Oklahoma Route 66 Museum to open
“Hotel Calmez: Clinton’s Beacon on Route 66” exhibit

On June 26, 2014, the Oklahoma Route 66 Museum will be unveiling a new exhibit entitled “Hotel Calmez: Clinton’s Beacon on Route 66” detailing the history of Clinton’s iconic hotel. The exhibit will be on display through December 2014.

The 1920s witnessed great progress for Clinton. The town grew into the Hub City of western Oklahoma, and local businessman Claude M. Calmes chose to construct a grand hotel. Inspired by a hotel operating in Galveston, Texas, Calmes built the Hotel Calmez in downtown Clinton, bringing comfort without extravagance to the booming community. The Calmez opened with great fanfare and celebration in 1929, only weeks after the crash of Wall Street and birth of the Great Depression. From its inception, the Calmez acted as a gathering place for travelers and tourists on Route 66, as well as the residents of Custer County. The hotel thrived during the first half of the twentieth century, but the prosperity did not last. By the late 1990s, unforeseen circumstance ultimately doomed the building.

To learn the complete history of the Hotel Calmez, please visit the Oklahoma Route 66 Museum this summer and fall.

The unveiling of the exhibit will take place on June 26, 2014, from 5:30 to 7:30 p.m. Along with the display the Calmes family will be joining the festivities. Come in for some fun, food, drinks, and music celebrating part of Clinton’s history.

Pawnee Bill Wild West Show set for June 13-14

Stagecoaches will roll amid thundering horse hooves while the lightning of gunfire explodes around Pawnee Bill and his cohorts as the talented cast thrills and amazes audiences at the 2014 Wild West Show. Pawnee Bill's Original Wild West Show performs at 7:30 p.m. on June 13 and 14 at the historic Pawnee Bill Ranch. The show will feature acts from the original Pawnee Bill's Wild West Shows. 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. Kevin Webb portrays Pawnee Bill for the sixth time around in 2014. 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 at 4 p.m. on Saturday. The museum and mansion will be open to the public on show days from 11 a.m.–7 p.m. In addition, there will be historically accurate entertainment such as blacksmithing, gunfighters and sharp shooters, a medicine man show, and musicians, all free and held continuously on the ranch grounds from 2 p.m. until 7 p.m. The Friends of the Pawnee Bill Ranch Association will serve a 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 65). Box seats are $100 per box. Group rates (ten people and over) 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. Special price package bundles are available and that information can be found at www.pawneebillranch.com or by calling 918-762-2513. Call 918-762-2513 to purchase tickets or for more information. Online tickets are not available for this show. The Pawnee Bill Ranch is located one-half mile west of Pawnee on US 64.
Director’s column

By Dr. Bob L. Blackburn
Executive Director

The threat of losing the Oklahoma Historical Society as we know it has ironically generated a few positive outcomes. Foremost is the widespread expression of support that came from members, constituents, and citizens who value our mission and record of collecting, preserving, and sharing Oklahoma history. In many ways, it is validation that we have done a good job of serving the people of our great state.

Just as important is the self-examination to see if we have weak spots or duplication in our organization. Despite the often repeated claim that there could be “savings in back of house operations,” we have proven that we keep the bulk of our resources in frontline action teams with just enough support services to maximize efficiency and guarantee transparency.

For me, another benefit of the entire consolidation episode is a greater appreciation for our system of governance. Just completing her three-year term as president is Dr. Emmy Scott Stidham, a native of Edmond who has lived in Checotah most of her life. She helped resurrect the effort to make Honey Springs Battlefield a military park. She faithfully served the OHS on committees and as treasurer. Most of all, through her grace and compassion, Emmy set a tone of civility and sense of duty that encouraged those around her to carry on.

Taking her place as president is Dr. Bill Corbett, a professor of history at Northeastern Oklahoma State University. Bill is a first rate scholar, celebrated speaker, and an advocate for state and local history who appreciates the legacy of those who preceded him in the office, including Denzil Garrison, Martin Hagerstrand, Marvin Kroeker, Jack Haley, Leonard Logan, Jim Waldo, and Emmy Stidham. I am confident that Bill will serve with distinction.

