



Mistletoe Leaves



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Taking history on the road

History Center educators set sights on serving 30,000 new students

“As an educator, one of the greatest feelings you can have is the knowledge of reaching young minds and witnessing that ‘ah, ha!’ moment on the face of a child,” says Jason Harris, a curator of education at the Oklahoma Museum of History. “With each field trip the opportunity to instill a fascination with the past rumbles through our doors as children of all ages come from across the state and make their way to the museum.”

The primary purpose of the educators is to provide unique and enlightening programming in the Oklahoma History Center. However, as Harris notes, “Our greater ambition is to reach out across the state and share Oklahoma’s history.” The teaching staff includes Education Director Mike Adkins and Education Curators Harris, Walter Eskridge, Benjamin Clark, and Jan Sanders.

Due to the transportation costs affecting school districts, the Oklahoma Museum of History education staff is taking a proactive approach to providing museum education free of charge. The goal for the 2008–2009 school year is to reach 30,000 students through the new program.

To start the effort, in September the museum educators began actively arranging living history programs across the state. The presentations fit with the curriculum. They soon decided to increase the number of trips. “By traveling to the classrooms, we promote the History Center, OHS sites, and special school programs such as school days at our historic forts,” says Harris. To coordinate and schedule trips, they divided

into quadrants, plus the Panhandle. Multiple programs are arranged each day, with one to four educators spending several days in a particular geographical region to serve numerous schools.

Living history allows people to experience history in three dimensions. “They essentially transcend from a two-dimensional ‘book’ experience to seeing a three-dimensional character,” says Harris. “If it’s done well, the viewer, adult and student alike, can suspend belief and travel in time through the mind’s eye to a point in the past and have a glimpse of what life was like.” Living history makes history personal. “Participants will remember the experience for a long time,” he added.



Taking this approach to museum education allows the Oklahoma History Center to create a relationship with a large number of schools and communities in every one of the state’s seventy-seven counties. On each trip the educators will try to reach a variety of schools in towns large and small. The trips are divided between towns with larger student bodies and smaller, rural-community schools. On two recent visits, the educators presented an 1870s cattle drover, and a pioneer woman appeared in programs before more than 2,600 students at twelve different schools. Many of the teachers were surprised to learn about the History Center and the programs that the OHS offers.

Trips are scheduled throughout the remainder of the school year. In mid-November four educators will travel through the Panhandle for three days, and several staff will venture into southwestern Oklahoma in early December. To learn more or to receive information about the trips to your area, call Jason Harris at 405/522-0785 or e-mail him at <jharris@okhistory.org>.



Celebrate Christmas with the OHS!

Several of the OHS Museums and Historic Sites have scheduled exciting events for the holiday season of 2008.

Wassail Evening in Guthrie

The State Capital Publishing Museum will be open for its Wassail Evenings on December 13 and December 20. The event begins at 5:30 and continues until 8 p.m. While they enjoy warm, Victorian wassail, visitors can enjoy the 1902 building in its holiday finery—a dozen elaborately decorated Christmas trees. The affair is free, but a \$1 donation is suggested. The Wassail Evenings coincide with the downtown Guthrie traditional Christmas Walks. Call 405/282-4123.

Storytime with Santa at Pawnee Bill’s Mansion

During the month of December the Pawnee Bill Ranch and Museum will offer visitors to the 1910 house an old-fashioned, turn-of-the-century Christmas. The large mansion will be grandly decorated, with a Christmas tree in almost every room. On December 6 the ranch will host Storytime with Santa. Children will enjoy snacks, listen to a story, and make a Christmas card. On December 11 the mansion will hold its annual Holiday Open House. Tours will be offered, and snacks will be served. Santa will be available to listen to children’s “wish lists,” and he’ll pose for photos, too. The ranch is located just outside the town of Pawnee. Call 918/762-2513.

Route 66 Museum Open House

To help the town of Clinton launch the 2008 holiday season, on December 2 the Oklahoma Route 66 Museum will host its annual Open House and will enter a float in that evening’s Festival of Lights Parade. This year the staff will enter a 1946 Dodge pickup, a 1937 bumper car, and a float designed by the museum’s volunteers. The parade begins at 7:30 p.m. The museum is open until 9, and guests will enjoy punch and cookies. Admission is free. The museum has also invited ten civic clubs to decorate themed Christmas trees, which will be on view during the entire holiday season. Call 580/323-7866.

More OHS Holiday Happenings on page 5.



Director's Column

By **Bob L. Blackburn**
Executive Director

One of the advantages of a long career in the field of history is the unique perspective it provides. On the one hand, experience helps with a better understanding of the people, places, and events that contribute to our history. On the other hand, experience provides insight into the history of the historical process itself.

In October I gave a speech at the annual meeting of the National Trust for Historic Preservation, which was held in spectacular fashion in the great city of Tulsa. My topic was the history of historic preservation in Oklahoma.

At first, I thought I might track that history through the buildings and the historic places that have been preserved. With a PowerPoint slide show, I intended to give our guests an entertaining bird's-eye view of our built environment.

