



Book signing for *Oklahoma City: Film Row*

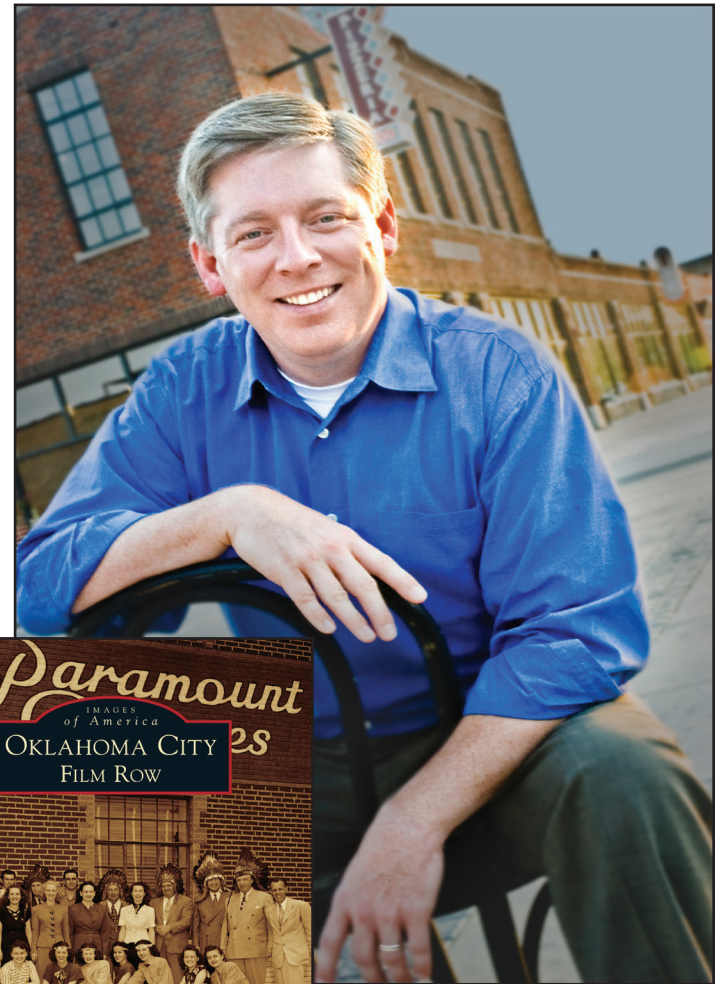
Join Bradley Wynn, the author of *Oklahoma City: Film Row*, for a book signing and discussion on Film Row Tuesday, June 5, at the Oklahoma History Center. The museum will open its doors at 6 p.m. for a book signing with the author before the 7 p.m. program.

"Located in downtown Oklahoma City, Film Row once flourished as a sales hub for theater owners needing films, posters, and concessions for their Midwest venues. The film exchange offices along this three-square-block area and across the cityscape housed major film production studios like Paramount Pictures, MGM, Universal, Fox, and Warner Brothers from 1907 until the 1980s. But changes in demographics, economy, and technology nearly wiped their memory from the city landscape. Now these decades-old structures and their nearly forgotten history are being rediscovered and utilized once again for business," writes Wynn.

The program will discuss topics such as film exchanges, what Film Row was, rediscovery of Film Row, and what is happening today in the area. Books will be available for purchase at the Museum Store.

Admission to the program is free. For more information on the event, please contact Jason Harris at 405/522-0785 or email at jharris@okhistory.org.

To further explore the movie industry in Oklahoma, visit the *Oklahoma @ the Movies* exhibit at the OHC.

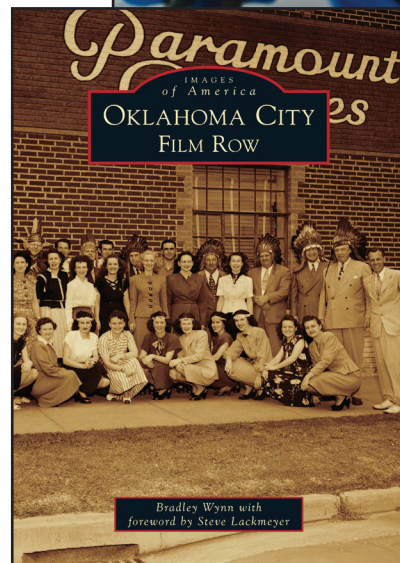


Above: Bradley Wynn

Beginning beadwork class

The Oklahoma History Center will host a beginning beadwork class with Martha Berry, a nationally known Cherokee beadwork artist, on June 30. The class will run from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., and registration is required. The cost for the class is \$100 and includes all materials necessary to produce a traditional Cherokee purse. Materials for the students' kits will include: fabric, beads, bee's wax, beading needles, sharps needles, ribbon, thread, plastic bags, embroidery hoop, and patterns. Class size is limited to just fifteen participants to allow one-on-one instruction with Martha, and lunch is provided. In addition the museum will offer an advanced beadwork class in August. Completion of a beginning beadwork class is required for the advanced class.

