



Mistletoe Leaves



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April 2006



(Karen Wenk photo)

OHS assists film makers in Cherokee Trail of Tears documentary

From February 17 through February 19 at Fort Gibson and the Murrell Home, in the midst of a winter ice and snow storm, American Revolutionary Productions filmed *The Cherokees: Road to Removal*. The documentary is a re-creation of the Cherokees' Trail of Tears experience.

The film company, headed by Richard Wormser, David Smith, and Gilles Carter, has released many award-winning documentaries and has taken on the task of showing the plight of Cherokee removal from the American South to new homes in present eastern Oklahoma.

Through the Outreach Division and its Special Projects Director Whit Edwards, the Oklahoma Historical Society supplied site locations, the wardrobe, and in some instances, the actors and staff for the project. Casting was done through the Cherokee Heritage Center and included many of the reenactors among the Oklahoma Historical Society volunteers. Snow and ice reduced the numbers of reenactors who could help with the project, but the severe weather proved to be a perfect backdrop.

The documentary will be distributed in October. The beneficiaries will be the Arkansas public schools and the Oklahoma public libraries, which will receive copies free of charge. The film will be broadcast on the History Channel in the fall of 2006. Photographer Karen Wenk produced still shots to document the filming.

According to director David Smith, "Without Whit Edwards, the shoot simply would not have happened, and we owe him and the Society a great deal. Everyone from the Historical Society that we dealt with was friendly, professional, and extremely helpful. Our tight schedule and the inclement weather could have presented some real problems, but thanks to them we were able to adapt to the changing conditions, and we couldn't be happier with the results." In addition, the film company made significant contributions to the Oklahoma Historical Society.



Mark Bomboy, Eric Stevens, Whit Edwards (Karen Wenk photo)

Living History at the Chisholm Trail Museum April 8

Life on the frontier during the late 19th century was difficult but exciting, as visitors will learn during the Chisholm Trail Museum's 12th annual Living History day on Saturday, April 8. From 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., reenactors and volunteers will show 21st-century folks how everyday people did their chores and found entertainment in the 1880s.

Demonstrations of traditional crafts will feature lace making by the Lace Guild of Oklahoma, rope making by Jackie Whittenburg of Cleo Springs, wheat weaving by Lynn Carmichael of Enid, and blacksmithing by Saltfork Craftsmen. Three well-seasoned cooks, Bill Nuzum, Bob Warren, and Bill Lackey, will create their traditional recipes outdoors in cast-iron cookware at the chuck wagon. Teachers will conduct classes in the Gant One-room Schoolhouse. Outside, Dr. Hedgethicket will present his medicine show, peddle his patent elixirs, and try to make it rain. Capstone the Magician will work mysterious wonders.

Reenactors will represent Buffalo Soldiers, lawmen, soldiers of Howell's Light Artillery Battery (who will man a Napoleon-style, hand-built cannon), and gun-

fighters. In all, more than 25 groups and individuals will participate.

Food and sarsaparilla will be liberally dispensed at various booths. Cost of admission is \$2 per person, with children 10 and under admitted free. The Chisholm Trail Museum is located at 605 Zellers Avenue in Kingfisher. Visitors may park at the Kingfisher Fairgrounds (300 South 13th Street) and ride a shuttle to the museum. Call 405/375-5176 for information or e-mail <reneem@ok-history.mus.ok.us>.



Rope maker Jackie Whittenburg (Staff photo)



Dr. Hedgethicket, alias George Hopkins (Staff photo)

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Director's Column

By **Bob L. Blackburn**
Executive Director

When you and your friends and associates convene here in Oklahoma City during the last week of April for this year's OHS Annual Meeting, you will be treated to a new experience as a Society member.

The beautiful, state-of-the-art Oklahoma History Center, my new home and the home of more than one hundred staff members, will be the site of the paper sessions, awards luncheon, and banquet.

Whether you are a Society member, a legislator, a government official, or a member of the general public, we invite you to come to the meeting and take this opportunity to see the concrete results of your many years of support for OHS.

The paper sessions, dealing with the topic "On the Eve of Statehood: Life in the Oklahoma and Indian Territories," will be interesting, as you'll see when you turn to pages 4 and 5 of this issue of *Mistletoe Leaves*.

The Annual Meeting Committee, comprising Board members James Waldo (chair), Thalia Eddleman (vice chair), Jack Baker, and Barbara Thompson, with the able assistance of Dr. Tim Zwink and Dr. Steve Kite, have created a slate of activities that will take you to every part of the new History Center over the three-day meeting.

You'll dine in the Chesapeake Events Center and outdoors at The Red River Journey, and you'll enjoy the meeting spaces we've provided in the OERB Classroom and the LeRoy Fischer Board Room.

Don't fail to sign up for Thursday afternoon's tours of the new History Center, especially the outstanding exhibits created in the Oklahoma Museum of History by Dan Provo's capable and energetic staff.

I am personally looking forward to greeting each and every one of you during the meeting.

I guarantee that you will enjoy yourself and also enjoy a great learning experience.

SHPO announces May workshops

The Oklahoma State Historic Preservation Office is pleased to announce its May workshop series. The sessions will be held May 10-12 in the Bartlett-Carnegie Public Library at 27 West Dewey, in Sapulpa, Oklahoma. The workshops are free and open to the public, but participants need to register by 5 p.m., Wednesday, May 3.

To register contact Shea Otley by telephone at 405/521-6249 or by e-mailing <sjotley@ok-history.mus.ok.us>.

Registered architects who participate in these workshops can earn American Institute of Architects Continuing Education System (AIA/CES) learning unit hours. Several sessions meet the AIA/CES Health, Safety, and Welfare (HSW) criteria. For further details about the credits, contact Catherine Montgomery, Historic Preservation Architect, at 405/522-4479 or at <catherinem@ok-history.mus.ok.us>.

If you have questions about any of the workshops, contact Melvena Heisch, Deputy SHPO, at 405/522-4484 or e-mail <mheisch@ok-history.mus.ok.us>.

May 10 (9:30 a.m. to 12:00 noon) *The Section 106 Review Process: Introduction and Overview.* This half-day workshop is designed to provide the basics about Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act and how the process works in Oklahoma. Specific topics that will be addressed include who is responsible for Section 106 compliance, when does Section 106 apply, what is the State Historic Preservation Office's role in the process, what other agencies are involved, what is a historic property, and what happens when a project will effect a historic property. This workshop is designed as a stand-alone session and as a companion to *Determination of Eligibility under Section 106*. Participants should also consider attending "Guidelines for Rehabilitating Historic Buildings."

