



Mistletoe Leaves



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July 2013



Celebration of AARP and OHS a success

On Thursday, May 16, the American Association of Retired Persons (AARP) Oklahoma and the Oklahoma Historical Society celebrated their new partnership with a special event at the Oklahoma History Center. The event featured the musical talents of Jude Northcutt and Jody Miller. Jude Northcutt is best remembered by Oklahoma natives as "Jude" of the Jude and Jody Furniture Store band that was regularly featured on Oklahoma City television in the 1960s and 1970s. While not the original "Jody," Blanchard's Jody Miller is known for a number of hits in the 1960s and 1970s, most notably for "Queen of the House." In addition to the headliners, several musicians who have worked with Jude Northcutt over the years were reunited at this concert. Before the program visitors viewed the special exhibit *Oklahoma @ the Movies*.



(photos by Mashell Sourjohn).

Beginning gourd bowl workshop

On Saturday, July 20, a beginning workshop at the Cherokee Strip Museum will cover the basics of creating a finished piece of art from a dried gourd. Participants will learn the steps of cleaning the gourd, designing and burning the pattern onto the gourd, and choosing embellishments. Each participant will leave the workshop with their personally designed gourd and a woodburning tool. The class is taught by Beth Bolay, a gourd artists with Gratitude Gourds.

Registration with name and phone number and payment of \$75 is due by July 9. The registration information should be sent to the Cherokee Strip Museum at 2617 Fir in Perry. Class size is limited to ten participants. The class is from 9:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. with a thirty minute lunch break. Participants may bring a sack lunch or go to a nearby restaurant.

For questions or more information, call 580/336-2405.



Drummond Home car show

Join us for the Drummond Home Car Show on Saturday, July 13. Registration is from 10 a.m. to 12 p.m., \$15 per car. All entries will be judged and first, second, and third place prizes of \$100, \$75, and \$50 will be awarded.

From 1 to 4 p.m. there will be an ice cream social and refreshments, and the Drummond Home will be open for public view. For more information contact Beverly Whitcomb at 918/885-2374 or email bwhitcomb@okhistory.org. The Drummond Home is located at 305 North Price Avenue in Hominy. The home is open Wednesdays through Saturdays from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. and on Sundays from 1 to 5 p.m.





Director's Column

By **Bob L. Blackburn**
Executive Director

When historians talk about the Oklahoma experience, we usually use words such as immigrants, diversity, youthfulness, mobility, boom and bust, and resilience. One of my favorite words describing the people of Oklahoma is persistence. Oklahomans do not like to give up.

We see that in the recovery from disasters, both man-made and natural, starting with forced removal of entire tribes and the destruction of the Civil War to severe weather and acts of terrorism.

Farmers and ranchers define persistence with their expectations of more rain, less hail, higher prices, and bumper crops—next year.

People in the oil and gas patch have always been persistent, overcoming dry holes, enduring the endless cycle of raising cash, and withstanding public opinion that often does not appreciate the risk and technological challenges they face every time they pull the trigger on a new well.

Successful business people, from C. R. Anthony and Ed Malzahn to Troy Smith and Tom Love, often use persistence to describe their success. They never gave up.

Leon Russell, Mary Kay Place, and Garth Brooks did not burst onto the scene in some reality television show but climbed to success one persistent step at a time.

Like all of these examples from our history, current efforts to build the Oklahoma Museum of Popular Culture fit into this tried and true tradition of persistence.

Five years ago we came up with a great idea for a museum that would give the OHS an institutional home in Tulsa and draw more people to Oklahoma history using the theme “Crossroads of Creativity.”

Two years ago, with partner organizations behind us, we completed an architectural brief with a business plan that will not require additional taxpayer money for operations.

Last year, we won support in the Senate for funding construction but did not get a hearing in the House.

This year, when the May 20 tornadoes changed so many lives in an instant, we withdrew our request for legislative funding because it was the right thing to do.

Will we give up? No. Our supporters in Tulsa have encouraged us to rally our forces and go back to the Legislature next year. The artists who have stuck with us for years want to see us go forward. The plan is sound and the museum is sustainable.

Like farmers, ranchers, oilmen, entrepreneurs, and artists, we cannot give up. That is not the Oklahoma way.

Yes, when historians talk about the Oklahoma experience in the future, we want them to include the story of persistence and the creation of the Oklahoma Museum of Popular Culture. Tomorrow will be better than today.

Dr. Bob

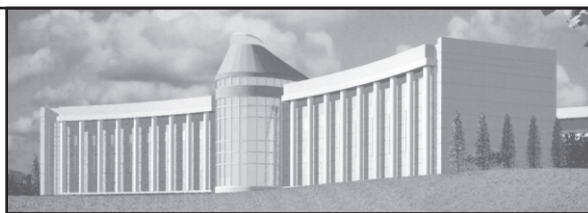
Development News

by Paul F. Lambert

We had an outstanding Annual Membership Meeting in Clinton in April, and I want to take this opportunity to thank the Friends of the Route 66 Museum for serving as a cosponsor of the event. Their assistance was vitally important to the success of the meeting. The staff at the Frisco Conference Center also was exceptionally helpful as were Principal Janelle Shepherd and her staff at the Clinton Middle School where we had our concert honoring the music of Roger Miller and western Oklahoma.

