

## Part of Red River Wreck lifted to dry land

Three parts of the *Heroine's* drive mechanism in perspective (J. Briley Photo).



Left and Right: Project crew examine the wheel flanges (J. Briley photos).



Davis, to hook on for the first lift. The weather was perfect; sunshine aided the photography, and a slight breeze gave a little additional "lift" to the helicopter's effort. The first piece emerged from beneath the river's waters at around noon.

According to OHS's Jeff Briley (assistant director of the Oklahoma Museum of History), who photographed the event, "First to come up was the paddle wheel and flanges. The helicopter hesitated for a second as the pilot slowly tensioned the lines. There was a moment of hesitation, and some suspense, before the chopper kicked into full lift, the lines rose slowly out of the water, and then the wheel sprang out of the water. Once it got started, the lift went like clockwork."

As each heavy iron piece emerged, the chopper ferried it to a grassy pasture on the north side of the Red River.

Bill Moore, of OHS's video production department, filmed the raising of the *Heroine* into the sunlight of the twenty-first century.

The *Heroine* sank in the Red River in May 1838 after hitting a snag. The boat was delivering provisions to the garrison at Fort Towson.

The project to recover information about Oklahoma's only nautical archaeological find is being jointly conducted by OHS, INA, and Texas A&M, with crews from each agency doing portions of the excavation and conservation work.

The parts will be transported by truck to the Institute for Nautical Archaeology's laboratories near Texas A&M. After conservation procedures are performed, the permanent home of these artifacts will be the Oklahoma History Center.

On Monday, December 13, OHS staff, the staff of the Institute for Nautical Archaeology (INA, Texas A&M University) met on the Red River to resurrect the heavy, iron drive mechanism of the steamboat *Heroine*, commonly called "the Red River Wreck."

In preparation, INA staff, led by Kevin Chrisman, had carefully defined the scope of the lift. They prepared the wreck, assessing the possibilities of safely lifting certain parts of the drive assembly and assessing the weight of each piece chosen to be lifted. They used a CAD program to determine where to place the cables that would hoist each piece into the air.

OHS engaged Saint Louis Helicopter Airways, Inc., a Missouri firm with thirty-six years in heavy lift construction, to fly to the site in the middle of the Red River and perform the lift. The company used a Sikorsky S58 helicopter; a pilot and copilot were to handle the air maneuvers, and one man on the ground was to give direction.

The OHS, INA, and Saint Louis ground and air crews converged mid-morning. After two hours of discussion and logistical planning, all parties were clear on their roles and responsibilities. It was time for the diving crew, led by OHS diving coordinator John



## Director's Column

By **Bob L. Blackburn**  
Executive Director

As a member of the Oklahoma Historical Society, you know about the special events, museums, and research opportunities at our facilities across the state. For the past several months, we have been developing a plan to expand that awareness to others.

Since the early 1990s we have aggressively improved relationships with the press. The coverage of the History Center project, for example, was frequent and statewide, visible in a scrapbook that is displayed in the Leroy H. Fischer Board Room. Our newspaper and broadcast partners have been equally generous with their coverage of our museums, sites, and special events.

But that is not enough.

To reach a wider audience with more precision and frequency, we have launched a campaign that includes both print and television.

Cox Communications, through the generous support of Dave Bialis, has donated more than \$400,000 worth of air time to the Oklahoma Historical Society during the centennial year. This includes 500 public service announcements each month, plus a 30-minute television show that will air at least five times a week.

The show, titled *Voices of Oklahoma*, will feature one theme each month, such as American Indians, business and industry,

television and radio, or art and culture. Each show will include a story-based stroll through a museum gallery of the Oklahoma History Center, a segment on a museum or site somewhere in the state, and a look at our research collections similar to the popular show on PBS, *Antiques Roadshow*.

The show will air on Channel 3 in the Tulsa area and Channel 7 in the Oklahoma City area at 12 noon on Tuesdays, 11:30 a.m., 3:30 p.m., and 5:30 p.m. on Wednesdays, and 11:30 a.m. on Sundays. To reach a wider market, we are discussing running the shows on a delayed basis on OETA.

Other efforts to tell our story through television coverage include a regular feature on *Oklahoma Horizons*, a show produced by Career Tech for the Rural Farm Satellite Network, and a series of documentaries that will air periodically throughout the year.

Another new opportunity is a regular advertisement in *The Oklahoman* newspaper, made possible by an in-kind donation from the Oklahoma Publishing Company. Twice a week, running on Friday and Sunday, a two-column-by-five-inch ad will feature the Oklahoma History Center as well as special events across the state.

Depending on our success with the Legislature during the upcoming session, we hope to reallocate some of our earned revenue to a statewide advertising campaign that is both regular and controlled.

Yes, the Oklahoma Historical Society offers an amazing blend of opportunities to learn about and enjoy Oklahoma history. It is our task to share that word with a growing audience.

## Development News

By **Tim Zwink**

With the holidays just around the corner, let me suggest a very unique gift idea—a leaf for the Oklahoma Family Tree at our new Oklahoma History Center.

Your leaf will be a wonderful way to recognize your family. On the gold or silver leaf you will have three lines to place your family surnames, family first names, and family location in a town or county.

You will also record your family's history in the Oklahoma Family History Book that will be at the base of the Oklahoma Family Tree. On two pages you can tell about your family and how it is a part of the great Oklahoma story.

