



## Fort Gibson Heritage Days scheduled for April 20–22

Heritage Days will be happening again at Fort Gibson Historic Site on April 20, 21, and 22. Visitors to the free event will see several new presentations as well as many old favorites. The 2007 event will include reenactors from the 1840s, the Civil War era, and the 1870s and 1880s. This year's impressions will include Native American and African American portrayals. Visitors on Education Day, April 20, will get to see a concentration of living history demonstrations presented especially for area school children.

On Saturday visitors will observe a "Day in the Life" presentation in the log fort, where an 1830s garrison will carry on the daily routine of the frontier military station in its heyday. A military band will present a concert on Saturday afternoon.

Also planned for this year's event are Indian Wars reenactors portraying the troops who garrisoned the fort on Garrison Hill in the 1870s and 1880s. The reenactors' interpretive activities will be supplemented by a special temporary exhibit on the Buffalo Soldiers. The exhibit is on display in the stone barracks on the hill. The Buffalo Soldiers were the famous African American regiments who served throughout the west after the Civil War.

Returning to the event will be historical crafts and vendors, as well as historical foods and bread from the post bake oven. There will also be a modern food area where visitors will find hamburgers, barbecue, and other treats. The event will run from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Friday and Saturday and from 10 a.m. to approximately 1 p.m. Sunday. Fort Gibson Historic Site is operated by the Oklahoma Historical Society and is located on State Highway 80 in Fort Gibson, Oklahoma. For more information call 918/478-4088.

**A dragon reenactor (Ian Beard, of Little Rock, Ark.) discusses pistol operation with a rapt audience (OHS photo).**



## Tribal leaders accept National Register certificates for Chilocco

On March 4 certificates acknowledging the inclusion of the Chilocco Indian Agricultural School in the National Register of Historic Places were presented to leaders of the tribes who own the former BIA boarding school. Melvena Heisch, Deputy State Historic Preservation Officer, participated in a ceremony hosted by the Council of Confederated Chilocco Tribes and the Chilocco Alumni Association. More than 300 former students, employees, and persons for whom Chilocco holds a special place attended the event. The ceremony, highlighted by traditional songs, was held on the campus, surrounded by the historic stone buildings that comprise the school.

Chilocco, closed by the BIA in 1980, has been empty since 1999. The school was added to Preservation Oklahoma's Most Endangered Historic Properties list in 2004. The Council of Confederated Chilocco Tribes is working on a master plan for the campus in hope of returning it to a viable use that both honors the memories of the students and looks forward for the benefit of the tribes. On September 8, 2006, the campus was added to the National Register of Historic Places. The listing of the campus at the national level of significance can be used as a tool for the future rehabilitation of the facility.



**Pictured: C. Michael Harwell, Chairperson of the Otoe-Missouria Tribe; Ron Rice, President of the Pawnee Nation; Dan Jones, Chairperson of the Ponca Nation; Anthony Street, President of the Tonkawa Tribe; Guy Munroe, Chairperson of the Kaw Nation; and Joe Grayson, Deputy Chief of the Cherokee Nation. Background: Hayworth Hall (J. Gabbert/SHPO photo).**

**OHS Research Division annual duplicate sale will be held April 12–14 and will feature books, microfilm, photographs, journals, and phone directories. All money will be used to purchase new materials for the Research Division's collections.**





## Director's Column

By **Bob L. Blackburn**  
Executive Director

Over the last twenty-eight years, as a representative of the Oklahoma Historical Society, I have had the honor of witnessing many historic events with special people at special places—the kind of moments that stay with you for a lifetime. I now have an event that is number one of all time.

It was the gathering of Oklahoma's First Families on the night of February 13, 2007.

With a month to reflect, I have determined why I have those special feelings. I felt a sense of pride in the exhibit, which was the result of remarkable teamwork and a higher standard that our staff has embraced. It is truly Smithsonian quality.

Then there was my emotional attachment to the Oklahoma History Center, which provided a spectacular stage for a unique event made even more special by the crowd of 1,200 people who shared a magical moment in Oklahoma history.

Most of all, the sense that I was witness to a historic moment was provided by the seven governors and their first ladies. In order of service, the honorees included George and Donna Nigh, Henry and Eloise Bellmon, David and Jo Hall, David and Molly Boren, David and Rhonda Walters, Frank and Cathy Keating, and Brad and Kim Henry.

To see them together, visiting and sharing stories, was like eavesdropping on a fifty-year private conversation compressed into a few moments. Although the banter was generally lighthearted, I looked at each of them and saw history unfolding—their lives as young men and women, their experiences that prepared them to serve, and that singular moment when they decided to run for the state's highest office.

There, in one place at one time, were fourteen exceptional people who had offered their lives, their creative energy, and their privacy to the people of Oklahoma. Knowing what they have sacrificed, I felt a deep appreciation for each of them. And with that comes my deepest respect.

This month, on our television show featured on Cox Channel 3 in Oklahoma City and Cox Channel 7 in Tulsa, we will share with you some of the high points of that special night. Next month, OETA will offer a documentary of the event to a statewide audience.

Once you have seen the footage, come and tour the exhibit. I think you, too, will feel the magic.

Yes, I have had the honor of witnessing many special events with special people. Sharing a night with Oklahoma's First Families is number one.

## Development News

By Tim Zwink

I am pleased to announce that Oklahoma Natural Gas, a division of ONEOK, Inc., has provided a gift of \$5,000 for sponsorship of a Centennial program featuring Dr. John Hope Franklin, the renowned historian, speaker, and author. This generous sponsorship gift is enabling the OHS to host Dr. Franklin for an appearance on Saturday, April 7, at the Oklahoma History Center, where he will make presentations to the OHS membership and the general public.

We greatly appreciate ONG and their corporate partnership and extend our thanks for making this special program possible. ONG's gift is an excellent example of how our generous donors are helping the OHS fulfill its mission to collect, preserve, and share the history of the great state of Oklahoma.

For information on the many donor and fund-raising programs at the OHS, please contact me at 405/522-5217 or <tzwink@okhistory.org>.



