

# Ask the Preservation Experts

## Consider the Many Ways THC Staff Members Serve CHCs

By Amy Hammons  
County Historical Commission Outreach Coordinator

The month of January is a particularly exciting time for the County Historical Commission (CHC) Outreach Program. CHCs from across the state submit annual reports, allowing us to learn what local preservationists have accomplished over the last year and document their substantial contributions to the state of Texas.

CHCs reported more than 440,000 volunteer hours for the 2013 term of service, which means CHCs provided in-kind services with a monetary value of more than \$10 million. The Texas Historical Commission (THC) honors these efforts by providing programs that enable CHCs to invest in their communities and celebrate what is best about our state. THC staff strive to address the tangible and intangible challenges that face CHCs.

Consider how the THC addresses these basic needs of local preservationists:



THC staff, including these members of the History Programs Division, work with CHCs to answer preservation-related questions.

**Technical Advice:** THC historians, archeologists, and architectural reviewers provide assistance on a daily basis to help citizens understand the value of their history and historic resources. Find

staff assigned to your area on the “Contact Us” page of the THC website ([www.thc.state.tx.us](http://www.thc.state.tx.us)).

**Acknowledgement:** The THC provides affirmation to preservation champions each year through a variety of award programs, including the Texas Treasure Business Award and the Distinguished Service Award. Other THC awards can be found by searching our website using the term “THC awards.”

**Moral Support:** THC staff field a variety of calls and emails from citizens who don’t know where else to turn. After providing recommendations, THC staff also connect citizens to local, regional, and statewide partners.

THC staff members are always available to answer your history- and preservation-related questions. Submit yours by using the “Ask an Expert” box located in the right column of the THC’s website. ★

*The Medallion* is published quarterly by the Texas Historical Commission. Address correspondence to: Managing Editor, *The Medallion*, P.O. Box 12276, Austin, TX 78711-2276. Portions of the newsletter that are not copyrighted or reprinted from other sources may be reprinted with permission. Contributions for the support of this publication are gratefully accepted. For information about alternate formats of this publication, contact the THC at 512.463.6255.

*The Medallion* is financed in part by a grant from the National Park Service, U.S. Department of the Interior. All of the agency’s public programs and activities are operated free from discrimination on

the basis of race, color, national origin, age, gender, or disability. Any person who believes he or she has been discriminated against should write to Office of Equal Opportunity, U.S. Department of the Interior, Washington, D.C. 20240.

*The Medallion* is available online at [www.thc.state.tx.us/medallion](http://www.thc.state.tx.us/medallion). If you would prefer to receive *The Medallion* electronically instead of through the mail, please send your name and address to [thc@thc.state.tx.us](mailto:thc@thc.state.tx.us). You will be notified by email when each new issue is available on the THC website and will no longer receive a printed copy.

### Our Mission

To protect and preserve the state’s historic and prehistoric resources for the use, education, enjoyment, and economic benefit of present and future generations.