



## Fort Gibson Historic Site to salute Old Glory on Independence Day 2007

Join a red, white, and blue salute to our nation's birthday! Fort Gibson Historic Site will present "An 1840s Independence Day" on Wednesday, July 4, 2007. This living history event will show visitors how the Fourth of July was observed at an 1840s army post.

Members of the Sixth Infantry Living History Association will do infantry and artillery drill, including firing demonstrations. At noon there will be a reading of the Declaration of Independence, followed by a

cannon salute. Troops will demonstrate games and pastimes of the period, and visitors are welcome to participate.

Living history activities will take place in the log fort area of the site from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m., when the site closes. Living history will resume at the Fort Gibson school complex later that evening, and the troops will present the colors at the Fort Gibson town fireworks display.

Admission is \$3 for adults, \$2.50 for seniors (65 and over), and \$1 for students (ages 6–18); children 5 and under are admitted free. Fort Gibson Historic Site is located on State Highway 80 in Fort Gibson, Oklahoma. For more information, contact Chris Morgan or David Fowler at 918/478-4088. The Fort's e-mail address is <fortgibson@okhistory.org>.

### Endowment Fund established by OHS Board of Directors

This June the members of the Board of Directors of the Oklahoma Historical Society announced that they have established a Board of Directors Endowment Fund. "This leadership by board members in the Historical Society's fund-raising efforts to build an endowment is greatly appreciated by the staff and membership," said Dr. Tim Zwink, OHS Development Director.

To date, 100 percent of the OHS board members have made donations or pledges totaling \$7,500. This is a great accomplishment, and the board are to be commended for their generosity, Zwink added.

These leadership donations and pledges greatly assist the OHS as it works toward a primary fund-raising goal—building an endowment. This endowment is tremendously important because it will benefit many future generations of Oklahomans by providing a source for resources for OHS collections acquisitions, exhibit development, and education programming.

In addition, the contributions by the board members provide important support for OHS grant-seeking efforts. Grant makers often want to see a substantial level of support from the applicant's board members before they will make a commitment of grant funds. Through the Board of Directors Endowment Fund program, the board has provided essential leverage for OHS's grant applications.

"Once again, I thank our board members for their wonderful leadership and assistance in our fund-raising efforts in general and in our endowment campaign in particular. Their help is invaluable," said Zwink.

OHS members who would like information on how to donate to the ongoing endowment campaign or to other fund-raising programs may contact the Development Office at 405/522-5217 or e-mail Zwink at <tzwink@okhistory.org>.



Correy Twilly, fifer, and Travis Franklin, drummer, represent the Sixth Infantry Living History Association at the Fort Gibson event (Larry Toll photo).

### Gov. George Nigh holds Q&A session for OHS staff

On the afternoon of June 7 former Oklahoma Governor George Nigh held a question-and-answer session at the Oklahoma History Center for Historical Society staff and guests from other state agencies. The former state leader was in the History Center to attend a party later that day in honor of his 80th birthday. Known for his easy wit and gregarious nature, after introductory remarks by OHS Executive Director Bob Blackburn and a

few opening remarks of his own, Nigh was quickly besieged by questions from staff and guests. Nigh served as governor four times.

The birthday party that evening was attended by more than 350 of his friends and former colleagues, both in the governor's office and at the University of Central Oklahoma.

Guests also enjoyed revisiting the governors exhibit, on display in the Gaylord Special Exhibits Gallery. *Inspired to Lead: First Families of Oklahoma, 1907–2007* remains in place at the History Center through the end of the year.



James Howard, Gov. Nigh, and Oscar Jackson (J. Briley photo).





# Director's Column

By **Bob L. Blackburn**  
*Executive Director*

My column this month is shorter than usual. And I love it.

The reason for the brevity is the long list of new OHS members who have joined our family of people who care about Oklahoma history. If you are getting this newsletter for the first time, welcome to the family.

For years, I have wanted a growing and active membership. It is good for each member, it is good for the organization, and it is good for the state of Oklahoma.

Each new member means that another family can enjoy the publications we offer and save a little money when they visit our museums or buy items from our gift shops. As most of us know, history is all around us, just waiting to be discovered and enjoyed.

At the same time, the organization benefits from increased participation in board elections, a larger network of advocates who are keeping their eyes open for collections and stories, and stronger support for history at the State Capitol. There is nothing like a voter in his or her district asking a legislator for help in preserving our history.

I want to thank Alma Moore, Dr. Paul Lambert, and Dr. Tim Zwink for all their efforts to build membership. At this point we are on track to add 2,007 new members (get it?) to our rosters during the centennial year.

Yes, my column this month is shorter than usual, but I could not be more pleased.

