



Mistletoe Leaves



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Will Work For ... exhibit at the Oklahoma History Center

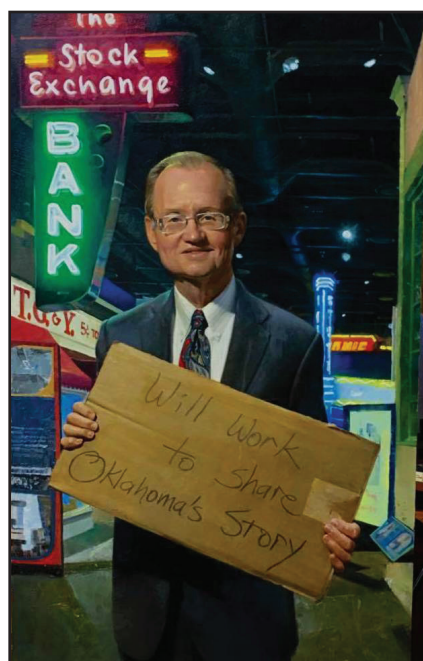
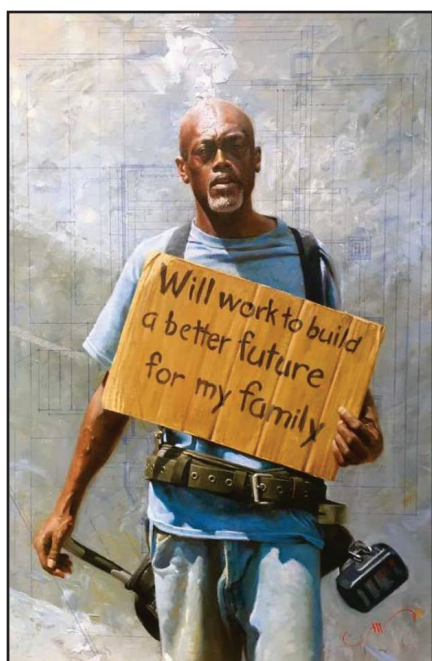
The Oklahoma History Center is proud to announce the debut of the latest Mike Wimmer project, *Will Work For ...*, on Tuesday, January 15. This exhibit is comprised of 17 portraits and will be displayed in the Vose Atrium Gallery. It will be open for public viewing Monday through Saturday from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. The exhibit will be on display through June 2019.

Wimmer describes himself as a “natural observer of people and all the differences that make us unique.” It was this diversity that he wished to portray in the *Will Work For ...* project. His inspiration for this came when he noticed all of the people on street corners holding signs that state that they “Will Work For Food.” He began to ask people of every social group what they would work for; what inspires them as individuals to sacrifice their lives, their labor, and their love enough that they will work for it. His models for this project have included a carpenter, mayor, museum director, other artists, a TV weatherman, and a former Miss America, among others. In each portrait, the individual is holding the iconic cardboard sign that completes the phrase “Will Work For ...”

Wimmer is an Oklahoma-born artist who began sketching and painting at age 6 and began selling his artwork at age 11. He received his undergraduate degree in fine arts from the University of Oklahoma and his master’s degree at the University of Hartford in Hartford, Connecticut. He has produced artwork for some of the largest corporations in the world including Procter and Gamble, Nabisco, and Disney, and has painted portraits of some of the nation’s most prestigious citizens. Wimmer has painted more than 300 covers for almost every major publisher in the United States. More than 40 of his pieces have hung in the Oklahoma State Capitol. Wimmer is currently professor of illustration at the prestigious Savannah College of Art and Design in Savannah, Georgia.

“The greatest enjoyment of being an artist is the extreme joy of bringing an idea to life that, just five minutes before, did not exist,” said Wimmer.

The Oklahoma History Center is located at 800 Nazih Zuhdi Drive in Oklahoma City. For more information please call 405-522-0765 or visit www.okhistory.org/historycenter.



“History of Fort Supply” presentation at the Sod House Museum

Historian Bob Rea will give a presentation about the history of Fort Supply and its role in the development of northwest Oklahoma at the Sod House Museum on Saturday, February 16, at 10 a.m. Rea will cover the time period



from 1868 to 1894, when Fort Supply was involved in two major Indian Wars campaigns, kept the peace in the Cherokee Outlet, and policed the opening of the area to white settlement.

Bob Rea obtained a bachelor’s degree in history and art from Central State University (now the University of Central Oklahoma) in Edmond, and worked part time at the National Cowboy Hall of Fame (now the National Cowboy and Western Heritage Museum) while he was an undergraduate. He earned his master’s degree in education from Northwestern Oklahoma State University in 2004. Rea served as the historical facility manager for Fort Supply Historic Site for the OHS from December 1991 until his retirement in 2014. During that time, he also became the supervisor of several other OHS historic sites.

During Rea’s tenure with the OHS, he participated in numerous archaeology projects emphasizing historic and battlefield archaeology. He has written articles for scholarly publications such as *The Chronicles of Oklahoma*, *Panhandle-Plains Historical Review*, and *The Journal of the Indian Wars*. He also had five articles included in *The Encyclopedia of Oklahoma History and Culture* relating to military history in Indian Territory.

The Sod House Museum is located southeast of Aline on State Highway 8. It is open Tuesday through Saturday from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. For more information please contact Director Renee Trindle at 580-463-2441 or sodhouse@okhistory.org.