Plans for the 2014 OHS Annual Meeting already are being made under the direction of the Annual Meeting Committee, chaired by Patti Loughlin of Stillwater. In addition to Dr. Loughlin, members of the committee are Bill Corbett, Tahlequah; Frederick Drummond, Pawhuska; Sherry Muchmore, Ponca City; Sandie Olson, Waynoka; and Donna Sharpe, Checotah. The meeting will take place in Stillwater on April 23, 24, and 25. Venues will include the ConocoPhillips OSU Alumni Center on the campus of Oklahoma State University and the Stillwater Community Center.

The theme of the Annual Meeting will involve viewing Oklahoma Territory, Indian Territory, and the state of Oklahoma as a “Crossroads of Commerce.” Plans include a reception the evening of Wednesday, April 22, and our usual program sessions and luncheons on Thursday and Friday. We also are exploring the idea of having an optional bus tour of historic sites in Payne County available and a special concert Thursday evening to explore the history and sounds of Red Dirt Music.



New Members May 2013

*Indicates renewed memberships at a higher level

Benefactor

Mr. and Mrs. George W. Krumme, Tulsa

Director's Circle

American Residential Group, Tulsa

*Dr. and Mrs. David Brown, Oklahoma City

Fellow

Mr. and Mrs. Ed Commander, Oklahoma City

*Dr. and Mrs. David Flesher, Oklahoma City

Associate

*Mr. and Mrs. Johnnie Crutchfield, Ardmore

*Jim Daniel, Oklahoma City

*Dorothy Erikson, Alva

*Mr. and Mrs. Dan Hogan, III, Nichols Hills

*William Owen, Oklahoma City

Friend

*Dr. Robert Barnard, Shawnee

Steve Berlin and Debbie Smith-Berlin, Tulsa

Dennis Byford, Oklahoma City

Mary Donahoo, Marianna, PA

*Dr. Dianna Everett and Dr. Bobby Weaver, Edmond

Harold Garvin, Duncan

Kenneth Jones, Oklahoma City

Florence Mills, Cushing

Brooke Murphy, Oklahoma City

*Mr. and Mrs. James Suthers, Shattuck

Family

Diane Abla, Oklahoma City

Mr. and Mrs. Don Anderson, Oklahoma City

Mr. and Mrs. Johnny Asher, Moore

Martha Axton and Shaun Axton, Norman

Twila Barnes, Fulton, MO

Kelly Bass, Edmond

Greg Bell, Edmond

Mr. and Mrs. Glen Brady, Oklahoma City

Peggy Brown, Oklahoma City

Andrea Brown-Robinson, Oklahoma City

Mr. and Mrs. Gerald Byers, Harrah

Richard Carothers, Oklahoma City

John Case, Oklahoma City

Tanya Chandler, Choctaw

Mr. and Mrs. Everett Childers, Tahlequah

Terri Cobb, Bethany

Robert Cole, Ponca City

Mr. and Mrs. Steve Collins, Shawnee

Patricia Craig, Clinton, NC

Alan Daniel, Hydro

Wilfred Decker Jr, The Village

Peggy Eaton and Laura McGouran, Tahlequah

Dr. and Mrs. John Edwards, Shawnee

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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 "perserve 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 studies and programs and to duplicate contents as desired. Editors are welcome to reprint materials with credit.

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Anyone denied benefits should contact the grievance manager of the Oklahoma Historical Society, 800 Nazih Zuhdi Dr., Oklahoma City, OK 73105-7917, telephone 405/522-8989, and/or the director, Office of Equal Opportunity, United States Department of the Interior, Washington, D.C. 20240.

AROUND OKLAHOMA

Events

The **Seminole** Chamber of Commerce will host its annual Fourth of July Festival on Tuesday, July 4, in the Seminole Municipal Park across McDonald's on Milt Phillips. The festivities will begin at 4 p.m. and will conclude with a huge firework display just after dark. There will be free inflatables, free watermelon, free peanuts, and live entertainment. Visitors will hear from crowd favorites SquadLive and Smilin' Vic to name a few. Annual t-shirts, designed by Hope Pickering, will also be available for \$10. Sizes from small youth to extra-large youth and small adult to 4XL adult will be available. There will be lots of food and novelties available and games to play. This family friendly event is open to everyone. Please come and celebrate with Seminole this Fourth of July. For directions or questions, contact the Seminole Chamber of Commerce at 405/382-3640.

Har-Ber Village Museum in **Grove** will host the second annual Independence Day Celebration on Thursday, July 4, from 10 a.m. to 12 p.m. With paid admission or free with museum membership, guests can enjoy lawn games such as croquet, hoop rolling, graces and horseshoes and then try their turn at hand-cranking firecracker ice cream, vanilla ice cream, and blueberry ice cream in the old fashioned ice cream maker. At 10:45 a.m. kids can decorate their bicycles, tricycles, wagons, and themselves with patriotic items such as streamers, pinwheels, washable tattoos, hats, and headbands provided by the museum. The new bandstand will be the place to be at 11:15 a.m. when Thomas Jefferson, as portrayed by Tad Jones, will speak and read portions of the Declaration of Independence. Following the reading, guests will hear a special vocal presentation by Broadway performer and choreographer Ron Young. The main event of the celebration will be the Kids' Parade, which will begin at 11:30 a.m. Kids will follow a special parade route from the new bandstand down Main Street to the old bandstand, where they will be cheered on by their families and other visitors. The celebration will end with a small sample of the ice cream. The Har-Ber Village Museum Independence Day Celebration is sponsored by First National Bank, Neil Jarvis State Farm Insurance, and REC Northeast Oklahoma Electric Cooperative. For more information about the Independence Day Celebration or about Har-Ber Village Museum, call 918/786-6446, email info@har-bervillage.com, or visit www.har-bervillage.com.