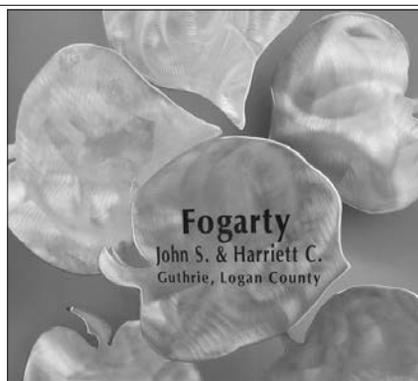
We will provide you assistance with wording on your leaf and composition of your family history if needed.

By the way, if you haven't seen the Oklahoma Family Tree, it is a beautiful piece of original art. An elegant wall sculpture, it is located just outside the entrance to the Research Center's Reading Room in the Oklahoma History Center.

All leaves can be sponsored for \$1,000 each. You can pay your sponsorship pledge over a two-year period. All proceeds go into the Oklahoma History Center Endowment Fund.

Since the holidays are that special time of the year for family and friends, an Oklahoma Family Tree leaf is a perfect gift for those close to you. Surprise your loved ones with this unique gift and create a legacy on the Oklahoma Family Tree.

Contact me and I'll send you an order form. Also, let me know if you need any additional information. You can reach me at 405/522-5217 or at <tzwink@okhistory.org>.



## New Members

### Individual

Allen, Freddie G., Bennington  
Beaulieu, Diana, Tulsa  
Blevins, Rick, Jenks  
Brown, Diane, Broken Arrow  
Carter, Judy, Mounds  
Gaunce, Jeanne, Lawton  
Harris, Eleanor, Oklahoma City  
Harrison, Raylene, Choctaw  
Hasler-Reid, Lina, Muskogee  
Henshaw, Ed, Vian  
Hinsley, Terry, Santee, CA  
Hunt, Vicki, Harrah  
Jasak, Carol, Norman  
King, Patti Jo, Norman  
Longest, Donny, Shawnee  
Lonsdale, Ann Marie, Chicago, IL  
McDonald, Mary, Enid  
Moses, Michael R. F., Norman  
Pierce, Theresa, Thomasville, NC  
Roach, Chenena J., Oklahoma City  
Sanford, Jackson, Oklahoma City  
Shoemake, Barbara, Tulsa  
Sloan, Connie, Canadian  
Smithey, Jana, Elk City  
Steadman, Lisa, Sharon  
Stuever, Vicki, Enid  
Trekell, Shirley R., Troy, IL  
Tucker, Sabra, Shawnee  
Webb, Phil, Choctaw

### Family

Baxter, Donna, Moore  
Brackett, Betsy, Oklahoma City  
Browsers, Darlene, Oklahoma City  
Carter, David & Beverly, Oklahoma City  
Claborn, Jeanne, Oklahoma City  
Hein, Fred L., Edmond  
Hornbrook, K. R. & Lois J., Oklahoma City  
Jenny, Walter & Rose Ann, Edmond  
Loudenback, Doug, Oklahoma City  
Lovera, Sharla B., Stillwater  
Phillips, Mr. & Mrs. E. J., Woodward  
Prim, Walter & Hazel, Oklahoma City  
Taylor, Frank & Elaine, Van Buren, AR  
Weems, Jim & Barb, Tulsa  
Woody, Marvin, Edmond

### Friend

Courouleau, Jeffrey J., Perry  
Williams, Stanford, Norman  
Coleman, Tweet, Oklahoma City  
Goebel, Kathi, Oklahoma City  
Martin, Deborah L., Edmond

### Institutional

Olney Public School Library, Clarita

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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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## Events

**Boise City's** Cimarron Heritage Center staff and volunteers will be decorating the French Building (Main Exhibit Hall) and the Cox House for Christmas. They are inviting individuals to bring old toys, rocking chairs, dolls, and quilts to the museum for display during the holiday season. Decorating will take place after Thanksgiving. Individuals and clubs interested in helping decorate a tree should call 580/544-3479. (*Cimarron County Historical Society Foundation & the Cimarron Heritage Center Museum Newsletter*, Winter 2006)

**Perry's** Carnegie Library is hosting a *Let's Talk About It, Oklahoma* reading and discussion program at noon on December 7. Scholar Jennifer Kidney will be discussing the book *A Lesson Before Dying*, as one of a series of "Crime and Punishment" programs sponsored by the Oklahoma Humanities Council. E-mail Sherill Carothers at <scarothers@perry.k12.ok.us>. (*Humanities Interview*, Fall 2006)

**Oklahoma City's** City Arts Center offers art classes, workshops, and camps year round for adults, youth, and children. On Saturday, December 2, from 1-4 p.m. instructor Abi Chodosh will be conducting an adult workshop on how to paint with natural dye extracts on a velvet scarf. The workshop fee of \$35 includes supplies. The center is located at the Oklahoma State Fair Park, 3000 General Pershing Blvd. (Gates 3 and 4, off North May Ave.), Oklahoma City. Call 405/951-0000 or visit their website <cityartscenter.org>. (Special to ML)

**Oklahoma City's** Oklahoma Railway Museum (ORM), located at 3400 Northeast Grand Blvd., will be offering rides on the ORM Christmas Train on Saturday, December 16. The Christmas Train will leave the museum's Oakwood Depot at 10:30 a.m., noon, 1:30 p.m., and 3 p.m. Tickets are \$12 each, and babies sitting on parents' laps ride free. The museum will be open from 9 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Phone 405/424-8222. Visit the museum website, <oklahomarailwaymuseum.org>. (*Oklahoma Railway Museum Dispatcher*, November 2006)