## New Members

### Director's Circle

White, Jr., Millar B. & Betsy, Oklahoma City

### Associate

Greathouse, Jesse, Oklahoma City  
Williams, J. Douglas, Woodward

### Friend

Anderson-Beasley, Shelli, Midwest City  
Barnett, Jari, Norman  
Baxter, Jr., Mr. & Mrs. Robert E., Broken Arrow  
Buettner, Ken & Barb, Edmond  
Cherry, Carla W., Bartlesville  
Doyle, Nelda, Edmond  
Ferguson, Ken, Altus  
Gurich, Judge Noma, Oklahoma City  
Huckabay, Mr. & Mrs. Gary, Yukon  
Krieske, Stephen L. & Pamela J., Choctaw  
Lopez, David R. & Lana L., Edmond  
Martin, Robert, Oklahoma City  
Mosley, Marlon & C. J., Oklahoma City  
Robinet, Tom, Tulsa  
Sias, Richard & Jeanette, Oklahoma City  
Triplett, Rosalind D., Edmond  
Watson, Kenneth & Rita, Oklahoma City  
Webb, Rick A. & Elizabeth M., Edmond

### Family

Blashfield, Robert & Vicky, Oklahoma City  
Breen, Kevin, Midwest City  
Brewer, Howard & Ellen, Oklahoma City  
Britton, Terry, Norman  
Bruce, Jack, Oklahoma City  
Burdine, Lenora Johnson, Oklahoma City  
Calloway, Cynthia, Oklahoma City  
Craig, George & Lelah P., Oklahoma City  
Dearmon, Al & Rita, Oklahoma City  
Desper, Johnny & Orinda, Oklahoma City  
Edwards, Mike & Susan, Oklahoma City  
Elkins-Baker, June, Oklahoma City  
Fisher-Johnson, Venita, Oklahoma City  
Foreman, Milo & Norma, Prague  
Freeman, Bobby, Choctaw  
Glossip, Lela S., Harrah  
Graham, Ronald & Shantele, Okmulgee  
Hall, Jimmie, Choctaw  
Harkins, Jana Lewis, Oklahoma City  
Harris, Carolyn Gay, Oklahoma City  
Herbison, Cregetta L., Oklahoma City  
Hyer, Robert & Sherry, Tulsa  
Johnson, Larry, Oklahoma City  
Johnston, David C., Oklahoma City  
Jones, Eugene D., Oklahoma City  
Kemper, Ricky & Alicia, Oklahoma City  
Madsen, Pete, Mustang  
Masset-Murphy, Suzanne, Tulsa  
Matheke, Dr. Edward, Oklahoma City  
Meeker, Judith, Kingfisher  
Neufeld, Jan, Perkins  
Oldfield, Marilyn, Oklahoma City (cont'd. Page 3)

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**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.

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## Meetings

In **Oklahoma City** the Oklahoma Genealogical Society's monthly meeting will be held on April 2, 2007, at 6 p.m. in the Chesapeake Events Center at the Oklahoma History Center, 2401 N. Laird Avenue. Howard Berry III will present a program entitled "Moman Pruitt, Early Oklahoma Criminal Lawyer," relating to early-day Oklahoma outlaws and their attorney. The OHS Research Center will be staffed and remain open until 7:45 p.m. that evening. (Special to ML)

**Lawton's** Public Library is the venue for the Southwest Oklahoma Genealogical Society's monthly programs held on the third Monday of each month at 7 p.m. Researchers can utilize the society's collection of books, periodicals, microfilm, and local newspapers located in the Family History Room of the Lawton Public Library, 110 Southwest Fourth Street. The library is open from 10 a.m. to 9 p.m. Monday through Thursday and 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Friday and Saturday. The Family History Room phone number is 480/581-3450, extension 6. (Special to ML)

## Events

**Claremore's** Expo Center, 400 Veterans Parkway, will be the venue for the annual Will Rogers Wild West Arts Club International Expo convention and competition on April 18-21. WWAC has a membership of more than 600 from 10 countries. Will Rogers Museums Executive Director Michelle Lefebvre-Carter stated that "this event provides a forum for young people to learn about Will Rogers and Western arena arts." WWAC members will compete in trick roping and riding, gun spinning and quick draw, knife and tomahawk throwing, whip cracking, and mounted shooting. Daily admission is free to spectators of all ages. Admission to the "Best of the Best" program on Saturday night, April 21, will be \$10. For information, call 918/343-0719 or visit <www.willrogers.com>. (Special to ML)

**Oklahoma City's** National Cowboy and Western Heritage Museum will host the 2007 Western Heritage Awards on Saturday, April 21, 2007, at 5 p.m. This year's master of ceremonies is Ed Harris, Academy Award-nominated actor, director, and producer. Sam Elliott and Steve McQueen (posthumously) will be inducted into the Hall of Great Western Performers. For reservations call 405/478-2250, ext. 219 (Monday-Friday, 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. CST) or visit <www.nationalcowboymuseum.org>. (Special to ML)

**Tahlequah's** courthouse square will be the venue for the Red Fern Festival on Friday and Saturday, April 27 and 28. This year the Friends of the Murrell Home will have a booth, where they will sell note cards and memberships and give information about the Murrell Home's upcoming events such as the June lawn social and the October fashion show. The Friends will also participate in the Sequoyah's Institute's children's programming by demonstrating with traditional crafts and storytelling. (*Friends of the Murrell Home Newsletter*, Spring 2007)

"Saturdays for Kids" will be held in **Oklahoma City** at the National Cowboy and Western Heritage Museum on April 7 at 11 a.m. and 2 p.m. in the museum theater. The "Miss Fay's Centennial Day" program is primarily for children ages 4 to 12, who must be accompanied by an adult. The 45-minute marionette show will depict Oklahoma's early days, land runs, and historical figures in commemoration of the state's 2007 centennial of statehood. Admission is free. For information call 405/478-2250. (Special to ML)

## Happenings

**Tulsa's** Preservation Commission has launched a new and improved web site, <www.tulsapreservationcommission.org>. The site offers notes and news about Tulsa's historic buildings and neighborhoods, preservation zoning, and resources for rehabilitation. Web users can choose

from three different layout styles for viewing the site. The diverse styles, Craftsman, Art Deco, and Mid-Century Modern, represent Tulsa's diverse architectural heritage. (Special to ML)

