Ghost town exhibit at the Oklahoma Route 66 Museum

Beginning in January 2014, the Oklahoma Route 66 Museum will host an exhibit entitled Ghost Towns: Phantoms of 66. This exhibit will focus on the communities of the Mother Road that have become victims of time and circumstance. The exhibit will be on display through May.

When thinking of a ghost town, what comes to mind: abandoned buildings that are about to collapse, cow skulls, tumbleweeds, and business signs that have fallen down? While traveling Route 66, this and much more can be seen in almost every state the Mother Road crosses. But what caused this to happen? Numerous towns along Route 66, created by a rise in agriculture, mining, or the arrival of the railroad, did not have the ability to sustain their longevity. Route 66’s birth in 1926 provided an economic lifeline for these communities, but this prosperity was short-lived for most. The establishment of the Interstate Highway System and bypassing of Route 66 compounded this problem for many waning towns. Even though most are virtually nonexistent, the ghost towns on Route 66 are still vital to the culture and identity of the Mother Road. This exhibit highlights the history of Oklahoma’s ghost towns located on the Main Street of America. There also will be information about the ghost towns spanning from Illinois to California along Route 66.

This special exhibit can be viewed at the Oklahoma Route 66 Museum in Clinton from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Mondays through Saturdays and 1 to 5 p.m. on Sundays. The museum will be closed on Sundays and Mondays in December and January. The museum will also be closed for the first two weeks of January. For additional information, please contact the Route 66 Museum at (580) 323-7866 or by email at rt66mus@okhistory.org.

Beginning quilting class

Learn the history and techniques for hand quilting at the Oklahoma History Center on Saturday, January 25. The class will run from 1 to 4 p.m. Students will practice hand quilting using a rocking stitch on a provided quilt frame and printed quilt top. Class size is limited and registration is required. Ages thirteen and up are welcome and previous quilting experience is not required. Cost for the class is $100 and students will each take home a project and a new quilt frame.

For more information or to register for the class email education@okhistory.org or call (405) 522-3602.

Printmaking class

Join the Oklahoma History Center on January 11 from 1 to 4 p.m. to explore modern impressionism in Oklahoma through the art of printmaking. Class participants will craft two prints using the technique of monoprinting.

The cost for the class is $60 and includes all materials and tools needed to participate. Registration is required and seating is limited.

For more information or to register for the class please email education@okhistory.org or call (405) 522-3602.

New historic maps available at the OHS Research Center

The OHS John and Eleanor Research Center has expanded its selection of historic maps to include a few more from Indian Territory. The map shown here is an 1879 Indian Territory map and is a rare issue from Rand McNally. This was found in an Oklahoma history book, folded and encased in a fiber envelope. However, one of most interesting facts about this map is that it was the only one during this era that did not have an advertisement on it (e.g., lineament, clothes, etc.).

This is just one of the several historic maps offered by the Research Center. Go to the OHS home page, click on “Research Center” and then click on “Order Historic Images” to view a few of these. For more information, call (405) 522-5225 or email research@okhistory.org.

Civil War book published to benefit OHS Research

The Friends of the Oklahoma Historical Society Archives, Inc. (FOHSA) is pleased to announce the publication of When the Wolf Came: The Civil War and the Indian Territory, by Mary Jane Warde, Ph.D. Published by the University of Arkansas Press at Fayetteville, this work, “explores how the war . . . involved almost every resident, killed many civilians as well as soldiers, left the country stripped and devastated, and cost Indian nations millions of acres of land.” This work provides a fresh perspective using little used and unpublished resources, and records from the Cherokee, Choctaw, and Muscogee-Creek nations. The proceeds of the book will benefit the FOHSA.
Development News

by Larry O’Dell

Oklahoma Historical Society members can renew their memberships online by visiting https://www.ok.gov/okhistory/store/app/membership.php. You also can access this new feature by visiting www.okhistory.org and navigating to the page by clicking on the “Support OHS” tab. Hopefully this option will make the renewal process quicker and easier for everybody. Of course we will continue to accept memberships and renewals through the postal service and by phone at (405) 522-5242 or (1-800) 750-4090.

