



# Mistletoe Leaves



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December 2013

## Music from *Oklahoma @ the Movies* a success

On the evening of Wednesday, October 30, the OHS and Oklahoma City University (OCU) teamed up to present “An Evening of Music from *Oklahoma @ the Movies*” at the Oklahoma History Center for donors of both organizations. The night featured songs from movies with an Oklahoma connection performed by the OCU Symphony Orchestra.

The welcome address was given by Dr. Bob Blackburn, executive director of the OHS, and Robert Henry, president of OCU. Jeff Moore, director of OKPOP, served as the master of ceremonies. The evening included music from movies such as *Last of the Mohicans*, *The Pink Panther*, *E.T.: The Extra-Terrestrial*, *Far and Away*, and of course the musical *Oklahoma!* Former governor George Nigh conducted the state song.

The evening marked the second collaboration between the OHS and OCU’s Wanda L. Bass School of Music, made possible through the generosity of Richard and Jeanette Sias. Both organizations and their leaders were proud to celebrate the state’s historical moments and figures with music.

The OCU Symphony Orchestra is a student ensemble composed of music and non-music majors, graduates and undergraduates. The orchestra won the Adventurous Programming Award and in 2004 represented the United States at the “Meet in Beijing” arts festival. The symphony gives numerous concerts each year and serves as the basis for the pit orchestras in the school’s opera and music theater productions. The experience the students gain plays a significant role in developing and preparing them for work as professional musicians.

For more information on this event or OKPOP, contact Jeff Moore at 405/522-0692 or [jeffmoore@okhistory.org](mailto:jeffmoore@okhistory.org).



## Murrell Home Christmas open house

The 1845 Murrell Home will be decorated with traditional Victorian Christmas decorations for an open house event on Sunday, December 8, from 1 to 5 p.m. Join us for special exhibits, costumed reenactors, refreshments, and more. The Murrell Home is located at 19479 East Murrell Home Road in Park Hill. For more information, call 918/456-2751.



## The Encyclopedia of Oklahoma History and Culture 40% discount for OHS members!

For a limited time, *The Encyclopedia of Oklahoma History and Culture* will be available to OHS members at a 40% discount.

This 1,700 page, two-volume set includes 2,455 articles by noted historians including biographies, town and county histories, major events, and much more about the rich history and culture of Oklahoma and its people.

The retail price is \$100 for the set, plus shipping and handling. The 40% discount for OHS members will last through December 2013. Institutional discounts may also apply for certain types of organizations including libraries and schools.



Purchase at the OHS Museum Store, call 405/522-5214,  
or email [giftshop@okhistory.org](mailto:giftshop@okhistory.org).







## Director's Column

By **Bob L. Blackburn**  
Executive Director

I like good ideas, especially when they aim high, attract partners, and have a long-lasting impact.

Two good ideas recently intersected here at the Oklahoma History Center. One was to celebrate Oklahoma as a "Crossroads of Creativity" and the other was to honor a good friend's legacy of public service.

It started when I called OCU President Robert Henry and Mark Parker, the dean of the Wanda Bass School of Music, to ask if they could add one production piece to a symphonic program already planned. They liked the idea, but suggested the appropriate venue would be the History Center. They offered to bring the entire OCU symphony orchestra.

The original idea was to celebrate the sixtieth anniversary of then-State Representative George Nigh's bill making "Oklahoma!" the official state song. With the full orchestra available, we decided to expand the program to "Music from *Oklahoma @ the Movies*," which would complement the exhibit on the same topic.

While Jeff Moore and Larry O'Dell selected songs, clips, and interviews from movies associated with Oklahomans, I called Dick Sias and asked if he would like

to be an event sponsor. He quickly said yes, it was time to celebrate Oklahoma history through music again. Meanwhile, Mark Parker and his conductor, Ben Nilles, started orchestration and rehearsals.

I called Bob Burke to see if he would introduce Nigh, who would conduct the orchestra as they played "Oklahoma!" Burke agreed, then added even more value to the event when he offered to raise \$10,000 to endow a George Nigh Internship on Public Service. He would announce the effort at the event, and those who made a donation would receive a copy of his book on "Oklahoma!" and a DVD recording of a previous OCU-History Center musical program.

The event was magical. As Robert Henry and I greeted the audience, he pulled out the sheet music for "Oklahoma: A Toast," the state song replaced by "Oklahoma!," and led a group singing. Jeff Moore, the director of the OKPOP Museum, served as master of ceremonies and alternated histories of Oklahomans in the movies, clips, and interviews with songs performed by the orchestra. Songs came from *The Pink Panther*, *Apocalypse Now*, *Lawrence of Arabia*, *The Buddy Holly Story*, and *Far and Away*.

The evening concluded with George Nigh telling his classic story of getting "Oklahoma!" adopted as the official state song, followed by a rousing rendition played by the OCU orchestra and sung by the OCU Surrey Singers. Nigh was inspired, as was the audience. We raised almost \$3,000 toward the endowed internship to encourage the study of public service.

Yes, I like good ideas.