*Dr. Bob*

## REMINDER!!

### Brick Order Deadline—August 15

If you want your monogrammed bricks installed along the Red River Walk at the Oklahoma History Center before Centennial Day 2007, you will need to send your orders to us by Wednesday, August 15.

Call Tim Zwink at 405/522-5217 to place an order or to obtain additional information.

\* renewed membership in higher category

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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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## Meetings

In **Oklahoma City** the Oklahoma Genealogical Society's monthly meeting will be held on July 2, 2007, at 6 p.m. in the Chesapeake Events Center at the Oklahoma History Center, 2401 N. Laird Avenue. Oklahoma County ClerkCarolynn Caudill will talk about the different types of county records that are available at no cost though the Internet. She was responsible for the computerization of the Oklahoma County land and other records, so she will also discuss the history of each type of record. The OHS Research Center will be staffed and remain open until 7:45 p.m. that evening. (Special to ML)

## Events

**Woodward's** Plains Indians and Pioneers Museum, located at 2009 Williams Avenue, will host "Oklahoma Northwest," a summer institute for Oklahoma teachers, for college students for three hours of college credit, or just for fun, according to Museum Director Robert P. Roberson. The 32-hour class is scheduled to be held July 9 through July 12. There is a \$100 enrollment fee, and college credit requires an additional fee. Classroom lectures, field trips, demonstrations, and hands-on experiences will cover topics such as physical setting and prehistory; Native Americans with an emphasis on the Cheyenne and Arapaho; the military in northwestern Oklahoma; cattle trails, cowboys, and ranching; and homesteading and early Woodward. Guest presenters for the classes include historian Dr. Alvin O. Turner, Dr. Lee Bement of the Oklahoma Archaeological Survey, and others. To enroll or for more information call Dr. Deena Fisher, Northwestern Oklahoma State University's campus in Woodward, at 580/256-0049 or Robert Roberson at the museum, 580/256-6136. The Plains Indians and Pioneers Museum is a local affiliate of the Oklahoma Humanities Council. (Special to ML)

**Oologah** will host aviation enthusiasts again this year on Sunday, August 12, for the Will Rogers-Wiley Post Fly-In. The event honors the two Oklahoma aviation champions who died on August 15, 1935. Pilots from a four-state area have been coming to the event to showcase vintage and new aircraft as well as helicopters and experimental and homemade planes. Aircraft will begin landing at 9 a.m. for a day of fun and fellowship. Concessions will be available. Pilots can land at a 2,000-foot, grass strip on the west shore of Lake Oologah. The airport identifier is OK 37. The event, the Will Rogers Memorial Museum, and Will Rogers

Birthplace Ranch will be open to the public. Call 918/341-0719 for more info. (Special to ML)

**Porter's** annual Peach Festival will take place on Friday and Saturday, July 20-21. Festivities will include a parade, food, children's rides, a rodeo and tractor pull, and a peach auction. Visit the festival web site at <[www.porterpeachfestival.info](http://www.porterpeachfestival.info)> or call Jim Guess at 918/483-4600. (Special to ML)

The **Bartlesville** Jubilee Quilters Guild will host the Jubilee Centennial Quilt Show on July 13-14, 2007, at the Washington County Fair Building, located one block west of State Highway 75 in **Dewey**. The hours will be 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Admission is \$5; children under age 12 are free. For groups of ten or more the admission is reduced to \$4 per person. For info e-mail <[Jubilee2007@aol.com](mailto:Jubilee2007@aol.com)>. (Special to ML)

**Oklahoma City's** Sheraton Hotel, located at One North Broadway, will be the venue for the 2007 National Conference of Tribal Archives, Libraries, and Museums, scheduled for October 23-25, 2007. The conference provides a forum for sharing the common goal of cultural preservation. Deadline for early bird registration of \$200 is July 31, and the deadline for regular registration of \$250 is October 1. Registration fees include six meals (breakfast and lunch), refreshments, materials, access to the exhibit hall, and fifty-six concurrent sessions. This year's theme is "Guardians of Language, Memory and Lifeways: Tribal Archives, Libraries, and Museums." Previous conferences were held in Arizona in 2003 and 2005. For additional information visit <[www.tribalconference.org](http://www.tribalconference.org)> or call 405/522-3515. (Special to ML)

**Valliant**, located in McCurtain County and approximately nine miles east of Fort Towson, will be hosting a Watermelon Festival and Garden Show on July 20-21, from 9 a.m. to 10 p.m. in the city park. The event will feature music, woodworking, a quilt show, and entertainment. For additional info, call 580/933-5050 or visit the web site <[www.valliantchamber.org](http://www.valliantchamber.org)>. (Special to ML)

