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**STAR OF THE REPUBLIC MUSEUM
ANNUAL REPORT
SEPTEMBER 1, 2009 – AUGUST 31, 2010**

Administered by Blinn College, Brenham, Texas



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STAR OF THE REPUBLIC MUSEUM
ANNUAL REPORT
September 1, 2009–August 31, 2010

MISSION

The Star of the Republic Museum was created by the Texas Legislature and is administered by Blinn College as a cultural and educational institution. Its purpose is to collect and preserve the material culture of the Texas Republic (1836-1846) and to interpret the history, cultures, diversity, and values of early Texans. The Museum strives to inspire interest, understanding, and appreciation of Texas heritage for students, teachers, scholars, and the general public through exhibits, tours, programs, web activities, and outreach. (Revised and approved by the Blinn College Board of Trustees, 2007)

AUTHORITY

The Star of the Republic Museum, located at the Washington-on-the-Brazos State Historic Site, was created by the State of Texas in 1970. House Bill No. 634, of the Sixty-first Legislature, in regular session, transferred the control and custody of the Museum to Blinn College, Brenham, in Washington County, Texas, from the Texas Parks and Wildlife Commission. The Museum was created to interpret the ten-year history of the Republic of Texas from 1836 to 1846, and to commemorate the site of the signing of the Texas Declaration of Independence and the last capital of the Texas Republic. The Star of the Republic Museum is the only AAM accredited museum in the state devoted exclusively to collecting and interpreting pre-1850 Texas history and material culture.

HIGHLIGHTS

AAM Re-Accreditation Review

Since 1972, the Star of the Republic Museum has held the highest honor a museum can receive: accreditation by the American Association of Museums, being one of the first museums in the state to be so designated. Accreditation certifies that a museum operates according to standards set forth by the museum profession, manages its collections responsibly and provides quality service to the public. A re-accreditation review takes place every ten years. In early December 2009, the Museum was notified that it had once again been re-certified by the Accreditation Commission.

ATTENDANCE

Total attendance at the Museum for the 2009-2010 fiscal year was approximately 30,000. In addition, almost 900 individuals received outreach programs and presentations in the community.

EDUCATION AND PUBLIC PROGRAMS

Scheduled Tours

The staff of the Education Department conducted a total of 127 scheduled school tours comprised of a total of 7334 students from public, private and home schools. In addition, 51 scheduled adult groups toured the Museum with a total of 1503 participants. A combined count of visitors in scheduled tour groups for the 2009-2010 year was 8837.

Special Events and Projects

- Ten teachers attended a **workshop** on September 18 for teachers interested in the Brazos Valley Regional History Fair. Anne McGaugh, Regional Coordinator, reviewed the basics of the contest and provided suggestions for successful projects.
- The Museum participated in the Smithsonian Magazine's **Museum Day** on September 26. Museum admission fees were waived to visitors who had downloaded a coupon from the Smithsonian website. Four people took advantage of this offer.
- On the second and fourth Wednesdays in September and October, the staff at the Museum and Barrington Living History Farm presented "**Home School Days: Childhood in Early Texas,**" an interactive, hands-on program for the entire family. Participants discovered what life was like for a child in the mid-19th century. In the museum, they learned about childhood chores, clothes, and schools, and then made some old-fashioned toys to take home. After a picnic lunch in the pecan grove along the Brazos River, they hiked up to Barrington Farm to experience life on the farm. Approximately 309 students and adults participated in the program.
- In October, the Museum began a new pre-school program series called "**Texas Tots.**" Held on the third Tuesday of each month during the school year, each program featured a story time followed by an accompanying craft activity. Story themes centered around Texas history and cultures.
- On October 30, Jodi Jungman, Public Programs Coordinator, presented "**Death & Ice Cream,**" a program targeting college students. Seventy-one students

attended the lecture for an entertaining glimpse into the macabre world of the mid-19th Century. The lecture was followed by free ice cream for all, and many students earned extra-credit points for attending.

