



Mistletoe Leaves



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December 2012

Humphrey Abstract Christmas in the Village

Experience Christmas in the Cherokee Outlet as it was more than one hundred years ago with the sights, smells, and sounds of the holiday season. Escape to a simpler time and enjoy characterized tours of the beautifully adorned historic buildings. Enjoy holiday refreshments and a musical performance in the village church. Send a letter to Santa, make a Christmas ornament with the schoolmarm of Turkey Creek School, or shop for the perfect gift at the village mercantile.

Group tours are scheduled by appointment from December 1 to 21. Morning tours occur from 9 a.m. to 12 p.m., lunch tours 12 to 1:30 p.m., and afternoon tours 1 to 5 p.m. Tour prices for the morning and afternoon tours are \$15 per person and \$20 for the lunch tour. The morning and afternoon tours include pastries, coffee, and cider, while the lunch tour includes a hot lunch, dessert, and drinks. Each tour package features a tour with a living history character, period musical entertainment, holiday shopping, and the creation of a holiday ornament. For reservations or questions, call the Cherokee Strip Regional Heritage Center at 580/237-1907.



Busy OHC volunteers

The Oklahoma History Center volunteers celebrated their seventh annual Volunteer Appreciation Banquet in October! This year's theme was "The Mad Hatter's Tea Party," where guests were encouraged to wear their silliest hat. Attendees enjoyed live entertainment from local magician Dewey Beene and took home their very own tea cup and saucer. The theme this year was inspired by an artist featured in the History Center's exhibit *Oklahoma @ the Movies*. McAlester-born Mary Blair created the concept art for Disney's 1951 film *Alice in Wonderland*. What better theme to go along with the wonderful volunteers at the History Center?

Staying busy as always, some of the volunteers, along with their director Robbin Davis and her family, participated in the 2012 Susan G. Komen Race for the Cure in downtown Oklahoma City. They are shown in this picture proudly wearing their "History Hooters" t-shirts. For more information about the History Center volunteer program, please contact Abigail Jones at 405/522-5886, or by email at volunteers@okhistory.org.



Candlelight tour at Fort Gibson

On Saturday, December 15, the Fort Gibson Historic Site will host its annual historic candlelight tour. This year's tour will portray the life of soldiers, refugees, and citizens in 1862 Fort Gibson. The tour will make several stops at various stations, each with its own historical characters and scenes. Be sure to dress warmly. Tours will begin at 6:30 p.m.

Admission is \$7. Reservations will be accepted beginning November 1. For more information or to make reservations, contact fortgibson@okhistory.org or 918/478-4088.





Director's Column

By **Bob L. Blackburn**
Executive Director

For the past thirty-three years I have worn many hats at the Oklahoma Historical Society.

In the early years I was a researcher, an editor, a writer, a publisher, and an event planner. Then came years as deputy director in charge of operations, budgeting, planning, and building a professional staff. Over the past thirteen years I have added the tasks of legislative liaison, fund raiser, builder, exhibit curator, and collector of all things historical.

Whatever the duties, whatever the new skill sets being developed, there is one hat that has never left my head. That is the hat of chief marketer of history.

Yes, I admit it. I am a salesman with a PhD.

In its history, Oklahoma has a great product to sell. There are dramatic challenges and enticing opportunities. There are heroes and villains. There are personal stories that inspire. The challenge has never been the product, but rather sharing it with our customers, the people of Oklahoma and those who visit our state.

Much of what I do as chief marketer of history comes down to communication, from speeches and interviews to books,

exhibits, and films. Whatever the tool of delivery, it comes down to knowing the product, the ability to shape it into something someone will buy, and making the pitch.

I have had a good role model from whom to learn these skills throughout my life. That role model is my mother.

Many people know her by her stage name, Ida B, which she adopted when she started her television career at KOCO-TV in Oklahoma City in 1959. For the next sixteen years she hosted shows with names such as *Romper Room*, *Dateline Hollywood*, *At Home With Ida B*, and *The Ida B Show*. Each show was an exercise in marketing herself, her guests, and the sponsors who made commercial television possible.

After *Good Morning America* took her time slot, she became an account executive selling commercial time to potential customers. Within six years, despite the glass ceiling imposed on women in the marketplace, she was the top salesperson. Still later, she created her own advertising agency.

As a kid growing up, I observed her marketing skills. I saw her reach out to people, find common ground, and create a direct line of communication. As you can imagine, she never met a stranger and could start a conversation with anyone anywhere.

All of those lessons became a part of who I am.

Yes, I have worn many hats at the Oklahoma Historical Society. The hat of chief marketer has always been there in large part due to the example set by my mother. Thanks, Mom.

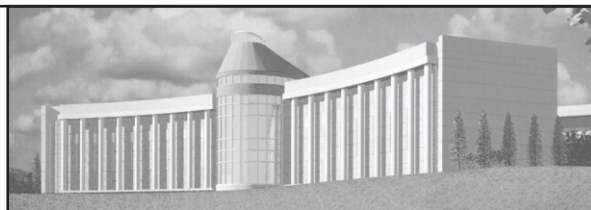
Dr. Bob

Development News

by Paul F. Lambert

The Oklahoma Historical Society is in the midst of its Annual Giving Campaign. By now all members should have received a letter from Dr. Blackburn inviting them to make a tax-deductible donation to support the ongoing creation of new museum exhibits, special education programs, and special events. These important donations are not to be confused with annual membership dues, which also qualify as tax-deductible contributions. We are receiving a marvelous response to the campaign thus far, and I want to thank all who have made contributions.