## Happenings

The Ninety-Nines Museum of Women Pilots, located at 4300 Amelia Earhart Rd., **Oklahoma City**, has opened a new *Amelia Earhart* exhibit to mark the 75th anniversary of her Atlantic crossing and the 70th anniversary of her disappearance on July 2, 1937, over the Pacific Ocean. Earhart al-

ways carried a lucky bracelet and scarf when she made long-distance flights, but she left them with her mother when she took her last flight. Those items will be among many others on display at the Ninety-Nines Museum. For more info visit <[www.museumofwomenpilots.com](http://www.museumofwomenpilots.com)> or call 405/685-9990. (Special to ML)

At **Oklahoma City's** Civic Center Music Hall an 8- and 1/2-foot-tall bronze statue, *The Ballerina*, by sculptor Mike Larsen, was unveiled on May 25. The statue is dedicated to Oklahoma ballerinas Yvonne Chouteau, Rosella Hightower, Moscelyne Larkin, Maria Tallchief, and Marjorie Tallchief and pays tribute to Ballet Oklahoma. As an official Oklahoma Centennial Project, the bronze was made possible by David and Kim Rainbolt with additional support provided by Oklahoma City's Centennial Committee and the City of Oklahoma City. (Special to ML)

The Southwestern Oklahoma Historical Society in **Lawton** is offering a DVD that has recordings of two silent films with added narration and music by local cowboy balladeer Hank Elling. The films are *The Bank Robbery* and *The Wolf Hunt*. Convicted robber Al Jennings portrays the bank robber, and Quanah Parker and U.S. Marshals Heck Thomas, Bill Tilghman, Chris Madsen, and Frank Canton are also featured in the former film. In *The Wolf Hunt* viewers can watch "Catch 'em Alive" Jack Abernathy catch coyotes with his bare hands. President Theodore Roosevelt witnessed Abernathy's skill during a visit to southwestern Oklahoma Territory in 1905. The films are available on DVD for \$20, plus \$5 shipping. Send orders to Southwestern Oklahoma Historical Society, P.O. Box 3693, Lawton, OK 73502. E-mail Paul Follett, Genealogy Librarian, at <[pfollett@cityof.lawton.ok.us](mailto:pfollett@cityof.lawton.ok.us)> for more information. (Special to ML)

**Oklahoma City's** Oklahoma Railroad Museum offers excursion trains on the first and third Saturday of each month from 10 a.m. until 2:30 p.m. Trains leave the historic Oakwood Depot at 10, 11, noon, 1:30, and 2:30. There is a small charge for train rides. The museum's hours are Tuesday through Saturday from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Call 405/424-8222. The address is 3400 Northeast Grand Boulevard, just west of I-35 and south of Northeast 36th Street. (*The Dispatcher*)





# OHS EVENTS AND EXHIBITS

Every effort has been made to list correct information as it was available. Other events may be added throughout the year. Check the monthly issues of *Mistletoe Leaves* for additions, corrections, and/or expanded articles.

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

Please visit the OHS web site to verify date, hours, exact location, admission fees, etc. Click on "About OHS," "Events Schedule" for additional information about the OHS events listed below.

TBA = to be announced

## JULY

- 1-31** *Voices in the Tallgrass: Native Women Artists of Oklahoma*, Pioneer Woman Museum, Ponca City
- 1-31** *Oklahoma Semi-centennial Exhibit*, Research Center, Oklahoma History Center
- 1-31** *Inspired to Lead: First Families of Oklahoma*, Oklahoma History Center
- 2** First Monday of the Month Free Admission at Oklahoma History Center
- 4** 1840s Independence Day Celebration, Ft. Gibson Historic Site, Ft. Gibson
- 7** Cowboy Ride-in Breakfast, Pawnee Bill Ranch, Pawnee
- 7** Family Education Day, Oklahoma Museum of History, History Center
- 13-14** Honey Springs Annual Memorial Fun Runs and Memorial Service, Honey Springs Battlefield, Checotah
- 14** Family Education Day, Oklahoma Museum of History, History Center
- 17** Museum of the Western Prairie, Altus closes; remains closed through mid-September
- 19** Historic Preservation Review Committee meets, Oklahoma History Center
- 20** 1907 Ice Cream Social, in celebration of the Oklahoma Centennial, Fred Drummond House, Hominy

- 21** Family Education Day, Oklahoma Museum of History, History Center
- 21** Tatting Workshop with Judy Banashek, Chisholm Trail Museum, Kingfisher
- 23** Wire Angel Making Workshop, Pawnee Bill Ranch Site, Pawnee
- 27** Blacksmithing Workshop, Cherokee Strip Museum, Kingfisher
- 28** Family Education Day, Oklahoma Museum of History, History Center

## AUGUST

- 1-31** *Voices in the Tallgrass: Native Women Artists of Oklahoma*, Pioneer Woman Museum, Ponca City
- 1-31** *Oklahoma Semi-centennial Exhibit*, Research Center, Oklahoma History Center
- 1-31** *Inspired to Lead: First Families of Oklahoma*, Oklahoma History Center