Then I had second thoughts. Why focus on the results of historic preservation when the more revealing story is the twisting and

turning trail of the public's support for it? This would not be as easy to construct, but I thought it might give our visitors more insight into the unique personality of Oklahoma and its people.

I can't outline the entire speech here, but I can offer its key points. The structure was the transition from individual sense of place—an emotional connection to buildings and sites important in our own lives—to a communal sense of place where public policy recognizes and supports the connection that buildings and sites have with our shared experiences.

I started with an overview of the forces that split Oklahoma into a patchwork quilt of regional histories—tribal differences, the various land openings, Indian Territory vs. Oklahoma Territory, African Americans vs. everyone else, Tulsa vs. Oklahoma City, rural vs. urban.

I cited early examples of historic preservation, such as the reconstruction of Fort Gibson stockade and the cover building placed over Sequoyah's cabin in the 1930s. To me, those were motivated more by make-work economics than by public support for historic preservation.

The first stirrings of communal ownership of history, in my view, started with the 50th-year commemorative events at the regional level for the land runs, the city charters, and the state's semi-centennial in 1957. Then came the Civil War Centennial Commission and the Bicentennial of National Independence, which seemed to break through the regional limits of our shared experience.

Over the next forty years, public support for historic preservation grew. New tools became available. New leaders stepped forward. I traced those tools and those leaders through three preservation stories: the Honey Springs Battlefield, the Heritage Hills Neighborhood, and the Tulsa Race Riot Memorial.

In each case, I started with the history of each place, traced the threats to each, and finished with the evolution of tools used for preservation and the people who used them. By finishing with the hallowed ground of the Tulsa Race Riot, I tried to illustrate the maturity of the historic preservation process in a state that can deal openly and honestly with a chapter of history that is neither complimentary nor pleasant.

I believe that a community that can assign importance to the places and buildings of our failures, as well as to the places and buildings of our victories, is a community that has developed a sense of place.

Yes, one of the advantages of a long career in history is the perspective it provides. In this case, that perspective makes me proud of Oklahoma.

Development News

By Paul F. Lambert

If you have been thinking about donating to the Oklahoma History Center, to the Oklahoma Historical Society, to the Friends of the Oklahoma History Center, or to the Friends of the Oklahoma Historical Society Archives, this is a good time to act. Making a contribution before the end of the year will allow your donation to reduce your taxable income for 2008.

In addition to renewing your membership if it is due, there are many options for making a meaningful contribution. Gifts in memory of a family member or a friend may be made in any amount. We notify the family of the individual honored that you have made a memorial contribution. Chairs in the LeRoy H. Fischer Board Room and in the Research Center at the History Center can be endowed for a \$500 donation. Donors are recognized by special plaques displayed in the board room or in the research library.

For \$1,000 you can recognize your family or another family on a special leaf on the beautiful Oklahoma Family Tree in the History Center and have a family history written that will be available to the public visiting the History Center and on our website. A Legacy Limestone Paver in the Entry Hall of the History Center may be etched to honor your family or a particular individual for a donation of \$5,000.

The Annual Fund to support new exhibits and programs at the History Center may be supported at any level, with donors of \$1,000 or more being recognized on our Annual Donor Board. And special projects, such as making it possible for school groups to travel to the History Center, may be supported in various amounts. We are grateful for the generosity of our members and will continue to strive to make you proud of your Oklahoma Historical Society. If you would like additional information, please call my office at 405/522-5217, e-mail <plambert@okhistory.org>, or write to me at 2401 North Laird Ave., Oklahoma City, OK, 73105.



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The public and OHS members are encouraged to submit heritage-related items for publication. Students and teachers are invited to share studies and programs and to duplicate contents as desired. Editors are welcome to reprint materials with credit.

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Meetings

Oklahoma Genealogical Society (OGS) will hold its regular monthly meeting on Monday, December 1, 2008, at 6 p.m. at the Oklahoma History Center, 2401 North Laird Ave., in Oklahoma City. Bill Welge will present a talk on "Trails through Oklahoma." The Research Library will be open until 7:45 p.m. (Special to ML)

Events

The historic Murray Lindsay Mansion located in **Lindsay** is planning a Christmas event on Sunday, December 7, from 1 to 4 p.m. Each room of the mansion, built in 1881, will be decorated for the holiday season. Grandchildren of the Murray Lindsay family will be present to tell stories of past Christmas celebrations. Finger foods will be served in the dining room, and children can visit Santa Claus in the library. Admission is free, but donations are appreciated. Phone Shawn Bridwell at 405/756-6502 for information. (Special to ML)

Boise City's Cimarron Heritage Center Museum is hosting its annual Christmas party on Tuesday, December 9, at 7 p.m. Everyone is invited to bring a finger food and enjoy the Festival of Trees. Also, the museum's gift shop has items for holiday gift giving. For more information telephone the Cimarron Heritage Center at 580/544-3479. (*Cimarron County Historical Society Foundation & The Cimarron Heritage Center Museum Newsletter*, Winter 2008)