*Dr. Bob*

## Development News

by Larry O'Dell

Membership in the Oklahoma Historical Society is the backbone of this organization. Members receive numerous benefits, including the *Mistletoe Leaves*, *The Chronicles of Oklahoma*, admission to OHS sites and museums, updates on events, and special programming available only to members. The holidays are a great time to share the gift of an OHS membership. You can review membership levels, advantages, and other details at [www.okhistory.org/support/membership](http://www.okhistory.org/support/membership) or by calling 405/522-0317. Sharing Oklahoma history is one of OHS's primary tenets, along with collecting and preserving. The more members we have, the better we can share the state's diverse and interesting past. So contact the membership department, buy a membership in the name of a friend, coworker, enemy, family, or even a stranger and give the gift of history.



## New members October 2013

\*Indicates renewed memberships at a higher level

### Fellow

\*Lee and Sherry Beasley, Oklahoma City

### Associate

\*Rick and Elizabeth Ferris, Warr Acres

\*Robert and Jan Henry, Oklahoma City

\*Penny Lane, Ardmore

### Friend

Gerald and Linda Brnett, Nichols Hills

\*Ronald Howland, Oklahoma City

\*Dr. and Mrs. Kenneth Parrott, Stillwater

\*Plains Indians & Pioneers Museum, Woodward

Carl and Carolyn Renfro, Ponca City

\*Richard Trotter, Long Beach, CA

### Family

\*Brent Alexander, Oklahoma City

Deana Alsup and Rachel Spivey, Oklahoma City

\*Loyd Ashenfelter, Lawton

Shelly Black, Moore

James and Larr Bond, Choctaw

Chandra Bradley, Jones

\*Ed and Teresa Bradway, Clayton

Rosemarie Buellers, Oklahoma City

Douglas Burr, Edmond

Carroll Sue Carter, Oklahoma City

Koweta Cartwright, Burneyville

Jodi Cash, Tulsa

\*Betty Catching and James Callen, Oklahoma City

Mark and Diana Chippeaux, Yukon

Ruben and Melissa Contreras, Tulsa

E. E. Cooper, Oklahoma City

Rochelle Cowan, Glenpool

Casey Crowdis, Yukon

Dominick and Donna D'Achille, Hammon

Jim and Jann Davenport, Oklahoma City

Margaret Dobson, Edmond

Kevin and Teresa Dollins, Guthrie

Larry and Sandra Duck, Sapulpa

Jerry and Susan Dyer, Edmond

Anna Ellis, Oklahoma City

Jack and Beverly Garner, Del City

Laura Giles, Bethany

Robin Glenn, Edmond

Kathleen Graham, Norman

Nancy Gruber, Dallas, TX

Rebekah Gschwandtner and Gerald Porter, Bethany

Jennifer Hamett and Tom Hamilton, Newcastle

William and Lanelle Hammond, Lawton

Ron and Norma Hanks, Choctaw

\*Pat Harkin, Alva

Joseph and Amy Hartel, Newalla

Ardrill Hayes, Oklahoma City

Janelle Heinrich, Oklahoma City

Debby Herring, Bixby

**cont'd. on p. 6**

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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 "persevere 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.



# AROUND OKLAHOMA

## Events

The **Norman** Ballet Company's 2013 production of the *Oklahoma Nutcracker* will be performed on Sunday, December 1, at 3 p.m. at the Nancy O'Brian Center for the Performing Arts in Norman. The *Oklahoma Nutcracker* is based on historical Oklahoma characters and themes of nature, brought to life onstage through the traditional Nutcracker story and Tchaikovsky score. The ballet is set on Christmas Eve 1907 at the Overholser Mansion in Oklahoma City, where Henry and Anna Overholser and their children, Henry Lone and Henry Samuel, are hosting the neighborhood's holiday party. All seats for the *Oklahoma Nutcracker* performance are reserved. Individual seats are \$20 per person. There is also a block of seating set aside at a family rate of four for \$60. Preperformance activities include the popular Sand Plum Fairy Tea Party, which will begin at 1 p.m. in the Studio Theater, and activities for children. Tickets are \$18 per person to attend the tea party and all children must be accompanied by an adult. For more information or to purchase tickets, visit [www.ticketstorm.com](http://www.ticketstorm.com) or call 1866/966-1777.



The historic Mattie Beal Home in **Lawton** will host a book signing by Dr. Lynn Musslewhite on *The Historic Mattie Beal Home: A History* on December 6 from 5 to 8 p.m. The work tells the story of Martha "Mattie" Beal, a young woman from Wichita, Kansas, who registered for the land lottery in the Lawton area in 1901. It also presents the history of the historic home she lived in, now cared for by the Lawton Heritage Association. Copies of the book will be available for sale at the signing for \$20. For more information, call 580/678-3156.