## Exhibits

**Alva's** Public Library is the venue for two Oklahoma Humanities Council's TRACKS traveling exhibits entitled *Doing Their Part: Oklahomans and the World War II Experience* and *American World War II Posters: The Social Influences of Wartime Informa-*

*tion*. The exhibits continue through January 2007. For information e-mail Larry Thorne at <lthorne@alva.lib.ok.us>. (*Humanities Interview*, Fall 2006)

**Claremore's** Will Rogers Memorial Museum announces the opening of a special exhibit, *Walt Disney Classics*, which includes Walt Disney Imagineering-created sculptures of seven presidents who were Will Rogers's friends as well as artwork depicting Rogers and sketches of him playing polo with Disney cartoon characters. The items are on loan for a three-year period from Walt Disney Imagineering, the Animation Research Library, and Walt Disney Feature Animation. (Special to ML)

**Oklahoma City's** National Cowboy and Western Heritage Museum has a special exhibit of tintypes, ambrotypes, cabinet cards, and stereographs on display through January 7, 2007. *Those Who Served: The U.S. Army on the Frontier* exhibit is located in the Osborn Photography Studio in Prosperity Junction, the museum's indoor authentic Western town. For information call 405/478-2250 or visit the Internet site at <www.nationalcowboymuseum.org>. (Special to ML)

## Recent Happenings

In **Edmond** on October 15 OHS Executive Director Bob L. Blackburn spoke at the dedication of the Classen's Grove plaque at the Edmond Public Library. The plaque honors Anton H. Classen (1861-1922), who helped establish the legal townsite of Edmond, served as editor of the *Edmond Sun*, donated land for the Territorial Normal School (now UCO), and was instrumental in planting trees and shrubs in the Edmond area, including where Shannon Miller Park is now located. Pictured below at the dedication are (left to right) Charles Lamb (of the Edmond City Council), Lucille Warrick (of the Edmond Historical Society), and Blackburn. (Special to ML)



The **Oklahoma Arts Council** announces that more than 100 pieces of artwork displayed in and around the state capitol can now be viewed on an Internet web site at <www.state.ok.us/~arts/capitolart/permar.html>. Students, scholars, and educators will benefit from this research tool, which includes biographies of the artists. (*Oklahoma Arts Council Newsletter*, Fall 2006)

**Waynoka Historical Society** announces the sale of their 2007 calendar titled "Waynoka-The Early Days." Color photographs appear on the front and back covers. Inside, black-and-white photos feature local inhabitants, events, and structures. The calendars are available at the *Woods County Enterprise* newspaper office or at the museum gift shop. Cost of the calendar is \$8.66, which includes tax. Mail orders should be sent to Waynoka Historical Society, P.O. Box 193, Waynoka, OK 73860. For mail orders add \$2.50 for shipping of the first calendar and \$.50 for each additional calendar sent to the same address. For information call 580/824-5871. (Special to ML)

## Meetings

The **Oklahoma Genealogical Society's** monthly meeting will be held on Monday, December 4, 2006, at 6 p.m. in the Chesapeake Events Center at the Oklahoma History Center, 2401 North Laird Ave., in **Oklahoma City**. Sharon Burns, Edmond Genealogical Society president and editor of the OGS quarterly publication, will discuss conducting genealogical research on the Internet. The OHS Research Center will be staffed and remain open until 7:45 p.m. that evening. (Special to ML)

**Northwest Oklahoma Genealogical Society** (NOGS), the gateway to historical and genealogical research for Dewey, Ellis, Harper, and Woodward counties, has monthly meetings on the third Tuesday in January through November at 6 p.m. in the Woodward Public Library, 1500 Main Street, Woodward, OK 73801. The society website <www.rootsweb.com/~oknwgs/> provides users with searchable databases of names extracted from cemetery records, newspapers, and county histories as well as information provided by researchers. The NOGS collections are located in the genealogy room of the Woodward Public Library. Contact the library at 580/254-8544. (Special to ML)



# OHS EVENTS AND EXHIBITS

Every effort has been made to list correct information as it was available at press time. Other events may be added throughout the year. Check the monthly issue of *Mistletoe Leaves* for additions, corrections, and/or expanded articles.

Some events require registration and/or admission fees. Registration is limited for some workshops and seminars. Some events sponsored by the OHS are held at sites other than the property on which the OHS site or museum is located.

Please call ahead to verify date, hours, exact location, admission fees, etc. The roster that follows June's listings includes the phone numbers to call (unless otherwise noted in the calendar) for information about the OHS events listed below.

Additional information is also available at the OHS web site, <[www.okhistory.org](http://www.okhistory.org)>. Click on "About OHS" and then click on "Events Schedule" to access the monthly calendars.