In this issue of *Mistletoe Leaves*, you will find an article about the new Oklahoma History Legacy Circle. The purpose of the Legacy Circle is to recognize on a perpetual basis those who have made contributions to one of the endowment funds of the Oklahoma Historical Society. This recognition will be given annually. Because endowment gifts support the OHS year after year, membership in the Legacy Circle also is permanent. We are grateful to those who have made endowment gifts, and we would be honored to visit with any member who is contemplating making such a gift now or providing for an endowment gift in their will or estate plans. If I can be of assistance in this regard, please contact me at plambert@okhistory.org, at 405/522-5217, or by mail at 800 Nazih Zuhdi Drive, Oklahoma City, Oklahoma 73105.



New members, October 2012
*Indicates renewed membership at a higher level

Fellow

*Teresa Black, Oklahoma City
*Barrie Henke, Edmond

Associate

*William Melton, Oklahoma City

Friend

Mr. and Mrs. James Askins, Oklahoma City
Marilyn Branch, Guthrie
*Mr. and Mrs. Richard Frazier, Irving, TX
*Ralph Goedtken, Oklahoma City
Clara Sue Kidwell, Muskogee
Jodi Olsson-Johnson and Foster Johnson, Pocola
Bob Palmer, Bethany
*Marty Pennington, Ada
*Frank Podpechan, Tulsa
*Dr. and Mrs. Ron Powell, Norman
*Robert Ross, Lawton
Gordon Williams III, Norman

Family

Mel Adair, Norman
Mr. and Mrs. Orin Allen, Pittsburg, CA
Mr. and Mrs. Mikel Anderson, Edmond
Mr. and Mrs. Steven Archer, Mustang
Iisha Barnes, Midwest City
*Mr. and Mrs. James Bates, Alvin, TX
Dr. and Mrs. James Bearden, Tulsa
Mr. and Mrs. Allan Beihl, Oklahoma City
Mr. and Mrs. Warren Big Eagle, Shawnee
Mr. and Mrs. Leonard Billingsley, Norman
*Dennis and Elizabeth Brigham, Norman
Mr. and Mrs. Michael Carmichael, Oklahoma City
*Mickey Clagg, Norman
*Mr. and Mrs. David Clement, Norman
Joe Coates, Edmond
Roylin Cole and George Ballew, Oklahoma City
Mr. and Mrs. Richard Conley, Edmond
Bridgette Crocker, Moore
Mr. and Mrs. Michael Dailey, Norman
Mr. and Mrs. James Dunegan, Durant
Tim Frame, Checotah
Mr. and Mrs. Nick Gales, Oklahoma City
Mr. and Mrs. Roger Garrett, Edmond
Mr. and Mrs. Jimmy Gill, Sulphur, LA
Dr. and Mrs. Wayne Glasco, Oklahoma City
Wanda Hall, Lake Kiowa, TX
Mr. and Mrs. Jeremy Hardwick, Shawnee
*Mr. and Mrs. Philip Hayden, Sallisaw
Mr. and Mrs. Eugene Howe, Oklahoma City
Marian Hulsey, Oklahoma City
Rebecca Jacobs-Pollez and Alain Pollez, Tishomingo
*Dorothy Keller, Oklahoma City
Joseph Ledlow, Oklahoma City

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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 "perserve 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.

All Oklahoma Historical Society facilities are for the education and enjoyment of all. State and federal regulations prohibit unlawful discrimination in state and federally assisted programs on the basis of race, color, national origin, and/or handicap.

Anyone denied benefits should contact the grievance manager of the Oklahoma Historical Society, 800 Nazih Zuhdi Dr., Oklahoma City, OK 73105-7917, telephone 405/522-8989, and/or the director, Office of Equal Opportunity, United States Department of the Interior, Washington, D.C. 20240.

Events

Dewey will hold its annual night parade on Saturday, December 8, with the theme "Bells of Christmas." The parade starts at 6 p.m. and admission is free. Categories for judging include youth, religious, commercial, and noncommercial. Trophies are awarded to the top two placing in each category. Entry forms are available at Arvest Bank, Dewey City Hall, or will be mailed to previous participants. Please turn in entry forms at the city call or Dewey Arvest by December 6. If you need the form faxed, call Craig at 918/337-3379 or Cassie at 918/534-2272. Horses in the parade must have a negative Coggins report to show. Just before the parade at 4:15 p.m. a short Santa Dash will be held. This is a one- to two-block race in which entrants must wear a Santa hat (elf hats for kids). For more information on this, contact Sandra Marshall at Kay's Antiques, Dewey, at 918/534-9937. This is a just-for-fun event but there will be prizes awarded to the race winners. Register at the city post office. Santa himself will be available for photos before the parade. He will be on the porch of the Dewey Hotel Museum from 5 to 6 p.m., passing out bags of candy and listening to your Christmas wish list.