- 1-31** *Art from Indian Territory 2007*, contemporary art exhibit, Oklahoma History Center
- 6** First Monday of the Month Free Admission at Oklahoma History Center, Oklahoma City
- 11** Victorian Style Show and Ladies' Tea, Oklahoma History Center
- 18** Tatting Workshop with Judy Banashek, Chisholm Trail Museum, Kingfisher



**First Kansas Infantry (OHS photo).**

## SEPTEMBER

- 1-22** *Voices in the Tallgrass: Native Women Artists of Oklahoma*, Pioneer Woman Museum, Ponca City
- 1-30** *Oklahoma Semi-centennial Exhibit*, Research Center, Oklahoma History Center
- 1-30** *Inspired to Lead: First Families of Oklahoma*, Oklahoma History Center
- 1-30** *Art from Indian Territory 2007*, contemporary art exhibit, Oklahoma History Center
- 1-30** A Day at Rose Hill School, Fall Semester begins, 1910 living history program, student activities for classes from around the state, Cherokee Strip Museum, Perry
- 3** First Monday of the Month Free Admission at Oklahoma History Center
- 7** Public Meeting, State Historic Preservation Office's Fiscal Year 2008 Historic Preservation Fund Grant Application, Oklahoma History Center
- 10** Bonnet Making Workshop, Pawnee Bill Ranch Site, Pawnee
- 11** Hat Making Workshop, Pawnee Bill Ranch Site, Pawnee
- 15-30** *A Scissortail Returns: The Chinese Experience in Oklahoma*, exhibit, Oklahoma History Center
- 15** New Volunteer Training, Oklahoma History Center
- 15** Cherokee Strip Celebration Tea and Open House, Cherokee Strip Museum, Perry
- 15** Civil War Life Program, Cooking Demonstration, Artillery Field School, Honey Springs Battlefield, Checotah
- 15** Living History Day, Cavalry Program, Ft. Supply Historic Site, Ft. Supply
- 15** Tatting Workshop with Judy Banashek, Chisholm Trail Museum, Kingfisher

## July Family Days to be held at the Oklahoma History Center!

Every Saturday in July the Oklahoma Museum of History (Oklahoma History Center, Oklahoma City) will offer Family Day. For the price of admission to the Center, the family will enjoy hands-on activities such as period dancing or building a miniature sod house. Historical interpreters in period clothing will give informal lectures for the parents and children. There are two themes, Civil War and Territorial Life, which will be presented on alternate weekends.

The programs are scheduled from 10 a.m. to noon and from 1 to 3 p.m. That's July 7, 14, 21, and 28.



# JULY-DECEMBER 2007

- 22** Ladies Camp of Instruction, George M. Murrell House, Park Hill
- 22-23** Autumnal Equinox Walks, Spiro Mounds Archaeological Center, Spiro
- 23-30** Centennial Quilt Challenge Contest and Exhibit, *Oklahoma's Pioneering Spirit, 1907-2007*, Pioneer Woman Museum, Ponca City
- 28-30** Civil War Reenactment of the Battle of Cabin Creek, vicinity of Pensacol, near Vinita-Pryor

## OCTOBER

- 1-31** A Day at Rose Hill School, Fall Semester continues, 1910 living history program, student activities for classes from around the state, Cherokee Strip Museum, Perry
- 1-31** *Inspired to Lead: First Families of Oklahoma*, Oklahoma History Center
- 1-31** *Art from Indian Territory 2007*, contemporary art exhibit, Oklahoma History Center
- 1-31** *A Scissortail Returns: The Chinese Experience in Oklahoma*, Oklahoma History Center
- 1-31** Centennial Quilt Challenge Contest and Exhibit, *Oklahoma's Pioneering Spirit, 1907-2007*, Pioneer Woman Museum, Ponca City

**Unconquered, at the entrance to the Oklahoma History Center, Oklahoma City (J. Briley photo).**



- 1-31** Annual Quilt Show, Pawnee Bill Ranch Site, Pawnee
- 1** First Monday of the Month Free Admission at Oklahoma History Center
- 4** Crazy Quilt Workshop, Pawnee Bill Ranch Site, Pawnee
- 12-13** Fall Encampment, Ft. Gibson Historic Site, Ft. Gibson
- 13** Heritage Skills Workshop, Pawnee Bill Ranch Site, Pawnee
- 13** 1907 Fashion Show and Tea, George M. Murrell House, Park Hill