Find out more about Martha Berry by visiting her website: www.berrybeadwork.com. For more information or to register, please contact Jason Harris at 405/522-0785 or email at jharris@okhistory.org.



Okietales

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 June and July from 10:30 to 11:30 a.m. the OHC will host Okietales, a reading and storytelling time where kids can hear, see, and experience history.

Every Wednesday museum staff and volunteers will dive into history with books and stories. This program is designed for children aged four to nine. Each week will explore a different topic including the Wild West, cowboys, land runs, and pioneer life.

Best of all, parents can enjoy 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, contact Jason Harris at jharris@okhistory.org or 405/522-0785.

Lunch & Learn Lecture June 27, 2012

Muskogee Your Key to Northeastern Oklahoma Research



OHS Research Center hosts Lunch and Learn lectures

The Oklahoma Historical Society Research Center is offering a new Lunch & Learn Lecture on June 27 from 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. in the Oklahoma History Center classrooms. Registration is \$10 and includes lunch.

Muskogee has been a destination for many in northeastern Oklahoma since its beginning, whether for a prestatehood marriage license or for legal, recreational, or business reasons. The city was headquarters for the Dawes Commission, home to the first Oklahoma federal courthouse, and a center for railroad travel. In this session Nancy Calhoun, head of genealogy and local history at the Muskogee Public Library, will discuss the various resources available at the Muskogee Library and how to access research aids from home. In addition to Oklahoma, the library's printed collection emphasizes the migration paths into Oklahoma, including a large Arkansas collection.

To register for this Lunch & Learn program, contact the Research Center at 405/522-5225; please have your credit card ready.



Director's Column

By **Bob L. Blackburn**
Executive Director

Teamwork is usually a synonym for success.

When teamwork comes together in full view in front of us, as the Oklahoma City Thunder players have done countless times this year, it is easy to see and fun to watch. With an organization like the Oklahoma Historical Society that works largely behind the scenes, sometimes the concept of teamwork goes unappreciated. Not by me.

A few weeks ago I visited the Route 66 Museum in Clinton, where the exhibit galleries are getting an update with new artifacts and new interpretive twists. With team leaders Rillis Howard and Valerie Duncan setting the game plan, museum director Pat Smith's staff and volunteers were augmented by Kathy Dickson's creative team and staff members from other sites. The result is a half-million-dollar makeover on a budget of \$150,000.

Over the past six months I have seen teamwork transform an overly ambitious

idea into an award winning exhibit called *Oklahoma @ the Movies*.

Last year, as part of a bigger campaign to secure state support for the new Oklahoma Museum of Popular Culture, we applied for and won a \$250,000 grant from the Inasmuch Foundation to create a Smithsonian-style exhibit about Oklahomans in film. The budget was augmented by another \$50,000 from Express Employment Professionals. I set May, the last month of the legislative session, as the goal for an opening so we could show legislators what we can do.

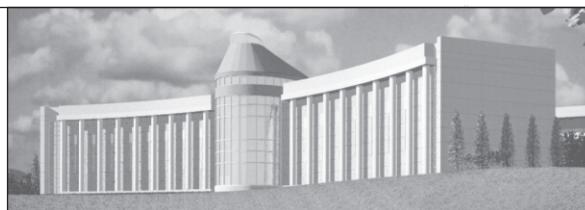
When I asked for the funding, I knew we had neither the budget nor the time to fulfill our promises, but I did know we had the staff to get it done. Again, it had to be a team effort, with Research staff blending seamlessly with Museum staff, the lone OKPOP director, and a few select consultants to come up with a game plan.

They did it thanks to the management skills of Dan Provo, the historical skills of Larry O'Dell, the design skills of David Davis, and the hard work of a crew too numerous to mention here. They know who they are.

Through teamwork, our staff and consultants did the impossible, creating an eight-thousand-square-foot gallery for \$300,000 that would have cost \$1.6 million under traditional circumstances. Every day, as I walk through the gallery, my pride in them grows.

Yes, teamwork is usually a synonym for success. Our staff proves that time after time.

Dr. Bob



Development News

by Paul F. Lambert

Our Annual Membership Meeting was held in Miami, Oklahoma, on April 18, 19, and 20, and it was a great success. As coordinator of the Annual Meeting I have received a number of compliments on the event. Yet those compliments really should apply to a large number of people who played significant roles in planning and executing the event. Among those who are not OHS staff members were Barbara Smith, Amanda Davis, Rodger Harris, Hayden Roberts, Dr. Jeff Hale, and, of course, Mason Williams and the wonderful group of musicians he assembled for the remarkable concert at the Coleman Theatre. OHS President Emmy Stidham presided over the Plenary Session and our two luncheons. OHS directors who served on the Annual Meeting Committee included Leonard Logan, Shirley Nero, Karen Keith, and James Waldo. Finally, the following OHS employees made important contributions: Bob Blackburn, Shelly Crynes, Alma Moore, Tim Zwink, Jeff Moore, Larry O'Dell, Elizabeth Bass, and Tabatha Toney. Also important were all of the individuals who agreed to make presentations, to moderate presentation sessions, or to operate vendor tables. Thanks so much to all of these individuals for their contributions to the Annual Meeting effort.