May 10 (1:30 p.m. to 5:00 p.m.) *Determination of Eligibility under Section 106.* The session provides a step-by-step description of how to document standing structures for the State Historic Preservation Office's review. Specific topics on the workshop agenda include a discussion of the National Register of Historic Places

Criteria for Evaluation, how to complete the Historic Preservation Resource Identification Form, photograph requirements, what a "determination of eligibility" means, how differences of opinion about eligibility are resolved, and when consultants may be helpful to agencies in preparing documentation for the Section 106 process. The session is designed as a stand-alone workshop or companion to *The Section 106 Review Process: Introduction and Overview*. Participants should also consider attending "Guidelines for Rehabilitating Historic Buildings."

May 11 (9:30 a.m. to 12:00 noon) *Federal and State Tax Incentives for Rehabilitating Historic Buildings.* In this workshop participants will learn about the federal and the state investment tax credits for certified rehabilitation of a certified historic structure. A detailed discussion of the Historic Preservation Certification Application, Parts 1, 2, and 3 will guide owners and developers in successfully preparing the information needed for the State Historic Preservation Office to review the project and for the National Park Service to certify it. This session is designed as a stand-alone workshop or as a companion to *Guidelines for Rehabilitating Historic Buildings*.

May 11 (1:30 p.m. to 5:00 p.m.) *Guidelines for Rehabilitating Historic Buildings.* This half-day workshop is dedicated to a thorough discussion of the Secretary of the Interior's Standards and Guidelines for Rehabilitation. Generally referred to as The Standards, these common sense principles are widely used in the historic preservation field. Whether you are involved in a rehabilitation project for the 20% federal and 20% state tax credits, planning a rehabilitation project funded with federal assistance, serving on a local historic preservation commission, or just wanting to know the best approach to rehabilitating your historic private home, you will find this session invaluable. It is designed as a stand-alone workshop and as a companion to *Federal and State Tax Incentives for Rehabilitation*.

May 12 (9:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.) *Working with the National Register of Historic Places.* The National Register of Historic Places is the foundation of the SHPO's programs, and a basic understanding of the register is essential for those involved in historic preservation at all levels of government and in the private sector. This workshop provides detailed information about the National Register criteria, what listing means, the rights of property owners in the nomination process, tips for preparing successful nominations, and much more.



New Annual Members

Roberta Bertoch, Oklahoma City
Robert Lowery, Wading River, NY
Charles A. Minor, Ardmore
Barbara Nesom, Oklahoma city
Bulah Newman, Stillwater
Jo Ann Oliver, Oklahoma City
Robin Smith, Aliso Viejo, CA
Suanne M. Wymer, Tulsa

New Family Memberships

Betty Blackburn Family, Oklahoma City
Billy D. & Dorice Blevins, Norman
Ed Bodenheimer, Midwest City
Steven Brooks, Oklahoma City
Denis & Carla Clark, Oklahoma City
James & Carla Cruson, Kingston
Donald H. & Carolyn Davis, Tulsa
Richard C. & Janey Polk, Oklahoma City
Gordon Ryan Family, Oklahoma City

New Life Member

Steven Wade Mackie, Norman

Oklahoma Historical Society Publications Division

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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.



Events

Oklahoma City's Herb Society and the Harn Homestead Museum & 1889ers Museum will cosponsor the 13th Annual Herb Festival. The event on May 6, 2006, from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m., will be held at the Harn Homestead Museum, located at 313 NE 16th Street, Oklahoma City. The festival will offer vendor booths with herbal-related goods, live entertainment by local dancers, singers, and musicians, demonstrations of soap making and card making, as well as food and beverages. Admission is free to the public. For more information contact the Harn Museum at 405/235-4058 or e-mail <www.harnhomestead.com>. Interested vendors may contact Rita Holder at 405/390-2233 or call Magi Whitaker at 405/919-6307. (Special to ML)

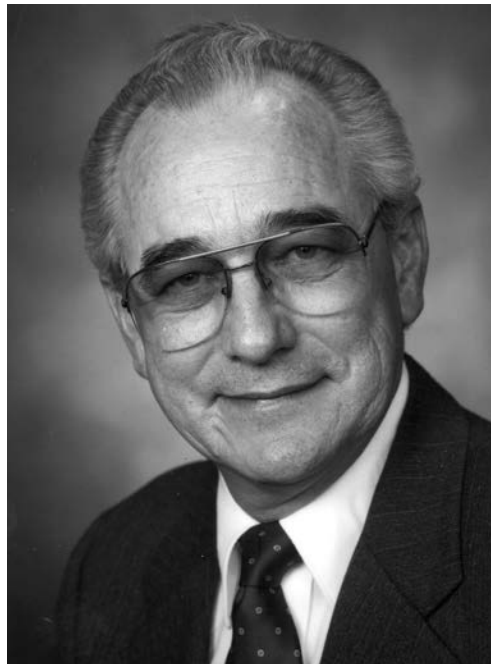
Claremore's Expo Center will be the venue for the Will Rogers Wild West International Expo on April 20-22, 2006. The expo is sponsored by the Wild West Arts Club, headquartered in Las Vegas, Nevada, the Will Rogers Memorial Commission, and the city of Claremore. Spectators will witness trick roping, trick riding, gun spinning, fast draw, and knife and tomahawk throwing. Last year's event drew about 300 contestants from seven countries. (Special to ML)

Delaware County Genealogical Society is hosting the Grand Lake Ancestor Fair and Seminar on Saturday, April 22, 2006, at the Grove Community Center in Grove, Oklahoma. The seminar speaker is Russell P. Baker, past president of the Arkansas Genealogical Society and Archival Manager of the Arkansas History Commission and Arkansas State Archives. The event will include exhibitors, a free class in Beginning Cherokee Research, a demonstration in Cherokee basket weaving, and free computer searches of the Dawes Roll. The seminar fee is \$20 until April 15; after that date, \$25. For more information go online to <www.rootsweb.com/okdgs>, send e-mail to <dcgsinc@hotmail.com> or write Delaware County Genealogical Society Ancestor Fair, 1140 NEO Loop, Grove, OK, 74344. (Special to ML)

Altus's Museum of the Western Prairie will present *Legacy of Women's Clubs in Southwest Oklahoma* as the program for the 2006 Annual Meeting of the Western Trail Historical Society. The presentations will highlight early-day women's groups and their activities in southwestern Oklahoma. From April 9 through April 15, 2006, the museum will showcase *The New State Women's Club*, an exhibit that presents information on an early-day women's organization and its projects on behalf of the community. For more information contact

Bart McClenny at 580/482-1044 or e-mail <muswestpr@ok-history.mus.ok.us>. (Special to ML)

Awards



Dr. Guy Logsdon, Tulsa, Oklahoma

Oklahoma City's National Cowboy and Western Heritage Museum announced that Dr. Guy Logsdon of Tulsa, Oklahoma, will be presented the prestigious Chester A. Reynolds Award during the Museum's 45th Western Heritage Awards event on April 22, 2006, in the Museum's Sam Noble Special Events Center. A member of the Oklahoma Historical Society Board of Directors from 1992 to 2001, Logsdon will share the limelight with winners in thirteen other categories as well as inductees into the Hall of Great Westerners and the Hall of Great Western Performers. America's influential naturalist and conservationist John Muir (1833-1914) has been selected for induction into the Hall of Great Westerners. Paramount Pictures producer A. C. Lyles will receive the Lifetime Achievement Award. (Special to ML)

Writings, etc.