- 14** Centennial Parade Brunch, special programming, Oklahoma History Center
- 18** Historic Preservation Review Committee meets, Oklahoma History Center
- 20** Tatting Workshop with Judy Banashek, Chisholm Trail Museum, Kingfisher
- 20** Ghost Stories at the Mansion, Pawnee Bill Ranch Site, Pawnee
- 24-27** Walking Ghost Stories Tours, Ft. Washita, vicinity of Durant-Madill
- 25** Volunteer Appreciation Banquet, Museum of History, Oklahoma History Center
- 28** Ghostly Doaksville, vicinity Ft. Towson Historic Site, Ft. Towson
- 26-27** Ghost Stories, George M. Murrell House, Park Hill

## NOVEMBER

- 1-30** Centennial Quilt Challenge Contest and Exhibit, *Oklahoma's Pioneering Spirit, 1907-2007*, Pioneer Woman Museum, Ponca City
- 1-30** A Day at Rose Hill School, Fall Semester continues, 1910 living history program, student activities for classes from around the state, Cherokee Strip Museum, Perry
- 1-30** *Inspired to Lead: First Families of Oklahoma*, Oklahoma History Center
- 1-30** *Art from Indian Territory 2007*, contemporary art exhibit, Oklahoma History Center
- 1-30** *They Know Who They Are: Portraits of Chickasaw Living Elders*, 24 paintings by Mike Larsen, Oklahoma History Center
- 5** First Monday of the Month Free Admission at Oklahoma History Center
- 9-10** "Union Skedaddle 1861" Candlelight Tours, Ft. Washita, vicinity of Durant-Madill
- 10** Fall Bake Day, Ft. Gibson Historic Site, Ft. Gibson
- 16** Statehood Proclamation Reenactment on Oklahoma's 100th Statehood Day, State Capital Publishing Museum, Guthrie
- 17** Tatting Workshop with Judy Banashek, Chisholm Trail Museum, Kingfisher
- 17** Civil War Life Program, Non-combatant Life, Honey Springs Battlefield Site, Checotah
- 17** Victorian Christmas Decorations Workshop, Pawnee Bill Ranch Site, Pawnee
- 22** Thanksgiving Day

## DECEMBER

- 1-25** Christmas Tours of the Seay Mansion and Pioneer Village, Chisholm Trail Museum, Kingfisher
- 1-31** Centennial Quilt Challenge Contest and Exhibit, *Oklahoma's Pioneering Spirit, 1907-2007*, Pioneer Woman Museum, Ponca City
- 1-31** *Inspired to Lead: First Families of Oklahoma*, Oklahoma History Center
- 1-31** *They Know Who They Are: Portraits of Chickasaw Living Elders*, 24 paintings by Mike Larsen, Oklahoma History Center
- 1** 19th Texas Confederate Army Living History Program, Ft. Washita, vicinity Durant-Madill
- 3** First Monday of the Month Free Admission at Oklahoma History Center



**Sod House, Aline (Jim Argo photo).**

- 5** "Federal and State Tax Incentives for Rehabilitating Historic Buildings" and "Guidelines and Tax Incentives for Rehabilitating Historic Buildings," SHPO workshops, Oklahoma History Center
- 6** "The Section 106 Review Process," SHPO workshop, Oklahoma History Center
- 6** Holiday Open House, Pawnee Bill Ranch Site, Pawnee
- 7** "Working with the National Register of Historic Places," SHPO workshop, Oklahoma History Center
- 8** 7th Texas Confederate Army Living History Program, Ft. Washita, vicinity of Durant-Madill
- 9** Christmas Tea and Open House, Cherokee Strip Museum, Perry
- 9** Christmas Open House, George M. Murrell House, Park Hill
- 14-15** Candlelight Tour, Ft. Gibson Historic Site, Ft. Gibson
- 15** Tatting Workshop with Judy Banashek, Chisholm Trail Museum, Kingfisher
- 22** Winter Solstice Walks, Spiro Mounds Archaeological Center, Spiro
- 25** Christmas Day



## Hidden Collections . . .

### John W. Thompson's Diary

By Larry O'Dell

Diaries have always been an excellent resource for historians. The Oklahoma Historical Society's Research Division houses several; one excellent diary relating to cotton farming during the Great Depression is that of John W. Thompson (2007.20). Thompson, born in Missouri on October 13, 1865, moved with his family to Texas in 1871. In 1888 he married Sarah Wilder, and in 1901 they bought a farm near Russell in Greer County, Oklahoma, moving there with their nine children. The diary, which spans 1928 to 1939, relates to this farm. Thompson died in 1939. In 2006 his grandson donated the diary to OHS.

Thompson explains how the Depression affected the small farmer in Southwestern Oklahoma. His September 19, 1930, entry reads, "We are up against it, hard, almost no feed—almost no cotton and the price on cotton is about 9 cents. I wish I knew what I could do to get by." He also reflects on his life. On October 13, 1935, he noted, "Fifty years ago today I left home to work for myself and I thot [sic] I would be fixed in the world in a few years but I have found that life is full of disappointment and I have had my share of them for at 70 I am still a very,



**A typical 1930s Oklahoma cotton farm and family (OHS Research Division photo).**

very poor man. Nothing much to show for our life work but a large family of children all of which I am proud." He kept the diary until his death, with his children writing entries when sickness incapacitated Thompson prior to his passing. The first entry by his daughter relates her father's feelings. March 8, 1939, "I (John Thompson) have sat here by this table all these years and read and wrote letters but now I can't read or write any more. Just sit here and study about my condition."

