

**STAR OF THE REPUBLIC MUSEUM
ANNUAL REPORT
SEPTEMBER 1, 2010 – AUGUST 31, 2011**

Administered by Blinn College, Brenham, Texas



Accredited by the American Association of Museums



STAR OF THE REPUBLIC MUSEUM
ANNUAL REPORT
September 1, 2010–August 31, 2011

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

175th Anniversary of Texas Independence

In 2011, the Star of the Republic Museum celebrated the 175th anniversary of the signing of the Texas Declaration of Independence by inviting descendants of the 60 Signers to participate in the festivities. A yearlong search involving dozens of volunteer researchers resulted in 1500 descendants attending the celebration. Descendants were recognized at the Sunday afternoon program by being asked to respond during a roll call of the Signers' names. Special guests for the program included Senator Kay Bailey Hutchison, keynote speaker; State Representative Lois Kolkhorst; and Sam Houston IV. Senator Hutchison and Sam Houston each received a plaque and medal officially acknowledging the entry of their names into a registry of documented direct descendants of the Signers of the Texas Declaration of Independence that will be maintained by the Museum.

The keynote address was followed by the unveiling of *The Big Picture*, a super-sized reproduction of Charles and Fanny Normann's 1936 painting, "The Signing of the Texas Declaration of Independence," created by both local artists and students from Blinn College.

Museum Recognized with Multiple Awards

The Star of the Republic Museum and Washington-on-the-Brazos State Historic Site received an Award of Merit from the American Association for State and Local History (AASLH) Leadership in History Awards for the website TXINDEPENDENCE.ORG. The museum also received two awards from Texas Association of Museums (TAM) in the 32nd annual Mitchell A. Wilder Publication Design Awards competition. The awards were: a Silver Award in the Non-Print Media Category for TXINDEPENDENCE.ORG; and a Merit Award in the Invitations Category for its 175th Anniversary postcard invitation, designed by Charlie Kelm of Blinn College.

ATTENDANCE

Total attendance at the Museum for the 2010-2011 fiscal year was approximately 33,300. In addition, over 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 119 scheduled school tours comprised of a total of 6390 students from public, private and home schools. In addition, 28 scheduled adult groups toured the Museum with a total of 798 participants. A combined count of visitors in scheduled tour groups for the 2010-2011 year was 7404.

Special Events and Projects

- 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 216 students and adults participated in the program.

- The Museum continued the 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 22, 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. Approximately 20 petroleum industry executives from all over the country attended.
- The Museum presented “**Night at the Star of the Republic Museum**” on October 23. From 7:00 to 10:00 pm, the lights were turned off and visitors were invited to explore the museum by flashlight. Costumed characters were stationed throughout the exhibits, each with a short script to recite as visitors approached. Approximately 140 people attended the event.
- 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 29-30, 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 scheduled for February 4 at Washington-on-the-Brazos, but had to be postponed until February 11, due to extreme weather conditions. 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 2011 was “Debate and Diplomacy 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 740 students with 431 projects competed in local school contests in Grades 7-12 for advancement to the Regional History Fair. From those, 190 students qualified for the Regional Fair, with 110 projects. Sixty-two students advanced from the regional fair to the state contest with 35 projects. Eight entries from the Brazos Valley were recognized for Distinguished Achievement at the state contest, and two received Special Awards.

- The Washington-on-the-Brazos State Park Association hosted a **Texas Independence Day Gala** on February 19, and the private opening reception was held at the Museum. Light hors d'oeuvres and beverages were served to approximately 250 guests.
- The Museum sponsored its annual **Republic of Texas Art Contest** for fourth grade students in Washington County. A total of 84 students submitted entries. An awards ceremony was held on February 26, 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 26-27, the Museum unveiled its new exhibit, "Fifty-nine for Freedom." It also hosted several historical craft demonstrators. Included were: Brazos Bluebonnet Quilt Guild, Bluebonnet Lace Makers, Lou Rose (chair caning), Betty Thiel (tating), and Betty Wharton (knitting). Performances by "Texas Heroes" (professional troupe of historians/actors) and "Star of Texas Dulcimers" were featured. Approximately 9170 people visited the Museum during the Texas Independence Day Celebration.
- The Museum's "**Adopt-a-Signer**" project, begun in the fall of 2009, continued up until the eve of the Texas Independence Day celebration on February 26 and 27. During the weekend festivities, 1500 descendants of the Signers of the Texas Declaration of Independence registered at the park. They represented 50 of the 60 Signers families and came from 28 states and Japan. A registry established by the Museum for documented direct descendants of the Signers now has 51 members.
- To commemorate the 175th anniversary of the signing of the Texas Declaration of Independence, the Museum worked with the Arts Council of the Brazos Valley and Blinn College to recruit artists for *The Big Picture*— a "Texas-sized reproduction of a famous painting by Charles and Fanny Normann which depicted the signing of the Declaration. The image was divided into 72 segments, and then various artists were assigned a segment to paint on a 2 X 3 ft. panel. The individual segments were then assembled onto an 18 X 24 ft. grid, which was unveiled in the Park amphitheater on February 27. The individual panels were auctioned off following the unveiling.
- 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, fifty-six visitors took advantage of this offer.
- Nine teachers attended a workshop entitled "**Communication on the Frontier: Getting a Message from Here to There in the Texas Republic**" on June 9. Participants learned practical, hands-on activities for the classroom, such as how to make paper and write with a quill pen. The TEKS-aligned workshop for teachers in Grades 4-8 also demonstrated the importance of the newspaper and other primary sources, and looked at the postal system of the Republic of Texas. Teachers received a packet of interdisciplinary lesson plans and classroom resources.

