OHS ACTIVITIES AND EXHIBITS

Every effort has been made to list correct 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 OHS website, www.okhistor.web.org, to verify dates, hours, exact location, admission fees, and other relevant information.

Click on “Calendar of Events” for additional information about the OHS events listed below.

July

1-31 Oklahoma and the Day That Will Live in Infamy: Remembering Pearl Harbor, Oklahoma History Center, OKC
1-31 Oklahoma @ the Movies, Oklahoma History Center, OKC
1-31 A Return to Elegance, exhibit of formalwear, Oklahoma History Center, Oklahoma City
1-29 Pioneer Pets exhibit, Cherokee Strip Regional Heritage Center, Enid
4, 11, 18, 25 OKC

4 Independence Day celebration, Fort Gibson Historic Site, Fort Gibson
14 Living history presentation, “Benjamin Franklin,” by Stephen Smith, Oklahoma History Center, OKC
14 Quilting workshop, Sod House Museum, Aline
29 Annual Memorial Service, Honey Springs Battlefield Site, Checotah
21 History of Blue Ridge pottery, Sod House Museum, Aline

August

1-31 Oklahoma and the Day That Will Live in Infamy: Remembering Pearl Harbor, Oklahoma History Center, OKC

September

1-30 Oklahoma and the Day That Will Live in Infamy: Remembering Pearl Harbor, Oklahoma History Center, OKC
1-30 Oklahoma @ the Movies, Oklahoma History Center, OKC
1-4 A Return to Elegance, exhibit of formalwear, Oklahoma History Center, Oklahoma City
1-30 Farm Life exhibit, Cherokee Strip Regional Heritage Center
7 SHPO, Public Meeting for FY 2013 Historic Preservation Fund Grant Application, Oklahoma History Center, OKC
8 Quilting workshop, Sod House Museum, Aline
14 Frontier Festival lantern tours, Cherokee Strip Regional Heritage Center, Enid

October

1-31 Oklahoma and the Day That Will Live in Infamy: Remembering Pearl Harbor, Oklahoma History Center, OKC
1-31 Oklahoma @ the Movies, Oklahoma History Center, OKC

November

1-30 Oklahoma and the Day That Will Live in Infamy: Remembering Pearl Harbor, Oklahoma History Center, OKC
1-30 Oklahoma @ the Movies, Oklahoma History Center, OKC
1-30 Farm Life exhibit, Cherokee Strip Regional Heritage Center
1-3 “An Evening with FDR,” living history presentation, Oklahoma History Center, OKC
A Renovated Oklahoma Route 66 Museum hosts grand reopening

Seventeen years and five hundred fifty thousand visitors later, the Oklahoma Route 66 Museum finally received a much-needed makeover. On Saturday, May 26, museum supporters celebrated the unveiling of the renovated facility. The museum was not the only attraction; the city of Clinton hosted the seventh annual Hot Rods & Hot Dogs on Route 66 Festival with a full schedule of special events.

The initial grand opening occurred in September 1995. The Oklahoma Route 66 Museum captivated the attention of people from all around the world. The museum was originally opened to the public in 1968 as the Museum of the Western Trails, managed by the Oklahoma Industrial Trust and Recreation Department (which later became the Oklahoma Department of Tourism and Recreation). In 1991 the museum was transferred to the OHS. In 1993 plans began for a redevelopment of the museum in order to focus on transportation and Route 66, telling and promoting the history of Route 66 by revealing its story from beginning to end.

As a part of the city-wide Route 66 celebration, admission to the museum was free throughout the day. The ribbon-cutting ceremony began at 2 p.m., hosted by Route 66 author and historian Jim Ross. The ceremony included special remarks by Dr. Bob Blackburn, followed by Representative Harold Wright and Senator Mike Schulz presenting the museum with a governor’s commendation (Governor Mary Fallin was unable to attend the event) and US Representative Frank Lucas further complimenting the museum on its continued success.

Following the speakers, the Oklahoma Route 66 Association held its biannual Hall of Fame Induction Ceremony. President Mike Hickey presented the posthumous award to the famed Oklahoma comedian Will Rogers. Dr. Steve Gragert, the director of the Will Rogers Museum in Claremore, accepted the award on the behalf of the Rogers family. Don Mullenix, past Hall of Fame inductee, inducted Carol Duncan into the Hall of Fame. Duncan has been a part of the Route 66 family for years.

