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.

[Space for brick information]

THM Opens New Medal of Honor Exhibit

The museum debuted a new exhibit in its galleries in April. “Medal of Honor Recipients: Native-Born Texans” is located immediately off the lobby and complements the memorial on the museum’s front lawn which commemorates native Texans who have received the Medal of Honor. The exhibit gives a general history of the award and displays artifacts relating to three recipients. Fred Ferguson and Roy Benavidez received the Medal of Honor for their actions in Vietnam. Hill County native James Harris received the award posthumously for bravery in France in World War II; his Medal of Honor is on display. The curator is also working with other departments on campus to utilize an interactive touch screen display which will help visitors view the citations of all 56 native-Texan recipients.

Letter from the Director

Dear Friends of the Museum,

I am proud to inform you that the Texas Heritage Museum (THM) has had an exciting spring. The First Annual THM Membership Banquet was held on March 26, with 59 people in attendance. At the banquet, we celebrated two great accomplishments. First, we celebrated the 81st Texas Legislature designating the Medal of Honor Memorial at the Texas Heritage Museum as the “Official Texas State Medal of Honor Memorial to Native-Born Texans” and recognized Jim Pitts and Kip Averitt for their leadership in this endeavor. Secondly, we celebrated the 45th publication of the Hill College Press, *Sunrise!* Governor Bill Daniel and the Second Liberation of Guam by Dr. David B. Gracy II.

Governor Bill Daniel’s three daughters, extended family and friends were in attendance.

I am also pleased to announce that the Hill College Press will now start offering a special, limited deluxe leather edition of each future Hill College Press publication. *Sunrise!* is the first limited edition available to members. One book is available per membership for $37.88 including tax. We have a limited quantity available to members, so be sure to order yours today!

In March, the Historical Research Center was proud to be the recipient of a George G. and Alva Hudson Smith Foundation grant to purchase an Optic Book A300 Color Scanner. This scanner is a special type used to preserve and protect the binding of books while being scanned. This new technology will allow the Historical Research Center to further preserve military history with archive quality digitization scanning for use by researchers, including students, locally, statewide and nationally.

As always, we continue to seek 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
Spotlight on Hill College

The new display in the lobby of the museum is the first of an ongoing series called “Spotlight on Hill College” which provides more information about individual Hill College faculty, staff and students. Currently displayed is Russell Kunz, the new executive director of the Continuing Education/Corporate Training Department. Kunz works mainly from the Johnson County Campus. He generously loaned the museum items relating to his father’s combat as a “brush soldier” in the Hill and Johnson county areas as well as a “brush soldier” in the Hill and Johnson Heritage Museum (THM). Through the generosity of Hill County Historian Richard Greenhill, the Historical Research Center has acquired an original Civil War letter written by Brigadier General Henry C. McCullough to Meridith Hart and Colonel Guithings concerning “brush soldiers” in the Hill and Johnson county areas as well as a scrapbook of World War II engineer and Texas native, Lt. Colonel William A. Simmons.

Rosa Raves about the Gift Shop

“Don’t forget to stop by our gift shop when visiting the Texas Heritage Museum. We have new items for kids and grown-ups alike. Tote bags, puzzles, mugs, small souvenirs and books on military engagements are just a few items to mention. Hope to see you soon!”

Rosa Santos

Hill College Press Offers Variety of Books

The latest book published by the press was introduced on March 26, at the annual membership banquet of the THM. Sunrise! Governor Bill Daniel and the Second Liberation of Guam, authored by Dr. David B. Gracy II, Governor Bill Daniel Professor in Archival Enterprise, University of Texas at Austin, is a scholarly study of Daniel’s administration of this island territory of the United States in 1961-62. A public signing was held in the museum on March 27.

Sunrise!, at $30, joins the following Hill College Press titles in print and available in the Gift Shop at the museum. They may also be ordered by phone or email. For information, call Rosa Santos at 254-659-7750, or e-mail her at rsantos@hillcollege.edu.

- Brawling Brass, North and South: The Most Famous Quarrels of the Civil War, by Colonel Harold B. Simpson (1990), $16
- Cry Comanche: The 2nd U.S. Cavalry in Texas, 1855-1861, by Colonel Harold B. Simpson (1979), $16
- Kitikiti’sh: The Wichita Indians and Associated Tribes in Texas, 1757-1859, by Earl H. Elam (2008), $30

Summer Class/Trip Now Registering

Head north this summer on a six-day, five-night Great Plains learning journey. Along the way, you will be immersed in the rich history of the cowboys, American Indians and pioneers of the Wild West as you travel as far north as Fort Laramie, WY, along the Chisolm, Santa Fe, Oregon, and Overland trails, also stopping along key points of the Pony Express and the Mormon Trek. Those wishing to blaze their own trail into the West must register for this Summer II, HIST 2389.H21, class. Participants will have a choice of academic or continuing education course credit. The academic course will include a research project and regular course study throughout the summer session. The field trip will leave from the Texas Heritage Museum (THM) at Hill College, Hill County Campus, on July 14 and return on July 19. The cost will include tuition, transportation, hotel accommodations, meals and admission fees to attractions along the route (cost varies according to occupancy and class type).

To register or for more information, please contact:
Kathleen Miller kmiller@hillcollege.edu
John Versluis jversluis@hillcollege.edu

Summer Class/Trip (continued)

Research Center Announces Latest News

Through the generosity of Hill County Historian Richard Greenhill, the Historical Research Center has acquired an original Civil War letter written by Brigadier General Henry C. McCullough to Meridith Hart and Colonel Guithings concerning “brush soldiers” in the Hill and Johnson county areas as well as a scrapbook of World War II engineer and Texas native, Lt. Colonel William A. Simmons.

THM is also pleased to announce that Andrew Cameron accepted a summer internship and is working in the areas of preservation, digitization and cataloging in the HRC archives and library. He is a graduate student in the UNT School of Informational Science.

Anita Tufts, HRC archivist/librarian, has just returned from the Texas Library Association annual conference in San Antonio. She attended sessions on photographic preservation, locating and preserving primary sources of local history, metadata, author events and a presentation on the Library of Congress. She also visited with the other 7,400 librarians and the many book vendors as well as perused the technological displays in the Henry B. Gonzales Convention Center.

The Historical Research Center is asking for donations of Hill College Press books to complete the HRC library. Especially needed is Red Granite for Gray Heroes: the Monuments to Hood’s Brigade and Texas Museum. We have new items for kids and grown-ups alike. Tote bags, puzzles, mugs, small souvenirs and books on military engagements are just a few items to mention. Hope to see you soon!”

Rosa Santos

Summer Class/Trip

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To register or for more information, please contact:
Kathleen Miller kmiller@hillcollege.edu
254.659.7907
John Versluis jversluis@hillcollege.edu
254.659.7751

Mandatory course/trip orientation Wed., July 7, THM, 4 p.m.

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