- **H-E-B Fireworks on the Brazos Laser Light Show** 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 musical performance by Back at the Ranch, free Blue Bell ice cream and Coca-Cola products, and a spectacular laser light show. Fireworks were not permitted due to the extreme drought conditions and burn ban. Approximately 261 people toured the Museum prior to the evening events.
- 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

- On September 13, Shawn Carlson spoke to the Washington County Genealogical Society in Brenham about the Adopt-a-Signer-Project. Approximately 30 members were present.
- On September 24, 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.
- On October 5-6, the education staff traveled to the Bryan campus of Blinn College, where they made presentations to approximately 528 students in 12 Texas History classes. Artifacts and reproduction items from the Museum were used to demonstrate what life was like in Texas in the 1830s.
- Houston McGaugh presented a session at the Spring semester opening faculty meeting at Blinn College on January 11. He provided information on services the museum can provide to the faculty and students. Approximately 60 people were present.
- On January 27, Houston McGaugh spoke to the Brenham Rotary Club about the Texas Independence Day activities at Washington-on-the-Brazos. Approximately 100 members were present.
- The Museum participated in the Educator Showcase at the Brazos Valley Museum of Natural History on January 25-February 5. Over 100 visitors viewed the resources provided by the Star of the Republic Museum Education Staff.
- Anne McGaugh was interviewed on KAMU-FM's Brazos Arts program on February 22 to promote the activities scheduled for the 175th anniversary of Texas independence.

- On March 15, Houston McGaugh spoke to about 50 members of the Westerners Club of College Station about Texas Independence Day.
- Sheri Finke spoke to the Rotary Club of Washington County on April 28. Her program provided a virtual tour of the museum. Approximately 45 were in attendance.
- On June 1, Sheri Finke represented the Museum at the College Station Library Carnival, providing information about summer activities at the museum.

Professional Development

- Sheri Finke attended a workshop entitled “Museum Education: One Size Does Not Fit All” sponsored by the Texas Historical Commission and Texas Association of Museums on September 11 in Chappell Hill, Texas.
- Houston McGaugh attended the annual Mountain Plains Museum Association meeting in Rapid City, South Dakota from September 13–17.
- Shawn Carlson attended a two-day workshop on November 4–5 at the Houston International Quilt Festival in Houston on identification of antique quilts.
- In 2010, Shawn Carlson received certification as an Archivist through the Academy of Certified Archivists.
- Sheri Finke attended the annual TAMEC (Texas Association of Museums Educator’s Committee) workshop in Austin on January 24.
- Anne McGaugh completed a six-week online course on use of the application *Dreamweaver*, from April 20–May 27.
- On June 15, Anne McGaugh and Valerie Purcell participated in CPR re-certification training from the American Red Cross.

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– “Declaring Independence: Texas and United States”
- August– “School Daze: 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 Big Picture at Washington-on-the-Brazos*,” “Fifty-nine for Freedom,” “The Personality Behind the Pen,” and “Beating the Heat: Texas Style.” In addition to the quarterly mail-outs, the newsletter was also available to download from the Museum’s website and was distributed electronically to all Blinn College employees through the newsletter, *Blinn Connection*.

Texas Heritage

Texas Heritage is a publication of the Texas Historical Foundation. Shawn Carlson was invited to write the feature story for *Texas Heritage*’s Vol. 2, 2011, entitled, “Chronicling a Historical Legacy: Finding Descendants of the Signers of the Texas Declaration of Independence.”

