



Mistletoe Leaves



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October 2009

Symposium to highlight 75th anniversary of Indian Archives

In recognition of seventy-five years of stewardship of the Indian Archives, on October 29 and 30 the Oklahoma Historical Society and the Friends of the OHS Archives will present a symposium on researching American Indian history in Oklahoma.

The American Indian Archives consists of federal Indian records that were placed in the Oklahoma Historical Society's custody in 1934 by Act of Congress. Containing more than 3.5 million documents and more than 6,000 volumes, the collection represents 66 of the 67 tribes that were relocated to Oklahoma by forced removal or who are native to the state. The records include official documents and information relating to the tribes in the Indian and Oklahoma Territories.

On Thursday, October 29, from 1 to 4 p.m. there are tribal workshops on researching, writing, and using tribal history. This event is free of charge.

At 5:30 p.m. a reception will be hosted by OHS, followed at 6:15 with a drum that will announce the beginning of a banquet in the Devon Great Hall. Before dinner, a program will begin with a welcome by Dr. Bob Blackburn, followed by a flag processional conducted by the Black Leggings Society and a blessing by Kiowa elder Jim Anque. The Cherokee Children's Choir will perform, and at 7 p.m. dinner will be served. The banquet ends at 8:45. Banquet tickets are \$35 per person and preregistration is required.

On Friday, October 30, the symposium, consisting of paper sessions, will take place

in the classrooms and board room. Registration begins at 10 a.m., with concurrent sessions from 10:30 to noon. At noon a luncheon will be served in the Chesapeake Events Center. Jay Hannah, Cherokee, will deliver an address. Advance reservations are required for the symposium and luncheon and are \$25 per person. The symposium reconvenes at 1:30 p.m., and it continues until 4:45.

Among the noted scholars slated to present papers are Dr. Clyde Ellis, on Plains tribal songs; Dr. Mary Jane Warde, on tribal oral history collections at OHS; and Dr. David Baird, on Meta Chestnutt Bond.

RSVP by October 22. To arrange reservations, or for information on the presentations schedule, telephone 405/522-5209 or 405/522-0689.

OHS Kids! Student Art Contest 2009 now seeking submissions

Another OHS Kids! Student Art Contest was launched on September 1 and continues through October 30, 2009. This year's theme is "Oklahoma Symbols."

The contest is open to grades 1-3 and 4-6. View the rules on the OHS web site at <www.okhistory.org/kids>. Winners will be announced there on November 6.

First-, second-, and third-place prizes will be awarded in each category. In addition, the teachers of the first-place winners will also receive a prize.

The first-place winner in each category will receive a one-year OHS Family Membership, a History Center T-shirt, and an Oklahoma Symbols Coloring Book.

Second-place winners will get one Family Pass to the History Center, an Oklahoma Symbols Magnet, and an Oklahoma Symbols Coloring Book.

Third-place winners get a Family Pass to the Oklahoma History Center and an Oklahoma Symbols Coloring Book.

Teachers of the first-place winners receive an Oklahoma Symbols prize pack with an Oklahoma Bulletin Board Set, an Oklahoma Symbols Projects Book, and The Big Oklahoma Reproducible Activity Book.



For forms and information on Oklahoma symbols visit <www.okhistory.org/kids>.

Jennifer Towry at 405/522-4019 or Shea Otley at 405/522-4485 can answer your questions. (S. Maslowski/USFWS photo).

SHPO accepting award nominations for 2010

The State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO), an office of the Oklahoma Historical Society, is now accepting nominations for its 2010 awards program. Do you know someone who rehabilitated an important historic building in your community? Who protects an important archaeological site located on their property? Who developed a walking tour brochure for a historic district? Who has worked with a dedicated group of volunteers to save an endangered historic landmark? These and many more projects and activities contribute to the preservation of Oklahoma's heritage. By

nominating a person or an organization for this distinction, you can help the SHPO recognize the many preservation success stories across the state.

The SHPO's awards program includes the Shirk Memorial Award for Historic Preservation and the SHPO's Citation of Merit. The deadline for nominations is 5 p.m. on Friday, December 4, and candidates will be notified in February 2010 about the results of the selection process. The awards will be presented at the banquet during Oklahoma's Twenty-second Annual Statewide Preservation Conference to be held in historic downtown Okmulgee on June 9-11, 2010.

The Shirk Memorial Award for Historic Preservation is presented for historic pres-

ervation programs or activities that have had statewide impact. The SHPO's Citation of Merit is awarded for noteworthy accomplishments in historic preservation at the state or local level.

The SHPO will accept nominations in either electronic or hard-copy format. To request forms and instructions, contact Betty Harris at 405/521-6249 or e-mail <bharris@okhistory.org>. You may obtain the information from the SHPO web site at <www.okhistory.org/shpo/shpom.htm> (select "Programs" and then "Awards").

If you have questions about the criteria, contact Melvena Heisch at 405/522-4484 or at <mheisch@okhistory.org>.



Director's Column

By **Bob L. Blackburn**
Executive Director

I never tire of learning something new about our state and the people who have made it one of the most remarkable places in the world. My most recent book, *Sonic: A History of America's Drive-in*, is a case in point.

In gathering background information for the story, I learned about the tight credit of the post-World War II era when a loan could be secured only if the borrower had more assets than the amount of money being borrowed.

I learned about the historical fusion of car culture and recreational eating that began in the 1920s and 1930s but blossomed into a way of life in postwar America. The results were pig stands, drive-ins, and roadside root beer stands where teenagers and young families could get a hamburger, a hot dog, or an ice-cream cone at a modest price.

As I worked my way back in time, I came to know and understand the cast of players who started and nurtured the company.

In the beginning there was Troy Smith, raised in the oil camps surrounding the boom town of Seminole. I learned about his hard-working father and his kind-hearted mother. In him, I discovered a streak of the frontier work ethic that pushed people to work two jobs at once, seven days a week, to build a nest egg while struggling to put food on the table.