Bixby Historical Society is offering a new book, *Bixby Area History, Centennial Edition*, at a cost of \$55. The society expects to distribute the book during the last weekend of July at their Green Corn Festival Celebration. To reserve a copy send a check to: Bixby Historical Society, P.O. Box 1046, Bixby, OK, 74008. For further information telephone society president Linda Boles at 918/688-5865 or secretary Patsy Lewis at 918/299-7795. E-mails may be directed to <plewis299@sbcglobal.net>. (Special to ML)

Claremore's Will Rogers Museum's former director, Joe Carter, has written a 95-page compilation of previously unpublished photographs and quotes of the ubiquitous Will Rogers. Cost of *The Quotable Will Rogers* is \$12.95. For further information call Pat Reeder, Will Rogers Museum Publicist, at 918/343-8129. In addition, *American Cowboy* magazine will publish a three-part series about Rogers, with text by Carter. (Special to ML)

Southwest Oklahoma Genealogical Society is now offering *Printed Sources for Oklahoma: Genealogical and Historical Research* for \$50, plus \$5 for shipping. The work was compiled by Paul Follett, genealogy librarian at the Lawton Public Library. The 688-page, comprehensive, statewide compilation has three sections that include the state's history, American Indian sources, and a county-by-county guide. It lists every library, museum, and society in Oklahoma that have a genealogical or local history collection. Oklahoma societies that publish a journal or newsletter are noted. Individuals should send a check for \$55 to: Southwest Oklahoma Genealogical Society, P.O. Box 148, Lawton, OK, 73502. Institutions and societies may be invoiced. (Special to ML)

Choctaw County Commissioners will partner with the Oklahoma Historical Society to improve access to Doakville and Fort Towson. The county will deliver 30 loads of gravel for roads at the two sites. It will also underwrite the cost of materials to build a metal gate and entry at Doakville. A group of young men from the Future Farmers of America will provide the muscle for the construction. The Commission will also underwrite materials to repair a fence at Doakville. (Special to ML)

Stillwater's OSU Library Electronic Publishing Center has added a new digital collection to its online resources, which include *The Chronicles of Oklahoma*. In cooperation with the University of Tulsa Law Library, volumes 30 through 43 of the *Indian Claims Commission Decisions* collection were digitized and added to the OSU Digital Library's web page. Established in 1996, the Electronic Publishing Center exists to expand access to published and unpublished materials useful to the academic community and the general public, especially those unique to OSU or the State of Oklahoma. This and other collections exist at <<http://digital.library.okstate.edu>>.



OKLAHOMA HISTORICAL SOCIETY

2006 ANNUAL MEETING

Oklahoma City, Oklahoma

General Information

The OHS 2006 Annual Meeting will be held on April 27, 28, and 29 in Oklahoma City, Oklahoma, at the Oklahoma History Center at 2401 N. Laird Avenue.

Arrangements have been made by the OHS Annual Meeting Planning Committee—Board Members James Waldo (chair), Thalia Eddleman (vice chair), Jack Baker, and Barbara Thompson, and OHS staff members Mary Ann Blochowiak (retired), Dianna Everett, Steven Kite, Geneva Little, Alma Moore, Linda Wilson, and Tim Zwink.

Lodging

The conference hotel for the Annual Meeting is The Plaza Hotel and Conference Center, 4345 N. Lincoln Boulevard, in Oklahoma City, just a few blocks north of the Oklahoma History Center.

Room rates at The Plaza Hotel are \$50.00, single or double, and reservations are made by calling 405/528-2741.

Persons attending the Annual Meeting are responsible for making their own hotel reservations. Tell the desk clerk you will be attending the OHS Annual Meeting and you will receive the special rate.

Registration

A registration form is being mailed separately to all members of the Society. When it arrives, fill it out and return it with your check as soon as possible. Registration packets with tickets and name tags will be available at the OHS registration table on Thursday, April 27, at the new Oklahoma History Center beginning at 12:00 pm and on Friday, April 28, and Saturday, April 29, at the Oklahoma History Center beginning at 8:00 am.

Members are encouraged to register early for the meeting. There are a limited number of tickets for admission to special events and meals. The preregistration deadline is Wednesday, April 19, 2006. A registration fee of \$12.00 for OHS members and \$15.00 for non-members is required regardless of the number of events you plan to attend. Because the Annual Meeting is a self-supporting function, the revenue is used to pay expenses. No refunds will be made after April 21, 2006.

Tour

On Thursday afternoon, April 27, the OHS will offer guided tours of the new Oklahoma History Center, including the Research Center and the Oklahoma Museum of History galleries. You will need to register for the tour so we can arrange for tour guides. There is no charge for the tour.

“An Evening on the Red River Plaza”

On Thursday evening, members will enjoy an evening of food, fun, and fellowship on the Red River Plaza at the Oklahoma History Center at 2401 N. Laird Avenue in Oklahoma City beginning at 6:30 pm. The meal will consist of smoked brisket and sausage, potato salad, cole slaw, baked beans, fruit cobbler, hot chocolate cake, and beverage. Following the meal, members and guests will enjoy reenactors along the Red River Journey as well as special evening access to the Oklahoma Museum of History galleries. The cost of the meal and tour is \$16.00.

Paper/Panel Sessions

Concurrent paper/panel sessions, each with two to three presenters/panelists and one moderator on a wide variety of historical topics, will be held on Friday, April 28 and Saturday, April 29, at the Oklahoma History Center.