The online option also works for those seeking to become members. At http://www.okhistory.org/support/membership.php, a person can see our different membership levels and then easily join. For those looking to give the gift of Oklahoma history, you can select a gift membership and order that online as well. Another exciting possibility with our new online functions is the ability to accept donations for the OHS via the internet. To give to your choice of OHS programs and sites you can go to http://www.okhistory.org/support/giving. If you have any questions or comments, please feel free to call (405) 522-6676. We hope our new online capabilities make the renewal and giving processes much easier.

In the past, we have helped with the conservation and display of the original State Constitution, and for a centennial project we assisted with the editing, publication, and release of a history of the Constitution.

We have designed, fabricated, and programmed museum exhibits with both the Oklahoma Department of Transportation and the Oklahoma Department of Wildlife Conservation.

The ODOT exhibit commemorates the one hundredth anniversary of legislative authorization for the state to build roads. The wildlife exhibit traced the history of outdoor recreation and conservation as well as the efforts of the Wildlife Department to foster both. We are still looking for ways to extend the life of both exhibits.

We have worked with the Highway Patrol and the Oklahoma State Bureau of Investigation to preserve collections and promote a better understanding of public safety. Artifacts formerly stored at the DPS training center are now in our collections and available for an upcoming exhibit about law enforcement. The OSBI has transferred hundreds of reels of microfiche to us to scan into a digital format for greater access.

Other partnerships include working with the Governor’s Office to stage Septemberfest each Labor Day, collaborating with the State Arts Council to promote public art, assisting the Conservation Commission with commemorating the CCC and pioneer soil conservation efforts, and providing a series of articles about banking to the Oklahoma Banking Department. The list could go on.

Yes, it feels good to be wanted, especially when it expands and strengthens our ability to serve the people of our great state.

New members November, 2013

*Indicates renewed memberships at a higher level

Director’s Circle

*Trasan and Aerial Akers, Oklahoma City
*Allen Harris, Oklahoma City
Home Creations, Moore

Fellow

*Jackie and Robert Poe, Tulsa

Associate

*Richard and Barbara Beegert, Oklahoma City
*Dr. and Mrs. Robert S. Ellis, Oklahoma City
*Mark Landguith, La Jolla, CA
*Dale and Phyllis Regier, Yukon
Gordon and Mary Jane Richards, Shawnee

Friend

Donald and Freddie Hodges, Dallas, TX
*Jean Huling, Oklahoma City
*Al Kiedaisch and Barbara Slagle, Tulsa
*Lillian Larwig, Oklahoma City
*William and Patricia Ross, Tulsa
James Thomas, Tulsa
*Sallie Upchurch, Norman

Family

Jim and Yolanda Baird, Edmond
Gregory and Mary Helen Blake, Knoxville, TN
Steve and Sharon Bowers, Guthrie
*Virginia Burlingame and Suzanne Beree, Tulsa
*Larry Christy, Okmulgee
*Robert and Barbara Conrad, Tulsa
Loretta Cowger, Edmond
*Denny Cresap, Afton
Sandra Dean, Edmond
David and Ruth Edger, Choctaw
*Les Gilliam, Ponca City
Daniel Keating, Tulsa
Loretta Kilpatrick, Wagoner
*Duane and Judy Kranz, Oklahoma City
James and Jan Loftis, Nichols Hills
*Dean and Elizabeth Loshbaugh, Tulsa
Robert and Julie Mallory, Tecumseh
*Cindy McCurry, Edmond
*Albert and Linda Myers, Pryor
Trevor and Beth Toivonen, Yukon
Stan Tucker and Michel Dermott, Fort Worth, TX
*Linda Vassar, Edmond

cont’d. on p. 7
Events

Come out and witness bald eagles displaying their grace and beauty during the Arcadia Lake Eagle Watch from January 3 to 5. Dress warmly, bring your binoculars, and embark on an adventure around the lake’s twenty-six miles of picturesque shoreline. All eagle watches will begin at the Arcadia Lake park office, where visitors will receive information about where the eagles can be found. The park office also features an impressive raptor wingspan display, videos, and other great information about eagles. The lake staff will be available to assist the public in finding and viewing the eagles at this annual Arcadia Lake Eagle Watch. For more information, call (504) 265-8830. (travelok.com)