I met Charlie Pappé, a Kingfisher native whose entrepreneurial spirit of optimism sus-

tained him when his investments were making money and even when he was flat broke. In his mind, the next deal would work and work big.

I learned about the birth of Sonic, which was more of a hard-knocks, evolutionary process rather than a sudden burst of inspiration. It started with Troy's realization that a small root beer stand could generate a 20 to 25 percent net profit while an upscale steak house returned half that on a good day. Then came controlled parking, canopies, music, an intercom ordering system, carhops, and a partnership with Charlie Pappé.

I learned about the power of partnerships when Troy and Charlie were joined by the first generation of Sonic pioneers, people like Marvin Jirous from Perry, Ralph Mason from Shawnee, and Matt Kinslow from Tecumseh, who were ambitious enough to invest everything they had in building a dynamic organization and smart enough to recruit even more partners with a similar spirit.

In tracing that story to the present day, I learned about hard times during the recession of 1980, leveraged buyouts, corporate branding, and the importance of leaders like Cliff Hudson, who guided the company through consistent standards, national advertising, and an expanded menu.

Of everything I learned while working on the book, there was one lesson that will stay with me always. It is the central strength of what has made Sonic a success. It is a belief in shared responsibility and shared profit.

As Troy Smith discovered, a person will work harder if they own something, and when you get a group of people working hard for a common cause, anything is possible.

Yes, I never tire of learning something new about our state. The Sonic story is another chapter in my learning curve.

Development News

By Paul F. Lambert

Somehow I failed to list two donors in last month's list of Membership, Friends, and Annual Campaign Donors at \$1,000 and higher. These donors were Renate and Chuck Wiggin of Oklahoma City and Craig Williams of Lawton. Their graciousness in this situation is very much appreciated, and we also are grateful for their generous support

On September 1 we distributed via e-mail our first issue of *OHS Extra!* This e-publication is designed to compliment *Mistletoe Leaves* and will contain stories about interesting items in our collections, our various programs and activities, reminders about specific events, and membership and development matters. We will focus largely on sharing information about our collections and the behind-the-scenes activities made possible by the support of members and other donors.

Invitations to some events will be sent via this publication in lieu of printed materials, which will save printing and mailing expenses. *OHS Extra!* also will have links for additional information on various topics. Information from various OHS divisions and facilities throughout the state will be featured. The first issue featured Ronnie Kaye's "The Scene: 1960s Dance Party," which was staged at the Oklahoma History Center on September 4, and an article on Oklahoma's first state flag.

To receive this e-publication, you need to provide your e-mail address to us. If you do that and later decide that you do not want to receive *OHS Extra!*, convenient links to have your e-mail address removed from our list will be provided. You may give us your e-mail address online at <www.okhistory.org> or send it to me at <plambert@okhistory.org>.

As we indicated last month, members who do not use e-mail or do not to receive e-mail from OHS will continue to receive all of the mail that they are accustomed to receiving from us.

New Members, August

*Indicates renewed membership at a higher level

Director's Circle

Robert D. Lemon, Oklahoma City

Associate

*Jan Vassar, Chandler

Friend

*Mike Birdsong, Choctaw
Sandy Casteel, Oklahoma City
Carla Goble, Sapulpa
*Jewish Federation of Greater Oklahoma City
Ruth A. Johnson, Oklahoma City
Mary Jo King, Edmond
McBirney Mansion, Tulsa
*Mr. and Mrs. Earl D. Mitchell Jr., Stillwater
Mr. and Mrs. Mike Tomlinson, Tulsa
Robert Whetzel, Yukon

Family

Hannah Allen, Oklahoma City
Mr. and Mrs. Gerald F. Barnett, Nichols Hills
Lori Bell, Edmond
Caroline Borrego, Oklahoma City
Del Broyles, Oklahoma City
* John Bryant Jr., Tulsa
Brittany Burlson, Bethany
Jacob Crusan, Edmond
Malachai Garrett, Oklahoma City
*Mr. and Mrs. Gary Gerber, Broken Arrow
Mr. and Mrs. Ronald Graham, Okmulgee
Elias Herrera, Midwest City
Hunter Hulsey, Luther
Julian Jimenez, Oklahoma City
Elijah Jones, Oklahoma City
Daniel LaPach, Choctaw
M. Lawson, Stillwater
Jackson Lent, Oklahoma City
Thanh Ma, Oklahoma City
Cody Martinez, Choctaw
Mr. and Mrs. Tommy McCarty, Oklahoma City
*Mr. and Mrs. Kieran McMullen, Rush Springs
Somotoo Nkurameh, Oklahoma City
Ramont Parker, Spencer
Ronald F. Pittser, Oklahoma City
Nora Pugh-Seemster, Oklahoma City
ohn Roberts, Oklahoma City
Phyllis Robertson, Oklahoma City
Mr. and Mrs. Scott Rotruck, Oklahoma City
Mr. and Mrs. Roy Hoffman Smith
*Mr. and Mrs. Leo Tate, Union City
Hunter Wade, Jones
Trey Wallace, Newalla
*Dr. Clyde L. Williams, Indianola

Individual

Leann Bunn, Vian
Billy Burrow, Oklahoma City
Betty Catching, Oklahoma City
Jennifer Copeland, Oologah
Brett Dickerson, Oklahoma City
Mary Dillon, Pleasanton, CA cont'd. on p. 3



Oklahoma Historical Society
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405/522-5242
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Contents and opinions do not necessarily reflect the views or policies of the Oklahoma Historical Society or the United States Department of the Interior. Mention of trade names does not constitute endorsement or recommendation by either organization.

Mistletoe Leaves is published for the members and friends of the Oklahoma Historical Society in partial fulfillment of the Society's purpose to "preserve and perpetuate the history of Oklahoma and its people, to stimulate popular interest in historical study and research, and to promote and disseminate historical knowledge."

The public and OHS members are encouraged to submit heritage-related items for publication. Students and teachers are invited to share studies and programs and to duplicate contents as desired. Editors are welcome to reprint materials with credit.

