



Holiday festivities at the Frank Phillips Home

The Frank Phillips Home in Bartlesville will host an afternoon full of holiday festivities on Sunday, December 13, beginning at 2 p.m. Activities will include tours of Santa's Cottage, the Santa Walk, and a free outdoor concert. For the enjoyment of guests, the home's interior has been beautifully decorated with festive floral arrangements, Christmas trees, and wreaths.

On December 13, from 2 to 4 p.m., the Frank Phillips Home and the Jane Phillips Society invite parents and children to Santa's Cottage, located just to the south of the mansion. Reenactors Brandon and Rachael Reid portray Santa Claus and Mrs. Claus, and will visit with children of all ages. Jane Phillips Society volunteers will serve homemade cookies and punch. All are welcome at Santa's Cottage, a free event.

Also on December 13, from 2 to 4 p.m., the Santa Walk will provide fun for all ages. Visitors are invited to stroll through the three floors of the Frank Phillips Home and visit with historical Santa Clauses. This is a juried group of reenactors from across 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 portrays a particular Santa, with the most modern from 1907. Admission for the Santa Walk is \$5 for adults and \$2 for children age eleven and under, plus tax. Children under the age of sixteen must be accompanied by an adult.

At 3:30 p.m. Tuba Christmas will perform on the front porch of the Frank Phillips Home. Kim Goss, volunteer and events coordinator, said, "It's not every day that you'll see this. A group of approximately fifty tuba and euphonium players performing holiday classics in a free outdoor concert, and anyone with the right instruments can join in." Bartlesville High School band director Alex Claussen is in charge of this tradition, which started at New York's Rockefeller Center in 1974 and has played out in two hundred cities around the world. The public is invited to bring lawn chairs and enjoy this beautiful concert. In case of inclement weather, the event will be held at Bartlesville High School.

As guests visit the home from December 1 through December 22, they can enjoy beautiful decorations throughout the mansion. "The Christmas season is a special time to visit the Frank Phillips Home, which opened in full holiday splendor on Frank Phillips's birthday, November 28, and will delight adults and children alike," said Kim Goss. Beautiful poinsettia arrangements grace the front foyer, and the grand stairway is trimmed with garland. The first floor decorations include festive floral arrangements, and there are Christmas trees in the music room, library, and sunroom. Frank's bedroom showcases a money tree and other Christmas items. The third floor features a nine-foot tree decorated in ribbons, small birds, and hundreds of candy canes.

The Frank Phillips Home is located at 1107 Southeast Cherokee in Bartlesville. The regular hours are Wednesday through Saturday, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. The home will be closed for the Christmas holidays December 23–25. It also will be closed during the month of January for staff training, cleaning, and archival work. For more information please call 918-336-2491, ext. 103, or email fphome@sbcglobal.net.

Murrell Home to host Christmas Open House

The George M. Murrell Home in Park Hill will host its fifteenth annual Christmas Open House on Sunday, December 13, from 1 to 4 p.m. Visitors are invited to tour the 1845 mansion and learn about Christmas customs from the mid-Victorian period. The halls will be decked in Christmas fashions of the 1800s, and live music will fill the air. Each room in the home will have a unique Victorian Christmas theme. The Friends of the Murrell Home will sponsor a reception with refreshments. The Christmas Open House is free and open to the public, but donations are appreciated. The Murrell Home is located three miles south of Tahlequah at 19479 East Murrell Home Road in Park Hill. The 1845 plantation home was the residence of George and Minerva (Ross) Murrell, and is a National Historic Landmark. For more information please call 918-456-2751, email murrellhome@okhistory.org, or visit www.facebook.com/murrellhome.



A Cowboy Christmas at the Sod House

To celebrate the holidays the Sod House Museum in Aline is throwing a big, frontier-style Christmas Open House on Saturday, December 12, from 1 to 3 p.m. Rick and Larry Simpson of Skeleton Creek Productions in Enid will be presenting a taste of the Cowboy Christmas that was celebrated by the early day pioneers. The Simpsons will visit with guests at the open house, present poetry, tell tall tales, and talk about how cowboys celebrated Christmas. Join us in stepping back in time to the excitement of a Cowboy Christmas.

The museum will be decorated to represent Christmas in different time periods, along with a splash of Cowboy Christmas decorations, while the Sod House itself will be decorated for a traditional 1890s Pioneer Christmas. Enjoy cookies and hot cider provided by the Friends of the Sod House. The Christmas Open House is our thank you for your continued support of the museum. The Sod House Museum is located southeast of Aline on State Highway 8. The museum is open Tuesday through Saturday, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. For more information please contact Director Renee Trindle at sodhouse@okhistory.org or 580-463-2441.





Director's column

By Dr. Bob L. Blackburn
Executive Director

The success of any museum exhibit depends on a finely tuned balancing act that adds value to the artifacts on display. We achieved that goal with *Crossroads of Commerce: A History of Free Enterprise in Oklahoma*, an 8,000-square-foot exhibit that recently opened at the Oklahoma History Center.

One tool used to create that value is the verbal component, both printed and spoken, that includes graphic panels, labels, audio, and interactive information. Visual tools used with great success include maps, photographs, murals, video, and exhibit design. Even more value is added by stimulating the emotions of visitors with façade reproductions, shared memory, and a sense of discovery.