Oklahoma Centennial Farm and Ranch commemorative book

To commemorate the 30th anniversary of the Oklahoma Centennial Farm and Ranch program, the OHS is sponsoring a new book, *Oklahoma Centennial Farms & Ranches*. The book will celebrate our centennial farms and ranches, and Oklahoma’s rich agricultural history. Acclaim Press will oversee the creation of this unique volume, and all recipients of Oklahoma Centennial Farm and Ranch Awards are invited to share their stories. Learn more about how to submit your family’s story at www.okhistory.org/shpo/farmandranch.htm. The extended deadline for submission to be included in *Oklahoma Centennial Farms & Ranches* is February 28, 2019.

To qualify for a Centennial Farm or Ranch Award, a property must be owned by a family member for at least 100 years and must be operated or occupied by a family member or leased out by a family member. The property must include a minimum of 40 acres and have gross annual sales of at least \$1,000. As of 2019, the OHS and the Oklahoma Department of Agriculture, Food, and Forestry have sponsored the Centennial Farm and Ranch Awards for 30 years.



Director's column

By Dr. Bob L. Blackburn
Executive Director

The Oklahoma Historical Society has always had a special relationship with our tribal partners in the state.

In 1907, after Congress refused to recognize elected tribal governments that could rally around collecting, preserving, and sharing their own history, the OHS stepped up and saved tribal newspapers, preserved family collections, and stored artifacts needed to tell the stories of cultural survival.

OHS staff members, such as Czarina Conlan and Muriel Wright, expressed pride in their own tribal heritage as they built bridges to the Indian community from the 1900s through the 1960s and created opportunities to celebrate tribal history through exhibits and publications.

During the Great Depression, when memories of tribal history in the 19th century were quickly fading with the passage of time, the OHS sought and administered Works Progress Administration funds from the federal government to hire a small army of oral historians to collect these stories. Other federal grants, created to fight chronic unemployment, were used to protect sacred tribal sites and buildings such as Sequoyah's Cabin.

And at a time when tribal governments still were not recognized by federal law, the OHS stepped into the breach and secured possession of almost four million tribal documents and ledgers that had been confiscated by the Dawes Commission in the 1890s. Today, we call that collection the Indian Archives.

All of these efforts kept the OHS in the thick of action as tribal sovereignty and tribal enterprise rose from the ashes in the 1970s and 1980s. Tribal leaders, such as Kelly Haney, Wilma Mankiller, and Bill Anoatubby, recognized that the OHS had collections and resources that could help them rebuild a sense of community among their own people.

The OHS was ready and willing to expand our partnerships when they reached out to us.

In the early 1990s, as tribal governments were building their internal management capabilities, the OHS wrote legislation that authorized the State of Oklahoma to return land and buildings to the tribes. Among the first success stories were the Chickasaw Council House, the White House of the Chickasaws, and the Cherokee Courthouse at Gore, all returned to tribal ownership. More recently, transfers have included Sequoyah's Cabin to the Cherokee Nation and Fort Washita to the Chickasaw Nation.

Three years ago, when Bill Welge retired from the OHS, we asked him to stay involved with our tribal partnerships. His knowledge of the Indian Archives and his many contacts in the tribal community made him a valuable resource in our ongoing efforts to share collections and resources.

On December 1, 2018, this ability to reach out to the tribal community gained even more momentum when Tahnee Growingthunder joined the executive team of the OHS. Tahnee, who is working on her doctorate at Harvard, will focus on building bridges to tribal officials who

want to expand their own collections and contribute to tribal identity through museums and programs.

Yes, the Oklahoma Historical Society has always had a special relationship with our tribal partners in the state. And that relationship is growing in tandem with tribal sovereignty and our respect for tribal identity.

Dr. Bob



Save the dates

The 2019 Oklahoma History and Preservation Conference will be held April 24, 25, and 26, 2019, on the campus of the University of Science and Arts of Oklahoma in Chickasha. The conference is sponsored by the OHS and the Oklahoma State Historic Preservation Office. This year's theme is "Women Who Built History," and we will be celebrating the centennial of women in Oklahoma receiving the right to vote.

A total of 20 presentation sessions will be held, including a new historic preservation track of sessions. Join us for lively discussions about collecting, preserving, and sharing the history and culture of the state of Oklahoma and its people. Conference sessions will be presented by historians, authors, scholars, and preservation professionals from across the country. Special events will include the opening reception, tours, luncheons, and a program honoring Chickasaw storyteller Te Ata. The conference also includes the annual meeting of the OHS membership. Learn more at www.okhistory.org/conference.

Development News

By Larry O'Dell

November 5, 2018, marked the centennial of Oklahoma women receiving the right to vote in the state's elections. The Oklahoma Historical Society is celebrating this milestone all year with exhibits and programs across the Sooner State. Guthrie's Oklahoma Territorial Museum kicked events off on November 3 with the exhibit *The Yellow Brick Road to Woman's Suffrage*. The Oklahoma History Center soon followed with *Votes for Women*, a photographic exhibit. Likewise, the theme for this year's Oklahoma History and Preservation Conference is "Women Who Built History." It will take place in Chickasha at the old Oklahoma College for Women, presently the University of Science and Arts of Oklahoma, on April 24–26, 2019.

OHS members and nonmembers are invited to attend and celebrate Oklahoma women's history. The conference will include two luncheons, 20 sessions, and a special evening celebrating the life of Chickasaw storyteller Te Ata. New honorees will be inducted into the Oklahoma Historians Hall of Fame during the Annual Awards Luncheon on Friday, April 26. Later this month the details of the conference will be available online at www.okhistory.org/conference. If you have any questions, please call me at 405-522-6676 or email me at lodell@okhistory.org.