Another annual program is our Annual Giving Campaign. The campaign promotes donations to support the operations of the Oklahoma History Center and should not be confused with annual membership contributions. The current fiscal year for the OHS runs through June 30. At that point we will revise our list for the Annual Donor Board in the History Center that recognized all donors who, during the just ended fiscal year, made a donation to the OHS of \$1,000 or more. This included all donors, not just Annual Giving Campaign donors. In addition, as promised, we will list *all* Annual Campaign donors who contributed any amount in *Mistletoe Leaves* and in *OHS EXTRA!* Meanwhile, please know that we are grateful to all OHS members and donors for their support!

New Members, April 2012

*Indicates renewed membership at a higher level

Friend

*Stephen Adelson, Tulsa
D.C. Bass & Sons Construction Co., Enid
Mr. and Mrs. Dale Donaho, Seminole
*Dr. and Mrs. Howard Everett, Norman
Jane Hughes, Oklahoma City
*Mr. and Mrs. William Odell, Wheat Ridge, CO
Lisa Taber, Tulsa

Family

Nancy Anderson, Oklahoma City
Mr. and Mrs. Keith Bartsch, Tulsa
Mr. and Mrs. Glen Bays, Stillwater
*Mr. and Mrs. James Beckstrom, Stillwater
Mr. and Mrs. John Buell, Edmond
Tracey Claybon, Oklahoma City
Amanda Collins, Edmond
Mildred Fisher, Oklahoma City
Mr. and Mrs. Neal Freeman, Ardmore
Stephen Gerles, Yukon
Michael Gibson, Oklahoma City
Danny Grayson, Oklahoma City
Delrice Green, Oklahoma City
Dena Gunter, Nicoma Park
Maryl Jean, Luther
V.Z. Lawton, Oklahoma City
Stormie Leaf, Oklahoma City
Dallas Lee, Dallas, TX
Gayle Lobello, Harrah
Mr. and Mrs. Richard Macha, Oklahoma City
Dr. and Mrs. Edward Matheke, Oklahoma City
Larry Moore, Perry
Margaret Morrison, Choctaw
David Pennington, Tulsa
Carolyn Plant, Oklahoma City
Marlene Porter, Choctaw
Cheryl Powell, Oklahoma City
Shirley Prince, Oklahoma City
Meggan Shepherd, Okarche
Jacqueline Short, Oklahoma City
Lisa Sims, Oklahoma City
Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Steil, Noble
Mary Symes and Sandy Semler, Oklahoma City
Dale Tate, Oklahoma City
Ken Tate, Midwest City
DeAnna White, Midwest City
Kaitlyn Willet, Edmond

Institutional

Bacone College Library, Muskogee
Madill City-County Library, Madill

Individual

Mario Acevelo, Elk City
Karen Blankenship, Clinton
Mindy Boone, Ardmore
Sue Dobson, Checotah
Kimberly Fitzgerald, Castle
John Gelnar, Hobart
Jacqueline Granados, Tulsa
Dustin Guthrie, Elk City

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Contents and opinions do not necessarily reflect the views or policies of the Oklahoma Historical Society or the United States Department of the Interior. Mention of trade names does not constitute endorsement or recommendation by either organization.

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

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 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

Saturday, June 2 will be Old Settlers' Day with events happening all over town in **Colcord**. Also on June 2, author Chris Enss will be presenting her newest book written with Howard Kazanjian, *The Life and Times of Lawman Sam Sixkiller: Cherokee Lawman* at the Talbot Library and Museum. The book will be available for purchase before the signing. For more information, call 918/326-4532.

Bartlesville's SunFest occurs from June 1 to 3 for a weekend of family-friendly entertainment. The SunFest features live musical entertainment, arts and crafts, children's games, storytellers, food, and much more. Enjoy the sounds of jazz, rhythm and blues, rock, and bluegrass music while listening to more than twenty individual artists and bands perform throughout Bartlesville's Sooner Park. All performances are free. The annual SunFest Car Show will be held on Saturday, June 2. More than two hundred cars are expected to participate. The public is invited to view the beautiful vehicles free of charge. Also, do not forget to swing by YouthFest for a wide variety of free activities designed specifically for children of all ages. Past activities have included kite making, cookie decorating, face painting, puzzles, and a bean bag toss. The event occurs from 4 p.m. to 12 a.m. on Friday, 10 a.m. to 12 a.m. on Saturday, and 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. on Sunday. For more information, call 918/914-2826. (travelok.com)