Come out and enjoy gospel and traditional bluegrass music during the Western Hills Winter Bluegrass Festival at Sequoyah State Park in Wagoner. Held from January 16 to 18, this bluegrass festival is a display of musical talent with bands showcasing their skills on the fiddle, banjo, and guitar. Bring your favorite instrument and participate in jam sessions. A variety of musical workshops will also be held throughout the festival, so get your ticket or a three-day pass and brush up on your bluegrass skills. Workshops on all bluegrass stringed instruments will be held Friday afternoon. Visitors must have a ticket to participate in all events. Stick around each night for concerts. For more information, call (405) 273-8578. (travelok.com)

Make your way to the Oklahoma Winter Quilt Show in Oklahoma City from January 9 to 11 to learn, shop, and get great ideas about quilting. This quilt show includes numerous vendors, seminars, demonstrations, workshops, make-and-take-it projects, stage presentations, a quilt contest, and more. Admire hundreds of beautiful quilts on display at the Oklahoma Winter Quilt Show, and be inspired by their creative, stunning designs. Quilting experts and novices alike will enjoy this event. For more information, call (775) 971-9266. (travelok.com)

Travel to Muskogee on January 17 and 18 for the Dr. Martin Luther King Soul Food Cook-Off to feast on mouthwatering soul food dishes such as sweet potato pie, collard greens, homemade yeast rolls, black-eyed peas, and hot water cornbread. Browse through booths of soul food and taste the delectable creations of amazing area cooks. The event features various cooks competing in different categories to create the most delicious soul food dish. Attendees will vote for their favorite and judges will award the grand prize. Make your way to this event to learn from the seasoned cooks in the crowd and rediscover the comfort of soul food. The event will occur at the Muskogee Civic Center. For more information, call (918) 684-6364. (travelok.com)

Watch as ropers show off their skills at Ultimate Calf Roping event on January 18 and 19, held at the Stephens County Fair and Expo Center in Duncan. The best of the best will be on hand to lasso and tie as quickly as possible, competing against each other’s times. See all the fast-paced action of Ultimate Calf Roping, and cheer on your favorite ropin’ riders. For more information, call (580) 255-3231. (travelok.com)

The Trail Dance Film Festival in Duncan on January 24 and 25 will showcase independent filmmakers from around the globe and introduce them to Oklahoma’s emerging film industry. Come to this film festival to witness as these talented filmmakers showcase their achievements in film. The festival features films of all types and genres, including animated, action, comedy, documentary, drama, horror, and more. Festivities are open to the public and include live entertainment, professional seminars, and networking opportunities. The Trail Dance Film Festival concludes with an awards gala where twenty-six Golden Drover Awards are presented to worthy filmmakers, and one lucky student is awarded a scholarship to pursue a career in filmmaking. For more information, call (580) 467-8519. (travelok.com)

Two days of family fun waits at the Kiwanis Karnival in Elk City on January 31 and February 1. For two evenings each winter, the Elk City Convention Center turns into a comfortable indoor carnival full of games. Children can test their skills at a wide variety of booths, including ring toss, skeeball, and basketball. Concessions will also be available. For more information, call (580) 225-0207. (travelok.com)

The Tulsa Indian Art Festival is a cultural celebration of the American Indian. Come to this annual event from January 31 to February 2 to enjoy a fine art show, cultural exhibitions, traditional dancing, entertainment, storytelling, and much more. The art market is open to the public and features a wide assortment of traditional and contemporary American Indian art. Browse through educational exhibits or feast on American Indian food. The Tulsa Indian Art Festival will host approximately seventy-five nationally recognized painters, potters, bead workers, and cultural designers who will gather at the Glenpool Conference Center. Art demonstrations will be held at designated times for those desiring a more intense experience. For more information, call (918) 298-2300. (travelok.com)

Do you want to have your organization’s meeting, event, or exhibit featured in the “Around Oklahoma” section of the Mistletoe Leaves? The “Around Oklahoma” section features Oklahoma history and heritage-related activities or programs sponsored by entities other than the Oklahoma Historical Society. To submit news items, please contact Tabatha Toney, assistant editor, by email at toney@okhistory.org or mail at 800 Nazih Zuhdi Drive, Oklahoma City, OK 73105, during the first week of the month before you wish a news item to appear. For example, if you wish a news item to appear in our February issue, please send it to our editors by the first week of January. Thank you for your submissions.
OHS ACTIVITIES AND EXHIBITS

Every effort has been made to list accurate information as available. Other events may be added throughout the year. Check the monthly issues of Mistletoes Leaves for additions, corrections, and expanded articles.