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Mistletoe Leaves is published for the members and friends of the OHS in partial fulfillment of its mission to collect, preserve, and share the history and culture of the state of Oklahoma and its people.

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.

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AROUND OKLAHOMA

Events

Visit Fort Sill National Historic Landmark and Museum in **Fort Sill** on Tuesday, January 8, from 4 to 6 p.m. to commemorate 150 years of the post's service to our nation. As the kickoff to a year-long celebration, the Founders Day Retreat Ceremony and Night at the Museum event will give visitors a glimpse into Fort Sill's past and provide an opportunity to witness some of the US Army's time-honored traditions. The event will feature living history interpreters, historic treasures, and refreshments provided by the USO. Demonstrations will include a US Army bugler playing at the Old Post Quadrangle, a mass reenlistment given by the commanding general, and firing of a muzzle-loaded cannon. Following the ceremony, Fort Sill National Historic Landmark and Museum will be open free to visitors. It is located at 435 Quanah Road in Fort Sill. Please call 580-442-5123 for more information.

Head to the 40th annual Martin Luther King Jr. Parade in **Tulsa** on Monday, January 21, at 11 a.m. Join the Tulsa community as it honors a legend and celebrates freedom. This event grows each year and now includes hundreds of participants with impressive music and parade floats. The parade is organized by the Martin Luther King Jr. Commemoration Society of Tulsa, which has been organizing events to honor Dr. King since it formed in 1979. The parade will begin at North Detroit Avenue and John Hope Franklin Boulevard, proceed east on John Hope Franklin to Greenwood, south through the Greenwood Business District to Archer Street, then west on Archer to Elgin Avenue. Please call 918-492-9495 for more information.

Experience American Indian culture at the Myaamia Winter Gathering and Miami Tribal Stomp Dance in **Miami** on Saturday, January 26, beginning at 3 p.m. This celebration features traditional dancing and is free to attend. Gourd dancing kicks off the event, followed by a free chili and stew dinner at 6 p.m. After dinner, enjoy the stomp and social dances. The event will be held at the Miami Nation Council House. It is located at 2319 Newman Road in Miami. For more information please call 918-541-1300.

The Edmond Historical Society and Museum is excited to host Tea at the Rodkey House in **Edmond** on the first two Saturdays in February. There will be four opportunities to experience tea time in a setting resembling 1920 Oklahoma—February 2 at 10 a.m. or 2 p.m., and February 9 at 10 a.m. or 2 p.m. The traditional tea fare will include savories, scones, sweets, and, of course, tea. This is a great multi-generational event for ladies ages five and up. Reservations are required and tickets are \$20 per person. The Rodkey House is located at 410 South Littler in Edmond. For more information please visit www.edmondhistory.org or call 405-340-0078.

Experience a historic battle as it comes to life on Saturday, February 16, and Sunday, February 17, in **Yale**. The Battle of Round Mountain reenactment will re-create a Civil War-era winter encampment featuring living history interpreters portraying soldiers in opposing camps. Sutlers' row will be set up for business, with vendors in period attire selling their wares. The battle reenactments will be held on each day at 1 p.m. All events will take place at a site west of Yale, just north of the junction of Highway 51 and Highway 18. For more information please call 405-714-8270.

Visit **Muskogee** for USS *Batfish* Living History Day on Saturday, February 23, from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Attendees will experience what it was like to be aboard the USS *Batfish* submarine during World War II. The event will include living history demonstrations and special tours of the submarine, guided by historians dressed in 1940s naval regalia. It will be held at War Memorial Park, located at 3500 Batfish Road in Muskogee. Please call 918-682-6294 for more information.

Announcements

The Love County Historical Society's 2019 calendars are available for sale at the Pioneer Museum in **Marietta**. Featured in the calendars are historic photographs from across Love County. The calendars cost \$5 each. Several Love County businesses will sell the calendars, with a list available by calling the Love County Historical Society at 580-276-9020. Orders also may be placed by mailing a check to the society at PO Box 134, Marietta, OK 73448, or by calling Laquitta Ladner at 580-276-3477. Please note that \$1.75 postage and handling will be added to all orders that are mailed.

Do you want your organization's meeting, event, exhibit, or announcement included in the "Around Oklahoma" section of *Mistletoe Leaves*? This section features Oklahoma history and heritage-related programs sponsored by entities other than the Oklahoma Historical Society. To submit news items, please contact Evelyn E. Moxley by email at emoxley@okhistory.org or by mail at 800 Nazih Zuhdi Drive, Oklahoma City, OK 73105. If you wish a news item to appear in the March/April issue, you must submit it by Monday, February 4.

SHPO announces the Historic Preservation Review Committee's 2019 meeting schedule

The Oklahoma State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO) is pleased to announce the Oklahoma Historic Preservation Review Committee's (HPRC) meeting schedule for calendar year 2019. The HPRC's meetings will begin at 1:30 p.m. on Thursday, January 17, April 18, July 18, and October 17. The meetings are open to the public and will be held in the Dr. LeRoy H. Fischer Boardroom at the Oklahoma History Center.

