Leon Russell makes appearance in Tulsa to support OKPOP Museum

Grammy award-winning Oklahoma rock music legend Leon Russell made an appearance in Tulsa in January to help announce that a collection of items featuring him and his work has been acquired by the OHS for display at the future Oklahoma Museum of Popular Culture (OKPOP).

During the announcement, Russell reminisced about his early years in Oklahoma and talked about the honor of being included in the OKPOP Museum. “When I was a youngster, I saw Jascha Heifetz at the Municipal Theater in Tulsa, now known as ‘the ol’ lady on Brady,’” Russell said. “I also saw different inspiring shows like Clyde McPhatter, Lloyd Price, Chuck Berry, Ruth Brown, and Jerry Lee Lewis. It was my pleasure to go on the road with Jerry Lee a couple of years later.”

The collection contains more than 4,500 items related to Russell’s historic musical career, including photos, audio recordings, video, record albums, CDs, concert tickets, shirts, posters, magazines, books, articles, and more. The collection was provided by an anonymous donor, and its value has not been disclosed. Several pieces from the collection were on display for the announcement at the Hardesty Arts Center in Tulsa’s historic Brady District, where the museum is planned to be built.

The OHS was joined for the announcement by fellow OKPOP Museum advocates Tulsa Mayor Dewey Bartlett, Senate President Pro Temp Brian Bingman, Senate Minority Leader Sean Burrage, Tulsa Councilman Blake Ewing, representatives from the George Kaiser Family Foundation, the Tulsa Regional Chamber, the Brady District Association, and other museum supporters.

The OKPOP Museum will not be built without the Oklahoma Legislature’s approval of a $42.5 million bond issue to help fund construction of the museum. It will be located in the Brady Arts District of Tulsa on land that is currently a surface parking lot on the southeast corner of Archer Street and Boston Avenue. Bank of Oklahoma has offered to donate the 90,000-square-foot block, contingent on the authorization of the bond issue by the legislature and the construction of an adjoining parking garage by the OHS.

“This museum is another opportunity for Oklahomans to put ourselves on the national stage and show the world that we are a growing, thriving state, not just because of our economic successes, but our cultural ones, as well,” Bingman said. “To not build this museum would be to decline an opportunity for economic growth in our state. Oklahoma has a wealth of artistic talent, and all we need is a venue to showcase that talent. This museum is that venue.”

The museum will be a 75,000-square-foot, four-story building dedicated to the creative spirit of Oklahoma’s people and the influence of Oklahoma artists on popular culture around the world. The underlying theme of this innovative and interactive museum will be “Crossroads of Creativity,” whether it is in the field of music, film, television, theatre, pop art, comic books, literature, or humor.

Born in Lawton, Oklahoma, Russell began his musical career in Tulsa before moving to Los Angeles, California. He has worked in a variety of musical genres as a songwriter, collaborator, and performing and recording artist. He has performed and collaborated with other notable artists throughout his career, including George Harrison, Ray Charles, Eric Clapton, the Beach Boys, Willie Nelson, Frank Sinatra, Bob Dylan, and the Rolling Stones. His song, “This Masquerade,” performed by George Benson, won a Grammy for Record of the Year in 1976, and he was inducted into the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame in 2011. He was recently on tour with Elton John to promote their album, The Union.

OKPOP will be a statewide museum that will feature Oklahoma’s creative spirit and the state’s own stars from music, movies, radio, television, and literature. As the nation’s “crossroads of creativity,” Oklahoma is the best place to preserve our creative culture.

With approval of the bond issue, the OKPOP Museum could open as early as 2017. To keep up with the project, visit the website at www.projectokpop.com or Facebook page at www.facebook.com/OKPOP. For more information, contact OKPOP Director Jeff Moore at jeffmoore@okhistory.org.
My perspective on leadership is not limited to stories in the distant past. Thankfully, after three decades at the OHS, I have witnessed the impact of contemporary leaders who, like their historical predecessors, stepped onto the stage of history armed with skill sets that gave them an opportunity to make a difference in the life of their community.

One of those leaders is Aubrey McClendon, who this month will step down from the leadership of the company he founded twenty-four years ago.

Like Haozous, Classen, and Luper, McClendon has always been willing to take a chance. In his case, the chance was to build a world-class company called Chesapeake and champion the benefits of natural gas. And like his historical predecessors, he made a difference in the lives of everyone in the community.

You can see physical evidence of his leadership on the landscape, from the Oklahoma River and the many nonprofits he supported to his own inspired corporate campus where form and function merge to create something spectacular. You can see his footsteps in the renaissance of Oklahoma City, from economic growth and job creation to the Thunder basketball team and a culture of generous corporate giving. And you can see his impact at the Oklahoma History Center.

McClendon helped launch the private/public partnership that made our unique business model possible. He followed with generous gifts for the Governor’s exhibit, the Dunning Political Collection, and the upcoming exhibit on oil and gas in Oklahoma since the 1940s. From the time we first worked together in 2001, McClendon has been both an inspiration and a loyal friend of history.

Yes, I am fascinated by the dynamics of leadership. And I am grateful for the leadership of Aubrey McClendon.}

**Development News**

By Paul Lambert

Within the past few weeks we have had several individuals and couples become members of the Oklahoma History Legacy Circle. This is accomplished by making a donation in the amount of $1,000 or more to one of the endowment funds of the Oklahoma Historical Society or the Oklahoma History Center. Membership in the society is perpetual, just as the earnings from these donations will support the OHS in perpetuity. The membership will be published at least once each year.

