Rock and Roll exhibit opens May 1 at the History Center

Wanda Jackson. Leon Russell.
The Flaming Lips. Cain’s Ballroom.
Zoo Amphitheatre.
KOMA. KMOD.

These people, places, and radio stations just barely skim the surface of the visitor’s experience in Another Hot Oklahoma Night: A Rock and Roll Exhibit.

Another Hot Oklahoma Night will open Friday, May 1, 2009, to the membership of the Oklahoma Historical Society with a reception at 7 p.m. The gala will include the launching of a special Rock and Roll issue of Oklahoma Today magazine.

On Saturday, May 2, 2009, the exhibit will open to the public. That opening will include a full day of shows by Oklahoma bands and family fun at the History Center.

The exhibit will explore the artists, radio stations, personalities, venues, and fans in Oklahoma during Rock and Roll’s half-century of existence. Beyond the facts of each story, the exhibit will show how growing up in Oklahoma influenced the artists and their music. These stories will be displayed in an innovative style to encourage visitor participation and to ensure that the viewer will take away a new perspective on the history of Rock and Roll in Oklahoma.

The E. K. and Thelma Gaylord Special Exhibit Gallery will be home to the “Artists” portion of the exhibit. It will feature artifacts from all eras of Oklahoma Rock and Roll. From the early influences of Bob Wills’s Western swing, Charlie Christian’s lead guitar, Woody Guthrie’s social protest music, and Wanda Jackson’s rockabilly to the current sounds of bands such as the All-American Rejects, Hanson, and the Flaming Lips, the artists who call Oklahoma home have been diverse and accomplished.

Across the state, musical styles as different as grunge and funk have made their mark on the Oklahoma and national music scene. Tulsa rivals other international cities as home to some of the most accomplished Rock and Roll and Pop music artists in the world. Tulsa musicians were in serious demand during the 1960s and 1970s. The multitalented Leon Russell, drummer Jim Keltner, bassist Carl Radle, and guitarist J. J. Cale collaborated with artists such as John Lennon, George Harrison, Ringo Starr, the Rolling Stones, Eric Clapton, and Bob Dylan. These musicians headed a group that became known as the “Tulsa Sound” and will be featured, with many more, in the “Artists” section of Another Hot Oklahoma Night.

Another area of the exhibit will focus on “Recording Studios, Record Stores, and Radio Stations.” Local record stores such as Rainbow Records and Sound Warehouse provided albums to music lovers who would become members of great local bands. At night during the 1950s and 1960s KOMA in Oklahoma City broadcasted Rock and Roll music that could be heard throughout much of the western United States. These stories and more will be found in the Inasmuch Foundation Gallery on the first floor of the History Center.

There’s more to see on the third floor in the Samuel Roberts Noble Gallery. The exhibits there will feature “Rockabilly Culture,” “Rock and Roll Fashion and Hair,” and “Oklahoma Rock Venues.” Music and musicians have affected the way people dress, dance, and interact with each other. The “Rockabilly” area illustrates how the popular music and culture of the 1950s is making a resurgence today. The fashion exhibit takes the visitor on a nostalgic journey through the trends of the fifties to today. Explore the Civic Center Music Hall, the Zoo Amphitheatre, Diversafest, Cain’s Ballroom, and many other events, venues, and festivals in the “Oklahoma Rock Venues” section.

Annual Meeting will feature outstanding speakers

Ten program sessions will be held on Thursday morning, April 23, and Friday morning, April 24, during the Annual Membership Meeting in Bartlesville. A detailed program appears on pages 4 and 5 in this issue of Mistletoe Leaves.

The theme for the program sessions will be “Oklahoma’s Energy Frontiers: One Hundred Fifty Years of Petroleum and Natural Resource Development.” In 1859 Lewis Ross, who was the brother of Cherokee Chief John Ross, accidentally drilled the first oil well in Indian Territory. Ironically, he was seeking salt water for his salt works.

Among the speakers will be academic and unaffiliated historians as well as individuals who have made history. Presenters will include Frank McPherson, C. J. Silas, J. Ford Brett, Dr. Brian Frehner, Dr. Duane King, Douglas Cummings, Melvin Moran, Dr. Glen D. Roberson, Dr. Guy W. Logsdon, Dr. Robert L. Wyatt, Walter Eskridge, Whit Edwards, Dr. Alvin Turner, Professor Kirk Rodden, Jim Goss, David Keathley, Stephen Greetham, Dr. Donald Green, Julie Daniels, Dr. Bobby Weaver, Dr. Paul F. Lambert, and Emily Droge.

See you in Bartlesville on April 22, 23, 24!
Director's Column

By Bob L. Blackburn
Executive Director

When people come to the Oklahoma History Center, they oftentimes want to know how it came to be.

I have an entire speech on that subject, from planning and politics to design and funding, but usually, the short version of my response is that it was a miracle that was meant to be—the result of a big dream, great leadership, and a bit of luck.

Beyond that history, I have thought more lately about the underlying reasons we were in a position to make the dream a reality. In previous columns, I mentioned the changes in governance starting in 1981, the emergence of a professional staff, and the generosity of more than 4,000 foundations, companies, and families who shared resources and encouragement.