Celebrate the magic of the season from November 16 to December 30 as more than one million lights transform Joe B. Barnes Regional Park into a twinkling winter wonderland at the **Midwest City** Holiday Lights Spectacular. Witness ninety dazzling displays including the majestic 118-foot Christmas tree. Midwest City Holiday Lights Spectacular is one of Oklahoma's largest animated drive-through light displays. Be sure to indulge in a romantic horse-drawn carriage ride to delight your loved ones, or simply tour the 1.5-mile-long drive of shimmering lights and relax as you circle back through a quiet wooded area. Horse-drawn carriage rides are available Thursday through Sunday. Donations are accepted. For more information, call 405/739-1293. (travelok.com)

From November 21 to December 30, enjoy lighted displays, colorful exhibits, angels, and animated displays throughout **Ponca City** at the city's annual Festival of Angels. Ponca City's annual holiday lights celebration, the Festival of Angels features more than 250 animated displays. Pick up a map at the city's host angel, a thirty-foot-tall lighted angel situated near the city's famous Pioneer Woman statue,

and follow the signs and map directions to other citywide locations featuring light displays. Visit the Cann Memorial Gardens for "fantasy gardens" strewn with twinkling lights, take a drive along the shore at Lake Ponca Park to witness a mile of angels, and visit Marland's Grand Home for Christmas lights combined with a healthy dose of southern hospitality. For more information, call 580/762-2273. (travelok.com)

Enjoy the Deluxe Indie Craft Bazaar on December 8 from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. Witness as unique artists show and sell their work to enthusiastic shoppers from around the region at this free family-friendly indie craft fair at the Oklahoma State Fairgrounds in **Oklahoma City**. All items are handmade; no resellers are allowed. Hosted by local nonprofit groups and community volunteers, a variety of entertainers will be onhand to engage the whole family and craft activities for the kids. Past activities have included spin art, paper snowflakes, screen printing demonstrations, and more. Door prizes and goodie bags will also be available. Come to the Deluxe Indie Craft Bazaar for amazing artists, street fashion, live music, and a wealth of free fun. For more information, call 405/816-2476. (travelok.com)

Bring the whole family to **Mangum's** downtown square and watch this Christmas parade featuring more than one hundred entries including floats, horseback riders, tractors, old cars, and fun entertainment for all ages. Enjoy this lovely parade and a winter adventure of the holiday spirit. The parade is on December 15 and begins at 1 p.m. in downtown Mangum. For more information, call 580/782-2444. (travelok.com)

Get into the holiday spirit on December 1 at **Okmulgee's** annual Festival of Lights Parade, one of the state's oldest nighttime parades with more than a million lights. The parade will travel east on Sixth Street, so get there early and secure a spot along the sidelines. Watch as area businesses and organizations compete to win Best Float in a selected theme. The Festival of Lights Parade will feature numerous floats, local dignitaries, and an appearance from Santa Claus. Bring the family and enjoy this downtown parade with plenty of lights and Christmas-themed floats. For more information, call 918/758-1015. (travelok.com)

Tonkawa's Olde Tyme Christmas Celebration kicks off the holiday season with a parade, Santa house, and giant tree lighting on December 6. Bring the whole family out to get in the holiday spirit and learn the true meaning of Christmas. For more information, call 580/628-2220. (travelok.com)

Head out to the fourth annual Home for the Holidays Arts and Crafts Show on December 8 in **Hobart** to peruse a variety of booths featuring one-of-a-kind items, gifts, artwork, and more. Bring the whole family to enjoy performing arts, hayrides, and a visit from Santa Claus as well. For more information, call 580/726-2553. (travelok.com)

Make your way to **Yukon** for the holiday performance of "Sounds of the Season" on December 13. This seventeenth annual concert is guaranteed to put all visitors in a festive holiday mood. "Sounds of the Season" features the Oklahoma City Philharmonic performing Christmas favorites. The event occurs from 7:30 to 9:30 p.m. For more information, call 405/350-8937. (travelok.com)

Meet at the Discovery Cove Nature Center within Lake Thunderbird State Park in **Norman** at 10 a.m. on December 15 for an information session, then tour the park to catch a glimpse of magnificent eagles in their winter home. Be sure to bring your binoculars and dress appropriately. Each eagle watch is limited to forty people, so reservations are required. Join visitors to Lake Thunderbird in a hunt for these incidental winter visitors. Several sites throughout the park will be visited. For more information, call 405/321-4633. (travelok.com)

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 item to appear. For example, if you wish a news item to appear in our January issue, please send it to our editors by the first week of December. Thank you for your submissions.

Award highlights collaboration between Bartlesville area museums and historic sites



Frank Phillips Home Director/Curator Jim Goss recently received the Laura McDonagh Streich Award for Service to the Profession by the Oklahoma Museums Association, an organization that is a voice for museums and historic sites statewide. Although the award has been given for many years, Goss is the first museum professional in the Bartlesville area to receive the award. After thirty years as an educator, Goss began a second career as a museum professional in 2002 as the registrar of the Bartlesville Area History Museum. In 2005 he became the director/

curator of the Frank Phillips Home. In 2010 his responsibilities broadened to include the Drummond Home in Hominy and the Tom Mix Museum in Dewey. He serves on the board of the Oklahoma Museums Association.