Some events require registration or admission fees. Registration is limited for some workshops and seminars. Some events sponsored by the OHS are held at sites rather than at the property on which the OHS office or museum is located.

Please visit the “Calendar of Events” tab on the OHS website, www.okhistory.org, or contact the listed site to verify dates, hours, exact location, admission fees, and other relevant information.

January
1-31 Oklahoma @ the Movies exhibit, Oklahoma History Center, Oklahoma City
1-31 Ghost Towns: Phantoms of 66 exhibit, Route 66 Museum, Clinton
11 Printmaking class, Oklahoma History Center, Oklahoma City
11 Quilting workshop, Sod House Museum, Aline

Oklahoma History Center
20, 21 Vernal Equinox Walks, Spiro Mounds Archaeological Center, Spiro
22 Fourth Annual Cowboy Roundup, Oklahoma History Center, Oklahoma City
28 Third Annual April Fools Competitive Shoot Fundraiser, Cherokee Strip Regional Heritage Center, Enid
29 Beginning tatting class, Oklahoma History Center, Oklahoma City
29 “Born to Freedom” Allan Houser gallery walk, Oklahoma History Center, Oklahoma City

February
1-28 Oklahoma @ the Movies exhibit, Oklahoma History Center, Oklahoma City
1-28 Ghost Towns: Phantoms of 66 exhibit, Route 66 Museum, Clinton
1 Milliners class, Oklahoma History Center, Oklahoma City
8 Quilting workshop, Sod House Museum, Aline
8 Victorian Valentines and Tea, Oklahoma History Center, Oklahoma City
11 Weaving and spinning demonstration, Pioneer Woman Museum, Ponca City

March
1-31 Oklahoma @ the Movies exhibit, Oklahoma History Center, Oklahoma City
15 Traditional candlemaking class, Oklahoma History Center, Oklahoma City
15 Black History Month gallery tour, Oklahoma History Center, Oklahoma City
15 Murrell Home living history event, George M. Murrell Home, Park Hill
20 Black History Month panel discussion, Oklahoma History Center, Oklahoma City
20 Historical timeline and education event, Fort Towson Historic Site, Fort Towson
21-23 Fort Towson Rendezvous, Fort Towson Historic Site, Fort Towson
22 Beginning cross-stitch class, Oklahoma History Center, Oklahoma City
22 Family Treasures Workshop, textiles and photographs, Cherokee Strip Regional Heritage Center, Enid
28 Trappings of the Cherokee Strip: Show of Fine Western Art and Custom Cowboy Gear art show, Cherokee Strip Regional Heritage Center, Enid

April
1-30 Oklahoma @ the Movies exhibit, Oklahoma History Center, Oklahoma City
1-30 Ghost Towns: Phantoms of 66 exhibit, Route 66 Museum, Clinton
1-30 Lincoln and the Constitution exhibit, Cherokee Strip Regional Heritage Center, Enid
2-6 Fur Trade Rendezvous, Fort Washita Historic Site, Durant
5 Cherokee pottery class, Oklahoma History Center, Oklahoma City
8 Brown bag craft class, Pioneer Woman Museum, Ponca City
January - June 2013

8 Weaving and spinning demonstration, Pioneer Woman Museum, Ponca City
12 Quilting workshop, Sod House Museum, Aline
17 Historic Preservation Review Committee meeting, Oklahoma History Center, Oklahoma City
19 Murrell Home living history event, George M. Murrell Home, Park Hill
19 Pinewood wagon race, Oklahoma History Center, Oklahoma City
19 Lion’s Club Annual Easter Egg Hunt, Pawnee Bill Ranch, Pawnee
20 Sunrise Service and Friends of the Pawnee Bill Ranch Easter Breakfast fundraiser, Pawnee Bill Ranch, Pawnee
23-25 OHS Annual Membership Meeting, Stillwater Community Center, Stillwater
26 Dutch oven cooking class, Oklahoma History Center, Oklahoma City
26 “Germans from Russia in South America: New Research Frontiers,” presentation by Dr. Eric Schmalz, Sod House Museum, Aline

May
1-31 Oklahoma @ the Movies exhibit, Oklahoma History Center, Oklahoma City
1-31 Ghost Towns: Phantoms of 66 exhibit, Route 66 Museum, Clinton
2 Ladies Victorian Tea and Brunch, Cherokee Strip Regional Heritage Center, Enid
2 Education Day, George M. Murrell Home, Park Hill
3 1800s Lawn Social, George M. Murrell Home, Park Hill
7, 8 Oklahoma State National History Day contest, Oklahoma History Center, Oklahoma City

