



Oklahoma
Historical
Society

Mistletoe Leaves

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Perspectives in History: The Oklahoma History Symposium



A postcard depicting the Community Hospital in Elk City (18754, Anna L. B. Korn Collection, OHS), founded by Dr. Shadid (seated center) in photo below with hospital staff (2012.201.B1237.0642, OPUBCO Photography Collection, OHS).



Join the Oklahoma Historical Society on Saturday, April 22 as we present “Perspectives in History”: The 2023 Oklahoma History Symposium, at the Oklahoma History Center in Oklahoma City. This one-day event offers scholars, historians, authors, and museum professionals from across the state and country a forum to share their work with history enthusiasts. The symposium is free and open to the public, but we ask that attendees register online at www.okhistory.org/symposium. Lunch will only be available for those who purchase in advance during the registration process.

Symposium Schedule

10–10:30 a.m. Meeting of the OHS Membership and Organizational Meeting of the OHS Board of Directors

10:30–11:15 a.m. Book Signing and Exhibitors

11 a.m.–12:30 p.m. Lunch Break – On your own or pre-order a boxed lunch when you register for the symposium.

11:30 a.m.–12:15 p.m. Key-note speaker Karlos Hill presents “Clara Luper’s Radical Love: A Tribute to the 65th Anniversary of the Katz Drugstore Sit-in.” Dr. Hill is an associate professor and chair of the Clara Luper Department of African and African-American Studies at the University of Oklahoma.



Historical Sessions

12:30–1 p.m. “Lead, Zinc, and Influenza: Environmental Rule in Bartlesville, Oklahoma,” James P. Gregory, Doctoral Candidate, University of Oklahoma

1:10–1:40 p.m. “Oklahoma Freedom Fighters: Black Civil War Soldiers of Indian Territory,” Angela Y. Walton-Raji, Cofounder, Choctaw Chickasaw Freedmen Association.

1:50–2:20 p.m. “Genie Boy Goes to Hollywood,” Cindy Donovan Wallis, Director, Atoka Museum Civil War Cemetery; Gwen Walker, Site Manager, Atoka Museum and Civil War Cemetery

2:30–3 p.m. “Woven Resilience: An Ethnoarchaeological Approach to Social Change in Cherokee Baskets,” Zachary Taylor Qualls, Doctoral Candidate, University of Tulsa

3:10–3:40 p.m. “Revived and Reformed: Michael A. Shadid, Populism, and the Nation’s First Cooperative Hospital,” Benjamin Folger, Doctoral Student, University of Oklahoma

3:50–4:20 p.m. “Contesting Memory in Oklahoma: Native and Settler Reactions to the ‘Indian Centennial’ of 1948,” Martha Beliveau, Graduate Student, University of Oklahoma

4:30–5 p.m. “A Great Success: How Three Women Helped Create the First Library in Indian Territory,” Michelle Skinner, Reference Librarian, Chickasha Public Library

Professional Development Sessions

12:30–1 p.m. “Oklahoma Heritage Preservation Grant Program: How the OHS Can Help You Collect, Preserve, and Share History,” Nicole Harvey, Director of Strategic Initiatives, Oklahoma Historical Society

1:10–2 p.m. “Historic Preservation Perspectives: The Edwards Store Approach,” June Lester Chubbuck, Board Member and Treasurer, The Edwards Store, Inc.; Chantry Si-press-Banks, Executive Director, Preservation Oklahoma, Inc.

2:10–3 p.m. “Collaborating to Preserve Oklahoma’s Conservation History,” Tanya Finchum, Oral History Librarian, Oklahoma State University; Chad Williams, Research Division Director, Oklahoma Historical Society; Larry Caldwell, Natural Resources Conservation Service Retiree and Member of the Oklahoma Conservation Historical Society

3:10–4 p.m. “Community Snapshot: Ways to Utilize a Historic Photography Collection,” Taylor Stober, Collections Specialist; Kimberly Ross, Business Manager; Bradley Fritch, Education Specialist; Kathy Kadavy, Board President and Lead Project Volunteer; all of Chisholm Trail Museum and Horizon Hill



For questions or sponsorship opportunities, contact Angela Spindle at 405-522-5242 or angela.spindle@history.ok.gov. For more information, please visit okhistory.org/symposium.

Save the date!
April 22, 2023





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Mistletoe Leaves is published for the members and friends of the OHS in partial fulfillment of its mission to collect, preserve, and share the history and culture of the state of Oklahoma and its people.

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 content as desired. Editors are welcome to reprint materials with credit.

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FROM OUR EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR



By Trait Thompson

I've heard that the one true constant in this world is change, and we seem to prove the adage on a daily basis at the Oklahoma Historical Society. In January, after 24 years of service to the OHS, Dan Provo retired as director of the Oklahoma History Center. Dan was instrumental in working with the architects and construction team to plan the design of the History Center in the early 2000s. Along with his team, he orchestrated the successful exhibits in the now nearly 20-year-old building. Likewise, in the fall, Dennis Peterson, the longtime director of our Spiro Mounds site, retired. During his 37 years of service, Dennis helped generations of people understand the daily lives of the prehistoric Mississippians who inhabited the land. As we seek to bring on new directors in each of those positions, we know they will be standing on the shoulders of the giants who came before them.