Yes, the threat of losing the OHS as we know it has generated positive outcomes, including widespread recognition that our system of setting goals, allocating resources, and putting the right people in the right positions is the best way to collect, preserve, and share Oklahoma history.

cont’d. on p. 7

Development News

By Larry O’Dell

The 2014 Oklahoma Historical Society Annual History Conference recently held in Stillwater gave OHS members and attendees the opportunity to hear new research on our state’s history. A highlight from the three day conference included a concert that featured legendary Oklahoma fiddler Byron Berline, the Red Dirt Rangers, Monica Taylor, Bonita Franklin, and Dr. Harold Aldridge, emceed by Dr. Hugh Foley. The OHS Annual History Conference is held each year in April in different locations throughout the state. The OHS is excited to announce that the Chickasaw Nation has invited the society to hold next year’s conference in Sulphur at the Artesian Hotel.

In addition, OHS members are the lifeblood of the organization. A solid, engaged, and growing membership solidifies the agency and allows it to complete the mission of collecting, preserving, and sharing Oklahoma history. For the Oklahoma Historical Society to continue to be entrepreneurial and innovative in its programs, exhibits, and education opportunities, it needs to continue to grow its membership. Recruitment of new members by our members is crucial to our cause. Potential members can join, and members can renew, on our website http://www.okhistory.org/support/membership.

New Members April 2014

*Indicates renewed memberships at a higher level

Director’s Circle

*Howard Berry, Jr., Oklahoma City
John and Virginia Weinmann, Metairie, LA

Friend

Stephen Ball, Oklahoma City
*Suzanne Broadbent and Jack Werner, Oklahoma City
*Gary Childers, Ada
*Sloan Coats, San Francisco, CA
Art Coach, Tulsa
*Rosa Filippe, Del City
*Steve and Lynette Mathis, Oklahoma City
OKC Beautiful, Oklahoma City
Bob Palmer, Bethany
Clifton and Gloria Scott, Tecumseh
*C. J. and Mary Silas, Bartlesville
*Robert and Terri Skinner, Altus

Family

Lee and Pat Bond, Norman
Michael Bradle, Lampassas, TX
Kennedy Brown, Ada
Wade and Racheli Burleson, Enid
Roylin Cole and George Baliew, Oklahoma City
Bill and Connie Creel, Houston, TX
Kathy Dosa, Tulsa
Gene and Donna Gant, Enid
Cindy Hala, Tulsa
Marlene Helsel, Oklahoma City
Pat and Jacqueline Henry, Edmond
Harrison Houser, Edmond
*Thomas and Robin Howell, Edmond
Bruce and Carol Jenkins, Oklahoma City
Jerry Kunz, Yukon
*Jacob and Ela Larson, Norman
Alan and Deborah Loeffler, Oklahoma City
Donald and Shirley Marquardt, Round Rock, TX
Michael and Margaret Mertz, Blanchard
Cheryl Moore, Edmond
George and Luanne Moore, Jones
Tricia Moses, Ochelata
David Player, Altus
Joe Stich, New Smyrna, FL
*Glendia Warren, Harrah
Jeffrey and Amanda Widener, Norman
C. M. and Margareta Wilson, Midwest City
Laquetha Young, Oklahoma City

Individual

Colt Adams, Duncan
Kyle Admire, Owasso
Flor Aguilar, Muskogee
Betty Baldwin, Bethany
Leroy Bridges, Oklahoma City
Tiffany Brown, Muskogee

cont’d. on p. 7

Oklahoma Historical Society
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The public and OHS members are encouraged to submit heritage-related items for publication. Students and teachers are invited to share studies and programs and to duplicate contents as desired. Editors are welcome to reprint materials with credit.

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Call for Papers

The Pioneer America Society and the Association for the Preservation of Artifacts and Landscapes announces a call for papers for their forty-sixth annual conference “Brand New State: Oklahoma and the Great Plains in Transition” to be held in Oklahoma City, October 9-11, 2014. The conference committee is currently soliciting proposals for papers, special sessions, and panel discussions relating to the conference theme. However, papers on all material culture and landscape topics of interest to the Society are welcome. Only papers submitted by PASAPAL members and registered participants will be accepted for the program.

Presentations will be limited to twenty minutes with additional time for comments and questions. All presentation equipment will be provided. Abstracts must be no longer than three hundred words, and include the title, name of author(s), and affiliation(s). Electronic submission in Microsoft Word is preferred. Abstracts will be published in P.A.S.T. (Pioneer America Society Transactions).