One sector of our community, however, played a singular role in making the History Center a reality—the oil and gas industry of Oklahoma.

First was the foundation that oil and gas laid for economic development. It is no accident that Oklahoma has two cities larger than any one city in either Arkansas or Kansas. It is the impact of oil and gas wealth flowing through Oklahoma City and Tulsa from 1898 to the present day.

It is no accident that our second tier of cities have images that are intertwined with oil and gas, including Ardmore, Elk City, Ponca City, Woodward, Enid, Bartlesville, Seminole, and Ada.

When you look at jobs created, companies founded, taxes paid, and economic activity stimulated, it is safe to say that Oklahoma’s economic history flows on a sea of oil and gas. It was that economic health that made even the dream of a new History Center possible.

In 1998, when the planning effort for the History Center began, the oil and gas community was just beginning another chapter of explosive growth. Not only did this give government leaders the confidence to fund big dreams, it also opened the doors to the private funding necessary to reach the goal of Smithsonian quality.

The challenge of raising $90 million had to start with a handful of large donations. In our case, we set the bar for leadership grants at $500,000. Those who stepped up to the challenge were Chesapeake Energy, Devon Energy, Kerr-McGee, ONEOK, the Noble Foundation, and the Inasmuch Foundation. All but the last were built with fruits of the oil and gas industry.

This month, the Oklahoma Historical Society Annual Meeting is being held in Bartlesville, one of our oil and gas cities. The theme is “Energy in Oklahoma” with many sessions about oil and gas.

We are planning a new exhibit in the History Center to draw attention to the oil and gas industry since 1937. In the process, we are building collections about exploration, production, distribution, and technology. All of this will help us understand the significance of oil and gas in our history.

Yes, the Oklahoma History Center was the result of a big dream, great leadership, and a bit of luck. It also was the result of the oil and gas industry that drives our economy and improves our quality of life.

Development News

By Paul F. Lambert

Welcome to the more than 1,000 new members who have joined the Oklahoma Historical Society in recent months! This response to our membership development efforts is most encouraging to the staff, directors, and volunteers.

It is inspiring to see this level of support during a time of economic uncertainty. I want to assure all of our valued members that we are most grateful for their generosity. We will do our best to merit your continued support in the years to come.

We are continuing our Annual Giving Campaign, which raises funds to be used exclusively to plan and execute new exhibits, to maintain existing exhibits, and to plan and conduct educational programs. Among our educational efforts is our historical reenactor program. Our Living History presentations involve a staff member “dressing and talking like a historical character telling the story of his or her experiences.” Reenactors present programs on the following subjects: Oil-field Roughneck, The Cattle Drive, Civil War, 14 Flags Over Oklahoma, Fur Trade, American Indians, One-room School House, Oklahoma Statehood, Pioneer Tools, Wiley Post, Depression Era, Land Run, Printing Press, Spanish-American War, State Constitutional Convention Delegate, and other topics or programs on request.

These presentations are done at the Oklahoma History Center and in schools and other venues statewide. We also send education trunks statewide. They contain three-dimensional items that students can handle as well as lesson plans for teaching the related subject. Membership and Annual Fund donations are vital to our efforts to keep museum exhibits exciting and Smithsoni-
Meetings

The Oklahoma Genealogical Society will hold its regular monthly meeting at 6 p.m. on Monday, April 6, 2009, in the Chesapeake Event Center at the Oklahoma History Center, 2401 North Laird Ave, in Oklahoma City. John Phillips, professor and head of documents at Oklahoma State University’s Edmon Low Library, will discuss the availability of early maps relating to Oklahoma. Between 1803 and 1925 more than a thousand maps of the Oklahoma region were produced and included in the American State Papers. The complete collection can be viewed and some can be downloaded. The meeting is open to the public; it is free for OGS members and a suggested $3 donation is asked from nonmembers. The OHS Research Center will be staffed and remain open until 7:45 p.m. that evening. (Special to ML)

Exhibits

The Oklahoma City Museum of Art, located at 415 Couch Dr., Oklahoma City, is hosting an exhibit entitled Julius Shulman: Oklahoma Modernism Rediscovered beginning April 30 and running through June 7. Legendary architectural photographer Shulman is best known for his iconic images of Los Angeles and Palm Springs. However, from his California base, he explored the modernism movement in other regions, including the state of Oklahoma. This exhibit, in collaboration with the Los Angeles Getty Research Institute, will feature photographs representing twenty-one Oklahoma architectural projects and will include homes, banks, churches, museums, and hospitals designed by architects Bruce Goff, Herb Greene, William Caudill, Truett Coston, Robert Roloff, and Paul Harris. A number of events are planned for the opening, including a book signing by 98-year-old Shulman. For more info call 405/236-3100. (Special to ML)