We are planning some wonderful events for the spring. After a hiatus of ten years, the OHS, particularly OKPOP, has partnered with the Oklahoma Arts Council to bring back Bob Wills Day at the State Capitol. The event was started in the 1980s by Senator John Dahl to honor a true Oklahoma musical legend. This year's celebration will feature musical performances in the second-floor rotunda and a live recording

of *A Very OK Podcast* in the evening. All of this will take place on March 6, Wills's 118th birthday. Stay tuned to the calendar on our website for more details.

Another project we have been working on is a documentary film about the Oklahoma State Capitol. Sponsored by the Inasmuch Foundation and the Friends of the Oklahoma History Center, this film will explore the State Capitol's fascinating history from its construction, to the ongoing debate about the dome, to the recent restoration project. You will see some great interviews with Oklahomans like Marilyn Luper, Jack Baker, former Governor Mary Fallin, Dr. Bob Blackburn, and Oklahoma Arts Council Executive Director Amber Sharples. I am also excited about the incredible drone footage from Sky Candy Studios in the film. Our plan is for the documentary to premiere at the event to celebrate the end of the Capitol Restoration Project later this spring.

Finally, I want to highlight a new exhibit opening soon at the Oklahoma History Center. Entitled *Taking Flight: Oklahomans Explore the Skies*, the exhibit will provide the perfect prelude to the *From Launch to Landing: Oklahomans and Space* exhibit on the first floor. Visitors will learn about Oklahoma's aviation pioneers such as James Banning and Thomas Cox Allen, the first African Americans to fly coast to coast in the United States. The exhibit will feature many unique artifacts from our collections to bring the subject matter to life.

Wherever you live in Oklahoma, I hope you will take time this spring to travel to an OHS site and learn something new about the state you call home.

A Very OK Podcast LIVE: The Bob Wills Story

A live recording of *A Very OK Podcast* will take place on Monday, March 6, starting at 6 p.m. at Ponyboy in Oklahoma City. A panel discussion will focus on the life of Bob Wills, the "King of Western Swing." March 6 is also Bob Wills Day at the Oklahoma State Capitol. The podcast is hosted by Oklahoma Historical Society (OHS) Executive Director Trait Thompson and former OHS Executive Director Dr. Bob Blackburn. The pod-

cast explores the interesting stories and fascinating personalities that make up Oklahoma's unique history. Thompson and Blackburn will be joined by Jeff Moore, director of OKPOP; Carolyn Wills, Bob Wills' daughter; and authors Brett Bingham and John Wooley.

This event is part of the OHS's History OffCenter series, which encourages community outreach through immersive, engaging experiences.



Make your next field trip to Pawnee Bill Ranch

Make the Pawnee Bill Ranch and Museum your next field trip destination! Once the showplace of the world-renowned Wild West Show entertainer Major Gordon W. "Pawnee Bill" Lillie and his wife, May, visitors can tour the 14-room mansion, fully furnished with their original belongings. Their dream home, completed in 1910, is filled with Lillie family memorabilia, photographs, original artwork, and more. The ranch property also houses a museum with exhibits related to Pawnee Bill, Wild West Shows, and the Pawnee tribe. The 500-acre grounds include the original ranch blacksmith shop, a 1903 log cabin, and an impressive three-story barn built in 1926 to house a large herd of Scottish Shorthorn cattle—all available to the public.

Field trips can be scheduled for any size group and budget from 25 to 200 people. The Pawnee Bill Ranch staff can accommodate any age group from pre-k to high schoolers and have many educational Wild West and cowboy activities to choose from at various price points.



A herd of bison, longhorn, and several draft horses call the Pawnee Bill Ranch home and can often be found grazing in the drive-through exhibit pasture. The ranch has covered picnic shelters, fishing ponds, a playground, and a meeting room. Tour bus parking is available. Call 918-762-2513 to book your group for spring and summer 2023.

Vietnam War-Era Veterans Commemoration Ceremony

On March 29, on National Vietnam War Veterans Day, the Oklahoma History Center (OHC) will hold a special commemoration ceremony to honor the service men and women who served anywhere in the world during the Vietnam War era. This includes service from November 1, 1955, to May 15, 1975. Family members of any veteran not able to be present may also receive a pin. The event will be held in the Devon Great Hall of the OHC from 10 a.m. to noon. This event is free and open to the public. Doors will open at 9:30 a.m.

March 29 was designated as Vietnam Veterans Day by the 2008 National Defense Authorization Act, to be commemorated with annual nationwide events. Guided by the stipulations in that act, only Vietnam War veterans and their families are recognized.

The event is being held at the Oklahoma History Center, in association with Villages of OKC and Humana Market Point. The Oklahoma History Center is located at 800 Nazih Zuhdi Drive in Oklahoma City. For additional information, call 405-522-0765.



To see the full variety of field trip opportunities at all OHS museums and historic sites, please visit okhistory.org/sites/index.