June
1-30 Oklahoma @ the Movies exhibit, Oklahoma History Center, Oklahoma City
1-30 Bound to Please exhibit, Cherokee Strip Regional Heritage Center, Enid
1-29 University of Oklahoma Field School Excavations, Spiro Mounds Archaeological Center, Spiro
4-6 Oklahoma’s Twenty-Sixth Annual Statewide Preservation Conference, Norman
5, 12, 19, 26 Okietales children’s reading program, Oklahoma History Center, Oklahoma City
7 Advanced finger weaving class, Oklahoma History Center, Oklahoma City
7-8 Fort Towson Homecoming and Pony Express Race, Fort Towson Historic Site, Fort Towson
10 Brown bag craft class, Pioneer Woman Museum, Ponca City
13, 14 Pawnee Bill’s Original Wild West Show, Pawnee Bill Ranch, Pawnee
20, 21 Summer Solstice Walks, Spiro Mounds Archaeological Center, Spiro
21 Southeastern beadwork II class, Oklahoma History Center, Oklahoma City
21 Murrell Home living history event, George M. Murrell Home, Park Hill

Historic Preservation Review Committee

The regular quarterly meeting of the Historic Preservation Review Committee (HPRC) will be held on January 16 at 1:30 p.m. The HPRC will meet in the LeRoy H. Fischer Boardroom in the Oklahoma History Center at 800 Nazih Zuhdi Drive in Oklahoma City. The public is invited to attend. If you are a person with a disability and require an accommodation, please contact Melvena Heisch at (405) 522-4484 or mheisch@okhistory.org by noon on the Wednesday before the meeting, so arrangements can be made.

Weaving and spinning demonstration

On January 14 the Pioneer Woman Museum will host free weaving and spinning demonstrations. The museum is located at 701 Monument Road in Ponca City and is open Tuesdays through Saturdays from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Find more information on Pioneer Woman Facebook page or contact the museum at (580) 765-6108.

Joan Galbraith at a demonstration

Pawnee Bill Wild West Show
Online store for OHS now open

The OHS is proud to announce the opening of an online store. Now you can shop from the comfort of your own home.

Items available for purchase online include books published by the OHS, such as *Oklahoma @ the Movies* and *The Encyclopedia of Oklahoma History and Culture*, as well as back issues of *The Chronicles of Oklahoma*. Other books on all aspects of Oklahoma history are available as well.

Prints of maps and photographs can be viewed and purchased. These are divided into the categories American Indians, buildings, historic Oklahoma, and Oklahoma City. Other types of orders from the OHS Research Center are available online.

To shop the online store, visit our webpage www.okhistory.org and click “Store” at the top of the page or go directly to https://www.ok.gov/okhistory/store/app/index.php. For more information, contact (405) 522-5214.

Wiley Post and the *Winnie Mae* airplane, one of the photos available for purchase.

*The Encyclopedia of Oklahoma History and Culture*

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

The retail price is $100 for the set, plus shipping and handling. OHS members receive a 15 percent discount, and institutions may also qualify for discounts. For purchase or more information, contact the Museum Store at 405/522-5214 or giftshop@okhistory.org.
New members, cont’d.

Individual

Judy Barker, Norman
Kenneth Barnes, Fort Worth, TX
Clifton Brown, Finley
Weston Cain, Bunch
Margaret Carlie, Warner
Alex Cummings, Pryor
Athel Dawes, Sapulpa
Pamela Doak, Canton
James Edwards, Comanche
Denzel Fisher, Shawnee, OK
Megan Fisher, Haskell
Teresa Ford, Ardmore
Marzella Freeman, Atoka
Rachel Frost, Idabel
Garrett Groom, Poteau
Kathleen Holt, Broken Arrow
Diana Jensen, Mobile, AL
Patricia Jones, Oklahoma City
Deidre Kay, Lindsay
Daniel Keller, Moore
Earlene King, Oklahoma City
Kita King, Joplin
Lawrence Loftis, Ratliff City
Mitchell Loudermilk, Madill
Craig Margo, Oklahoma City
Kelly May, Helena
Mike McAuliffe, Oklahoma City
Shawn McCully, Muskogee
Jo Ann McKinney, Tulsa
Jack Medley, Kingston
Donna Meeks, Idabel
James Milligan, Weleetka
Page Morales, Muskogee
Juan Monoz, Enid
Craig Newburn, Sand Springs
Devon Pereira, sulphur
Kyre Petties, Lawton
Harold Ransome, Kingfisher
Richard Rea, Eufaula
Gary Richards, Mena, AR
Jane Roberts, Bristow
Alexandra Sanchez, Lawton
Jason Sanchez, Edmond
Brittany Soile, Broken Arrow
Elizabeth Steele, Eufaula
Scott Stidham, Sapulpa
Stewart Stidham, Choctah
Louise Stocks, Idabel
Janice Strain, Vaillant
Sarah Summerlin, Rose
Jerry Tims, Idabel
William Walls, Broken Bow
Jacob Weinberg, Lawton
John West, Elk City
Keith Williams, Dallas, TX
Christopher Yang, Ardmore

