



# VALOR

HOOD'S TEXAS BRIGADE ASSOCIATION, REACTIVATED • HTBAR

FALL 2006

Hill College • P. O. Box 619 • Hillsboro, TX 76645



Martha Hartzog at J. B. Polley's gravesite, Floresville, Texas, May 2006

## FROM THE PRESIDENT . . .

### MARTHA HARTZOG

#### Dear Members of the HTBAR:

We have some exciting news about our beloved organization. On March 31st, a special called meeting of the Board of the Hood's Texas Brigade Association Reactivated was called. The purpose of the meeting was to begin the process of re-energizing the organization by increasing membership, developing exciting projects around which the members could rally, and increasing support of the Confederate Research Center and Museum. There was a brief Executive Committee meeting, followed by a brainstorming session.

The Executive committee approved the following action items:

1. Jeanne Stovall was elected Recording Secretary until the next regularly called meeting in the Fall of 2006.
2. A Nominating Committee was appointed to nominate persons for current

vacancies to serve 2006-2008, with its report due at the Fall 2006 meeting: Dean Auvenshine, Shelly Rardin, Tom Davis, Jeanne Stovall, Martha Hartzog, Ex Officio.

3. The Proposal to pursue acquiring a certificate of formation as a non-profit corporation in the State of Texas was approved.

#### Brainstorming Session

To increase membership, develop exciting new activities, and recognize "friends" of HTBAR we discussed the following:

- Update mailing list and gather e-mail addresses
- Update membership rolls and create electronic database
- Send newsletter VALOR at least once a year, plus e-newsletter
- Create website to promote HTBA
- Mark Graves of HTB Soldiers
- Raise funds for Museum Internship Scholarship and support additional needs of the Museum
- Promote HTBAR at meetings of other historic organizations
- Hold yearly meetings and raise dues to \$20 per year: ideas to be brought to the general membership meeting in the fall
- Increase membership categories: create Associate Membership and apply current categories of Honorary Membership and Fellow; also to be brought to the general meeting

*To receive a more detailed report of this meeting, contact Martha Hartzog: m.hartzog@mail.utexas.edu or write her at 605 Pecan Grove Road, Austin, Texas 78704. Martha is the great granddaughter of Major Howdy Martin. 4th Texas.*

#### ABOUT JOHN VERSLUIS

Originally from Gunnison, CO, John earned his BA in history at Western State College of Colorado in 1997 and his museum training at New Mexico State University where he earned a MA in Public History in 2000. Before coming to Hill College, John was director of the Greater Southwest Historical Museum in Ardmore, Oklahoma and Executive Director of the North Platte Valley Museum in Gearing, Nebraska.



John Versluis, Director

## FROM THE DIRECTOR . . .

### JOHN VERSLUIS

#### Dear Friends,

Over the past year and a half, the Harold B. Simpson History Complex has undergone quite a few changes. They began Spring 2005 with the retirement of Dr. Buddy Patterson as Dean. At the request of Dr. Sheryl Kappus, President of Hill College, Dr. Bill Auvenshine stepped in to take his place. In my role as then Curator of the Center, Dr. Auvenshine and I worked together to make some significant changes at the Museum and Research Center, including converting the Research Center holdings to the Dewey decimal system so that they are more easily accessible by researchers and beginning the process of developing an accession system for the invaluable artifacts. Peggy Fox, whom you all know, continued for a further year to provide us with her in-depth knowledge of the Research Center.

This summer I developed a student summer internship program with four students to develop, implement, and maintain the museum and library collections into an electronic data base *Past Perfect Museum Software*. These are some of the many first steps to be taken in order for the History Complex to start the accreditation process with the American Association of Museums.

*continued . . .*

**FALL 2006 MEETING OF  
HTBAR: NOVEMBER 17, 2006**

Last March we held a special called meeting of the HTBAR Board, followed by a brainstorming session. As you will see from the report by President Martha Hartzog, this went very well and we will be bringing some action items to consider to the general meeting in the Fall. We hope you will be as excited as we are by the new projects that are in the works and will volunteer to become active.

