



FRIENDS OF PAWNEE BILL RANCH ASSOCIATION NEWSLETTER

Friends of Pawnee Bill
Ranch Association

Volume 19, Number 2
April 2011

Cabin Completed in February and March



The restoration work on the cedar cabin at the Pawnee Bill Ranch is completed. The cabin was constructed about 1910 by Pawnee Bill to give his guests on Blue Hawk Peak the opportunity to experience authentic pioneer life. Pawnee Bill first lived in a cabin on another part of the property, but this cabin has been used as an educational tool since it was built. It was at first referred to as the “Old Settler’s Cabin” and was described in promotional literature around 1910 as an exact replica of the kind of dwelling known in frontier days. The cabin was also used as a set for early movies filmed on the Ranch. Experts suppose that the cabin was never intended to last 100 years, but has done exactly that.

O.H.S. contracted the work to Historical Applications Inc., a Colorado firm that specializes exclusively in the restoration of primitive historical buildings. The company is owned by William Bailey of Wheat Ridge who started the business 22 ago. He has been contracted to work in Oklahoma many times. Mr. Bailey has restored buildings at Kingfisher, Woodward, Hennessey, Fort Gibson, and most recently, he restored the birthplace cabin of Senator Robert S. Kerr in Ada.

Mr. Bailey has worked on the house of Kit Carson in Taos, New Mexico, and made a cabin for the Hallmark Hall of Fame Movie, “O, Pioneers.” Bailey says his highest honor has been his work in Oklahoma, where a year ago he was awarded the National Historic Preservation Medal by the Moore chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution.



The Pawnee Bill cabin was finished at the end of March, and the building can once again teach people about the life of pioneers. It will continue to be used in educational programming with school children and tourists may also tour the cabin on Ranch visits. We are so excited and relieved to be able to show our patrons the cabin as Pawnee Bill would have wanted.

Inside this issue:

<i>Ranch News</i>	1
<i>Recent Acquisitions</i>	2
<i>Head Count</i>	2
<i>Pawnee Bill History</i>	3
<i>PBRA Membership</i>	4
<i>Upcoming Events</i>	4

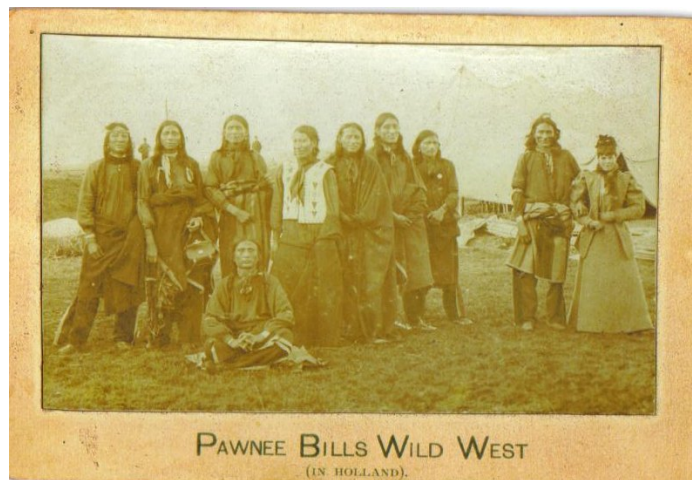
The Ranch Association is also needing **VOLUNTEERS** during the Wild West Show. We need volunteers to work in the mansion, to run errands, to help in the museum store, to assist in maintenance during the day, to sell water, to park cars, to drive trams, and much, much more! This year our need is greater than ever with retiring board members and an aging volunteer base! **We need you!**



Recent Acquisitions

There are so many Pawnee Bill artifacts in private collections. It is part of our mission to actively collect as much as we can in order to preserve and share history with the public now and for years to come. When you pay your dues, part of that money is used for the acquisition of materials we consider important. Here is what we have purchased for the collection in the last quarter:

- Postcard of Pawnee Bill's Trading Post
- Postcard of Pawnee Bill's profile
- Postcard of Earthlodge at Old Town
- Postcard of American Indian statue waving at west end of Old Town
- 1909 Buffalo Bill's Wild West Pawnee Bill's Great Far East Program
- One ceramic button with the Two Bills' image
- Postcard of west view of mansion
- Postcard of American Indians in Holland with Pawnee Bill's Show
- Postcard of south view of Blue Hawk Peak
- "A Book of Dreams" booklet with Pawnee Bill advertisement
- Wild West Show program color clippings



HeadCount



Our attendance, understandably, takes a dip in the chilly months. We experience our lowest visitation annually in this spring quarter. Here is last quarter's head count of visitors!

The visitation totals represent museum attendance only.

January

We were visited by people from 16 towns in Oklahoma, and 5 states. The total visitation was estimated at 137 people!

February

We were visited by people from 18 Oklahoma cities, 6 states, and the country of Iraq. The to-

tal visitation was estimated at 224 people! Our visitation was very negatively affected by bad weather.

March

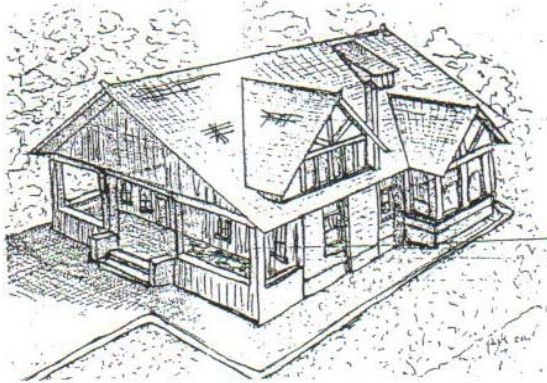
We were visited by people from 57 Oklahoma cities and towns, 20 states, Puerto Rico and Germany. The total visitation was estimated at 1,183. That is almost double last year's March attendance.