All Oklahoma Historical Society facilities are for the education and enjoyment of all. State and federal regulations prohibit unlawful discrimination in state and federally assisted programs on the basis of race, color, national origin, and/or handicap.

Anyone denied benefits should contact the Executive Director of the Oklahoma Historical Society, 2401 N. Laird Avenue, Oklahoma City, OK 73105-7914, telephone 405/521-2491, and/or the Director, Office of Equal Opportunity, United States Department of the Interior, Washington, DC 20240.



Meetings

The **Oklahoma Genealogical Society** will hold its regular monthly meeting on Monday, October 5, 2009, at 6 p.m. in the Chesapeake Events Center inside the Oklahoma History Center, 2401 North Laird Ave., in Oklahoma City. Billie Stone Fogarty will present a program entitled "Migration Trails of Our Ancestors." The Oklahoma History Center will be staffed and remain open until 7:45 p.m. that evening. Starting at 5 p.m. experienced researchers will be available before the meeting to answer your questions. (Special to ML)

Events

The Cimarron Heritage Center, at 1300 North Cimarron on U.S. Highway 287, **Boise City**, will host a October Santa Fe Trail Tour of Cimarron County sites. Participants must furnish their own high-clearance vehicles and be willing to offer rides to others. The number of vehicles will be limited. Event goers will meet at 7:30 a.m. on Saturday, October 3, at the Cimarron Heritage Center, and the motorcade leaves at 8 a.m. This is an all-day, strenuous event; it is requested that pets and preschool children not be in attendance. Bring your own lunch or the CHC will furnish a hot meal, including drink and dessert for \$7. Reservations are necessary by calling the CHC at 580/544-3479 or by e-mail at <museum@ptsi.net>. This event is subject to weather conditions. (Cimarron County Historical Society Foundation and the Cimarron Heritage Center Museum Newsletter, Fall 2009)

Wright City is sponsoring a Lumberjack Festival at their City Park on Saturday, October 10, from 7:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. Attendees can participate in a fun day of

lumberjack events as well as enjoy food and arts and crafts vendors. Contact Charlene Jackson at 580/981-2569 for more information. (Special to ML)

Enjoy the weather at the Rock Island Arts Festival at the historic Rock Island Depot area in **Chickasha** on Friday and Saturday, October 2-3, from 10 a.m. to 8 p.m. The venue offers more than thirty artisan booths, a wine tasting that features Oklahoma wineries, live music and theatrical performances, selections from the deadCenter's film archives, and a poetry reading. Indian tacos and gourmet pizza will be some of the tantalizing treats offered by local eateries. The festival is free to the public. In case of inclement weather, the event will be relocated to the north exhibit building of the Grady County Fairgrounds, but the exception of the wine tasting will remain at the Depot. Chickasha Area Arts Council received support through grants and from community partners and volunteers. Visit <www.rockislandartsfestival.org>. (Special to ML)

Cooler weather evokes a change in culinary offerings, and chili is one of those. The Oklahoma Championship Chili Cook-off is scheduled for Saturday, October 10, at the McIntosh County Fairgrounds in **Eufaula**. From 8 a.m. to 6 p.m. the public can attend the ICS sanctioned chili extravaganza. The winner will go on to the world cook-off competition. There will be food and craft vendors, live music, children's activities, a wine garden, and, of course, chili tasting. Go to <chamber@eufaulachamberofcommerce.com> for more information. Also, downtown **Okmulgee** will be the venue for the Great West Chili Fest on Saturday, October 17, from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Activities slated for that day are a chili cook-off, live entertainment, children's activities, and a car show. For additional information call Nolan Crowley at 918/758-1015. (Special to ML)

Avard's Main Street will come alive on Saturday, October 3, for the Avard Folk Festival. From 10 a.m. to 8 p.m. participants can enjoy a full, fun day of happenings that include a Dutch oven cook-off, an outdoor music concert, a baking contest, and free barbecue in the evening before the concert and a trail ride. Donna Schmidt is the person to contact at 580/435-2324. (Special to ML)

The MidAmerica Expo Center in **Pryor** will be the venue for the Pryor Powwow on Saturday, October 10. Come observe a Native American powwow and partake of Native American food. Contact person is Mary Hayes at 918/698-0583 or send her

an e-mail at <info@pryorchamber.com>. (Special to ML)

Poteau will host its annual hot air Balloonfest at the Robert S. Kerr Airport on Friday and Saturday, October 30 and 31. Activities include balloon races and glows, stagecoach rides, arts and crafts, games, live entertainment, food, and an authentic chuck wagon. Admission is free. For more information call Karen Wages at 918/647-9178 or e-mail her at <poteauchamber@windstream.net>. (Special to ML)

Plan to attend **Wewoka's** annual Sorghum Festival as the community comes together to celebrate its history. Slated for Saturday, October 24, the all-day event will feature more than one hundred food and craft booths, sorghum mill demonstrations, live entertainment, children's activities, a quilt show, a parade, and a car show. Call 405/257-5485 and talk to Tara Morgan for more information. (Special to ML)

The Holiday Inn in **Elk City** is the venue for the Oklahoma State Fiddlers concert. From Thursday through Saturday, October 22-24, event goers will be entertained with daily concerts and jam sessions. After toe-tapping to the all-day musical extravaganza, participants will be warmed up for the dances to be held on Friday and Saturday evenings. For additional info call Jim Voss at 405/685-1644. (Special to ML)

Join in the annual celebration of the birth of the *Dick Tracy* comic strip. Commercial artist Chester Gould, a native of Pawnee, Oklahoma, created the comic strip, first published in 1931. **Pawnee** hosts the Dick Tracy Birthday Party and Tracy Trek Bike Ride on Saturday, October 3, from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Go to the downtown Courthouse Square. Planned activities will include a parade and a variety of events and demonstrations. Join in the 50- to 100-mile bike rides. The event ends with cake and punch at the Dick Tracy Headquarters. Contact Sharon Bradley at 918/762-2108. (Special to ML)

Ghostly and scary events are scheduled for Halloween. Find out about spooky happenings in your area. This month is also a time to celebrate the bountiful harvest of pumpkins. One of those events will take place in downtown **Wynnewood** on October 31, from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Families can enjoy the Pumpkinfest activities, including a costume parade, witch cackling contest, a great pumpkin roll, food vendors, and more. Call April Leverett at 405/665-4466. (Special to ML)

New Members, cont'd.