Events

The Cherokee Heritage Center, located three miles south of Tahlequah, is hosting the 38th annual Trail of Tears Art Show and Sale from April 25 through May 17. The show is well established as a venue to showcase art by Native American artists. This year’s participants must be a citizen of a federally recognized Indian tribe. The event’s categories include basketry, pottery, painting, graphics, sculpture, miniatures, and the annual “Trail of Tears” theme. The show is made possible in part through grants from the Bank of Oklahoma, Thalden-Boyd Group, and the Cherokee Nation. For more info visit the web site <cherokeeheritage.org> or call 918/456-6007 or telephone toll free at 888/999-6007. (Special to ML)

The Lincoln County Historical Society Museum of Pioneer History in Chandler, located at 717 Manvel St., is hosting several events in April. A Bennie Kent Film Festival will take place on Saturday, April 4, from 2 to 10 p.m. The event will feature “Hometown Heroes” with a new locally produced film about U.S. Marshal Bill Tilghman as well as the film entitled “You Know My Name.” For more information on the film festival go to <http://joannmcmillan.tripod.com/bennykentfilmfestival>. Also, at the Chandler museum on April 17, at 7 p.m., Karen Neurohr, project director at the Oklahoma State University Edmon Low Library, will present a program that pays tribute to former local poet Wilma Elizabeth McDaniel (1918–2007). The Red Dirt Rangers will perform that evening. Contact Neurohr at 405/744-2376 or by e-mail at clib-pub@okstate.edu. Both programs are free and open to the public. (Special to ML)

“Remembering Oklahoma Poet Wilma Elizabeth McDaniel” will not only be presented in Chandler as mentioned above, but also in Stillwater at the Edmon Low Library in the Peggy V. Helmerich Browsing Room on April 14, at 7 p.m. The First Christian Church Fellowship Hall located at 323 West Fourth St., Stroud, will be the venue for the same program on Thursday, April 16, at 7 p.m. OSU’s Karen Neurohr is in charge of the events, which are partially funded by the Oklahoma Humanities Council and the We the People initiative of the National Endowment for the Humanities. Free and open to the public. (Special to ML)

Happenings

The Plains Indians and Pioneers Museum, in Woodward, is the venue for the Oklahoma Northwest Summer Institute, scheduled for July 6–9, 2009. The course, which covers the history of northwestern Oklahoma, is available to teachers, students, and the public. A tuition fee of $810 includes notebook materials. For more information phone Northwestern Oklahoma State University, Woodward, at 580/256-0049 or 580/254-2501. Also, the Plains Indian and Pioneer Museum can be contacted at 580/256-6136. (Special to ML)

The Cimarron Heritage Center, located at 1300 North Cimarron (U.S. Highway 287 North), Boise City, announces that they will be closed on Saturdays, except by appointment, until further notice. The museum, which features windmill and barbed wire exhibits, the Cox House designed by well-known architect Bruce Goff, and antique vehicles and farm machinery, is open Monday through Friday, from 10 a.m. to noon and from 1 to 4 p.m. Please call 580/544-3479 for more info. Also, the museum is asking for volunteers to help with the Wildflower Workshop to be held June 5 and 6. (Cimarron County Historical Society Foundation & the Cimarron Heritage Center Museum Newsletter. Spring 2009)

A visit to the Overstreet-Kerr Historical Farm will be delightful as well as educational. Enjoy the fragrant smells of the herb gardens and the orchard featuring heirloom varieties of peach, plum, and apple trees. The farm is located ten miles south of Sallisaw on U.S. Highway 59, then turn right on Overstreet-Kerr Rd. Visitors may tour the 106-year-old, elegant, two-story home, with its antique furniture, original woodwork, and four hand-carved fireplaces. The large, white barn stands behind the house and continues to be used to house draft animals and livestock. The farm participates in a nationwide effort to preserve rare livestock breeds. Pinewoody cattle, Choctaw ponies, Spanish goats, and Brown Leghorn and Dominique chickens have a home at the site. In addition to the barn other outbuildings include a smokehouse, a potato house, and a chicken house. Contact Jim Combs, farm manager, at 918/966-3396 or e-mail him at <okhfarm@crossiel.net> for reservations. (Special to ML)

The Easter Bunny is coming to your town! Numerous Oklahoma communities will be hosting Easter egg hunts in April. Foss State Park is hosting an event on Saturday, April 4, beginning at 1 p.m. The Easter Bunny will be available for photographs, and admission is free. For more info telephone 580/726-5656. Sayre City Park will also be a venue for one on Saturday, April 11. For more info call 580/928-3386. (Special to ML)

Downtown Blackwell is hosting its annual festival that will feature tulip garden displays, entertainment, crafts, and a quilt show as well as food and game vendors. Admission is free to the event to be held on Saturday, April 4, from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. For info call 580/363-4195. (Special to ML)
General Information

The OHS 2009 Annual Meeting will be held on April 22, 23, and 24 in Bartlesville, Oklahoma, at the Bartlesville Community Center, 300 Southeast Adams Blvd.

Arrangements have been made by the OHS Annual Meeting Planning Committee: Board Members Guy W. Logsdon (chair), Denzil Garrison, Mary Brett, and Leonard Logan, and OHS staff and volunteers Barbara Garrison, Paul Lambert, Geneva Little, Regentay Molloy, Al Whittington, Bill Siemens, Tim Zwink, and Bob L. Blackburn.