Abstracts may be submitted to:
Dr. Brad Bays
Department of Geography
337 Murray Hall
Oklahoma State University
Stillwater, OK 74078
b.bays@okstate.edu

The deadline for submissions is September 5, 2014. For further conference details as they become available please contact Jim Gabbert, conference chair, 10 East Walnut Street, Alexandria, VA 22301, by email at jamesgabbert@nps.com, or by phone at 571-217-3536. You may also find information at the Society’s website at: http://www.pioneeramerica.org.

Events

The American Heritage Music Festival and Grand Lake National Fiddle Fest will be held June 5-7 at the Grove Civic Center and Snider’s Camp in Grove. The events will also include the Grand Lake National Clogging Contest. Visit the festival for great headliners and talented contestants competing for $1,000 grand prizes in both fiddling and clogging. Two stages will provide plenty of space for a great weekend of music and dancing in Grove.

Visit Bartlesville to enjoy the thirtieth anniversary of the OK Mozart International Music Festival June 7-14. This year’s festival features the “Music of Vienna.” On Saturday, June 7, the festival kicks off with free family fun at the Bartlesville Community Center, including live entertainment from the 145th Army Guard Concert Band, food, face painting, and prize giveaways. The mission of OK Mozart is to bring the highest quality professional music and cultural experience to the citizens of the Bartlesville area, state of Oklahoma, and the mid-America region by producing a multiday festival with professional orchestra musicians, concert artists, and musical performances of artistic excellence. The eight-day festival will present a variety of showcase events at multiple locations in the city. Many of these events are free and information can be found at www.okmozart.com.

Celebrate Checotah’s rural heritage at the Old Settlers Day and Parade June 14. Enjoy a day full of a parade, carnival, live music, street dancing, arts and craft vendors, fair food, and old-fashioned fun. Antique cars and tractors will be on display at the festival. Bring the whole family to enjoy games for children and adults alike.

Glenpool’s thirty-sixth annual Black Gold Days Festival will be held June 19-22 at Black Gold Park, near 141st Street and Highway 75. This is the largest event of the year for Glenpool residents and businesses. The 2014 festival will include a variety of food vendors, craft vendors, carnival rides, and live entertainment. Visitors can watch frog and turtle races, enjoy delicious food at the Lions Pancake Breakfast, and cheer for the Black Gold Parade. Visit the Glenpool Chamber of Commerce website for more information: www.glenpoolchamber.org.

The Chandler Area Chamber of Commerce invites visitors to participate in the fifth annual Hog Wild BBQ and Chrome Fest June 27 and 28 at Tilghman Park Pavilion in Chandler. The event includes a Kansas City Barbeque Society sanctioned state championship barbeque contest and a car and motorcycle show. Enjoy classic vehicles and help choose the People’s Choice barbeque winner at this annual festival. For more information, please contact the Chandler Area Chamber of Commerce at ChandlerChamber@gmail.com or 405-258-0673.

The 7th Annual Spirit of Oklahoma Storytelling Festival will convene in Bethany, Oklahoma, on the campus of Southern Nazarene University, June 13-14, 2014. Keynote teller Kent Rollins will speak about “The Cowboy Cook and Storyteller.” Rollins has been featured with Bobby Flay on the Food Network. The exciting two-day event is presented by Oklahoma’s only statewide storytelling arts organization, The Territory Tellers.

Rollins’s poetry and storytelling talents have earned him the Skinny Roland Humor Award for Best Humorist and Storyteller and he was nominated three times for Best Storyteller, all by the Academy of Western Artists. In addition to Rollins, some of the best of Oklahoma’s very own storytelling artists will be sharing their most tantalizing tales. On Saturday look forward to Rollins’ workshops on Dutch oven cooking and maintenance and Western heritage.

The event will include major evening storytelling concerts, featuring the keynote and select regional artists on both evenings and spread throughout both days. Mini-story concerts (swaps) and always fun, informal “table telling” also will take place. Vendors, a silent auction and other events will round out activities. Other special events will include shiv-ery “Ghost Tales in the Pavilion” at 9 p.m. on Friday with Kathryn Thurman, Marilyn A. Hudson (The Ghost Teller), and others. Kathy Anderson will be sharing the history and lore of Route 66, which is Bethany’s main street, in a special workshop. Kathy is former president of the Oklahoma Route 66 Association and current president of the Billboard Museum Association. A new workshop of note this year is “Biblical Storytelling” on Saturday with Barbara Wright Jones and Cynthia Calloway.