For me, the historian tasked with crafting the narrative story, it was important to balance the connective themes presented. The planning team wanted to paint a picture of economic development through three hundred years of Oklahoma history, but we had to be selective and we had to find a few themes that could resurface from time to time in topics as diverse as the Wichitas and Osages trading with the French or Tom Love building a chain of country stores and travel stops.

The most pervasive theme running through the entire gallery is the willingness to take a risk, which is the fundamental driving force of free enterprise.

When Robert M. Jones opened his first trading post at Doaksville in 1836, he was taking a risk. When Paul Braniff launched the first regularly scheduled airline route between Oklahoma City and Tulsa in 1928, he was taking a risk.

Along this narrative trail from 1719 to 2015, we tried to connect the dots between various stories, whether it was a vertical relationship within one time period or a horizontal progression that spanned decades and revealed trends.

A good example of the former is the story of Sonic: America's Drive-In, with a vertical association between the founders, their franchisees, their vendors, their customers, and their banker who provided a line of credit that enabled the entrepreneurs to go from a start-up to a growth company. A good example of the latter is transportation, which affected the ability to connect supply and demand regardless of the time period.

Another connective theme is the recurring impact of one entrepreneur's success in opening doors of opportunity for others. At the individual level, a good illustration of that impact is Frank Hightower's grand dream of a fine dining restaurant called the Cellar and the opportunity it created for the daring young chef John Bennett to express himself through exceptional food.

That same dynamic at the community level is the story of MAPS, an investment made by citizens that opened doors of opportunity for businessmen such as Clay Bennett, who led a group willing to take a risk on buying the Thunder; Chip Fudge, whose investments converted Skid Row to Film Row; and Larry Nichols, who built his new office building in the heart of downtown Oklahoma City.

Yes, the success of any museum exhibit depends on a finely tuned balancing act that adds value to artifacts. Our team achieved that goal with *Crossroads of Commerce*.

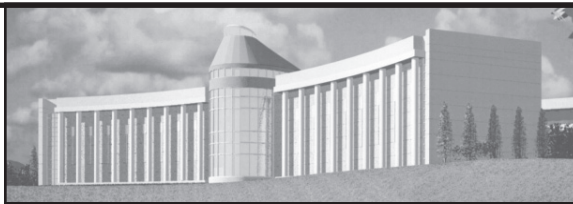
Dr. Bob

Development News

By Larry O'Dell

December is a good time to give to the Oklahoma Historical Society. It is your last chance to get in that end of the year gift. OHS has several great causes that you can assist significantly. One project that we are very excited about for the tenth anniversary of the Oklahoma History Center is the naming opportunities on the Oklahoma Family Tree. Each leaf is \$1,000 with the option of paying throughout a two-year pledge period. There are donation opportunities at our other museums and sites, as well.

Donors do not have to give just to their favorite museum. The OHS has many other giving options that can fund education, research, programming, and endowments. In September we launched our annual giving campaign that funds many of our projects and exhibits and has a year-long goal of \$200,000. Giving is easy on the OHS website at www.okhistory.org/support/giving. You also can call 405-522-0317 or email lodell@okhistory.org.



New Members, October 2015

*Indicates renewed memberships at a higher level

Associate

*Ann Cloutier, Pauls Valley
*Martin Newman, Tulsa

Friend

*Joy Reed Belt, Oklahoma City
*Charles and Yvonne Hunnicutt, Oklahoma City
*Kenneth and Amanda Lawrence, Tulsa
*William Melton, Oklahoma City
*Phil and Glynna Olson, Olustee
*Jack and Pat Painter, Oklahoma City
*William and Barbara Paul, Oklahoma City
*Sharon Rodgers, Warr Acres

Family

Robert Anderson, Earlsboro
*Leona Bell, Moberly, MO
Billy and Jennifer Burson, Beggs
Roylin Cole and George Ballew, Broken Arrow
Kris and Barb Dahl, Edmond
Bill and Rose Edwards, Stillwater
Leanne Fellows, Moore
*Bruce and Sharon Fisher, Oklahoma City
Suzanne Gaytan, Oklahoma City
Melissa Gower, Oklahoma City
Robert and Sue Hale, Oklahoma City
Amy Hartel and Julie Cockroft, Newalla
Joe and Cassi Hartman, Oklahoma City
*Adriell Hayes, Oklahoma City
Kelly Hellmuth and Jenni White, Moore
*Martha Hordinsky, Oklahoma City
Natalie Huffman, Edmond
Tamara Jones and Nicole Spellman, Blanchard
John and Angela Krizer, Oklahoma City
Jacob and Ella Larson, Norman
Darla Laws, Stillwater
Dan Little, Madill
Jennifer Malone and Virginia Watts, Oklahoma City
*Cindy McCurdy, Edmond
Chris McNeil, Edmond
Dwayne Miles, Ada
*James Mitchell, Grove
Andrew and Angie Murin, Edmond
Ruby Petty, Oklahoma City
*Cynthia Pulling, Norman
Ronnie and Linda Redinger, Oklahoma City
*Robbie and Linda Robbins, Altus
Shelly Schmidt, Stillwater
Erin Shaw, Oklahoma City
Alisa Snead, Yukon
Jennifer Spencer, Shawnee
Felicia Strange and Martha Mankin, Harrah

cont'd. on p. 7

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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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AROUND OKLAHOMA

Announcements

The Oklahoma Regional Conference of Phi Alpha Theta and the sixty-eighth annual meeting of the Oklahoma Association of Professional Historians will be hosted by Oklahoma Baptist University in **Shawnee** on February 26–27, 2016. The primary purpose of the conference is for history professionals, faculty, and students to share their research and other aspects of their work. All undergraduate, graduate, and professional historians are invited to submit papers and panel proposals. The deadline for abstracts is Monday, February 1, 2016. To submit abstracts please email Dr. Glenn Sanders at glenn.sanders@okbu.edu. Abstracts may be mailed to 500 West University Street, Shawnee, Oklahoma 74804. Please call 405-585-4157 for more information.