Book Sale

A book sale of more than 1,000 titles will be held starting Thursday, April 27, in the West Family Atrium Hallway of the Oklahoma History Center. The book sale will continue on Friday, April 28, from 8:00 am to 5:00 pm and on Saturday, April 29, from 8:00 am until 12:00 pm. All proceeds from the book sale will benefit the acquisition fund for the OHS Research Division.

Exhibit Area

The Exhibitors' Area on Friday will be located on the third floor of the Oklahoma History Center.

Coffee Breaks

On Friday and Saturday mornings, the break area will be located on the third floor of the Oklahoma History Center.

Luncheon

At 12:15 pm on Friday, April 28, members and guests will gather in the Chesapeake Special Events Auditorium at the Oklahoma History Center for a luncheon of croissant sandwich (roast beef, ham, turkey, lettuce and tomato), pasta salad, fruit cup, assorted dessert bars and cookies. The cost of the meal is \$18.00. Ticket holders will select their seats on a first-come, first-served basis. The luncheon speaker is Dr. Bob L. Blackburn, the Executive Director of the Oklahoma History Society. His address will focus on the challenges and opportunities in creating the new Oklahoma History Center.

Annual Membership Meeting

After the luncheon, at approximately 2:15 pm, members will attend the OHS Annual Meeting of the Membership. OHS president Leonard Logan will describe the State of the Society; following will be the announcement and swearing-in of new Board members.

Optional Activities

On Friday afternoon, April 28, beginning at 3:00 pm, participants will have free time to explore other sites in Oklahoma City, including the Overholser Mansion, the Oklahoma City National Memorial, the Centennial Land Run sculptures in Bricktown, and the National Cowboy and Western Heritage Museum. Look for information about these sites and others at the Exhibitors' Area, third floor lobby of the History Center.

Awards Banquet

The Annual Awards Banquet on Friday evening, April 28, will begin at 7:00 pm in the Devon Great Hall of the Oklahoma History Center. The dinner will consist of rib eye steak, herb roasted new potatoes, grilled vegetables, salad of field greens with maple vinaigrette, warm chocolate cake, and Italian cream cake. The cost of the meal is \$25.00. Ticket holders will select seats on a first-come, first-served basis.

Following the meal, the presentations will include the Muriel H. Wright Award, Joseph B. Thoburn Award, and awards for the Best Book on Oklahoma History, Outstanding Thesis and the Outstanding Dissertation on Oklahoma History, Outstanding Local Historical Society/Museum, Outstanding OHS Support Group, and the Oklahoma Historians Hall of Fame.

Credit Card Registration

To register by credit card (MasterCard or VISA only), please call Annual Meeting coordinator Tim Zwink at 405/522-5217 (8:00 am to 5:00 pm CST).

“On the Eve of Statehood: Life in the Oklahoma and Indian Territories”

THURSDAY, APRIL 27

Registration

Lobby, Oklahoma History Center
12:00 pm – 5:00 pm

Tours

Oklahoma History Center
1:00 pm – 5:00 pm

“An Evening on the Red River Plaza”
Oklahoma History Center

6:30 pm

FRIDAY, APRIL 28

Registration

Lobby, Oklahoma History Center
8:00 am – 5:00 pm

Session I: OERB Classroom

8:30 am – 10:00 am

The Preservation of Memories

Moderator: Patricia Loughlin, Assistant Professor of History, University of Central Oklahoma, Edmond

“Kiowa Indian Artists Make International Headlines,” Anne Allbright, Student, University of Central Oklahoma, Edmond

“Oral History and Museum Collections: Retelling the Stories of Statehood,” Kim Penrod, Student, University of Central Oklahoma, Edmond

“Pioneer Trappings: Exhibiting the Tools, Tack, Hardware, and Firearms of Oklahoma Homesteaders, 1889-1907,” R. Brodie Pitts, Student, University of Central Oklahoma, Edmond

Session II: LeRoy Fischer Board Room

8:30 am – 10:00 am

Voices and Visions

Moderator: Bill Corbett, Professor of History, Northeastern Oklahoma State University, Tahlequah

“Christian Science Pioneers and the Churches They Built,” Rita C. Matthews, Christian Science Historian and Practitioner, Oklahoma City, Oklahoma

“Drusilla Dunjee Houston: An Uncrowned Queen of Oklahoma,” Peggy Brooks-Bertram, Adjunct Assistant Professor of African-American Studies, University of Buffalo, Buffalo, New York

“The Oklahoma Bill, Indian Territory, and Sam Paul’s Vision,” Bill and Cindy Paul, Authors, Stratford

Session III: Red River Plaza

8:30 am – 10:00 am

Oklahoma History Center: Behind the Scenes—Transportation and Industry Gallery, African American Exhibit, Archival Collections, and Construction

Panel Moderator: Robert Thomas, Deputy Executive Director, Oklahoma Historical Society

Panel Member: Bruce Fisher, Director of Cultural Diversity, Outreach Division, Oklahoma Historical Society

Panel Member: Matt Reed, Curator, Oklahoma Museum of History, Oklahoma Historical Society.

Panel Member: Chester Cowen, Photograph Archivist, Research Division, Oklahoma Historical Society

FRIDAY, APRIL 28

Session IV: OERB Classroom

10:30 am - 12:00 pm

Places of Work and Learning

Moderator: Steven Knoche Kite, Historian, Oklahoma Historical Society

“The End of the Line: Chilocco Indian School, 1969-1972,” Megan Stephens, Student, University of Central Oklahoma, Edmond

“On the Eve of Statehood: The Hildebrand-Beck Mill, Flint, Cherokee Nation, 1845-1907,” Jay Hannah, Treasurer, Hildebrand-Beck Mill Museum Association, Norman

Session V: LeRoy Fischer Board Room

10:30 am - 12:00 pm

Architects and Authors

Moderator: David Miller, Professor of History, Cameron University, Lawton

“In the Company of Layton: Architects Practicing in Oklahoma City Around Statehood,” Cynthia Savage, Architectural Historian, Architectural Resources and Community Heritage Consulting, Pocasset

“Highlights of Washington Irving’s Tour on the Prairies in 1832,” Dixie Belcher, Adjunct Instructor of History, Tulsa Community College, Tulsa

Session VI: Red River Plaza

10:30 am - 12:00 pm

Oklahoma History Center: Behind the Scenes—Oklahoma Museum of History, Farm and Ranch Gallery, Education, Film, and Technology

Panel Moderator: Dan Provo, Director, Oklahoma Museum of History, Oklahoma Historical Society

Panel Member: Mike Adkins, Director of Education, Oklahoma Museum of History, Oklahoma Historical Society

Panel Member: Rillis Howard, Exhibit AV/IT Manager, Oklahoma Museum of History, Oklahoma Historical Society

