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>.

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.
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 August 15. Call Tim Zwick at 405/522-5217 to place an order or to obtain additional information.

**NEW MEMBERS**

- Dan and Donita Mitchell, Enid
- Mr. and Mrs. Don Moody, Duncan
- Richard D. Nix, Bethany
- Raymond Pappe, Oklahoma City
- Mr. and Mrs. Mike Parr, Oklahoma City
- Brenda F. Pennyman and Erica B. Burns, Achille
- Linda and Theophilus Pete, Oklahoma City
- Paul and Suella Reagan, Tulsa
- Mr. and Mrs. Phil Redwine, Norman
- Cecilia Reynolds, Norman
- William E. and Martha E. Rhynes, Ada
- Gordon and Mary Jane Richards, Shawnee
- R.J. and Jennie Richardson, Davis
- Mr. and Mrs. Chris Rick, Shawnee
- Rex and Marie Riggen, Midwest City
- Dean Rinehart, El Reno
- Dr. Jack and Sharon Robinson, Durant
- Mr. and Mrs. Mark Rowland, Tulsa
- Mr. and Dr. Francie Russell, Meeker
- A. D. and Beth Sadler, Oklahoma City
- William C. and Catherine H. Scheibling, Edmond
- Lorie Schrab, Midwest City
- Jim and Gayla Shaddid, Oklahoma City
- Mr. and Mrs. Jerry Shannon, Boise City
- Carole Ann & Mike Smith, Oklahoma City
- Clyde and Darlene Smith, Edmond
- Kip and Betty Smith, Edmond
- Harold and Gayla Spilman, Creek
- Walter Lee Stout, Ponca City
- Mary Ann Strauss, Sallisaw
- Rex Taylor, Oklahoma City
- *Ann Thompson, El Reno*
- Kathleen Thornton Humphrey, Tulsa
- Mr. and Mrs. William B. Townsend, Edmond
- Gerald Tucker, Yukon
- James and Mary R. Wagoner, El Dorado Hills, CA
- Mr. and Mrs. Ray Walker, Frederick
- Richard M. & Marilyn R. Walter, Guthrie
- Mr. and Mrs. John Walthour, Spring, TX
- *Jack and Anna White, Bristow*
- Joy Ann Whitesides, Stillwater
- *Mrs. Joyce E. Whitlock, Sherman*
- LaVonne Whitney, Oklahoma City
- Mr. and Mrs. Frank Wilkerson, Oklahoma City
- Rev. and Mrs. John Winkler, Oklahoma City
- Dr. and Mrs. R. L. Winters, Poteau
- Bobby and Mary Jo Wright, El Reno
- Daryl and Linda Woodard, Tulsa
- Dr. Craig A. Wooten, Oklahoma City

**FRIENDS**

- Bob Appleby, Durham, NC
- Mark Ashton, Lawton
- Ms. Eneith R. Banks, Stillwater