This Independence Day, **Pauls Valley** will celebrate with a nationally renowned watermelon seed-spitting contest, family events, and firework displays on July 4. Immortalized in the original edition of the popular, best-selling family board game Trivial Pursuit, the annual Watermelon Seed Spittin' World Championship has become synonymous with Pauls Valley. Held in conjunction with the city's Fourth of July fireworks show, this contest has been a Pauls Valley tradition for more than fifty years. Since 1957 when the contest began, the Watermelon Seed Spittin' World Championship has been featured in the Guinness Book of Records and Ripley's Believe It or Not. Witness participants in six age-based categories attempt to break the record of Jack Dietz of Chicago. Dietz launched a seed sixty-six feet eleven inches in 1989. Registration begins at 6 p.m. in the football stadium at Wacker Park. Registration and admission to the event is free, but space is limited for contestants so be sure to be on time to sign up. For more information, call 405/238-2555. (travelok.com)

Visitors to the annual Arts, Crafts, Music, and Cajun Festival on July 4 in **Grove** do not have to travel deep into the heart of Cajun country to find good food, good times, and good music. Spend the day in Grove and enjoy authentic Cajun music, Cajun food, and a wealth of entertainers. Shop for beautiful handcrafted jewelry or American Indian art among the numerous arts and crafts vendors that will be set up at this event. Feast on chicken and sausage jambalaya, or enjoy traditional festival fare such as hamburgers and hot dogs. The Arts, Crafts, Music, and Cajun Festival has become a major event in the Grand Lake area and is devoted to good, family entertainment. This event is hosted by Jana Jae, Grove's own queen of the country fiddle. Jana Jae and Louisiana's Cajun band, Bayou Roots, will also entertain with different styles of authentic Cajun and Zydeco music. With plenty of dancing and Cajun-style fun, this festival can not be beat. For more information, call 918/786-8896. (travelok.com)

Head to the Cleveland County Fairgrounds in **Norman** for the Smokin' Up a Storm BBQ Challenge on July 12 and 13. This sanctioned, professional barbecue cooking competition will bring together a mix of fifty professional and amateur barbecue competition teams from around Oklahoma for two days of fun and competition. Guests can sample delicious barbecue while browsing product vendors and exhibitors. Head

over to the stage for live music or rest under a mister in the shade of a tent. Visit the Smokin' Up A Storm BBQ Challenge for delicious food and a fun time for all. For more information, call 405/819-1718. (travelok.com)

Join thousands of visitors for a week-long party in **Stillwater** at this year's Eskimo Joe's thirty-eighth Anniversary Celebration from July 15 to 21. Come to Stillwater's "Jumpin' Little Juke Joint" for a week filled with great food and drink specials, costume contests, special events, concerts, and fun for the whole family. With different events scheduled for each day of the celebration, this spectacular party at Eskimo Joe's has become nothing short of legendary. Thousands of loyal patrons participate each year, so make your way to this college town for tons of giveaways and prizes, great food, live entertainment, and more. Held since 1976, Eskimo Joe's Anniversary Celebration has gradually grown and now spills onto Elm Street and beyond. Concessions will be available throughout the event. Bring the kids for a free children's carnival and enjoy rows of classic cars in the annual car show. Make your way to Eskimo Joe's 38th Anniversary Celebration on Sunday for the official birthday party and feast on complimentary cake and cupcakes. For more for information, call 405/372-8896. (travelok.com)

Held in the self-professed "Peach Capital of Oklahoma," on July 20 the **Stratford** Peach Festival will feature a variety of activities including live entertainment, arts and crafts vendors, street games, helicopter rides, and more. Pick up a bushel of fresh peaches from one of seven area orchards participating in the event, or simply enjoy a delicious serving of homemade peach ice cream. For more information, call 580/759-3300. (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 ttoney@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 items to appear. For example, if you wish a news item to appear in our August issue, please send it to our editors by the first week of July. Thank you for your submissions.

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 other 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.