Panel Member: Bill Moore, Film Archivist, Research Division, Oklahoma Historical Society

SATURDAY, APRIL 29

Session VII: OERB Classroom

8:30 am - 10:00 am

State and Territorial Politics

Moderator: Ralph Blodgett, Professor of History, Cameron University, Lawton

“The Marriage of Miss Indian Territory and Mr. Oklahoma Territory,” Clara Sue Kidwell, Director of Native American Studies, University of Oklahoma, Norman

“The State of Sequoyah Constitutional Convention,” Stacy L. Leeds, Associate Professor of Law and Director, Tribal Law and Government Center, University of Kansas School of Law; Justice, Cherokee Nation JAT (Supreme Court)

Session VIII: LeRoy Fischer Board Room

8:30 am - 10:00 am

Adventures in Oklahoma History

Moderator: Roger Bromert, Professor of History, Southwestern Oklahoma State University, Weatherford

“Oklahoma’s Heaven in 2007: Organizing an Oklahoma Centennial Book Club,” Molly Levite Griffis, Author, Norman

“A Tour on the Oklahoma Prairies with Washington Irving and Friends,” Julia Brady Ratliff, Teacher, Tulsa

Session IX: Red River Plaza

8:30 am - 10:00 am

Oklahoma History Center: Behind the Scenes—Research Center and Indian Gallery

Moderator: William D. Welge, Director, Research Division, Oklahoma Historical Society

Panel Member: Jeff Moore, Director of Exhibits, Oklahoma Museum of History, Oklahoma Historical Society

Panel Member: Tara Damron, Assistant Curator, Oklahoma Museum of History, Oklahoma Historical Society

Session X: OERB Classroom

10:30 am - 12:00 pm

The Culture of Business

Moderator: Sally Bradstreet Soelle, Professor of History, Cameron University, Lawton

“Commercial Pharmacy Development by Frontier Entrepreneurs in Oklahoma,” Carl K. Buckner, Professor, College of Pharmacy, University of Oklahoma, Oklahoma City

“Where Air Meets Rail and Prairie: How the Transcontinental Air Transport Company Enriched Waynoka, Oklahoma, 1929-1930,” Julie A. Bennett, Student, University of Central Oklahoma, Edmond

“Indian Ink: Native American Newspapers at Oklahoma Statehood,” Richard Mize, Real Estate Editor, *The Oklahoman*, Oklahoma City

Session XI: LeRoy Fischer Board Room

10:30 am - 12:00 pm

Oklahoma Icons

Moderator: Paul Matthews, Former OHS Board Member, Oklahoma Historical Society, Oklahoma City

“Oscar Ameringer: Entertaining Oklahoma Socialist,” Alvena Bieri, Columnist, *Stillwater News-Press*, Stillwater

“Dr. Rachel Caroline Eaton: First Cherokee Woman Ph.D. in History,” Shelli Rae Freeman, Student, University of Central Oklahoma, Edmond

“The Mission of Peter James Hudson for Education, Religion, and the Choctaw Tribe,” John A. Hooser, Retired Teacher, Clayton

Session XII: Red River Plaza

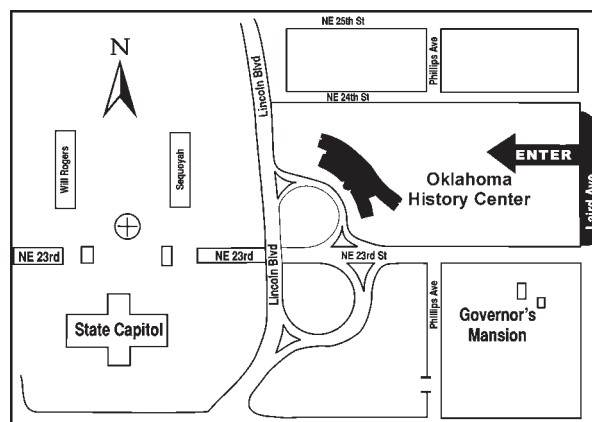
10:30 am - 12:00 pm

Oklahoma History Center: Behind the Scenes—Oklahoma Image Gallery, Museum Collections, Diversity Exhibit, Special Projects

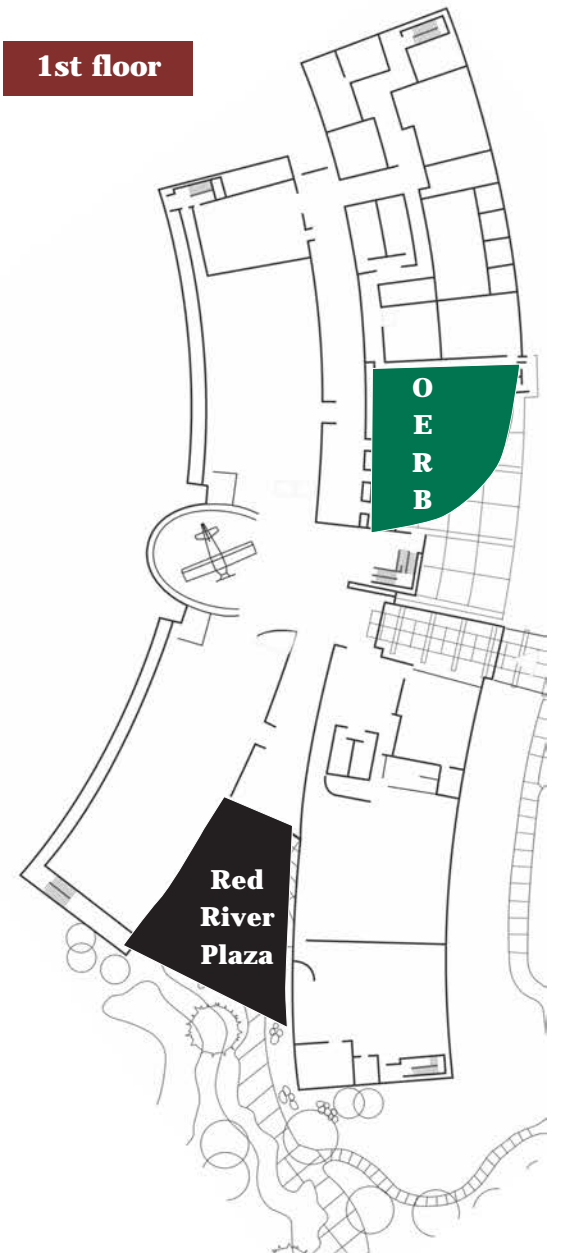
Panel Moderator: Jeff Briley, Assistant Director, Oklahoma Museum of History, Oklahoma Historical Society