TBA = to be announced

## JANUARY

- 1-14 Hoffman Challenge Quilt Exhibit, Pioneer Woman Museum, Ponca City
- 1-15 *Hidden Voices, Coded Words*, Oklahoma Museum of History exhibit, Oklahoma History Center, Oklahoma City
- 1-15 *Native Words, Native Warriors*, Smithsonian Institution exhibit, Oklahoma History Center, Oklahoma City
- 13 Victorian Valentine Workshop, Pawnee Bill Ranch Site, Pawnee
- 15-31 A Day at Rose Hill School, Spring Semester, Cherokee Strip Museum, Perry
- 20-21 World War II Living History Program, Fort Washita Historic Site, vic. Madill
- 25 *Through the Artist's Eyes: A Perspective on Historical Southwestern Oklahoma*, exhibit, Museum of the Western Prairie, Altus
- 27 Valentine Workshop, Murrell House, Park Hill
- 27 Primitive Bow Making Workshop, Pawnee Bill Ranch Site, Pawnee



**Tobias Frazier, Comanche Code Talker**  
(OHS photo).

## FEBRUARY

- 1 Soap Making Workshop, Pawnee Bill Ranch Site, Pawnee
- 1-28 A Day at Rose Hill School, Spring Semester continues, Cherokee Strip Museum, Perry
- 1-28 K-2 Poster Contest, Oklahoma Route 66 Museum, Clinton
- 5 First Monday free admission, Oklahoma History Center and Oklahoma Museum of History, Oklahoma City
- 10 "History of African Americans in Radio Broadcasting in Oklahoma," lecture and video, Oklahoma History Center, Oklahoma City
- 12 "I Remember Second Street," a program of reminiscences by former residents, Oklahoma History Center, Oklahoma City
- 6-24 *Focus on Africa*, exhibit, Museum of the Western Prairie, Altus
- 10 Oklahoma History Center Volunteer Training, Oklahoma City
- 17 Tatting Workshop, Chisholm Trail Museum, Kingfisher
- 23 Fort Towson Timeline Program, Fort Towson Historic Site, Fort Towson



**Fort Gibson Bake Day** (OHS photo).

## MARCH

- 1-31 A Day at Rose Hill School, Spring Semester continues, Cherokee Strip Museum, Perry
- 1-31 Grades 3-6 Short Story Contest, Oklahoma Route 66 Museum, Clinton
- 1-31 *Through Our Grandmothers' Eyes*, traveling exhibit, Oklahoma Route 66 Museum, Clinton
- 3 Victorian Style Show & Ladies Tea, Celebrating 100 Years of Women's Fashions, 1820s-1920s, a Benefit for Oklahoma History Day Program. Admission fee \$15. Oklahoma History Center, Oklahoma City
- 5 First Monday free admission, Oklahoma History Center and Oklahoma Museum of History, Oklahoma City
- 10 Victorian Egg Decorating Workshop, Chisholm Trail Museum, Kingfisher

- 17 Tatting Workshop, Chisholm Trail Museum, Kingfisher
- 17 Kite Day, Spiro Mounds Archaeological Site, Spiro
- 17 Candlelight Tour, Honey Springs Battlefield, Checotah



**Cross S Ranch**  
(M. Cassity/SHPO photo).

- 17 Civil War Life Living History Program, Honey Springs Battlefield, Checotah
- 17 Flintknapping Seminar, Pawnee Bill Ranch Site, Pawnee
- 21-22 Vernal Equinox Walks, Spiro Mounds Archaeological Site, Spiro
- 24 Dutch Oven Cooking Workshop, Pawnee Bill Ranch Site, Pawnee
- 31 Spring Bake Day, Fort Gibson Historic Site, Fort Gibson

## APRIL

- 1-30 Grades 3-6 Short Story Contest, Oklahoma Route 66 Museum, Clinton
- 2 First Monday free admission, Oklahoma History Center and Oklahoma Museum of History, Oklahoma City
- 2 1907 Clothing Seminar and Style Show, Pawnee Bill Ranch Site, Pawnee
- 2-30 A Day at Rose Hill School, Spring Semester continues, Cherokee Strip Museum, Perry
- 8 Easter Sunrise Service and Breakfast Fund Raiser, Pawnee Bill Ranch Site, Pawnee



**At the Governor Seay Ball** (OHS photo).

# JANUARY-JUNE 2007

## APRIL—cont'd.

- 3-21** *The Cross S Ranch, Then and Now*, exhibit, Museum of the Western Prairie, Altus
- 4-8** Fort Washita Rendezvous, Fort Washita Historic Site, vic. Madill
- 12-14** Annual Meeting, Oklahoma Historical Society, Oklahoma History Center, Oklahoma City
- 13-14** 1800s Living History Programs, Chisholm Trail Museum, Kingfisher
- 14** Governor Seay Ball, Chisholm Trail Museum, Kingfisher
- 15-21** National Volunteer Appreciation Week, all OHS facilities
- 20-22** Heritage Days, Fort Gibson Historic Site, Fort Gibson
- 21** Tatting Workshop, Chisholm Trail Museum, Kingfisher
- 21** Lecture by John Hope Franklin, historian, Oklahoma History Center, Oklahoma City
- 28** 89er Day Celebration and Dinner, in conjunction with Kingfisher County Centennial Art Show, Chisholm Trail Museum, Kingfisher
- 28** Rural Heritage Festival, Chisholm Trail Museum, Kingfisher



Scene at Fort Gibson (OHS photo).

- 10** SHPO Workshop, Working with the National Register, Elk City
- 11** SHPO Workshop, Federal and State Tax Incentives for Rehabilitation, Elk City
- 11** SHPO Workshop, Guidelines for Rehabilitating Historic Buildings, Elk City
- 12** Blacksmithing Workshop, Pawnee Bill Ranch Site, Pawnee
- 12** Oklahoma History Center Volunteer Training, Oklahoma City
- 12** Archaeology Day, Spiro Mounds Archaeological Site, Spiro
- 19** Civil War Life Program, Honey Springs Battlefield Site, Checotah
- 19** Tatting Workshop, Chisholm Trail Museum, Kingfisher



Murrell House Lawn Social (OHS photo).