- During the month of November, the Museum offered an expanded program on **Native Americans in Texas** for children in grades K-2. The program utilized an inquiry-based, hands-on approach to encourage more student involvement. It was designed to align with the Texas Essential Knowledge and Skills (TEKS) for the appropriate grade levels.
- On January 30-31, the Washington on the Brazos focus weekend, “**Making Every Stitch Count**,” highlighted various textile skills from the mid-19th century. The Museum exhibited several key quilts from its collection.
- **The Brazos Valley Regional History Fair** was held at Washington on the Brazos on February 12. Students from Austin, Burleson, Brazos, Grimes, and Washington Counties were invited to compete for the opportunity to advance to the Texas state history fair. Winners at the state level advanced to National History Day at the University of Maryland. Participating students chose their own topics of study related to the annual theme, which for 2010 was “Innovation in History.” They conducted extensive research, and chose the best method to display their findings. Group and individual project categories included: historical paper, exhibit, documentary, performance and interpretive website. Anne McGaugh served as the Regional Coordinator for the regional fair. She was responsible for recruiting sponsors, participants, volunteers, and judges, as well as coordinating the entire event.

A total of 814 students with 484 projects competed in local school contests in Grades 7-12 for advancement to the Regional History Fair. From those, 155 students qualified for the Regional Fair, with 97 projects. Fifty-two students advanced from the regional fair to the state contest with 31 projects, and two students with one project advanced to National History Day, where they placed 7th in the nation in their category.

- On February 26, the Museum hosted a private **evening reception** for over 100 guests to preview the exhibition “The First Texans: Living Green.”
- The Museum sponsored its annual **Republic of Texas Art Contest** for fourth grade students in Washington and Grimes County. A total of 152 students submitted entries. An awards ceremony was held on February 27, during the Texas Independence Day Celebration, and the winning entries were exhibited in the Museum through the end of May.
- During the **Texas Independence Day Celebration** on February 27-28, the Museum hosted several historical craft demonstrators. Included were: Brazos Bluebonnet Quilt Guild, Bluebonnet Lace Makers, Lou Rose (chair caning), Betty

Thiel (tattooing), and Betty Wharton (knitting). Visitors were also treated to performances by "Texas Heroes" (professional troupe of historians/actors), "Gone to Texas" (musical theater group sponsored by Sam Houston Memorial Museum of Huntsville), and "Star of Texas Dulcimers." Approximately 2430 people visited the Museum during the Texas Independence Day Celebration.

- The **Texas Association of Museums Annual Conference** was held in Bryan/College Station on March 16-19. The museum staff served on the TAM Conference Local Planning Committee, meeting several times prior to the conference. In conjunction with the conference, the Museum hosted the evening event for 250 people at the Park on March 18. A wine and cheese reception in the Museum featured wines from local vineyards, and was followed by a BBQ dinner and barn dance in the Park Conference Center. A local band, Southern Roots, provided live music.

- In March, the Curator of Collections and Exhibits, Dr. Shawn Carlson, initiated the "**Adopt-a-Signer**" project and began recruiting volunteers. The goal of this ongoing genealogical project is to recognize the living descendants of the 59 delegates who signed the Texas Declaration of Independence in March 1836 at Washington on the Brazos. The 2011 Texas Independence Day Celebration will commemorate the 175th anniversary of the signing of the Declaration and provide an opportunity to honor the descendants of those brave men. Volunteers from heritage societies such as the Daughters of the Republic of Texas, Daughters of the American Revolution, Sons of the Republic of Texas and Sons of the American Revolution as well as the Texas Research Ramblers and the Chair of the Burleson County Historical Commission have generously given of their time to research the lineage of the 59 delegates.

- On March 27, the spring semester program for college students, "**Love & Lust in the Republic,**" presented a glimpse into courtship, romance, and marriage during the mid 19th century. The program drew a crowd of approximately 75 students. Afterwards, free Blue Bell Ice Cream was distributed, and many students earned extra-credit points for attending.

- The Museum joined the National Endowment for the Arts in promoting the **Blue Star Museums Initiative**, providing free admission for active duty military personnel and their families from May 31 through Labor Day. During that time, eighty-eight visitors took advantage of this offer.

- A teacher workshop, "**Texas Indians on the Move: From Long Before to Now,**" was held on June 18. In this highly interactive workshop, Choctaw author and Texas native Tim Tingle discussed American Indians and Texas history. Tingle offered a new perspective, an Indian-friendly and non-stereotypical approach to learning. Tingle discussed children's literature dealing with Indians, including his recently-released *Saltypie*, set in modern-day Pasadena, and his Bluebonnet-nominated *Crossing Bok Chitto*. This TEKS-friendly workshop was

complete with curriculum ideas, suggested student activities, research and essay topics, and bibliographies. Co-presenter was Oklahoma Choctaw author and storyteller Greg Rodgers, a Smithsonian Associate representing the National Museum of the American Indian.