The U.S. Mint will issue an **Oklahoma** commemorative quarter in 2008. The quarter is part of a special mint series started in 1999. Two separate committees, appointed by Governor Brad Henry, selected ten designs from hundreds that had been submitted. Between August 25 and September 20, 2006, Oklahomans had an opportunity to vote online for their favorite design. The field was then narrowed to five designs, which Governor Henry sent to Washington, D.C. Of the five finalists, the Oklahoma's Citizens Coinage Advisory Committee recommended that the commemorative quarter bear a design showing the state's outline, an American Indian peace pipe, and an image of the *Pioneer Woman* statue in Ponca City. All five designs will be sent to the U.S. Treasury secretary, with the recommendations of the advisory committee and the U.S. Commission on Fine Arts. (*The Oklahoman*)

The **Oklahoma** Centennial Commission is offering a five-minute DVD of the Centennial anthem, "Oklahoma Rising." The song, written by Oklahoma natives Jimmy Webb and Vince Gill and sung by Vince Gill, is set to video footage of beautiful Oklahoma scenes. The DVD is available for a \$10 donation to the Oklahoma Centennial Commemoration Fund, plus \$2 shipping. Order at <www.oklahomacentennial.com>. (Special to ML)

Since 1989 Oklahoma's State Historic Preservation Office has recognized farms and ranches operated by the same family for 100 years through the Oklahoma Centennial Farm and Ranch Program. In recognition of those landowners, the **Kiowa County** Centennial Farms Recognition Board has installed a four-by-eight-foot, red oak display board in the Kiowa County Courthouse. Brass information plates for 63 centennial farms will be added to the board. (Special to ML)

### New Members, cont'd.

Palmer, Jr., Harry R., Oklahoma City  
Parks-Pierson, Rev. Ouida, Oklahoma City  
Perry, Bill, Edmond  
Phillips, William J. & Judy, Oklahoma City  
Pierce, Cleve, Shawnee  
Pritchett, Roger & Mary Ann, Prague  
Roberts, Tavjvanna, Ardmore  
Rodgers, Jacci, Norman  
Shells, Robert E., Spencer  
Smith, Charles, Spencer  
Stuart, Evan K. & Penny, Oklahoma City  
Summers, Justice Hardy & Marilyn, Oklahoma City  
Talley, Ken, Midwest City  
Tripp, Carl & Hazel, Weatherford  
Tudor, Boyd, Edmond  
Underwood, George W. and Linda P., Midwest City  
Wesley, George L., Oklahoma City

Wharton, John, Norman  
Yount, Robert L. & Zonia, Oklahoma City

### Individual

Adomyertz, Tim, Yukon  
Allen, Vera, Oklahoma City  
Boyd, Alvah L., Oklahoma City  
Burton, David, Oklahoma City  
Collinsworth, Diana, Oklahoma City  
Cooksey, Rita, Oklahoma City  
Cox, Dean, Raymore, MO  
Cox, Mary, Oklahoma City  
Fenton, Kathryn, Virginia Beach, VA  
Gehrke, Alice, Oklahoma City  
Gibson, Roberta S., Okmulgee  
Ginn, Thomas, Moore  
Grissom, Treva, Jenks  
Johnson, Willa D., Oklahoma City

Jolley, Wray, Oklahoma City  
Lewis, Hilda L., Oklahoma City  
Lewis, Alex O., Oklahoma City  
Matthews, Johnnie Beth, Oklahoma City  
Mitchell, Caroline Emerson, Oklahoma City  
Nelson, Charles S., Guthrie  
Pelton, Linda S., Norman  
Perry, Brenda L., Oklahoma City  
Pete, Linda, Oklahoma City  
Rhodes, Lillian, Edmond  
Robertson, David, Methil Leven, Fife, KY  
Troccoli, Joan C., Denver, CO  
Ward, Stephen, Tulsa  
Waters, Betty, Red Rock  
Webster, Jeannie, Paoli  
Wilkins, Dianne, Chickasha  
Woodfork, Vanessa, Norman



# OKLAHOMA HISTORICAL SOCIETY

## 2007 ANNUAL MEETING

### Oklahoma City, Oklahoma

#### General Information

The OHS 2007 Annual Meeting will be held on April 12, 13, and 14 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 Geneva Little and Tim Zwink.

#### Lodging

The conference hotel for the Annual Meeting is the Holiday Inn Hotel & Suites, 6200 N. Robinson Avenue, Oklahoma City.

Room rates at the Holiday Inn Hotel & Suites are \$73, single or double, and reservations are made by calling 405/843-5558 or 800/682-0049.

Individuals 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 has been mailed separately to all members of the Society. Please remember to fill it out and return it with your registration payment as soon as possible. Registration packets with tickets and name tags will be available at the OHS registration table on Thursday, April 12, at the Oklahoma History Center beginning at 12 p.m. and on Friday, April 13, and Saturday, April 14, at the Oklahoma History Center beginning at 8 a.m.

Members are encouraged to register early. There are a limited number of tickets for admission to special events and meals. The preregistration deadline is April 4, 2007. A registration fee of \$15 for OHS members and \$20 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 6, 2007.

#### Bus Tour

On Thursday afternoon, April 12, the OHS will offer a bus tour of historic Oklahoma City and Guthrie's Oklahoma Territorial Museum and State Capital Publishing Museum. The cost of the bus tour is \$18. There are no admission fees, and refreshments will be provided at the Territorial Museum. A guide will be aboard each bus to provide details about historic tour sites. Buses will depart from the Oklahoma History Center promptly at 1 p.m. and return at 5 p.m.

#### "Evening at the Phillips Pavilion"

On Thursday evening, members will enjoy an evening of food, fun, and fellowship at the Phillips Pavilion on the Governor's Mansion grounds at 820 Northeast 23rd Street in Oklahoma City. Following a tour of the Governor's Mansion beginning at 6 p.m., the evening meal will consist of smoked brisket and sausage, potato salad, cole slaw, baked beans, fruit cobbler, hot chocolate cake, and beverages. The cost of the meal is \$18.