Goss is quick to praise the museums and historic sites in the Bartlesville area for their willingness to cooperate and collaborate with each other in promoting tourism and in continuing to educate their museum staffs in preservation and conservation skills, noting that “continued education of our local museum professionals and volunteers is a key ingredient to successfully preserving the history and artifacts of our city.”

Over the past several years, the Frank Phillips Home has offered continuing education to the general public as well as to museum staff. The Tangible History Series, cosponsored by the Nellie Johnstone Questers, is designed to give information to collectors about historical objects and often includes instructions on care and storage. The home also frequently offers workshops for area-wide museum staff members on the proper care and storage of artifacts and other museum and historic site topics. The home staff initiated a program a few years ago to crosstrain volunteers from several museums, including the home, the Bartlesville Area History Museum, the Price Tower, Woolaroc, the Phillips Petroleum Museum, the Conoco Museum, and the Marland Estate and Grand Home in Ponca City. They hope to repeat this program in the near future.

The next workshop for museum professionals is scheduled for January 2013. It will be a two-day workshop specifically focusing on identification, care and storage of antique photographs and proper care, cleaning, and storage techniques for textiles. Jim Goss will be the instructor for the photography workshop and Martha Ray will be the instructor for the textile workshop.

The Frank Phillips Home adheres to “Best Practices for Museums” as generated by the US Secretary of Interior’s office and the OHS. It is on the National Register of Historic Places.

The home is a member of the Bartlesville Area Chamber of Commerce, the Green Country Marketing Association, the Oklahoma Museums Association, the Association for State and Local History, the Mountain Plains Museums Association, and the National Trust for Historic Preservation.



Above: Lady spinning by hand, c. 1870s (photo courtesy Library of Congress).

Beginning spinning class

Join us at the Oklahoma History Center for a beginning drop spindle spinning class on December 8 at 1 p.m. Learn the basics of drop spindle spinning such as preparation of fiber, spinning, and more. Each class participant will receive a basic drop spindle and fiber to spin. Compare old and modern fibers, feel the difference, and learn basic fiber construction. See examples of various spinning equipment. Students will receive reference and resource material. Registration for the class is \$10 per person and required for participation.

For more information or to register please contact Jason Harris at jharris@okhistory.org or by phone at 405/522-0785.

Parade of historic Santas at the Fred Drummond Home

The Friends of the Fred Drummond Home would like to announce that their annual Christmas festivities will be held on Sunday, December 2, starting at 1:30 p.m. This year the parade of historic Santas will occur for your enjoyment at the site. Please come for the afternoon and see reenactors who will be dressed in historical clothing from different countries and eras. Come see the beautiful home as it will be decked out in the finest Christmas decorations and ready to start the holiday season.

Events included will be a performance by the band Finnegans Awake who will once again be playing their beautiful and haunting Scottish/Celtic Folk songs in the parlor and a yummy wassail (cider) table full of goodies and treats available for your enjoyment.

The home is located at 305 North Price in Hominy. The normal admission fee will be taken at the door: adults \$3, seniors \$2.50, children aged six to eighteen years \$1, and children under five years are free. All proceeds will benefit the Drummond Home. For more information, please call 918/885-2374.



Brick stories at the OHC

Monogrammed bricks pave the scenic Red River Journey on the grounds of the Oklahoma History Center, and behind each brick is a story. Recently, the OHS invited those who purchased monogrammed bricks to share stories about the person or group their brick honors. You can now view these stories on the OHS website at www.okhistory.org/research/brickstories. The stories detail memories and tributes from the prestatehood territories to present-day citizens and community organizations. Visitors can view and locate submissions by the name of the brick honoree or by the name of the contributor. This special project was made possible by Catherine Wooten.

The OHC and the Smithsonian team up for National Youth Summit

The Smithsonian and partner institutions across the United States examined the legacy of the Dust Bowl era through current issues of drought, agricultural sustainability, and global food security during a live, interactive discussion with experts. The program was webcast from the Smithsonian to “youth town halls” at locations across the nation October 17 at 1 p.m. eastern time. The Oklahoma History Center served as the location of one of the nine town halls across the country.

The October 17 discussion in Washington, DC, occurred at the Smithsonian’s National Museum of American History and was joined by audiences at nine Smithsonian Affiliate museums and the National Steinbeck Center. Participants at the regional town hall sites prerecorded questions on video that were played during the live National Youth Summit webcast.

The National Youth Summit included segments from award-winning documentary filmmaker Ken Burns’s forthcoming film *The Dust Bowl* and a panel discussion moderated by *Huffington Post* science editor Cara Santa Maria. The discussion featured Ken Burns, Dust Bowl survivor Cal Crabill, US Department of Agriculture ecologist Debra Peters, fifth-generation farmer Roy Bardole from Rippey, Iowa, and farmer and founder of Anson Mills Glenn Roberts.