July

- 1-31 *Family Album: Photographs of Pierre Tartoue* exhibit, Oklahoma History Center, Oklahoma City
- 1-31 *Crumbo Spirit Talk: The Art of Woody Crumbo and His Children* exhibit, Oklahoma History Center, Oklahoma City
- 1-31 *Oklahoma @ the Movies* exhibit, Oklahoma History Center, Oklahoma City



- 1-31 *Reigns Supreme: The Little Black Dress* exhibit, Oklahoma History Center, Oklahoma City
- 1-31 *Step Right Up! Behind the Scenes of the Circus Big Top, 1890-1965*, Cherokee Strip Regional Heritage Center, Enid.
- 3, 10, 17, 24, 31 Okietales, summer reading program, Oklahoma History Center, Oklahoma City
- 6 Pioneer crafts Family Saturday, Cherokee Regional Heritage Center, Enid
- 10 Brown Bag lecture, Cherokee Strip Regional Heritage Center, Enid
- 11 "Oklahoma Voices: Tales from the Past" lecture, Oklahoma History Center, Oklahoma City
- 13 Beginning weaving class, Oklahoma History Center, Oklahoma City
- 13 Quilting workshop, Sod House Museum, Aline
- 13 Drummond Home Car Show, Drummond Home, Hominy
- 20 Beginning gourd bowl workshop, Cherokee Strip Museum, Perry
- 27 Beginning Cross-stitch, Oklahoma History Center, Oklahoma City

August

- 1-31 *Crumbo Spirit Talk: The Art of Woody Crumbo and His Children* exhibit, Oklahoma History Center, Oklahoma City



Spirit Horse by Woody Crumbo

- 1-10 *Oklahoma @ the Movies* exhibit, Oklahoma History Center, Oklahoma City
- 1-31 *Reigns Supreme: The Little Black Dress* exhibit, Oklahoma History Center, Oklahoma City
- 3 Circus Family Saturday, Cherokee Strip Regional Heritage Center, Enid

September

- 1-30 *Crumbo Spirit Talk: The Art of Woody Crumbo and His Children* exhibit, Oklahoma History Center, Oklahoma City
- 1-30 *Reigns Supreme: The Little Black Dress* exhibit, Oklahoma History Center, Oklahoma City
- 1-30 *Alert Today, Alive Tomorrow: Living with the Atomic Bomb, 1943-1965* exhibit, Cherokee Strip Regional Heritage Center, Enid
- 6 Cowboy Family Saturday, Cherokee Strip Regional Heritage Center, Enid
- 6 Public Meeting for the SHPO's FY 2014 Historic Preservation Fund Grant Application, Oklahoma History Center, Oklahoma City
- 6 Fourth Annual Cherokee Strip Days Gala "Diamonds and Dice," Cherokee Strip Regional Heritage Center, Enid
- 7 "Hats Off to History" Septemberfest, Oklahoma History Center, Oklahoma City
- 10 Genealogy event with Craig Scott, Oklahoma History Center, Oklahoma City
- 12 Updating the Statewide Preservation Plan: A Public Discussion, SHPO, Oklahoma History Center, Oklahoma City
- 13 Education Day, Cherokee Strip Regional Heritage Center, Enid
- 13 Frontier Festival lantern tours, Cherokee Strip Regional Heritage Center, Enid
- 14 Frontier Festival living history event, Cherokee Strip Regional Heritage Center, Enid
- 14 Cherokee Strip Celebration Tea, Cherokee Strip Museum, Perry
- 14 Quilting workshop, Sod House Museum, Aline
- 18 Historic shirtmaking workshop, Oklahoma History Center, Oklahoma City

- 21 "Celebrating 120 Years of the Cherokee Outlet through Sculpture" with Burneta Venosdel, Sod House Museum, Aline



Burneta Venosdel

- 22 Autumnal Equinox Walks, Spiro Mounds, Spiro
- 24 Ladies Victorian hat workshop, Cherokee Strip Regional Heritage Center, Enid

October

- 1-30 *Crumbo Spirit Talk: The Art of Woody Crumbo and His Children* exhibit, Oklahoma History Center, Oklahoma City
- 1-30 *Reigns Supreme: The Little Black Dress* exhibit, Oklahoma History Center, Oklahoma City
- 1-20 *Alert Today, Alive Tomorrow: Living with the Atomic Bomb, 1943-1965* exhibit, Cherokee Strip Regional Heritage Center, Enid
- 9 Brown Bag lecture, Cherokee Strip Regional Heritage Center, Enid
- 12 Quilting workshop, Sod House Museum, Aline
- 14 Home School Day, Oklahoma History Center, Oklahoma City
- 25 Murrell Home Ghost Stories, Murrell Home, Park Hill



Murrell Home

- 26 "Carved in Stone: The Meaning of Gravestone Graphics" class, Oklahoma History Center, Oklahoma City

November

- 1-30 *Crumbo Spirit Talk: The Art of Woody Crumbo and His Children* exhibit, Oklahoma History Center, Oklahoma City
- 1-30 *Reigns Supreme: The Little Black Dress* exhibit, Oklahoma History Center, Oklahoma City
- 8-10 150th anniversary commemorative reenactment of the Battle of Honey Springs, Honey Springs
- 9 Quilting workshop, Sod House Museum, Aline
- 30 Christmas in the Village, Cherokee Strip Regional Heritage Center, Enid