From November 22 to January 5 an array of Christmas-themed activities await you in **Oklahoma City** at Santa's Adventures on the Oklahoma River. Race down a two-hundred-foot zip line as you attempt to drop a wrapped present into a chimney, then head over to an indoor rock wall to

scale it as high as you can go. Kids and adults alike will enjoy bouncing on four giant inflatable toys, and children ages three to nine can paddle a kayak in the Chesapeake Boathouse reflecting pool. Santa's Adventures on the Oklahoma River also features an extreme air jumper, where you can feel the wind in your hair as you fly up to twenty feet in the air with the safety of a harness. This family-friendly event is great for all ages. For more information, call 405/522-4040. ([travelok.com](http://travelok.com))

The All Nations Powwow in **Ada** on December 1 features arts and crafts, food, music, powwow dancing, and contests. Come to this annual powwow held in the Kerr Activity Center at East Central University to see gourd dancing, a grand entry, and a color guard. The event will feature Northern Drum Midnite Express. The gourd dance is scheduled for 1 p.m. followed by the powwow's grand entry at 3 p.m. Visit [allnationsok.com](http://allnationsok.com) or call 580/332-1983 for more details. ([travelok.com](http://travelok.com))

Get in the holiday spirit with a tour through the Thompson House in **Tahlequah** from December 6 to 8. Victorian-clothed characters host this event in the historic Thompson House as visitors browse through hundreds of handcrafted items for sale. The Thompson House kitchen will be open selling homemade treats, including their famous pepper jelly. The house is located at 300 South College Avenue in Tahlequah. For more information, call 918/456-1595. ([travelok.com](http://travelok.com))

Bring the whole family to Keystone State Park in **Sand Springs** on December 7 and watch as boats of all sizes decorated with Christmas lights make their way across the lake. The Christmas Boat Parade, which begins at dusk, will feature everything from house boats to bass boats festively adorned for the holidays. The boat parade will run from Pier 51 Marina in Sand Springs to Salt Creek North, the New Mannford ramp, and the Prairie View ramp before returning to Pier 51 Marina. Guests will be able to view the beautiful sight from Keystone State Park and Keystone Lake Dam. For more information, call 918/865-4991. ([travelok.com](http://travelok.com))

The **Minco** Honey Festival on December 7 is the event to attend for pure, sweet Oklahoma honey from the largest honey producing facility in the state. Tours of the Ross Honey Plant will be given

throughout the day by the owners, and an impressive array of honey products and gifts will be available for purchase. This year's festival will also feature the popular and much-anticipated honey bake-off. Free samples will be available to the public. Minco dairy producers will also have free samples of cheese and milk products. The festival will include more than one hundred crafters, a quilt show, a kids' tractor pull, and booths filled with Made in Oklahoma products. For more information, call 405/352-0507. ([travelok.com](http://travelok.com))

Santa Claus is coming to **Shidler** on December 14, so make sure to secure your seat along the parade route for Shidler's annual lighted Christmas parade. This holiday event features a downtown parade, lighted float competition, children's seasonal fancy dress competition, and decorated bicycles. Santa will be handing out goody bags, taking photos with waiting youngsters, and listening to plenty of Christmas wish lists. Enjoy hot chocolate and warm, homemade cookies, Christmas music, and lots of good cheer while waiting to see which parade floats win top honors. There will also be caroling throughout Shidler after the parade, so make your way to this north Oklahoma town for the start of a merry Christmas. For more information, call 918/793-4021. ([travelok.com](http://travelok.com))

Make your way to **Yukon** on December 19 for the holiday performance of "Sounds of the Season." This eighteenth annual concert at the Yukon Fine Arts Center is guaranteed to put all visitors in a festive holiday mood. "Sounds of the Season" features the Oklahoma City Philharmonic performing Christmas favorites. For more information, call 405/350-8937. ([travelok.com](http://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](mailto: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.



## Iraq War event

On December 9, the Oklahoma History Center will host two veterans from the Iraq War for different perspectives on the action.

Lieutenant Colonel Steve Russell will present on his experience during the capture of Saddam Hussein. He wrote his account in *We Got Him!: A Memoir of the Hunt and Capture of Saddam Hussein*.

Sergeant Correy Twilley, an crew chief on a Black Hawk helicopter during the war, will discuss his experience in carrying special operations troops similar to Russell. Twilley also works for OHS as a military historian.

After the event, the Museum Store will have Russell's book on sale and the author will be signing copies for visitors. For more information, call 405/522-0786 or email [jmreed@okhistory.org](mailto:jmreed@okhistory.org).

## Christmas in the village

Ring in the holiday season with an enchanting evening among the lights on Friday, December 6, from 5 to 8 p.m. at the Cherokee Strip Regional Heritage Center. Activities and tours for the whole family will be held in each of the four beautifully adorned historic buildings. Musical performances will occur throughout the evening in the Humphrey Village Church. Tickets are \$5 and available in advance. CSRHC members receive free admission. For more information, call 580/237-1907.



## Pawnee Bill Christmas

Pawnee Bill's historic home will be transformed in the spirit of the holidays with beautiful seasonal decorations. Visitors can tour the home without charge during normal hours of operation on Wednesdays to Saturdays from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. and Sundays from 1 to 4 p.m. The museum is located at 1141 Pawnee Bill Road in Pawnee. For more information, call 918/762-2513.