## JUNE

- 1-16** A Day at Rose Hill School, Spring Semester continues, Cherokee Strip Museum, Perry
- 1-31** History of Kingfisher's Notable Sons and Daughters, exhibit and art work, Chisholm Trail Museum, Kingfisher
- 4** History Day, Oklahoma History Center, Oklahoma City
- 7** First Monday free admission, Oklahoma History Center and Oklahoma Museum of History, Oklahoma City
- 8-26** *The Far-Out East*, exhibit of Asian-themed art work, Museum of the Western Prairie, Altus
- 9** SHPO Workshop, Section 106 Review Process, Elk City

- 1-30** Ross & Graham Photograph Exhibit, Oklahoma Route 66 Museum, Clinton
- 2** Lawn Social, Murrell House, Park Hill
- 4** First Monday free admission, Oklahoma History Center and Oklahoma Museum of History, Oklahoma City
- 6-8** 19th Annual Statewide Preservation Conference (SHPO), Guthrie
- 9** Fort Towson Homecoming, Fort Towson Historic Site
- 12-16** Chautauqua, Museum of the Cherokee Strip, Enid
- 16, 23, 30** Pawnee Bill's Wild West Show, Pawnee Bill Ranch Site, Pawnee
- 16** Tatting Workshop, Chisholm Trail Museum, Kingfisher
- 16** Juneteenth Program, Oklahoma History Center, Oklahoma City
- 21-22** Summer Solstice Walks, Spiro Mounds Archaeological Site, Spiro
- 21-24** International Route 66 Festival, Oklahoma Route 66 Museum, Clinton
- 30** Patriots of Kingfisher County Program, Chisholm Trail Museum, Kingfisher

## OHS MUSEUMS AND SITES

- |   |  |
|---|--|
| <b>Black Kettle Museum</b><br>junction of US 283 & SH 47<br>Cheyenne, 580/497-3929                                  | <b>Museum of the Western Prairie</b> , 1100 N Memorial Dr.<br>Altus, 580/482-1044                    |
| <b>Cherokee Strip Museum/Rose Hill School</b> , 2617 W Fir, Perry, 580/336-2405                                     | <b>National Hall of Fame for Famous American Indians</b><br>US 62 east, Anadarko<br>405/247-5555     |
| <b>Chisholm Trail Museum/Seay Mansion</b> , 605 Zellers Ave., Kingfisher<br>405/375-5176                            | <b>No Man's Land Museum</b><br>PSU Campus, Goodwell<br>580/349-2670                                  |
| <b>Chisholm Trail Historical Museum</b> , E of US 81/US 70 junction, Waurika<br>580/228-2166                        | <b>Oklahoma Museum of History</b> , 2401N Laird Ave., OKC<br>405/522-5248                            |
| <b>Confederate Memorial Museum</b> , US 69, ½ mi. N of Atoka, 580/889-7192  | <b>Oklahoma Route 66 Museum</b> , 2229 W Gary Blvd.<br>Clinton, 580/323-7866                         |
| <b>Fort Gibson Historic Site</b><br>907 N. Garrison, SH 80 in Fort Gibson, 918/478-4088                             | <b>Oklahoma Territorial Museum/Carnegie Library</b><br>402 E Oklahoma, Guthrie<br>405/282-1889       |
| <b>Fort Supply Historic Site</b><br>Campus of W.S. Key<br>Corr. Center, Fort Supply<br>580/766-3767                 | <b>Henry Overholser House</b><br>405 NW 15th St., OKC<br>405/528-8485                                |
| <b>Fort Towson Historic Site</b><br>NE of Fort Towson off US 70<br>580/873-2634                                     | <b>Pawnee Bill Ranch</b><br>½ mi. W on US 64, Pawnee<br>918/762-2513                                 |
| <b>Fort Washita Historic Site</b><br>SH 199, 13 mi. E of Madill<br>580/924-6502                                     | <b>Peter Conser House</b><br>4 mi. S of Heavener on US 59, 3½ mi. W of Hodgen<br>918/653-2493        |
| <b>Frank Phillips House</b><br>1107 Cherokee Ave.<br>Bartlesville, 918/336-2491                                     | <b>Pioneer Woman Museum</b><br>701 Monument Rd., Ponca City, 580/765-6108                            |
| <b>Fred Drummond House</b><br>305 N Price, Hominy<br>918/885-2374   | <b>Robert S. Kerr Museum</b><br>6 mi. SW of Poteau, US 270 at Kerr Conference Center<br>918/647-9579 |
| <b>Frederick Pioneer Village</b> , 201 N 9th St., Frederick,<br>580/335-5844  | <b>Sequoyah's Cabin</b><br>SH 101, 11 mi. NE of Sallisaw, 918/775-2413                               |
| <b>George M. Murrell House</b><br>19479 East Murrell Home Rd<br>3 mi. S of SH 82, Park Hill<br>918/456-2751         | <b>Sod House Museum</b><br>SH 8, 5½ mi. N of Cleo Springs, 580/463-2441                              |
| <b>Healdton Oil Museum</b><br>315 E Main, Healdton<br>580/229-0900  | <b>Spiro Mounds Archaeological Center</b> , 3 mi. E and 4 mi. N of Spiro<br>918/962-2062             |
| <b>Honey Springs Battlefield</b><br>1863 Honey Springs Battlefield Rd., E of US 69, near Rentiesville, 918/473-5572 | <b>State Capital Publishing Museum</b> , 301 W Harrison<br>Guthrie, 405/282-4123                     |
| <b>Jim Thorpe House</b><br>706 E Boston, Yale<br>918/387-2815   | <b>T. B. Ferguson House</b><br>519 N Weigle, Watonga<br>580/623-5069                                 |
| <b>Museum of the Cherokee Strip</b> , 507 S 4th, Enid<br>580/237-1907   | <b>Tom Mix Museum</b><br>721 N Delaware, Dewey<br>918/534-1555                                       |
| <b>Museum of Higher Education</b> , Old Central, OSU Campus Stillwater, 405/744-2828                                | <b>White Hair Memorial</b><br>½ mi. S of SH 20 on Blackburn Rd., Ralston                             |