Join in the fun at the Living History Event and Concert at the *U.S.S. Batfish* on 3500 Batfish Road in **Muskogee** on June 2 from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. The day will be filled with exciting stories of the past as living historians and tour guides will be onsite to talk about US military history and give tours of the submarine. Relive history by watching live demonstrations throughout the day. Stop by the veteran's room to speak with combat veterans and hear their stories. End the day with Cody James in concert, performing on the deck of the *U.S.S. Batfish*. For more information, call 918/682-6294. (travelok.com)

Head to **Oklahoma City's** Red Earth Festival June 8 to 10 at the Cox Convention Center and witness as more than twelve hundred American Indian artists and dancers gather to celebrate the richness and diversity of their heritage. The

Red Earth Festival is an exciting event featuring representatives from more than one hundred tribes. In addition, guests will have opportunities to purchase contemporary and traditional examples of beadwork, basketry, jewelry, pottery, sculpture, paintings, graphics, and cultural attire during the festival's juried art show and market. A grand parade opens the Red Earth Festival on Friday morning at 10 a.m. The dance competition is one of the rare occasions when dancers from America's northern and southern tribes can be seen exhibiting their originality and skills. The first Grand Entry of dance competitors begins at noon inside the Cox Convention Center Arena on Friday after the parade. The festival occurs on Friday and Saturday from 10 a.m. to 10 p.m. and on Sunday from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. For more information, call 405/427-5228. (travelok.com)

Juneteenth is an annual event held in **Shawnee** at 804 S. Park Avenue that observes the emancipation of African Americans from slavery. Community elders will speak about the history of African Americans and share their unique experiences. Activities include Friday night gospel singing with free food provided by local vendors, a Saturday parade through downtown Shawnee, and heritage craft demonstrations. Celebrate this historic occasion with a talent show, essay readings, and guest speakers. After the parade on Saturday visitors will also enjoy a three-on-three basketball tournament, tennis tournament, and performances by local bands. The kids will enjoy a water slide, inflatables, face painting, sack races, and plenty of tasty treats. The event occurs on June 15 and 16 and is open from 7 p.m. to 10 p.m. on Friday and 10 a.m. to 10 p.m. on Saturday. Admission is free. For more information, call 405/275-3999. (travelok.com)

On June 21 through 24 attend the annual Muscogee (Creek) Nation Festival at the Claude Cox Omniplex in **Okmulgee** for a weekend filled with activities celebrating contemporary Muscogee life. This celebration includes cultural exhibitions, an award-winning rodeo, concerts featuring local and national acts, sports tournaments, arts and crafts, food, a parade through historic downtown Okmulgee, an art market on the Creek Council House Museum lawn, senior citizen's activities, children's activities, and many more festivities for the entire

family to enjoy. All activities are free and open to the public. For more information, call 918/732-7992. (travelok.com)

Come to the Cedar Street Blues & Jazz Festival in **Wewoka** on June 23 and enjoy an evening of live music featuring blues and jazz entertainment from local Oklahoma talent, Cajun food, a crawfish boil, and a spectacular fireworks show. This event in Wewoka features fun for the entire family, so make the trip to the Cedar Streets Blues & Jazz Festival and relax to the smooth sounds of jazz. The event begins at 7 p.m. downtown. For more information, contact Cindy Hall at 405/257-5485. (travelok.com)

On June 1 and 2 Territory Tellers will host the Spirit of Storytelling Festival at **Seminole** State College. The two-day event will feature more than twenty-five Oklahoma storytellers, including Jay Stailey and Jim May. In addition, there will be concerts, storyswaps, and workshops. For more information, contact Tina Saners at 580/226-2920 or visit the website at www.territorytellers.org

Come to the Green Corn Festival from June 28 to 30 for a family fun festival held in downtown **Bixby**. Festivities begin Thursday night with an opening ceremony, live music, and a carnival that will continue through the weekend. On Friday the fun continues with a pioneer breakfast in the morning, talent show in the afternoon, and the Bixby Round-Up Club Rodeo that evening. For more information, contact 918/366-1408. (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 item to appear. For example, if you wish a news item to appear in our July issue, please send it to our editors by the first week of June. Thank you for your submissions.

Pawnee Bill Wild West Show

Stagecoaches will roll amid thundering horse hooves while the lightning of gunfire explodes around Pawnee Bill and his cohorts as the talented cast members thrill and amaze audiences at the 2012 Wild West Show series. Pawnee Bill's Original Wild West Show performs at 7:30 p.m. on June 16, 23, and 30 at the historic Pawnee Bill Ranch. The first show will be a star-spangled event as the Pawnee Bill Ranch honors the 45th Infantry Brigade Combat Team for its service to our country. A tribute to the 45th will begin at 6:30 p.m. on June 16. Lieutenant Governor Todd Lamb and other dignitaries will speak.