Anne McGaugh was invited to write an article for the Teaching Texas History segment of the same issue entitled, “The Story of Washington-on-the-Brazos: Texas Independence Educational Website.”

Journal of Archival Organization

Shawn Carlson reviewed David B. Gracy, II’s book, *The State Library and Archives of Texas: A History, 1835-1962* which was published in Volume 9, Number 2, April-June 2011.

Southwest Archivist

Shawn Carlson submitted a short article, “Researchers Document Descendants of ‘Signers,’” to Vol. 34, No. 2, 2011.

WORLD WIDE WEB

The Museum continues to add new content to its website 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 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 1,982 times. The public downloaded 5,952 past issues of the Notes as well as other information about the Republic of Texas (30% increase). The three key statistics for the past fiscal year are 86,745 visits, 258,015 pages viewed (50% increase), and 28,989 files downloaded (7% increase). It is also interesting that 20% of the web visitors are from other countries and that 80% 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.

An entire new section was added to the website this year relating to the "Descendants Project." Over 1,000 pages of information, including a descendant database, a lineage worksheet, a registry section, and a gift shop section have been added to the site. A forum (message board) was also established to enable descendants to communicate with each other, post information about their Signer, or ask questions. It also allows the Museum to communicate news and upcoming events to the descendants. Since January 2011 the forum has had over 43,825 page views.

Txindependence.org

Launched on March 1, 2009, the website www.txindependence.org was developed by the Star of the Republic Museum and Washington-on-the-Brazos State Historic Site. The website is 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 inter-actives. The purpose of the project is to reach classrooms outside of the Museum's range of attendance. This year the site had 29,301 visitors; 87,904 visits; 2,034,257 pages viewed and 8,973 files downloaded. Individuals from all fifty states have viewed this site as well as 29 Texas cities from Texarkana to Amarillo and Kingsville, and 100 countries. The most impressive data is that the average visit duration is over 30 minutes. This surpasses the average visit to most sites, which average 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. The Museum currently has 678 fans average over 300 views per month. Although the original target audience was college students, the demographic is very evenly spaced across age groups: 20% are 18-24 year olds, 22% are 25-34 year olds, 16% are 35-44 year olds, 18% are 45-54 year olds, and 19% 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 22 new accessions during the 2010-2011 fiscal year. Eight of these were purchases from Heritage Auction Galleries and included the diary of Millie Gray from 1832-1840 and papers of John Milroy from 1830-1858. During the Texas Independence Day celebration, a Texas Centennial commemorative spoon was donated by Cherrell Rose. Also, several papers of Jesse Grimes were donated by Betty Ward Pearson of Roswell, NM, a direct descendant of Grimes. This collection includes a letter to Grimes from Anson Jones, a letter from David Burnet, a letter from Grimes to his wife, Rosanna, letters from his brother, William Grimes, a letter to Sam Houston, and others. Lastly, a biography of Sam Houston, printed in 1900, was donated by Ann M. Walters of Stedman, NC.

Exhibits

- This year's Texas Independence Day exhibit was entitled, "**Fifty-nine for Freedom.**" The exhibit focused on the 59 delegates who signed the Texas Declaration of Independence. Over 40 documents were used from the Museum's collection to create an exhibit targeted at the descendants of the Signers. Some artifacts were borrowed from other museums including a portrait of Sam Maverick from the Witte Museum and a green velvet hat worn by Sam Houston during his 1841 inauguration from the Sam Houston Memorial Museum. One portrait, a miniature watercolor of Samuel Rhoads Fisher, was borrowed from Ann Sandberg of Houston, a Fisher descendant. The exhibit will continue through December 31.
- The Museum hosted a quilt exhibit on January 29-30 as part of the complex-wide event, "Making Every Stitch Count." Six quilts, dating from 1805 to 1933 and exhibiting a variety of techniques, were shown in the Showers-Brown Discovery Center.

- The Museum was asked to prepare an exhibit for the display case located just outside the Blinn College President's office on the Brenham campus. Curator Shawn Carlson and intern Renee Meyer designed an exhibit that featured a selection of items from the Museum's collection.
- The Museum's four online exhibits continue to be viewed on a regular basis. During the past year, there have been 3,982 visits and 4,264 page views to the online exhibits.
- 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 collections database 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 and staff.

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 2010, two TAMU students assisted with the Adopt-a-Signer project. One entered over 2500 names of the Jose Antonio Navarro family into the Museum's Reunion database while another searched online databases for information about artifacts related to the Signers of the Texas Declaration of Independence.