In addition to the live webcast, students and teachers from Canton Public Schools and Moore Public Schools had the chance to interact with OHC staff and ask questions of Dr. Kenny Brown and Dr. Doug Hurt from the University of Central Oklahoma. The local town hall program allowed the students and teachers to look at the impact of the Dust Bowl from an Oklahoma perspective and gave them the chance to explore the museum exhibits relating to the time period.

Museum Store News

By Jera Winters

The holidays are quickly approaching and the Oklahoma History Center Museum Store has items to delight friends and family. We have several new and exciting items to allow our members and patrons to share Oklahoma history this holiday season.

For the kids we have an assortment of toys, activity kits, and books that will capture imaginations. Our newest addition for the Christmas season is *I Want a Hippopotamus for Christmas* by John Rox, illustrated by Bruce Whatley. This lighthearted book is an interpretation of the song written by John Rox in 1950. The song was created to raise money for the Oklahoma City Zoo’s first hippopotamus. A plush hippo makes a great compliment to this entertaining and interesting representation of Oklahoma history. The book is available to members at a price of \$15.29, and the plush hippo is \$11.90 after the members’ discount.

Handmade art is a unique gift that reflects the culture and heritage of our great state. We have a wide selection of artwork including jewelry, gourds, prints, hand-painted miniatures, ornaments, and American Indian flutes and knives. Back by popular demand, we have hand-painted ornaments from American Indian artist Robert F. Chesbro Jr. He is skilled at painting native-inspired scenes on a small scale. We also carry hand painted miniatures created by Chesbro. New to the OHC Museum Store is American Indian artist Paul Hacker. Hacker creates striking knives with detailed, hand-carved antler handles inset with turquoise stone, as well as ledger art prints and handmade cedar flutes. Prices vary based on the detail and materials for each piece and, as always, members receive a 15 percent discount.

In addition, the recently renovated Museum Store will host its annual open house on November 30 and December 1 with new merchandise and free gift wrapping for all purchases. Members will enjoy an additional 10 percent off their purchases in addition to their regular membership discount.

Visit the OHC Museum Store for meaningful and unique gifts for the important people in your life. Thanks for your continued patronage and support of the Oklahoma History Center Museum Store, and we look forward to helping you celebrate the holidays. Contact us at 405/522-5214 or by email at giftshop@okhistory.org with any questions or suggestions. Happy holidays!



Photo by Jim Meeks.

New exhibit at the OHS Research Division

A new exhibit on Charles Banks Wilson has opened in the OHS Research and Archives Division. Wilson lived in Miami, Oklahoma, and worked as a printmaker, teacher, lecturer, historian, and magazine and book illustrator. His work has been featured in more than two hundred exhibitions, including at the Oklahoma State Capitol.



Photo by Lori Oden.



Winter solstice at Spiro Mounds

For thousands of years the Mayas have been tracking the movements of the sun, moon, and other celestial objects. They created a calendar that mixed ceremonial time and civic time and each fifty-two years came back to the beginning. For the Mayas (and the Aztecs who later adopted their calendar) this new beginning was a time for celebration as each fifty-two-year cycle was a time of dread with evil portents and possible Armageddon. On December 21 is the end of one of these cycles and the beginning of another. There are some folks who are looking for the end of the world to occur on the winter solstice this year. Come to the Spiro Mounds Archaeological Center on December 21 for an "End of the World Watch" along with three guided walks to learn more about the winter solstice.

There will be chips and salsa, popcorn, and hot cocoa (all Mayan foods) available throughout the day at the center. Archaeologist and manager Dennis Peterson will lead guided tours starting at 11 a.m., 2 p.m., and 7 p.m. Each tour will take about two hours and require a mile of easy walking. Peterson will tell about this unique prehistoric American Indian mound site, the types of mounds, why they were created, and why some of the mounds are lined up for the sunsets of the solstices and equinoxes. He will explain the history of the excavations, American Indian ceremonies and stories, and tales of the unusual happenings associated with the mounds. For those wishing to see the sunset, the 2 p.m. walk will end just before sunset, which is when the alignment will take place. He will also discuss the complex Mayan calendar and the fear of transition into the next cycle. Come experience one of the most unique historical sites in the United States as seen through the eyes of an archaeologist and the possible end of the world in a peaceful setting.

There is a small fee for this series of tours of \$3 for adults and \$2 for children. The tour cost is in addition to the regular admission fee. No reservations are required unless you are bringing a big group. Be certain to dress for the weather.

The Spiro Mounds Archaeological Center is the only prehistoric American Indian site open to the public in Oklahoma. The center is regularly open Wednesday through Saturday from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. and Sunday from noon until 5 p.m. The center closes for state holidays. Admission is \$4 for adults, \$3 for seniors, and \$1 for children over six years of age. The center is located three miles east of Spiro on highway 9/271 and four miles north on Lock and Dam Road. If you need more information or wish to schedule a group or school tour during the walks or some other time, please call 918/962-2062.