#### Paper Sessions

Concurrent paper sessions, each with two to four presenters and one moderator, on a wide variety of historical topics will be held on Friday, April 13, and Saturday, April 14, at the Oklahoma History Center.

#### Book Sale

A book sale of more than 1,000 titles will be held starting Thursday, April 12, 1 p.m. to 5 p.m. in the Gladys & Cooper West Atrium Hallway of the Oklahoma History Center. A select number of microfilm rolls and photographs also will be

available. The book sale will continue on Friday, April 13, from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. and on Saturday, April 14, from 8 a.m. until 12 p.m. All proceeds from the book sale will benefit the acquisition fund for the OHS Research Division.

#### Exhibit Area

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

#### Coffee Breaks

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

#### Luncheon

At 12:15 p.m. on Friday, April 13, members and guests will gather in the Devon Great Hall of the Oklahoma History Center for a luncheon of croissant sandwich (roast beef, ham, turkey, cheese, lettuce, and tomato), pasta salad, fruit cup, assorted dessert bars, and cookies. The cost of the meal is \$20. Ticket holders will select their seats on a first-come, first-served basis. The luncheon speaker is Dr. Guy W. Logsdon. A renowned scholar and speaker, Dr. Logsdon will provide information and entertainment on Oklahoma's musical traditions.

#### Book Autograph Party

After the luncheon, a book autograph party will be held in the Chesapeake Special Events Auditorium of the Oklahoma History Center. From approximately 2 p.m. until 3 p.m., numerous authors of books on Oklahoma history will be available to autograph their books. Invited authors include those on the OHS Annual Meeting program, OHS staff, and OHS Board members. Select books by the participating authors will be available for purchase through the OHS Museum Gift Shop.

#### Annual Membership Meeting

At approximately 3 p.m. in the Chesapeake Special Events Auditorium, 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 13, beginning at 4 p.m., participants will have free time to explore other sites in Oklahoma City, including the Overholser Mansion, the Oklahoma City National Memorial, and the Centennial Land Run sculptures near Bricktown. Look for information about these sites and others at the Exhibitors' Area, third floor of the History Center.

#### Awards Banquet

The Annual Awards Banquet on Friday evening, April 13, will begin at 7 p.m. in the Ballroom of the Holiday Inn Hotel & Suites at 6200 N. Robinson Avenue, Oklahoma City. The dinner will consist of London Broil, potatoes au gratin, vegetable medley, classic mixed green salad, New York-style cheesecake, and beverages. The cost of the meal is \$24. Ticket holders will select seats on a first-come, first-served basis.

Following the meal, the traditional presentations will include the Muriel H. Wright Award, Joseph B. Thoburn Award, and awards for the Best Book on Oklahoma History, Outstanding Thesis 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 a.m. to 5 p.m. CST).

# "Oklahoma's Centennial: A Celebration of Our Heritage"

## THURSDAY, APRIL 12

#### Registration

Lobby, Oklahoma History Center

12:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m.

#### Bus Tour

Departs from Oklahoma History Center

1:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m.

#### Book Sale

Gladys and Cooper West Atrium Hallway, Oklahoma History Center

1:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m.

#### "An Evening at the Phillips Pavilion"

Phillips Pavilion,

Governor's Mansion Grounds

6:00 p.m.

## FRIDAY, APRIL 13

#### Registration

Lobby, Oklahoma History Center

8:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.

#### Session I: OERB Classroom

8:30 a.m. – 10:00 a.m.

*Quest for Equality: Civil Rights in Oklahoma*

*Moderator:* Bruce Fisher, Director of Cultural Diversity, Outreach Division, Oklahoma Historical Society, Oklahoma City

"Searching for George W. McLaurin, Forgotten Civil Rights Hero," Linda Reese, Chair, Department of History, East Central University, Ada

"The Right Man for the Job: Race, Manhood, and Oklahoma Football in the Mid-1960s," Chris Davis, Student, Department of History, University of Oklahoma, Norman.

#### Session II: Nickelodeon Theater, Inasmuch Gallery

8:30 a.m. – 10:00 a.m.

*Oklahoma Women in Public Service*

*Moderator:* William D. Pennington, President, Murray State College, Tishomingo

"Oklahoma Women in Elective Office: The Long Struggle for Credibility," Adelia Hansen, Historian, Sheerar Museum, Stillwater

"Policy Ahead of Politics: Helen Cole and Ethics in Oklahoma," Julie Bennett-Jones, Student, Department of History, University of Central Oklahoma, Edmond

#### Session III: Chesapeake Special Events Auditorium

8:30 a.m. – 10:00 a.m.

*Through the Camera's Lens: Images of Oklahoma*

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

"Oklahoma Events as Captured and Experienced by a Photo Journalist," Jim Argo, Professional Photographer/Retired Photojournalist, Edmond

"Unconquered and Unconquerable: Images of the Chickasaw People," David Fitzgerald, Professional Photographer, Oklahoma City

## FRIDAY, APRIL 13

### Session IV: OERB Classroom

10:30 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.

*Women in Oklahoma*

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

“Standing on the Shoulders of Their Sisters: Tulsa Chapter of the General Federation of Women’s Clubs, 1906–1919,” Kate Thomas, Student, Department of History, University of Tulsa, Tulsa

“Dorothy K. Pressler Morgan, 1930s Oklahoma Aviatrix,” Tally Fugate, Archivist, Oklahoma State Library, Oklahoma Department of Libraries, Oklahoma City

### Session V: Nickelodeon Theater, Inasmuch Gallery

10:30 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.

*Oklahoma Celebrations*

*Moderator:* Glen Roberson, Centennial Farms and Ranches Program, State Historic Preservation Office, Oklahoma Historical Society, Oklahoma City

“Celebrating Statehood, November 16, 1907,” Jay Hannah, Member, Board of Directors, Friends of the State Museum of History, and Executive Vice President of Financial Services, BancFirst, Oklahoma City

“Oklahomarama, 1957,” Rodger Harris, Oral Historian, Research Division, Oklahoma Historical Society, Oklahoma City

“There Was More Than One Wedding That Day: Statehood Day in the Choctaw Nation,” Members, Atoka County Historical Society, Atoka

### Session VI: Chesapeake Special Events Auditorium

10:30 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.