The governor appoints the members of the HPRC to advise the SHPO about nominations to the National Register of Histor-

ic Places (NRHP) and other preservation issues. Current HPRC members include Ron Frantz (architect, Oklahoma City); John Hartley (prehistoric archaeologist, Norman); Shirley Ballard Nero (historian, Clearview); Jana Phillips (architectural historian, Stillwater); and Charles Wallis (historical archaeologist, Norman).

The National Park Service regulations governing the SHPO's programs require that a qualified state review board participate in the NRHP and other SHPO programs. During each meeting, the HPRC hears presentations on NRHP nomina-

tions 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. The HPRC and SHPO staff invite concerned citizens and preservation professionals to participate in this important component of Oklahoma's preservation program. For more information about any of the SHPO's programs, please call 405-521-6249 or visit www.okhistory.org/shpo.

January events

- 9 Brown Bag Lunch and Learn program, Cherokee Strip Regional Heritage Center, Enid
- 12 Quilting workshop with Martha Ray, Sod House Museum, Aline
- 15 *Will Work For ...* exhibit opens, Oklahoma History Center, Oklahoma City
- 17 Historic Preservation Review Committee meeting, Oklahoma History Center, Oklahoma City
- 19 *Helicopter Missions: Vietnam Firefight* film screening and program, Oklahoma History Center, Oklahoma City
- 26 Calligraphy class, Oklahoma History Center, Oklahoma City

February events

- 1 *Smoke Over Oklahoma: The Railroad Photographs of Preston George* exhibit opens, Chisholm Trail Museum, Kingfisher
- 1 Antique Doll exhibit opens, Fred Drummond Home, Hominy
- 7 Colonial Days living history presentation, Oklahoma History Center, Oklahoma City
- 9 Black History Month Film Festival, Oklahoma History Center, Oklahoma City
- 9 Quilting workshop with Martha Ray, Sod House Museum, Aline
- 9 Millinery class, Oklahoma History Center, Oklahoma City
- 11 "Out of the Box" Kilgen Organ performance by Nathan Avakian, Oklahoma History Center, Oklahoma City
- 13 Brown Bag Lunch and Learn program, Cherokee Strip Regional Heritage Center, Enid
- 16 "History of Fort Supply" presentation by Bob Rea, Sod House Museum, Aline
- 23 Southeastern Beadwork class, Oklahoma History Center, Oklahoma City
- 28 Antique Doll exhibit closes, Fred Drummond Home, Hominy

Please visit www.okhistory.org/events for additional information about OHS events, programs, and exhibits.



Living history season

Hunter's Home in Park Hill is excited to announce that its new living history season is well under way! Each year from September through May, the home will feature living history interpreters in period attire on the grounds. The interpreters will demonstrate 19th-century trades, chores, cooking, gardening, and crafts. Activities will be available Tuesday through Saturday from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. For more information please visit www.facebook.com/huntershomeok.

OK Women 100 webpage

The OHS is pleased to continue its year-long celebration of the 100th anniversary of women's suffrage. You are invited to visit www.okhistory.org/suffrage to learn more about exhibits, programs, and events across the state. This new webpage also features links to more resources so you can explore women's history in Oklahoma. It includes information about local suffragists, properties listed in the National Register of Historic Places, historical markers, and more!



Will Rogers Memorial Museum Theatre to undergo renovation

After spending the year celebrating the 100th anniversary of Will Rogers's first movie appearance in *Laughing Bill Hyde*, the curtains literally are coming down in the Will Rogers Memorial Museum Theatre in preparation for renovation of the stage and remodeling of the auditorium. All new seating and an organ also will be added to the theatre.

The theatre was added to the museum in 1982 and has changed little since it was built. It is used almost daily by school groups, tours, for community events, and for movie showings. Over the years the seating has become worn and faded, and the technology in the theatre is in need of an upgrade. A red carpet fundraising event held in November has provided funds for the renovation, but sponsorships are still being accepted for theatre chairs. Seat sponsorships are \$350 and can be purchased at www.willrogers.com/theatre-renovation.

The theatre will undergo these renovations during the museum's winter hours of operation. Now through the end of February, the Will Rogers Memorial Museum in Claremore and the Will Rogers Birthplace Ranch in Oologah will observe winter hours of operation. The museums will be open Wednesday through Sunday from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. For information about group visits and guided tours please call 918-341-0719 or visit www.willrogers.com.

Wood Window Restoration workshop

A Wood Window Restoration workshop was recently held at the Henry Overholser Mansion in Oklahoma City. The workshop was hosted by Wood Window Rescue in conjunction with Preservation Oklahoma and sponsored by the City of Oklahoma City Historic Preservation Commission.

Attendees received instruction on how to remove, repair, and reinstall historic wood windows, including reinstallation of sash weights, reglazing, and repair of deteriorated wood. The workshop began with a classroom setting at the Overholser Mansion. The next day, attendees got the chance to put their newly learned skills to use at Cross and Crown Mission in Oklahoma City. They removed, repaired, and reinstalled six wood windows at the historic church, improving their functionality, efficiency, and appearance.

This workshop was funded through the Oklahoma State Historic Preservation Office's Certified Local Governments (CLG) program. Under the CLG program, local governments that enforce appropriate historic preservation zoning ordinances are delegated certain SHPO responsibilities, receive federal matching funds for development of their local preservation program, and participate in the National Register of Historic Places nomination process. For detailed information about the CLG program, please contact Shea Otley at 405-522-4485. For a complete schedule of events, including upcoming workshop opportunities, check out Preservation Oklahoma's calendar of events at www.preservationok.org.