Sayre High School's gymnasium will be the venue for a Christmas bazaar featuring more than fifty crafters. The event will take place on Saturday, December 6. In addition to the sale of hand-crafted items, food will be available and drawings will be held throughout the day. Call the Sayre Chamber of Commerce at 580/928-3386 or e-mail <sayrechamber@itlnet.net>. (Special to ML)

Muskogee's Three Rivers Museum, located at 220 Elgin, will have an exhibit of *Toys from the Past* on display from December 23 to 28, 2008. Antique toys from dolls to train sets will be featured. To get more information call 918/686-6624 or e-mail <staff@3riversmuseum.com>. (Special to ML)

The Coleman Theatre, at 103 North Main, **Miami**, will be the venue for the Riders in the Sky. They will be performing "Christmas the Cowboy Way" on Tuesday, December 2, at 7:30 p.m. Also, celebrate Christmas at the Coleman on Friday, December 12, at 7:30 p.m., when the Tulsa

Praise Orchestra will perform. (*Friends of the Coleman Newsletter*)

Oklahoma's communities will be glowing with holiday lights in December. Some of the events include **Salina's** Snowdale Park, featuring feature a drive-through display around Lake Hudson. Admission is free, but donations are appreciated. The display will be open from 6:30 to 10 p.m. daily, December 1-31. **Wister Lake State Park and Quarry Island** will have more than one million lights and feature animated lights and children's characters. The display will be open from 6 to 9 p.m. daily beginning December 6 and running through December 25. Admission is free, and the park is handicapped accessible. **Woodward's** Crystal Beach Park will shine with more than two million lights from November 22 through December 31. Hours are Sunday through Thursday, 6 to 10 p.m. and Friday and Saturday, 6 to 11 p.m. (Special to ML)

In addition to displays of holiday lights, towns will host Christmas parades. For example, **Vinita** is planning a festive parade featuring Christmas floats, marching bands, and a visit from Santa Claus on Thursday, December 4, at 7 p.m. In downtown **Miami** visitors from around a four-state area will attend the Route 66 Christmas parade on Saturday, December 6, at 6 p.m. **Frederick** has a breakfast with Santa, a festive parade, and a thirty-minute walking tour by lantern and oil lamp scheduled for Saturday, December 13, from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. (Special to ML)

Davis is planning a holiday home tour for Tuesday, December 9, from 6-9 p.m. Area homes will be decorated inside and outside for Christmas. Tickets, costing \$6, and detailed directions can be obtained at the chamber of commerce or at the first house. For info telephone Janet Mathis at 580/369-2402 or send an e-mail message to <davischamber@sbcglobal.net>. (Special to ML)

For a nostalgic holiday atmosphere visit the Thompson House Victorian Christmas on Friday through Sunday, December 5-7, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. The Thompson House is located at 300 South College Ave. in **Tahlequah**. Victorian-dressed individuals will be present while shoppers select hand-crafted items for gift giving. Telephone 918/456-3742 or send e-mail to <tahlequahtourism@swbell.net>. (Special to ML)

Durant's downtown Market Square, located at First and Evergreen streets, will have an outdoor ice-skating rink open on Saturdays and Sundays from December 6, 2008, through January 5, 2009. The

rink will be open from 10 a.m. to 10 p.m. on Saturday, December 6. On the following Sundays and Saturdays, it will be open from 4-10 p.m. Beginning December 20 through January 5, the hours will be 1-10 p.m. Contact Donna Dow at <ddow@durantmainstreet.org> or phone 580/924-1550. (Special to ML)

On December 31 bring in the New Year at the Courthouse Square in **Pawnee**. The town is hosting a New Year's Eve party that will include a roaring bonfire, music, blackeyed peas, hot chocolate, and a ball drop. Telephone 918/762-2108 or e-mail <pawneechamber@cowboy.net>. (Special to ML)

Calendars

The Waynoka Historical Society has produced a 2009 calendar with historical photographs featured each month. The cover has an image of a 1910 color postcard of the Santa Fe Reading Room that was used by train crews. Inside are images of a 1902 Congregational Church women's sextet, accompanied on the piano by the church's first minister; the construction of the Santa Fe roundhouse in 1908; the senior class of 1918 on a hayride; the Waynoka Ice Cream Factory; the 1959 State Championship basketball team; Dr. E. P. Clapper and the hospital that bore his name; and Charles H. Hink and his horse-drawn dray in 1912. The cost is \$7.95 plus tax. For mail orders, add \$1.50. Add fifty cents for each additional calendar mailed to the same address. Send orders to Museum Gift Store, P.O. Box 193, Waynoka, OK 73860. The calendars can also be purchased at the Gift Shop at the Harvey House or the *Woods County Enterprise* newspaper office. (Special to ML)

Opportunities

The University of Oklahoma's Carl Albert Congressional Research and Studies Center seeks applicants for its Visiting Scholars Program. Awards of \$500-\$1,000 are granted as reimbursement for travel and lodging for researchers working at the center's archives. The program is open to any applicant. Emphasis is given to those pursuing postdoctoral research in history, political science, and other fields. Graduate students researching for publication, thesis, or dissertation are encouraged to apply. Professional researchers and writers are also invited. The center evaluates each research proposal on its merits, and funding for a variety of topics is expected. For more information, please contact Archivist, Carl Albert Center, 630 Parrington Oval, Room 101, University of Oklahoma, Norman, OK, 73019 or call 405/325-5835.