Pawnee Bill's Ranch House (OHS photo).

## OHS PLACES . . .

### Fred Drummond House

305 North Price  
Hominy, OK 74035-1007  
Phone: 918/885-2374  
E-mail: <bwhitcomb@okhistory.org>  
Hours: Wednesday–Saturday, 9 a.m.– 5 p.m.;  
Sunday, 1–5 p.m.  
Closed: Mondays, Tuesdays, and legal holidays.  
Admission: Free; donations are accepted.

During the Christmas holiday visit the Fred Drummond House, which will be decorated in a traditional Victorian Christmas theme. On Sunday, December 3, from 2 p.m. to 5 p.m. the Drummond House and four other houses will be open for the Hominy annual home tour. “Finnegan’s Wake,” a Tulsa band, will perform at the Drummond House. Suzanne Woolley, who is Drummond’s great-granddaughter, plays in the band. Admission is \$1 per person at each home. Proceeds will benefit the Drummond Home.

Frederick Drummond (1864–1913) immigrated from Scotland circa 1884 and lived in New York, Texas, St. Louis, and Pawhuska, Indian Territory, before moving to Hominy. As a merchant he established the Hominy Trading Company, a mercantile outlet frequented by the Osage. He and his wife, Adeline Gentner Drummond (1870–1956), of German ancestry, raised all of their children in the three-story, late Victorian eclectic-style house, which was completed in 1905.

Opened to the public in December 1986, the home is furnished with original family furniture and heirlooms, including a three-piece, bird’s-eye maple bedroom suite. The first floor features a parlor, dining room, kitchen, and pantry. The second floor has four bedrooms, and two rooms on the third



(Jim Argo photo)

floor are reached by a narrow, steep stairway. A second-story sleeping porch was added in 1914. On the exterior the first floor is constructed of sandstone blocks from a quarry located a few miles west of Hominy. The second and third floors are frame structure, faced with shingles that were originally painted green and white. The steps to the front porch are covered by a circular section of the second floor balcony. A square turret extends from the roof above the second-story door that opens onto the balcony.

In November 1980 the Drummond Family Home Trust deeded the Fred Drummond House to the Oklahoma Historical Society. Because of its architectural significance as well as the Drummonds’ social and economic role in the Hominy community, the house was added to the National Register of Historic Places in 1981. The home commemorated its one hundredth anniversary in October 2005. *The Taste of the Drummond Home Cookbook*, including recipes from Addie Drummond, was published in 2005 and is available for \$15 plus \$5 shipping. During the past few years the home has been the venue for quilt, doll, hats and accessories, and wedding dress exhibits.



### Tour Fort Gibson by candlelight

Fort Gibson Historic Site is taking reservations for its annual 1848 Candlelight Tour. Admission will be \$8.50, and reservations are required. Tours will begin at 6:30 on December 8 and 6:00 on December 9, with groups starting approximately every fifteen minutes until 8:30 p.m.

This year’s theme is “Travelers’ Tales.” Travel was a major factor in the lives of everyone at a frontier army post. Troops usually changed duty stations every few years. Many army men were European immigrants. The United States–Mexican war drew large numbers of troops from the established states to Texas, Mexico, and California. Most civilians around Fort Gibson had also traveled.

Members of the Five Civilized Tribes in the area had been forced to migrate to Indian Territory during the Indian Removals, bringing African American slaves with them. News of a major event of 1848, the discovery of gold in California, reached the Indian Territory just as it did other parts of the country, and many were soon off to join the Gold Rush. “Travelers’ Tales” looks at these issues and the ways in which they might have affected people in and around the fort. For reservations or more information call 918/478-4088.

## Deck the halls! Holiday events brighten OHS museums, houses

### Seay Mansion Christmas—

Decking the halls for the Christmas season has begun at the historic Governor Seay Mansion in Kingfisher. The mansion is located at 605 Zellers Avenue. Built for the territory’s second governor, Abraham Jefferson Seay, the Victorian mansion will be adorned during the month of December for the delight of visitors to tour by candlelight.

To arrange for a group tour call 405/375-5176. The first floor of the house will be available for special candlelight tours and will also be open to the public during regular museum hours. Call Renee Mitchell at 405/375-5176 for further information. Pictured above are Roxie Alexander and Julie Copeland decorating a tree in the dining room.