Bequests and other types of planned giving contributions also qualify donors for membership. For details, please contact me at plambert@okhistory.org or 405/522-5217. You may also contact me via US mail at 800 Nazih Zuhdi Drive, Oklahoma City, OK 73105.

There still is time to register for the OHS Annual Meeting. It will be held April 17, 18, and 19 in Clinton at the Frisco Conference Center. A wonderful lineup of presenters and events is scheduled. Invitations were mailed to all members, but if any member would like a detailed schedule of events and another registration form, I can provide those materials. Just contact me at the email address or telephone number detailed above and I will get these documents to you. In addition to the ten program sessions, each featuring multiple presenters, we have a reception and a concert scheduled that will be highlights of the three-day meeting.

**New members February, 2013**

*Indicates renewed memberships at a higher level

**Director’s Circle**

*Martha Lippert, Edmond
*Mr. and Mrs. John Massey, Durant
*Mr. and Mrs. Phil Roberts, Edmond

**Fellow**

*Joanna Champlin and Shawnee Brittan, Oklahoma City
*L. M. Johnston, Oklahoma City
*Donovan Reichenberger, Abil

**Friend**

*Mr. and Mrs. Jeffrey Brown, Oklahoma City
*Felice Cahoon, Beaver City
*Jennifer Greenwell, Claremore
*Jerome Holmes, Oklahoma City
*Mr. and Mrs. Robert Howard, Oklahoma City
*Love’s Travel Stops, Oklahoma City
*Mr. and Mrs. Clark Musser, Oklahoma City
*Dr. and Mrs. Marvin Peyton, Edmond
*Mr. and Mrs. Patrick Ryan, Oklahoma City
*Mr. and Mrs. James Townsend, Blanchard

**Family**

Judith Bird, Golden
*Robert Bowles and Roberta Parkey, New York, NY
Jack Bruce, Oklahoma City
*Mr. and Mrs. Roosevelt Calloway, Oklahoma City
Martin Cift, Ardmore
Wava Cummings & Fidelia Wilson, Oklahoma City
*William Davis, Oklahoma City
*Mr. and Mrs. Stephen Dock, Mangum
Mr. and Mrs. Gus Embry, Oklahoma City
*Mr. and Mrs. Ron Gibson, Sapulpa
*Sean Graham and Glen Graham, Warr Acres
William Hartman, Austin, TX
Blayne Hinds, Langston
*Mr. and Mrs. Howard Huggins, Oklahoma City
*Mr. and Mrs. Mike Hunter, Oklahoma City
*Mr. and Mrs. Oscar Jackson, Norman
*Phillip James, Oklahoma City
*William McMurry, Oklahoma City
*Mr. and Mrs. Rickey Moore, Oklahoma City
*Evelyn Nephew, Oklahoma City
*Mr. and Mrs. Edward Payton, Oklahoma City
*Ruth Rolf, Oklahoma City
*Mr. and Mrs. Russell Simon, Stillwater
*Gomer Smith, Oklahoma City
*Delores Stephens, Oklahoma City
*Stephanie Tucker and Dorothy Nelson, Oklahoma City
*Kerry Weaver, El Reno
*Eugenia Zachary, Del City
*Mary Zembrid, Tulsa

**Contents and opinions do not necessarily reflect the views or policies of the Oklahoma Historical Society or the United States Department of the Interior.**

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Workshops

The Oklahoma Cultural Heritage Trust (OCHT) is an alliance between the Oklahoma Department of Libraries, the Oklahoma Historical Records Advisory Board, the Oklahoma Historical Society, and the Oklahoma Museums Association. The Trust is working to improve support for Oklahoma collections-based archives, libraries, and museums by presenting various programs. Oklahoma Cultural Heritage Trust is sponsoring the Family Treasures Road Show on April 28 from 1 to 5 p.m. at the Oklahoma History Center in Oklahoma City. This free event is tailored to the needs of individuals who want to learn how to care for treasured heirlooms. Collections care experts from around the nation will be on hand to evaluate and discuss the care of items brought in by participants, including books, photographs, recordings, medals, coins, paintings, textiles, baskets, and more. The event is free, but reservations are required as space is limited. To view the schedule or request tickets, go to www.culturalheritagerust.org

Events

The annual Montmartre Sidewalk Chalk Art Festival in Chickasha on Thursday, April 4, features hundreds of artists of all ages creating wonderful works of art in chalk. Participants will receive a six-foot by six-foot square of pavement in which to create their original piece of artwork. Up to four artists can work on each square. Water-based, temporary chalk is the only medium permitted. Tempera powder, oil-based media, and all other permanent fixtures are not allowed. Registration for the Montmartre Sidewalk Chalk Art Festival begins at 7:30 a.m. the day of the event. Judging will begin at noon. Cash awards will be presented around 1:30 p.m. on the main stage. Come to the Montmartre Sidewalk Chalk Art Festival at the University of Science and Arts of Oklahoma to witness the creation of magnificent artwork, as well as to enjoy live music, vendors and a variety of exhibits. For more information, call 405/574-1303.

Experience a living classroom of Cherokee history and culture from the 1880s at the Cherokee Heritage Center’s annual Indian Territory Days on April 4 and 5 in Tahlequah. Created for students, Indian Territory Days will focus on the late 1800s prior to Oklahoma statehood. Visitors to this annual event will enjoy trained historical interpreters at nine different cultural stations leading Cherokee cultural activities. Activities will include storytelling, blowgun shooting, Cherokee marbles, and more. Demonstrations in pottery, basket weaving, and finger weaving will show children the unique Cherokee lifestyle of this time period. While there is a small admission charge for all participating students, all chaperoning adults will be admitted free of charge. Call ahead for pricing and recommended reservations at 918/456-6007.