OHS Places . . .

OKLAHOMA ROUTE 66 MUSEUM

2229 West Gary Boulevard
Clinton, OK 73601-5304
(North from I-40, exit 65 to Gary Freeway)
Phone: 580/323-7866

Open: Mon.–Sat. 9–5, Sun. 1–6

Closed: Sundays and Mondays in December and January,
the first week in January, and all state holidays.

Admission: Adults \$3.00

Seniors (65+) \$2.50

Groups of 10+ \$2.50 per person

Students (6–18) \$1.00

Children under age 6 Free Admission



We take our modern conveniences for granted. For example, we can communicate quickly with others through e-mails, faxes, and cell phones. We have drive-through fast food, banking, pharmacy, and dry-cleaning services. Air flight and super highways get us to our destinations in record time. This was not the situation in 1920s.

Travelers in the early twentieth century had few choices. If they could afford a motor car, they used the available dirt and gravel roads. However, the National Good Roads Association, initiated in 1893, brought about change, and in 1926 the U.S. Bureau of Public Roads began planning a national highway system. Highway 66 was part of the national highway initiative. Beginning in Chicago, Highway 66

(also known as Route 66 and the “Mother Road”) would cut diagonally across the Midwest, pass through Oklahoma, and eventually reach California.

The Route 66 Museum, located at 2229 West Gary Blvd. in Clinton, serves as a reminder of the former highway’s importance to the burgeoning recreational and commercial travel of the 1940s through the 1960s. Visitors can see vintage vehicles and listen to music while they experience the history and culture of the Mother Road. Exhibits offer artifacts, graphics, and videos that present information about road construction, transportation, lodging, restaurants, garages and gas stations, and curio shops—important recollections of the small businesses that developed along the road from Chicago to California. At the end

of their trip down the “Main Street of America,” visitors can sit in the drive-in theater and view “The American Odyssey,” narrated by Michael Wallis. To help you remember your trip back in time, visit the museum gift shop for signs, books, videos, and other mementos of Route 66.

Since 1991 the museum has been operated by the Oklahoma Historical Society. Originally known as the Museum of the Western Trails, it opened in 1968 under the direction of the Oklahoma Industrial Trust and Recreation Department (later the Oklahoma Department of Tourism and Recreation). In 1993 plans were developed to make the museum’s focus on transportation and Route 66. On September 23, 1995, the facility officially opened as the Oklahoma Route 66 Museum.

Hidden Collections . . .

The Meta Chestnutt Sager Collection

By Larry O'Dell

A small but significant manuscript collection held by the OHS Research Division is the Meta Chestnutt Sager Collection (2007.88).

Mrs. Sager served as an educator and civic leader in Grady County for more than fifty years. She not only witnessed the history of early-day Oklahoma Territory and statehood, but she also later documented that history. This collection is excellent for researching Oklahoma’s early education, women, and Grady County history.

Meta Chestnutt, who was born in North Carolina on September 8, 1863, participated in the 1889 Land Run, settling in Silver City, near present Tuttle. This community on the Chisholm Trail served as the headquarters to ranchers such as Caddo Bill Williams, Charles L. Campbell, and J. H. Tuttle. There, Sager established the town’s first school. After the railroad bypassed Silver City, most of the residents, including Sager, moved to Minco. In 1894 she helped establish El Meta Bond College in a three-story, brick building. She made several trips to Washington, D.C., to lobby for education and Oklahoma statehood. The school continued for thirty years. In 1906 Sager married J. Alba Sager, and



Left: Meta Chestnutt posed for this image in El Reno on July 17, 1901. The caption identifies the photograph as “Meta Chestnutt, Off for a Claim” (OHS Research Division photo).

they lived in Minco until 1920, when they moved to Chickasha. In 1939 the Oklahoma Hall of Fame inducted Sager. She died in January 1948.

The collection contains correspondence of Eva Heiliger, Sager’s great-niece, regarding a manuscript on Meta Sager’s life titled “Born to Meet Adversity.” The great-niece wrote to other family members and to members of the Bond family, for whom the school was also named. Notes to the manuscript and the actual manuscript are included in the collection. There is also Meta Sager’s correspondence to family members from 1940 to 1945. Personal items include a scrapbook of Meta Sager’s Oklahoma Hall of Fame induction and an El Meta Bond College program. A copy of “Early Grady County History,” written for *The Chronicles of Oklahoma* by Sager in 1939, is also included. Other items include pertinent newspaper clippings and a number of photographs.

In 2006 Eva Heiliger’s daughter, Marilyn McGinnis, donated the materials. A finding aid for the Meta Chestnutt Sager Collection can be viewed on the Research Division’s online catalogue at the Oklahoma Historical Society’s web site, <www.okhistory.org>. As always, the originals may be accessed in the John and Eleanor Kirkpatrick Research Center at the Oklahoma History Center.