Events

Visit Sam Noble Museum at the University of Oklahoma in **Norman** for a special program on Tuesday, December 1. The guest speaker will be Dr. Ian Thompson, director of the Historic Preservation department, tribal historic preservation officer, tribal archaeologist, and NAGPRA specialist from the Choctaw Nation. His presentation is entitled “Choctaw Traditional Foods and Land Management.” This fall speaker series is free, open to the public, and held in conjunction with the Sam Noble Museum’s exhibit, *Collision & Creation: Indigenous Arts of the Americas, 1890–2015*. A reception will be held at 6:30 p.m. and the presentation begins at 7 p.m. This program is cosponsored by the Sam Noble Museum and the Cleveland County Chapter of the Oklahoma Anthropological Society. It will be held in the Kerr Auditorium of the Sam Noble Museum, located at 2401 Chautauqua Avenue in Norman. Please call 405-325-4712 for more information.

Ring in the holiday season with a festive tree lighting and living windows walk in **Tishomingo**. On Wednesday, December 2, from 6 to 8 p.m., stroll up and down Main Street, sip free coffee or hot chocolate, and enjoy living scenes of Christmas displayed in more than twenty business windows. Individuals of all ages will be in the windows depicting various Christmas activities. School and church choirs will sing carols on street corners, and visitors are encouraged to sing along. For more information please call 580-371-2175.

The Will Rogers Memorial Museum in **Claremore** will host its fourth installment of the Milam Lecture Series on Thursday, December 3, at 7 p.m. David Fowler, regional director for the Oklahoma Historical Society, will present a lecture on cattle ranching within the Cherokee Nation. Fowler supervises five historic sites in northeastern Oklahoma, including the George Murrell Home, Fort Gibson, Cabin Creek Battlefield, Pawnee Bill Ranch, and Sequoyah’s Cabin. Fowler has worked for the OHS for fifteen years. He has an extensive background in military history, Cherokee history and culture, and daily life in the nineteenth century. The lecture will be forty-five minutes, followed by a question and answer session. The public is encouraged to attend and admission to the museum is free on the evening of the lecture. The Milam Lecture Series is sponsored by Tom Milam, Jr. The Will Rogers Memorial Museum is located at 1720 West Will Rogers Boulevard in Claremore. Please call 918-343-8129 for more information.

The Wynnewood Historical Society is raising funds and awareness to support Wreaths Across America’s efforts in Oklahoma. On Saturday, December 12, at 11 a.m., there will be a local wreath laying ceremony at Oaklawn Cemetery in **Wynnewood**. Join other attendees as they honor veterans on National Wreaths Across America Day. Wreaths Across America is a national nonprofit organization whose mission—Remember, Honor, and Teach—is carried out in part each year through the laying of wreaths in December. “This is something we all can do in addition to remembering our veterans on Veterans Day each November,” said Nicholas A. Waters, Wynnewood Historical Society president. “This event is about coming together as a community to honor our heroes,” Waters added. For more information, to donate, or to sign up to volunteer, please visit www.WreathsAcrossAmerica.org. Please contact Luann Waters, location coordinator, at 405-642-9232 or LSW045@aol.com with any questions.

Witness traditional American Indian dancing at the New Year’s Eve Powwow in **Tulsa** on Thursday, December 31. The powwow kicks off at 1 p.m. with gourd dancing until 4:30 p.m., followed by a supper break. Gourd dancing resumes at 6 p.m. and the grand entry begins at 7 p.m. Dance contests that will be featured at the fifteenth annual New Year’s Eve Powwow include fancy dance, straight

dance, jingle dress, and fancy shawl. This free event is sure to be an exciting way to ring in 2016. The Tulsa Convention Center is located at 100 Civic Center in downtown Tulsa, near West Seventh Street and South Houston Avenue. For more information, please call 918-639-7999 or 918-832-1981.

Exhibits

The Edmond Historical Society and Museum continues its celebration of thirty years of collecting, preserving, and celebrating **Edmond** history. The exhibit entitled *Celebrating Edmond History—Thirty Years and Counting* is on display through Saturday, December 19. The exhibit includes a vintage Atari with Pac-Man, a bee smoker, and an ultra-violet light home therapy lamp; seemingly unrelated items that each represent a piece of the community of Edmond. It features these among the displays that include the thirtieth artifact collected nearly every year since the museum opened in 1985. On June 5, 1985, the Edmond Historical Society and Museum opened its first exhibit in one small room of the Edmond Historic Community Center, also known as the “Old Armory,” through the efforts of a dedicated group of preservation-minded volunteers. The Edmond Historical Society and Museum is open Tuesday through Friday from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. and Saturday from 1 to 4 p.m. Admission is always free. The museum is located at 431 South Boulevard in Edmond. The 1889 Territorial School is open the first two Saturdays of each month from 1 to 4 p.m. For more information about exhibits and programs, please call 405-340-0078 or visit www.edmondhistory.org.