Come for the thrill of Waurika’s annual rattlesnake hunt from April 12 to 14 on Main Street. Activities include carnival rides, games, food vendors, flea market, thrill show, and caravan hunting of Diamondback rattlesnakes. Have a “fangtastic” time as you witness snake handlers perform daring and courageous feats in a pit with live rattlesnakes. Have your picture taken with a live diamondback rattlesnake in the onsite photo booth, or put your taste buds to the test with a helping of deep-fried rattlesnake meat. Snake meat, rattles, and hides will be for sale. Prizes are awarded for the longest snake captured, the most rattles, and more. For more information, call 580/228-2553.

The annual Green Frog Festival in Wilburton on April 19 and 20 on Main Street celebrates the heritage of this Oklahoma town with storytelling, crafts, food, music, and entertainment. Come to Wilburton’s Green Frog Festival for a myriad of craft booths and food vendors. The sounds of classic country and rock and roll will entice visitors to the festival’s entertainment stage, while the Green Frog Puddle Jump 5K and one mile fun run will have participants racing to the finish line. This festival will also feature a children’s area with plenty of games and contests, as well as a Frog Queen and King contest. Do not forget to vote for your favorite frog quilt in the annual quilt show, featuring a variety of handmade quilts on display. For more information, call 918/465-2254.

Celebrate the town that inspired the 1984 movie Footloose with a trip to Elmore City’s Footloose Festival on April 20. This event commemorates the famous 1980 prom that ended the ban on dancing and inspired the community to get up and dance. The Elmore City Community Center will be transformed into the “Stairway to Heaven Cafe” so festival participants can enjoy the food that was served at the first prom: chicken fried steak. Pull your favorite retro clothes out of your closet and enter the 1980s Outfit Contest to compete for a trophy, and then make your way over to the arts and crafts vendor booths. The Footloose Festival features dance contests, lawnmower races and a huge street dance. The street dance will begin at 7 p.m. so join the original group of kids from Elmore City High School who made history, kick up your heels, and dance. For more information, call 580/788-2345.

Do you want to have your organization’s meeting, event, or exhibit featured in the “Around Oklahoma” section of the Mistletoe Leaves? The “Around Oklahoma” section features Oklahoma history and heritage-related activities or programs sponsored by entities other than the Oklahoma Historical Society. To submit news items, please contact Tabatha Toney, assistant editor, by email at ttoney@okhistory.org or mail at 800 Nazih Zuhdi Drive, Oklahoma City, OK 73105, during the first week of the month before you wish a news items to appear. For example, if you wish a news item to appear in our May issue, please send it to our editors by the first week of April. Thank you for your submissions.
Queen Victoria exhibit extended

What is Queen Victoria stuff doing in Kingfisher, Oklahoma? That was the first question asked by an OHS Research Center Volunteer on their recent field trip to the Chisholm Trail Museum. Thirty dedicated volunteers made the trek to Kingfisher to see this unique (and somewhat out-of-place) exhibit as well as touring the mansion of territorial governor A. J. Seay.

Our gracious host, director Adam Lynn, answered the question. A former Kingfisher resident, who wishes to remain anonymous, has made it a lifelong hobby of collecting articles from the Victorian Era. Coincidentally the Victorian Era parallels the time frame in which the city of Kingfisher was founded during the land run of 1889. The exhibit, Queen Victoria and the Victorian Era, features items and artifacts from the Victorian era, including personal items of clothing worn by Queen Victoria. Also on display are items spanning this British royal family and monarchy over a 250-year span from George III (1760-1820) to the current sovereign, Elizabeth II (1952-current). Additional items of interest include: nobility ceremonial state robes and coronets, state and military documents, royal family personal correspondence, royal portraits, royal commemoratives, and letters written by both the late Princess Diana and Prince Charles, the current heir to the throne.

The exhibit, originally scheduled to close February, 22, was extended to March 31 due to the state-wide attention and record-setting attendance. The Chisholm Trail Museum is located at 605 Zellers Avenue in Kingfisher and open Tuesdays through Saturdays from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. For more information, call 405/375-5176.

Songs of the American West Frontier and Settlement” lecture

Dr. Sarah Chan assistant professor of music at Northwestern Oklahoma State University, will speak on “Songs of the American West Frontier and Settlement: Music of the Pioneers, Soldiers, Railroaders, Miners, Cowboys, Ranchers, and Homesteaders” at the Sod House Museum on Saturday, April 20, at 10 a.m.

Dr. Chan’s lecture traces the musical culture and influence that the massive penetration of pioneer travelers and settlers brought to the American West from the time period of the 1840s to the Great Depression. The influx of these voyagers brought a dominance of new, diverse lifestyles and the development of a new cultural fabric that characterized Western frontier civilization for subsequent decades. Pioneers, soldiers, railroaders, miners, cowboys, ranchers, homesteaders, religious groups, and others encountering new lands, people, occupations, and challenges carried with them new songs, laments, and folklore. The presentation will explore songs of the Western frontier that illuminated this vast richness of history and social movement across the American Plains. More significantly, it will offer a glimpse into the intimate perspectives and sentiments of pioneers whose lives largely shaped the story of the great American West and whose legacy remains an important voice in its present cultural history.