Individual

Ken Fischer, Norman
 Alan Green, Oklahoma City
 Patty Howry, Lexington
 Marilyn Lovelace, Mannford
 Sandra Olson, Waynoka
 Lonetta Pogue, Ringling
 Doris Hays Randles, Enid
 Carol W. Roper, Chuglak, AK
 Pauletter Schroeder, Edmond
 Glen M. Singer, Tulsa
 Anna M. Smith, Winston-Salem, NC
 Sandra Thompson, Farmington, AR
 Diane Walker, Muskogee
 Larry S. Watson, Alexandria, VA
 Rhevone Wilson, Oklahoma City

Institutional

Chisholm Trail Historical Preservation Society, Yukon
 George-August-Universitaet, Deutschland
 Hillsdale Free Will Baptist College Library, Moore
 *St. Gregory's Abbey, Shawnee

OHS Places . . .

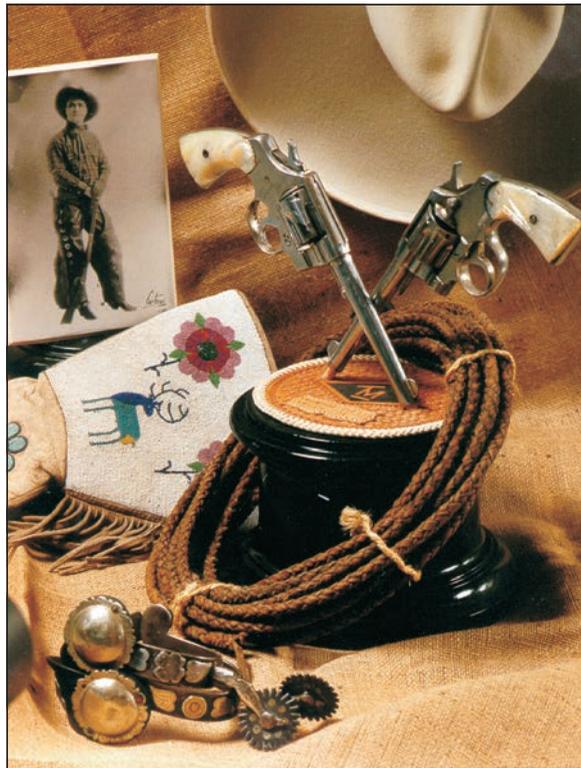
Tom Mix Museum

721 North Delaware
P.O. Box 190
Dewey, OK 74029-0190
Phone: 918/534-1555
Hours: Tues.-Sat., 10 a.m.-4:30 p.m.
Sun., 1-4:30 p.m.
Closed: January and holidays
Admission: Donations accepted.

Movie-goers of the early twentieth century were entertained with the action-filled stunts performed by Western movie star Tom Mix and his "Wonder Horse" Tony. Starring in films from 1909 to 1935, Mix stayed in top physical condition because he preferred to perform his own stunts. Born in 1880 in Mix Run, Pennsylvania, he came to Guthrie, Oklahoma Territory, circa 1902. Although young Mix learned about working with horses from his father, Tom Mix worked at sundry jobs, including bartending in Guthrie's Blue Belle Saloon. However, he soon applied his experience with horses and started performing as a bronc buster for the Miller Brothers 101 Ranch Wild West Show. During the winter months Mix was without work, so he garnered a job as a deputy marshal in Dewey. There he courted Olive Stokes, whom he married in 1909. She was his third wife. Mix was probably attracted to her because she was not a primping female and acted like another one of the guys. She starred with him in *Ranch Life in the Great Southwest*, released in 1910.

Hollywood publicity glamorized his life by printing untrue stories such as his having served as a Texas Ranger. So learn about the man and the myth with a visit to the Tom Mix Museum in Dewey. This venue offers exhibits showcasing his saddles, boots, guns, and Western wear. His movies are shown continuously from 10 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. each day in the museum's thirty-seat theater. The favorite movie of many museum visitors is *My Pal, the King* (1932), which also features Mickey Rooney.

The Tom Mix Museum opened on June 1, 1968. It is an Oklahoma Historical Society affiliate managed by contract with a local group, the Tom Mix Museum Board of Directors, Incorporated.



Waynoka's Sandie Olson to speak at Cherokee Strip Regional Heritage Center

The Cherokee Strip Regional Heritage Center will host Waynoka Historical Society Director Sandie Olson as its speaker at its October 21 Brown Bag lecture event.

Olson will describe the work of Waynoka citizens who have saved and restored the historic Harvey House, the adjacent Santa Fe Depot, and other structures now located on their property. She will share the process of the restoration of the Harvey House a decade ago and the ongoing work on the Santa Fe Depot, both of which are now listed in the National Register of Historic Places.

Olson will also describe the fund-raising efforts of local citizens who have successfully secured assistance from the Oklahoma Department of Transportation, the state Centennial Commission, and corporate and private donors to restore the Harvey House and to begin important improvements to the depot.

Olson's illustrated presentation will take place at 12 noon on October 21 in the church in the Humphrey Heritage Village. The Village is located at the Heritage Center at 507 South Fourth St. in Enid. Call 580/237-1907 for more information.

Research Center book sale

Thursday, October 29, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.
History and genealogy books, microfilm, periodicals, and more!

Rockabilly Night is October 23, 2009

Join us at the Oklahoma History Center on the evening of Friday, October 23, for a night of music, fashion, and history as we celebrate the Rockabilly craze of the 1950s. As part of the continuing series of Rock 'n' Roll events showcasing sections of the current exhibit *Another Hot Oklahoma Night*, which is currently on display, the History Center is proud to offer this evening of fun and entertainment.