Do you want your organization’s meeting, event, exhibit, or announcement included in the “Around Oklahoma” section of *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 Evelyn Brown, assistant editor, by email at eebrown@okhistory.org or by mail at 800 Nazih Zuhdi Drive, Oklahoma City, Oklahoma 73105. If you wish a news item to appear in the January 2016 issue, you must submit it by Friday, December 4, 2015.

Museum Store News

By Jera Winters

The Oklahoma History Center Museum Store is proud to be your source for great products that highlight the culture and history of Oklahoma. We are happy to announce that the Museum Store's annual Holiday Sale will be held on Friday, December 4, and Saturday, December 5, from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.

During our Holiday Sale, we offer an extra 10 percent off to OHS members on regularly priced merchandise, giving members 25 percent off. Nonmembers will receive 10 percent off regularly priced merchandise. We also have discounts on items throughout the store.

We have many products that are great gift ideas for the Oklahomans in your life. We recently added many Made in Oklahoma food products, as well as cookbooks. We also offer Oklahoma-made statuary, dish towels, and jewelry, to name a few of our great Made in Oklahoma products. For the kids, we offer a wide selection of classic, vintage-style toys. You can find all the best toys that continue to delight and amaze, such as Slinky, Silly Putty, and cap guns. Our vintage candies also make great stocking stuffers.

Call or stop by for these and many other unique products. A selection of our great products also can be ordered on the Museum Store website at www.okhistory.org. Members always receive a discount of 15 percent on Museum Store purchases. Please call us at 405-522-5214 with questions about these or any of our other great items.

Special discount on *The Encyclopedia of Oklahoma History and Culture*

The *Encyclopedia of Oklahoma History and Culture* will be offered at a special discounted price from November 27 through December 31. It can be purchased for \$60 (plus applicable sales tax and shipping costs). That is a 40 percent discount! This two-volume work consists of 2,455 entries by noted historians highlighting major events, historical figures, and geographic features that have shaped the history and culture of Oklahoma. To purchase the encyclopedia, please contact the OHC Museum Store at 405-522-5214 or jwinters@okhistory.org. This discount is not combinable with any other discounts or coupons.



Deck the Halls at the Oklahoma History Center

Load up the family and Deck the Halls at the Oklahoma History Center on Saturday, December 5, from 10 a.m. to noon. This family friendly event will include hands-on activities and a chance to meet a variety of historical Santas and gift bringers from other countries. This event is free with admission. Museum admission is \$7 for adults, \$5 for seniors, \$4 for students, and free for children age five and under. As always, admission is free to OHS members. The History Center is located at 800 Nazih Zuhdi Drive in Oklahoma City. For more information please call 405-522-3602.

Oklahoma Civilian Conservation Corps film restored

The OHS announces the restoration of a rare 16mm film of the Civilian Conservation Corps in Healdton, Oklahoma, shot during the 1930s. The film had decayed to such a state that it was not capable of being projected because of curling and brittleness. Through a grant from the National Film Preservation Foundation, the OHS was able to send the film to Colorlab in Rockville, Maryland, for the tedious restoration.

The Civilian Conservation Corps, known as the CCC, was created by Congress on March 31, 1933, as part of Franklin D. Roosevelt's New Deal programs to help relieve economic and humanitarian distress. Young men who were unmarried, US citizens, and between the ages of eighteen and twenty-five were eligible for the program. Of their monthly \$30 salary, \$25 was sent home to assist their families during the Great Depression.

In 1934 Oklahoma had five thousand young men working in twenty-six camps across the state. The Heavener, Oklahoma Company 810 CCC group, started operations May 24, 1933, in LeFlore County in east-central Oklahoma. This CCC group was physically headquartered in Stapp, Oklahoma, at Camp Prater. They built roads, installed telephone lines, and built Cedar Lake.

This is the first and only film known of the CCC in Oklahoma. Within the movie are scenes of life at the camp. Individual sections include: Mess Hall, Forest Service Office, Kitchen, and Men Working with their Tools and Trucks. It is a silent film, but scene titles within the program identify the action. For more information about this film, please contact Chad Williams at chadw@okhistory.org or 405-522-5207.

Drummond Home Christmas

The Drummond Home will host its annual Christmas festivities on Saturday, December 12, from 1 to 4 p.m. This year's event includes live music, refreshments, and open house tours. Visitors can view the home, which has been decorated for the holidays with a tree in almost every room. For the enjoyment of the public, the band Finnegans Awake will play Scottish folk music to welcome the holiday season. The music also honors Frederick Drummond, who was of Scottish descent. Santa Claus will be in attendance, handing out treats to all the children as well as adults. An array of holiday goodies and punch also will be available for guests. A small admission fee will be taken at the door. All proceeds will benefit the Friends of the Drummond Home. The Fred Drummond Home is located at 305 North Price Avenue in Hominy. For more information about this event, please call 918-885-2374 or email drummondhome@okhistory.org.