Organizational

Circe Cinema, Tulsa
Eastern Oklahoma District Library System, Muskogee
El Reno Carnegie Library, El Reno
Locust Grove Public Library, Locust Grove
Oklahoma African American Education Hall of Fame, Inc., Clearview
Puterbaugh School, McAlester
Skiatook Museum, Skiatook
Wandering Orange Backpack LLC, Norman
XXII CENTURY MILLIEU, LP, Oklahoma City

Twenty-year members renew in November

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

Paul Eichling, Prague, November 1, 1965
Ada Public Library, Ada, October 1, 1972
University of Cincinnati, Cincinnati, OH, October 1, 1972
Virginia Jimenez, Oklahoma City, November 1, 1973
Arthur Salsbury, Tulsa, November 1, 1973
University of Central Oklahoma Acquisitions, Edmond, December 9, 1973
James Lazlizer, Norman, June 1, 1975
Jim McCurtain, Beaumont, TX, June 1, 1975
Los Angeles Public Library, Los Angeles, CA, December 1, 1976
Darlene Shaw, Norman, September 1, 1977
Eugene Earsom, Oklahoma City, November 1, 1977
Carolyn Hanneman, Norman, August 1, 1979
Kenneth and Lois Stern, Stillwater, September 1, 1979
Dale and Phyllis Regier, Yukon, September 1, 1980
Stephen Schuster, Stafford, TX, September 1, 1984
Abilene Christian University, Abilene, TX, September 1, 1986
Northeast Campus L R C, Tulsa, December 1, 1985
Okmulgee Public Library, Okmulgee, June 16, 1986
Robert Streets, Bethany, August 1, 1986
Steve and Susan Kline, Fort Worth, TX, September 24, 1986
Pawhuska County Historical Society, Pawhuska, October 15, 1986
Bob Hammons, Sallisaw, October 20, 1986
John Lillbridge, Gaithersburg, MD, October 30, 1986
Fred and Joyce Lucas, Watonga, October 31, 1986
Tim Morgan, Norman, November 4, 1986
Sondra Morrison, Oklahoma City, Oklahoma June 4, 1986
Pat Sharpe, Edmond, November 6, 1986
David Lee, Centennial, CO, November 17, 1986
Shirley Carter, Ardmore, November 24, 1986
Joyce Warner, Weatherford, November 25, 1986
Mike and Carol Compton, Yukon, September 25, 1987
Steve and Dena Wagner, Trinidad, CO, October 16, 1987
Dennis and Carol Steichen, Perry, November 5, 1987
Luann Waters, Wynnewood, October 27, 1988
Gene Ratcliff, Edmond, November 8, 1988
Charles Smith, Yukon, June 20, 1990
Monty Williams, Enid, November 14, 1990
Vernon and Laveline Stricker, Woodward, November 27, 1990
Bank of Western Oklahoma, Elk City, February 19, 1991
David Moore, Columbia, MO, September 2, 1992
Bil Kezar, Beddensford, CA, October 15, 1992
Emma Moore, Vinita, November 19, 1992
J. D. and Jane Boyer, Pond Creek, November 20, 1992
Chester Grimm, Tablequah, January 8, 1993
Charles and Linda Zeeck, Oklahoma City, October 18, 1993
Larry Christy, Okmulgee, November 3, 1993

New film collections available from OHS Research

OHS staff has been working hard to digitize historical films about Oklahoma in the collections to make them available to the public. New films are constantly being added. Below are some of the notable film collections currently available.