Panel Member: Rodger Harris, Oral Historian, Research Division, Oklahoma Historical Society

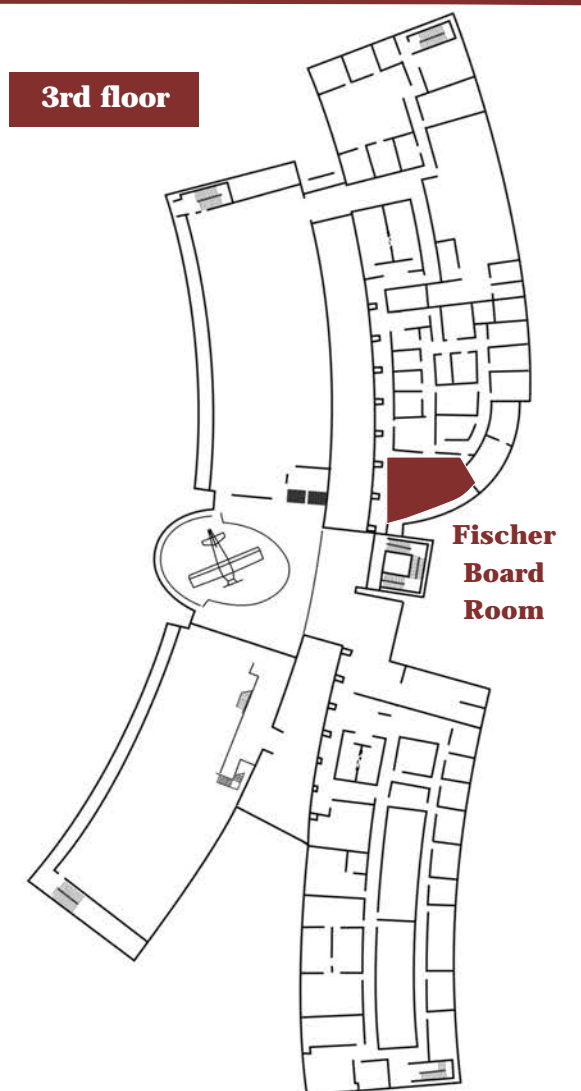
Panel Member: Elizabeth Anthony, Film Historian and Author, *ReelClassics.com*, Oklahoma City



1st floor



3rd floor



OHS Faces . . .

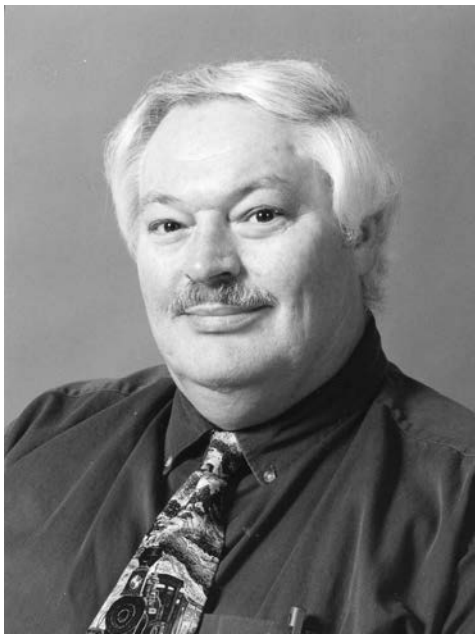
Bill Welge named honorary Hans Brisch Archivist for Higher Education Heritage

OHS Research Division Director William D. Welge, C.A., has been awarded the honorary position of Hans Brisch Archivist for the State of Oklahoma by the Oklahoma Higher Education Heritage Society. The OHEHS, in partnership with the Oklahoma State Regents for Higher Education and the Oklahoma Historical Society, created the title in 2002 in honor of Chancellor Hans Brisch, who worked diligently on behalf of Oklahoma's colleges and universities. The title designates an archivist of eminence and authority in the art of preserving the history of higher education.

Welge is the first to be named Hans Brisch Archivist. As such, he will be responsible for assisting with soliciting, collecting, and electronically processing documents, artifacts, film, video, and other objects of enduring value to Oklahoma's heritage of higher learning. The artifacts will be housed in the Oklahoma Higher Education Heritage Society Special Collection in the Research Division of the Oklahoma History Center at 2401 North Laird Avenue in Oklahoma City.

Welge joined the staff of the Oklahoma Historical Society on April 1, 1977. In January 1990 he became director of the Archives and Manuscripts Division. After the Archives and Library Divisions were combined into the Research Division, in February 2003 he became division director.

A native of San Antonio, Texas, Welge holds a bachelor's degree in journalism from the University of Oklahoma and in 1988 received a master's degree in history from the University of Central Oklahoma. He has been certified since 1989 by the Academy of Certified Archivists and was



one of that organization's first Certified Archivists. He presently also serves as an adjunct professor at the University of Oklahoma. He frequently presents papers at professional conferences and has been a featured speaker for the Oklahoma Genealogical Society on the topic of researching and preserving family history. Welge has written and edited numerous books and articles. With historian Odie Faulk, he is the co-author of *Oklahoma: A Rich Heritage*, published in 2004.

In response to Welge's appointment, OHEHS President John Parrish said, "We share a common goal with the State Regents and the Oklahoma Historical Society of maintaining comprehensive archival records pertaining to the development of higher education in the state. Mr. Welge is a person of distinction and prestige who will devote special attention to the archives relating to Oklahoma higher education. Preserving the relics of our institutions for higher learning will be important as we face future challenges." The OHEHS Special Collection is the nation's only higher education archive.

Archaeology Day is coming! Volunteers are needed!

The Spiro Mounds Archaeological Center will present an Archaeology Day on May 6, 2006. Also on that day the Spiro Mounds site will celebrate its 28th birthday as the only prehistoric, Native American archaeological site in Oklahoma that is open to the public. The center's mission includes making the public more aware of the past and more knowledgeable about the science of archaeology.

Archaeology Day begins at 9 a.m. and continues until 5 p.m. or later. The staff will provide visitors with an opportunity to learn more about prehistory and about artifacts. They are also seeking the assistance of professional archaeologists and interested amateurs who would like to come out for the day to help explain, display, give demonstrations, and generally help with traffic and visitor logistics. As this is the event's first year, its success and permanence will depend on volunteers for work and for promotional activities.