The McClintic Collection: An Oklahoma Congressman's Adventure in Europe

By Mike Bell

A part of my job that gets really interesting is when I am looking in collections for objects that list “unknown location” in the records and I find one. Sometimes it is simply a case of the object being moved and no one updating the location record. Staff members spend time searching through records and boxes until the object is found and updated. Other times an object is found with no information to identify who donated it or to what collection it belongs. After searching through the records trying to identify the object, staff might then accession it as a “Found in Collections” piece and put a number on the object so it can be tracked.

Occasionally an object will be mistakenly added to a collection from a different donor. One such object recently was found, and turned out to be a medallion donated to the OHS in 1934 by James V. McClintic, a congressman who represented southwest Oklahoma's Seventh District in the US Congress.¹ McClintic served 10 terms in Congress before losing the election of 1934. When he left office, McClintic donated a group of bronze medallions he collected in 1919 while in Europe after the end of World War I. He also donated a pass to go to Berlin issued to him by the German Army and a copy of a speech he gave on the floor of the US House of Representatives in December 1919, both of which are now in the OHS Manuscript Archives.

The seven medallions were part of a series produced during the war by Karl Goetz, a well-known German artist. He produced the medallions to be morale boosters and celebrations of German victories during the war. One in particular became notorious for celebrating the sinking of the luxury liner RMS *Lusitania* in May 1915, where as many as 1,128 people drowned because the ship went down so quickly.² The first version of the medallion had an incorrect date showing the sinking occurred on May 5, 1915. A German submarine actually torpedoed the ship on May 7. The British government used the mistake as a propaganda tool to show that the Germans had specifically targeted the ship for sinking. The British produced their own version of the medallion for distribution as evidence of German treachery.³ Goetz quickly made another version of the medallion with the correct date, but the damage had been done. The OHS has the correct version of the medallion, dated May 7, 1915.

Another medallion shows America's demand that Germany cease submarine warfare and Germany's response. One is a satire of America's war aims to help

Britain. A fourth has France crowing about its allies in the war. The fifth is a bit more hopeful in that it describes President Wilson's Fourteen Points for peace. The sixth disparages America's claims of neutrality by showing Uncle Sam sitting on a stack of cannonballs and selling weapons to Britain. The seventh proclaims that if America enters the war, the German viper will strike.

Congressman McClintic gave a speech on the floor of the US House wherein he told the story of his trip to Europe along with Louis B. Goodall, a Republican from Maine. The congressmen had traveled to Europe to determine what conditions were like after the war. During their trip the men visited Amerongen in the Netherlands. They wanted to see where Kaiser Wilhelm II had taken refuge after abdicating his throne to end the war. McClintic and Goodall never tried to enter the castle and only looked through the gate. However, afterward they were stopped and questioned several times by Dutch authorities wanting to know who they were and what they were doing. Once, in Nijmegen, they were arrested and questioned by police who thought they might have stolen the car they were driving. The men eventually were released to continue their trip to Germany.⁴ In Coblenz, McClintic obtained the pass from the German Army authorizing him to travel to Berlin.⁵ When McClintic left the train in Berlin he was again detained by police, this time because he had not paid his train fare. German railroads used a different method of paying fare than American railroads used. Once the congressman had paid he was released to continue his visit. He then described the chaos and dangers faced by the German people after the army was demobilized and before civil authority could regain control. While in Berlin, he acquired the medallions that he later donated to the OHS. It is strange how such a small object can relate the story of an Oklahoman's adventure and participation in events on the world stage.

Mike Bell is curator of collections at the Oklahoma History Center.



1 Carolyn G. Hanneman, “McClintic, James Vernon,” *The Encyclopedia of Oklahoma History and Culture*, www.okhistory.org/publications/enc/entry.php?entry=MC010.

2 Annette McDermott, “How the Sinking of *Lusitania* Changed World War I,” History Channel, www.history.com/news/how-the-sinking-of-lusitania-changed-wwi.

3 Phil Dutton, “How a German Medallion Became a British Propaganda Tool,” Imperial War Museum, www.iwm.org.uk/history/how-a-german-medallion-became-a-british-propaganda-tool.

4 James V. McClintic, folder 1, Honorable James V. McClintic Collection, Research Division, Oklahoma Historical Society, Oklahoma City, OK; Speech of Hon. James V. McClintic of Oklahoma in the House of Representatives, December 8, 1919 (Washington, DC: Government Printing Office, 1919), 3–11.

5 Ibid., 6.

New exhibits at Honey Springs Battlefield

Honey Springs Battlefield and Visitor Center is proud to announce that new temporary exhibits have been constructed inside the Honey Springs Visitor Center. Through artifacts, graphics, and narrative, the exhibits tell the rich history of the Battle of Honey Springs. Visitors will learn that on July 17, 1863—just two weeks after the famous Battles of Gettysburg and Vicksburg—a total of 9,000 troops converged on a small farming settlement along the Texas Road in the Muscogee (Creek) Nation called Honey Springs, named after a well-known watering stop in the area. There they battled against one another for their freedom, homes, tribal nations, and ways of life. These troops, historians believe, represented the most diverse set of individuals and cultures to fight in any battle of the Civil War.

Along with the new exhibits, visitors are welcome to tour the battlefield and learn about key aspects of the engagement and those who fought at Honey Springs. For more information please call 918-473-5572. Honey Springs Battlefield and Visitor Center is located east of US Highway 69 between Oktaha and Rentiesville.