**MEMBERS**

- Larry Bartness, Fort Walton Beach, FL
- Mr. and Mrs. Dan Bracken, Tulsa
- Leora Bishop, Oklahoma City
- Ellen Blackburn, Oklahoma City
- Melanie Blackburn, Oklahoma City
- Mrs. Margret Bladen, Sallisaw
- Janice Brower, Heavenier
- Pat Cathey, Oklahoma City
- George Cathey, Oklahoma City
- Rhonda Coleman, Tishomingo
- Mr. Gene Conner, Rison, AR
- Mr. and Mrs. William G. Creel, Bartlesville
- L. W. Crews, Tucker, GA
- Annette Davis, Bethany
- Dow Dozier, Oklahoma City
- Dan Dugan, Las Cruces, NM
- Ms. Barbara Easter, Cincinnati, OH
- Marcia Elliott, Fort Gibson
- Dr. Joe Price Fallin, Oklahoma City
- Jean Finchner, Bartlesville
- Mr. Tim R. Frame, Checotah
- Brian Frehner, Stillwater
- Larry Garriott, Oklahoma City
- James Haney, McLoud
- Quintus H. Herron, Idabel
- Candis Holloway, Oklahoma City
- Pamela S. Hoskins, Edmond
- Janice Hughes, Amarillo, TX
- Robert Hughes, Orlando, FL
- Mrs. Wilma Isom, Wilburton
- Jill L. Johnson, Newcastle
- Ms. Regina Lagaly, Union City
- David Mozr, Wichita, KS
- Bethany Mott, Ackerly, CA
- Robert K. Murphy, Loveland, CO
- Laura J. Murray, Norman
- Mrs. Jane Nelson, Tishomingo
- Karen Neely, Bartlesville
- Mr. Rick Payne, Thomas
- Anne Powell, Lawton
- Norman Prater, Norman
- Claudette Robertson, Oklahoma City
- Karen L. Rodriguez, San Antonio, TX
- Mr. Stephen S. Sanger, Norman
- Mary L. Scott, Oklahoma City
- Sarah Small, Oklahoma City
- Mr. Thomas Trenee, Catcota
- R. Dale Washburn, Grove
- Daniel Wamsam, Catoosa
- Paula Willis, Tulsa
- Paul M. Young, Norman

**INSTITUTIONAL**

- Norman High School Library/Media Center, Norman
- South Grand Lake Area Visitors Center, Bird Island
- University of Oklahoma Library, Norman

**Oklahoma Historical Society**

**Publications Division**

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Linda D. Wilson, Assistant Editor
William E. Siemens, Graphic Artist

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**Mistletoe Leaves**

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Mistletoe Leaves is published for the members and friends of the Oklahoma Historical Society in partial fulfillment of the Society’s purpose to “preserve and perpetuate the history of Oklahoma and its people, to stimulate popular interest in historical study and research, and to promote and disseminate historical knowledge.”

The public and OHS members are encouraged to submit heritage-related items for publication. Students and teachers are invited to share stories and programs in duplicate requests for distribution to teachers and students. All Oklahoma Historical Society facilities are for the education and enjoyment of all. State and federal regulations prohibit unlawful discrimination in state and federally assisted programs on the basis of race, color, national origin, and/or handicap.

Anyone needing benefits should contact the Executive Director of the Oklahoma Historical Society, 2401 N. Laird Avenue, Oklahoma City, OK 73105–7914; telephone 405/522-5242, and/or the Director, Office of Equal Opportunity, United States Department of the Interior, Washington, DC 20240.
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> 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>.  
(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> 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, woodwork ing, a quilt show, and entertainment. For additional info, call 580/933-5050 or visit the web site <www.valliantchamber.org>.  
(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 405/424-6222. The address is 3400 Northeast Grand Boulevard, just west of I-35 and south of Northeast 36th Street.  
(The Dispatcher)
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, OHS site or museum is located sites other than the property on which the events sponsored by the OHS are held at some workshops and seminars. Some admission fees. Registration is limited for some events require registration and/or expanded articles.

Leaves

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**OHS EVENTS AND EXHIBITS**

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**

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

**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

2 First Monday of the Month Free Admission at 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 Banashe, Chisholm Trail Museum, Kingfisher

21 Family Education Day, Oklahoma Museum of History, History Center

21 Tatting Workshop with Judy Banashe, 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

**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 Scissor Tail 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 Banashe, Chisholm Trail Museum, Kingfisher
**JULY-DECEMBER 2007**