New Oklahoma license plate features original state flag

Oklahoma drivers have an opportunity to purchase a new license plate that features Oklahoma's first flag and its official state motto, *Labor Omnia Vincit*. This Latin phrase translates to "Labor Conquers All." Oklahoma's first state flag was adopted in 1911, four years after statehood. It consisted of a red field with a five-pointed, white star outlined in blue. The number 46, in blue, denoting Oklahoma's position as the forty-sixth state, was placed in the star's center. This new license plate is a wonderful way to celebrate Oklahoma's heritage.

The cost for the Original State Flag license plate is \$18. Please visit www.ok.gov/tax/documents/708-E.pdf in order to complete the Application for the 2016 Special License Plates. As the form indicates, the Oklahoma Tax Commission (OTC) must have one hundred prepaid applications on file by May 1, 2016. If an insufficient number of applications are received by that date, all application fees will be refunded. Please call the OTC at 405-521-2468 for more information.



Celebrate the winter solstice at Spiro Mounds Archaeological Center

Visit Spiro Mounds Archaeological Center on Monday, December 21, for a guided walk to learn about the winter solstice and how American Indians dealt with the 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 walk will take approximately two hours and require a mile of easy walking. Attendees will learn 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. Peterson also will discuss the history of the excavations and tales of unusual happenings associated with the mounds. The fee for this tour is \$3 for adults and \$2 for children, in addition to the daily admission fee. No reservations are required except for large groups. Spiro Mounds Archaeo-

logical Center is located three miles east of Spiro, Oklahoma, on Highway 9/271 and four miles north on Lock and Dam Road. For more information please call 918-962-2062.



New Oklahoma National Register listings

The State Historic Preservation Office is pleased to announce five new National Register of Historic Places listings in Oklahoma. The National Register of Historic Places is our nation's official list of properties significant in our past.

Tulsa adds a new National Register location to its ever-increasing inventory. The Sally Ann Apartments are located in the 1300 block of South Jackson Avenue and were built by O. A. Moreland. The apartments are significant in the area of Community Planning and Development for their association with apartment construction in Tulsa in the 1940s. They are also significant for their architectural style representing the Modern Movement.



Sally Ann Apartments

The James Martin Baggs Log Barn joins a growing list of properties identified in the statewide barn survey for Oklahoma to be listed in the National Register of Historic Places. The Baggs Barn, constructed in 1909, is significant for its architectural style. Located in a rural area of Pushmataha County, the barn is identified as an excellent example of a log Transverse Crib Barn.



James Martin Baggs Log Barn

The Seminole Municipal Building, constructed in 1936, was identified as an eligible property for the National Register of Historic Places by a group of students from the Institute for Quality Communities from the University of Oklahoma. The Seminole Municipal Building, located at 401 North Main Street, is significant for its association with Community Planning and Development as well as Entertainment and Recreation.



Seminole Municipal Building

The KCS Railway Depot is located at 1 South Highway 59 in Stilwell, Adair County. The depot, constructed in 1915, is significant for its role in Transportation. The Stilwell KCS Railway Depot provided local residents and businesses with goods and services that otherwise would have been difficult or impossible to acquire and with a way to market their products.



KCS Railway Depot



The Fuksa Portion of the Chisholm Trail Roadbed, located in Garfield County, is a remnant of the historic north-south route between Texas and Kansas across Indian Territory (present-day Oklahoma). It is significant because it is associated with events that have contributed to the broad patterns of our history. The Chisholm Trail corridor was used heavily in the second half of the nineteenth century by Texas ranchers to deliver their cattle to markets and new railroad shipping facilities in Kansas. Three million head of cattle driven over the Chisholm Trail between 1867 and the mid-1880s spurred the growth of the midwestern meat-packing and shipping industries, encouraged settlement and ranching development on Great Plains grasslands, and affected the eating habits of the nation.



**Fuksa Portion of the
Chisholm Trail Roadbed**

Listing in the National Register is an honorific designation that provides recognition, limited protection, and, in some cases, financial incentives for these important properties. The State Historic Preservation Office identifies, evaluates, and nominates properties for this special designation. These nominations are made on a quarterly basis. If you believe a property in your area is eligible, please fill out the Historic Preservation Resource Identification Form located at www.okhistory.org/shpo/nrprelim.htm. For more information about the National Register of Historic Places, please contact Lynda Ozan at lozan@okhistory.org or 405-522-4478.

Sons and Daughters of the Cherokee Strip gift collection to OHS

At their special meeting on October 20, the Sons and Daughters of the Cherokee Strip Association voted to gift the historical collection held by their association to the OHS. Aaron Preston, archivist for the Cherokee Strip Regional Heritage Center (CSRHC) explained, "Although the Sons and Daughters Collection is being stored at the Heritage Center, the collection could not be worked with, used for research, or exhibited since it was not owned by the Heritage Center as a property of the OHS." Following discussion, the Sons and Daughters board unanimously approved gifting the collection to the OHS.

The Sons and Daughters of the Cherokee Strip founded and operated a museum in Enid from 1957-76 to preserve the history of the 1893 Land Run and subsequent development of the Cherokee Strip. In 1976 the museum was gifted to the OHS, but the immense Sons and Daughters Collection, including artifacts and archival materials, was retained by the association.

The collection contains more than three thousand objects. Among the many historical treasures in the collection are the chair, desk, and gavel used by Albert Ellis during the Oklahoma Constitutional Convention, a pair of gloves worn by John Philip Sousa during a concert in Enid, and many other objects ranging from the Land Run of 1893 to Owen K. Garriott's space flight.