Southeastern Beadwork class

The Oklahoma History Center will host a Southeastern Beadwork class on Saturday, February 23, from 10:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. The class will be taught by Martha Berry, Cherokee National Treasure and nationally renowned beadwork artist. Participants will receive one-on-one instruction as they create their own pre-European contact Cherokee sun circle wall hanging. The cost for the class is \$150 for OHS members and \$175 for nonmembers, and includes all necessary materials. Registration is now open, but class size is limited. The deadline to register is February 13 so reserve your spot today! For more information please call 405-522-0793.



National Register Nomination Grant applications available February 1

The State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO) announces its annual matching grants to state, local, and tribal governments and nonprofit organizations for the preparation of National Register of Historic Places (NRHP) nominations. The SHPO has reserved \$10,000 of its FY 2019 Historic Preservation Fund (HPF) allocation from the US Department of the Interior for the program. The funds will be equally divided for awards in two grant rounds, with any funds remaining from round one carried over for round two.

Applications and detailed instructions will be available from the SHPO on Friday, February 1. The deadline for round one applications is 5 p.m. on April 5, and the deadline for round two applications is 5 p.m. on June 7. Each grant is limited to \$1,000, and the applicant must provide a nonfederal, cash match of at least \$700. Grant recipients will use the grant funds and nonfederal match to retain an appropriately qualified professional to prepare a complete individual property nomination package for the NRHP. Applicants must be aware that \$1,700 (federal grant plus nonfederal match) is only an estimate of the cost for such projects and that more than the minimum \$700 nonfederal match may be necessary to cover the consultant fee. Consultants must consider the nature of the property proposed for nomination and many other factors as they develop their fee proposals.

The NRHP is the official list of our nation's significant buildings, structures, sites, districts, objects, and landscapes important in our past. While listing is not a guarantee of preservation or of financial assistance, the NRHP status of a property is often critical to the strategy for its preservation. The NRHP provides increased public awareness of these irreplaceable resources, provides limited protection for them, qualifies property owners for federal and state tax credits under certain circumstances, and may qualify the property owner for grant assistance when such programs are funded.

To obtain or submit an NRHP Nomination Grant application form, please visit www.okhistory.org/shpo/nrgrant.htm beginning February 1. You also can contact the SHPO at 405-521-6249. Information about the SHPO and its programs, including the NRHP, is available at www.okhistory.org/shpo.



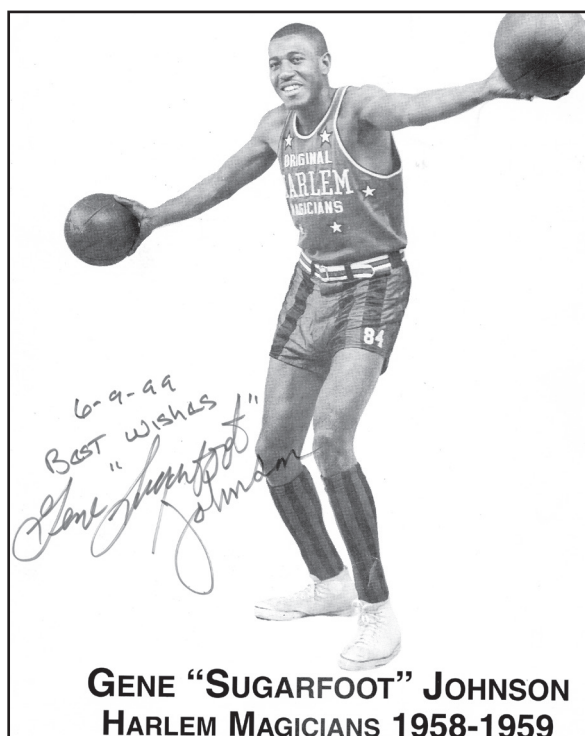
From the OHS Archives: The Gene "Sugarfoot" Johnson Collection

By Jan H. Richardson

Many Oklahomans may not know that the man behind the famous Harlem Magicians (Fabulous Magicians) basketball team, Marques Haynes, was from Sand Springs, Oklahoma. Haynes formed the Magicians after he left the Harlem Globetrotters following a falling out with team owner Abe Saperstein. Haynes recruited many of the star players for the Magicians from Oklahoma, including Gene "Sugarfoot" Johnson. Johnson was originally from Missouri, but spent his adult life in Tulsa and called it home. "Sugarfoot" was given his nickname for his skill in sliding across a basketball court wearing size 18 shoes. He played on traveling basketball teams for more than 20 seasons, and also spent time playing for a Negro League baseball team, the Brooklyn Cuban Giants. This collection provides a glimpse into the life of a professional African American athlete in the 1950s before the days of luxury travel and salaries to match. The collection includes newspaper articles about Johnson's career, examples of trading cards and autographed flyers from the time period, and Johnson's funeral programs.

The Gene "Sugarfoot" Johnson Collection (M2013.501, five legal folders) is available for viewing in the OHS Research Center Tuesday through Saturday from 10 a.m. to 4:45 p.m. The Research Center is located on the first floor of the Oklahoma History Center. For more information please call 405-522-5225 or email research@okhistory.org.

Jan H. Richardson is the processing archivist in the OHS Research Division's Manuscript Archives.