This year's theme is "The Best of Pawnee Bill" and will feature acts from the original Pawnee Bill's Wild West Show with an emphasis on a military theme. Producers and directors have combined stage and script with historical preservation to ensure that the Wild West Show is one of the most historically accurate productions to date. Some new acts this year include: football on horseback, bronc riding, a military timeline, and a military exposition. This year Kevin Webb will portray Pawnee Bill for the fourth time. Webb, a long-time Wild West Show cast member and ranch employee, is also a whip artist and chariot racer.

In the tradition of the original Wild West Show, the cast will parade in downtown Pawnee beginning at 4 p.m. The museum and mansion will be open to the public on show days from 11 a.m. to 6:30 p.m. In addition, there will be historically accurate entertainment such as blacksmithing and flint-knapping demonstrations, gunfighters and sharp shooters, a medicine man show, and musicians, all free and held continuously on the ranch grounds. A sideshow opens at 6:30 p.m. on June 23 and 30. The Friends of the Pawnee Bill Ranch Association will serve a Deluxe Cowboy Nacho meal in the big barn starting at 5 p.m.

Ticket prices in advance are \$12 for adults, \$8 for children age ten and under (ages three and under are free), and \$10 for seniors over age sixty-five. Box seats are \$125 per box. Group rates (twenty people or more) are \$10 per ticket. On the day of the show ticket prices are \$14 for adults, \$10 for children ages ten and under (ages three and under are free), and \$12 for seniors. Box seats are \$150 per box. On June 16, anyone with a military ID will get in free, and their spouses and children will get discounted tickets at \$5 a person. Call 918/762-2513 to purchase tickets.



Photos by Marvin Bredel



New Members cont'd.

Mark Harris, Seminole
Jason Hawpe, Stillwater, OK
Martin Kelso, Stillwater
Richard Lariscy, Lindsay
Don Macdonell, Brownsville, TX
Carol Marion, Ardmore
Nicholas Miles, Tulsa
Reford Nash, Norton, OH
Samuel Radtke, Owasso
Samantha Renfro, Fairfax
Ronnie Rogers, Holdenville
Jimmy Sallee, Wagoner
Jason Sanders, Norman
Shawn Sanders, Stilwell
Franklin Simpson, Broken Bow
Stephen Stevens, Ada
Wiley Thornton, New York, NY
Lisa Umfress, Vina, AL
Diane Walker, Muskogee
Robert Walker, Park Hill
Carey Warner, Ft. Gibson
Linda Windle, Morris

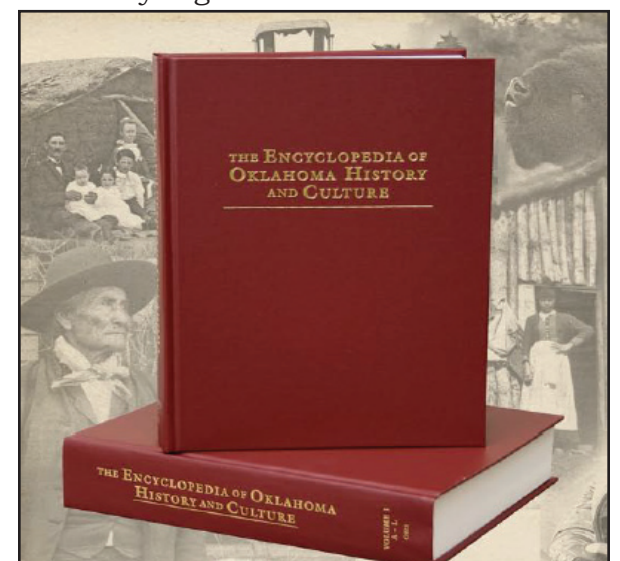
Summer Solstice Walks at Spiro Mounds

Special guided tours are offered at Oklahoma's only prehistoric American Indian archaeological site open to the public. Each tour will be one mile of easy walking and about two hours in duration. Archaeologist Dennis Peterson will tell about the mounds, the people who created them between 900 and 1450 AD, how the people became an important leadership group, the excavations that took place there, and why some of the twelve mounds line up to solstice and equinox sunsets. The site is located at 18154 First Street in Spiro. Tours occur June 20 and 21 at 11 a.m., 2 p.m., and 7 p.m. For more information, call 918/962-2062.

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.



Murrell Home Lawn Social



Above: Jason Harris and Candace Carollo demonstrating historic dance.

Below: A volunteer provides historical music.

Lower right: Reenactors dancing.



The historic George Murrell Home in Park Hill will hold its nineteenth annual Lawn Social on Saturday, June 2. The Lawn Social evokes the beauty, color, music, and dancing of the nineteenth-century Cherokee Nation. Reenactors in Civil War-era dress will present living history scenes around the Greek Revival-style plantation home.

Visitors are invited to participate and learn traditional dances such as the Virginia Reel and the Quadrille or to bring a picnic lunch and watch the festivities. Guests will be able to view living history demonstrations from reenactors throughout the day and tour the 1845 mansion and grounds.

