

2013 Accomplishments- Another busy and fulfilling year at MHC!

- MHC held two significant fund raising and “awareness-raising” events for the museum again with our participation in the **2013 PalmFest Folklife Celebration** held in October visited by approximately 40,000 attendees, and our **Chuckwagon Dinner** held in April which was a sold out event! We will continue to seek and maintain community sponsors and partnerships.
- Over 3,000 visitors came into the museum during the year representing various countries along with US states and Texas cities.
- MHC Board appointed MHC founding board member and Past President, **Elva M. Cerda** to the position of **Managing Director** on a volunteer basis. Elva has been a driving force in our success and will continue to handle financial operations and the general management of the museum.
- In order to meet the challenges of developing new historical exhibits, MHC worked with the Museum of South Texas History in Edinburg to develop our first exhibit with MOSTH on loan. The exhibit was an interesting historical collection of ranch and cowboy tools, clothing and other artifacts which remained at MHC for several months. **MOSTH** has agreed to continue to work with MHC for loaned exhibits on an ongoing basis.
- MHC installed **surveillance cameras** at museum entries for added safety and protection.
- **Capital Improvement Project** applications for fiscal year 2013-2014, 2014-2015 and 2015-2016 were submitted. The first application was awarded and will result in shade and sun block film installation in museum windows as well as wrought iron fencing around our perimeter including the real parking area. These improvements will benefit the museum and our visitors and completion is anticipated in early to mid 2014.
- MHC enjoyed **new interns and volunteers** which continues to be a priority. We are grateful for our small core of long-term dedicated MHC volunteers.
- Our July 4th exhibit featured our local war-hero, **Fernando Resendez** whose war medals were delayed for 68 years following his service in WWII. A presentation by Mr. Resendez and his family along with a reception for the public was extremely well attended and made the local news stories on Channel 5 news.
- In August, we partnered with the **RGV Film Commission** to bring a four Reel Series seminars held on Saturday’s at MHC. The seminars were conducted by author **Rogelio Agrasanchez Jr.** covering Mexican Cinema.
- In October, an exhibit dedicated to the illustrious history of our longest serving cemetery **“La Piedad”** was offered along with a special presentation by the leader of the cemetery’s renovation, Eddie Alaniz. The presentation was enjoyed by a capacity crowd at the museum.
- The new museum gift shop: **“La Tiendita”** opened in February 2013 in an effort to develop additional revenue for the museum’s benefit. Inventory includes varied items for purchase such as historical books, DVDs, artifacts, MHC tee shirts and bookmarks, commemorative Christmas ornaments, decorative hats and artful post cards.
- MHC participated in the **StoryCorps** series in early 2013. Spud Brown, Carmen De Leon, Nedra Kinerk and Elva Cerda being interviewed about old McAllen memories which will be permanently archived in the Library of Congress in Washington, D.C.