Dr. Sarah Chan presently serves as assistant professor of music at Northwestern Oklahoma State University where she is director of keyboard studies and music theory in the Department of Fine Arts. She teaches piano, music theory, music history, and music appreciation; she also teaches French through the Departments of English, Foreign Languages, and Humanities. Dr. Chan has been the recipient of the Award for Excellence in Teaching at the Eastman School of Music. In addition to her work as an educator, Dr. Chan is an international concert artist who has performed throughout America and Europe. She is the winner of multiple awards including the American Prize in Piano Performance and Carnegie Emerging Artist. Most recently she performed as soloist with the Enid Symphony Orchestra. Dr. Chan trained musically at the Eastman School of Music of the University of Rochester, Le Conservatoire National Supérieur de Musique et de Danse de Paris, Peabody Conservatory of Music of Johns Hopkins University, Manhattan School of Music, and the University of Michigan.

The Sod House Museum is located southeast of Aline on State Highway 8 and open Tuesday through Saturday 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. For more information call 580/463-2441 or email sodhouse@okhistory.org

Fur trade rendezvous

Experience the commerce of the wild frontier as reenactors take visitors back to the time of fur trappers and traders at the Fur Trade Era Rendezvous, held from April 3 to 7 at the Fort Washita Historic Site located at 3348 State Road 199 in Durant. Learn about the lifestyle of the time period between 1820 and 1850 through high-spirited competitions, educational stations, and much more. Step back in time to when the West was young as you experience a wide variety of living history presentations, including storytellers in character and participants in period clothing. Bring your cameras and capture an era of the past to take home with you. Enjoy a picnic lunch with family and friends, or choose from a variety of modern food vendors available. Wednesday through Friday attractions at the Fur Trade Era Rendezvous are historically geared toward schoolchildren. For more information, call 580/924-6502.

Rural Heritage Festival

The Rural Heritage Festival at the Cherokee Strip Museum provides an educational and fun experience to the public that will increase awareness of the rural heritage of Oklahoma. Living history interpretations will be conducted throughout the day and various demonstrations will help visitors understand traditional skills and lifestyles associated with agriculture and rural communities. Antique tractors will be on display this year, along with blacksmiths, rope making, spinning, chuck wagon cooking, and a settlers’ camp. Rose Hill School will be in session and students will wrap the Maypole.

The events held in Perry on April 27 are designed for families and for people of all ages. We are celebrating our community heritage and welcome everyone to join us for the day full of fun, relaxation, and friendship.

Cosponsors for the Rural Heritage Festival at the museum are the Oklahoma Historical Society and the Cherokee Strip Historical Society. The museum’s Rural Heritage Festival is held in conjunction with Perry’s Spring Festival, sponsored by the Perry Chamber of Commerce. Spring Festival events will be held on the courthouse square. For more information, call 580/336-2405.
Century Chest time capsule to be opened

On April 22, 1913, a capacity crowd witnessed an extraordinary burial ceremony at the First English Lutheran Church (now the First Lutheran Church of Oklahoma City) at 1300 North Robinson in downtown Oklahoma City. A Century Chest measuring five feet long, three feet wide, and three feet in depth was sealed into the basement floor of the church, not to be opened for one hundred years. The contents of the chest were chosen not only to tell the story of 1913 Oklahoma, but to speak to the unborn generations who were to follow in the footsteps of those who settled the land known as Oklahoma. On Monday, April 22, 2013, at 10 a.m., the First Lutheran Church of Oklahoma City will open the Century Chest that they have been faithfully watching for more than one hundred years. The event is free to the public and will celebrate the past and future of the church, the city, the state, and the entire people.

The members of the First Lutheran Church of Oklahoma City past and present have faithfully guarded the Century Chest for the last one hundred years. With that mission coming to an end, they invite all Oklahomans to join them in taking part in this once-in-a-lifetime experience as the voices, messages, and artifacts preserved within the Century Chest from 1913 are shared with a new generation. The church has partnered with the OHS so that the contents are preserved for future generations at the OHS. In fall 2013 at a yet to be determined date, a major exhibit will open at the OHS consisting of all of the historic treasures recovered from the Century Chest.

In the sanctuary of the church the Century Chest will be opened and its historic contents revealed to all those in attendance. In addition, visitors are welcome to examine the basement of the church where it was installed in 1913. Outside, in a large parking lot, a birthday party is planned to celebrate the 124th anniversary of the land run held on April 22, 1889. This celebration will highlight the creation of Oklahoma City, Guthrie, and other towns in modern day Canadian, Cleveland, Kingfisher, Logan, Oklahoma, and Payne counties. Planners will erect a massive tent to shield visitors in case of inclement weather and to cover a number of large-screen televisions which will allow the overflow crowd to view the time capsule opening in real time. In addition to a number of period automobiles that will be on display to give visitors the feel of 1913 Oklahoma, the church will provide refreshments and historical memorabilia commemorating the event.

The concept for the Century Chest was the idea of Mrs. George G. Sohlberg and was originally planned as a fundraiser by the church’s Ladies Aid Society to pay for a new church organ. As excitement grew about the century chest, the idea evolved first into a city-wide affair to mark the 24th anniversary of the 1889 land run, and then it blossomed into a state-wide event. The care and detail that went into the planning for the Century Chest was meticulous, although the entire idea, or “scheme” as it was nondivisively termed in 1913, was begun and completed in the span of only three months, from February to April of 1913. Newspaper articles from April 1913 reveal that the chest was to be placed in a large copper receptacle and double cemented into a burial vault one foot under the earth in the church basement. Furthermore, the vault would be airtight and waterproof to shield it from “demolition from fire or cyclone.”