Rev up your engines on Friday, October 23 to experience the music, the clothes, and the bands that created the Rockabilly culture. The evening will feature performances by local Rockabilly bands, and a fashion show, courtesy of the Velvet Monkey, Plaza Salon, Vintage Boutique, and others. Put your dancing shoes on and get ready to rock around the clock at the Oklahoma History Center.

Tickets will be available at the History Center and all Velvet Monkey Salon locations. Check online at the OHS web site at <www.okhistory.org> for more information. This is an all-ages event.

Doors open at 6:30 p.m., and the music starts at 7 p.m.

For information about prices and to reserve tickets, call 405/522-0765.

Colonial music program at History Center on October 21

On Wednesday, October 21, OHS will present "The Music of George Washington's America," a concert of American music of the Colonial, Revolutionary, and Federal periods on October 21. For this presentation, America's early music and history join and come to life with the artistry of David Hilderbrand. He will entertain with instruments including the Baroque guitar, English guitar, harpsichord, and German flutes. Spoken introductions and stories will put the music and instruments into context while highlighting its connections to great people and moments in the nation's early history. Hilderbrand teaches American music history at the Peabody Conservatory in Baltimore.

Admission to this program is free and is made available through a special partnership with the George Washington Mount Vernon Estate and Gardens and the Oklahoma George Washington Teaching Ambassador program. The doors open at 6 p.m., and the concert begins at 7 p.m. The program is open to the public.

In addition to the concert, a school program is being offered free of charge on October 21 and 22 for all levels from elementary through university. To register your school group, call Jason Harris at 405/522-0785 or e-mail him at <jharris@okhistory.org>.



Fort Gibson's 2009 Fall Encampment slated for October 9-10

Troops of the 1840s will once again garrison Fort Gibson for the 2009 Fall Encampment, to be held on October 9 and 10. This year's event portrays garrison life of the Arkansas Volunteer troops who manned the fort during the U.S.-Mexican War. Living history presenters from Oklahoma and Arkansas will encamp in and around the log fort to show visitors the roles played by infantry, mounted troops, and various civilians attached to the post during the 1840s.

Planned presentations include infantry demonstrations, horsemanship, medicine, cooking, and military music. Friday, October 9, will be set aside as Education Day. Educators may bring classes to the site from 10 a.m. through 2 p.m. to experience the presentations. Admission is free.

Also planned for this year's program are demonstrations of the nineteenth-century art of blacksmithing. In the frontier era the blacksmith was an important member of any community, including military posts.

The Fall Encampment is presented by the Oklahoma Historical Society and the Sixth Infantry Living History Association.

Fort Gibson Historic Site is on State Highway 809 in Fort Gibson, OK. For more information call 918/478-4088 or send an e-mail to <fortgibson@okhistory.org>.



Reenactor Ian Beard in 1840s volunteer militia attire at Fort Gibson (Staff photo).

Pawnee Bill Ranch Historic Site offers October programs

Make a quilt!

The monthly quilt block class convenes on Tuesday, October 6, at 6:30 p.m. The class has been in operation on the first Tuesday of every month since January, but there's still time to get in on the fun and creativity. The fee is \$5, and the workshop takes place in the museum conference room.

See beautiful quilts!

The annual quilt show begins at the Pawnee Bill Ranch Historic Site on Thursday, October 1. The display has been mounted in the museum building, which is adjacent to the mansion.

Visitors are in for a treat. The show features beautiful works of art from many of the surrounding communities.

The Pawnee Bill Ranch is located just west of the town of Pawnee and on U.S. Highway 64, or at 1141 Pawnee Bill Road. Call the staff at 918/762-2513, or visit the web page at <www.okhistory.org> for additional information or directions.



What's Cookin'? Dutch oven class convenes on October 31

The crisp weather of autumn will soon lure culinary students into the great outdoors to learn another method of preparing delectable meals for friends and family. The Oklahoma History Center is sponsoring a Saturday hands-on activity that will help you learn how to use a Dutch oven right in your back yard.

This active-participation class is designed to introduce both children and adults to the art of using the traditional, cast-iron Dutch oven, an indispensable item that should be included in every well-supplied kitchen.

The cost of the class is \$10. All of the necessary materials will be provided. There is a limited amount of space, and the staff recommends that interested cooks sign up early.

Do so by contacting the History Center's Jason Harris at 405/522-0785 or by e-mailing him at <jharris@okhistory.org>.

Not for the faint of heart . . .

Ghost stories at Conser House

The Peter Conser House will host a "Ghost Stories by Candlelight" tour on Saturday, October 17 from 6 p.m. until 9 p.m. Visitors will be led through the Peter Conser historic 1894 home, and the tour leader will tell ghost stories as they move from room to room. Survivors will receive a treat!

A donation of \$2 per person is requested, payable at the door, and spaces are limited. Call in advance to reserve your tour. If you have any questions, or to reserve, call the Peter Conser Home at 918/653-2493 or e-mail <breid@okhistory.org>.

The Peter Conser House is located at 47114 Conser Creek Road in Heavener, Oklahoma.

Ghost stories at Murrell House

Halloween ghost stories are a perennial favorite at the Murrell House. On Friday, October 23, at 6:30 p.m. reenactors in period dress will relate scary stories about the house and the eerie happenings that have been reported there. After the storytelling, visitors will enjoy cider and cookies in the smokehouse.

Donations of \$5 per person are requested. This event is not recommended for children under age 8. Reservations are required, and groups of 10 or more must prepay.

To find out more, call 918/456-2751 or e-mail <murrellhome@okhistory.org>. The Murrell House is located at 19479 East Murrell Home Road in Park Hill.

Ghost stories at Seay Mansion

The Seay Mansion is a beautiful home, but it can look dark and creepy at night, especially on Halloween. At 7 p.m. on the evening of Saturday, October 31, ghost stories will be told in the entry hall of this 1892 Victorian house. The building moans and creaks at just the right time—or the wrong time.