The Ramsey Collection: Arthur Ramsey was a newsreel cameraman in Oklahoma City during the 1930s. His footage includes scenes of the events and people of that critical decade in Oklahoma history, much of the footage with sound.

The Haskell Pruett Collection: Haskell Pruett worked at Oklahoma A&M for many years. His hobby of taking 16mm motion photography encompassed many of the agricultural interests of the college.

The years included in his collection extend from the mid-1920s until the latter half of the twentieth century.


Some of these films are available online on the OHS YouTube Channel at http://www.youtube.com/user/OHSfilm. Those not yet available online can be viewed at the OHS Research Center in the Oklahoma History Center at 800 Nazih Zuhdi Drive in Oklahoma City. Admission to the library is free and hours for viewing are 10 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. on Mondays through Saturdays. For more information, contact (405) 522-5225 or okresearch@okhistory.org.

Collection of maps at Waynoka

The Waynoka Historical Society was given a valuable collection of original maps and architectural drawings of the Santa Fe rail yards at Waynoka by Waynoka alumnus Mac Silvertooth. Silvertooth rescued them from the railroad’s trash when the railroad was disposing of them. There are more than three hundred pieces in the collection. Some are on linen, but most are on paper. The oldest dates to the 1880s and is a drawing of the proposed line through Waynoka, even identifying a location as “a nail in a tree.” The Waynoka Historical Society received a grant from a railroad historic preservation organization to pay for the scanning. The digitized maps will be on CDs and may be purchased at the Waynoka Museum Gift Shop when the project is completed. They will be useful both to historians and model railroad enthusiasts. For more information, call (580) 824-1886.

Follow the OHS on Facebook and Twitter

Want more information about events, exhibits, programs, archives, workshops, photos, and interesting stories daily? Follow us on Facebook at https://www.facebook.com/okhistory and Twitter at @okhistory.

William D. Welge, Director of the American Indian Cultural Preservation Office, Carol King, and Sandie Olson load the maps to be sent for digitizing. (Photo by Ken Higgins)
New film collections online

The Oklahoma History Center Research Division has received and digitized an important new in its film archives. Spanning nearly thirty years, the WKY, KTVY, and KFOR Film Collection contains the photojournalistic historical record of the state of Oklahoma from 1953 to 1979. In these three decades the face of the nation and Oklahoma changed dramatically, and the footage contained in the approximately eight thousand film reels tells the story. Through news footage, documentaries, and television specials these archives capture a rare audio/visual view into Oklahoma’s past.

Each film has been digitized in high definition video, fully described, and given context where available using the archives of the Oklahoman newspaper. This makes the archives more accessible and easier to search for the public and researchers alike. KFOR and the Oklahoma Historical Society are proud to make these films available. New films will be added weekly.

To watch, go to http://www.youtube.com/user/kforarchives. For more information, contact the OHS Research Division at (405) 522-5225 or research@okhistory.org.

Updates to the Sod House Museum

Staff at the Sod House Museum have been working hard to update the museum to create a new and better experience for visitors. New displays have been completed at the museum and sound added to exhibits. In the front gallery of the museum is a sod plow, known as a steel beam rod breaking plow, that gradually turned over a furrow slice without crumbling it. Visitors can now learn how the sod plow worked in plowing strips of sod to be cut into blocks for building a home. Many visitors do not realize the difference between a sod plow and a moldboard plow, and the changes here offer visitors the opportunity to learn.

The history of plowing and planting by the early day farmer is now on display in the museum. The new additions will show visitors the moldboard plow and the different types of furrow slices it could plow when cultivating the land. Along with a timeline of planting devices used by the farmers, there are other implements such as hand planters, a broadcasting planter, and a six row walking drill.

New lighting and sound around the sod house is another addition. The old fluorescent lights were removed with new spotlighting added, allowing visitors a full view of the sod house. The sound of farm animals, thunder, and the Oklahoma winds were added, making visitors feel like they have stepped back in time when walking through the Sod House Museum.

Come and see the new displays, hear the sounds of the farm, and enjoy your stroll through Oklahoma’s sod house that turns 115 years old this year. The Sod House Museum is located in Aline and is open Tuesdays through Saturdays from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. For more information, call (580) 463-2441 or email sodhouse@okhistory.org.