In the spring semester of 2010, the Museum was fortunate to have a six-month internship sponsored by the Washington-on-the-Brazos State Park Association. During those six months, the intern accomplished the following tasks:

- Performed an inventory of the collections storage area
- Assisted with the installation of temporary exhibits, i.e., “Fifty-nine for Freedom,” January quilt exhibit, Blinn College exhibit case
- Participated in the Texas Independence Day Celebration, i.e., working the registration tables, making nametags, compiling the final list of attendees
- Organized Museum’s print photographs for storage
- Transcribed 40 documents
- Created a database of old exhibits, ca. 1970-1995
- Archived the Washington-on-the-Brazos Park Association records (21 boxes) and the Barrington Society records (3 boxes) and prepared their guides
- Assisted with lot descriptions of the Asa Hoxey collection

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 114 hours this year and completed the basic data inventory of nearly 40,000 artifacts.
- The Museum’s internship program has benefitted from 120 hours contributed by the student interns.
- Although volunteer hours have not been recorded since October 1, 2010 for the “Adopt-a-Signer” project, it is estimated that approximately 1,000 additional hours were contributed between October 1, 2010 and February 25, 2011. Also, four volunteers are currently reviewing applications for the Registry of documented descendants of the Signers, and it is estimated that they contributed at least 100 hours between February 25 and September 1, 2011.
- In addition, approximately 60 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 2010-2011 fiscal year.

- Norbert Polasek
- Charles Rivers
- Jessica Demuth Kiihne
- Mr. & Mrs. James Mikus
- Washington-on-the-Brazos State Park Association
- Texas Historical Foundation

Collections Donors

- Cherrell Rose
- Betty Ward Pearson

Brazos Valley Regional History Fair Donors

Sponsors for the Brazos Valley Regional History Fair donated a total of \$2610 and included:

- Washington-on-the-Brazos State Park Association
- Brazos County Historical Commission
- Washington County Genealogical Society
- Daughters of the Republic of Texas, Dr. Richard Fox Brenham Chapter
- Independence Historical Society
- Jared Patout, C. P. A.
- Brazos Heritage Society
- John Brieden State Farm Insurance
- Fultz & Fultz, PLLC
- Grimes County Historical Commission
- Lacina, Kenjura & Haevischer, 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
- Star of the Republic Museum–in-kind
- Washington-on-the-Brazos State Historic Site–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 thirty-three 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, the College Station Landmarks Commission and is currently Vice Regent of the La Villita Chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution. 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.

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 worked part-time for Texas Parks and Wildlife for over 3 years before joining the museum staff.

Valerie Purcell began working as the part-time Education Assistant in September 2010. She earned top quarter ranking, graduating from Sam Houston State University in August 2008 with a BA in Criminal Justice. Valerie has certificates in the office-clerical fields and along with her medical-related AAS degree has years of office and customer service experience. She is a lifelong artist and has spent decades working with children of all ages. Her responsibilities include giving school tours and programs, assisting with the development of educational resources, and assisting wherever needed.

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:

Zephyr Cooper, Building Maintenance and Cleaning
Mattie Williams, Building Maintenance and Cleaning
Judy Bogan, part-time Information Desk Clerk
Celia Haley, 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 (through March 10)
Bob Brick, Ph.D. – Vice President of Applied Sciences and Workforce Education
Kathleen Anzivino, Ed.D – Interim Vice President Student Services
Debra LaCour, Ph.D. –Vice President Academic Affairs/CAO
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 2010-2011

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**STAR OF THE REPUBLIC MUSEUM
REVENUES AND EXPENSES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED AUGUST 31, 2011**

REVENUES

State Appropriations	\$374,892.00
State Health Insurance Appropriations/State Retirement	\$ 53,402.00
State / Federal Grants	\$ 4,992.00
Sales/Services/Miscellaneous Income	\$ 17,224.00
Museum Receipts	\$ 63,801.00
Transfer from Reserve	<u>\$ 61,259.00</u>
TOTAL REVENUES	\$575,570.00

EXPENSES

Salaries	\$278,220.00
Fringe Benefits	\$ 81,140.00
Building Maintenance	\$ 43,284.00
Maintenance – Equipment, Vehicle, Copy Machine	\$ 2,792.00
Training/Travel	\$ 3,851.00
Consumables/Services	\$ 99,528.00
Utilities	\$ 51,385.00
Property/Liability Insurance	\$ 12,253.00
Furniture/Equipment	\$ 92.00
Collections/Miscellaneous	<u>\$ 3,025.00</u>
TOTAL EXPENSES	\$575,570.00