Although no photographic images of the chest or the burial ceremony have survived, extensive research by church organizers and the Oklahoma Historical Society has brought to light a number of tantalizing details about the treasures awaiting those in attendance on April 22, 2013. Contents of the chest may include American Indian materials, genealogical information, and personal items.

For more information visit the century chest website at http://www.okhistory.org/centurychest/, the First Lutheran Church of Oklahoma City website at http://www.firstlutheranokc.org/site/ks/index.asp, or e-mail centurychest@okhistory.org.

SHPO announces May workshops

The Oklahoma State Historic Preservation Office is pleased to announce its May workshop series. The sessions will be held from May 1 to 3 at the Washita Battlefield National Historic Site Conference Room, 18555 Highway 47A, Suite A, Cheyenne, OK. From I-40 east and west, take exit twenty (Sayre) and travel north approximately twenty-three miles on US 283 into Cheyenne. Turn west on Highway 47 through town. Continue a half mile and turn north onto Highway 47A. The Visitor Center is located on the right. The historic site, featuring the park overlook and interpretive trail, is located approximately one mile further on Highway 47A.

The workshops are free and open to the public, but we ask that you register by 5 p.m. on Wednesday, April 24. Space is limited and will be available on a first-come basis. To register, contact Betty Harris at 405/521-6249 or bharris@okhistory.org. You may also register online at www.okhistory.org/shpo/workshops.php. If you have questions about any of the workshops, contact Melvena Heisch, deputy SHPO, at 405/522-4484 or mheisch@okhistory.org.

Workshop Schedule:

May 1 (9:30 a.m. to noon)—The Section 106 Review Process: Introduction and Overview

This class includes who is responsible for Section 106 compliance, when it applies, what is the SHPO’s role in the process, and more.

May 1 (1:30 to 4:30 p.m.)—Determination of Eligibility under Section 106

The session provides a description of how to document standing structures for the SHPO’s review.

May 2 (9 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.)—Working with the National Register of Historic Places

The workshop explains the National Register criteria, what listing means, tips for preparing successful nominations, and much more.

May 3 (9:30 a.m. to noon)—Federal and State Tax Incentives for Rehabilitating Historic Buildings

This class explains federal and state investment tax credits for rehabilitation of a certified historic structure.

May 3 (1:30 to 4:30 p.m.)—The Secretary’s Standards and Guidelines for Rehabilitating Historic Buildings

This class is a thorough discussion of the Standards.

OHC volunteers

The Oklahoma History Center has a new class of museum volunteers: Brent Alexander, Sherri Duncan, Stephanie Diaz, Natalie Fiegel, Joan Harper, Yvonne Hughes, Marilyn Knott, Rita Marra, Eva Rohlman, Emily Sabo, Megan Schexnayder, Kate Sears, Shelby Wolf, and Rachel Wood. The dynamic volunteer program allows members of the community to be part of a world-recognized institution of learning. For more information about the volunteer program, please contact Abigail Jones at 405/522-5886 or by email at volunteers@okhistory.org.
Dr. Deena Fisher, chair of the OHS Nominating Committee, has announced the names of individuals who were nominated for election to the OHS Board of Directors. Ballots have been mailed to members, and they are encouraged to mail their ballots sufficiently early to allow them to reach OHS offices by the April 12 deadline.

Instruction on how to submit ballots were included with the ballot mailing and members are urged to follow those instructions to ensure that their ballots are counted.

In this election, members will elect one director each from Districts 1 and 3 and two directors from among the At-Large candidates. Biographical sketches of the nominees appear below by district and in alphabetical order.

**District 1**

**P. Mitchell Adwon (Tulsa)**

Mitch Adwon is a native Tulsan and a graduate of the University of Tulsa. He is president of Adwon Properties, Inc. and managing member of Polly Properties, LLC and its affiliated entities which are engaged in regional commercial real estate investments. He is active in the Tulsa community and currently serves on the boards of directors of the Salvation Army, Indian Nations Council of Boy Scouts, the Tulsa Historical Society, Osage University Constitution Award, and Cherokee National Historical Society. He is also active at the University of Tulsa within its College of Arts and Sciences and McFarlin Library. Adwon has also served on the boards of Tulsa City-County Library Commission, Tulsa Metropolitan Utility Authority, Holland Hall School, Family and Children’s Services, the Oklahoma Film Commission, Leadership Oklahoma, Leadership Tulsa and Cherokee Nation Businesses, among others. Adwon and his family, through their Mothers side, still farm their original allotment land granted at the time of statehood. His father’s family immigrated to Oklahoma prior to statehood. He and his wife are members of First United Methodist Church in Tulsa. He has been a member of the OHS since 1987. He has been a member of the OHS since 1987.

**Dr. Guy William Logsdon (Tulsa)**

Dr. Guy Logsdon is an Ada native with degrees from East Central State University and the University of Oklahoma. He served as Reference Librarian at Oklahoma State University, 1964-67, as Director of Libraries at the University of Tulsa, 1967-81, and as Professor of Education and Folklore, 1981-89. A nationally recognized authority on the life and music of Woody Guthrie and western and cowboy music, poetry, and musicians, he also is known for his expertise on the Dust Bowl and its migrants and western swing music. He has authored or co-authored six books, including the award-winning The Wherehouse Belts Were Ringing and Other Songs Sung by Cowboys. His latest book is Woody’s Road co-authored with Woody Guthrie’s ninety years old sister Mary Jo Guthrie Edgmon. He has published over 150 articles, essays, encyclopedia entries, and book introductions. He also has produced recording compilations, annotations or liner notes for twenty-six record albums involving musicians such as Woody Guthrie, Lead Belly, Pete Seeger, Jack Guthrie, Marty Robbins, Tex Ritter, and Johnnie Lee Willis. Logsdon worked extensively with the Smithsonian Institution to document the life and music of Woody Guthrie, and he has received major awards from the National Cowboy and Western Heritage Museum, Western History Association, Academy of Western Artists, Westerners International, and Oklahoma Heritage Association. A lecturer and performer, he has presented hundreds of programs to audiences nationwide. He joined the OHS in 1964.