Happy Spring!



PAWNEE BILL'S NEW RESIDENCE

This article appeared in the Time-Democrat, The Republican Journal of Pawnee County, June 30, 1910. It is a detailed description of what the Lillie's home would look like upon completion. It is interesting to note that the Lillie's changed their mind about many of the details in the home. What differences can you find?



The above cut represents the new home of Major Gordon W. Lillie (Pawnee Bill), which has just been commenced, and the building of which will continue during the summer and fall. Mr. Lillie has been in Pawnee the past three weeks getting the preliminary work under way, leaving Saturday night for New York, where he will join his show.

The building, the above view of which does not show some of the important changes that have been made since the first drawings, is situated on the highest peak in the vicinity of Pawnee, in what is known as the Blue Hawk allotment, which Major Lillie just succeeded in purchasing. It faces north, and has a beautiful and commanding view of the country for miles around. Its exterior and interior have been designed by Fred Uhl, Pawnee county's architect, Major Lillie, and James M. Hamilton, of Chester, Penn., who has been with Mr. Lillie during his recent visit home.

It is Major Lillie's intention, in erecting this magnificent home to have an ideal place for the entertainment of his many friends east and west during the winter season, when the Wild West and Far East shows are resting up, and to this end the house is modeled somewhat after the home of Col. Cody, his partner, in

Cody, Wyoming. Mr. Lillie hopes by the holidays to have a merry company of friends under his new roof.

The house is to be built of stone with red Spanish tile roof. Its dimensions are 50 x 60, with elaborate porches on the north and south end, each 12 x 50. On the first floor will be a reception hall, living room, dining room, den, two bedrooms, kitchen and bath. The reception hall, 12 x 20, will be finished in mahogany, with mosaic tile flooring, paneled beam ceiling, and wainscoted six feet.

The "den," or Major Lillie's cozy corner, with its paneled beam ceiling, tiled mantel and fireplace and Flemish oak finish will be one of the most attractive spots in the house. A mosaic tile mantel over the fireplace, picturing a buffalo, will be a distinctive feature of this room.

The living room, 21 feet and 6 inches square, will be finished in mahogany, beam ceilings, with elaborate wall panel decorations by the best artists in New York and Philadelphia. Over the massive stone, wood burning fireplace will be a large mosaic tiling, the design of which has not been decided upon. The walls will be hung in tapestry above a six foot mahogany wainscoting.

The dining room, 15 x 25, with large bay window and window seat, will have two china closets built in the walls, and the walls will be hung in leather tapestry.

The baths and kitchen will be tiled entirely in white, with pure porcelain plumbing throughout.

There will be five bedrooms and a bath upstairs, and hall, 10 x 50. The upper floor will be furnished in hazel and chestnut.

The rest of the story will be in the next newsletter...



Pawnee Bill Ranch
PO Box 493
Pawnee, OK 74058
918-762-2513

CURRENT HOURS OF OPERATION

Open Sunday and Monday
1:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m.

Tuesday-Saturday 10:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.

UPCOMING EVENTS!

If you have an idea for an interesting workshop or clinic, contact the Ranch hands to get yourself on the list!

June 11, 18, and 26 Pawnee Bill's Original Wild West Show!

For additional information, please call us!
(918) 762-2513

MEMBERS NEEDED!

We are still in search of more members to join the PBRA, so if you know anyone interested in the Ranch or the Old West, clip this out and have them send it to us. Thank you for your support and help! Enclose the clipping with membership fee and remind them they get a copy of the newsletter plus a 10% discount in the museum store.

NAME _____ **DATE** _____

ADDRESS _____

PHONE _____

AMOUNT ENCLOSED _____

Single \$15.00 USD Business \$75.00

Family \$25.00 USD

MAIL TO: Pawnee Bill Ranch Association
PO Box 493
Pawnee, Oklahoma 74058

Notes from the Board

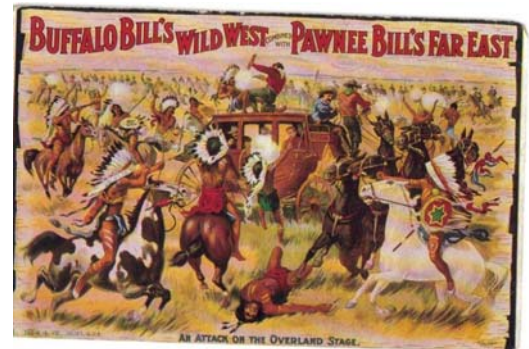
The Board of the Friends of the Pawnee Bill Ranch Association meets regularly on the second Thursday of the month at 6:30 p.m. in the museum conference room. The purpose of the Board is to serve as a fundraising tool in support of the Ranch. The Ranch Association operates the museum store and uses the revenue to further support the mission of the Pawnee Bill Ranch. The Board has used the monies generated from dues and museum store revenue to work on the mansion restoration, to purchase artifacts for the collection, to buy and help maintain maintenance equipment, to purchase horses and a stage-coach, and to support the Wild West

Show, among many other things.

We thank our new and re-newing members. Recent renew-als and donations include:

- Lynn Atterbery
- Don and Joyce Brown
- City of Pawnee
- Jeanne Craig
- Tresa and Jay Dye
- Judy and Robert Echenrode
- Larry and Nina Gay Ferguson
- Darrell and Mary Gambill
- Kathy Sullivan McKinnis
- Alice and Ted Omtvedt
- "Buckaroo" Becky Rickard

- Hiram Smith
- Larry Troxell
- Gail and Gary Vance Sr.
- Lynn and Carolyn Wells



Thanks for your support!!