Centennial Farm and Ranch Program

The Centennial Farm and Ranch Program continues to grow. Created by a blue-ribbon commission and launched by Governor Henry Bellmon in time to celebrate the centennial of the Land Run of 1889, the program honors long-time Oklahoma families who have owned producing farms and ranches for at least one hundred years. Since 1989, when the first class numbered thirty-seven, membership has exploded. The record year was 1993 when 169 members joined. The centennial year of Oklahoma statehood, 2007, celebrated the addition of 107 new families. Today there are 1,364 members representing fifty-five counties.

Applicants accepted into the program receive a certificate that is signed by the executive director of the Oklahoma Historical Society, the commissioner of agriculture, and the governor. For a charge of \$60, members may purchase a white 36" by 27" metal sign. Bordered in black and adorned with a black windmill with a shadow and words written in bold black letters, "Oklahoma Centennial Farm (Ranch)," the sign is designed for hanging outdoors on a fence post or a barn door.

To qualify for a Centennial Farm or Ranch Award, a property must be owned by a family member for at least one hundred years and must be operated or occupied by a family member or leased out by a family member who is over the age of sixty-five. The property must include a minimum of forty acres and have gross annual sales of at least \$1,000.

Inclusion into the program is honorary; no legal restrictions or benefits come attached. You can find details about the program online by going to the Oklahoma Historical Society website. Just click State Historic Preservation Office, Programs, Farm and Ranch and you will find the webpage where you will see a history of the program, an application form, a section titled "Frequently Asked Questions," and a list by county of all recipients through the year 2007. People may also call the SHPO and ask that an application form be mailed to them. Complete the application form and send it back to the State Historic Preservation Office, along with a \$20 application fee paid by a check made out to the Oklahoma Historical Society. The mailing address is:

State Historic Preservation Office
Oklahoma History Center
800 Nazih Zuhdi Drive
Oklahoma City, OK 73105-7914

Complimenting but separate from the Centennial Farm and Ranch Program is the Historic Structures Award. Farms or ranches with structures, such as houses, windmills, and barns that are at least fifty years old and have retained their original building materials may be eligible. The two award programs stand alone, acceptance into one does not require nor promise admittance into the other.

For further information, contact Glen R. Roberson at 405/521-6387 or via email at groberson@okhistory.org or Shea Otley at 405/522-0816.

SHPO announces HPRC's 2013 meeting schedule

The State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO) is pleased to announce the Oklahoma Historic Preservation Review Committee's (HPRC) meeting schedule for calendar year 2013. The HPRC is appointed by the governor to provide advice to the state historic preservation officer about nominations to the National Register of Historic Places and other preservation issues. Current HPRC members include William P. Corbett (historian, Tahlequah), Ron Frantz (architect, Oklahoma City), John D. Hartley (prehistoric archaeologist, Norman), Arn Henderson (architectural historian, Norman), and Charles S. Wallis (historical archaeologist, Norman). The HPRC's four scheduled meetings will begin at 1:30 p.m. on Thursday, January 17, April 25, July 18, and October 17, 2013.

The meetings will be held in the LeRoy H. Fischer Boardroom on the third floor of the Oklahoma History Center at 800 Nazih Zuhdi Drive, and they are open to the public. The HPRC and the SHPO encourage all interested parties to attend, and meeting agendas and National Register nominations will be provided on the SHPO's website at <http://www.okhistory.org/shpo/spevents.htm>.

The National Park Service regulations governing the SHPO's programs require that a qualified state review board participate in the National Register and other SHPO programs. During each meeting, the HPRC hears presentations on nominations to the National Register of Historic Places from SHPO staff and consultants, receives comments from owners of properties proposed for nomination, listens to public comments and concerns, and formulates recommendations to the SHPO about whether or not a property should be nominated to the National Register. The HPRC and SHPO staffs invite concerned citizens and preservation professionals to participate in this important component of Oklahoma's preservation program.

For further information about the HPRC, the National Register, or other SHPO programs, call 405/521-6249 or visit the website listed above.

Oklahoma History Legacy Circle created

The Oklahoma Historical Society has created the Oklahoma History Legacy Circle to recognize donors, both living and deceased, who have made contributions to one of the OHS's endowment funds. Because endowment donations provide perpetual income to the OHS, membership in the Legacy Circle also is perpetual.

A minimum endowment contribution in the amount of \$1,000 qualifies a donor to be a Legacy Circle member. Individuals who have already made a commitment in their wills or estate plans to support the endowment may be included by informing Paul Lambert (plambert@okhistory.org or 405/522-5217) or Shelly Crynes (scrynes@okhistory.org or 405/522-0317) of their commitment. Listed below is the Oklahoma History Legacy Circle membership as of October 31, 2012.