"Without the Sons and Daughters organization, we would not have this wonderful collection available today. They laid the foundation for the museum that has become the Cherokee Strip Regional Heritage Center," said Bob Blackburn, OHS executive director. The collections committee of the OHS Board of Directors voted unanimously to accept the donation during its meeting on October 28, 2015.

"We are very excited about this donation," said Andi Holland, CSRHC director. "Today the proud Cherokee Strip heritage preserved and shared by the Sons and Daughters is continued through the mission of the Cherokee Strip Regional Heritage Center to tell the extraordinary stories of settling the Cherokee Strip and sharing the inspiring lessons of leadership with future generations."

For more information please contact Andi Holland at 580-237-1907, ext. 223 or aholland@okhistory.org.



SHPO to host workshops at OHC

The State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO) will host four workshops at the Oklahoma History Center. 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 Wednesday, December 2, through Friday, December 4. All workshops are free and open to the public.

- Wednesday, December 2, 10:30 a.m.–12:30 p.m.—Federal and State Tax Incentives for Rehabilitating Historic Buildings

- Wednesday, December 2, 1:30–4:30 p.m.—The Secretary's Standards and Guidelines for Rehabilitating Historic Buildings

- Thursday, December 3, 10:30 a.m.–4:30 p.m.—The Section 106 Review Process: A Workshop for Agency Officials and Cultural Resource Management Consultants

- Friday, December 4, 10:30 a.m.–4:30 p.m.—Working with the National Register of Historic Places

All sessions will be held in the classrooms at the Oklahoma History Center, located at 800 Nazih Zuhdi Drive in Oklahoma City. For more information please call 405-521-6249.

SHPO accepting awards nominations

The State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO) is now accepting nominations for its 2016 awards program. The SHPO's awards program includes the Shirk Memorial Award for Historic Preservation and the SHPO's Citation of Merit. The Shirk Memorial Award for Historic Preservation recognizes historic preservation programs or activities that have had statewide impact. The SHPO's Citation of Merit highlights noteworthy accomplishments in historic preservation at the state or local level. Previous award recipients are featured on the SHPO's website at www.okhistory.org/shpo/shpoawards.htm. Submit a nomination and help the SHPO focus attention on accomplishments like these in your community.

The deadline for nominations is Friday, December 4, 2015, at 5 p.m. Nomination sponsors and award recipients will receive notice of the results of the selection process in February 2016. The awards will be presented at the banquet during Oklahoma's Twenty-eighth Annual Statewide Preservation Conference in Enid on June 1-3, 2016. For more information please call 405-521-6249.

Holiday Happening at Pioneer Woman Museum

The Pioneer Woman Museum in Ponca City will host its annual Holiday Happening on Saturday, December 12, from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Guests can celebrate the season with free admission to the Pioneer Woman Museum's third annual holiday open house. There also will be free gift wrap on museum gift store purchases. For more information please call 580-765-6108 or email piown@okhistory.org. The Pioneer Woman Museum is located at 701 Monument Road in Ponca City.

Christmas in the Village at CSRHC

The Cherokee Strip Regional Heritage Center (CSRHC) in Enid will host Christmas in the Village on Friday, December 4, from 5 to 8 p.m. This community event is sponsored by Humphrey Abstract Co. A holiday favorite, festivities will be held in the CSRHC's Humphrey Heritage Village. Tickets are \$5 each, with free admission for CSRHC members. As a convenience, there will be an express entrance for ticket holders to expedite entrance into the village.

Families will enjoy tours of the historic buildings decorated in holiday splendor, crafts for the kids, and the raised voices of children's choirs singing in the village church. Guests are invited to indulge in delicious, homemade treats and sip on cider while visiting with Santa. The general store has a fine selection of unique gifts to offer for those special ones on your Christmas list.

As a unique treat, a select group of Santas of the World historical characters will pay a visit for Christmas in the Village. This OHS program consists of several individuals who have researched stories about gift bringers from around the world in a historical context. Each Santa presents his or her story related to the Christmas celebration, and is dressed as authentically as possible. Some are from the country of origin of the Santas they have chosen to portray. All of them have a great story to tell.

Group tours of Christmas in the Village also are available through December 18. Tours include entertainment, a keepsake ornament, and refreshments. Call today for ticket information or to schedule your group tour at 580-237-1907, ext. 227. For more information about the Cherokee Strip Regional Heritage Center or Humphrey Abstract's Christmas in the Village, please visit www.csrhc.org or call 580-237-1907. The Cherokee Strip Regional Heritage Center is located at 507 South Fourth Street in Enid.

New Members, cont’d.