Researchers interested in this time period should find this diary indispensable. There are several secondary sources of this type. An excellent book held in the OHS library is Caroline A. Henderson's *Letters from the Dust Bowl*, edited by Al Turner. The Oklahoma Historical Society is interested in diaries and similar documents that help tell our history from the everyman perspective, which supplements the familiar political or business leaders' viewpoint.

## OHS Faces . . . Kaye Bond,

### Director, Cherokee Strip Museum

OHS's museum in Perry (Noble County) is under the management of an experienced museum hand. Kaye Bond began working for OHS as a temporary employee at the CSM in December 1988. She became an historical interpreter, then curator, and in December 1989, the Historical Facilities Manager.

Born in Bryan, Texas, Bond lived in several states, but her grandparents lived in Tulsa. They retired to farms near Inola and Orlando. Her great-great grandparents were involved in the Cherokee Strip Land Run in 1893. Interestingly, her husband's career brought her to Perry. She attended college in Missouri but graduated from Oklahoma State University.

*Mistletoe Leaves* asked Bond to describe her most enjoyable experience at the CSM: "Generally, I find the research and problem-solving aspects of my job the most enjoyable. I have also found it very rewarding to work with and meet so many different people. I have been very fortunate that the staff at the museum, which includes not only OHS employees, but the Rose Hill School staff hired by our local support group, the Cherokee Strip Historical Society, has been a pleasure to work with and to get to know. We find it enjoyable to have so many visitors say they enjoy the museum and relate to the stories our exhibits tell. It is rewarding to hear all the positive comments people make or to have a child tell me 'this place is really cool!' The museum grounds are another thing I enjoy. The setting is lovely and contributes to the pleasure of working here."

*Mistletoe Leaves* also asked her to talk about the project that makes her the proudest. She responded, "I am most proud of the Rose Hill School program. The program was first established by Kathy Dickson and Cecilia Stratton. 'A Day at Rose Hill School' started in the fall of 1988. We've just finished our 19th year of offering the program. I think its longevity is a remarkable testament, not only to its quality, but to the many different people who have worked to make the living history program a success for so many years. I credit much of the program's success to the terrific 'schoolmarms' who have been so dedicated over the years. Almost 52,000 students have spent 'A Day at Rose Hill' and we are already completely booked for the 2007-08 school term. It has been fun and rewarding to be part of a program that has reached so many people."

She added, "I like the opportunity to help people make connections to the past, use their imaginations and creativity to make history relevant. That's rewarding."



## Research Division Donors, April-May

Ashton, Sharron J., Norman  
Blumenthal, Linda, OKC  
Boake, Evelyn V., Anadarko  
Burton, Art, South Holland, IL  
Carson, Gayle J., OKC  
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## REMINDER!!

### Brick Order Deadline—August 15

Monogrammed bricks installed at the Oklahoma History Center must be ordered by Wednesday, August 15. Call 405/522-5217 to place an order or to obtain additional information. Don't miss this opportunity.



## SHPO's 2007 Citations of Merit awarded at Preservation Conference

Each year, the Oklahoma State Historic Preservation Office presents the Citation of Merit to individuals, organizations, firms, and government agencies in recognition of their many contributions to the preservation of Oklahoma's heritage. These accomplishments may be in the areas of archaeological site preservation, leadership, planning, publications, public programming, research, or restoration and rehabilitation. These projects and activities have positive impacts at the local, state, and national level. This year's recipients are:

Muskogee Housing Partners, LP, and Sikes Abernathie Architects received the citation for a certified rehabilitation of Muskogee's 1910 Surety Building. The building now has new life as senior housing. The project demonstrates the importance of federal and state tax credits in community revitalization efforts.

Richard Andrews was recognized for his work as Special Projects manager for the Oklahoma Department of Transportation's enhancements program, which enabled improvements to streetscapes in Durant, Okmulgee, and Shawnee.

Arvest Bank and Ambler Architects conducted a certified rehabilitation of the historic Union National Bank Building in Bartlesville. The \$1.5 million project will be used as an exemplary case study in an upcoming National Park Service training program.

BancFirst, through the leadership of CEO David Rainbolt, provided \$10,000 to Preservation Oklahoma, Inc., to launch the PlanFirst Grant Program. The grants will focus on projects that involve appropriate professionals and result in meaningful products such as condition assessments or well-designed fund-raising campaigns in communities served by BancFirst.