GUARDIANS

\$500,000 to \$999,999

The Kirkpatrick Family Fund

PROTECTORS OF THE PAST

\$150,000 to \$499,999

Emily Bell

Nazih and Annette Zuhdi

KEEPERS OF HISTORY

\$50,000 to \$149,999

Nell Stapler Bradshaw

Great Grand Children of the Cross S Ranch

John E. Kirkpatrick Community Fund

Elizabeth Niblack Melton

Western Trail Historical Society

TIME TRAVELERS

\$10,000 to \$49,000

The 1889ers Society

Berlin B. Chapman

Jack T. and Gillette Conn

Marguerite S. Fitzwilliam

George W. and Valeria G. Howard

The Kirkpatrick Foundation

John E. and Eleanor B. Kirkpatrick

Clyde H. Schoolfield

James R. Waldo

Pendleton and Robin Woods

ENDURING CIRCLE

\$1,000 to \$9,999

Admiral's Donor Advised Fund

William H. Anderson

Jack D. Baker

Robert A. Bish

Bob and Debbie Blackburn

Louise Blackburn

Beverly K. Blum

Mary Brett

Roy V. Bynum

John B. and Betty Jo Carmichael

Peter David Casper

Joanna M. Champlin

Norvell Clarke

Tiajuana M. Cochnauer

Bryan A. Crain

Sam D'Amico

Nina Davis

Derald C. and Jan Findley

Rosa Flipse

Billie Fogarty

William B. French

Aulena Gibson

Katheryn A. Hewitt

Nadine Holloway

Richard James Family Foundation

Johnson Family Foundation

Damon Johnson

Ewing Marion Kauffman Foundation

Robert L. Klemme

Ladies Music Club

Carolyn Leonard

Harrison Levy

Leonard M. Logan

Gerald Luton

Ann M. Maxwell

Ruth Eager Moran

Anne Morgan

Foster E. Murphy

Oklahoma City Community Foundation

Oklahoma Hospitality Club

Carol R Paulson

Martha Pennington

Wayne Pettigrew

Noreen Pramberg

Redbud Women's Club

Louise E. Reynolds

Gordon Richards

Fred P. Schonwald

Cindy S. Schuering

Regina A. Southern

Rose Stauber

Donal S. Stidham

Emmy Scott Stidham

Gary L. Stidham

Joe J. and June Stone

Barbara Thompson

George D. and Nona F. Thompson

Catherine B. Wootten

Marie Wren

Muriel H. Wright

Timothy A. Zwink

Twenty-year members renew in October

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

Barbara Kinzer, Jenks, January 1, 1971

Ada Public Library, Ada, October 1, 1972

Patricia Hoig, Edmond, August 1, 1974

Stanford University, Stanford, CA, November 2, 1982

David and Arlene Baker, Lawton, October 4, 1984

Northern Oklahoma College, Tonkawa, December 1, 1984

L. Ernestine Maphet, Gate, October 1, 1985

John and Marsha Greiner, Oklahoma City, October 10, 1986

Bob Hammons, Sallisaw, October 20, 1986

Marjorie Couch, Oklahoma City, October 27, 1986

Fred and Joyce Lucas, Watonga, October 31, 1986

Lydia Spalding, Oklahoma City, November 4, 1986

Tim Morgan, Norman, November 4, 1986

Violet Spinler, Winthrop, MN, November 4, 1986

David Huff, Killeen, TX, November 5, 1986

David Petty, Guymon, November 10, 1986

Pat Ferry and Betta Carney, Little Rock, AR, November 10, 1986

David Lee, Centennial, CO, November 17, 1986

Teresa Black, Oklahoma City, October 6, 1987

Steven and Dena Wagner, Trinidad, CO, October 26, 1987

Wanda Norton, Vinita, May 2, 1988

Janice Johnson, Edmond, June 13, 1988

Robert and Mary Haught, Reva, VA, September 13, 1988

Sallie Cotter Andrews, Decatur, TX, September 15, 1988

Checotah Landmark Preservation Society, Checotah, October 17, 1988

Towana Spivey, Duncan, November 21, 1988

Gary Gallagher, Edmond, October 27, 1989

Jean Phillips, El Reno, January 4, 1990

J.M. Jackson, Oklahoma City, October 9, 1990

Richard Lowitt, Concord, MA, October 15, 1990

Plains Indians & Pioneers Museum, Woodward, October 31, 1990

Missouri State University, Springfield, MO, November 23, 1991

Tulsa City County Library, Tulsa, March 3, 1992

National Rt. 66 Museum & Old Town Complex, Elk City, July 20, 1992

Billy Burke, Bakersfield, CA, October 15, 1992

New members, cont'd.