The storytellers will leave you with smiles, nervous laughter, and the feeling you should be looking back over your shoulder . . . but won't it be fun?

The cost is \$5 per person, and reservations are required. Call 405/375-5176 to save your spot. The Seay Mansion is located at 605 Zellers Ave. in Kingfisher.

October at the Governor Seay Mansion and Chisholm Trail Museum

Second Annual "Honorary Ownership Auction" and cookout is October 3, 2009

The historic buildings at the Chisholm Trail Museum in Kingfisher will once again be put on the auction block on Saturday, October 3 for the second annual "Honorary Ownership Auction" fund-raiser. The cost is \$5 per person, and children under age 5 are admitted free of charge.

The event will kick off at 6 p.m. with a hamburger cookout on the lawn of the Governor Seay Mansion, as long as the weather permits.

Following the dinner, the auction will begin with the "sale" of the mansion to the highest bidder.

Other structures up for bid include the Bank of Kingfisher, Samuel Cole Cabin, Adeline Dalton Cabin, Harmony Church, Gant Schoolhouse, Buswell's Blacksmith Shop, Kingfisher Jail—and even the village outhouse.

Proceeds from the auction will benefit continued preservation and restoration efforts to the village buildings, with the main goal currently being a total restoration of the Cole Cabin.

Each auction winner will receive a deed to the building, a duplicate of which will be proudly displayed on the premises for visitors to admire.

Second Annual Victorian Fall Costume Ball is October 17

The Chisholm Trail Museum/Governor Seay Mansion will host its second annual Victorian Fall Costume Ball on Saturday, October 17. This traditional event begins at 7 p.m. at Memorial Hall, located at 123 West Miles. Admission is \$5 per person, or \$9 per couple, and children under age 5 are admitted free of charge. Proceeds benefit the continued preservation and exhibition efforts at the museum and mansion.

The theme for the ball is the same as such events in the 1800s when guests would attend dressed as some historic character. The music and dancing are 1800s style, but costumes may include any historic figure, even up to modern times. "We like to see how creative people can be," says museum president Jeremy Ingle. Light refreshments will be served, and games will be organized for the visitors' enjoyment.

Fall maze and haunted village is October 30 and 31

At 7 p.m. on October 30 and 31 the fall maze and haunted village returns to the museum and mansion. Admission is \$1 per person.

When the board of the Chisholm Trail Museum decided to install a fall maze in their Pioneer Village in 2004, they had no idea that it would grow into an annual event.

This fall, the maze turns five years old, and a few things have changed since that first time.

Halloween decorations have been added to the mix, and the event that began as a simple maze has expanded to include the entire village, with activity all around. Additional lighting and effects have been appearing over the past two seasons, and a host of high-school volunteer actors joined the scene in 2008.

The museum even operated a hot dog booth for hungry trick-or-treaters last year and offered cold sarsaparilla.

For the first five years of the event there has been no charge for visitors. However, to help defray the costs of the decorations, the electricity, and the work involved in the event, the board has agreed to charge a \$1 admission fee per person.

The fall maze will open in early October, and the haunted village will be open on the evenings of October 30 and 31.

The Chisholm Trail Museum/Governor Seay Mansion are now affiliates of the Oklahoma Historical Society and are open to the public from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. on Tuesday through Saturday.

For more information or for directions call 405/375-5176 or visit the museum at 605 Zellers Ave. in Kingfisher.

October is family history month at the Research Center

Lunch & Learn programs

Celebrate your family's history all during the month of October as the OHS Research Center offers a variety of programs for genealogists and other researchers. Three of these programs will take place as part of the popular Lunch & Learn lecture series. The October 7, 14, and 21 Lunch & Learn events cost \$10, and all three include lunch. Preregister by calling 405/522-5225.

On Wednesday, October 7, from 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m., explore the resources of the Metropolitan Library's Oklahoma Room with librarian Larry "Buddy" Johnson.

On Wednesday, October 14, from 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m., enjoy a program with DAR member Frankia Story. She will share information about heraldry and researching your family history.

On Wednesday, October 21, from 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m., learn about "How Blogs Play a Role in Family Research." Dr. Debra Osborne Spindle will be the presenter.

American Indian Research seminar on October 17

A more expansive, research-oriented program takes place on Saturday, October 17, from 9:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. William D. Welge, Sharron Ashton, and Dr. Mary Jane Warde will present a seminar on American Indian research. Registration is \$40, and lunch is included. Topics include the Dawes Final Rolls of the Five Civilized Tribes, Records of the Dawes Commission, Plains and Woodland tribes, and other interesting selections. To take part in the October 17 American Indian Research seminar, call 405/522-5225.

How to participate

Call the Research Center at 405/522-5225 for further information. All programs will be held in the John and Eleanor Kirkpatrick Reading Room, which is inside the Research Center at the History Center. The address is 2401 North Laird Ave. in Oklahoma City.

New hours of operation at Pioneer Woman Museum

The Pioneer Woman Museum in Ponca City will be open to receive visitors from 10 a.m. until 5 p.m. on Mondays, and from 9 a.m. until 5 p.m. Tuesday through Saturday. The museum is now closed on Sundays, as well as on holidays.

The new exhibit *Let's Have a Party! Oklahoma's Women of Rock 'n' Roll* will be open all during October in the Southwest Gallery. Visitors will travel back in time to the birth of Rock 'n' Roll in the 1950s, and then forward through the decades all the way up to the electronic age of contemporary rock, in which music is produced and made available by computer and the numerous electronic gadgets such as the I-pod and cell phones via the Internet.

The exhibit features a sampling of the women from Oklahoma who not only had notable careers but also were Rock 'n' Roll pioneers. These notables include Patti Page, who was one of the first performers to do voice-overs, and Jody Miller, who made music videos in the 1960s before there was MTV.

Telephone 580/765-6108 for information. The museum is located at 701 Monument Road in Ponca City.