July - December 2013

December

- 1-30 *Crumbo Spirit Talk: The Art of Woody Crumbo and His Children* exhibit, Oklahoma History Center, Oklahoma City
- 1-30 *Reigns Supreme: The Little Black Dress* exhibit, Oklahoma History Center, Oklahoma City
- 4 Tax Incentives for Rehabilitating Historic Buildings workshop, SHPO, Oklahoma History Center, Oklahoma City
- 4 The Secretary's Standards and Guidelines for Rehabilitating Historic Buildings workshop, SHPO, Oklahoma History Center, Oklahoma City
- 5 The Section 106 Review Process: A Workshop for Agency Officials and Cultural Resource Management Consultants lecture, Oklahoma History Center, Oklahoma City
- 6 Humphrey Abstract Christmas in the Village, Cherokee Strip Regional Heritage Center, Enid
- 6 Working with the National Register of Historic Places workshop, SHPO, Oklahoma History Center, Oklahoma City
- 7 Historic Santa Celebration, Oklahoma History Center, Oklahoma City
- 8 Christmas Tea, Cherokee Strip Museum, Perry
- 8 Christmas Open House, Murrell Home, Park Hill
- 14 Christmas Open House, Sod House Museum, Aline



- 14 Drop Spindle class, Oklahoma History Center, Oklahoma City

OHS Annual Meeting

From April 17 to 19, members and staff of the Oklahoma Historical Society met at the Frisco Conference Center in Clinton for the annual meeting. The Friends of the Route 66 Museum cosponsored the event.

Sessions occurred on Wednesday and Thursday highlighting various aspects of the state's history such as African American towns, causes of the Dust Bowl, and more. On Thursday evening Dean Miller performed a concert to celebrate the music of his father, Roger Miller.

Lastly, the annual awards luncheon celebrated the induction of historians to the hall of fame, the outstanding Oklahoma history thesis, and the Muriel Wright Award for the outstanding article featured in the *Chronicles of Oklahoma*.

Updating Oklahoma's statewide preservation plan

The State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO) is updating the statewide preservation plan, and your input is vital to our understanding of historic preservation issues across Oklahoma. By working together citizens; federal, tribal, state, and local governments; preservation professionals; nonprofit organizations; and the business and development community can set attainable goals to preserve Oklahoma's important historic properties and the unique character of each community while enhancing their economic vitality and quality of life. The updated plan will be in effect from January 2015 through December 2019.

You are invited to join the effort and to begin by reviewing the current plan at <http://www.okhistory.org/shpo/stateplan.htm>. Then you are encouraged to share your ideas and concerns throughout the process over the next eighteen months.

First, you can complete Survey for Updating Tomorrow's Legacy: Oklahoma's Statewide Preservation Plan. You may complete it online at <http://www.okhistory.org/shpo/stateplan.htm>, or obtain the survey form at this site and return it by regular mail to the State Historic Preservation Office, Oklahoma Historical Society, Oklahoma History Center, 800 Nazih Zuhdi Drive, Oklahoma City, OK 73105 or by email to mheisch@okhistory.org. All responses received by August 15, 2013, will be considered.

Second, you can attend the SHPO's public discussion about the state plan and its update at 1:30 p.m. on Thursday, September 12, in the Oklahoma History Center classroom, 800 Nazih Zuhdi Drive, Oklahoma City. The SHPO staff will discuss how the state plan is developed, how it is used in the SHPO's programs, and how others participate in its implementation. The public is invited to attend and share their views about the historic preservation issues that should be addressed in the 2015 edition of the plan.

Finally, your comments on the draft new plan will be extremely valuable. Two drafts will be made available on the SHPO's website and in hard copy upon request. The preliminary draft will be available in January 2014 with comments due in April 2014, and the second draft will be available in May 2014 with comments due in August 2014.

Thank you in advance for your input that will help the SHPO ensure that the new plan identifies and addresses the issues raised by Oklahomans from across the state. If you may have any questions, contact Melvena Heisch, deputy SHPO at 405/522-4484 or mheisch@okhistory.org.



Above: Emmy Stidham, Bill Anoatubby, Dr. Bob Blackburn
Upper right: Stidham, Dora Fuqua, Dr. Blackburn
Center: Dean Miller
Below: Stidham, Bill Corbett, Dr. Blackburn



Below: Stidham, Michael Molina, Dr. Blackburn
 (photos by Jason Bondy).



OHC volunteers raise funds

For four years now the History Center volunteers have been working the Sweet Corn Express food booth at the Oklahoma City Festival of the Arts. They gather with owner John Long and his crew to create the tastiest treats for the hungry festival attendees. Every year when we mention the festival of the Arts to the volunteers, they all shout, "Cheesecake!" This is to memorialize what is yelled in the booth when a customer asks for the famous chocolate-dipped frozen cheesecake.

Veteran OHC volunteer Joan Galbraith loves to help each year with the "potato line," which is the station that makes the biggest loaded baked potatoes served at the festival. This past year, she walked into the food booth and announced to the Sweet Corn crew, "I'm back! Did ya miss me?" Her husband, Thomas, also an OHC volunteer, has provided transportation for the volunteers to the festival each year and only asks to be paid in sweet corn, the booth's signature item.

Proceeds from our time at the Festival of the Arts go toward the volunteer's annual banquet, field trips, and uniforms. They look forward to it each year and love to be involved with the Arts Council of Oklahoma City. We are always looking for more people to join our program and be a part of the Oklahoma Historical Society. For more information please contact Abigail Jones at volunteers@okhistory.org, or by phone at 405/522-5886.

Museum Store News

By Jera Winters

The Oklahoma History Center Museum Store is happy to be your source for unique, Oklahoma-related gift items. We offer many historical and retro style toys and games that make great gifts for young people of all ages.

