufus Lester Leggett.

Several Texas Heritage Museum service awards were presented to honor College employees and community members. Dr. Sheryl Kappus, President of Hill College, was presented a U.S. flag flown over the Texas Heritage Museum’s Medal of Honor Memorial to Native-Born Texans in his honor for her tenure at Hill College.

Art Greenhaw, a member of the Light Crus Doughboys, was recognized and honored by Joe Shaughnessy, Hill College Librarian, and Eve Bowen, Hill College Library Services Assistant, for his contribution of the Light Crus Doughboys collection housed in the Hill College Library.

Door prizes were given at the conclusion of the program and Hill College Press books were offered for sale.