Visit Doaksville by candlelight in October

On Friday, October 2, and Saturday, October 3, from 6:30 (close to sunset), visitors may join a walking candlelight tour of Doaksville, the first capital of the Choctaw Nation and the place the Civil War (in Oklahoma) ended.

A group of "scenes" will depict the town's early years. As the visitor passes through the now-vanished town, reenactors will depict individuals and historical events that took place at this site.

The town had a colorful past. According to an article by Jon D. May in the forthcoming *Encyclopedia of Oklahoma History*, Doaksville was "the principal antebellum town of the Choctaw Nation, Indian Territory." The community was founded at some time between 1824 and 1831, in the period when Fort Towson was established. Both Anglo-Americans and Choctaws clustered in the settlement. Doaksville had stores, a blacksmith, and a hotel and was the capital of the Choctaw Nation from 1860 to 1863.

General Stand Watie, Confederate leader, surrendered there in 1865. After the Choctaws moved their capital, the town rapidly declined, but the post office functioned through 1903. The townsite is listed in the National Register of Historic Places (NR 75001561).

The candlelight tour is \$5 for adults and \$3 for children aged 6 to 12. Children under age 6 are admitted free. Reservations are requested for groups of two or more visitors. There are a limited number of tours per night. To make reservations, contact Fort Towson Historic Site at 580/873-2634 or e-mail <jdavis@okhistory.org>.



Doaksville, circa 1901. Left to right: a blacksmith shop, the Rosenthal home, Wells & Co. store buildings, a barbershop (in tent), and a building occupied by an unknown enterprise (OHS Research Division photo).

History Center presents Scout Day on October 16

Scouts of all types are invited to attend a special program at the History Center on Friday, October 16, from 10 a.m. through 2 p.m. The Center hosts Scout Days to honor youth organizations such as Boy Scouts, Girl Scouts, Camp Fire, 4-H, and more. Members in uniform will be admitted to the History Center for \$1 per youth and \$3 per adult.

The youth groups are invited to enjoy this special educational program during fall break. Get ready for a hands-on adventure into Oklahoma's past and a day filled with exploration. Investigate the museum with the help of gallery guides, participate in a scavenger hunt, take part in hands-on demonstrations, and enjoy a variety of living history programs.

Students will find activities throughout the museum's galleries as living history characters and museum staff bring the past to life through hands-on demonstrations. Discover life on the cattle drive, explore pioneer life and the tools of the day, play turn-of-the-century games at the museum! There will be activities for students of all ages. Special living history programs will take place hourly beginning at 10 a.m.

Scout Day is designed for social organizations and groups to come, experience, and do. No registration is required, and you may join in with the activities at any time. Admission is just \$1 for those who wear the uniform!

Visit <www.okhistorycenter.org> or contact Jason Harris at 405/522-0785 or by e-mail at <jharris@okhistory.org> for more information.

Home School Day

The Oklahoma History Center presents Home School Day on Monday, October 5. This special program will run from 10 a.m. through 2 p.m.

Join forces with the educators of the Oklahoma History Center in a hands-on adventure into Oklahoma's past. Explore the museum with the help of gallery guides, follow along with our scavenger hunt, take part in hands-on demonstrations, and enjoy a variety of living history programs.

Activities will take place on both floors of the museum's galleries. There will be activities for students of all ages. Special living history programs will take place each hour beginning at 10 a.m.

Home School Day is designed for family learners and Home School groups to come, experience, and do. No registration is required, and you can join the activities at any time. Best of all, the event is free!

For more information on Home School Day visit <www.okhistorycenter.org> or contact Jason Harris at 405/522-0785 or e-mail <jharris@okhistory.org>.



Make a prairie angel

Frank Phillips House will offer a workshop on making a "prairie angel" on Sunday, October 11. The workshop will be conducted by Martha Ray. Prairie angels are made from wire and beads. The craft has a fascinating history that includes a role in the travels of people in covered wagon trains. Classes will be conducted in the Frank Phillips House's Garden Cottage.

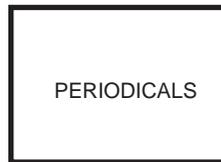
The class size is limited to sixteen participants. Make your reservations early. Call 918/336-2491 to ensure your place. The Frank Phillips House is situated at 1107 Cherokee in Bartlesville.

OHS MUSEUMS AND SITES

- | | |
|---|---|
| Cherokee Strip Museum/Rose Hill School , 2617 W Fir, Perry, 580/336-2405 | No Man's Land Museum
PSU Campus, Goodwell
580/349-2670 |
| Chisholm Trail Museum/Seay Mansion , 605 Zellers Ave., Kingfisher
405/375-5176 | Oklahoma Museum of History , 2401N Laird Ave., OKC
405/522-5248 |
| Confederate Memorial Museum , US 69, ½ mi. N of Atoka, 580/889-7192 | Oklahoma Route 66 Museum , 2229 W Gary Blvd.
Clinton, 580/323-7866 |
| Fort Gibson Historic Site
907 N. Garrison, SH 80 in Fort Gibson, 918/478-4088 | Oklahoma Territorial Museum/Carnegie Library
402 E Oklahoma, Guthrie
405/282-1889 |
| Fort Supply Historic Site
Campus of W.S. Key
Corr. Center, Fort Supply
580/766-3767 | Pawnee Bill Ranch
½ mi. W on US 64, Pawnee
918/762-2513 |
| Fort Towson Historic Site
NE of Fort Towson off US 70
580/873-2634 | Peter Conser House
4 mi. S of Heavener on US
59, 3½ mi. W of Hodgen
918/653-2493 |
| Fort Washita Historic Site
SH 199, 13 mi. E of Madill
580/924-6502 | Pioneer Woman Museum
701 Monument Rd., Ponca
City, 580/765-6108 |
| Frank Phillips House
1107 Cherokee Ave.
Bartlesville, 918/336-2491 | Robert S. Kerr Museum
6 mi. SW of Poteau, US 270
at Kerr Conference Center
918/647-9579 |
| Fred Drummond House
305 N Price, Hominy
918/885-2374 | Sequoyah's Cabin
SH 101, 11 mi. NE of
Sallisaw, 918/775-2413 |
| Frederick Pioneer Village ,
201 N 9th St., Frederick,
580/335-5844 | Sod House Museum
SH 8, 5½ mi. N of Cleo
Springs, 580/463-2441 |
| George M. Murrell House
19479 East Murrell Home Rd
3 mi. S of SH 82, Park Hill
918/456-2751 | Spiro Mounds Archaeological Center , 3 mi. E
and 4 mi. N of Spiro
918/962-2062 |
| Healdton Oil Museum
315 E Main, Healdton
580/229-0900 | State Capital Publishing Museum , 301 W Harrison
Guthrie, 405/282-4123 |
| Henry Overholser House
405 NW 15th St., OKC
405/528-8485 | T. B. Ferguson House
519 N Weigle, Watonga
580/623-5069 |
| Honey Springs Battlefield
1863 Honey Springs Battle-
field Rd., E of US 69, near
Rentiesville, 918/473-5572 | Tom Mix Museum
721 N Delaware, Dewey
918/534-1555 |
| Jim Thorpe House
706 E Boston, Yale
918/387-2815 | White Hair Memorial
½ mi. S of SH 20 on Black-
burn Rd., Ralston
918/538-2417 |
| Museum of the Cherokee Strip , 507 S 4th, Enid
580/237-1907 | State Historic Preservation Office , OKC, 405/521-6249 |
| Museum of the Western Prairie , 1100 N Memorial Dr.
Altus, 580/482-1044 | |
| National Hall of Fame for Famous American Indians
US 62 east, Anadarko
405/247-5555 | |