More exciting Christmas events at OHS places

Cherokee Strip Museum Open House December 7

The Cherokee Strip Museum in Perry will be decorated for the holiday season from December 6 through December 31. The museum's traditional decorating specialty is "scherenschnitte," the German technique of cutting paper into fanciful designs. Scherenschnitte is a popular craft; it produces elaborately cut shelf papers, cards, doilies, and seasonal decorations. The staff uses the designs throughout the museum during the holidays. On Sunday, December 7, from 2 p.m. to 5 p.m. the annual Christmas Tea and Open House will be held. It comes in conjunction with the Perry Christmas Tour of Homes. The Sunday event provides an opportunity to see the unique decorations around town. Call 580/336-2405.

Murrell Home Open House is December 14

The historic Murrell Home at Park Hill will host its Eighth Annual Open House on Sunday, December 14, from 1 to 5 p.m. Visitors may tour the 1845 mansion and learn about mid-Victorian Christmas traditions. This year's theme is "Celebrating 60 Years as a Historic House Museum." The public is also invited to participate in a costume contest by wearing attire from any of the six decades from 1940 to the millenium. "Father Christmas" will make an appearance and will be available for photos with visitors. Proceeds benefit the Friends of the Murrell Home. Various crafts demonstrations will also be presented. The Murrell Home is three miles south of Tahlequah. Call 918/456-2751.

Seay Mansion Open House

The Governor Seay Mansion and Chisholm Trail Museum will have an open house on Saturday, December 6, from 2 to 4 p.m. Under restoration for several years, the house and its splendid furnishings will be enhanced by decorations, Santas, holiday music, and refreshments. Telephone 405/375-5176 for more information.



OHS Faces . . .

Jason Harris, Educator, State Museum of History

Jason Harris, Curator of Education, started working at the Oklahoma Museum of History (OMH) in February 2006. However, he is not a newcomer. In 1993, while he was still in high school, he volunteered at the museum. Harris also did internships in the museum and with Whit Edwards on special projects. Prior to his career at OMH he worked at the University of Central Oklahoma's campus museum.

Harris earned his bachelor's degree in May 2006 and completed his master's degree in history/museum studies at the University of Central Oklahoma (UCO) in May 2008. He has recently been appointed as a member on the newly organized UCO Museum Studies Program Advisory Board. The board's goal is to find ways to expand and improve the museum studies program at the university.

When *Mistletoe Leaves* asked Harris what he liked best about his job, he said, "I enjoy working with children of different ages and from different parts of the state. Each day is never the same."

Thoroughly imbued with a love of history, Harris takes part in living history programs when he is not at work. He participates in Civil War encampments and enjoys portraying a cowboy. Harris joins many other reenactors who travel around Oklahoma, Kansas, and Texas.



Fort Gibson Candlelight tour December 12-13

Make reservations now for the 2008 edition of the Candlelight Tour of Fort Gibson Historic Site on December 12 and December 13. Admission is \$7, and reservations are required.

This year's theme is "Moving On." Transience was a major fact of life for everyone at the post. Officers, soldiers, and their dependents usually had to change duty stations every two or three years. Occasionally whole army posts were moved when the situation required. Other people had reasons to keep moving, too. Enlisted men often deserted before their five-year term of military service ended; criminal fugitives from other parts of the nation hid in Indian Territory; slaves often attempted to escape. "Moving On" examines these issues and how they might have affected people at or living near the fort.

Tours begin at 6:30 and continue every fifteen minutes until the program ends at 8:30. Fort Gibson Historic Site is located at 907 North Garrison in the town of Fort Gibson. For more information or for reservations, call 918/478-4088.

Research Division issues 10,000th card!

The practice of assigning new patrons a research card began in 2006 when the Research Center first opened in the new Oklahoma History Center. Everyone who comes to do research now receives a card.

In October 2008 the Research Center staff issued its 10,000th card to Mrs. Claudia Bowe of Guthrie. She received a special gold research card as well as a historical map and items from the OHS Gift Shop.

The Research Center offers countless resources for anyone wanting to trace a family tree or just interested in learning more about Oklahoma history.

Hours of operation are Monday through Saturday from 9 a.m. to 4:45 p.m. Admission to the Research Center is free.

Holiday doings at Cherokee Strip Heritage Center

Father Christmas will visit the Cherokee Strip Regional Heritage Center on Saturday, December 6, at Oakwood Mall in Enid.

A Victorian Ornament workshop will be held on Saturday, December 13, at 1 p.m.

On Wednesday, December 17, at noon, Angela Moffette, director of the Southern Heights Heritage Center, will present a talk about her organization's programming.

Call 580/237-1907.

Nominations sought for OHS Board of Directors

The Nominating Committee of the Oklahoma Historical Society's Board of Directors is seeking suggestions from the membership regarding potential nominees to stand for election to the board. Suggestions will be accepted until Wednesday, January 21, 2009, for the election to be held in the spring of that year.