## New exhibit at the Cherokee Strip Museum

Researchers will find unique and fascinating stories of the trials and hardships of the settlers of the Cherokee Strip at the Paul Cress Research Library, under construction at the Cherokee Strip Museum in Perry. A new collection involves one such story. Elizabeth "Bessie" Cockrell, born in Illinois, had been an ambitious young woman working for the offices of the American Cotton Oil Company and the Fidelity Casualty Company of New York. She was a member of the South Congregational Church of Chicago and active in the Young People's Society, Christian Endeavor. Cockrell was married to Edward Root Wells on July 8, 1896, in Kinmundy, Illinois. Wells was a pioneer settler of the Cherokee Strip, obtaining land in Noble County on September 16, 1893. He had been an adventurous young man and had worked as a sheep rancher in Canada, a government worker at the Denver mint, a stagecoach driver in Old Mexico, and a stagecoach driver for the Butterfield line. With these experiences the newly wedded couple was ready to take on another challenge—a challenge that would surpass all their previous experiences.

During the days prior to the wedding, Cockrell had written to Wells's mother with excitement about her selection as his fiancée and her knowledge of the hardships of farm life, but she stated that "love lightens labor" and she looked forward to the happy days "down on the claim."

After their wedding ceremony, the couple packed their boxes, began their journey, and went about twenty-five miles to the town of Odin. There Cockrell writes that they were treated to a jubilee (for the presidential candidate William Jennings Bryan) with an impromptu rally with a cannon, bonfires, flags, and speech by such a distinguished man. They arrived at Red Rock and were met by Uncle Rube who took them to Wells's claim.

Wells had improved his claim in the strip and was able to bring Cockrell to a three-room frame house with a well, stable, corn crib, granary, barn, two acres of orchard, livestock and poultry, and 110 acres under cultivation. We can assume she felt well-off for frontier living. With hard work they were able to improve their food sources with a garden, grains, and more fruit trees. Cockrell also acquired a sewing machine with which she made clothes for her husband, herself, and the new additions to their family. Helen, their first child, was born July 27, 1899, and then on July 28, 1901, they added twin sons, Emmett and Harvey, to their family.

Cockrell writes there was always so much to do. She also helped Wells in the field to head Kaffir corn, "getting as brown as a farmer's wife should be."

Her letters over the years detail the hard work necessary to be a pioneer wife and the love that she and her husband had for each other. However, the hard work and the demands of their claim proved too much for her. When their fourth child was to be born, the Salt Fork River was flooding and the doctor could not attend her. She delivered the baby but developed a fever and passed away on July 31, 1901, thus ending her life during the beginning of a new frontier.

The Cherokee Strip Museum is located at 2617 West Fir Avenue in Perry. The hours are 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Tuesdays through Fridays and 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. on Saturdays. For more information, call 580/336-2405.



Elizabeth "Bessie" Cockrell and Edward Wells



## Christmas at the Oklahoma History Center

Load up the family and “deck the halls” at the Oklahoma History Center on December 7 from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. This family-friendly event will include activities and a chance to meet a variety of different historical Santa and Mrs. Clauses. Participants will make their own ornaments and can either take them home or leave them on the OHC community tree. This event is free with admission to the museum. For more information please contact us at [education@okhistory.org](mailto:education@okhistory.org) or 405/522-3602.

## Murrell Home living history

The George M. Murrell Home Historic Site in Park Hill is offering a monthly living history program. The 1845 Cherokee plantation home will host a different historical demonstration or activity every third Saturday of the month.

On December 21 from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. museum visitors will be able to see period-dressed interpreters performing tasks in a living history capacity. Guests can expect to see a variety of demonstrations and talk to historians while participating in some of the activities. Topics will cover all aspects of Cherokee plantation life from traditional crafts, cooking, and gardening to animal demonstrations, building trades, and cultural activities.

The living history program is for visitors of all ages. Admission to the programs is free, and no reservations are needed. The Murrell Home is located three miles south of Tahlequah at 19479 East Murrell Home Road in Park Hill. For specific activities each month, like the Murrell Home on Facebook at [www.facebook.com/murrellhome](http://www.facebook.com/murrellhome). For more information, call 918/456-2751.



Santa with large bird, no date (photo courtesy of OHS Research Division).

## Santa Walk and Santa's cottage

On December 15 from 2 to 4 p.m. the Frank Phillips Home and the Jane Phillips Society (JPS) invite parents and children to Santa's cottage, located just to the south of the mansion. Reenactors Brandon and Rachael Reid will portray Santa Claus and Mrs. Claus and will visit with children of all ages. JPS volunteers will serve homemade cookies and punch. Be sure to bring a camera. There is no charge for this event.

The Santa Walk is an event in the mansion that is fun for all ages. Visitors are invited to stroll through the three floors of the home and visit with historic Santa Clauses. This is a juried group of reenactors from around the state who have studied the history of Saint Nicholas and other Christmas legends from around the world dating back to the sixteenth century. Each reenactor has a particular “Santa” that they portray—the most modern being 1907. Children under the age of sixteen must be accompanied by an adult. Admission for the Santa Walk is \$5 plus tax for adults and \$2 plus tax for children aged eleven and under.