Family

Sarina Swartz and Mandy Bergerson, Edmond
Thomas and Shelly Thompson, Oklahoma City
Joe and Arlena Trumbly, Pawhuska
Amy Walker and Joyce Currells, Oklahoma City
*Darrel and Lani Walker, Konawa
Stacie Warner, Oklahoma City
Dustin and Emily Whitefield, Guthrie
Stephanie Yost, Stillwater

Individual

Sarah Atkinson, Lindsay
William Baker, Monroe, WI
John Baldwin, Wister
Paul Beaney, Sulphur
Zachary Benedict, Norman
John Brookins, Tulsa
Rhonda Brown, Dover
Morris Cale, Duncan
Tarra Chambers, Broken Arrow
Jerry Collins, Lexington
Robert Conrad, Tulsa
Gina Covington, Tulsa
Deanna Davidson, Chattanooga, TN
Michael Denney, Ada
Wesley Dixon, Muskogee
Patricia Dudding, Paoli
Alexander Esch, Tonkawa
Sara Foster, Tulsa
Jacob Gonzales, Altus
Kory Griffith, Fort Sill
Sam Hammons, Edmond
Carl Harris, McAlester
Lumecia Haynes-Currin, Tulsa
Virginia Heller, Tulsa
Raguel Hernandez, Ardmore
Brian Hicks, Broken Bow
Debra Holster, Arlington, TX
Etta Hopkins, Muskogee
Seth Hubbard, Hydro
Harlan Hunt, Stratford
Ashley Hysolp, Proctor
Donald Johnson, Pauls Valley
Park Johnson, Altus
Joe Jones, Oklahoma City
Billy Leverett, Pauls Valley
Terry Mabrey, Tulsa
Nick Martinez, Shawnee
Daniel McClavin, Marlow
Charlyn McClure, Peggs
Robert McGlothlin, Marlow
Deborah McMahan, Wynnewood
Berry McMahan, Marietta
Leslie Michaelson, Okeene
James Michelson, Claremore
Tambra Miller, Lawton
Rashyenell Moore, Fort Sill
Don Nakanishi, Los Angeles, CA
Austin Nesom, Stillwater
Doris Nicholson, Blackwell
Tommy Osteen, Marietta
Krysti Parks, Duncan
Marty Pennington, Ada
Aaron Peruskie, Cleveland
David Peter, Terre Haute, IN
Hattie Powers, Byars
Pasley Puthoff, Purcell
Michelle Reep, Anadarko
Juventino Rivera, Elk City
Gary Rodgers, Muskogee
Edward Rolison, Weatherford
Diane Rubey, Tulsa
Janelle Sharkey, Edmond
Patrick Shields, Ponca City
Emily Smith, Indianola
Kendall Smith, Sharon
Patricia Southard, Maysville
Alicia Stover, Anadarko
Mildred Sullens, El Reno
JoAnn Sumrall, Oklahoma City
Danny Teas, Ardmore
Justin Thompson, Ardmore
Jana Walker, Pauls Valley
Linda Wilkinson, Greenwood, AR
Joseph Wilhelm, Grove
Joe Williams, Duncan
Amanda Williamson, Tulsa
Ken Wolf, Ada
Guangwei Yang, Stillwater
Hunter Younge, Oklahoma City

Call for papers for 2016 Oklahoma History Conference

The OHS is seeking papers and presentations for the 2016 Oklahoma History Conference, sponsored by the Oklahoma Historical Society. The conference will be held on April 27, 28, and 29, 2016, at the Woodward Conference Center in Woodward, Oklahoma. A total of eighteen presentation sessions will take place on Thursday, April 28, and Friday, April 29.

The theme for the 2016 conference is “Landmarks and Turning Points in Oklahoma History.” From prehistory to the present, landmarks and turning points have played prominent roles in the history of Oklahoma. Landmarks may refer to geographic or man-made structures that define a locality or have played a significant role in the history of a community or geographical region. Landmark events in history also may refer to episodes or movements that are turning points in the histories of cities, towns, groups of people, historically significant individuals,

companies or industries, regions of the state, or the state as a whole.

Individuals interested in making a presentation should prepare a one-page proposal that includes the title of the proposed presentation; a one hundred-word description of the presentation; the name, address, phone number, and email address of the presenter; and a short vita or biographical sketch. Registration fees for presenters will be waived.

Presentation proposals are now being accepted by mail or email. Postal mail should be sent to Annual Conference Committee, Attn: Paul Lambert, Oklahoma Historical Society, 800 Nazih Zuhdi Drive, Oklahoma City, OK 73105. Proposals also may be emailed to plambert@okhistory.org. The deadline for submitting proposals is Thursday, December 31, 2015. Please contact Paul Lambert at 405-522-5217 or the email address above with inquiries.

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!

Ada Public Library, Ada, October 1, 1972
Langston University, Langston, October 1, 1972
Muskogee Public Library, Muskogee, September 1, 1973
Eufaula Memorial Library, Eufaula, March 1, 1975
Los Angeles Public Library, Los Angeles, CA, December 1, 1976
Darlene Shawn, Norman, September 1, 1977
Carolyn Hanneman, Norman, August 1, 1979
Bill and Mariam Corbett, Tahlequah, June 8, 1980
Darrel and Lani Walker, Konawa, October 1, 1981
David and Arlene Baker, Lawton, October 4, 1984
Tahlequah Public Library, Tahlequah, December 1, 1984
L. Ernestine Maphet, Gate, October 1, 1985
Metro Campus Library—Tulsa Community College, Tulsa, December 1, 1985
Steve and Susan Kline, Fort Worth, TX, September 24, 1986
Lois Turk, Bethany, October 2, 1986
John and Marsha Greiner, Oklahoma City, October 10, 1986
Pushmataha County Historical Society and Museum, Antlers, October 15, 1986
Bob Hammons, Sallisaw, October 20, 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, Bartlesville, November 4, 1986
Violet Spinler, Winthrop, MN, November 4, 1986
David Huff, Killeen, TX, November 5, 1986
David Petty, Guymon, November 10, 1986
Ruth Schreiner, Duncan, November 13, 1986
Fred and Kellie Harlan, Okmulgee, December 15, 1986
Ed and Teresa Bradway, Clayton, October 6, 1987
Steven and Dena Wagner, Trinidad, CO, October 26, 1987
JF Henderson Library, Westville, December 7, 1987
John Mabrey, Tulsa, May 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 and Jan Miller, El Reno, January 4, 1990
Bob and Chimene Burke, Oklahoma City, February 27, 1990
Spencer Historical Society, Spencer, September 28, 1990
Richard Lowitt, Concord, MA, October 15, 1990
Plains Indians and Pioneers Museum, Woodward, October 31, 1990
Monty Williams, Enid, November 14, 1990
Tulsa City County Library, Tulsa, March 3, 1992
National Route 66 Museum and Old Town Complex, Elk City, July 20, 1992
Charles and Linda Zeeck, Oklahoma City, October 18, 1993
Bill Sanders, Culpeper, VA, August 5, 1994
Everett and Judy Cutter, Douglas, September 2, 1994
Stanley Domosh, Waterville, NY, October 3, 1994