### Cherokee Strip Museum Christmas—

The Cherokee Strip Museum in Perry will be decorated for Christmas and will be open for visitors from December 1 through December 29. The museum specializes in decorating with “Scherenschnitte,” a traditional German technique of cutting paper into fanciful designs. Scherenschnitte is a popular craft. It produces elaborately cut shelf papers, cards, doilies, and seasonal decorations. Many intricate designs appear throughout the museum’s holiday decorations. Pictured above, Stephanie Selig.

In addition, on December 10 the annual Christmas Tea and Open House will be held from 2 to 5 p.m. The event is conducted in conjunction with the Perry Christmas Tour of Homes. Sunday afternoon provides an opportunity to see the unique decorations at the museum and in selected Perry homes. Admission to the museum and to the tea is free. Telephone 580/336-2405 for more information.

### Pawnee Bill’s Christmas—

On Thursday, December 7 the Pawnee Bill Ranch and Museum will host its annual open house from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. Tours and refreshments will entertain visitors. Pawnee Bill’s mansion, the museum, and the grounds will be decorated for the season. The site is open and visitation is free. Hours are Wednesday through Saturday, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. and Sunday, 1 to 4 p.m. Call the museum at 918/762-2513 for additional details.

# Hidden Collections . . .

## The Thomas Coker Collection

By **Larry O'Dell**

Historians have begun to delve into the long-lasting consequences of mid-to-late-twentieth-century governmental strategies and decisions. The Thomas Coker Papers (2002.14) would be a good starting place to view the influence of Lyndon B. Johnson's Great Society initiatives on American Indians in Oklahoma. These included a policy of self-determination, encouraging tribes to control and operate their own programs. The collection also reveals many other issues concerning the governmental operations of the Seminole Nation.

Thomas Coker, born in 1909, matured as a Seminole, attending Mekusukey Mission School and later the Chilocco Indian School. There, he met his wife, Frances Walker, a member of the Sac and Fox Nation. When the Tusekia Harjo Band elected him to the General Council in 1944, Coker began his long service with the Seminole government. By 1948 he attained the posi-

tion of second chief of the nation. He also served on the committee that developed the new Seminole constitution, adopted in 1969. During Coker's long civic tenure he served on several boards and committees, many of which dealt with programs enacted by the Johnson administration, including those of the Department of Housing and Urban Development, the Comprehensive Employment and Training Act Board (CETA), the Bilingual Education Project, and the Seminole Community Health Programs. Coker held an elected office for thirty-two years before dying in 1980. Three of his children, Mary McCormick, Dora Young, and Elmer Manatowa, served as principal chief of the Sac and Fox.

In 2000 Mary McCormick donated Coker's papers to the Oklahoma Historical Society. Contained in sixteen document boxes, or more than five cubic feet, the collection covers issues from 1942 to 1983. Most of the tribal materials concern the years between 1961 and 1979. These include minutes and reports, not only of the Seminole Nation Council meetings, but also of other entities, including the Inter-Tribal Council of the Five Civilized Tribes (1961-76), Consti-

tutional Committee meetings (1964, 1967), tribal election committee meetings, and CETA advisory board meetings (1978-79). Other bureaucratic documents that contain valuable information are quarterly and annual reports for the Seminole Nation and the other committees and boards, planning studies, Seminole constitutional amendments and resolutions, financial statements, newsletters, and documentation of several court cases relating to Indian nations and their citizens. Another facet is the correspondence between Coker and American Indian leaders and the Bureau of Indian Affairs. A wealth of personal papers, correspondence, and memorabilia supplement the documents. Also of interest are the newspaper clippings that Coker saved, regarding a number of topics dating from 1942 to 1983.

A summary of the Thomas Coker Papers can be found on the Oklahoma Historical Society website <[www.okhistory.org](http://www.okhistory.org)>. Visit the new database section of the Research Division web page and search for Thomas Coker or use any keyword that could be associated with his work.

## Members invited to SHPO's Open House on December 18

Mark your calendar for "Miracle on 23rd Street," a progressive open house on Monday, December 18, 2006.

The Oklahoma Historical Society's State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO) invites *Mistletoe Leaves* readers to their open house from 1:30 p.m. to 4 p.m. on December 18.

Now that the SHPO is settled into its space in the Oklahoma History Center (second floor, north end of the hallway) at 2401 North Laird Ave., Oklahoma City, the staff wants OHS members and colleagues to become familiar with the division's new location and its services.

The holiday season is the perfect time for this special event. If you plan to attend, send an e-mail to <[sjotley@okhistory.org](mailto:sjotley@okhistory.org)> or phone 405/521-6249, and indicate the number in your party.

The SHPO is the second stop for the progressive open house. The SHPO regularly works with the Oklahoma Main Street Center to preserve the state's heritage and revitalize communities. So, they also are taking another opportunity to be partners, this time in a social event. Main Street has just moved into the "Gold Dome" at Northwest Twenty-third Street and Classen Boulevard in Oklahoma City. Their open house will also be held on December 18 and will run from 10 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.

At 1:30, the party moves east to the Oklahoma History Center, just north of Twenty-third Street, on Laird Avenue.

The many people who work with both agencies are encouraged to visit each new office location.

# OHS HOLIDAY GIFT TIME

Give the gift of Oklahoma history this holiday season! Consider giving your friends, relatives, colleagues, teachers, and students a gift membership in the Oklahoma Historical Society.