- The Museum presented a public program, “**Choctaw Tales for the Entire Family**,” on June 19. Authors Tim Tingle and Greg Rodgers brought the lore of the Choctaw Nation to life in lively historical, personal, and traditional stories, accompanying themselves on the Native American flute and singing Choctaw songs to the rhythms of a whaleskin drum.
- On June 26, the museum hosted an **after-hours private reception** for the patrons who purchased the party at the Park Association’s Independence Day auction. Guests were given a “behind-the-scenes” guided tour and a private viewing of “The Bison: American Icon.”
- **H-E-B Fireworks on the Brazos** was celebrated on July 4th, with the Star of Texas Dulcimers playing in the Museum. Activities in the Park included historic children’s games, a performance by Tena Rae Helm, free Blue Bell ice cream and Coca-Cola products, and a spectacular fireworks display. Approximately 247 people toured the Museum prior to the evening events. Over 150 guests and members of the Washington on the Brazos State Park Association viewed the special fireworks display from the Museum’s second floor outdoor deck.
- The Museum hosted an **orientation session** on July 15-16 for venues slated to host “The Bison: American Icon” in the future. The workshop was presented by NEH on the Road and Mid-America Arts Alliance, and attended by twenty-one professionals from 14 institutions and organizations. Attendees came from Utah, Tennessee, Oklahoma, Kansas, Texas, Nebraska, Ohio, Iowa, New Mexico, Missouri, and Washington, D. C.
- “**Bison Day**” was held on August 7, on the final weekend of “The Bison: American Icon” exhibition. Activities included story time, crafts, movie viewing, and a bison hair spinning demonstration. Children’s games and activity sheets were available free of charge throughout the day.
- All sites in the Park, including the museum, hosted **School Daze: Education in the Republic**, during the month of August. Visitors could learn about education in the mid 19th century. All teachers were granted free admission throughout the month and were provided free teaching materials.

Educational and Community Outreach

- To further strengthen the museum’s connection with Blinn College, the Education Staff worked with several teachers to provide additional resources for their classes. On October 7-8, the education staff traveled to the Bryan campus, where they made

presentations to approximately 600 students in 14 Texas History classes. Artifacts and reproduction items from the Museum were used to demonstrate what it was like to be a settler in Texas in the 1830s. In addition, the Museum worked with Blinn History professors to provide a unique extra-credit project for Blinn students who visited the museum.

- On October 9, Houston McGaugh participated in a workshop at Texas State University in the Public History Department. The workshop was designed to assist graduating students on the process of job prospecting, resumes/curricula vitae, interviewing, workplace protocol, etc. Approximately 15 students were in attendance.
- Anne McGaugh presented a session entitled “Field Trips 101: Programming in Education” at the annual Texas Association of Museums Conference on March 17. Approximately 100 were in attendance.
- On April 6, Anne McGaugh, spoke to the Navasota Chapter of the American Business Women’s Association. There were seven members present.
- On April 21, Houston McGaugh spoke to a crowd of 120 at the City of College Station “Exploring History Lunch Lecture Series.” His lecture was replayed for one month afterwards on the city’s Public Communications TV station, CSTV-19.
- Houston McGaugh appeared on KAMU-TV on May 11 to promote the opening of “The Bison: American Icon.” He also was interviewed on KAMU-FM on June 2.
- Sheri Finke, Public Programs Coordinator, spoke to the Women’s Fellowship of the Friedens Church of Washington on August 11. Her lecture provided a virtual tour of the museum.

Professional Development

- Houston McGaugh and Anne McGaugh attended the annual meeting of the Texas Association for the Gifted and Talented in Houston on December 2-4 to publicize the launching of www.txindependence.org website.
- Houston McGaugh, Anne McGaugh, Shawn Carlson, and Jodi Jungman attended the annual Texas Association of Museums Conference held in College Station, Texas from March 16-19.
- Anne McGaugh attended the Regional History Fair Coordinators’ meeting presented by the Texas State Historical Association in Austin on August 27.