Family

Mr. and Mrs. Roger Lewis, Lexington

Stephene Linder, Oklahoma City

Mr. and Mrs. Vic Long, Norman

Richard Lueb, Edmond

Mr. and Mrs. Stewart Maxey, Perkins

Amy McGovern and Sylvia Wood, Norman

Mr. and Mrs. Joel McRae, Oklahoma City

Linda Mell, Bethany

Mr. and Mrs. William Moore, New Bloomfield, PA

Darrell Morrow, Oklahoma City

Ouida Parks-Pierson, Oklahoma City

Mr. and Mrs. Dennis Peterson, Oklahoma City

Mr. and Mrs. Renny Reeves, Oklahoma City

Christina Rogers, Tecumseh

Mary Myles Rogers, Oklahoma City

Mr. and Mrs. Britt Rose, Yukon

Mr. and Mrs. Chris Schaefer, Norman

Fred Schmidt, Oklahoma City

Leonard Scott, Oklahoma City

Mr. and Mrs. Paul Seeley, Eureka, KS

Mr. and Mrs. Blake Slothower, Bethany

Alisa Smith, Norman

Mr. and Mrs. Roy Hoffman Smith, Oklahoma City

Mr. and Mrs. Phillip Sproul, Yukon

Marie Stege, Norman

Mr. and Mrs. Chris Taylor, Norman

Dr. and Mrs. Howard Vogel, Guthrie

Joe Weavel and Pamela Rusco, Tahlequah

Don Wester, Shawnee

Mr. and Mrs. Mike Wester, Shawnee

Mr. and Mrs. Travis White, Mustang

Sharon Wilkie, Edmond

Institutional

Casady School, Oklahoma City

Jewish Federation of Greater Oklahoma City, Oklahoma City

Seminole Nation Historical Society, Wewoka

South Grand Lake Area Visitors Center, Bird Island

Individual

Jennifer Arterburn, Muskogee

Caroline Barrow, Yukon

Amanda Batchelor, Ponca City

Michael Bell, Elgin

Jamie Branson, Ardmore

Barbara Brinkman, Altus

Sierra Brodersen, Perry

Fowler Brown, Llano, TX

Rhett Cagle, Stillwater

Betty Chenault, Checotah

Rachel Cowden, Hulbert

John Dyck, Tulsa

Danny Ferguson, Muskogee

Bryan Fisher, Duncan

Deborah Fritts, Catoosa

Shirley Garcia, Sulphur

Wesley Gay, Adair

John Gunter, Oklahoma City

James Hannah, Ada

Delphia Hawkins, Oklahoma City

Bailey Herber, Perkins

Terry Hight, Houston, TX

Toni Jenkins, Mangum

Sharon Kelley, Terlton

J.P. London, Arlington, VA

Michael Marker, Lindsay

Carl Moore, Grant

Hoyt Morris, Oklahoma City

Stan Newman, Oklahoma City

Annalisa Pierce, Broken Arrow

Peter Plank, Bethany

David Plante, Woodward

Paul Prentice, Allen

Eddie Raines, Hinton

Leah Ross, Cookson

Brian Seeman, Colony

Ernest Simpson, Altus

Charles Smallwood, Pryor

Michael Smith, Seminole

Vi Smith, Tulsa

Jack Smotherman, Oklahoma City

Sherri Snider, Konawa

Michael Stephenson, Stillwater

Paul Summers, Davis

Sharon Vinson, Hennessey

John Whipps, Austin, TX

Doug Williams, Gage

Carlos Yanez, Ardmore

Trent York, Kingfisher

Kirk Zweigle, Tulsa

The Silver Strings Band at the Sod House Museum



Enjoy a true pioneer Christmas with music provided by the Silver Strings Band throughout the Sod House Museum on Saturday, December 8, from 1 p.m. to 3 p.m. at the Christmas Open House.

The pioneers decorated their homes for the holidays with natural materials that looked attractive at this time of year, and on Christmas Day visited neighbors and joined together for traditional Christmas music.

The Silver Strings Band will provide an afternoon of music at the Sod House Museum with traditional Christmas songs such as “Silent Night,” “O’ Christmas Tree,” and “Jingle Bells.” The group formed in 2009 with Norma Condrey playing piano and keyboard and Duane Condrey playing the guitar. They are joined by fiddle player Robert Brown and hammer dulcimer and autoharp player Margaret Goss. They all came together as a group at the Carmon United Methodist Church and now travel across northwest Oklahoma providing music and entertainment for groups and special events. They play gospel, bluegrass, country and western, and just about anything that is requested.

The Sod House Friends Association will be providing cookies and hot apple cider. Bring your family and enjoy an afternoon of music and Christmas decorations throughout the museum and Sod House. The open house is free admission as a thank you to all who visited throughout the year.

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

Murrell Home Christmas Open House

The George M. Murrell Home will be decorated with traditional 1845 Victorian Christmas decorations this holiday season. The Open House will include special exhibits, costumed reenactors, refreshments, and more. Enjoy holiday festivities on Sunday, December 9, from 1 to 5 p.m. For more information, call 918/456-2751 or email murrellhome@okhistory.org.



Smithsonian Affiliations
Membership Program

Christmas at the Pawnee Bill Mansion and Friends’ meeting



The Pawnee Bill Mansion will once again be beautifully transformed for the holiday season. Holiday decorations will be put in place by staff and volunteers from the community and can be seen during normal hours of operation throughout the month of December. Pawnee Bill’s home is a Tudor-style arts and crafts bungalow, and the decorations used for the holiday season are typical decorations that were used in a historic home of that era.

On December 8 from 1 to 3 p.m. the Pawnee Bill Ranch will host a Santas of the World Tour in the mansion. Santas representing different countries and different time periods will be stationed in various rooms of the fully decorated mansion to tell their stories. They will be wearing historically accurate costuming typical of the Santas they portray. For a suggested donation of \$3, visitors can hear their stories and see the mansion at its most beautiful.

That day at 12 p.m. the Friends of the Pawnee Bill Ranch Association will hold their annual meeting in the museum conference room. A light meal will be followed by a short business meeting. All members and prospective members are invited to attend.

For information, contact the Pawnee Bill Ranch at pawneebill@okhistory.org or 918/762-2513.