Children's lawn games and other events will be featured. The events will take place from 12 to 4 p.m. Admission is free. The Friends of the Murrell Home will serve refreshments for donations.

A National Historic Landmark, the mansion was built about 1845 and was the residence of Virginian George Murrell and his wife Minerva, niece of the Cherokee Principal Chief John Ross. It is located three miles southwest of Tahlequah and one mile east of State Highway 82. Call 918/456-2751 or e-mail murrellhome@okhistory.org for more information.



Teneriffe lace workshop

Joan Cook will once again present a teneriffe lace workshop on Saturday, June 16. Cook will teach the basic diamond motif of needle-woven teneriffe lace. This surface embroidery is used to adorn anything including clothing, pillows, home furnishings, and more. Despite its complex appearance, teneriffe lace is an extremely simple lace to learn to make.

Teneriffe lace is a needle lace from the Tenerife Island of the Canary Islands and is believed to be of Spanish origin. It was popular in the sixteenth and seventeenth centuries and was referred to as *Sol* lace, or sun lace, similar to a lace from South America called *nanduti* (meaning spider web). In the 1930s and 1940s it was sometimes called Polka Spider Web Lace. The lace is created by weaving thread on a ground of radial spoke threads, creating distinctive roundels or motifs that range in shapes and sizes. For example the diamond shape will create a star and the oval shape a flower. Originally these individual motifs were joined together to form the shape of a finished piece of lace or edging. Teneriffe lace was used in conjunction with Battenberg tape lace at the turn of the 1900s.

Cook will teach the basic techniques of lace making, but she will also teach participants how to put the foundation threads on fabric and then do the weaving. The end result will be a beautifully woven motif on a shirt or the item of choice. Participants need to bring a prewashed shirt, embroidery hoops, one skein variegated thread, embroidery needle, and scissors. Participants also are to bring something to share for lunch. The class will be from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. and cost \$10. Advanced registration is required due to limited space.

The Sod House Museum is open Tuesday through Saturday, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., and admission is required. To register for the workshop or for more information, call Renee Trindle at 580/463-2441 or email sodhouse@okhistory.org

Sequoyah's Cabin annual spring Cultural Day

On Thursday, April 26, Sequoyah's Cabin hosted the annual spring Cultural Day with more than five hundred students attending from eight local schools. The event was sponsored by the Cherokee Nation Heritage Center and allowed students to take part in hands-on cultural games and crafts including flint knapping, stickball, blowguns, marbles, weaving, storytelling, language, and much more. For information about the fall Cultural Day contact Sequoyah's Cabin at 918/775-2413.



Above: Gina Burnett from the Cherokee Heritage Center explains Cherokee customs to students.

Right: Robert Lewis from the Cherokee Heritage Center entertains students with traditional Cherokee stories.



Book by Michael Hightower to be published

The University of Oklahoma Press will publish Dr. Michael J. Hightower's *Commerce on the Prairies: Bartering and Banking on the Oklahoma Frontier* in fall 2013 and has expressed strong interest in his second book, currently a work in process, on banking in Oklahoma since 1907. Hightower expects to complete a draft of the second book by late 2012. Both books will be available for purchase when the OHS exhibit on banking and commerce opens in 2014.

"These books represent a unique partnership between the Oklahoma Historical Society and the University of Oklahoma Press," said Hightower. "My research relies on archival collections and publications. . . . Their resources, together with information I have gleaned from interviews with bankers and research in libraries throughout the state, enable me to tell the remarkable story of economic and community development on the Oklahoma frontier."

To make sure that your community's stories of banking and commerce are included in Dr. Hightower's second book, contact him by phone at 434/249-6043 or by email at mhightower@okhistory.org.

Summer Chautauqua at Cherokee Strip Regional Heritage Center

The Chautauqua Council of Enid will host the Summer 2012 Chautauqua event at the Cherokee Strip Regional Heritage Center from June 12 to 16. The event will be held on the green in the Humphrey Heritage Village. This year the theme is "Hooray for Hollywood." Scholars from across the country will portray historical characters, including Ethel Waters, William Faulkner, Bob Hope, Gordon Parks, and Jack Warner.

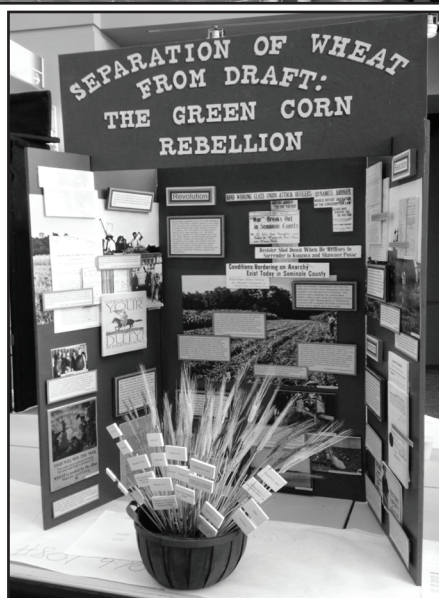
Workshops are held each morning and afternoon with the feature presentations held each evening at 7 p.m. Local entertainment begins at 6 p.m. Admission is free. For more information, contact John and Laurel Provine at 580/551-9792.