Registration begins at 10 a.m. on Friday and goes all day. The first session and registration begin at 8:00 a.m. on Saturday and registration continues all day. There is an admission fee (by day, full event, and some events, such as the Ghost Tales, are free). All events take place in the Webster Commons Building on the campus of Southern Nazarene University, Bethany, Oklahoma.

For more information contact Marilyn Hudson at 405-307-0962 or marilyna-hudson@yahoo.com. Festival registration and information can be found at www.territorytellers.org.
Successful Easter celebration at the Drummond Home

The Drummond Home in Hominy, Oklahoma had some very special guest on Thursday, April 17. Forty children from the Hominy Head Start school, their teachers, and parents, visited the home where the Easter Bunny was waiting along with curator Beverly Whitcomb. Dozens of eggs were hidden for the children to find and their baskets were filled to the brim with treat-filled eggs. Afterward, the children had their photographs taken with the Easter Bunny. The Drummond Home would like to extend a big thank you to Joe Pickett from Marvin’s Grocery Store and to the Head Start parents for their donations of eggs and candy for this event. It was a fun filled morning for all!

Spring Cultural Days held at Sequoyah’s Cabin

On Friday, April 25, 2014, Sequoyah’s Cabin hosted the tenth annual Spring Cultural Day for approximately 300 area students. Presenters from the Cherokee Heritage Center and Fort Gibson Military Site displayed crafts and games, including blacksmithing, animal furs and tanning, stickball, Cherokee marbles, blowguns, and storytelling. A fall Cultural Day is scheduled for October with a date to be determined at a later date. For further information, contact Jerry Dobbs at 918-775-2413 or email seqcabin@okhistory.org.

Oklahomans and Space documentary series on OETA

Oklahoma astronauts have flown in every phase of America’s space program and Oklahoma scientists and engineers have worked on space probes that have visited every planet in our solar system. These facts and numerous other stories will be detailed in an upcoming Oklahoma Historical Society documentary series, Oklahomans and Space. Beginning on June 3 at 10 p.m. on OETA, this seven-part series will air each Tuesday night through July 22 (skipping Tuesday, June 24, because of election coverage).

The series begins with early Oklahoma pioneers like Wiley Post and Jack Ridley. It explores the early politics of the space program with Senator Robert S. Kerr, President John F. Kennedy, and NASA Administrator James Webb. The story of space exploration then unfolds as told by the Oklahomans who were there. Astronauts Cooper, Stafford, Haise, Garriott, Pogue, Lucid, and Herrington tell the stories of their missions, while scientists and engineers from Oklahoma talk about the planning and behind-the-scenes action of the flights. Also, the space probes to all of the planets and beyond will be discussed by the Oklahomans who worked to make them successful.

The epic saga was more than a decade in the making, starting with an interview with Gordon Cooper in the year 2000. The documentary series is a companion to the OHS book by the same name, which relates the biographies and the statistics of Oklahomans and space flights in which they were involved. Both were written and produced by Bill Moore, retired OHS video producer and film archivist. The book was designed by OHS graphics designer Cynthia Manning.

A DVD boxed set will be available for sale in June. The book is currently available through the OHS Museum Store in person or online. Contact Bill Moore at bmoore@okhistory.org for more information on the documentary.

Oklahoma astronaut Shannon Lucid.
2014 Enid Summer Chautauqua

Enid Chautauqua will celebrate its twentieth anniversary June 17 through 21 with a conversation about World War I, “A Crisis of Confidence: The War that Changed the World.” The characters being portrayed will be Edith Wharton, Emma Goldman, Henry James, Woodrow Wilson, and Theodore Roosevelt.

Each character will take the stage in this order for free performances Tuesday through Saturday at the Cherokee Strip Regional Heritage Center, 507 South Fourth Street in Enid at 7:30 p.m. A concession stand will be available from 6-7:15 p.m., and local entertainment will be featured during the hour preceding the character portrayals. Each day, at 10:30 a.m. and noon, a scholar will present a workshop relating to the World War I era. All events will be held in the Humphrey Heritage Village adjacent to the Heritage Center. For more information contact VisitEnid.org or call 877-999-3643.