 Lodging

The conference hotels for the Annual Meeting are Hotel Phillips, 821 Johnstone; The Hampton Inn, 130 Southeast Washington Blvd.; and The Inn at Price Tower, 510 Dewey Ave., Bartlesville. Rooms at the Hotel Phillips are $80 plus tax, and reservations are made by calling 800/331-0706. Rooms at The Hampton Inn are $89 plus tax, and reservations are made by calling 918/333-4051. Rooms at The Inn at Price Tower are $829 plus tax, and reservations are made by calling 918/336-1000.

Individuals attending the Annual Meeting are responsible for making their own hotel reservations. Tell the desk clerk you are with the Oklahoma Historical Society to receive the special rate.

 Registration

A registration form has been mailed separately to all members of the Society. Please 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 Wednesday, April 22, in the Lobby of the Hotel Phillips, beginning at 1 p.m. On Thursday, April 23, and Friday, April 24, registration will take place at the Bartlesville Community Center beginning at 8 a.m.

Members are encouraged to register early for the meeting. There are a limited number of tickets for admission to special events and meals. The pre-registration deadline is April 15, 2009. A registration fee of $15 for OHS members and $20 for non-members is required for those attending any of the presentation sessions. No refunds will be made after April 15, 2009.

 Reception

On Wednesday evening, April 22, at 7 p.m. OHS will host a special reception in the Terrace Room of the Phillips Tower. During the reception, the OHS will honor Denzil Garrison for his more than three decades of service to OHS. Refreshments will be served. There is no cost to attend the reception.

Paper Sessions

Concurrent paper sessions, each with two to three presenters and one moderator, on a wide variety of historical topics will be held on Thursday, April 23, and Friday, April 24, at the Bartlesville Community Center.

Exhibit Area

On Thursday and Friday an Exhibitors’ Area will be located in the Community Room of the Bartlesville Community Center.

 Coffee Breaks
On Thursday and Friday mornings a break area with complimentary beverages will be located in the Lobby and Community Room of the Bartlesville Community Center.

Annual Membership Luncheon

At 12:15 p.m. on Thursday, April 23, members and guests will gather in the Community Room at the Bartlesville Community Center for a luncheon of chicken-fried steak, mashed potatoes and gravy, green beans, garden salad and dressing, a dinner roll, and for dessert, fruit salad. The cost of the meal is $816. Ticket holders will select their seats on a first-come, first-served basis. The luncheon speaker is Michael Wallis.

Annual Membership Meeting

After the luncheon, at approximately 2:15 p.m. in the Community Room, members will attend the OHS Annual Meeting of the Membership. OHS president James Waldo will describe the State of the Society; following will be the announcement and swearing-in of new Board members.

Optional Activities

On Thursday afternoon, April 23, participants will have free time to explore attractions in Bartlesville and the surrounding area.

An Evening at Woolaroc

On Thursday evening members will enjoy an evening of food, fun, fellowship, education, and entertainment at Woolaroc Lodge. During the evening guests will have time to explore the lodge and the Woolaroc Museum. The meal will consist of three BBQ meats with sauce, choice of two vegetables (baked beans, potato salad, cole slaw, or brown beans), pickle spear, dinner roll and butter, and for dessert, assorted cobblers. The cost of the evening, including the meal, is $825.

 Awards Luncheon

The Annual Awards Luncheon on Friday, April 24, will begin at 12:15 p.m. in the Community Room of the Bartlesville Community Center. The meal will consist of chicken Kiev, baked potato, vegetable medley, garden salad and dressing, dinner roll and butter, and for dessert, red velvet cake. Cost of the meal is $818. Ticket holders will select seats on a first-come, first-served basis, with some tables reserved for honorees and program participants.

Following the meal, presentations will include the Muriel H. Wright Award, Joseph B. Thoburn Award, William D. Pennington Memorial 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), please call 800/750-4090 (8 a.m. to 5 p.m. CST). Members in the Oklahoma City area may call 522-5242.

“Oklahoma’s Energy Frontiers: One Hundred Fifty Years of Petroleum and Natural Resource Development”

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 22

Registration

Lobby, Hotel Phillips
1:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m.

Reception

Terrace Room, Phillips Tower
7 p.m. - 9 p.m.
Honoring Denzil Garrison

THURSDAY, APRIL 23

Registration

Bartlesville Community Center
8:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.

Session I: Study (Basement)

Plenary Session

Voices of Experience: Personal Stories of Petroleum Industry Leaders
8:30 a.m. – 10:00 a.m.