Paul Buntz, Durant City Manager, supported the Main Street Program there and provided leadership for such high-profile projects as the Three Valley Museum rehabilitation project, the Market Square Cafe project, and three phases of downtown streetscape improvements.

Dr. Stanley Bussey was posthumously presented the citation for his service as the Historic Preservation Review Committee's prehistoric archaeologist from 1994 until his death in May 2006.

The Cherokee Nation, Saline Preservation Association, Fritz Baily, P.C., and Dr. George Odell combined efforts to preserve the Saline Courthouse, one of the Cherokee Nation's nine original district courthouses.

John Givens, Great Plains Coca-Cola Bottling Company, Dean Codner, and Shaun Colbert collaborated to restore a 100-foot-long, three-story-tall Coca-Cola sign on the 1903 St. Cloud Hotel in Chandler on Route 66.

The American Lung Association of Oklahoma and Fritz Baily, P.C., rehabilita-

## OHS Places . . .

### Sod House Museum

Route 3, Box 28

Aline, OK 73716-9801

Phone: 580/463-2441

Hours: Tues.-Fri., 9 a.m.-5 p.m.;

Sat.-Sun., 2-5 p.m.

Admission: Free; donations are accepted.

Directions: Four miles north of Cleo Springs, just east of State Highway 8.

More than a hundred years ago a man named Marshall McCully participated in the opening of the Cherokee Outlet on September 16, 1893. Similar to the experiences of other settlers who participated in the land openings, his original claim was jumped by another individual. So McCully relocated and claimed 163 acres north of Cleo Springs. When Alfalfa County was organized in 1907, his claim would be located on the southern edge of that county.

McCully initially lived in a dugout, which he replaced in August 1894 with a sod house constructed from the tough, thick buffalo grass that grew in the area. The soddy consisted of two rooms, approximately 10 x 12 feet each. Using poles made from local blackjack trees, he made a roof. He filled the cracks between the poles with mud and piled dirt on top of the mud. In September that year McCully brought his bride, Sadie Steele, a teacher from Enid, to their new home.

The Oklahoma Historical Society acquired the sod house in December 1963, and it was listed in the National Register of Historic Places (NR 70000526) in 1970. The soddy remains in its original location and is covered by an outer shell building to protect it from the elements. Before visiting the Sod House Museum, you can learn more about McCully and sod houses in general by reading "The Sod House of Marshal McCully: A Last Relic of the Great Plains History," by B. B. Chapman, published in *The Chronicles of Oklahoma* 45 (Summer 1967) and "The Soddy," by Melvena Thurman Heisch, in *Of The Earth: Oklahoma Architectural History*, ed. Howard L. Meredith and Mary Ellen Meredith (Oklahoma City: Oklahoma Historical Society, 1980).



ted the 1931 Art Deco Tulsa Fire Alarm Building, which reopened in 2006 as the association's new headquarters.

Philtower, LLC and Kinslow, Keith and Todd rehabilitated Tulsa's 1927 Philtower building, the city's iconic Art Deco skyscraper. The restored Philtower became Tulsa's first mixed-use high-rise.

Skirvin Partners, LLC, Marcus Hotels and Resorts, City of Oklahoma City, Kahler Slater Architects, and Flintco Constructive Solutions collaborated to rehabilitate Oklahoma City's historic Skirvin Hotel, once included on the Most Endangered Places list.

The Small Group Architects restored Edmond's first schoolhouse to its 1891-92 appearance, based on archival research and on-site investigations.

Waverly Neighborhood Association prevented the demolition of 1203 West Broadway in Enid. The site was destined to become a church parking lot. The case demonstrated the importance of a city zoning ordinance and the involvement of residents in their local government.

Dr. Bobby Weaver inventoried and organized a finding aid for the OHS Research Division's John W. Kirschner Collection, which contains 1,021 fire insurance rating booklets covering 7,341 Oklahoma towns for 1896 to 1958. This valuable research resource supplements the Sanborn Fire Insurance Maps.

Also cited were the cosponsors of the 18th Annual Preservation Conference at

Wilburton, including Oklahoma Tourism, Wilburton Main Street, Robbers Cave State Park, Wilburton Chamber of Commerce, Twentieth Century Club, and Eastern Oklahoma State College.

## Drummond House to hold 1907 ice cream social

The Friends of the Fred Drummond Home will host an ice cream social on Saturday, July 21, at the Drummond House to celebrate Oklahoma's 1907 Centennial.

Beginning at 12 noon and continuing until 3 p.m. visitors will be treated to homemade ice cream, old-fashioned cookies, and lemonade. Judges will award first-, second-, and third-place prizes to the creators of the best ice cream.