More June activities at the Pioneer Woman Museum

The Pioneer Woman Museum in Ponca City will host several events in June. The Herb Festival Partner Program will be held on Saturday, June 7. Phil Gibson from the University of Oklahoma will be on site to help visitors build a dish garden with the Central Oklahoma Cactus and Succulent Society. This event is free with admission.

On Tuesday, June 10, the museum will provide spinning and weaving demonstrations throughout the day for visitors. Lessons from the Heartland will be held on Saturday, June 21, from 10 a.m. to 12 p.m. This event is free with admission.

Museum Store News

By Jera Winters

The Oklahoma History Center Museum Store is proud to announce a new line of archival products. These products are designed to help history buffs or serious scholars to preserve anything from family history to Oklahoma history.

Hollinger Metal Edge has been in the business of preserving history for more than eighty years, and offers quality at an affordable price. The company worked with the National Archives and the Library of Congress to develop acid-free storage. In fact, this is the same brand of materials used by the Oklahoma Historical Society to preserve important artifacts for our state.

Using archival materials to preserve and store documents is beneficial to the life and longevity of important documents and photographs. To help ensure that these items last for generations to come, we offer acid-free and propylene products that offer protection from light, heat, humidity, and acids. This keeps photographs and documents in good condition, legible, and helps to retain clarity and color.

Come to the OHC Museum Store for these and other fine products. As always, members receive a 15 percent discount in the OHC Museum Store. Please call 405-522-5214 to order or for any questions.

Pioneer Woman Museum launches Pioneer Kids summer activities

This summer on Tuesday afternoons in June and July, the Pioneer Woman Museum will host Pioneer Kids. Local third, fourth, fifth, and sixth graders will play games, create crafts, and explore some of the other fun things pioneer kids did long ago.

“We must remain connected to our heritage. Our kids today need to experience the same activities the children of our pioneering mothers and fathers did so that they can continue to tell the stories and share the history long after we’ve all faded into memories. Plus they’re fun!” said Pioneer Woman Museum Director Robbin Davis. Activities will rotate each week, but common themes include crafts and games in the spirit of the pioneers who settled Oklahoma.

Children participating in the activities must be accompanied by an adult. Accompanying adults may participate in the activities or they may simply explore the museum. Programming will take place 1–4 p.m. and is $3 for each child. Kids can come for thirty minutes or stay the whole time. Large groups must preregister. For more information contact the Pioneer Woman Museum at 580-765-6108 or piown@okhistory.org.
Clara Luper radio show on OHS YouTube Channel

Priceless audio files from the Clara Luper Collection are now available on the Oklahoma Historical Society Oral History YouTube Channel. The OHS embarked on a pilot program in May 2013 to reach out to the community through the development of a crowd-sourced description program that allowed for community supported data mining to complete the project.

Each reel-to-reel cassette and eight-track recording has been preserved, rehoused, digitized, and edited. Each file is digitally converted for access on the OHS Oral History YouTube Channel. The twenty-eight selected shows that are available (more to be released in time) range from the 1960s through 2006. The OHS has been able to prevent further deterioration of these materials and provide immediate international access. To access the files, visit https://www.youtube.com/user/OHSaudioDept.

Created Equal discussion panel scheduled for June 19

The OHS will be hosting a Juneteenth panel discussion on the topics of slavery in the Indian Territory and Jim Crow in Oklahoma on Thursday, June 19, from 7 to 9 p.m. The presentation will feature clips from two documentaries, The Abolitionists and Slavery by Another Name. These films are a part of an initiative from the National Endowment for the Humanities and the Gilder Lehrman Institute of American History titled “Created Equal: America’s Civil Rights Struggle.” There is not an age limit, but parental guidance is suggested. This event is free, and no registration is required. For more information please email education@okhistory.org or call 405-522-3602.

When the Wolf Came honored

The Friends of the Oklahoma Historical Society Archives are pleased to announce that a book project begun in 2012 by the organization was the winner of the 2014 Oklahoma Center for the Book Non-Fiction category. The book was written by Dr. Mary Jane Warde and entitled When the Wolf Came: The Civil War and the Indian Territory.