We have a full line of retro style toys, packaged with packing that reflects the original designs. We carry many of the great, classic toys that were staples of childhood, such as Slinky, Silly Putty, Duncan Yo-Yos, and Barrel of Monkeys. We also feature cap guns, potato guns, Woolly Willy, and other timeless toys.

We have added new games that play on the themes of Oklahoma culture. Don't Tip the Cows is a stacking game for two to three players ages five and up. Players take turns stacking the cows, and try to avoid tipping the cows. This cute game comes in a canister perfect for storing the cow pieces when not in use. Don't Tip the Cows retails for \$14.50, but is available to members at the price of \$12.33.

Oklahoma has a long tradition of hunting, particularly hunting the elusive snipe. Generations of children have hunted the snipe, and the Snipe Hunt game turns this tradition into a fun family activity. The hide-and-seek game comes with two battery operated snipe. Remove the snipe from their nest and hide them for other players to find. After a few minutes, the snipe will start to chirp, and its eyes will light up. The first team to return the other team's snipe to the nest wins. Snipe Hunt retails for \$21, but is available to member at the price of \$17.85.

Come in today and purchase these great games and others at the OHC Museum Store. As always, members receive a 15 percent discount on all regularly priced merchandise. Contact us at 405/522-5214 with any questions, or to place an order over the phone.

Oklahoma City death register, 1908-26

The OHS website now includes an index to an Oklahoma City death register for 1908-26. The online index includes the individual's name, birth date and/or age, birthplace, and their death date. This index is just one of the resources available for tracking your ancestors on the OHS website.

To view the complete register on microfilm patrons may visit the Research Center, located on the first floor of the Oklahoma History Center. Researchers are also welcome to order copies of pages by phone, mail, or through the website. The full death register entry includes name, race, place and date of death, place and date of birth, marital status, father's name, mother's maiden name, occupation, cause of death, physician, cemetery, and undertaker. Search the index at www.okhistory.org/research/deathreg.

Honey Springs memorial service

The Honey Springs Battlefield Historic Site will host a memorial service for all of the servicemen who gave their lives at the Battle of Honey Springs. The service, which will be held at the site's monument grounds, will take place on July 13, beginning at 10 a.m. The battlefield is located at 1863 Honey Springs Road in Checotah. For more information, call 918/473-5572.

Historic circus exhibit

From June 15 to August 11 the Cherokee Strip Regional Heritage Center will host the exhibit *Step Right Up! Behind the Scenes of the Circus Big Top, 1890-1965*.

Through depression-ridden times and a dust bowl, one form of revelry thrived—the circus. Traveling from coast to coast, rail cars packed with canvas, exotic animal menageries, strongmen, fat ladies, and roustabouts brought a much-needed relief to millions of Americans.

Visitors will get to explore another side of this thrilling spectacle and a history fraught with intrigue and majesty.

The exhibition is toured by ExhibitsU-SA, a national program of Mid-America Arts Alliance. ExhibitsUSA sends more than twenty-five exhibitions on tour to more than one hundred small and mid-sized communities every year. Mid-America is the oldest nonprofit regional arts organization in the United States. The CSRHC is located on 507 South Fourth Street in Enid. For more information, call 580/237-1907.



New members, cont'd.

Donna Faught and April Jackson, Edmond
 Mr. and Mrs. George Fears, Oklahoma City
 Mr. and Mrs. Benjamin Ford, Bixby
 Annette Foster, Oklahoma City
 Isabell Gardner and Zelma Gardner, Lawton
 Merle Gatewood, Edmond
 Mr. and Mrs. William Hainer, Edmond
 *Wenoa Harber, Oklahoma City
 Leroy Harrison, Warr Acres
 Amarllis Hazlip, Cushing
 Mary Hendrix, Midwest City
 Mr. and Mrs. Shavn Herring, Oklahoma City
 *Myrna Hicks, Moore
 Rhonda Hollis, Oklahoma City
 Mr. and Mrs. Harold Horton, Yukon
 Nicky Howell, Yukon
 Mr. and Mrs. Virgil Ingraham, Oklahoma City
 Mr. and Mrs. Patrick Jack, Yukon
 Mr. and Mrs. Don Johnson, Bethan
 Eddie Kephart, Blanchard
 Nadine Kirby and Andrea Reynolds, Union City
 Fred Knight, Yukon
 Mr. and Mrs. Joe Koerner, Norman
 Roberta Konda and Darien Cooper, Grove
 Pauletta Leckie, Oklahoma City
 Rosina Mann and Brent Billie, Oklahoma City
 Bob Matthews, Edmond
 Mr. and Mrs. Mathew Miles, Norman
 Mr. and Mrs. Bob Mills, Oklahoma City
 Suzanne Moore, Oklahoma City
 *D. A. Morris, Oklahoma City
 Franklin Muskrat, Oklahoma City
 Bryan Nash, Edmond
 Judy Nevius, Edmond
 Mr. and Mrs. Timothy O'Connor, Oklahoma City
 Mr. and Mrs. Bob Parrish, Tahlequah
 Mary Pearson, Oklahoma City
 Camilla Riley, Edmond
 Betty Robertson, Oklahoma City
 Camilla Riley, Edmond
 Betty Robertson, Oklahoma City
 Anna Roller, Moore
 Sherry Rollins, Grove
 Mr. and Mrs. Byron Russell, Edmond
 Kari Scheihing, Edmond
 Dustin Schmidt, Edmond
 Mr. and Mrs. Charles Shanta, Moore
 Dollie Smith and Kim Bowles, Muskogee
 Mary Smith and Pat Becannen, Edmond
 Michael Smith, Oklahoma City
 Mr. and Mrs. Samuel Smith, Choctaw
 Richard Stahl, Oklahoma City
 Aron Storck, Oklahoma City
 Mildred Sullens and Sandy Beard, El Reno
 Carol Thompson, Altus
 Mr. and Mrs. Wayne Welch, Claremore
 Mr. and Mrs. Ronald West, Oklahoma City
 Gordon Wright, Durant
 Helen Youens and Andrew Youens, Yukon