*A Capital City in Transformation*

*Moderator:* Jim Gabbert, Architectural Historian, State Historic Preservation Office, Oklahoma Historical Society, Oklahoma City

“Oklahoma City: Second Time Around,” Part 1, Steve Lackmeyer, Business Writer, *The Oklahoman*, Oklahoma City

“Oklahoma City: Second Time Around,” Part 2, Jack Money, Assistant City Editor, *The Oklahoman*, Oklahoma City

## SATURDAY, APRIL 14

### Session VII: OERB Classroom

8:30 a.m. – 10:00 a.m.

*And You Too Might Become President: An Examination of Oklahomans Who Sought the U.S. Presidency*

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

“William H. Murray,” Jeanene H. Letcher, Archivist, Carl Albert Congressional Research and Studies Center, University of Oklahoma, Norman

“Robert L. Owen,” Cary G. Osborne, Archivist, Carl Albert Congressional Research and Studies Center, University of Oklahoma, Norman

“Robert S. Kerr,” Carolyn G. Hanneman, Archivist, Carl Albert Congressional Research and Studies Center, University of Oklahoma, Norman

“Fred R. Harris,” Erin M. Sloan, Archivist, Carl Albert Congressional Research and Studies Center, University of Oklahoma, Norman

### Session VIII: Nickelodeon Theater, Inasmuch Gallery

8:30 a.m. – 10:00 a.m.

*East Meets West in Mid-America: Chinese Immigrants in Oklahoma, 1930–1977*

*Moderator:* Mike Bell, Curator of Collections, Oklahoma Museum of History, Oklahoma Historical Society, Oklahoma City

“Exclusion or Inclusion: Early Chinese Experience in Oklahoma, 1880–1930,” Kenny Brown, Professor of History, University of Central Oklahoma, Edmond

“Between Black and White: Changing Nature of Racial Attitudes toward Chinese in Oklahoma, 1920–1940,” Julie Bennett-Jones, Student, Department of History and Geography, University of Central Oklahoma, Edmond

“From Coolies to Model Minority: The Chinese in Post-WWII Oklahoma,” Xiaobing Li, Professor of History, University of Central Oklahoma, Edmond

### Session IX: Chesapeake Special Events Auditorium

8:30 a.m. – 10:00 a.m.

*Recovering the Heroine*

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

“Oak and Iron, Used Sparingly: The Assembly of the Western River Steamboat *Heroine* and the Cargo She Carried,” Kevin Crisman, Associate Professor of Anthropology, Texas A&M University, and Principal Investigator, Institute of Nautical Archaeology, College Station, Texas

“The Life and Times of the Western Steamboat *Heroine*,” Howard McKinnis, Historic Interpreter, Honey Springs Battlefield, Oklahoma Historical Society, Rentiesville

“Getting the Shaft: Recovering Monumental Artifacts from *Heroine*,” John Davis, Director, Fort Towson Historic Site, Oklahoma Historical Society, Fort Towson

“The Construction and Reconstruction of an Early Western River Steamboat Engine,” Glen Greico, Professional Shipbuilder and Research Assistant, Maritime Archaeology and Conservation, Texas A&M University, College Station, Texas

### Session X: OERB Classroom

10:30 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.

*Oklahoma Culture: East and West*

*Moderator:* William Bedford Clark, Professor of English, Texas A&M University, College Station, Texas

“Cultural Interzone: The Musical Heritage of the Oklahoma Ozarks,” J. Justin Castro, Student, Department of History, University of Central Oklahoma, Edmond

“A Modern Frontier: Life and Culture in Oklahoma Territory,” Bobby H. Johnson, Regents Professor of History, Stephen F. Austin University, Nacogdoches, Texas

### Session XI: Nickelodeon Theater, Inasmuch Gallery

10:30 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.

*Preservation and Change in Central Oklahoma*

*Moderator:* Paul W. Matthews, Former Board Member, Oklahoma Historical Society, Oklahoma City

“Architecture of Central Oklahoma,” Catherine Montgomery, Historic Preservation Architect, State Historic Preservation Office, Oklahoma Historical Society, Oklahoma City

“To Remake a River: Oklahoma City and the North Canadian,” Sam Stalcup, Student, Department of History, University of Oklahoma, Norman

### Session XII: Chesapeake Special Events Auditorium

10:30 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.