**GENE "SUGARFOOT" JOHNSON
HARLEM MAGICIANS 1958-1959**

Smoke Over Oklahoma exhibit at the Chisholm Trail Museum

The Chisholm Trail Museum in Kingfisher will host a traveling exhibit, *Smoke Over Oklahoma: The Railroad Photographs of Preston George*, from February 1 through May 31, 2019. This unique exhibit from the Oklahoma History Center features 1930s and 1940s images from the collection of railroad photographs taken by Preston George. George photographed trains in his spare time while working as a civil engineer in Colorado and Oklahoma.



Born in 1906 in Indian Territory, George's interest in trains began at an early age, but did not culminate into a full-fledged pastime until the 1930s when he said, "I ran across a copy of *Railroad Stories*, later renamed *Railroad Magazine*, and saw the many photos of locomotives and trains. This started me on a new hobby. . . . Soon, I was snapping still pictures of locomotives with a cheap Kodak camera and trading them far and wide with other fans."

The Chisholm Trail Museum and A. J. Seay Mansion are located at 605 Zellers Avenue in Kingfisher. The museum's regular hours of operation are Tuesday through Saturday from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. For more information please call 405-375-5176 or visit www.ctokmuseum.org.

Centennial Farm and Ranch program fee increase

On January 1, 2019, the Oklahoma Centennial Farm and Ranch program fees will increase. Increased costs in postage, printing, and sign materials have required the program coordinators to reevaluate associated fees. To continue providing the program to all of the amazing Centennial Farm and Ranch families in our state, the application fee will increase to \$25 and the sign fee will increase to \$75. The Oklahoma Centennial Farm and Ranch program staff thanks all of our Centennial Farm and Ranch families for their continued contributions to Oklahoma's heritage and its economy. If your property is eligible to receive a Centennial Farm or Ranch Award, visit www.okhistory.org/shpo/farmandranch.htm to download an application. You also may contact Shea Otley at 405-522-4485.

“Out of the Box” Kilgen Organ performance

The Oklahoma History Center will offer the first Kilgen Organ performance of the 2019 season entitled “Out of the Box” on Monday, February 11, from 7 to 8:30 p.m. in the Devon Great Hall. Doors will open at 6 p.m.

Appropriately named, this performance will offer selections and methods of presentation that are not usually associated with a theater organ program. The featured organist will be Nathan Avakian of New York City, accompanied vocally by his sister, Claire. Nathan will use a selection of modern silent shorts from the International Youth Silent Film Festival, and also will present modern solo organ numbers from his contemporary repertoire between the silent shorts. Utilizing additional technology, Nathan will play grand piano accompaniment while the digitally equipped Kilgen plays in the background.

Tickets are \$10 for OHS members and \$20 for the general public. For more information or to purchase tickets, please call 405-522-0765.

“Where They Went”

The Oklahoma History Center recently opened a photographic exhibit entitled “Where They Went”: *A Photographic History of Oklahoma Animals*. The title is extracted from a Will Rogers quote: “If there are no dogs in heaven, then when I die I want to go where they went.” The exhibit is comprised of 26 black-and-white images taken by Oklahoma photographers, and was made possible through the generous support of the Kirkpatrick Foundation. “Where They Went” opened last fall as a prelude to The ANIMAL Conference, held October 22–23 at the Skirvin Hilton Hotel in Oklahoma City. The conference is key to the Kirkpatrick Foundation’s commitment to make Oklahoma the safest and most humane place to be an animal by 2032. The exhibit may be viewed in the Cooper and Gladys West Atrium Wing and Gallery during regular hours, Monday through Saturday from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.



Milk for the barnyard cats, c. 1910 (19612.5, OHS Photograph Collection).

SHPO awards Citations of Merit

The Oklahoma State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO) presented its quarterly Citations of Merit for work in preserving the history of Oklahoma. There were 11 citations awarded for accomplishments in 9 Oklahoma communities. The award recognizes efforts to preserve Oklahoma’s historic properties through restoration, rehabilitation, research, planning, public programming, and other activities.

The October 2018 recipients of the SHPO’s Citations of Merit and their accomplishments are:

Crimson Investment Partners, LLC; Preservation and Design Studio, PLLC; and WDM Architects, P.A. for the rehabilitation of the 1926 Hotel Bell in downtown Alva

Texoma Building Services, LLC; Preservation and Design Studio, PLLC; and SDG Architects for the rehabilitation of the Dunbar School located in Atoka

Choctaw Nation Historic Preservation Department for the Waterhole Cemetery Restoration Project, which was completed in July 2018 and included the reset, restoration, and cleaning of headstones

Aldridge Housing Partners, LP; Preservation and Design Studio, PLLC; and Wallace Architects for the rehabilitation of the Aldridge Hotel in downtown McAlester

Newkirk Main Street, Newkirk Junior Main Street, and Newkirk Community Historical Society for their collaborative efforts to create the “Good Luck” card game featuring historic buildings in Newkirk

Townhouse, LLC and Gardner Architects for the rehabilitation of the 1933 Town House Hotel in Oklahoma City

Don Hollacher and Preservation and Design Studio, PLLC for the rehabilitation of the OG&E Electric Transformer House in Oklahoma City

Council House Landlord, LLC and Selser Schaefer Architects for the rehabilitation of the 1878 Creek National Capitol/Creek Council House in downtown Okmulgee

Hess Townhomes, LLC for the rehabilitation of the McBrayer Building in downtown Okmulgee

LW Development, LLC; Preservation and Design Studio, PLLC; and SDG Architects for the rehabilitation of the Oakdale School in Oakland

Wiggin Properties, LLC and KKT Architects for the rehabilitation of the 1913 Palace Clothiers Building in Tulsa

For more information about the Citation of Merit recipients or the SHPO’s awards programs, please call 405-521-6249. You also may visit www.okhistory.org/shpo/shpoawards.htm.