The work was published by the University of Arkansas Press at Fayetteville and incorporated new manuscript, photographic, and maps collections not previously included in published works about the Civil War in Indian Territory.

New Members, cont'd.

Fran Brunsteter, Alva
Aimee Burrough, Okay
Zachary Casones, Owasso
Jennifer Damron, Oklahoma City
Traci Damron, Tecumseh
Ann Deer, Sapulpa
Carol Duncan, Clinton
Matthew Edwards, Whiteville, TN
Kattina Fleland, Fort Gibson
Mary Gasser, Stone Mountain, GA
Kyle Gilstrap, Muskogee
Brandon Glenn, Blackwell
Julia Goss, Clinton
Shellee Graham, Arcadia
Stephen Gray, Broken Arrow
Keryln Hanel, Stillwater
William Haney, Allen
Anthony Hartsfield, Owasso
Ryan Hargus, Owasso
Mary Havice, Tulsa
Edward Hawn, Nowata
Jesse Henry, Marlow
David Highfield, Ada
Susan Hill, Ponca City
Donna Hinchee, Optima
Joseph Holcomb Snyder
Paul Hoover, Enid
Marissa Howard, Allen
D. Bruce Howell, Bird Island
Cecil Iglehart, Idabel
Dorothy Jones, Spencer
Amanda Kiefer, Tecumseh
Neil Kingsley, Norman
Brandi Lasarge, Okmulgee
Lourecife Latigue, Tulsa
Rithan Lough, Elk City
Bobby Lowder, Tulsa
Lindsey Lowell, Wilburton
Steven Loy, Fort Sill
Jonathan Maples, Seminole
Chris Maranto, Sacramento, CA
Lisa Maranto, Houston, TX
Ryan Martin, Prague
Cynthia McAllister, Woodward
John McKinney, Broken Arrow
Bradley Miller, Elgin
Carol Parker, Del City
Terry Parker, Tulsa
James Rea, Edmond
Roberto Regaldo, Wannoga
Anthony Roberts, McAlester
Sally Scheller, Ogden, UT
Virginia Simms, Yukon
Mary Six, Rio Linda, CA
Debbie Smoke, Atfson
Casaundra Stubblefield, Owasso
Thomas Varapeli, Lawn
Kirk Webster, Edmond
Rosalinda Wilhowski, Hobart
Richard Wright, Laredo, TX

Organizational
Georg-August Universitaet, Gosslerstr, Germany
Webers Falls Historical Society Museum, Webers Falls

Martha Berry Southeastern Beadwork II class to be held

The History Center will host a Southeastern-style beadwork class with Martha Berry, nationally known beadwork artist, on Saturday, June 21, from 10 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. The fee for the class is $150 and includes lunch and all materials necessary to produce a traditional Southeastern bandolier bag. Class size is limited to fifteen participants ages eighteen and older, and registration is required. To register, please email education@okhistory.org or call 405-522-3602. For more information on Martha Berry's work, visit www.berrybeadwork.com.

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!

Von Russell Creel, Midwest City, September 1, 1973
Phil and Gayle Roberts, Edmond, February 1, 1977
Margaret Verble, Lexington, KY, March 1, 1979
Jack Querry, Oklahoma City, April 1, 1979
Barbara Johnson, Los Angeles, CA, December 1, 1980
Lynda Brown-Drabek, Oklahoma City, February 1, 1981
Geneva Coates, Oklahoma City, April 1, 1982
Rick and Francie Russell, Mesker, April 1, 1984
Dola Yeager, Edmond, April 1, 1984
Van Appelman, Jr., Catoosa, April 3, 1985
Calvin Zitterkob, Moore, April 7, 1986
Bob Thompson, Ada, March 13, 1987
Rondi Ott, Enad, March 30, 1987
Mitchell Adwon, Tulsa, December 14, 1987
Bill Carter, Coweta, April 4, 1988
Terry Malroy, Tulsa, November 28, 1988
Joyce Smith, Mustang, March 20, 1989
Daryl Townley, Duncan, March 28, 1989
Barbara Klein and James Weaver, Oklahoma City, March 29, 1989
Cimarron Heritage Center, Boise City, May 2, 1989
Jennifer Sparks, Fort Gibson, May 14, 1989
Thomas Boyd, Washington, DC, April 21, 1990
Ethel Thomas, Pawhuska, February 5, 1991
James Showalter, Stillwater, April 2, 1992
Frances Elliott, Wichita, KS, April 2, 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
Wagoner County Historical Society, Wagoner, April 23, 1993
Robert Ringo, Lincoln, CA, April 28, 1993