**Warren Rieger (Tulsa)**

Warren Rieger has been an Associate Professor of History at Oral Roberts University (ORU) since 2001. He teaches Oklahoma history and American history among other courses. Rieger is known for making history come alive for his students, and his classes marked by lively discussion and dialogue. Prior to joining the faculty at ORU, he served as an adjunct professor at Northwestern Oklahoma State University, Enid, from 1999 to 2001, and he was a professor of history at Oklahoma Wesleyan College, Bartlesville from 1994 to 1996. Rieger earned B.S. and M.Ed. degrees from Phillips University, Enid, and has completed all course work on a Ph.D. degree at Oklahoma State University. In addition to teaching at ORU, he serves as Advisor for Social Studies Education Majors and as Phi Alpha Theta faculty advisor. He has been a member of the OHS since 2007.

**District 3**

**Sue Ellen Clainard (Shawnee)**

Sue Clainard holds a B.F.A. degree in Historical Preservation from the Savannah College of Art and Design. She served as Program Manager for the Georgetown, Texas, Main Street Program before moving to Oklahoma City in 1995 to create and direct Oklahoma’s Main Street Program. During her tenure, this program was responsible for stimulating $100,000,000 in private investment, 3,000 jobs, and 1,000 new businesses in thirty-one towns in Oklahoma. She received numerous awards for her service, including Governor’s Extraordinary Service to the State Award, 1990; Shirk Memorial Award for Historic Preservation in Oklahoma, 1992; Oklahoma Heritage Association Special Merit Award for Historic Preservation, 1995; and Governor’s Proclamation: Susie Clainard Appreciation Day at the State Capitol, 1995. She served her alma mater from 1996 to 2006 in the positions of Dean of Special Programs and Vice President for Human Resources. While in Shawnee, she continued her interest in historic preservation as chair of the Board for Historic Saxon and a chair of the Ossabaw Island Foundation. Clainard has been a member of the OHS since 1986.

**Martha Pennington (Ada)**

Dr. Martha Pennington serves as Associate Professor of Education and as Coordinator of the Elementary Education Program at East Central University, Ada. She received her undergraduate degree in Education from Wayne State College in Wayne, Nebraska, her Master’s in Education Administration from the University of Houston-Victoria, and her Doctor of Education from Texas A&M-Kingsville. After retiring from the public schools in 2005 she joined the faculty at East Central University. As a former classroom teacher, district science specialist, and central office administrator, she continues to work with school districts around the nation in restructuring and improving their schools. She is currently a member at large on the Board of Directors for Magnet Schools of America. She has organized and facilitated numerous conferences, including East Central University’s Kaleidoscope Conferences, Young Authors Days, and Science Spectaculars each year. She has made numerous professional presentations on topics ranging from brain-based learning, how students learn in the classroom, and marketing schools to families. She has been a member of the OHS since 2009.

**Donna Sharpe (Checotah)**

Donna Sharpe graduated Checotah High School as Valedictorian and earned accounting degrees at OSU, Stillwater, and NSU, Tahlequah. She is a charter member of the Checotah Landmark Preservation Society, presently serving as Secretary of the organization. She is active in a wide range of civic organization, including her present service as treasurer of the Checotah Foundation for Academic Excellence, Inc., past president and current treasurer of her local PEO Chapter, and as a member of the PEO Political Action and Budget Committee. She also serves as purchasing agent and auditor for her church. With her husband Logan, she had been a staunch supporter of the preservation and development of the Honey Springs Battlefield site, including the development of a new visitor center there to preserve the history of Oklahoma’s most significant Civil War battle. She is an active volunteer with the Friends of Honey Springs, participating in candlelight tours, memorial runs, and planning battle reenactments, including a reenactment scheduled in 2013. Sharpe has been a member of the OHS since 1992.

**State At-Large**

**Samantha Lee Byford (Oklahoma City)**

Born in Oklahoma City as a ninth generation Oklahoman, Byford has lived in Norman, Muskogee, Tahlequah, Loyal, Mustang and Oklahoma City. She currently lives in Lincoln Terrace, the historic neighborhood south of the state capitol and has served on the neighborhood association board since 2005, including two years as President. In 1998 she graduated from Oklahoma City University with a dual major in History and Spanish. After having served at a state level from 2003 she went to work for her parents, Mary Ellen (Milam) Meredith and the late Dr. Howard L. Meredith, editing/proof reading manuscripts, handling distribution for Noksi Press (Cherokee-English language books), helping oversee an addition to the historic Roy Turner home and renovations to the historic Berry home, planning and directing annual festivities and other such duties. She has given volunteer service to numerous organizations. She has served on the Board of Directors of the Oklahoma County Historical Society and has been active in the genealogical community of the county, state, and nation for more than thirty years. She is President of the Genealogical Speakers Guild and a past president of the Association of Professional Genealogists. She is President of the 1889ers Society, and is an active member of the International Society of Genealogical Writers and Editors, Daughters of the American Revolution, Daughters of Union Veterans of the Civil War, Colonial Dames of the XVII Century, Daughters of 1812, and First Families of the Twin Territories. She currently teaches family history research to adults and is a frequent lecturer on genealogical topics at national and regional conferences. She has been active in historic preservation, serving on Historical Preservation, Inc., and as Heritage Hills Associate Board president and Heritage Hills Historic Home Board President. Her Oklahoma roots run deep, being the descendant of 1889ers and claiming descent from eighteen pioneers for membership in First Families of the Twin Territories. She became an OHS Life Member in 2007 and is currently serving on the OHS Research Committee, has served on the Publications Committee and is a strong advocate for the Research Library.