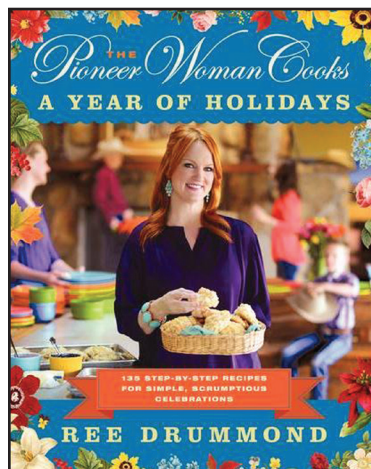
At 3:30 p.m. that afternoon Tuba Christmas will perform on the front porch of the mansion. It is not every day you will see a group of tuba and euphonium players performing holiday classics in a free outdoor concert, and anyone with the right instruments can join in by calling Alex Claussen, band director at the Bartlesville High School. The tradition started at New York's Rockefeller Center in 1974, and has played out at two hundred cities around the world. The public is invited to bring a lawn chair and enjoy this beautiful concert. In case of inclement weather, the event will be held at the Bartlesville High School. For further information about the home, call 918/336-2491, ext.103. The Frank Phillips Home is located at 1107 Southeast Cherokee in Bartlesville.

## Christmas tours

Escape to a simpler time and 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. The Cherokee Strip Regional Heritage Center will have group tours from December 1 to 21 that include character-led tours of the beautifully-adorned historic buildings, continental breakfast or dessert, a musical performance, an activity with the schoolmarm, and making an ornament. Lunch tours are also available. For more information, call 580/237-1907.

## Museum Store News

By Jera Winters



The holidays are quickly approaching and the Oklahoma History Center Museum Store has gifts to delight friends and family. Please come and join us for our annual holiday sale on December 6 and 7. During our annual sale, members receive an additional 10 percent off, giving members an amazing discount of 25 percent on all regularly priced merchandise. Also, come and check out our great markdowns on selected home décor and book titles.

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 *Charlie and the Christmas Kitty*, written by Oklahoma author and Food Network star, Ree Drummond. This bright and cheery book tells the story of Charlie as he understands Christmas and a new addition to the family. The book is available to members at a price of \$15.29.

For the adults, Drummond's newest cookbook, *The Pioneer Woman Cooks: A Year of Holidays* is now available. The cookbook is a collection of recipes, photos, and more to help readers celebrate throughout the year. This great book is available to members for \$25.49. The Oklahoma Governor's Mansion ornament will also be available at a discount to OHS members while supplies last.

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](mailto:giftshop@okhistory.org) with any questions or suggestions. Happy holidays!





## Phillips Home Director's Tour

For a very unique experience, come for the Director's Tour at the Frank Phillips Home. This behind-the-scenes tour includes the basement that was used as a laundry and ends with refreshments in the estate's Garden Cottage. The tour begins promptly at 9 a.m. Wednesdays, Thursdays, and Fridays each week. Each tour includes refreshments and lasts an hour and forty-five minutes. Admission for the director's tour is \$10 for adults, and \$7 for children ages five to eleven (four and under are free). For more information, call 918/336-2491, ext. 103 or visit [www.frankphillipshome.org](http://www.frankphillipshome.org). The home is located at 1107 Southeast Cherokee in Bartlesville.

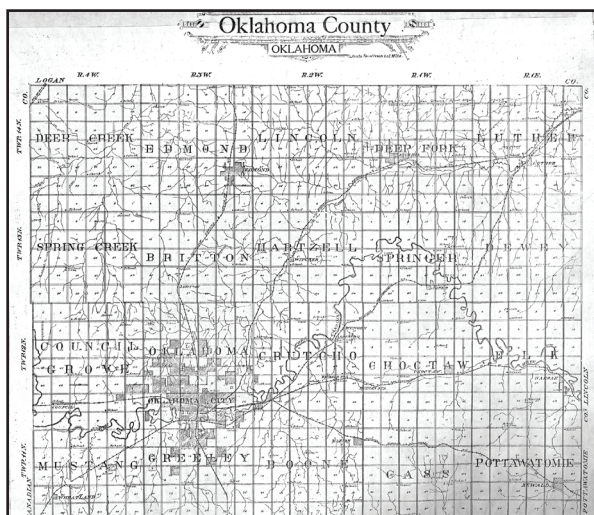


## 1889 Oklahoma County land database

The OHS Research Division has a new genealogical resource: an index of names from the Oklahoma County land database from April 22, 1889.

This index includes the town/location, the individual's name, the legal land description, and various notes regarding landmarks or additional details. This index includes only those who received the final certificate for their land.

To search the index, visit the website at <http://www.okhistory.org/research/plat1889>. For assistance or more information, contact the Research Center at 405/522-5225 or [research@okhistory.org](mailto:research@okhistory.org).



Oklahoma County map

## New educational trunk available on Oklahomans in space



known Oklahoma singer and entertainer Darla Zuhdi.