The staff is also soliciting ideas and contacts. Some suggestions have been to offer an artifact identification area; have modern artists who use prehistoric designs, especially Spiro designs, display their works; include some lectures throughout the day; and offer game demonstrations such as stickball or chunkee or hand game. Other educational activities could involve storytelling; reenacting of tool making and use; or demonstrating how to use an atlatl, a bow and arrow, or a blowgun. All concepts are welcome and will be carefully considered.

The goal is to make this an annual event that will grow. Ultimately, it will give greater exposure to the Oklahoma Anthropological Society, the Arkansas Archaeological Society and, of course, the Spiro Mounds Archaeological Center. If you would like to be involved in the Archaeology Day events, have an idea for an activity, or know someone who might donate funding for this event, please contact site manager Dennis Peterson as soon as possible at 918/962-2062 or by e-mailing him at <spiromds@ipa.net>.

No Man's Land Museum to co-host Festival of the Horse

The No Man's Land Historical Society will host three Western crafts demonstrations in the No Man's Land Museum in Goodwell, Oklahoma, on Friday, April 28, and Saturday, April 29, in conjunction with Oklahoma Panhandle State University Equine Science's first annual Festival of the Horse.

On Friday the 28th from 3 to 5 p.m. Gary Gloden and Joe Addison will demonstrate blacksmithing. On Saturday the 29th from 10 to 12 a.m. Dan Wheelock will demonstrate rawhide braiding, and also on Saturday from 1 to 3 p.m. Ronnie Jones will demonstrate spur making and silver-smithing. All demonstrations are free to the public.

Other activities for the Festival of the Horse will take place throughout Friday, Saturday, and Sunday at the OPSU farm. These include a Ranch Versatility Show, a trade show, cowboy poetry and music, a Western art show, the OPSU horse sale, a chuck-wagon cook-off, and a horse clinic presented by Bobby Lewis.

The Red Dirt Rangers will provide a concert and play for a dance on Saturday night. For further information please call the museum at 580/349-2670 or e-mail <nmlhs@ptsi.net>.

Land of Promise exhibit at Enid's Museum of the Cherokee Strip

The Museum of the Cherokee Strip in Enid will host *Land of Promise: Europeans and African Americans in Oklahoma* from April 1 through April 21, with a collateral lecture on April 21. The exhibit describes the second major wave of immigrations into Oklahoma and illustrates the lives of the European immigrants and African Americans who have lived in Oklahoma since the Territorial Era.

In conjunction with *Land of Promise*, on Friday, April 21 the museum will present Vicky Gailey, local author and historian, in its continuing Brown Bag Lecture Series. She will speak about political, economic, and social issues facing African Americans in Oklahoma from the state's early explorers through statehood. She will focus on African Americans in Indian Territory, especially in the Enid area.

Land of Promise is a TRACKS exhibit sponsored by the Oklahoma Humanities Council in cooperation with the Oklahoma Historical Society.

The museum is located at 504 South Fourth Street. Admission to the exhibit and lecture is free. For more information please call the museum at 580/237-1907.



Hidden Collections . . .

By **Larry O'Dell**

The John Alley Collection

Researchers and students of Oklahoma history often leave excellent tools for future investigators. An example of this is the John Alley Collection (2001.045) housed in the Research Division of the Oklahoma Historical Society. Born in 1875 at Crete, Nebraska, Alley moved to Oklahoma Territory in 1890. There, he attended preparatory school at Kingfisher College. He then earned a political science degree from Harvard and a master's degree from the University of Wisconsin.

Between educational stints, Alley served in the military, attaining the rank of major and performing in the Spanish-American War and World War I. In Europe he soldiered in the First Gas Regiment, the only such American organization of WWI.

During his lengthy teaching career, he taught at several Oklahoma high schools and at Oklahoma A&M and presided over University Preparatory School at Tonkawa. In 1911 he began his tenure at the University of Oklahoma, during which he served for thirty-two years as the head of the Government Department.

The collection contains information on a number of topics. There are several items of correspondence as well as articles and documents pertaining to Kingfisher College, including an amended institutional charter. His World War I experiences are well chronicled; he kept a diary during the conflict and in the late 1920s wrote a series of articles on the war for the *Daily Oklahoman*. Oklahoma history is covered by manuscripts, such as a 1907 handwritten paper titled "Slaves Held by Indians in the Indian Territory." Alley also wrote for periodicals, including "Oklahoma in the Spanish-American War," in *The Chronicles of Oklahoma* 20 (March 1942). He penned the book *City Beginnings in Oklahoma Territory*, which can be found in the OHS Research Division Library. Related to his interests, the collection contains typed notes and transcripts from interviews Alley conducted with such individuals as "Boomer" C. P. Wickmiller and Chris Madsen.

Several interesting items can be found in his personal materials, including his military discharge papers and a certificate for his Spanish-American War service. Information on education and Oklahoma institutions, including the University Preparatory School at Tonkawa, can be gleaned from his correspondence, reminiscences, and newspaper clippings.

Alley also compiled a publishing record in civics, with several articles and pamphlets in the collection. These include the brochures "The Political Party and the Oklahoma Nominating System" and "Local Self-Government: The Bulwark of Anglo-Saxon Liberty." John Alley suffered a heart attack and died on May 15, 1944.

OHS Places . . .

GEORGE M. MURRELL HOME

19479 East Murrell Home Road
Park Hill, OK 74451-2001
(Four miles south of Tahlequah on SH 82)
Phone: 918/456-2751
Hours: Wed.– Sat., 10 a.m.–5 p.m.; Sun., 1–5 p.m.
Winter hours (Nov.– Feb., weekends only)
Admission: Free. Suggested donation of \$3.



As the only existing antebellum home in Oklahoma the George M. Murrell Home represents the grace and beauty of a bygone era. Murrell, a merchant and plantation owner from Virginia, married Minerva Ross, a niece of Cherokee Principal Chief John Ross. Their home served as the social center for belles from nearby Tahlequah and officers stationed at Fort Gibson. It also offered luxurious respite for travelers and for participants in Murrell's favorite pastime, fox hunts.

Built circa 1845 in the Cherokee Nation, Indian Territory, at Park Hill, the two-story, white-frame, Federal-style house is constructed of native timber with a native-stone foundation. Its parlor, sitting room, dining room, kitchen, and bedrooms have original fixtures and woodwork. Approximately 85 percent of the displayed furniture belonged to members of the Murrell and Ross families. Significant pieces include two sideboards, a corner cupboard, a sofa, and two bedroom sets. The servants' quarters were located on the second floor over the kitchen. The home's library holds a book collection pertaining to the Civil War and to Cherokee history. Outbuildings include a smokehouse and a springhouse.