Special Topics

Each month throughout the year, the Museum focused on a special topic with a display in the Showers Brown Discovery Center. These rotating displays were designed to help

visitors relate the past to their own lives in the modern world, through the use of images, text, artifacts and original documents. The special topics included:

- September– “Hispanic Heritage”
- October – “Archeology Awareness”
- November– “Native American Heritage”
- December– “Texas Christmas Traditions”
- January– “Anson Jones: President & Physician”
- February– “Black History Month”
- March–April – “Nature’s Bounty: Texas Wildflowers”
- May– “Jane Long: Mother of Texas”
- June – “Famous Fathers”
- July– “The Bison: American Icon”
- August– “Reading, Writing and Arithmetic”

PUBLICATIONS

“Notes”

The Museum’s quarterly newsletter, *Notes*, was distributed to over 1,500 individuals throughout the year. The newsletter was available free of charge, upon request. The featured articles included “The Star to Celebrate 40th Anniversary,” “The First Texans: Living Green,” “The Bison: American Icon,” and “Quarreled with the Mainland: Galveston’s Ships and Commerce during the Texas Republic Period.” In addition to the quarterly mail-outs, the newsletter is also available to download from the Museum’s website and is distributed electronically to all Blinn College employees through the college’s *Update*.

WORLD WIDE WEB

The Museum launched its current website almost ten years ago in response to modern trends. Since that time, volumes of content have been added and it has become one of the Museum’s main means of communication with its supporters as well as those just looking for information. The Museum has greatly increased its online presence, with the recent launching of an educational website and a Facebook page.

Starmuseum.org

The Museum’s website, www.starmuseum.org is used extensively by teachers and the general public to gain more information about the Museum’s programs, exhibits, and activities. The site also provides downloadable files for teachers bringing students on tours to the Park and Museum. The Texas Education Agency’s TEKS compliance requirements as well as pre and post-visit activities were downloaded 1,703 times. The public downloaded 4,132 past issues of the *Notes* as well as other information about the Republic of Texas (80% increase). The three key statistics for the past fiscal year are

74,874 visits, 123,214 pages viewed (6% increase), and 25,741 files downloaded (7% increase). It is also interesting that 23% of the web visitors are from other countries and that 83% of the U.S. visitors are from other states, with the leading states being California, Virginia, Washington, and Illinois. The Museum will continue to grow this source of educational information and outreach communications over the coming years.

Txindependence.org

March 1, marked the launch of the website www.txindependence.org developed by the Star of the Republic Museum and Washington on the Brazos State Historic Site. The website was designed to tell the story of the Convention of 1836 and Washington on the Brazos, complete with a movie, games, comic maker, timeline, delegate database, primary sources, and teacher resources. The website was produced by EduWeb, an award-winning developer of digital learning games and multimedia interactives. This \$200,000 project was funded by the Park Association, who also received a \$100,000 grant from the State. The purpose of the project is to reach classrooms outside of the Museum's range of attendance. The site premiered in March and has already had 541,271 pages viewed and 1,385 files downloaded. Individuals from all fifty states have viewed this site as well as 29 Texas cities from Texarkana to Amarillo and Kingsville. The most impressive data is that the average visit duration is over 39 minutes. This surpasses the average visit to most sites of less than five minutes. This indicates that the students are interacting with the games and activities.

Facebook

In an attempt to reach a younger audience, specifically Blinn College students, the Museum launched its Facebook page last spring. Two programs were offered for this audience and primarily advertised on Facebook. Over 140 college-aged students attended these programs. The Museum has almost 500 fans that keep track of what is going on and make comments on a regular basis. Although the original target audience was college students, the demographic is very evenly spaced across the age groups—12% are 18-24 year olds; 25% are 25-34 year olds; 20% are 35-44 year olds; 22% are 45-54 year olds; and 18% are over 55 years old. It has proven to be a great way to communicate on a weekly basis and get some feedback. Additionally, while the large majority is from the local area, eight other cities are represented; and, most are from the U.S., but ten other countries are represented as well.

COLLECTIONS

Accessions

The Museum acquired 17 new accessions during the 2009-2010 fiscal year. Ten of these accessions were gifts and included a letter from James Bullock, donated by Mr. John Gambrell. The letter, dated 8/2/1832, may be the first record of engagement leading to the Texas Revolution. Mrs. Mary Pat Parma donated the bible of Rev. James M. Wesson

(1819-1898), a Methodist circuit rider who died in Navasota, TX. Ben S. (Kip) Foss donated two books, (1) "History of Henry Smith," 1887, and (2) "Personnel of the Texas State Government with Sketches of Representative Men of Texas," 1892. Lou Hodges donated an 1836 bust type half-dollar. L. Cletus Brown, Jr. donated a reproduction of the Gadsden flag, noted for its coiled rattler and the phrase, "Don't Tread on Me." Lola Howard donated four invitations to parties, or balls, in the vicinity of Washington, all dating between 1837 and 1839.