"Many students are surprised to learn that there are eight astronauts from Oklahoma and that our state plays a leading role in the aerospace industry. Teachers can use the hands-on items in this trunk as both a fun and educational way to engage their students about science and Oklahomans' important contributions to space exploration," said Dan Provo, director of the Oklahoma History Center.

The Oklahoma History Center offers more than twenty trunks to teachers on a wide variety of Oklahoma and national history topics. Teachers interested in reserving this or any other trunk should contact the Oklahoma History Center education department at [education@okhistory.org](mailto:education@okhistory.org) or 405/522-3602.

## Weaving and spinning at the Pioneer Woman Museum

On December 10 the Pioneer Woman Museum will host a free weaving and spinning demonstration at the museum. This event will also occur on the second Tuesday of each month.

Lorraine McDonagh demonstrates weaving and Joan Galbraith shows spinning. Galbraith recently combed out raw wool that she will spin, and then Lorraine will crochet the wool into a scarf. Follow the progress of the project on Facebook at <https://www.facebook.com/PioneerWomanMuseum>.

The loom is a Sears and Roebuck weaving loom purchased more than fifty years ago. It is a working forty-five-inch, six-harness loom. Currently Lorraine is working on a plain weave, which she will finish and make into dish towels that the museum will then sell in the gift shop to help support museum operations.

Galbraith has been an OHS volunteer for eight years and McDonagh has been at the museum as a volunteer for eighteen. For more information, call 580/765-6108. The Pioneer Woman Museum is located at 701 Monument Road in Ponca City and open Tuesdays through Saturdays from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.



Joan Galbraith during a demonstration.





New members, cont’d.

Harold and Jean Higgins, Midwest City  
Robert and Ann Ivester, McAlester  
Ann Jacobs, Norman  
Wanda Johnson, Oklahoma City  
Heather Jones, Oklahoma City  
Ken and Suzy Kerr, Oklahoma City  
Jerry and Mary King, Oklahoma City  
Wendy Landes, Tuttle  
Angela Legg, Oklahoma City  
Carolyn Leonard & Jon Heavener, Oklahoma City  
Jackie and Danielle Lugrand, Norman  
Fred and Ginger Martin, Norman  
A. G. Mata, Lawton  
Darrell McClanahan and T. J. Lundeen, Oklahoma City  
Larry and Dolores McClure, Enid  
Richrd and Alice McEwen, Perry  
Laverna Miles, Ada  
Tim and Lori Morlan, Oklahoma City  
Judith Obrien, Oklahoma City  
Fred and Judith Orr, Tulsa  
Kimberly Patterson, Guthrie  
\*Jean Phillips and Jan Miller, El Reno  
Richard Phillips, Oklahoma City  
David and Vesta Pierce, Blackwell  
Ray and Pat Potts, Oklahoma City  
Earl and Norman Pregler, Tulsa  
Louis and Marcy Price, Oklahoma City  
Anita Raglin, Harrah  
Jim and Terri Redding, Altus  
Allen and Irene Richter, Bartlesville  
Carla and Paula Rutledge, Ada  
Terry Sadler, Oklahoma City  
Cindi Sanchez, Edmond  
Eric and Monica Sanderson, Oklahoma City  
Debra Sapp, Choctaw  
Nydia Schimp, Oklahoma City  
Jerry and Sue Schmidt, Enid  
Jeanie Sisson, Oklahoma City  
Leona Slemp, Oklahoma City  
Lloyd and Judy Smith, Choctaw  
Robert and Nancy Smith, Oklahoma City  
Larry and Norma Tabor, Newalla  
\*K. B. Tuffy, Kingston  
Stephen and Linda Verges, Spencer  
Arlene Vogel, Tinker Air Force Base  
Joelle Vollpe, Harrah  
Adelardo and Harmony Vuycankiat, Oklahoma City  
\*Lee and Carolyn Wade, Oklahoma City  
Lee wells, Yukon  
Staci Woodruff, Colcord  
Jeff and Racquel Yamada, Noble  
\*Susanne Ziegler, Bridgeton, NJ

Individual

Fata Bah, Tulsa  
Sara Barnes, Ringling  
James Barnett, Okmulgee  
Jeff Bings, Quinton  
Obed Benitez, Hennessey  
Bhadresh Bhakta, Broken Arrow  
Matthew Billingsley, Cache  
Martha Brisco, Fort Towson  
Bobby Buckaloo, Kingston  
David Burton, The Village  
Theresa Butler, Broken Arrow  
Kirk Byrd, Tulsa  
Mrs. Vester Cain, Norman  
Vicky Caldwell, Eufaula  
Brandon Careathers, Duncan  
Daniel Cash, Okmulgee  
Robert Chester, Hendersonville , NC  
Erika Coleman, Midwest City  
Tyson Cooke, Broken Bow  
Reece Crabtree, Canadian  
Marcus Day, Lexington  
Gale Earles, Norman  
Nicholas Edwards, Stillwater  
Donna Failes, Holdenville  
Tracy Fisher, Elk City  
Deborah Fletcher, Guymon  
John Geinar, Hobart  
Gregory Green, Dover  
Jeffrey Hancock, Ardmore  
Marlene Hansen, Calera  
Michelle Heltcel, Moore  
Lyndon Hepner, Oklahoma City  
Martha Hernandez, Broken Bow  
Catherine Hiesiger, Santa Fe, NM  
Blake Holland, Burneyville  
Timothy Horton, Broken Arrow  
Ludaverne Hudson, Madill