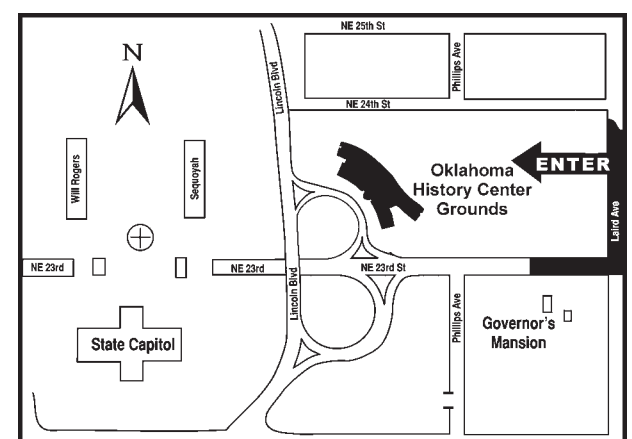
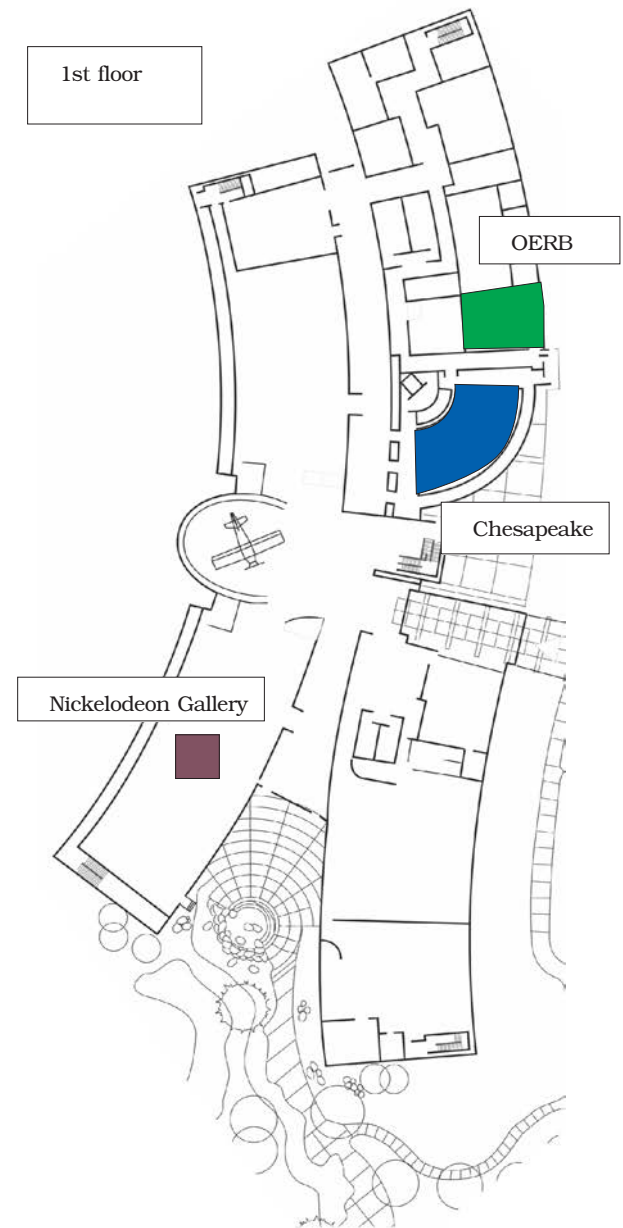
*“You Know We Belong to the Land”: The Centennial History of Oklahoma*

*Moderator:* William P. Corbett, Professor of History, Northeastern State University, Tahlequah

“Oklahoma 1907–2007,” N. Scott Momaday, Novelist, Scholar, Painter, Printmaker, and Poet, Oklahoma City

“You Know We Belong to the Land, Part 1: Chief Standing Bear,” Paul F. Lambert, Membership Campaign Coordinator, Oklahoma Historical Society, Oklahoma City

“You Know We Belong to the Land, Part 2: Lawrence Hart,” Bob L. Blackburn, Executive Director, Oklahoma Historical Society, Oklahoma City





## Hidden Collections . . .

### The F. Hiner Dale Collection

By Larry O'Dell

The Oklahoma Historical Society's Research Division preserves material from all across the state. An example is the F. Hiner Dale Collection (97.89), which spans the career of a lawyer/judge from Guymon, in the Oklahoma Panhandle. Dale's papers date from 1909 until 1968. They are a useful tool in researching the Panhandle's twentieth-century history.

Born in Kentucky in 1881, Dale relocated to Guymon in 1906. There, he opened a law and real estate office and prospered. In 1909 Dale married Elizabeth Neet, a native of Indiana. After Dale served several terms as Texas County Attorney, in 1927 Governor Henry Johnston appointed him as a district judge. Dale held the position until 1950, when he retired and entered private practice with his son, Vincent. Many people, especially newspaper reporters, dubbed Dale "the Will Rogers of the Panhandle." He wrote stories and remained popular on the speech-making circuit. Dale and Guymon's history were intertwined, as he was a community leader for more than sixty years. In 1955 he was inducted into the Oklahoma Hall of Fame. In 1961 he published his autobiography, *An Oklahoma Lawyer* (the OHS Research Center library holds a copy).

The Dale Collection contains business and personal correspondence to and from individuals that include Henry Johnston, Frank Sewell, Dick Morgan, James Nance, and Mike Monroney, and the U.S. Department of Justice. There are also several letters and articles concerning Dale's hobbies, which included breeding and raising collies, quail, ducks, and prairie dogs, as well as gardening. He also kept many of his speeches and other writings.



**F. Hiner Dale stands on the porch of his Guymon home (Dale Collection/OHS photo).**

The papers include several published articles written about the judge. In 1955 a Panhandle radio show titled "Light and Hitch" broadcasted a three-part program devoted to Dale's life. Copies of the show's scripts are included in the archived material. In 1969 F. Hiner Dale died, but his civic and political legacy with regard to Oklahoma's Panhandle history lives in his collection at the Oklahoma Historical Society's Research Center archive.

## OHS Places . . .

### Peter Conser House

HC 64, Box 3725

Heavener, OK 74937-9512

Phone: 918/653-2493

Hours: Wednesday-Saturday, 10 a.m.-5 p.m.

Sunday, 2-5 p.m.

Admission: Free; donations are accepted.

Directions: 4 miles south of Heavener on U.S. Highway 59, then 3.5 miles west of Hodgen.

Signs of spring are here with the arrival of robins and nature's display of tulips and daffodils. Take a leisurely drive to southeastern Oklahoma and visit the Peter Conser House, located south of Heavener in LeFlore County. Peter Conser (ca. 1852-1934), of French and Choctaw descent, served as an official in the

Choctaw Lighthorsemen (police force) for the Moshulatubbe District, Choctaw Nation, Indian Territory, and as a legislator in the Choctaw Council. He and his first wife, Amy (Bacon) Conser, had a daughter named Susan. Amy Conser soon died, leaving Conser to rear his daughter. He later married Martha Jane Smith, with whom he had eight children. His third wife was Mary Ann Holson.

With nine children in the household, Peter Conser had a two-story, white, frame house built, which was completed in 1894. Although typical of a modest 1890s farmhouse, it reflected Conser's measure of success at that time. The double porches, situated between the tall, cut-stone chimneys on the east and north side of the house, provided the Conser family with a view of their 600 acres of bottomland to the north. A porch located off the kitchen looked out to a log smokehouse and a barn. Livestock included milking cows, mules, and horses. In addition to the farm he owned a blacksmith shop, a grist mill, a saw mill, and a general store with a post office. The house remained in the Conser family until it was donated to the Oklahoma Historical Society in 1967. In 1971 the house was listed in the National Register of Historic Places.