Helicopter Missions: Vietnam Firefight film

The Oklahoma History Center is pleased to announce the showing of *Helicopter Missions: Vietnam Firefight* on Saturday, January 19, from 1 to 3 p.m. The program will be moderated by former Huey helicopter pilot and retired Captain Bob Ford. This special event is included with regular admission to the museum.

Helicopter Missions: Vietnam Firefight tells the story of one of the most dangerous helicopter missions of the war. A company of more than 100 South Vietnamese soldiers, led by US Special Forces, had just been ambushed and surrounded by more than 600 North Vietnamese soldiers. The only escape would be by helicopter; only two Huey helicopters were able to answer the call, and they were unarmed. To add to the dire situation, there was no place to land in the 40-foot-high bamboo. They decided to use the blades of their helicopters to chop their own landing zone. After five trips, they managed to rescue every single survivor. This episode of the Smithsonian Channel series *Helicopter Missions* is directed by Richard Max, a freelance director and producer with more than 15 years of experience overseeing all stages of production. For more information please call 405-522-0765 or visit www.okhistory.org/historycenter.



Oklahoma History Center announces partnership

The Oklahoma History Center recently partnered with Edmond Public Schools to provide professional development training in the use of primary sources for research and inquiry. This partnership was made possible through a grant awarded to Edmond Public Schools by the Oklahoma Department of Education as part of its Champions of Excellence program. The training took place at specified locations in the Edmond Public Schools district and utilized museum educators and archivists to train 153 teachers on social study concepts focusing on Oklahoma and United States history.

In addition to educator instruction, History Center staff will provide the History Alive Outreach Program to all 17 elementary schools in the Edmond Public Schools system. Based on primary source research, living history interpreters will visit classrooms and bring history to life for all students, covering topics from American colonial days to World War II. An estimated 12,461 students will be impacted by this program. Please call 405-522-0785 for more information.

Rehabilitation of the military hospital at Fort Gibson Historic Site

OHS Executive Director Dr. Bob Blackburn is pleased to announce that work has started on Phase II of the rehabilitation of the military hospital at Fort Gibson Historic Site.

“This phase of the project seeks to return the hospital to its 1870s appearance. This has been a goal of the OHS since the 1980s, and we are finally close to making it a reality,” said Kathy Dickson, OHS director of museums and historic sites. Before the OHS acquired the property in the early 1980s, the hospital was a private residence for more than 70 years.

“The building has long sat vacant on the historic site,” continued Dickson, “but this project will allow us to relocate the visitor center from the old commissary building to the hospital. The hospital will become the central point of entry for visitors to the site and will offer new exhibits, restrooms, and a gift shop along with office space for the staff.”

“Repairs are focusing on rehabilitating the exterior and interior of the building and the reconstruction of several key components of the hospital such as the kitchen wing and the wraparound porch,” said Rillis Howard, OHS director of construction and maintenance. “A north wing pavilion will provide an exterior gathering space. Though the space will not be enclosed, it will show visitors the original footprint of the building.”

The first phase of the work on the hospital, completed in 2017, addressed problems with the building’s structural integrity and gave the building a much-needed new roof. Preliminary plans are underway for Phase III, which will include the construction of a parking lot and large restroom facility.

Zenith Construction of Tahlequah was awarded the construction contract. Zenith Construction previously worked with the OHS on the construction of the Visitor Center at Honey Springs Battlefield in Checotah.

Funds for the project were provided through the State of Oklahoma’s maintenance of state buildings revolving fund managed by the Long-Range Capital Planning Commission and OHS through maintenance funds.

Work on the new interior exhibits will start as soon as construction is completed, which is expected to be in late 2019. Once the exhibits are completed in the hospital, work will begin on new exhibits for the commissary building. Here, the OHS plans to focus exhibits on feeding the army and returning the interior of the building to the appearance of a commissary.

Fort Gibson Historic Site, a National Historic Landmark, is located at 907 North Garrison Avenue in Fort Gibson. The site is open Tuesday through Saturday from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. For more information about the site, please call 918-478-4088, email fortgibson@okhistory.org, or visit www.okhistory.org/fortgibson.



Smithsonian Affiliations
Membership Program

Antique Doll exhibit at the Fred Drummond Home

The Fred Drummond Home in Hominy will host an exhibit of antique dolls throughout the entire month of February. The exhibit will feature a wide array of German-made dolls, including dolls by Armand Marseille, Kestner, and Koppelsdorf. There also will be a large group of china and porcelain dolls. Of course, paper dolls will be included too. Along with the beautiful dolls on display, visitors will be able to learn about the history of various dolls. If you are a doll collector, an avid doll lover, or a mother or grandmother with a special little girl or girls who love dolls, your visit, you are encouraged to tour the rest of the beautiful, historic Drummond Home. The three-story, Victorian-style house was built in 1905 and is listed on the National Register of Historic Places.

The antique doll exhibit is included with the regular admission fee. Admission is \$7 for adults, \$5 for seniors ages 62 and older, \$4 for students, and free for children five and under. As always, OHS members receive free admission. Regular hours of operation are Wednesday through Saturday from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., and Sunday from 1 to 5 p.m. For more information please call 918-885-2374. The Fred Drummond Home is located at 305 North Price Avenue in Hominy.