Dutch oven cooking class at Pioneer Woman Museum

Learn how versatile and fun cooking in Dutch ovens can be at the Pioneer Woman Museum in Ponca City. The museum will host an introduction to Dutch oven cooking on Saturday, May 31, 2014. Participants will learn how to select and care for an oven, as well as learn of the many resources and recipes available. Participants will also cook in the ovens, sample the results in a buffet style meal, and learn cleaning and storage tips.

The Dutch oven cooking class will be held on the grounds of the Pioneer Woman Museum Saturday, May 31, from 12-4 p.m. and is $15 per participant. Preregistration is required and all class members must be at least thirteen years old.

Contact the Pioneer Woman Museum for more information and to register for the class at 580-765-6108 or powm@okhistory.org.
Lunch & Learn at the OHS Research Center

The Oklahoma Historical Society Research Division announces the June installment of its summer series of Lunch & Learns on June 18 from 11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. The subject of the June Lunch & Learn is “Evangelism and the Church in Oklahoma and Indian Territory,” presented by Bill Welge, former director of the OHS Research Division.

The cost for each workshop is $10, and will include lunch and materials. Seating is limited so reservations are required. Call 405-522-5225 with credit card information or send a check or money order to:

Oklahoma Historical Society-Research
800 Nazih Zuhdi Dr.
Oklahoma City, OK 73105

“On Behalf of the Pioneers”: The Oklahoma Century Chest 1913-2013 exhibit

On April 22, 2014, the Oklahoma History Center opened “On Behalf of the Pioneers”: The Oklahoma Century Chest 1913-2013, a new exhibit featuring the priceless treasures recovered from the Oklahoma Century Chest. The Century Chest time capsule was buried on April 22, 1913, in the basement of the First Lutheran Church of Oklahoma City. One hundred years later, on April 22, 2013, the church opened the chest and revealed the perfectly preserved contents deposited by the pioneers of Oklahoma. The exhibit opening marks the 125th anniversary of the Oklahoma Land Run of 1889.

Visitors can view never-before-seen photographs, documents, and American Indian artifacts, and hear Oklahoma pioneer Angelo C. Scott’s speech delivered at the burial of the chest in 1913. The exhibit also includes the 1889 poster promoting the first Fourth of July celebration in Oklahoma City on July 4, 1889, a letter to the blind of 2013 written in braille, and a 1913 bird’s-eye view photograph of Oklahoma City showing the city like never before. In addition, the exhibit contains dozens of messages, prophecies, and letters from the pioneers of 1913 to their descendants one hundred years later.

Oklahoma History Center museum hours are Monday-Saturday, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. and it is located across from the State Capitol Building at 800 Nazih Zuhdi Drive in Oklahoma City. Call 405-522-0765 for more information or visit http://www.okhistory.org/centurychest/.

Historic Preservation ABCs: Oklahoma’s 26th Annual Statewide Preservation Conference

The Oklahoma Historical Society, State Historic Preservation Office will host Historic Preservation ABCs: Oklahoma’s 26th Annual Statewide Preservation Conference, June 4-6, 2014, in Norman, with most events on the University of Oklahoma campus. Conference registration and sessions will be held in Gould Hall, 830 Van Vleet Oval, home of the OU College of Architecture. Registration is now open at http://jque.ou.edu/events/preservation. The basic registration fee is $40 per person until May 28.

Fifty-four Oklahoma preservation leaders and guest speakers from across the country will participate in the conference, which offers three concurrent tracks of sessions and several special events.

The conference provides a special opportunity for design professionals. Conference sessions qualify for HSW hours needed to fulfill requirements of the State of Oklahoma’s Board of Governors of Licensed Architects, Landscape Architects and Interior Designers.

Joining the Oklahoma Historical Society, State Historic Preservation Office as conference cosponsors are the Oklahoma Main Street Center, Oklahoma Department of Commerce; Preservation Oklahoma, Inc.; University of Oklahoma, College of Architecture and Institute for Quality Communities; City of Norman; Cleveland County Historical Society; Norman Arts Council; Norman Chamber of Commerce; Norman Convention and Visitors Bureau; Norman Downtowners; and Oklahoma Archeological Survey.