Annual events at the historic Murrell Home include a lawn social in June, the telling of ghost stories in October, and a Christmas open house. Workshops have included making Victorian Valentines and ladies' day caps as well as a Ladies' Camp of Instruction for reenactors. A workshop for fabricating wire-angel Christmas tree ornaments is scheduled in October 2006. The Oklahoma Planning and Resources Board purchased the home in 1948 with later transfers to the Oklahoma State Parks Department, the Oklahoma Tourism Department, and then to the Oklahoma Historical Society in 1990. The property was listed in the National Register of Historic Places (NR 70000530) in 1970 and became a National Historic Landmark in 1974.

Friends of the Murrell Home raise funds and assist with the events. They publish a quarterly newsletter and plan a yearly historical field trip. Dues for the Friends organization are \$10 for individuals and \$25 for organizations.

Barbecue feast in Kingfisher on April 22

The Board of the Chisholm Trail Museum, Inc., will host its annual '89er Barbecue on Saturday, April 22, 2006, at the Kingfisher Elks Lodge in the South Room. This important fund raiser supports ongoing museum activities throughout the year.

The program commemorates the 1889 Land Run into the Unassigned Lands of central Oklahoma. Kingfisher was one of the jumping-off points for this historical event, and many descendants of these daring pioneers still live in Kingfisher County.

The evening will begin with a barbecue dinner at 5 p.m. After the meal, singer Kirsten Scott will perform. A junior at Southwestern Oklahoma State University, Scott is presently also the talent coordinator for the Opry Heritage Foundation of Oklahoma, also known as the Rodeo Opry, located in Stockyards City (Oklahoma City). She has been singing since she was 14, and she had recorded and released two demo albums by the time she was 17. She was part of the Oklahoma City Bombing Memorial Thank You Concert at the Ford Center in 2005, an event that included Joe Diffie, Ty England, Vince Gill, and Toby Keith.

A baked goods auction will also be held during the festivities. Bidding is always fierce, and some extremely valuable cakes and pies go home with proud owners.

Please call the Chisholm Trail Museum at 405/375-5176 for tickets or more information.

Pawnee Bill Ranch plans slate of April events

On Monday, April 3, Martha Ray, OHS Director of Historic Homes, will conduct a free workshop on authentic 1907 clothing. The event will be held from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. in the Pawnee Bill Museum conference room. In conjunction, a style show will present models in clothing that was fashionable at the time of statehood. These original and reproduction garments are sure to provide inspiration for participants to create their own outfits to wear during the upcoming 2007 Centennial of Statehood. Men's, women's, and children's apparel will be on display, and instructional materials will be provided.

On Sunday, April 16, Easter morning, the Pawnee Ministerial Alliance will hold an Easter Sunrise Service on Blue Hawk Peak at the ranch. The service is timed to occur at approximately 6:45 a.m., just as the sun rises over the town of Pawnee. Guests are urged to dress according to the weather and bring their own chairs. After the service, the Friends of Pawnee Bill Ranch will hold their annual (and

only) fund-raising event, the popular Easter breakfast. Food will be served inside the museum, and the Friends request a donation of \$4. Any event is only as successful as the volunteers and the donors who support it, and individuals who would like to contribute money, time, or materials may call the ranch at 918/762-2513 or e-mail the staff at <pawneebill@okhistory.org>.

On Saturday, April 22, PBR historical interpreter Janet Webb will teach a class on creating beautiful, authentic Victorian hats. The lessons will take place in the museum's conference room from 1 to 4 p.m. Webb has taught this popular class for several years, and participants take home a completed or nearly completed hat. All materials are supplied, and participants are asked to bring their own scissors. A registration fee of \$15 is required, and preregistration and prepayment are also necessary.

For more information on any of the April festivities, call Pawnee Bill Ranch at 918/762-2513.

**INSIDE THIS ISSUE: 2006 Annual Meeting Registration Information
Paper and Panel Sessions, Times, Locations
Luncheon, Banquet, and Awards Times, Locations**

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

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PERIODICALS



Smithsonian Affiliations
Membership Program

Mistletoe Leaves

Vol. 37, No. 4

April 2006

Celebrate Oklahoma's rural heritage in Perry on April 29

The Cherokee Strip Museum's annual Rural Heritage Festival will take place on Saturday, April 29, from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. on the museum grounds in Perry, according to facility manager Kaye Bond. Through living history interpretations and demonstrations, this yearly event brings back to life the traditional skills and lifestyles that were associated with the state's agricultural and rural communities from the late 19th century and even into the mid-20th century.

Volunteers will demonstrate a variety of farming practices and home skills. Members of the Lace Guild of Oklahoma will be creating their traditional decorative pieces inside the museum. In addition to displaying examples of lace items, the guild will provide hands-on demonstrations of lace-making techniques.

Outside, the Noble County Antique Tractor Association will display trucks, tractors, and other mechanical equipment. Saltfork Blacksmiths will wield

their hammers and tongs to illustrate the blacksmithing skills needed by rural residents.

Rose Hill School will be in session, and the public is encouraged to come to class and take an active part in the lessons. Students from Morrison, under the direction of their teachers, will wrap the traditional May Pole.

"The festival is designed to entertain and educate families and people of all ages," said Bond. "We are celebrating our community's heritage, and we welcome everyone to come out for a relaxing day of friendship."

Admission is free, but monetary donations will help fund the day's activities and ensure the event's future. The Rural Heritage Festival is co-sponsored by the Oklahoma Historical Society, which operates the museum at 2617 West Fir in Perry, and by the Cherokee Strip Historical Society. Call 580/336-2405 for information.

National Register nomination grants available from the SHPO

The Oklahoma State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO) announces its annual matching grants to state, local, and tribal governments and nonprofit organizations for the preparation of National Register of Historic Places nominations. The SHPO has reserved \$10,000 of its FY 2006 Historic Preservation Fund (HPF) allocation from the U.S. Department of the Interior for the program. The funds will be equally divided for award in two grant rounds with any funds remaining from Round 1 carried over for Round 2. Applications and detailed instructions are now available from the SHPO (see below). The deadline for Round 1 applications is 5 p.m. on April 3, and the deadline for Round 2 applications is 5 p.m. on June 1. Each grant is limited to \$900.00, and the applicant must provide a nonfederal, cash match of at least \$600.00. Grant recipients will use the funds to retain an appropriately qualified professional to complete preparation of an individual property nomination for the National Register of Historic Places. To obtain a National Register Nomination Grant Application or further information about the National Register, contact the SHPO at 405/521-6249 or visit our web site at < www.ok-history.mus.ok.us/shpo/shpom.htm >.