Him Hunter, Owasso  
Karen James, Seminole  
Delores Jessie, Ardmore  
Kelly Johnston, Newtown Square, PA  
Lance Keenan, Ada  
Jason Kenter, Clinton  
Kathryn Kildoo, Oklahoma City  
Trisha King, Wellston  
Margaret Latham, Charlottesville, VA  
Ruben Livesay, Clinton  
Rose Mary Long, Clinton  
Nicholas Lumpkin, Ada  
Esmeralda Mata-Ruiz, Buffalo  
Chris McCurtain, Overbrooke  
John Moore, Ardmore  
Leon Myatt, Lawton  
Ben Newcomer, Norman  
Elizabeth Owens, Ringling  
Angelica Ozbirn, Davis  
Chelsey PerryMoore, Muskogee  
Oren Peters, Edmond  
Annette Pittman, Ponca City  
Danielle Polster, Madill  
Margaret Reynolds, Oklahoma City  
Ron Savage, Elk City  
Steven Schnitzer, Owasso  
Kara Shannon, Cartwright  
Kyle Sharp, Dover  
Rachelle Shepherd, Blanchard  
Alice Simpson, Oklahoma City  
Kitty Sloan, Paragould, AR  
John Smith, Idabel  
Patsy Stafford, Stillwater  
Bobbie Stone, Oklahoma City  
Pan Sullivan, Covington  
Marchell Thomas, Coweta  
April Torres, Idabel  
Elentia Tucker, Valliant  
Elias Valdez, Hastings  
Shelby Webb, Perry  
Maurice Webster, Lawton  
Randal Wells, Stigler  
Russell Williams, Tulsa  
Mary Alice Young, Oklahoma City  
Richard Zellner, Tahlequah

Organizational

Cave Springs Public School, Bunch  
Friends of Beaver County Pioneer Library, Beaver  
XXII Century Milieu, LP, Oklahoma City

Historic education records roll

The OHS Research Division has digi-  
tized teacher’s quarterly reports found in  
the Dawes Commission records.  
The database includes information  
for more than nine thousand students  
included in the teacher’s quarterly  
reports found in the records of the Dawes  
Commission from 1904 to January 1907.  
These schools were located in various  
American Indian nations, but included  
the names of both tribal citizens and  
noncitizens.

To search the index, visit the Research  
Center webpage at <http://www.okhistory.org/research/schoolreports>.  
For assistance or to order copies of  
reports, call 405/522-5225.

TEACHER'S QUARTERLY REPORT.															
Of <u>Tuttle</u>		Day School in <u>Chickasaw</u>		Nation,											
for the Quarter beginning <u>Sept. 5, 1904</u>						and ending <u>September 30 1904</u>									
NUMBER	WRITE first the Names of all Citizens or Indian Children that will pay taxes and school money or all Non-Citizens or White Children. Keep names of boys and girls separate.				DATE ATTENDANCE			BRANCHES STUDIED - Mark each with an X.							Date Entered School
	AGE	SEX	RACE	TRIBE	First Month	Second Month	Third Month	Reading	Writing	Arithmetic	Geography	History	Phy. & Nat. Hist.		
1	Clayton Tuttle	11	F	Chickasaw		3.0		X	X	X	X	X	X	Sept.	
2	Monette Tuttle	13	F	"		2.0		X	X	X	X	X	X	"	
3	Corrine McBride	13	F	"		3.0		X	X	X	X	X	X	"	
4	Marion McBride	9	F	"		1.9		X	X	X	X	X	X	"	
5	Viola Gray	11	F	"		1.2		X	X	X	X	X	X	"	
6	Blanche Park	6	F	Choctaw		2.7		X	X	X	X	X	X	"	
7	Marcell Cochran	15	M	Cherokee		2.0		X	X	X	X	X	X	"	
1	A. B. Tuttle	9	M	Chickasaw		2.0		X	X	X	X	X	X	"	
2	Conrad Byrnes	10	M	"		1.0		X	X	X	X	X	X	12.	
3	Robert Gray	12	M	"		1.0		X	X	X	X	X	X	5.	
4	Angela McBride	11	F	"		1.3		X	X	X	X	X	X	"	
5	Robert McBride	7	M	"		1.9		X	X	X	X	X	X	"	
6	George Wampler	13	M	Choctaw		5.		X	X	X	X	X	X	3.6	
7	Edgar Wampler	15	M	"		5.		X	X	X	X	X	X	2.6	
8	John Wampler	11	M	"		5.		X	X	X	X	X	X	"	

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!