Seven items were purchased by the Museum for its collection and include W.T. Hornaday's "Map Illustrating the Extermination of the American Bison," 1889. Three documents were purchased at auction and include an 1840 letter written by the father of John D. Clap asking him to return to Massachusetts before he gets sick from the hot weather in Texas; an 1816 letter discussing purchase of cloth to make clothing for slaves; and an 1837-1838 account sheet for Bailey, Gay & Hoxie, merchants in Washington, showing amounts of cotton and sugar sent from Texas. Two documents were purchased from Jennifer Ray: a promissory note from Jesse Bartlett dated 1837 and a sworn statement to Jesse Bartlett's father-in-law dated 1839. Also, a hand-made herb drying rack, made from strap iron, was purchased.

Exhibits

- On January 30 and 31, the Museum participated in a focus weekend sponsored by Washington on the Brazos State Historic Site, "**Making Every Stitch Count.**" Six quilts, spanning a period of 100 years and representing different quilting techniques, were displayed in the Showers-Brown Discovery Center. A brochure highlighting textiles on exhibit and describing the six quilts was prepared for the focus weekend.

- This year's Texas Independence Day exhibit was entitled, "**The First Texans: Living Green.**" The exhibit focused on the subsistence strategies of the early Texans, especially the Coahuiltecan, Karankawa and Caddo who were hunter/gatherers, fishermen, and farmers, respectively. Archeological artifacts representing these cultures were borrowed from the Texas Archeological Research Laboratory and the Corpus Christi Museum of Science and Industry. A rabbit stick—used like a boomerang—to kill rabbits or other small game was borrowed along with a rabbit fur cloak, a reed basket and fiber sandals that were preserved in the caves of West Texas. Other artifacts included a fiber seine, shell tools, pottery and projectile points. Reproduction Tonkawa artifacts were borrowed from the Mayborn Museum Complex, and George Catlin's famed book, "Catlin's Indians," was loaned by TAMU's Cushing Memorial Library. The exhibit will continue through November 30, 2010.

- An online exhibit, "**Star of the Republic Museum Celebrates 40 Years,**" was developed in commemoration of the Museum's anniversary. Focusing on the exhibits of the past 40 years, an overview of each decade from the 1970s to the 2000s was provided and culminated with a "Now and Then" section comparing

the Museum as it appears now to the same view in the past.

- An "NEH on the Road" traveling exhibition, "**The Bison: American Icon**" opened June 16. Originally developed by the C. M. Russell Museum, Great Falls, Montana, the exhibit explored the meaning and significance of this iconic creature from the Plains Indian culture of the 1800s through the commercial and national symbol of the present. The exhibit was made possible through a special initiative of the National Endowment for the Humanities and the Mid-America Arts Alliance. The exhibition was open through August 11.

- Since completion of the second floor exhibit renovation in the spring of 2002, only minor changes have been made in the permanent exhibits. Most of these have involved rotation of light sensitive objects, especially quilts in the Textiles exhibit and documents throughout the Museum. Many other documents and artifacts were exhibited during the year and corresponded with the monthly displays in the Showers-Brown Discovery Center or the document case in the first floor gallery.

Collections Management

Editing of the database information has been an ongoing task. One chore that has had low priority but is critical to using the database is accurate descriptions of the collections items. During the past two years interns worked with the Curator of Collections and Exhibits to produce interpretive descriptions of the artifacts, focusing on those that are currently on exhibit. These descriptions were used for the "Primary Sources" section of the *Texas Independence* website but will also be imported into the collections database. Though the website has been completed, working on interpretive descriptions for the Museum's database is an ongoing task for interns.

Internship Program

The internship program at the Museum works primarily with Texas A&M University's Anthropology Department to provide hands-on experience to students interested in a museum career. TAMU requires the students to contribute 60 hours to their internship for which they earn a total of 3 credit hours. Other schools have different requirements. The Museum's Curator of Collections and Exhibits, Dr. Shawn Carlson, has designed a course schedule that provides an overview of museum studies for the students but also allows for them to work on museum projects.