We are holding this year's general meeting on November 17th, the evening prior to the Austin Civil War Round Table Seminar on the 18th. This will mean one trip to Hillsboro for many of you and will help conserve our staff time. I look forward to seeing you on November 17th.

In August, Dr. Auvenshine retired as Dean and President Kappus appointed me as Director of the Complex. We ask for your prayers and continued support as we make this transition. I look forward to meeting all of you in November.

-- John Versluis



Table at MOSB Meeting

### OUTREACH ACTIVITIES & MEMBERSHIP RECRUITMENT

John and Jeanne Stovall put up a table at the annual meeting of the Military Order of Stars and Bars (MOSB), held on May 5th and displayed some of our mini-flyers and membership forms.

Martha Hartzog attended a meeting of the Polley Family Association in Lavernia on May 6th and handed out some mini-flyers.

IF YOU WISH MINI FLYERS AND/  
OR APPLICATION FORMS, E-MAIL  
M.HARTZOG@MAIL.UTEXAS.EDU.

**HELP US CREATE AN  
ELECTRONIC DATABASE &  
UPDATE OUR MEMBERSHIP  
LIST. SEND US YOUR E-MAIL  
ADDRESSES!**

Send your e-mail addresses to John Versluis at [jversluis@hillcollege.edu](mailto:jversluis@hillcollege.edu) and to [m.hartzog@mail.utexas.edu](mailto:m.hartzog@mail.utexas.edu) In this e-mail, please include your name(s), current address, and telephone number.

**DUES ARE DUE: STILL ONLY  
\$10.00! WHAT A BARGAIN!!**

### COMMITTEE OPPORTUNITIES

Please consider volunteering for one or more of our committees. We have some volunteers, but WE NEED MORE!

1. Membership Rolls & Electronic Database: John Stovall, Penny Jones, Martha Hartzog
2. Website: Sam Hood, John Versluis, Martha Hartzog, and John Stovall
3. Membership Appreciation & Recruitment: John Stovall, Penny Jones, Martha Hartzog
4. Marking Graves of HTB Soldiers: Virginia Townsend, Ann Oppenheimer, Jim Bagg, John Stovall, & Penney Jones
5. Fundraising & Development: John Versluis, Martha Hartzog

### I'D LIKE TO CONTRIBUTE FUNDS FOR

- Internship at Museum
- Acquisition of art work
- Support of clerical/administrative area

*Make your check payable to Hill College; designate the purpose. Donations are tax-deductible. Mail to Box 619, Hillsboro, Texas 76643.*

### I'D LIKE TO VOLUNTEER

- Locating HTB soldier's graves in my area (indicate area: \_\_\_\_\_)
- Marking the grave of an HTB soldier (indicate soldier \_\_\_\_\_)
- Developing a short biography of a HTB soldier (soldier: \_\_\_\_\_)
- Membership recruitment
- Other (specify: \_\_\_\_\_)

**ANNUAL MEETING OF THE HOODS TEXAS BRIGADE ASSOCIATION REACTIVATED  
FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 17, 2006  
IN THE THEATRE AT THE HAROLD B. SIMPSON HISTORY COMPLEX**

### AGENDA:

- 2:00-3:00 Business Meeting: We will consider an increase in membership categories, a dues raise, and yearly meetings. We will also discuss the proposed new projects for the Association, including the creation of a set of biographies for each HTB soldier and marking HTB soldiers' graves.
- 3:00-4:00 How to Create a Biography of Your HTB Ancestor, by Judy Callaway Ostler, member HTBAR and State Registrar, Texas State Daughters of the American Revolution
- 4:00-6:00 Tour of the Research Center and its Holdings
- 6:30-8:30 Group Dinner & Celebration (location to be determined)

Please RSVP by November 13th by mail to Hood's Texas Brigade Association Reactivated, P. O. Box 619, Hillsboro, Texas 76645 or to [jversluis@hillcollege.edu](mailto:jversluis@hillcollege.edu) so we may make dinner reservations for our group. *Thanks. — Martha Hartzog*