The OHS board consists of twenty-five members. Thirteen directors are elected by the membership, and twelve are appointed by the Governor of Oklahoma.

Each year the terms of some of the elected directors expire, and those positions are filled by election. Voting is done by secret ballot. Ballots and biographies of the nominees selected by the Nominating Committee are sent via U.S. mail to all dues-paying members in good standing.

Individuals suggesting potential nominees are asked to submit basic biographical information on the person under consideration, and they should determine if the person is willing to serve on the OHS board if nominated and if subsequently elected.

The Nominating Committee also may receive additional nominations until February 15, 2009, with biographies and designated office. The nomination must be signed by a minimum of twenty-five OHS members in good standing.

To qualify for service on the board of directors, an individual must have been a member of the OHS prior to April 23, 2007, and have remained a member in good standing until they take office during the Annual Meeting of the OHS in April. Directors serve three-year terms.

For the next election, four director positions will be on the ballot, one each for District 2 and District 4 and two At-Large posi-

tions. Incumbent directors are eligible to be on the ballot.

Nominees for the District 2 slot must reside in Okfuskee, Okmulgee, McIntosh, Muskogee, Sequoyah, Adair, Cherokee, Wagoner, Rogers, Mayes, Delaware, Ottawa, Craig, or Washington Counties.

Nominees for the District 4 directorship must reside in Harmon, Greer, Jackson, Tillman, Kiowa, Washita, Caddo, Comanche, Grady, Cleveland, or Pottawatomie, or in Oklahoma County east of a line from the northeast boundary to point south central on the county's border.

Contact Development Director Paul Lambert at 405/522-5217 if you have any questions regarding the eligibility of an individual or the district in which they reside.

Members may submit suggestions for nominees by calling individual committee members.

Here are the committee members' names and contact numbers: Marvin Kroeker, Chair, Ada, 580/332-6534; Jack Baker, Oklahoma City, 405/840-1377; Rex Ball, Tulsa, 918/748-9188; Deena Fisher, Woodward, 580/256-0047; Billie Fogarty, Oklahoma City, 405/286-1190; Jack Haley, Roosevelt, 580/639-2786; Guy Logsdon, Tulsa, 918/743-2171; Emmy Stidham, Checotah, 918/473-5872; and Lewis Stiles, Broken Bow, 580/584-6588.

OHS members also may suggest nominees to the Nominating Committee by writing the Nominating Committee, Oklahoma Historical Society, Attn.: Paul Lambert, 2401 North Laird Ave., Oklahoma City, OK, 73105.

Twenty-year members renew in October

Listed below, with the date they joined the OHS, are people and organizations who had been members twenty or more years when they renewed their memberships in October 2008. Their long-term loyalty is most sincerely appreciated!

Samuel T. Allen, Sapulpa, September 21, 1955
Jennifer Greenstreet, Ada, October 1, 1972
University of Tennessee Library, Knoxville, TN, October 1, 1972
Garrick A. Bailey, Tulsa, October 2, 1979
Bertie Mitchell, Oklahoma City, August 1, 1980
Harvey and Kathryn Nye, Norman, November 1, 1980
Darrel G. Walker, Konawa, October 1, 1981
O. J. Priest, Edmond, March 31, 1985
Fort Sill National Landmark & Museum, Fort Sill, October 1, 1985
L. Ernestine Maphet, Gate, October 1, 1985
Nathylee Whitley, Seminole, October 1, 1985
Woodruff F. Buckles, Charles Town, West Virginia, March 18, 1986
Richard James Family Foundation, Stroud, March 18, 1986
Lois A. Turk, Bethany, October 2, 1986
John and Marsha Greiner, Oklahoma City, October 10, 1986
Pushmataha County Historical Society, Antlers, October 15, 1986
Charles P. Stuart, San Francisco, CA, October 15, 1986
Francis E. Briscoe, Ardmore, October 20, 1986
Jerry Koelsch, Locust Grove, October 20, 1986
Alva Public Library, Alva, October 24, 1986
Marjorie Couch, Oklahoma City, October 27, 1986
L. J. and Belle Harris, Pryor, October 27, 1986
Beth W. Heimann, Oklahoma City, October 27, 1986
Nancy Gee, Miami, October 28, 1986
Jack D. Welsh, Oklahoma City, October 28, 1986
John L. Lillibridge, Sand Springs, PA, October 30, 1986
Frank E. Heaston, Norman, November 4, 1986
Tim Morgan, Norman, November 4, 1986
Sondra Morrison, Oklahoma City, November 4, 1986
Lydia Spalding, Oklahoma City, November 4, 1986
John Watson, Fallbrook, CA, November 4, 1986
David Huff, Killeen, TX, November 5, 1986
Pallie Terry, Franklin, LA, November 7, 1986
Pat and Betta Ferry, Little Rock, AR, November 19, 1986
Ruth Schreiner, Duncan, November 13, 1986
David Lee, Centennial, CO, November 17, 1986
Crawford and Dorothy Morris, November 17, 1986
Thomas Burnell Colbert, Marshalltown, IA, July 6, 1987
Teresa Black, Oklahoma City, October 6, 1987
Steven and Margarette Wagner, Houston, TX, October 26, 1987
Marjorie B. Scott, Hennessey, December 17, 1987
Janice Johnson, Edmond, June 13, 1988
Robert and Mary Haight, Reva, VA, September 13, 1988
Checotah Landmark Preservation Society, Checotah, October 17, 1988