David Walters, Eufaula, September 1972  
Langston University, Langston, October 1, 1972  
Bill and Mariam Corbett, Tahlequah, June 8, 1980  
Harvey and Kathryn Nye, Norman, November 1, 1980  
Darrel Walker, Konawa, October 1, 1981  
Ernestine Maphet, Gate, October 1, 1985  
Lois Turk, Bethany, October 2, 1986  
John and Marsha Greiner, Oklahoma City, October 10, 1986  
Jerry Koelsch, Locust Grove, October 20, 1986  
Alva Public Library, Alva, October 24, 1986  
Marjorie Couch, Oklahoma City, October 27, 1986  
Nancy Gee, Miami, October 28, 1986  
Lydia Spalding, Oklahoma City, 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  
Ruth Schreiner, Duncan, November 13, 1986  
Robert and Mary Haught, Reva, VA, September 13, 1988  
Checotah Landmark Preservation Society, Checotah, October 17, 1988  
Dr. and Mrs. Kenneth Parrott, Stillwater, September 10, 1989  
Gary Gallagher, Edmond, October 27, 1989  
Jean Phillips and Jan Miller, El Reno, January 4, 1990  
Bob and Chemene Burke, Oklahoma City, February 27, 1990  
Spencer Historical Society, Spencer, September 28, 1990  
J. M. Jackson, Oklahoma City, October 9, 1990  
Richard Lowitt, Concord, MA, October 15, 1990  
Plains Indians & Pioneers Museum, Woodward, October 31, 1990  
J. H. Burpo, Lawton, November 14, 1990  
B. J. and Sue Branom, Midwest City, August 27, 1991  
Mary Duffe, Edmond, October 4, 1991  
National Rt 66 Museum & Old Town Complex, Elk City, July 20, 1992



Christmas morning, 1947 (photo courtesy of OHS Research Division).





Oklahoma Historical Society  
800 Nazih Zuhdi Drive  
Oklahoma City, OK 73105-7917

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

PERIODICALS

# Mistletoe Leaves

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December 2013

## Christmas open house at Sod House Museum



When pioneers gathered to celebrate the Christmas holiday there would be music. The Sod House Museum is doing just that on Saturday, December 14, from 1 to 3 p.m. at the “Christmas Open House” with music by Darrel Long.

Fiddle player Darrel Long will be accompanied by guitar players Duane Condreay and Delmer Bowman. Playing the fiddle comes naturally to Long; he started playing the fiddle at the age of nine and has entertained for more than sixty-seven years. “Through the years of playing the fiddle and entertaining, it just gets better,” said Long, because he truly enjoys playing his fiddle. Come and enjoy an afternoon of traditional Christmas music at the museum.

The museum and Sod House will be decorated with traditional pioneer Christmas decorations for visitors to see. The pioneer homes were decorated with natural trimmings that were gathered from outside, and homemade ornaments for the tree were something that the children could create. Although many sod houses and dugouts did not have room for a tree, the children still worked hard months ahead in making decorations for the home and gifts for the family. The pioneer spirit is the gift of giving and continues today.

Come and enjoy an afternoon of Christmas music, along with cookies and spiced cider provided by the Sod House Friends. Admission to the Christmas open house is free as our thank you to everyone for visiting throughout the year along with your continued support. We wish everyone a Merry Christmas.

The Sod House Museum is operated by the Oklahoma Historical Society and located southeast of Aline on State Highway 8. For more information call 580/463-2441 or email [sodhouse@okhistory.org](mailto:sodhouse@okhistory.org).

## Victorian Christmas traditions

On December 11 you are invited to a Brown Bag Lunch and Learn program entitled “Victorian Christmas Traditions” with Martha Ray from noon to 1 p.m. at the Cherokee Strip Regional Heritage Center. The Brown Bag Lunch and Learns are held every second Wednesday of the month at noon at the CSRHC Humphrey Heritage Village Church. The event is free and the start time is noon. For more information visit [www.csrhc.org](http://www.csrhc.org) or call 580/237-1907.

## “Santas of the World” tour

On Saturday, December 14, the Pawnee Bill Ranch is hosting a “Santas of the World” tour in the mansion from 1 to 3 p.m. following the Friends of the Pawnee Bill Ranch Association annual meal and meeting. There will be Santas representing countries all over the world and from many different historic time periods. For more information, call 918/762-2513.



Smithsonian Affiliations  
Membership Program

## Christmas at the Fred Drummond Home

The Friends of the Fred Drummond Home are happy to announce that the Christmas event at the home will be Sunday, December 8 between the hours of 2 and 4 p.m. This year Martha Ray and her entourage of Historic Santas will once again be on display at the home and visitors will get a chance to visit and also receive a treat from these wonderful Santas! Also the band Finegan’s Awake will be playing their beautiful Scottish/Celtic folks songs in the parlor for your enjoyment. Visitors will be able to view the home decorated for the holidays. Refreshments will also be provided. What a wonderful way to start the holiday season!

A small admission fee will be taken at the door of \$3 for adults, \$2.50 for seniors, and \$1 for children between the ages of six and eighteen years old. All proceeds will benefit the Drummond Home. The home site is located at 305 North Price in Hominy. For more information, please call 918/885-2374.