Pat Smith, museum director, stated that “there were approximately one hundred people touring the museum at any given time on Saturday.” Tourists seemed to thoroughly enjoy the vivid photographs and the interactive exhibits, the Dust Bowl Game and the Send a Post Card Program. The Dust Bowl game, narrated by Guthrie native Emma Bowers, illustrates the financial hardship of living and traveling for families in the 1930s. The post card program allows people to send postcards via email. They choose from a variety of selections and then decide on making a madlib card or a traditional write-your-own-message. Other favorites were the newly painted hippie van and the Rambler displayed in the Vacation Gallery. Grandparents, parents, children, and grandchildren gathered around the hippie van for a peaceful photograph.

For more information, contact Pat Smith at 580/323-7866 or rt66mus@okhistory.org.
New Members, cont’d.
Kay McConathy, Oklahoma City
Jean Morris, Muskogee
David Pacheco, Enid
Chris Perkins, Duncan
Jose Prieo-Martinez, Seminole
Erica Rotramel, Sand Springs
Samantha Skinner, Stillwater
Carol Tadlock, Crowder
Perry Thoele, Stillwater
Charles Thompson, Minco
Glenn Vaughan, Fort Cobb
Joshua Wilder, Watonga
Elizabeth Williams, Lawton

Twenty-year Members renew in May

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

Vernon and Linda Pierce, Harrah, November 1, 1966
Edward Rolison, Weatherford, May 1, 1974
Van and Pat Barber, Oklahoma City, May 1, 1974
Michael McElderry, Purcell, March 1, 1979
Lewis Culver, Little Rock, AR, May 1, 1980
Lynda Brown-Drahek, Oklahoma City, February 1, 1981
Larson Keso, Oklahoma City, May 1, 1981
Jim and Burns Argo, Edmond, May 1, 1983
Tecumseh High School Library, Tecumseh, June 1, 1984
Tallbot Library/Museum, Colcord, May 1, 1985
Allen Co. Public Library, Fort Wayne, IN, June 17, 1986
Pryor High School, Pryor, July 14, 1986
Neal Leader, Norman, May 7, 1987
Molly Levine Griffis, Norman, June 2, 1987
Oscar and Julia Greenlee, Tulsa, July 28, 1987
Donald W. Reynolds Comm. Ctr. & Lib., Durant, February 10, 1988
Kenneth Nance, Oklahoma City, April 18, 1988
Davis Joyce, Sapulpa, May 31, 1988
Barbara Klein and James Weaver, Oklahoma City, March 29, 1989
Thomas Boyd, Washington, DC, April 21, 1990
Tina Parsons, Fort Worth, TX, February 26, 1991
Doris Lane Meyer, Bartlesville, April 15, 1991
Daniel and Mary Ann Littlefield, North Little Rock, AR, January 8, 1992
Roy Helm, Tulsa, May 21, 1992

Annual Memorial Service

On Saturday, July 14, the Honey Springs Battlefield Site in Checotah will hold a thirty minute memorial service to honor those who died during the engagement at Honey Springs (Action at Elk Creek) on Friday, July 17, 1863.

The event features reenacting units (Federal and Confederate) presenting rifle salutes, a cannon salute, and playing taps.

The Daughter of Dawn film shown at deadCENTER Film Festival

The Daughter of Dawn is an eighty minute, six-reel silent film shot in July 1920 in the Wichita Mountains of southwest Oklahoma. The story, played by an all-Indian cast of three hundred Comanches and Kiowas, includes a four-way love story, two buffalo hunt scenes, a battle scene, village scenes, dances, deceit, courage, hand-to-hand combat, love scenes, and a happy ending. The Indians, who had been on the reservation less than fifty years, brought with them their own tipis, horses, clothing, and material culture. The lead actor is White Parker, the son of the great Comanche leader Quanah Parker.

The script for the movie was developed by Norbert Myles, an actor, writer, and director brought into the project by Richard Banks, who started the Texas Film Company in 1916. Myles wrote on the cover of his script that “this story has been made possible by R. E. Banks, whose knowledge of the Indian, and of his traditions, was gained during the twenty-five years that he lived with them.”

The first screening of The Daughter of Dawn was at the 2012 deadCENTER Film Festival in Oklahoma City. The film ran Sunday, June 10, at the Oklahoma City Museum of Art at 12:30 p.m. and again at 2:30 p.m.

Eventually, the OHS will release DVD and Blu-ray versions that include director’s cuts on the history of the film, the Indian history and material culture depicted, the Wichita Mountains and the buffalo herd that still runs free, and a special feature on one tipi in the movie. It is a significant tipi given by the Cheyenne to the Kiowas in the 1830s as a symbol of peace. The tipi in the movie was renewed in 1916 with images painted by Silverhorn and by Steven Mopope, one of the Kiowa Five. That very tipi was given to the OHS in 1928 and is part of Oklahoma @ the Movies, now on exhibit at the Oklahoma History Center. Only through the rescue of the film did the OHS learn the significance of the tipi.