Moderator: James R. Waldo, Oklahoma City, President, Oklahoma Historical Society

“Out of Sight of Land: Pioneering in the Gulf of Mexico,” Frank McPherson, Oklahoma City, retired CEO of Kerr-McGee Corporation


“What History Tells Us About the Future of the Oil and Gas Business,” J. Ford Brett, Tulsa, President of Oil and Gas Consultants International (OGCI) and managing director of PetroSkills

Break

Lobby and Community Room, Bartlesville Community Center
10:00 a.m. – 10:30 a.m.
Session II: Community Room (First Floor)

American Indians and Petroleum
10:30 a.m. - 12 Noon

Moderator: Jack D. Baker, Oklahoma City, Board of Directors, Oklahoma Historical Society

"Oil, Indians, and Angie Debo: Representations of Energy Development on Tribal Lands," Dr. Brian Freligh, Stillwater, Associate Professor of History, Oklahoma State University

"Thomas Gilcrease: His Vision and Legacy," Dr. Duane King, Tulsa, Executive Director, Gilcrease Museum

Session III: Study (Basement)

Independent Voices: Experiences of Two Independent Oil and Gas Producers
10:30 a.m. - 12 Noon

Moderator: Dr. Timothy A. Zwink, Deputy Director, Oklahoma Historical Society

"Born in the Oil Patch," Douglas Cummings, Oklahoma City, Owner and Founder, Cummings Oil Company

"The Story of an Oklahoma Independent Oil Producer," Melvin Moran, Seminole, Owner and Founder, Moran-K Oil and Moran Oil Enterprises

Session IV: Gallery (Second Floor)

Building Cities and Universities
10:30 a.m. - 12 Noon

Moderator: Sharon Terry, Tulsa, Executive Director, Tulsa Historical Society

"Creating a City: Oil and the Rise of Tulsa," Dr. Glen D. Roberson, Coordinator of the Certified Local Governments Program, Oklahoma Historical Society

"Tulsa University: The Institution that Petroleum Built," Dr. Guy W. Logsdon, Tulsa, Board of Directors, Oklahoma Historical Society

Annual Membership Luncheon
Community Room, Bartlesville Community Center
12:15 p.m.

James R. Waldo, President, OHS Board of Directors, Presiding

Address by Michael Wallis, historian and author

Annual Meeting of the Membership
Community Room, Bartlesville Community Center
2:15 p.m.

Re-Organizational Board Meeting, OHS Board of Directors
Community Room, Bartlesville community Center
2:45 p.m.

"An Evening at Woolaroc"
Tour of Lodge and BBQ Dinner Woolaroc Lodge, 6 p.m.

FRIDAY, APRIL 24

Registration
Bartlesville Community Center
8:00 a.m. - 12 Noon

Session V: Study (Basement)

Oil Towns and Workers
8:30 a.m. - 10:00 a.m.

Moderator: Dr. William Corbett, Tahlequah, Professor of History, Northwestern State University

"The Big Pasture Booms with Oil Promises," Dr. Robert L. Wyliff, III, Ada, Professor Emeritus, East Central University

"From a Farmhand to a Roughneck," Walter Eskridge, Curator of Education, Oklahoma Museum of History, Oklahoma Historical Society

"You Don't See Any Old Shooters," Whit Edwards, Director of Special Projects, Oklahoma Historical Society

Session VI: Community Room

Oil and Politics: Regulation of the Oklahoma Petroleum Industry
8:30 a.m. - 10:00 a.m.

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

"Regulation of Oklahoma’s Petroleum Industry," Dr. Alvin O. Turner, Norman, Dean Emeritus, School of Humanities and Social Sciences, East Central University, Ada

"William H. Murray and Oil Production Controls," Professor Kirk Rodden, Durant, Associate Professor of Political Science, Murray State College, Tishomingo

Session VII: Gallery (Second Floor)

Oklahoma Oil Barons: Frank Phillips and E. W. Marland
8:30 a.m. - 10:00 a.m.

Moderator: Dr. Marvin E. Kroeker, Ada, Board of Directors, Oklahoma Historical Society

"Frank Phillips: Man of Adventure," Jim Goss, Bartlesville, Director, Frank Phillips Home

"E. W. Marland and His Fabulous Home," David Keathley, Ponca City, Director and Curator, Marland Mansion and Estate

Break
Lobby and Community Room, Bartlesville Community Center
10:00 a.m. - 10:30 a.m.

Session VIII: Study (Basement)

The Vital Resource: Water in Oklahoma
10:30 a.m. - 12 Noon

Moderator: Dr. Deena Fisher, Woodward, Dean, Woodward Campus, Northwestern Oklahoma State University

"The Arbuckle-Simpson Aquifer," Stephen Greetham, Ada, Special Counsel on Water and Natural Resources, Division of Commerce, Chickasaw Nation

"Water on the Brain: The Ogallala Aquifer and Me Over the Last Forty Years," Dr. Donald Green, Tishomingo, Professor Emeritus of History, University of Central Oklahoma

Session IX: Community Room

(First Floor)

Cable Tool Drilling Rigs: Yesterday and Today
10:30 a.m. - 12 Noon

Moderator: Jim Goss, Bartlesville, Director, Frank Phillips Home

"The Story of the Nellie Johnstone No. 1," Julie Daniels, Bartlesville, City Councilperson and former Mayor of Bartlesville

"Working in the Oil Patch: Cable Tool Drilling from the Past," Dr. Bobby Weaver, Edmond, author, petroleum industry historian, and museum consultant

Session X: Gallery (Second Floor)

Whizzing All Day and Banging All Night: Oklahoma’s Oil Boom Towns
10:30 a.m. - 12 Noon

Moderator: Dr. Daniel W. Lawrence, Norman, Board of Directors, Oklahoma Historical Society

"Life in Oklahoma Oil Boom Towns," Dr. Paul F. Lambert, Oklahoma City, Membership and Development Director, Oklahoma Historical Society

"Bartlesville: Oklahoma’s First Oil Boom Town," Emily Drooge, Bartlesville, Curator, Bartlesville Area History Museum

Annual Awards Luncheon
Community Room, Bartlesville Community Center
12:15 p.m.