During the fall semester of 2009, two TAMU students researched and wrote interpretive descriptions for artifacts that are being used in the Primary Resources section of the *Texas Independence* website. A third student worked on refolding textiles, re-housing documents in the manuscripts collection, and transcribing documents.

In the spring semester of 2010, three TAMU students continued researching artifacts, nearing completion of the interpretive descriptions for all artifacts currently on display in the Museum.

The Museum was fortunate to have an internship during the summer of 2010 funded through the Washington on the Brazos State Park Association. Also a TAMU student, the summer intern focused on completing a guide for the Museum's archives and rehousing all of the documents.

VOLUNTEERS

- During the past year, Gerald Humphreys has continued to volunteer his time on the Stagecoach Inn archaeological collection from Chappell Hill. He has worked 100 hours and completed an inventory of 498 lots (discrete proveniences) that represent approximately 77% of the collection.
- The Museum's internship program has benefitted from 760 hours contributed by the student interns.
- To date, 44 volunteers have contributed 3,294 hours, or 412 person days, towards the "Adopt-a-Signer" project.
- In addition, approximately 65 people served as volunteers at the Brazos Valley Regional History Fair.

DONORS

Blinn College Foundation Donors

The following people and organizations have graciously donated to the Blinn Foundation for the Star of the Republic Museum during the 2009-2010 fiscal year.

- Dr. & Mrs. Henry J. Boehm, Jr.
- Clements Foundation
- Jessica Demuth Kiihne
- Mr. & Mrs. James Mikus
- Mr. Gus Mutscher

Brazos Valley Regional History Fair Donors

Sponsors for the Brazos Valley Regional History Fair donated a total of \$2400 and included:

- Washington on the Brazos State Park Association
- Washington County Genealogical Society

- Daughters of the Republic of Texas, Dr. Richard Fox Brenham Chapter
- Independence Historical Society
- Jared Patout
- African American National Heritage Society
- Brazos Heritage Society
- John Brieden State Farm Insurance
- Fultz & Fultz, PLLC
- Grimes County Historical Commission
- Lacina & Kenjura, Attorneys at Law
- Daughters of the American Revolution, La Villita Chapter
- United Daughters of the Confederacy, Minnie B. Williams Chapter #531
- Washington County Historical Commission
- Blue Bell Creameries
- Henry P. Mayo
- Blinn College (in kind)
- Washington-on-the-Brazos State Historic Site (in kind)
- Star of the Republic Museum (in kind)

PERSONNEL

Museum Staff

Houston McGaugh has been the Director since July of 1987. He received an M.A. in Museum Science from Texas Tech University, and has twenty-nine years of museum education and administrative experience. He has served on committees and panels for the Texas Association of Museums, served on the AAM Standing Professional Committee on Education for the Mountain/Plains Museums Region and also served on the Washington County Historical Commission. He was appointed by Governor Ann Richards to serve on the Sam Houston Bicentennial Commission and the Stephen F. Austin Bicentennial Commission. He served for four years on the Texas Historical Resource Advisory Board for the Texas State Archives, and on the statewide planning committee for the new Texas Heritage Digitization Initiative as Chairman of the Steering Committee. The Director assumes overall responsibility for the long-term and daily operations of the Museum, oversees the curators and staff in their duties, and reports to the governing authorities.

Shawn Carlson has been the Curator of Collections and Exhibits since May 2002. She received her Ph.D. in Anthropology in 1994 from Texas A&M University and has an extensive background in historic sites archaeology of the 18th-20th centuries. Her field experience has centered exclusively on historic sites throughout the southeast, leading her through eight states and dozens of sites, including the town of Washington-on-the-Brazos, the Anson Jones plantation, and the David Burnet home site, providing her with considerable knowledge of Republic period artifacts.

Dr. Carlson has been a Research Collaborator with the Smithsonian Center for Materials Research and Education since 2000 studying Spanish colonial ceramics. Carlson has also

served on the Texas Preservation Trust Advisory Committee, the Brazos County Historical Commission and is currently a member of the College Station Landmarks Commission. In 2010, Carlson received certification as an Archivist through the Academy of Certified Archivists. As Curator of Collections and Exhibits, Shawn is responsible for accessioning, cataloging, conservation, research and storage of the artifact and manuscript collections and oversees the development and implementation of exhibits.