Oklahoma students compete at History Day

On May 2 and 3 students from around Oklahoma competed at the state level of National History Day (NHD) hosted by the Oklahoma History Center. This year marked the first as a two-day event. Juniors presented their projects on the first day and seniors on the second. Both days included impressive work in the forms of websites, papers, performances, documentaries, and exhibits. Students placing first and second will then advance to compete at the national level in Maryland June 10 to 14. If you have questions regarding History Day, you can contact Jason Harris at jharris@okhistory.org or 405/522-0785.



Left: NHD students with Ken Burns. Lower left: An example of a NHD exhibit project. Bottom: Students setting up their exhibits. (photos by Jason Harris)



Pioneer Pets exhibit

The Cherokee Strip Regional Heritage Center has created a new temporary photographic exhibit called *Pioneer Pets*. The exhibit will be open from May 25 to July 29.

Family portraits of early Cherokee Strip pioneers in the late nineteenth century often included all their animals. With the cost of photography at that time, these photos suggest the sentiment pioneers showed towards their pets, much like today.

The exhibit will feature around thirty photographs. Free programming will be used to relate the past with our culture of pet lovers today. For more information, call 580/237-1907.



Twenty-year members renew in April

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

Jere Roberson, Edmond, January 2, 1974
Margaret Verble, Lexington, KY, March 1, 1979
Jack Querry, Oklahoma City, April 1, 1979
Michael and Dorothy Tramontana, Tulsa, February 1, 1981
Dola Yeager, Edmond, April 1, 1984
Ric and Francie Russell, Meeker, April 1, 1984
James and Marian Bradley, Westmoreland, KS, March 1, 1985
Van Appelman Jr., Catoosa, April 3, 1985
Bette Hanes, Keyes, March 10, 1986
Kalvin Zitterkob, Moore, April 7, 1986
Michael Tower, Elmore City, December 29, 1986
Suzanne Beree and Virginia Burlingame, Tulsa, March 16, 1987
Rondi Ott, Enid, March 20, 1987
Lee Holder, Yukon, April 20, 1987
Michell Adwon, Tulsa, December 14, 1987
Bill Carter, Coweta, April 4, 1988
Terry Mabrey, Tulsa, November 28, 1988
Sac & Fox Nation Public Library, Stroud, January 24, 1989
Joyce Smith, Mustang, March 20, 1989
Raymond Holcomb, Plano, TX, March 23, 1989
Daryl Townley, Duncan, March 28, 1989
Vicki Hicks, Washington, DC, September 5, 1989
Margie Lawson Lane, Guymon, April 10, 1991
Horace Rhodes, Oklahoma City, Mary 21, 1991
Frances Elliott, Wichita, KS, April 2, 1992
Logan and Donna Sharpe, Checotah, April 21, 1992
Dr. and Mrs. Dennis Weigand, Edmond, April 21, 1992
Sloan Coats, San Francisco, CA, April 24, 1992
Leroy and Marlene Boyer, Oklahoma City, April 27, 1992

Oklahoma @ the Movies exhibit opened in May



The Oklahoma History Center, in conjunction with the development of Tulsa-based OKPOP, opened an eight-thousand-square-foot museum exhibit titled *Oklahoma @ the Movies* on May 14.

This celebration showcased the creativity and innovation of Oklahomans and their legacy of creating, starring in, and watching motion pictures on the silver screen. Historic theaters bridging decades of change are featured, including the Coleman in Miami, the Poncan in Ponca City, and the many ornate marquees that still grace the streets of Oklahoma's towns and cities. These historic theaters of Oklahoma are the highlight

of the "in front of the screen" section of the exhibit. The theme explores our shared memories, taking people back in time to those magical moments when reality was suspended for a short time.

Filmmakers, including all roles of crafting a movie, populate the "behind the screen" part of the exhibit. These stories focus on film industry pioneers such as cinematographer Buss Boggs (Oklahoma City), film editor Elmo Williams (Lone Wolf), public relations executive Stan Rosenfield (Oklahoma City), producer Gray Fredrickson (Oklahoma City), writer S. E. Hinton (Tulsa), art director K. K. Barrett (Tulsa), and Academy Award-winning directors Blake Edwards (Tulsa) and Ron Howard (Duncan).