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<td>Autumnal Equinox Walks, Spiro Mounds Archaeological Center, Spiro</td>
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<tr>
<td>28-30</td>
<td>Civil War Reenactment of the Battle of Cabin Creek, vicinity of Pensacol, near Vinita-Pryor</td>
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<td><strong>OCTOBER</strong></td>
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<td>1-31</td>
<td>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</td>
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<td><em>A Scissortail Returns: The Chinese Experience in Oklahoma</em>, Oklahoma History Center</td>
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<tr>
<td>14</td>
<td>Centennial Parade Brunch, special programming, Oklahoma History Center</td>
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<td>18</td>
<td>Historic Preservation Review Committee meets, Oklahoma History Center</td>
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<td>Tatting Workshop with Judy Banasheck, Chisholm Trail Museum, Kingfisher</td>
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<td>20</td>
<td>Ghost Stories at the Mansion, Pawnee Bill Ranch Site, Pawnee</td>
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<td>24-27</td>
<td>Walking Ghost Stories Tours, Ft. Washita, vicinity of Durant-Madill</td>
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<td>Volunteer Appreciation Banquet, Museum of History, Oklahoma History Center</td>
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<td>28-29</td>
<td>Ghostly Doaksville, vicinity Ft. Towson Historic Site, Ft. Towson</td>
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<td>26-27</td>
<td>Ghost Stories, George M. Murrell House, Park Hill</td>
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<td><strong>NOVEMBER</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>1-30</td>
<td>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</td>
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<tr>
<td>1-30</td>
<td>They Know Who They Are: Portraits of Chickasaw Living Elders, 24 paintings by Mike Larsen, Oklahoma History Center</td>
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<td>1-30</td>
<td>First Monday of the Month Free Admission at Oklahoma History Center</td>
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<tr>
<td>9-10</td>
<td>“Union Skedaddle 1861” Candlelight Tours, Ft. Washita, vicinity of Durant-Madill</td>
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<td>Fall Bake Day, Ft. Gibson Historic Site, Ft. Gibson</td>
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<td>16</td>
<td>Statehood Proclamation Reenactment on Oklahoma’s 100th Statehood Day, State Capital Publishing Museum, Guthrie</td>
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<td>Tatting Workshop with Judy Banasheck, Chisholm Trail Museum, Kingfisher</td>
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<td>Civil War Life Program, Non-combatant Life, Honey Springs Battlefield Site, Checotah</td>
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<td>17</td>
<td>Victorian Christmas Decorations Workshop, Pawnee Bill Ranch Site, Pawnee</td>
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<td>Thanksgiving Day</td>
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<tr>
<td>1-31</td>
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<td>1</td>
<td>First Monday of the Month Free Admission at Oklahoma History Center</td>
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<td>4</td>
<td>Crazy Quilt Workshop, Pawnee Bill Ranch Site, Pawnee</td>
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<tr>
<td>12-13</td>
<td>Fall Encampment, Ft. Gibson Historic Site, Ft. Gibson</td>
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<td>13</td>
<td>Heritage Skills Workshop, Pawnee Bill Ranch Site, Pawnee</td>
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<td>13</td>
<td>1907 Fashion Show and Tea, George M. Murrell House, Park Hill</td>
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<tr>
<td>14-15</td>
<td>Candlelight Tour, Ft. Gibson Historic Site, Ft. Gibson</td>
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<td>15</td>
<td>Tatting Workshop with Judy Banasheck, Chisholm Trail Museum, Kingfisher</td>
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<tr>
<td>22</td>
<td>Winter Solstice Walks, Spiro Mounds Archaeological Center, Spiro</td>
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<tr>
<td>25</td>
<td>Christmas Day</td>
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<td><strong>DECEMBER</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>1-25</td>
<td>Christmas Tours of the Seay Mansion and Pioneer Village, Chisholm Trail Museum, Kingfisher</td>
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<td>1-31</td>
<td>Inspired to Lead: First Families of Oklahoma, Oklahoma History Center</td>
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<td>19th Texas Confederate Army Living History Program, Ft. Washita, vicinity Durant-Madill</td>
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*Unconquered, at the entrance to the Oklahoma History Center, Oklahoma City (J. Briley photo).*

*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

8 7th Texas Confederate Army Living History Program, Ft. Washita, vicinity of Durant-Madill

9 Christmas Tea and Open House, Cherokee Strip Museum, Perry

14-15 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 my -

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 everyday 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 Okla 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 made 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 ‘schoolmarm’ 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.”

REMEMBER!!

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 Abernath Architects received the citation for a certified rehabilitation of Muskoge’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 Bunz, 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 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., rehabilitated 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 handmade 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.
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.

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>.