New OHS members, October 2008

*Indicates renewed membership at a higher level

Benefactor

*Richard James Family Foundation, Stroud

Friend

Joe Colley, Pauls Valley
Mark and Kaye Dick, Enid
Dr. Marian Pilar Escobar, Chickasha
Bank Of Western Oklahoma, Elk City
Robert and Charla Green, Rush Springs
Marlow Chamber of Commerce, Marlow
Charles Oppenheim, Oklahoma City
Peter G. Pierce, Norman

Family

Justin and Kerri Beasley, Oklahoma City
Wynona Brooks, Oklahoma City
Floyd and Jo Ann Broussard, Magnolia, AR

Anita S. Chisholm, Oklahoma City
Roger and Glenda Choate, Jones
Steve Clapp, Del City
Jan Davis, Norman
Bruce W. Ewing, Oklahoma City
*Pat and Betta Ferry, Little Rock, AR
*John and Marsha Greiner, Oklahoma City
*Nancy S. Gruber, Dallas, TX
Vanessa Hamman, Oklahoma City
*Robert and Mary Haight, Reva, VA
Dr. Gordon Laird, Morrison
*Robert and Martha Margo, Nichols Hills
Christie Meyer, Mustang
Linda C. Michels, Edmond
R. D. and Patricia Miller, Okmulgee
John and Vicki Phillips, Stillwater
Lynn C. Rogers, Norman
Sherry Rowan, Oklahoma City
*Andy and Alsinie Slimp, Tulsa
*Forrest and Helen Troy, Midwest City
*Pauline Wilson, Pharr, TX
Edward Wolford, Oklahoma City

Dexter E. Woods, Oakland, CA
Robert Yount and Zonia Armstrong, Oklahoma City

Individual

Steven Dickey, Edmond
H. Jack Dobbins, Tahlequah
Carol B. Gwin, Oklahoma City
Maura Harkins, Tinker AFB
Robert Hays, Chickasha
Beverly Jeanes, Tahlequah
James R. Lee, Del City
J. P. London, Arlington, VA
Michael R. McGregor, Purcell
Tim Morgan, Norman
Karen Orme, Bethany
Duncan Payne, Tulsa
Jean Phillips, El Reno
Burnam T. Pope, Lexington
Angelina Pribil, Bison
Artena Slaughter, Oklahoma City
Don Stevenson, Norman

Register now for the SHPO's December workshops

The Oklahoma State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO) is pleased to announce the schedule for its annual fall workshop series. Each workshop is devoted to one of the SHPO's federal preservation programs and is designed for preservation professionals, government agency representatives, and concerned citizens. The sessions will be held on Wednesday, December 17, through Friday, December 19. All sessions will be held in the Classroom, Oklahoma History Center, 2401 North Laird Ave., Oklahoma City (just northeast of the State Capitol). The workshops are free and open to the public, but the SHPO requests that you register by 5 p.m., Wednesday, December 10. Space is limited for all sessions and will be reserved on a first-come basis.

Sessions will include:

December 17 (9:30 a.m. - 12 noon) Federal and State Tax Incentives for Rehabilitating Historic Buildings

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

December 17 (1:30 p.m. - 4:30 p.m.) The Secretary's Standards and Guidelines for Rehabilitating Historic Buildings

This half-day workshop is dedicated to a thorough discussion of the Secretary of the Interior's Standards and Guidelines for Rehabilitation. Generally referred to as The Standards, these common-sense principles are widely used in the historic preservation field. Whether you are involved in a rehabilitation project for the 20 percent federal and 20 percent state tax credits, planning a rehabilitation project funded with federal assistance, serving on a local historic preservation commission, or just wanting to know the best approach to rehabilitating your historic private home, you will find this session invaluable. It is

designed as a stand-alone workshop and as a companion to Federal and State Tax Incentives for Rehabilitation.

December 18 (9:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.) Working with Section 106: A Workshop for CDBG Applicants and Consultants (presented jointly with the Oklahoma Department of Commerce)

This new workshop is specifically designed for applicants and consultants involved in projects funded through the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) program. Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act provides that federal agencies must consider the effect of their undertakings on archaeological and historic properties listed in or eligible for the National Register of Historic Places. Under the CDBG program, applicants (city, county, or tribal governments) are considered "federal agencies." Topics addressed in this day-long workshop include the responsibilities of CDBG applicants, the roles of the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development and the Oklahoma Department of Commerce, the roles of the State Historic Preservation Office and the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation, and the roles of tribal governments and others in the review process. Additionally, there will be detailed discussion about how National Register eligibility is determined, how any adverse effects are addressed, and how the review process can be streamlined.