Meal and Presentation of Awards, James R. Waldo, President, OHS Board of Directors, Presiding

Annual Membership Luncheon

Community Room, Bartlesville Community Center
12:15 p.m.

Meal and Presentation of Awards, James R. Waldo, President, OHS Board of Directors, Presiding
Hidden Collections . . .

Rock and Roll Oral History
By Larry O’Dell

Planning for an exhibit on Oklahoma’s Rock and Roll history has provided the opportunity to capture a period in time in Oklahoma’s musical landscape. The Research Division initiated a Rock and Roll oral history program, with rockabilly great and 2009 Rock and Roll Hall of Fame inductee Wanda Jackson the first interview. All subsequent interviews have been recorded in high definition, allowing future researchers the best quality available. We may also use the footage in a projected documentary. We have interviewed more than one hundred artists, venue owners, promoters, agents, and radio personalities. We project that we will talk to more than one hundred fifty before the project concludes.

The breadth of interviews is interesting, ranging from B. J. Thomas to a 1970s punk band called Debris, to an early 1950s rockabilly act called the Collins Kids, to twenty-first-century metal stars Hinder. Others have included the All-American Rejects, Wayne Coyne of the Flaming Lips, Hanson, Tommy Allsup, Chuck Blackwell (drummer for Taj Mahal), David Teagarden (drummer for Bob Seger), Jimmy LaFave, Red Dirt Rangers, Steve Ripley (of the Tractors and guitarist for Bob Dylan’s Shot of Love album and tour), Starlight Mints, Byron Berline, Mason Williams, Uptown Syndicate, Graham Colton, Moon Martin, John Humphrey (drummer for the Nixons and Seether), and many more. In March we interviewed Elvin Bishop, Leon Russell, Nokie Edwards (of the Ventures), members of the Five Americans, David Dickey (of America), and Jamie Oldaker. We have also canvassed Oklahoma’s radio, including Ronnie Kaye, Don Wallace, and Greg Zoobek. Tulsa’s DiversaFest, which showcases and holds classes for Oklahoma and other bands, allowed the Historical Society to have an interview room. There, we talked to nearly twenty bands, allowing us to get a sense of the current music scene.

The collection will allow future researchers to see a snapshot of the state’s rock music scene dating to the innovators through the 1970s when Leon Russell briefly made Tulsa the center of music, to today. It may take four to six months before the collection is processed, and then it may be viewed in the John and Eleanor Kirkpatrick Research Center at the Oklahoma History Center.

Make a new Easter hat!

The Pioneer Woman Museum will be hosting a Victorian Easter Hat Class on Saturday, April 11, from 10 a.m. to noon. There is a $15 fee, and preregistration is required. Call 580/765-6108 to enroll before the class fills up.

The museum will also host an Easter egg hunt on the lawn that same Saturday, April 11, at 2 p.m. Refreshments will be available in the education room.

David Fitzgerald’s photographic collection, Cherokee Nation: A Portrait of a People, is on display now and will be available for viewing Tuesday through Saturday from 9 a.m. until 5 p.m. and on Sunday from 1 to 5 p.m.

The Pioneer Woman Museum is located at 701 Monument Road in Ponca City. Call 580/765-6108 for information.

Route 66 Museum hosts 2009 photography contest

If an ordinary picture is worth a thousand words, then Route 66 photographs are priceless. Beginning February 1 until October 20, 2009, the Oklahoma Route 66 Museum at Clinton and the Oklahoma Route 66 Association are sponsoring a photography contest. To honor the photographers, the images will be displayed in the Wow! Room during the 2009 Festival of Lights parade in November.

Photographic entries may be of any Route 66-themed item—a roadside scene or even an old parked vehicle, or anything that defines a person’s idea of Route 66. The forms can be downloaded from the Oklahoma Route 66 Association website or e-mailed to you by the museum. Entries can be submitted to the museum by mail or hand delivery, but each entry must have proper identification information placed on the back of the photograph.

The judges panel will pick a First Prize winner for each of the eight categories and one Grand Prize overall winner. Furthermore, winning photographs may be published in local newspapers and may be exhibited in the museum gallery, so they will not be returned.

The photography special exhibition (in November 2009) is an organized effort by the Oklahoma Route 66 Association, the Oklahoma Route 66 Museum in Clinton, and Blunck’s Studios. The display will be available for viewing in the museum’s Wow! Room, which is free to the public. Fall hours of operation are Monday through Saturday, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. and Sunday 1 to 5 p.m. Gallery admission is $3 for adults, $2.50 for seniors and groups of 10 or more, and $1 for students 6 to 18; children under 5 are free.