Children will enjoy gunny sack and egg-spoon races, and the winners will receive prizes. Entertainment includes old tunes and dancing on the lawn, with music provided by the band "Finnegan's Wake," from Tulsa.

Martha Ray, of the OHS Sites Service Center, will lead the dancing.

The public is invited to this fun-filled true 1907-style family event. Contact Beverly Whitcomb at 918/885-2374 for more information.

The Drummond House is located at 305 N. Price Avenue in Hominy.

## Pawnee Bill Ranch is set for a busy July

Plan on enjoying a huge breakfast of ham, eggs, biscuits and gravy, fried potatoes, and more when you visit the Pawnee Bill Ranch and Museum on Saturday, July 7, for the annual **Cowboy Ride-In Breakfast** at the ranch at 6:30 a.m.

If horseback riding is not your style, come out, anyway. Everyone is welcome. Those who plan to ride should assemble at the Pawnee County Courthouse at 6 a.m. to ride as a group to the ranch's picnic pavilion. There is no charge for the breakfast, but donations are greatly appreciated. Come hungry! The ranch is situated one-half mile west of Pawnee on U.S. 64. Call 918/762-2513 or e-mail the staff at <pawneebill@okhistory.org>.

The museum will offer a **Wire Angel Making Workshop on Monday**, July 23, from 6:30 to 9 p.m.

Martha Ray, OHS Historic Homes Director, will teach the class, which is also presented at other homes and sites in the OHS system.

The class costs \$15 and is limited to 15 participants. Payment is appreciated (but not required) prior to the class day. Students are asked to bring a pair of needle-nose pliers.

At the end of the class, you will have finished a beautiful, hand-crafted wire angel to take home. They make beautiful Christmas ornaments and are very decorative year-round.

## Honey Springs plans fifth annual race and memorial service

The staff of the OHS's Honey Springs Battlefield, north of Checotah, are busy finalizing their plans for this year's Honey Springs Memorial 5K Run and 1-Mile Fun Run and Walk on the evening of July 13. The 5K run is a sanctioned event, and winners will receive medals for first, second, and third place in each category. The "fun run" begins at 7:30, and the sanctioned 5-K race begins at 8 p.m. The staff will load and fire a reproduction Civil War cannon to start the races. Runners must sign up and pay an entry fee, but spectators are admitted free.

On Saturday, July 14, at 10:30 a.m. the staff will conduct the annual Memorial Service, which honors the soldiers who died or were wounded in the Civil War engagement at Honey Springs on July 17, 1863. During that fight, approximately 9,000 men on both sides met on the battlefield. An estimated 134 Confederate and 77 Union men died, and untold numbers were wounded.

Following the service the Friends of Honey Springs Battlefield will hold its annual luncheon and membership meeting. The next reenactment of the Battle of Honey Springs will be in fall 2008. For more information call 918/473-5572 or e-mail <ralphjones@lakeweb.net>.

Oklahoma Historical Society  
2401 N. Laird Avenue  
Oklahoma City, OK 73105-7914

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

PERIODICALS

# Mistletoe Leaves

Vol. 38, No. 7

July 2007

## OHS membership elects directors

In April at the OHS's Annual Meeting, Emmy Scott Stidham, chair of the OHS Nominating Committee, announced the names of three individuals chosen by the membership to serve on the Board of Directors in 2007-08.

In District 1, Dr. Guy W. Logsdon of Tulsa was elected. A former board member, Logsdon joined the OHS in 1988. Representing District 3, Dr. Marvin Kroeker of Ada retained his seat. Dr. William D. Pennington of Tishomingo, also a former board member, was elected At-Large. The oaths were administered by Oklahoma Supreme Court Justice Steven W. Taylor.

At the reorganizational board meeting, which followed the Annual Membership luncheon and meeting, Leonard M. Logan IV of Vinita continued his presidency into the second year of a three-year term.

## Back by demand! Victorian Style Show and Ladies' Tea to reprise on August 11

In March 2007 the OHS presented a Victorian Style Show and Ladies' Tea, held at the Oklahoma History Center. The event proved to be wildly popular and really "wowed" the ladies. Many eager would-be spectators were turned away because the event sold out almost the day tickets were offered.

But despair not! On the afternoon of Saturday, August 11, a sequel will be presented from 1 to 4 p.m. at the Oklahoma History Center. More than two dozen ladies will model fashions from the decades 1820 to 1920 as Martha Ray, OHS Director of Historic Homes, provides a narrative describing each dress or gown and its accessories. Women's undergarments will also be modeled and described.

Tea and hors d'ouvres will be served. The event benefits Oklahoma State History Day, an annual event held each spring.

Tickets for the Style Show and Tea are \$15 per person. The early telephone call will ensure that you secure a seat this time.

Call Kelsey Arnold at 405/522-0692 or e-mail her at <karnold@okhistory.org>.



**RSVP by August 1, please.**



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