Individual

Christopher Ashworth, Lone Grove
 Rex Batchelor, Broken Bow
 Matthew Beasley, Davis
 Jerry Birdwell, Mountain Park
 Cheryl Braden, Duncan
 Daniel Clark, Edmond
 Linda Conner, Duncan
 Roger Cottrell, Bartlesville
 Kyle Defoor, Ardmore
 Harry Evans, Atlanta, GA
 Norma Farnsworth, Wichita, KS
 Jaime Fernandez, Marietta
 Leslie Fife, Shreveport, LA
 Robert Haller, Mooreland
 Eugene Harrington, Rose
 James Harris, Jr., Pearland, TX
 Davis Hurley, Morrison
 Annae Imhoff, Stroud
 Nicole McDaniel, Apache
 Casey McDowell, Elk City
 Charles Miller, Chandler
 Ernest Moon, Lawton
 Larry Morris, Broken Bow
 Christopher Murray, Idabel
 James Muse, Broken Bow
 Dusty O'Steen, Ardmore
 Annabelle Parson, Moore
 Vicki Prough, Durant
 James Robertson, Ardmore
 Katherine Sanford, Tulsa
 Robert Scoggins, Ada

Stephanie Shannon, Ardmore
 Brad Shepherd, Kingfisher
 Kori Smith, Swink
 Sheila Sparkman, Broken Bow
 John Staton, Garvin
 Alberto Torres, Madill
 Victoria Utendahl, Lawton
 Johnny Watkins, Fox
 Amy Whiteley, Wright City

Organizational

Oklahoma Historical Tours Inc., Edmond
 Tecumseh High School Library, Tecumseh

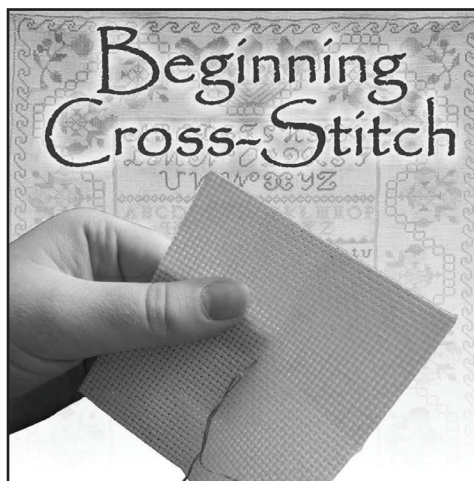
Twenty-year members renew in May

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.

Duke and Linda Ligon, Oklahoma City, May 1, 1955
 Vernon and Linda Pierce, Harrah, November 1, 1966
 Margaret Merryman, Enid, September 1, 1972
 Edward Rolison, Weatherford, May 1, 1974
 Lewis Culver, Little Rock, AR, May 1, 1980
 Jim and Burnis Argo, Enid, May 1, 1983
 Talbot Library/Museum, Colcord, May 1, 1985
 Durant Historical Society, Durant, March 24, 1986
 Allen Co Public Library, Fort Wayne, IN, June 17, 1986
 James O'Malley, Richardson, TX, March 23, 1987
 Donald W Reynolds Community Center & Library, Durant, February 10, 1988
 Mike and Glenna Stidham, Checotah, March 17, 1988
 Dr. Davis Joyce, Spavinaw, May 31, 1988
 Vicki Hicks, Washington, DC, September 5, 1989
 James Russell, McAlester, April 13, 1992
 William and Jane Osborn, Miami, January 19, 1993
 Virginian Seay Covington, Chestertown, MD, May 25, 1993

Cross-stitch class

Join the Oklahoma History Center in a beginning counted cross-stitch class from 1 to 4 p.m. on Saturday, July 27. No previous knowledge of needlepoint crafts or sewing is necessary. Participants will explore the history of cross-stitch and view cross-stitched artifacts from the collection. Students will obtain the skills needed to begin cross-stitching independently. The class is for ages twelve and up. Class space is limited so register today. The cost for the class is \$15. All supplies are provided. For more information on the class or to register please email education@okhistory.org or by call 405/522-3602.



Confederate Memorial Museum's living history event

Atoka's Confederate Memorial Museum hosted about five hundred elementary and middle school students during its "Living Off the Land" living history on May 2 and 3. Students were guided through hands-on historical stops including sewing a button on, cane pole fishing, gardening, canning, and survival when lost in the woods. This program is an annual end-of-school event at the Confederate Memorial Museum and Cemetery.