For additional information contact Pat Smith at 580/323-7866 or through e-mail at cr66mus@okhistory.org.
The Annual Giving Program

The 2008–09 Annual Giving Campaign of the Oklahoma Historical Society is well under way. All of the Annual Giving Funds raised will be used to plan and execute new museum exhibits and to conduct educational programs and special events. Those who contribute $1,000 or more will be listed on our Annual Donor Board in the Oklahoma History Center. The current donor board will be changed shortly after July 1, 2009, to list the donors from July 1, 2008, through June 30, 2009. All new and renewing memberships at $1,000 or higher also will be considered Annual Fund Donors and will be listed on the donor board. Annual Campaign donors who are not members of the OHS will receive Honorary Director’s Circle or Honorary Benefactor Member status. Multiple donations during the period will be summed, and the donor will be listed on the donor board at the level that reflects the total.

Membership contributions and Annual Giving donations each carry their own benefits. Membership benefits begin at $35 while Annual Giving benefits start at $1,000.

Anyone with questions regarding the Annual Giving Campaign or Membership in the OHS is encouraged to contact Paul Lambert at 405/522-5217 or at OHS Development, 2401 North Laird Ave., Oklahoma City, OK 73105.

OKLAHOMA HISTORY CENTER

Annual Giving Campaign

Donor Levels & Benefits*

*Donors may choose to decline benefits, thereby preserving the full deductibility of their donations.

All donors above $99 will receive an Oklahoma History Center DVD and Recognition in an annual publication honoring donors

($50,000 and Above)
5 Room Rental Waivers
6 VIP Reusable Passes
50 One-time Passes
Collectible Oklahoma History Center Coin (gold plated)
Recognition on History Center Donor Board ($8,595 benefit value)

($30,000 to $49,999)
3 Room Rental Waivers
4 VIP Reusable Passes
40 One-time Passes
Collectible Oklahoma History Center Coin (gold plated)
Recognition on History Center Donor Board ($3,565 benefit value)

($20,000 to $29,999)
2 Room Rental Waivers
2 VIP Reusable Passes
20 One-time Passes
Collectible Oklahoma History Center Coin (bronze)
Recognition on History Center Donor Board ($2,333 benefit value)

($10,000 to $19,999)
1 Room Rental Waiver
1 VIP Reusable Pass
10 One-time Passes
Recognition on History Center Donor Board ($1,160 benefit value)

($5,000 to $9,999)
5 One-time Passes
50 One-time Passes
Honoring donors

($5,000 to $9,999)
1 Room Rental Discount (25%)
1 VIP Reusable Pass
5 One-time Passes
Recognition on History Center Donor Board ($858 benefit value)

($1,000 to $4,999)
1 Room Rental Discount (25%)
5 One-time Passes
Recognition on History Center Donor Board ($300 benefit value)

Make checks payable to the Oklahoma Historical Society

For more information call Paul Lambert at 405/522-5217 or e-mail p.lambert@okhistory.org

Twenty-year members renew in February

Listed below with the date on which they joined the OHS, are people and organizations who had been members for twenty years when they renewed in December. Their long-term loyalty is most sincerely appreciated!

James and Betty Kemm, Tulsa, February 1, 1963
Jenny Anduss, Piedmont, February 17, 1970
Melvin Fiegel, Oklahoma City, October 1, 1970
Barbara Kinzer, Jenks, January 1, 1971
Bill Settle, Muskogee, February 1, 1973
Von Russell Creel, Midwest City, September 1, 1973
Jere W. Roberson, Edmond, February 1, 1974
Phyl and Gayle Roberts, Edmond, February 1, 1977
Harvey D. Yost, II, Stillwater, February 1, 1977
G. V. Public Library, Broken Bow, March 1, 1978
Stigler Public Library, Stigler, June 1, 1979
Laura Evalyn Stevens, Woodward, January 2, 1980
George C. Pendleton, Jr., Dallas, January 2, 1981
Floyd Stephens, Jr., Bixby, January 2, 1981
Lynda Brown-Drabek, Oklahoma City, February 1, 1981
Buckley Public Library, Poteau, April 1, 1981
Peggy Talley, Poteau, May 1, 1981
Betsy King, Byron, February 1, 1983
Blaine Shaffer, Omaha, NE, February 1, 1983
Rolland Haun, Saint Louis, MO, January 1, 1984
M. David Stevens, Noble, January 2, 1984
Robert and Mary Brown, Burneyville, February 1, 1984
University of Virginia, Charlottesville, VA, March 1, 1984
Marie Wren, Fillmore, CA, March 1, 1984
Alma Benedict, Edmond, February 1, 1985
Neil Welden, Cordell, February 1, 1985
Peter Rolls, Cleveland, November 1, 1985
Idabel Public Libraries, Idabel, December 1, 1985
Museum of the Red River, Isabell, February 6, 1986
James Groves, Harrah, April 7, 1986
Tonkawa Public Library, Tonkawa, July 10, 1987
Dan and Betty Hobbs, Norman, April 13, 1988
Greg Olds, Austin, TX, January 5, 1989
George Stewart, Ponca City, January 30, 1989
John Heisch, Oklahoma City, January 31, 1989
Jean Berry, Dallas, TX, February 6, 1989

New Members, cont’d.