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

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

PERIODICALS

 Smithsonian Affiliations
Membership Program

December events at a glance

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|------------|---|
| 1 | Second annual Holiday Market, Museum of the Western Prairie, Altus |
| 1 | Open House celebration during Clinton Festival of Lights, Oklahoma Route 66 Museum, Clinton |
| 2-4 | State Historic Preservation Office workshops, Oklahoma History Center, Oklahoma City |
| 4 | Christmas in the Village, Cherokee Strip Regional Heritage Center, Enid |
| 5 | Deck the Halls, Oklahoma History Center, Oklahoma City |
| 5 | “Let’s Talk About It, Oklahoma!” book discussion group, Pioneer Woman Museum, Ponca City |
| 6 | Santas Around the World Tour, Chisholm Trail Museum and A. J. Seay Mansion, Kingfisher |
| 12 | Drummond Home Christmas Festivities, Fred Drummond Home, Hominy |
| 12 | Christmas Open House, Sod House Museum, Aline |
| 12 | Santas of the World Tour and Friends of the Pawnee Bill Ranch Association’s annual meeting, Pawnee Bill Ranch, Pawnee |
| 12 | “Christmases on the Plains” public lecture by Dr. Sara J. Richter, Pioneer Woman Museum, Ponca City |
| 12 | Third annual Holiday Happening, Pioneer Woman Museum, Ponca City |
| 12 | Candlelight Tours, Fort Gibson Historic Site, Fort Gibson |
| 13 | Fifteenth annual Christmas Open House, George M. Murrell Home, Park Hill |
| 13 | Santa’s Cottage tours, Santa Walk, and free outdoor concert, Frank Phillips Home, Bartlesville |
| 21 | Winter Solstice Walks, Spiro Mounds Archaeological Center, Spiro |

Please visit www.okhistory.org/calendar for a complete list of OHS events, programs, and exhibits.

Mistletoe Leaves

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December 2015

Holiday activities to be held at Pawnee Bill Ranch

The Pawnee Bill Ranch in Pawnee invites the community to help celebrate the holiday season on Saturday, December 12. The Friends of the Pawnee Bill Ranch Association’s annual meeting is planned for 11:30 a.m. in the ranch’s big barn, followed by a light lunch. The meal and meeting are open to Ranch Association members and those who desire to become members. As a special treat that day, the ranch is hosting a Santas of the World Tour from 1 to 3 p.m. in the mansion. The tour is free and open to the public. Visit the ranch, get photographs with historical Santas, and listen to their stories.

The Santa Claus with whom most of us are familiar is the result of the intertwining of Christian tradition, ancient and modern social customs, centuries-old legends, historical facts, and the imaginations of a long line of writers and artists around the world. The OHS has developed a program depicting historical Santas who tell their own stories. They are dressed authentically from their particular time period and country of origin. Some of the Santas that may be featured are: Black Peter (The Netherlands, 1550); Grandfather Frost (Russia, 1900) and Babushka (Russia, 1800); LeBefana (Italy, 1800); Ophelia Noel (France, 1800); Civil War Santa (United States of America, 1860); Sinter Claus (The Netherlands, 1808) and his wife; Weihnachtsmann (Germany, 1800); Tundra Santa (United States of America, 1840); Tartan Santa (Nova Scotia, 1850); and Saint Nicholas (Turkey, 1100).

In conjunction with the Santas of the World Tour, Pawnee Bill’s 1910 mansion once again will be beautifully transformed for the holiday season. Holiday decorations will be put in place by staff members and volunteers from the community, and can be seen during normal hours of operation December 1–31. 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.

The Pawnee Bill Ranch is open Wednesday through Saturday, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m., and Sunday, 1 to 4 p.m. Regular admission is \$5 for adults, \$4 for seniors, \$3 for students ages six to eighteen, and free for children age five and under. Please call 918-762-2513 for more information about the free Santas of the World Tour or other upcoming events. The ranch is located at 1141 Pawnee Bill Road, approximately one-half mile west of Pawnee on US Highway 64.



**Ed Green portraying
Black Peter.**



**Santas of the World Tour
at Pawnee Bill Ranch.**