**Bullie Foggary (Oklahoma City)**

Foggary is past President of the Oklahoma Genealogical Society and has been active in the genealogical community of the county, state, and nation for more than thirty years. She is President of the Genealogical Speakers Guild and a past president of the Association of Professional Genealogists. She is President of the 1889ers Society, and is an active member of the International Society of Genealogical Writers and Editors, Daughters of the American Revolution, Daughters of Union Veterans of the Civil War, Colonial Dames of the XVII Century, Daughters of 1812, and First Families of the Twin Territories. She currently teaches family history research to adults and is a frequent lecturer on genealogical topics at national and regional conferences. She has been active in historic preservation, serving on Historical Preservation, Inc., and as Heritage Hills Associate Board president and Heritage Hills Historic Home Board President. Her Oklahoma roots run deep, being the descendant of 1889ers and claiming descent from eighteen pioneers for membership in First Families of the Twin Territories. She became an OHS Life Member in 2007 and is currently serving on the OHS Research Committee, has served on the Publications Committee and is a strong advocate for the Research Library.

**Dr. George Henderson (Norman)**

Henderson is the Sylvan N. Goldman Professor Emeritus, David Ross Boyd Professor Emeritus, and Regents’ Professor Emeritus of Human Relations, Education, and Sociology at OU, where he founded the Human Relations Program and served as Dean of the College of
Dr. Patti Loughlin (Stillwater)

Dr. Patti Loughlin is Professor of History at the University of Central Oklahoma and specializes in twentieth-century US history, American Indian history, and the history of the American West. She received her Ph.D. in history from Oklahoma State University in 2000. Her book, Hidden Treasures of the American West: Murriel H. Wright, Angie Debo and Alice Marriott received the Outstanding Book on Oklahoma History from the Oklahoma Historical Society in 2006. In addition, she coauthored Building Traditions, Educating Generations: A History of the University of Central Oklahoma (Oklahoma Heritage Association, 2007). Her latest project, Main Street Oklahoma, an anthology on twentieth-century Oklahoma history co-edited by Linda Reese, will be published by the University of Oklahoma Press in the fall. Loughlin encourages her graduate and undergraduate students to conduct research in the Research Division at OHS. She has been a member of the OHS board of directors since 2010.

Dr. Lewis Stiles, (Broken Bow)

A native of McCurtain County, Stiles earned a D.V.M degree at OSU and practiced at Holdenville for sixteen years. He returned to McCurtain County in 1969 where he has devoted forty-four years of effort to preserve the history of the area. A charter member of the McCurtain County Historical Society, he has served as President of that organization. He is a past president and vice president of the Oklahoma Historical Society, and has more than twenty years of service on the OHS Board. He also is a member of the boards of the Museum of the Red River and the Forrest Heritage Center. In addition, he has owned and operated the Chief Gardner Mansion and Museum for many years. This structure was his childhood home. Among his projects has been marking the Choctaw Trail of Tears from the Arkansas border to Choctaw County. He also is co-author of the book The Bounty of the Land: Fur Traders in Oklahoma. He has received the Distinguished Service Award for Preservation of State and Local History from the Oklahoma Heritage Association and the McCurtain County Distinguished Service Award. Stiles joined the OHS in 1980 and is a Life Member. He was inducted into the Oklahoma Historians Hall of Fame in 2011.

Dutch Oven cooking

The Oklahoma History Center offers this hands-on, active participation class to teens and adults on Saturday, April 27. The Dutch Oven class is designed to introduce the students to Dutch Oven cooking. Learn a variety of recipes as you create a dish and discover how to use a Dutch Oven in your backyard. Be sure to dress appropriately for the weather as most of the class occurs outdoors. Cost for the class is $10. The class is from 1 to 5 p.m. All necessary materials will be provided by the museum. Space is limited so sign up early. To register or for more information, email jharris@okhistory.org.

Listed below, with the date they joined the OHS, are people and organizations that, when they renewed their memberships in January, have been members twenty or more years. Their long-term loyalty is most sincerely appreciated!