Oklahoma's vast number of actors provide the magic of the "on screen" section of the exhibit. This creative talent ranges from early cinema heroes such as Tom Mix and Will Rogers to the current roster of stars. Hundreds of stories, many told by the stars themselves, include the Oklahoma roots and Hollywood careers of Joan Crawford (Lawton), Gene Autry (Berwyn), James Garner (Norman), Tony Randall (Tulsa), William Boyd (Tulsa), Kay Francis (Oklahoma City), Mary Kay Place (Tulsa), Dudley Dickerson (Chickasha), Gary Busey (Tulsa), Lon Chaney, Jr. (Oklahoma City), Vera Miles (Boise City), Ben Johnson (Foraker), Ed Harris (Oklahoma City), Jennifer Jones (Tulsa), Robert Knott (Oklahoma City), Alfie Woodard (Tulsa), Wes Studi (Nofire Hollow), Jeanne Tripplehorn (Tulsa), Brad Pitt (Shawnee), Tim Blake Nelson (Tulsa), and Chuck Norris (Ryan).

The exhibit also explores film stories about cowboys, Westerns, American Indians and Hollywood, African American movies filmed in the state, the film industry in Oklahoma, and the "Oklahoma Image" on screen. For more information, call 405/522-0765.



OHS Annual Meeting in Miami

On April 18 through 20 the OHS Annual Meeting occurred at the Coleman Theatre in Miami. This year's theme, "Crossroads of Creativity: Oklahoma's Impact on Popular Culture," illustrated the accomplishments of historical and present-day Oklahomans in film, music, and other aspects of popular culture. The conference featured several sessions from local historians on a wide range of topics. The OHS recognized local historians for their accomplishments at the Annual Awards Luncheon on April 20. The awards included:

Muriel H. Wright Award

"Farm Crisis in Oklahoma"

By Richard Lowitt

The Chronicles of Oklahoma, 89 (Fall and Winter, 2011)

Joseph B. Thoburn Student Historian Award

Mattie Dragoo

Muskogee High School

William D. Pennington Teacher Award

Diane Walker

Muskogee High School

Outstanding OHS Support Organization

The Cherokee Nation

Outstanding Local Historical Museum

The Dobson Museum

Outstanding Thesis on Oklahoma History

"The Grumpy Old Man from Tulsa:

R. A. Lafferty's Literary Critique of

Twentieth Century American Progress."

Michael Joslin

Outstanding Book on Oklahoma History

Shot in Oklahoma: A Century of Sooner

State Cinema

John Wooley

OHS Director Dr. Bob Blackburn and Board of Directors President Emmy Stidham present awards.

Top left: Mattie Dragoo

Top right: Diane Walker

Bottom left: Principle Chief Bill John Baker

Bottom right: Michael Joslin (photos by Bill Welge)

Cherokee Strip Regional Heritage Center wins Innovator of the Year Award

The Cherokee Strip Regional Heritage Center was recently chosen by the *Journal Record* as a 2012 recipient of the Innovator of the Year Award for an innovative partnership between a state agency and a local organization. The new Cherokee Strip Regional Heritage Center is the result of a unique operating partnership between the Oklahoma Historical Society, which supplies the museum staff and owns and manages the facility, and the Cherokee Strip Regional Heritage Center, Inc., a local nonprofit that raised \$10 million for the facility's transformation and oversees daily operations.

The awards dinner was held on April 5 at the Tulsa Renaissance Convention Center in Tulsa. Forty-four Oklahoma companies and organizations from a broad spectrum of commerce were honored for their innovative technologies, products, and programs. The overall winner of the evening was Dr. David Albert of AliveCorp who developed an electrocardiogram application for smartphones.

The *Journal Record* is an established leader in recognizing companies that foster economic development in Oklahoma. Each spring the Innovator of the Year Awards are held to celebrate business innovation by honoring Oklahomans who set themselves apart with products and services that change the marketplace and make the state a better place in which to live and work.

For more information on the Cherokee Strip Regional Heritage Center visit the website at www.csrhc.org.



Above: left to right, Kathy Dickson, Myra Ward, and Andi Holland.

Above right, left to right: Michael Carolina, Andi Holland, Dr. David Russell, and Mary Melon.

Lower right: Kathy Dickson and Andi Holland.



Pioneer Woman Museum Father's Day celebration

The Pioneer Woman Museum (PWM) will celebrate Father's Day on Saturday, June 16. Kids can bring their dad to the Pioneer Woman Museum, and he will get in for free! Watch the for the PWM's Father's Day ad the week of June 11, and dad will also get 20 percent off in the gift shop with the PWM coupon.

On June 26 the Pioneer Woman Museum Advisory Board will meet in the Education Room at noon. Thank you everyone for volunteering your valuable time and resources to support the museum. We are fortunate to call the Oklahoma community home. Our population supports a large number of nonprofit organizations, and we sincerely appreciate your efforts on our behalf. We look forward to seeing you at the PWM. Do not forget to bring your lunch! For more information on the advisory board meeting or regarding the Father's Day event, call 580/765-6108 or visit the website at www.pioneerwomanmuseum.com.



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