**Demonstrating pioneer life at the
Confederate Memorial Museum**

Beginning fingerweaving class

The Oklahoma History Center and instructor Vanessa Moore will host beginning fingerweaving from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

The class is limited to just fifteen students to allow one-on-one instruction. The registration fee is \$40 and includes lunch and a tour of the American Indian Gallery. For more information or to enroll, contact Sarah Dumas at sdumas@okhistory.org or 405/522-0791.

OHS receives grant for civil rights history

The Oklahoma Historical Society has received a grant from the National Endowment for the Humanities for participation in the Gilder Lehrman Institute of American History's "Created Equal: America's Civil Rights Struggle" grant program. The grant provides a full set of the "Created Equal: America's Civil Rights Struggle" film series and \$1,200 to support related programming. *The documentaries include The Abolitionists, Slavery by Another Name, Freedom Riders, and The Loving Story.* The OHS will host events centered around screenings of these films between 2013 and 2016, focusing on Oklahoma's role in the national struggle for civil rights and equality. The first events will coincide with the reopening of *Realizing the Dream*, the Oklahoma History Center's exhibit on African American history in Oklahoma, in December of this year.

Oklahoma Historical Society
800 Nazih Zuhdi Drive
Oklahoma City, OK 73105-7917

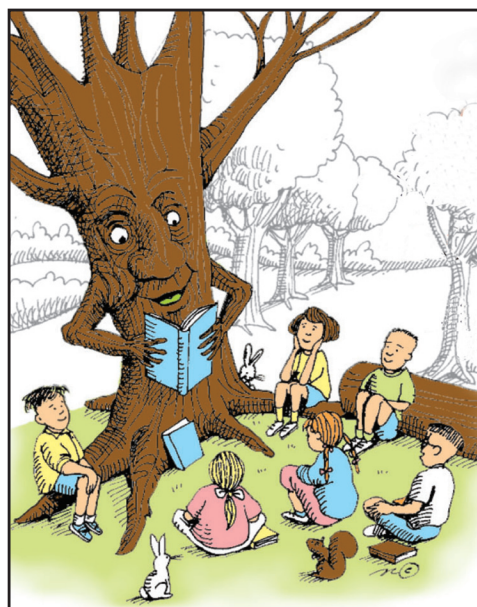
ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

PERIODICALS



Smithsonian Affiliations
Membership Program

Okietales summer reading program



Mark your calendars and load up the little ones for a special program to explore Oklahoma's past at the Oklahoma History Center. Each Wednesday in July from 10 to 11 a.m. the OHC will host Okietales. Okietales is a unique reading and storytelling time when kids can hear and see history.

Every Wednesday the kids will dive into history with books and stories, exploring a different topic from the Wild West and cowboys to land runs and pioneer life. This program is designed for children ages five to nine.

Best of all parents can enjoy some quiet time in the café or check out the exhibits for an hour while the kids participate in the program. Admission is \$2 for each child and includes museum admission following the program.

Space is limited and preregistration is required.

For more information on Okietales or to register please contact Sarah Dumas at sdumas@okhistory.org or by phone at 405/522-0791.

Mistletoe Leaves

Vol. 44, No. 7

July 2013

Riverside Indian School historical marker



Marquel Desersa, Shanna White, Mariah Halusewa, Elizabeth Harney, and Connie Miner with the new sign.

Students attending the Riverside Indian School in Anadarko are making a difference in their community. Late last year they became aware of the terrible condition of the historical marker that commemorates their school. As a group they voted to do something about it.

Permission was gained from Kathy Dickson, Director of Museum and Sites of the Oklahoma Historical Society, to give the sign some much needed TLC. The sign was commissioned originally in 1970. Since the sign is in the Oklahoma Department of Transportation's right-of-way for US 281 and State Highway 8, the area engineer, Brad Mirth, was contacted. He also gave approval for the sign repair.

Riverside Indian School is the largest American Indian boarding school in the United States not located on a reservation. Most of the students come to school in Anadarko from other states so the project was shelved until the students returned from Christmas break. As January rolled around the Oklahoma weather caused a few delays and the students were not able to get to take down the sign until March.

Finally the sign was taken down and transported to the school. It seems very appropriate that the repairs were made at the facility the sign commemorates. The students cleaned and sanded the marker, taking particular care when repainting its face and lettering. Some research was required for the coloring of the Oklahoma state shield, which is an integral part of Oklahoma Historical Society markers.

Within two to three weeks the students had the sign ready to be reinstalled, but unfortunately the post had not been repaired. Volunteers were attempting to beef up the post, as well as the connection point. The original post had a thin layer of metal over concrete and the search was on to find a correct size solid metal

pipe to use for the collar to slide over and give the sign a strong point of connection. No standard pipe was found with a four-and-a-quarter-inch outside diameter and the search continued. Regency Steel from Norman came to the rescue and supplied an appropriately sized pipe with rebar studs welded in place, ready for the concrete post to be poured. Volunteers needed some supplies for the job and Concrete Enterprises from Oklahoma City loaned the items to make it happen. In May 2013 the sign finally made it home with a fresh new face.



Shanna White and Marquel Desersa with the old sign (photos by Winona Simmons).