### Cherokee Strip Museum's Rural Heritage Festival set for April 28

Pioneer agriculture and rural home skills are on display at the Rural Heritage Festival from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. on Saturday, April 28, at the Cherokee Strip Museum in Perry.

"The festival is designed for families and people of all ages," said Kaye Bond, facility manager. "We are celebrating our community heritage and welcome everyone for a day of relaxation and friendship." The Rural Heritage Festival provides a fun, educational experience. Throughout the day, living history interpretations and demonstrations will help people understand traditional skills and lifestyles of the agricultural and rural communities.

Rose Hill School will hold session, and the public is encouraged to participate. Directed by their teachers, students from Morrison will wrap a May Pole. The Saltfork Blacksmiths will demonstrate some of the many skills needed in rural communities. Inside the museum, the Lace Guild of Oklahoma will display lace items and provide hands-on demonstrations of lace-making techniques.

Admission is free, but that day's donations help fund the activities and ensure that the event will continue. The Cherokee Strip Historical Society will sell sandwiches, chips, and drinks. The Rural Heritage Festival is sponsored by the Oklahoma Historical Society, which operates the museum at 2617 West Fir in Perry, and the Cherokee Strip Historical Society. For information telephone 580/336-2405 or e-mail <csmuseum@okhistory.org>.



**Peter Conser House (OHS photo).**



## OHS Faces . . .

### John Davis, Director

#### Fort Towson Historic Site

John Davis was recently named director of Fort Towson Historic Site. Established in 1820, Fort Towson was on the edge of the western frontier and lay on the Mexican border. The fort remained in use through the 1840s and was once again occupied by Confederates during the Civil War.

Davis began his career with the Oklahoma Historical Society (OHS) in March 1992 as a groundskeeper at Fort Towson. While working at the fort, he continued his education at Southeastern Oklahoma State University. According to Davis, "My interest in history and the opportunity to work in historical reenactments around the state of Oklahoma led to a position as an interpreter. As an interpreter I could share the incredible stories of Oklahoma's past with visitors to the fort and at living history events around the state."

This past spring Davis completed a bachelor's degree in general studies at Southeastern Oklahoma State University, and earlier this month he was selected as the outstanding employee in the military sites department at the OHS. Wherever Davis can be found, his two daughters, Jessica and Samantha, are usually close at hand. Davis's wife, Sandra, is the library media specialist for Fort Towson schools, where Jessica and Samantha attend.

Davis has been actively involved in the survey, research, and recovery work undertaken on the steamboat wreck located in the Red River. The steamboat identified as the *Heroine* was en route to Fort Towson with military provisions when it hit a snag and sank just a few miles short of its destination. This underwater archaeology project has been a joint project of the OHS and the Institute for Nautical Archaeology (INA) at Texas A&M University. In order to participate in the dive Davis obtained his diving certification and has been an integral part of the team working on the *Heroine*.

Dr. Kevin Crisman, INA project director, recently wrote, "I have directed or participated in dozens of shipwreck archaeology projects since 1980, and in doing so have worked with hundreds of individuals. I can say with confidence that John Davis is one of the most competent, hard-working, reliable field archaeologists that I have ever met. . . . The Oklahoma Historical Society is fortunate to number him among its employees." As a result of his work on the shipwreck Davis has presented numerous papers across the country and traveled to York, England, in 2005 to join a panel discussion on the project.

Davis commented, "I am excited about the new position and the many opportunities ahead. Planning is in the final stages for a new museum located on the grounds of Fort Towson Historic Site. The construction and interpretation phase of this project will be an exciting and challenging endeavor. The final product will allow the site to tell a better and much more complete story of Fort Towson and its role in the history of southeastern Oklahoma. I am looking forward to managing the project and continuing the many successful events held at the fort that enhance visitors' understanding of the rich heritage of southeastern Oklahoma."



## Learn to make baskets at the Pioneer Woman Museum in April

The Pioneer Woman Museum, in Ponca City, will host three basket-making seminars during April. On Saturday, April 14, learn to make an "Oklahoma Centennial Basket." Cost is \$50 per participant and includes materials. The instructor is Mary Sorrells. Class size is limited to 14 students. Register on or before April 12.

On April 15 the seminar "Cherokee Twill Basket Weaving for Beginners" will be conducted by Dora Smith. Class size is limited to 12, and cost is \$45 per student. Register on or before Friday, April 13.

On Saturday, April 21, Mary Sorrells will teach students to make the "Ponca City Iris Baskets." The class is for beginners and intermediates. The basket is a round-bottom variety with a wooden base and is embellished with irises around the entire side. Register on or before Thursday, April 19. Cost is \$50, and the class is limited to 14.

In all cases, students should bring scissors, clothes pins, an old towel, a ruler, and a plastic spray bottle for water.

For information call 580/765-6108 or e-mail <rbrave@okhistory.org>. The Pioneer Woman Museum is located at 701 Monument Road in Ponca City.

## Drummond House quilt exhibit offered during April

This month the Fred Drummond House, at 305 N. Price Avenue in Hominy, will host their annual quilt exhibit. The display of Addie Drummond's quilts illustrates the intricate art of quilting done in the early 1900s. The Hominy Quilting Group will show their own work during the event. The Drummond House is open Wednesday through Saturday from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. and Sunday from 1 to 5 p.m. Call 918/885-2374 for information.

## Montgomery named to national team on rehabilitation tax credits

Catherine Montgomery, AIA, the Historic Preservation Architect for the Oklahoma State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO), was recently appointed to a special team working on improvements to federal investment tax credits for rehabilitation of historic buildings.

The most significant financial incentives available for rehabilitation of historic buildings are the federal and state investment tax credits. Owners of income-producing buildings that have been listed in the National Register of Historic Places (or are listed within a time frame specified in federal regulations) may qualify for a 20 percent federal and a 20 percent state tax credit based on the costs of rehabilitation when the project work is certified by the National Park Service (NPS).