Anne Simms McGaugh was hired as the Assistant Curator of Education in 1998, and selected as Curator of Education in 2002. She graduated with honors from Trinity University with a B. A. degree in Elementary Education. She received an M. Ed. degree in Curriculum and Instruction from Texas A&M University. She also is a graduate of the Winedale Museum Seminar. She has five years experience as an elementary classroom teacher, and has been an Assistant Lecturer in the College of Education at Texas A&M University. She maintains professional memberships with Texas Association of Museums and the Texas Association of Museums Educators Committee. She oversees the development and implementation of all educational programs at the Museum, and supervises two Education Staff positions. She is also responsible for writing and editing the Museum's quarterly newsletter and maintaining the Museum's website. She also serves as Regional Coordinator for the Brazos Valley Regional History Fair.

Jodi Jungman served as Public Programs Coordinator from June 2009 to June 2010. A 2006 graduate of Texas A&M University, she completed a teaching internship in a 7th grade math classroom to earn a teaching certificate in Middle Grades (4th-8th) Math and Science Education. She received an M.A. in Human Development & Family Sciences from The University of Texas.

Sheri Finke joined the museum staff as Public Programs Coordinator on July 2010. Sheri received a B.S. degree in Recreation, Park and Tourism Sciences at Texas A&M University. She is a veteran of the United States Army Reserves who has served 9 years, with one year deployed to Iraq. Sheri has been working at the park for over 3 years.

Judy Habermehl served as the part-time Education Assistant from October 2005 through May 2010. She had a Bachelor of Science degree from Houston Baptist University, and had 30 years of experience as a classroom teacher. Her responsibilities included giving school tours and programs, assisting with the development of teacher resources, and assisting wherever needed. Judy retired from the Museum in May.

Effie Wellmann, Museum Secretary, has been with the Museum since November 1995. She manages accounts payable and receivables and prepares and tracks all requisitions, invoices and deposits. She is responsible for preparing end of the month and year-end reports for the Museum and schedules part-time personnel for the weekly and weekend information desk. She maintains the Gift Shop Inventory and reorders stock as necessary. She recently finished assigning Library of Congress call numbers to the Library Inventory. She also provides layout, design, printing and mounting of exhibit graphics. She is currently serving as Treasurer of the Sunday School at Friedens Church of Washington, UCC.

Additional Staff:

Kimberly Freeman, Building Maintenance and Cleaning
Zephyr Cooper, Building Maintenance and Cleaning
Judy Bogan, part-time Information Desk Clerk
Vivian Keil, part-time Information Desk Clerk
Lanelle Bailey, part-time Information Desk Clerk
Beverly Barker, part-time Information Desk Clerk
Ketra Williams, part-time Information Desk Clerk
Sue Vierus, part-time Information Desk Clerk

Blinn College Administration

Daniel J. Holt, Ph.D. – President/CEO
Bob Brick, Ph.D. – Vice President of Applied Sciences
John D. Harris, Ed. D. – Vice President Student Services
Debra LaCour, Ph.D. – Vice President Academic Affairs
Van Miller, Ed.D. – Vice President Administrative Services/CFO
Cathy Boeker, M.B.A. – Executive Administrator of External Affairs
{administrative responsibilities for the Star of the Republic Museum}

Blinn College Board of Trustees for Academic Year 2009-2010

Atwood C. Kenjura, President
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Douglas Borchardt (beginning May 19)

**STAR OF THE REPUBLIC MUSEUM
REVENUES AND EXPENSES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED AUGUST 31, 2010**

REVENUES

State Appropriations	\$356,248.00
State Health Insurance Appropriations/State Retirement	\$ 45,830.00
State / Federal Grants	\$ 51,000.00
Sales/Services/Miscellaneous Income	\$ 12,411.00
Museum Receipts	\$ 60,174.00
Transfer from Reserve	<u>\$ 10,819.00</u>
TOTAL REVENUES	\$536,482.00

EXPENSES

Salaries	\$260,722.00
Fringe Benefits	\$ 72,228.00
Building Maintenance	\$ 50,255.00
Maintenance – Equipment, Vehicle, Copy Machine	\$ 3,932.00
Training/Travel	\$ 4,797.00
Consumables/Services	\$ 82,923.00
Utilities	\$ 48,251.00
Property/Liability Insurance	\$ 12,320.00
Furniture/Equipment	\$ 150.00
Collections/Miscellaneous	<u>\$ 9.04.00</u>
TOTAL EXPENSES	\$536,482.00