December 19 (9:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.) Working with the National Register of Historic Places

The National Register of Historic Places is the foundation of the SHPO's programs, and a basic understanding of the register is essential for those involved in historic preservation at all levels of government and in the private sector. The workshop provides detailed information about the National Register criteria, what listing means, the rights of property owners in the nomination process, tips for preparing successful nominations, and much more.

Registered architects attending these workshops can qualify for American Institute of Architects Continuing Education System (AIA/CES) learning units. Contact Catherine Montgomery, Education Committee, AIA Central Oklahoma Chapter, by e-mail at <catherinem@okhistory.org>.

If you have any questions about the content, contact Melvena Heisch at 405/522-4484 or at <mheisch@okhistory.org>. To register for any or all of the workshops, contact Betty Harris at 405/521-6249 or e-mail her at <bharris@okhistory.org> before 5 p.m. Wednesday, December 10.

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 *Mistletoe Leaves*, *The Chronicles of Oklahoma*, free admission

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Call the OHS Membership Office at 405/522-5217 or 522-5242 for additional information on Benefits!

OHS Holiday Gift Time!

to all OHS sites and museums, and the many other benefits of membership. Just fill out the form below and return it with your payment. In mid-December we will send personalized gift membership announcements.

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OHS Holiday Gift Time!

OHS Membership Categories:

Individual \$35 - Family \$50 - Friend \$100
Associate \$250
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Benefactor \$5000

As part of OHS's affiliate relationship with the Smithsonian Institution, we offer membership to OHS Individual, Family, and Friend members at a special rate of \$20 per year. Benefits of Smithsonian Affiliate Membership include:

- ✓ One-year subscription to *Smithsonian Magazine* (12 issues) or to *Air & Space* (6 issues),
- ✓ 10 percent discount on purchases from Smithsonian Catalogue and SmithsonianStore.com,
- ✓ 20 percent discount on publications from Smithsonian Books,
- ✓ Discounts on shopping and dining at the Smithsonian,
- ✓ Discounts at participating Smithsonian affiliate institutions and national retailers,
- ✓ Exclusive international and domestic travel programs and study tour opportunities,
- ✓ Free admission to the Smithsonian's Cooper-Hewitt, National Design Museum in New York City,
- ✓ A personalized membership card, and
- ✓ Access to a members-only web site.

Solstice Walks at Spiro Mounds on December 21

Come to the Spiro Mounds Archaeological Center on December 21, 2008, to learn more about the Winter Solstice and how Native Americans dealt with changes in the seasons. Archaeologist and manager Dennis Peterson will lead guided tours starting at 11 a.m., 2 p.m., and 7 p.m. Each will take about two hours and require a mile of easy walking.

Peterson will tell about this unique prehistoric Native American mound site, the types of mounds, why they were created, and why some of them are aligned for the sunsets of the solstices and equinoxes. He will also explain the history of the excavations and discuss Native American ceremonies and stories and tales of the unusual happenings associated with the mounds. For those wishing to see the sun go down, the 2 p.m. walk will end just about sunset, which is when the alignment will take place.

There is a small fee for this series of tours: \$3 for adults and \$2 for children. No reservations are required unless you are bringing a big group. Dress for the chilly autumn weather.

The Spiro Mounds Archaeological Center, the only prehistoric Native American site open to the public in Oklahoma, is administered by the Oklahoma Historical Society and is regularly open Wednesday through Saturday from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. and Sunday from noon to 5 p.m. It closes for state holidays. Admission, except for special programs, is free, although donations are appreciated. The center is located 3 miles east of Spiro, Oklahoma on S.H. 9/U.S. 271 and 4 miles north on Lock and Dam Road. If you need more information or wish to schedule a group or school tour during the Solstice Walks, or at any other time, please call 918/962-2062.

Continuing exhibits at the History Center

through January 4, 2009

Field, Forest and Stream: Oklahomans and the Outdoors

through July 2009

Unconquered: Allan Houser and the Legacy of One Apache Family

through 2009

Tierra de mi Familia: Oklahoma

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

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

PERIODICALS

Drummond Home Christmas Tour set for December 7

On Sunday, December 7, the Fred Drummond Home in Hominy will take part in the community's annual Christmas Tour of Homes. The Drummond Home will open its doors at 1 p.m. for the event. Visitors may take unguided tours throughout the site and enjoy the holiday decorations. Santa Clauses from four different time periods will be in attendance, and volunteers dressed in Victorian attire will assist them. Other homes in the community of Hominy that will host open houses for tours and viewing of holiday decorations. Phone 918/885-2374.

Seventh Texas Cavalry C.S.A. Living History in December

On Saturday, December 6, and Saturday, December 13, the Seventh Texas Cavalry C.S.A. reenactors group will present living history programs at Fort Washita Historic Site. These authentic interpreters will detail living and fighting during the Civil War era. Call Fort Washita at 580/924-6502 for additional details.

On October 23 reception guests enjoyed the opening of *Unconquered: Allan Houser/Haozous and the Legacy of One Apache Family*. Inset: Bob Haozous's flute solo inaugurated the festivities. The exhibit continues through July 2009 (B. Siemens photo).