The SHPO plays a key role in this program. The SHPO reviews applications, works with owners to insure that planned work meets the Secretary of the Interior's Standards for Rehabilitation, and then transfers the applications with comments to NPS. Just one such rehabilitation project is Oklahoma City's Skirvin Hilton Hotel, which opened for business on February 26.

Montgomery is the SHPO staff member who coordinates this program. She is now serving on one of four intergovernmental teams established to implement the National Park System Advisory Board's recommendations to improve the federal tax incentives program for certified rehabilitation of historic buildings. Her team's assignment concerns the interpretation of the Sec-

retary of the Interior's Standards for Rehabilitation with special emphasis on windows, interior treatments, new additions, and the incorporation of new technologies and modern-day requirements. She is one of four individuals outside of the NPS that have been appointed to the team, which is scheduled to complete its work by the end of 2007. Other non-NPS team members are from the Virginia, New York, and Ohio SHPOs.

For more information about the tax credit program in Oklahoma, contact Montgomery at 405/522-4479 or at <catherinem@okhistory.org>. Full details are also provided at the agency's web site, <www.okhistory.org/shpo>.

## Governor Seay Centennial Ball to be held April 14

The Seay Mansion Society will host the Governor Seay Centennial Ball on Saturday, April 14, at 7 p.m. in Kingfisher at the fairgrounds exhibit building, 300 S. Thirteenth Street. This gala event will commemorate the Centennial celebration of Oklahoma statehood. On January 5, 1892, Abraham J. Seay became Territorial Governor of Oklahoma. Kingfisher is home to "Horizon Hill," his Victorian mansion. The ball is a major fund raiser for the mansion restoration that remains under way.

Prairie Land String Band will provide dance music. Victorian dancing steps are easy to learn, but spectators will also enjoy watching. The occasion is a family affair. Refreshments will be served. Centennial-period dress or "Sunday best" attire is requested.

The cost is \$10 per person; children under 12 are admitted free. Tickets are available from the Seay Mansion Society or by calling the Chisholm Trail Museum at 405/385-5176. Tickets may also be purchased at the door.

## Living History Centennial Event is also April 14

Meanwhile, at the Chisholm Trail Museum, 605 Zellers Avenue in Kingfisher, the Living History Centennial Event gets into full swing at 9 a.m. and continues to 5 p.m. Millinery making, spinning and weaving, wheat weaving, lace making, and other crafts will be demonstrated. Reenactors encamped on the grounds will demonstrate aspects of frontier life during the nineteenth century.

Mary Lou Highfill will discuss "Oklahoma Sunbonnets and the Women who Wore Them" and "Pincushions—Past and Present." Daryl Talbott will draw western cartoons while sharing his rodeo and cowboying experiences. Virgil T. Staggs will tell stories of driving cattle up the Chisholm Trail. Howell's Light Artillery Battery (Sons of Confederate Veterans) will be encamped and will share information on the unit's service in the Civil War in Indian Territory. The Friendly Circle Music Group, of El Reno, will play gospel and traditional songs in the Harmony Church on the grounds. An 1880s chuck wagon and drover's camp will also be set up. Woodson Whitebird, Cheyenne, will make arrows and describe the uses of the buffalo for American Indian subsistence. Dr. H. P. Hedgethicket will present his medicine show.

Admission to the Living History Event is \$2 per person; children under 10 may enjoy the spectacle for free. Food and drink booths and the museum gift shop will be open. Call 405/375-5176 for information, or e-mail <reneem@okhistory.org>.

See you there!

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

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PERIODICALS



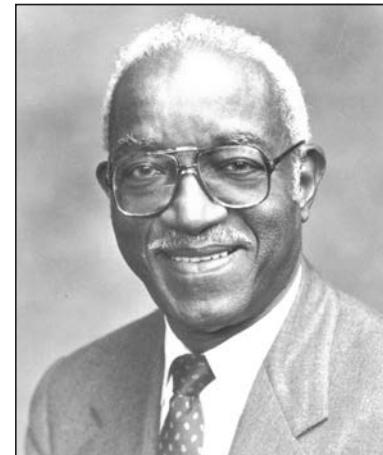
Smithsonian Affiliations  
Membership Program

# Mistletoe Leaves

Vol. 38, No. 4

April 2007

## John Hope Franklin to lecture at Oklahoma History Center on April 7



Historian John Hope Franklin will deliver a lecture on Saturday, April 7, 2007, at 1 p.m. at the Oklahoma History Center. The program is presented as part of the Oklahoma Historical Society's "Speaking of the Truth" lecture series. The event is free to the public.

Born in Rentiesville, Oklahoma, ninety-two years ago, Franklin is known as the "dean" of African American historians. He holds a doctorate in history from Harvard University, and when he joined the faculty of Brooklyn University, he became the first black historian to become a full professor at a white institution. In later years he chaired the history department at the University of Chicago and served as John B. Duke Professor at Duke University.

A recipient of the Presidential Medal of Freedom, he has devoted his life to Civil Rights activities. In May 2007 he will receive an award from the Washington, D.C.-based Leadership Conference on Civil Rights. President Bill Clinton will also receive an award from the conference, which is the nation's oldest and largest civil and human rights coalition.

The Franklin lecture is underwritten by a grant from Oklahoma Natural Gas.

## Folklorist Guy Logsdon to speak at OHS Annual Meeting luncheon on April 13

Dr. Guy W. Logsdon of Tulsa will present the Annual Meeting luncheon address on Friday, April 13, in the Devon Great Hall of the Oklahoma History Center. A renowned scholar, folklorist, and speaker, Logsdon will provide information and entertainment on Oklahoma's musical traditions. The luncheon begins at 12:15 p.m.

Logsdon is the author of numerous books and articles concerning the folklore of Oklahoma and the American West. Among his many works are *Saddle Serenaders* (1995); *The Whorehouse Bells Were Ringing and Other Songs Cowboys Sing* (1989); *Ada, Oklahoma: Queen City of the Chickasaw Nation* (1998); and *The University of Tulsa: A History* (1977).

Following the luncheon, an autograph party will offer an opportunity for attendees to obtain signed books published by Logsdon and other Annual Meeting presenters, as well by as OHS staff and Board members.