For more information about The Daughter of Dawn, contact Bill Moore by email at bmoore@okhistory.org.

Funding for this project was provided by the Lawton Community Foundation, the Mckinney Foundation, the National Film Preservation Foundation, Oklahoma City University, and the Oklahoma Historical Society. Special thanks are extended to the Friends of the Oklahoma Historical Society Archives and the Friends of the Oklahoma History Center.

The original music composition is by David Yeagley. The score is performed by the Oklahoma City University orchestra: Ben Nilles, conductor; John Cross, music editor; Mark Parker, dean of the School of Music; and Robert Henry, OCU president.

101 Ranch exhibit at Cherokee Strip Museum extended

The exhibit at the Cherokee Strip Museum in Perry featuring the famous 101 Ranch opened in March and its display has been extended to mid-September. The exhibit features artifact, document, and photograph displays of the Miller brothers, the ranch, and the 101 Wild West Show.

The Cherokee Strip Museum is open Tuesday through Friday, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., and on Saturday, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. For more information, please contact Peggy Haxton at 580/336-2405 or visit www.cherokee-strip-museum.org or www.okhistory.org.
“History Comes Alive” cruises

Mark your calendars and load up the family for an adventure on the Oklahoma River with the Oklahoma History Center and Oklahoma River Cruises.

Each Saturday from April 18 to August 18 character interpreters from the Oklahoma History Center will join passengers on the Oklahoma River Cruises boats for a trip unlike any other. Step back in time and experience the past firsthand as you make your way down the river. Space is limited and reservations are encouraged. Boarding begins fifteen minutes before the scheduled departure time.

“History Comes Alive” cruises depart from the Regatta Park Landing at 12:30 p.m. and from the Exchange Landing at 1:15 p.m. each Saturday. Adult fare is $6 one way, children ages six to twelve and seniors are $3 one way. Children under six ride free. All programs are subject to change. For more information please visit www.okrivercruises.com or call 405/702-7755.

River boat program schedule:

4/28  1905 Community Organizer
5/5   Territorial Marshal
5/12  Rosie the Riveter
5/19  Cowboy
5/26  Land Run
6/2   Confederate Soldier
6/9   WWI Nurse
6/16  Suffragist
6/23  Land Run
6/30  Cowboy
7/7   Territorial Marshal
7/14  Rosie the Riveter
7/21  Land Run
7/28  Union Soldier
8/4   Territorial Marshal
8/11  1890 Mail Order Bride
8/18  Cowboy

Felting class

The Oklahoma History Center will host an introductory felting class on Saturday, July 30. The class will run from 1 to 2:30 p.m. The class is free with museum admission and registration is required. This class will introduce students to the basics of felting, felting forms, and techniques. Students in the class will create felted beads.

For more information or to register, please contact Jason Harris at jharris@okhistory.org or by phone at 405/522-0785.

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 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.

Operation Pioneer Spirit and other events at the Pioneer Woman Museum

Operation Pioneer Spirit will be in the Education Room at the Pioneer Woman Museum in Ponca City on Tuesday and Wednesday, July 17 and 18, to pack care boxes to send to American soldiers serving overseas. Donations will be accepted Tuesday through Saturday from 10 a.m. until 4:30 p.m. Go to operationpioneerspirit.com for a list of the items accepted for shipping.

The Pioneer Woman Museum Advisory Board will meet on Tuesday, July 24, at noon in the Education Room. Please RSVP at 580/765-6108. Do not forget to bring a bag lunch.

In addition, the Pioneer Woman Museum will be closed on Wednesday, July 4, in observance of the Fourth of July holiday.

Museum Store News

To celebrate the opening of our newest exhibit, Oklahoma @ the Movies, the Oklahoma History Center Museum Store is pleased to offer a line of movie-related merchandise for members and patrons. Oklahoma @ the Movies is a celebration of talented and creative Oklahomans who have enhanced the film industry.

The Museum Store offers several DVDs of great movies featuring or created by prominent Oklahomans or based on life in Oklahoma. From the classic, highly influential musical Oklahoma! to the modern blockbuster Space Cowboys, we have many great movies the family will enjoy.

We have books and kits that will inspire young minds to create their own movie and animation masterpieces as well, such as Movie Maker, the Klutz Book of Animation, and the animation praxinoscope. These items provide kids with the tools to create and allow them to experience the magic of movies themselves.

Take the magic of the movies home with these great products. Stop by and visit us for these and many other unique gift items. Members always receive a discount of 15 percent on Museum Store purchases. Please contact us at 405/522-5214 with any questions about these or any other of our great products.