Betty Kemm, Tulsa, February 1, 1963
Donovan Reichenberger, Alva, March 1, 1968
Jerry Anduss, Piedmont, February 17, 1970
Oklahoma State University Library, Okmulgee, October 1, 1972
Bet Settle, Muskogee, February 1, 1973
Kenny and Diane Brown, Edmond, May 1, 1976
Phil and Gayle Roberts, Edmond, February 1, 1977
Harvey Yost, Stillwater, February 1, 1977
Broken Bow Public Library, Broken Bow, March 1, 1978
Stigler Public Library, Stigler, June 1, 1979
Buckley Public Library, Poteau, April 1, 1981
Peggy Tailey, Poteau, May 1, 1981
Margaret Selby, Oklahoma City, November 1, 1982
Robert Leveridge, Norman, January 1, 1983
University of Toronto Library, Toronto Ontario, Canada, January 1, 1984
David Stevens, Noble, January 2, 1984
Bob and Mary Brown, Burneyville, February 1, 1984
University of Virginia, Charlottevilles, VA, March 1, 1984
Bonnie Bolding, Midwest City, January 18, 1985
Alma Benedict, Edmond, February 1, 1985
Ishbel Public Libraries, Idabel, December 1, 1985
Kenneth Corder, Edmond, February 1, 1986
Nancy Davies, Enid, October 31, 1986
Betty Kemp, Norman, November 4, 1986
Sapulpa Historical Society, Sapulpa, January 21, 1987
Pierce Calhoon, Beaver, January 22, 1987
Robert Huckabay, Oklahoma City, September 2, 1988
John Heisch, Oklahoma City, January 31, 1989
Harrah Public Library, Harrah, March 6, 1989
Southern Prairie Library System, Altus, October 16, 1989
Lloyd Noble, Tulsa, December 26, 1989
Elene Huff, Drumright, February 7, 1990
Mike and Darla Terry, Enid, February 23, 1990
Greer County Genealogical & Historical Society, Mangum, February 23, 1990
Susan Lugar, Tulsa, May 11, 1990
Eva Britely, Idabel, February 6, 1991
Dick and Ter Shifrin, Oklahoma City, February 20, 1991
John Goffe, Oklahoma City, May 13, 1991
1 N CO G, Tulsa, September 18, 1991
Jay Wagoner, Tucson, AZ, February 5, 1992

Twenty-year members renew in February

New members, cont’d.

Individual

Barbara Andres, Ada
Patrick Anthony, Edmond
Thomas Arles, Sulphur
Linda Blaylock, Oklahoma City
George Bussey, Noble
Tilford Carter, Fairview
Annette Cooper, Wright City
Melynda Diebel, Ardmore
Cammie Evans, Stillwater
Cody Glover, Weatherford
Justin Green, Duncan
Kasey Harjo, Okmulgee
Ashley Hav, Dunlap
Rickey Holland, Ada
Patricia Hood, Stillwater
Scott Huffman, Enid
Linda Hysell, Canton
Abram James, Stonewall
Nadine Johnson, San Diego, CA
Marti Jourden, Oklahoma City
Scott Landon, Wagoner
Jase Lara, Hollis
Tiffany Lewis, Muskogee
Sandra Little, Sulphur
Joshua Longhurst, Alva
Mariam Maina, Norman
Leann Moldonado, Elk City
Manda McGaha, Davis
Kristy Messall, Enid
Jon Mixer, Calera
Jean Morgan, Oklahoma City
Monica Mundell, Byars
Arthur Neasbitt, Durant
Tom Nelson, Douglas
Cassandra Oakes, Helena
Robert Ramsey, Tulsa
Lauren Richards, Ardmore
Jim Ricker, Guthrie
Angel Rivera, Dewey
Tammy Roberts, Mayaville
Kimberlee Robertson, Poteau
Michael Shockley, Bristow
Nelson Solomon, Yukon
Jason Stinson, Fay
Evelyn Wallace, Ardmore
Jennifer Wilkins, Tulsa
Christina Winn, Sallisaw
Larry Wyche, Ada

Museum Store News

By Jera Winters

The Oklahoma History Center Museum Store is well known for our extensive collection of historical and cultural books. We offer books on a wide variety of topics, from gunsmiths to biographies of prominent Oklahomans to cookbooks. We are pleased to offer many new titles to add to our varied collections.

More than Petticoats: Remarkable Oklahoma Women by Deborah Bouziden profiles twelve of the state’s most prominent historical figures, women who made great contributions to the state of Oklahoma. Featured in the book are figures such as Catherine “Kate” Ann Barnard, Angie Debo, Dorothy K. Berrack, Pressler Morgan, and Lucille Mulhall. The book retails for $14.95, and is available to members for the lower price of $12.70.

As always, members receive a 15 percent discount on all regularly priced merchandise. Come and experience these and other items at the OHS Museum Store. Contact us at 405/522-5214 with any questions.
Beginning Cherokee pottery class

On Saturday, April 20, learn the history and creation of Cherokee pottery at the Oklahoma History Center. The class will run from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. and registration is required. The cost for the class is $100 and includes all materials and lunch.

Class registration pays for all materials necessary to produce a traditional Cherokee coiled vessel. Class size is limited to just twelve participants to allow one-on-one instruction. Victoria will demonstrate techniques including Cherokee stamping design and discuss the southeastern style traditional pottery. Each student will complete a coil vessel and decorate it with the tools provided. You may leave your finished piece at the museum to be fired and picked up at a later date or you may transport it to dry and make arrangements to fire the piece on your own.

For more information on Victoria Mitchell, visit her website at www.victoriacherokeepottery.com. For more information or to register please contact Jason Harris at jharris@okhistory.org or 405/522-0785.

Tea party at the Cherokee Strip Museum

Please reserve Sunday, April 14, to attend the Old Fashioned Tea Party at the Cherokee Strip Museum in Perry. This year's tea party, featuring "Granny's Jewelry," will be held from 1:30 to 3 p.m. Guest speaker Sue Klingaman asks that each attendee wear a piece of granny's jewelry. It is not the monetary value of the piece but the stories behind it that make the jewelry valuable. Past tea parties included "Granny's Hats" and "Granny's Aprons." This year promises to be just as much fun. Refreshments will be served by the Cherokee Strip Historical Society Board of Directors.

Thanks go to the Oklahoma Historical Society and the Cherokee Strip Historical Society for their support. For more information contact the Cherokee Strip Museum at 580/336-2405. The museum is located at 2617 West Fir Avenue in Perry.