To request a registration brochure, contact Melvena Heisch, deputy SHPO, at 405-522-4484 or mheisch@okhistory.org. The registration fee is $40 per person if you register by May 28, and there are optional ticketed events. The fee is $50 per person after the deadline or at the door. Information about the conference is also available at http://www.okhistory.org/shpo/conferencedetails.htm.

OkieTales at the History Center

Each Wednesday in June and July, from 10:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m., the History Center will host OkieTales, a one-of-a-kind reading and storytelling time when children can hear and see history. Every Wednesday, staff and volunteers will dive into history with books and stories, exploring different topics from the Wild West and cowboys to land runs and pioneer life. This program is designed for five- to nine-year-olds. Admission is $2 for each child and includes museum admission following the program. Space is limited and preregistration is required. For more information or to register, please contact the Oklahoma History Center Education Department at education@okhistory.org or 405-522-3602.

June Activities at a Glance

June 3, 10, 17, and 24 Pioneer Kids, Pioneer Woman Museum, Ponca City
June 4-6 Statewide Preservation Conference, University of Oklahoma, Norman
June 4, 11, 18, and 25 OkieTales, Oklahoma History Center, Oklahoma City
June 6 Herb Festival Partner Programming, Pioneer Woman Museum, Ponca City
June 10 Spinning and Weaving Demonstrations, Pioneer Woman Museum, Ponca City
June 13-14 Pawnee Bill Wild West Show, Pawnee Bill Ranch, Pawnee
June 17-21 Enid Summer Chautauqua, Cherokee Strip Regional Heritage Center, Enid
June 18 “Evangelism and Establishing the Church” Lunch & Learn, Oklahoma History Center Research Center, Oklahoma City
June 19 “Slavery and Jim Crow in Oklahoma” Created Equal Panel Discussion, Oklahoma History Center, Oklahoma City
June 20-21 Summer Solstice Walks, Spiro Mounds Archaeological Center, Spiro
June 21 Lessons from the Heartland, Pioneer Woman Museum, Ponca City
June 21 Southeastern Beadwork II workshop, Oklahoma History Center, Oklahoma City
June 26 Hotel Calmez exhibit opening, Oklahoma Route 66 Museum, Clinton
Pawnee Bill piano undergoing restoration

Due to the determined efforts of local Pawnee music teacher Kathryn Pogue, Pawnee Bill’s grand piano, normally found in the mansion living room, is undergoing a long-overdue restoration. Pogue’s crusade to “Save the Steinway” demonstrates how the passion and tenacity of one individual can make a long-lasting impact. Pawnee Bill’s Steinway Grand was built in 1924, and because of the ranch’s economic situation, the piano had not had the restorative work that was necessary until now. When the piano returns from the Bill Miller Studio in Tulsa, it will be in working condition and sound like it did when the Lillies purchased it. The ranch is planning to incorporate the story of the piano restoration into tours through the home to educate the public about the importance of artifact conservation.

Pogue, a talented Pawnee musician and teacher, undertook the project and created several unique fundraisers that proved to be successful. Pawnee’s Ideal Glass created a vinyl keyboard upon which names could be written. Piano keys were sold, and people bought keys in honor of loved ones or in their own names. These names were written on the vinyl keyboard and now can be seen in the museum. Pogue also used her talents to create a poinsettia afghan for which community members sold chances. She secured a grant from a family foundation in conjunction with the Pawnee County Historical Society (PCHS). The PCHS displayed the vinyl keyboard in their window front in downtown Pawnee and collected donations from individuals who visited their museum. The ranch cannot thank Kathryn Pogue enough for her time and her commitment to the ranch and to historic preservation and also want to thank the numerous people and businesses that made contributions to the project. Currently the maintenance fund is adequate to keep up the piano.

The Pawnee Bill Ranch is located at 1141 Pawnee Bill Road in Pawnee and is open 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Wednesdays through Saturdays and from 1 to 4 p.m. on Sundays from November to March. From April to October the site is open from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Tuesdays through Saturdays and from 1 to 4 p.m. on Sundays and Mondays. For more information, contact the site at 918-762-2513 or pawneebill@okhistory.org.