Oklahoma Historical Society
2401 N. Laird Avenue
Oklahoma City, OK 73105-7914

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED



Smithsonian Affiliations
Membership Program

Honey Springs encampment set for November

The reenactment group called the Second Colorado Infantry will set up camp at Honey Springs Battlefield and will present a public program on Saturday, November 21, from 12 noon to 4 p.m. Their Civil War Life program depicts camp life in a noncombat setting. Their activities include cooking, drilling according to the *Manual of Arms*, and loading and firing muskets.

Honey Springs Battlefield Site is located at 1863 Battlefield Road near Checotah. Call 918/473-5572 for information.

Dr. Rufus Fears to speak on Shakespeare's *Julius Caesar*

On Monday, October 12, Dr. Rufus Fears will explore the criteria of great leadership as part of a lecture series cosponsored by the Cherokee Strip Regional Heritage Center in Enid.

Dr. Fears, who is the David Ross Boyd Professor of Classics at the University of Oklahoma, will deliver a lecture on Shakespeare's *Julius Caesar*. The presentation, sponsored by the Cherokee Strip Regional Heritage Center, is one in a series of lectures over the coming months in which Fears will address leadership in times of crisis. By using a number of classic works, he will explore the characteristics and consequences of great statesmanship and examine the results of failed leadership throughout history.

His October 12 lecture, which is free and open to the public, will take place at 7 p.m. at Montgomery Hall on the campus of Northern Oklahoma College's Enid campus. For additional information about this or other presentations in this series, please call the Heritage Center office at 580/234-8999.

Mistletoe Leaves

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What's for supper? Find out on October 15

Forget the diet. Prepare to smile and laugh and celebrate Oklahoma's delicious heritage. On Thursday, October 15, at 6 p.m. the Oklahoma History Center will host "What's for Supper? A Celebration of Oklahoma Foodways." The program offers foods from the state's diverse cultural heritage. Dinner includes items reflecting many ethnic cuisines, including Chinese, Vietnamese, Mexican, Irish, Lebanese, Caribbean, French, German, Italian, Native American, and more. Special pastries will be served for dessert.

This year's special guest chef is Loretta Oden. She produces a television series for PBS entitled *Seasoned With Spirit: A Native Cook's Journey*, which features Native American foods and traditions. Chef Oden is a Citizen Potawatomi who grew up in Oklahoma. Recipes of favorite foods will be provided by various restaurants, as will recipes from *Oklahoma Cooks*, Pat Bellmon's survey of Oklahoma's traditional foodways.

The entertainment will include traditional music, such as bagpipes, mariachis, hammered dulcimer, fiddle, Native American flute, and dancing, such as Western swing, Irish dancers, belly dancers, Mexican dancers, and Asian lion dancers.

Tickets are \$50 per person. A portion of the ticket price may be tax deductible. Reservations are available now by calling 405/522-3602 or going to the OHS web site, <www.okhistory.org/Folklife>. The attire is business casual or traditional clothing.

The Oklahoma History Center is located just east of the state Capitol, and the main entrance is on Laird Avenue, across from the Governor's Mansion.

In Memoriam: Paul Michael Adkins

Mike Adkins, the Director of Education for the Oklahoma History Center, passed from this life in August 2009. Adkins, a Tulsa native, attended Oklahoma State University, receiving a BA in political science in 1972 and an MS in secondary education (history emphasis) in 1974. He taught Oklahoma history, American history, sociology, psychology, government, and ancient history for more than two decades, first at Central Junior High in Oklahoma City, and then at Moore High School and Westmoore High School where he remained for twelve years.

Adkins was also a widely known and respected reenactor, a special adventure he started in 1979 at Frontier City as a gunfighter. Named State Teacher of the Year for 1988-89, Adkins also received Teacher of the Year Awards from the DAR, Oklahoma Jaycees, State PTA, Daughters of the Colonial Wars, and the Oklahoma Council for Social Studies.

In 2000 he became Director of Education for the Oklahoma Museum of History. In addition, he volunteered for OHS-sponsored battle reenactments and other such events. In 2006 *Mistletoe Leaves* asked Adkins to describe the favorite aspect of his job, and this is what he said: "This question is easy! I love to get students excited about Oklahoma history. I love to make the history come alive for them and for them to want to know more about our state."

Mike Adkins was admired and respected by OHS staff and board, and he will be missed.