Share your enjoyment of OHS publications, free admission to all OHS sites and museums, and the many other benefits of membership.

With every five new or renewal gifts you'll receive an OHS tote bag featuring the logo of our new Oklahoma History Center.

For every ten new or renewal gifts, you'll receive an autographed copy of *Images of History: The Oklahoman Collection*, by Jim Argo and Bob Blackburn. This beautiful book includes essays and images that chronicle the birth and growth of Oklahoma.

Please attach an additional sheet for more recipients' names and addresses.

Just fill out the form below and return it with your payment.

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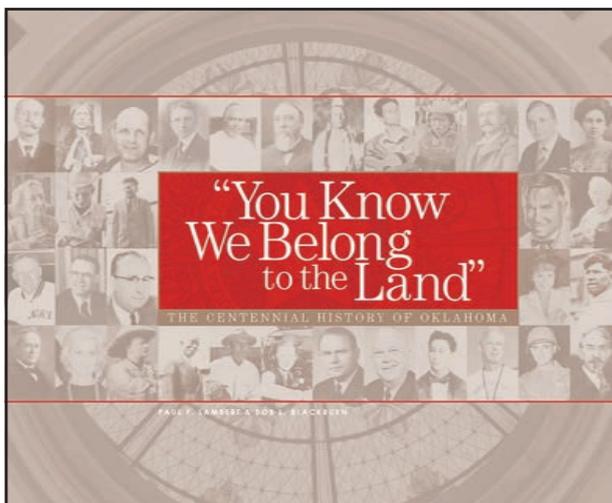
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### Membership Categories:

Individual \$35 - Family \$50 - Friend \$100  
Associate \$250 - Fellow \$500 - Director's Circle \$1000 - Benefactor \$5000

Return entire form to: Oklahoma Historical Society, Membership Office,  
2401 N. Laird Ave., Oklahoma City, OK 73105-7914.

## A new Centennial publication available to OHS members



In "You Know We Belong to the Land": *The Centennial History of Oklahoma*, historians Bob L. Blackburn and Paul F. Lambert tell the story of the Sooner State through the lives of 33 fascinating individuals. Assisted by fellow Oklahomans David L. Boren, James P. Ronda, and N. Scott Momaday, the authors use biographies, sidebars, and photos to bring the Oklahoma experience to life.

Although Oklahoma is a young state, its borders encompass an ancient land that has been inhabited by humans for at least ten thousand years and perhaps as long as thirty thousand years. Yet it was during the past two hundred

years that this land was populated by a remarkable blend of people who have ranged from the famous and infamous to the anonymous.

Their collective responses to a myriad of challenges have shaped Oklahoma's history. It is the collective character of the people of Oklahoma that defines "the Oklahoma Standard." Here are stories of a representative sampling of remarkable individuals who have helped, along with millions of others, to shape the history and spirit of Oklahoma.

The book retails for \$39.95 and is available through the Oklahoma Historical Society Gift Shop in the Oklahoma History Center. Call 405/522-5214, or go online at <www.okhistory.org> to order your copy. Shipping and handling charges apply, but **OHS membership discounts also apply.**

The publication is sponsored by the Oklahoma Centennial Commission. All proceeds from book sales are dedicated to the support of the Oklahoma Historical Society and the Oklahoma Centennial Commission.

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

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

PERIODICALS

# Mistletoe Leaves

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## Centennial Ball tickets are still available

**RSVP date is December 15, 2006**

The Grand Centennial Ball, scheduled for New Year's Eve 2006 and sponsored by the OHS Board of Directors, will be open for reservations until December 15.

At this "period" affair, historical interpreters and guests will wear 1907-era attire as they dance away old 2006 and ring in the Centennial Year of Oklahoma Statehood in the Atrium of the Oklahoma History Center.

Tickets are \$75 per person, and a table of eight may be secured for \$550. Dinner will be served. The festivities begin at 8 p.m. and conclude at 1 a.m.

Advance reservation requests may be directed to Kelsey Arnold, Oklahoma Historical Society, 2401 N. Laird Avenue, Oklahoma City, OK 73105. Calls for reservations may be made to 405/522-0692 or e-mailed to <karnold@okhistory.org>.



## Voices of Oklahoma

**The Oklahoma Historical Society is back on the air!**

In November 2006 *Voices of Oklahoma* made its debut on Cox Communications Channel 3 in Tulsa and Channel 7 in Oklahoma City. The monthly show will feature an exhibit in the Oklahoma History Center, collections in the Research Center, and an OHS site or museum from around the state.

Dr. Bob Blackburn, OHS Executive Director, is the host of the program. The episodes will be produced by the OHS video production crew, consisting of Bill Moore and LaNita Austin. In the first program Dan Provo (director of the Oklahoma Museum of History), Tara Damron, and Matt Reed (museum curators) take viewers on a tour of the Indian Gallery in the new Oklahoma History Center. Jerry Dobbs shares the details of Sequoyah's Cabin site near Sallisaw, Oklahoma. Bill Welge and Larry O'Dell tell viewers of some of the great documents in the Indian Records in the Research Center.

Two other video features to look for in the broadcast media around the state include public service commercials about the History Center and a "one-minute history moment" on the program *Oklahoma Horizon*, which airs on Sunday afternoons on OETA. This weekly program will feature a short historical story produced by OHS during the Centennial Year of 2007.

**More information inside—**



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