Donations each carry their own benefits.

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Individual

Corrine J. Allen, Van Buren, AR
Charles L. Austin, Norman
Judy Baggett, Tulsa
Sherlene Baker, Rowley, MA
Betty L. Baldwin, Bethany
Jean S. Balyeat-Harris, Mulberry
Gail J. Barbre, Tulsa
Gene Binn nfl, Edmond
Steve Brown, Chickasha
Samuel H. Childers, Jr., Dallas, TX
Reney J. Cole, Oklahoma City
Dorothy Cott, Guthrie
Dr. Jo Anne Davis, Edmond
Debbie Dehn, Weatherford
Eleanor E. Edmondson, Chickasha
Max W. Eversole, Muskogee
James T. Fallon, Spring, TX
Judy Baggett, Tulsa
Timothy R. Garner, Durant
Marie E. Havens, Oklahoma City
Barbara A. Haver, Edmond
Teressa Howard, Oklahoma City
Mary Johnson, Chickasha
Maxine Johnson, Norman
Kathryn Kidoo, Oklahoma City
Dr. Juanita Krittenbrink, El Reno
Robert Lambert, Oklahoma City
Conrad Littlejohn, Yukon
Ron Loewen, Knoxville, TX
Renée Mixon, Norman
Jim Nelson, Liberal, KS
Gary Quinnett, Oklahoma City
David Rains, Houston, TX
Mrs. D. A. Replocle, Nichols Hills
Marjorie Roane, Norman
Sandia Schubert, Alva
Carol S. Soule, Nichols Hills
Stanley Upchurch, Norman
Gail Weltstein, Oklahoma City
Micke D. Wilson, Tulsa
Evan O. Zum, Bartlesville

Institutional

Break O’day Farm/Metcalfe Museum, Durham
The American Indian Exposition of Oklahoma, Anadarko
Osage County Interlocal Cooperative, Hominy
Chickasaw Press, Ada
Hands-on History Day is April 18

Bring your family to the Oklahoma History Center on Saturday, April 18, 2009, and explore the Native American art exhibit Unconquered: Allan Houser and the Legacy of One Apache Family. On this special Saturday, kids will enjoy participating in our hands-on activities. The event begins at 1 p.m. and continues until 3 p.m.

Come and learn how to work with clay, water colors, and other media. Children will be able to create their very own model magic masterpiece.

While at the History Center, adults should take advantage of the new digital audio tour, which offers a point-to-point narrative of the exhibit. Visitors will explore a large collection of Houser and Haozous art, artifacts, and interpretive panels.

The art of Allan Houser (1914-94), a native Oklahoman, and his sons Phillip and Bob Haozous reflect the history of their people, the Fort Sill Apache Tribe. Don’t miss your chance to see Unconquered before this special exhibit ends on July 31, 2009. It features more than 80 pieces of sculpture, art, and artifacts located in three main galleries as well as nine monumental sculptures outdoors along the Red River Journey. In addition to the art work, a thirty-minute high-definition film documenting the Houser/Haozous family runs continuously for viewing inside the Inasmuch Gallery and also may be obtained at the Oklahoma History Center Gift Shop.

Experience rural life at Perry on April 25

The Cherokee Strip Museum annual Rural Heritage Festival is scheduled from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. on Saturday, April 25, 2009, on the grounds of the museum in Perry, Oklahoma. The event is part of Perry’s SpringFest, which includes a car show, a quilt and handwork show, a health fair, and many other activities around the town of Perry.

“The festival is designed for families and people of all ages,” said Kaye Bond, facility manager. “We welcome everyone for a day of relaxation and friendship.” The Rural Heritage Festival provides an educational and fun experience for visitors. Conducted throughout the day will be living history interpretations and various demonstrations to help people understand traditional skills and lifestyles associated with agriculture and rural communities.

Rose Hill School will be in session, and the public is encouraged to participate. Students from Morrison will wrap the May Pole under the direction of their teachers. The Saltfork Blacksmiths will demonstrate some of the many blacksmithing skills needed in rural communities. Settlers’ camps, rope-making demonstrations, square dancing, a cowboy camp, a tipi, basket weaving, and soap making are among the many activities visitors may enjoy. Members of the Lace Guild of Oklahoma will be located inside the museum. In addition to showing examples of lace items, the guild will provide hands-on demonstrations of lace-making techniques.

Admission to the event is free, but monetary donations the day of the Rural Heritage Festival will help fund the activities and ensure that the event can continue.

On Saturday, April 25, the Oklahoma History Center will offer a Dutch Oven Cooking Class from 1 p.m. to 5 p.m. This hands-on, active-participation class is designed to introduce children and adults to Dutch oven cooking. Learn a variety of recipes as you prepare a dish and discover how you can use a Dutch oven in your back yard.

Cost for the class is $10 and includes all of the necessary materials. For more information call Jason Harris at 405/522-0725 or e-mail <jharris@okhistory.org>. The History Center is located at 2401 North Laird Ave., just northeast of the Oklahoma Capitol Building.