Outdoor learning

The public is invited to learn about keeping chickens and nature journaling practices during two separate classes to be held at Hunter's Home in Park Hill on Saturday, March 18.

From 10 to 11 a.m., learn about historic chicken care practices at Hunter's Home that are still a part of the daily life of the historic working farm. From keeping chickens watered and fed, to keeping track of where they lay their eggs, to luring the flock back into the chicken coop to roost, this class will cover the basics of caring for free-range chickens and give the public a chance to meet the historic home's new Faverolle chicks.

Then, between 1-2:30 p.m., join artist Jim Mullenax of Rocky Pond Pen and Ink in Prairie Grove, Arkansas, who will teach a class on the process of natural journaling by learning to observe your surroundings with simple drawings in a sketchbook.

Both of these family-friendly workshops are free with the regular cost of admission. For more information, call 918-456-2751. Hunter's Home is located at 19479 E. Murrell Home Road in Park Hill.

1840s Encampment



On Friday, March 3, Saturday, March 4, and Sunday, March 5, the Fort Towson Historic Site will host an 1840s Encampment on its grounds. This three-day living history event will give observers and participants a sense of stepping back in time. The historic site will be open and free to the public each day of the encampment, holding historic skills demonstrations throughout the day.

Tents will dot the grounds, and the fort will be brought back to life with reenactors wearing historical clothing, using and demonstrating the uses of historical tools, organizing period games, and taking part in the ongoing encampment activities. The public will experience tool demonstrations, the making of corn husk dolls, the cooper's process of making wooden buckets, and activities specific to the military history of the fort. Visitors also can learn about the history behind the sutler's store, which was a source of goods and merchandise for soldiers and surrounding towns until the fort's closure in 1854.

Updates on monthly programs and special events can be found on the Fort Towson Historic Site's Facebook page or at www.okhistory.org/fttowson. For more information, email fttowson@history.ok.gov or call 580-873-2634. Fort Towson Historic Site is located north of US 70 near Fort Towson.

Keep yourself in stitches!

The Quilting workshop with Martha Ray meets on the second Saturday of each month from 9 to 11 a.m. at the Sod House Museum at a cost of \$5 per person. Martha Ray guides all skill levels in the techniques of appliqué designs, traditional block patterns, original designs, crazy quilts, landscape designs, and paper piecing. Each meeting is a happy exchange of shared skills, fun and camaraderie, door prizes, refreshments, discussions, and quilt patterns, along with old-fashioned bed turnings. The Sod House Museum is located south-east of Aline on State Highway 8. For more information call 580-463-2441 or email sodhouse@history.ok.gov.

OHS Calendar of Events



March

- 1 #ExploreOHS Travel Contest begins, OHS museums and historic sites, statewide
- 1 “Hidden Oklahoma: Notable Archaeological Discoveries in Northwestern Oklahoma” presentation by Dr. Leland Bement (VIRTUAL), State Historic Preservation Office, Oklahoma City
- 2 Living History Education Day, Fort Towson Historic Site, Fort Towson
- 3-5 1840s Encampment, Fort Towson Historic Site, Fort Towson
- 4 Museum OKademy volunteer training class and lecture, Cherokee Strip Regional Heritage Center, Enid
- 4 History Alive! on the Cherokee Strip, Cherokee Strip Regional Heritage Center, Enid
- 6 *A Very OK Podcast LIVE: The Bob Wills Story*, Ponyboy, Oklahoma City
- 9 “Lunch and Learn: Who is Elmira Sauberan Smyrl Scott?” webinar (VIRTUAL), State Historic Preservation Office, Oklahoma City
- 11 Carriage House Sit and Sew, Henry and Anna Overholser Mansion, Oklahoma City
- 11 Second Saturday Sewing Circle, Fort Towson Historic Site, Fort Towson
- 11 Quilting workshop with Martha Ray, Sod House Museum, Aline
- 11 *Te Ata* film screening and discussion with Jeannie Barbour, Oklahoma History Center, Oklahoma City
- 13-17 Will Rogers Spring Break activities at the Will Rogers Memorial Museum, Claremore, and Will Rogers Birthplace Ranch, Oologah
- 15 Oklahoma Historical Society Executive Committee meeting, Oklahoma History Center, Oklahoma City
- 16 *Imprinting the West: Manifest Destiny, Real and Imagined* exhibit closes, Cherokee Strip Regional Heritage Center, Enid
- 17 Mid-Afternoon Frolic Talent Show, Will Rogers Memorial Museum, Claremore
- 18 2023 Oklahoma Farm-to-Table Festival, Oklahoma History Center, Oklahoma City
- 18 Poultry workshop, Hunter’s Home, Park Hill
- 18 Nature Journaling class, Hunter’s Home, Park Hill
- 18 Museum OKademy volunteer training class and lecture, Cherokee Strip Regional Heritage Center, Enid
- 18 History Alive! on the Cherokee Strip, Cherokee Strip Regional Heritage Center, Enid
- 18 Kids Make History, Fort Towson Historic Site, Fort Towson
- 23 2023 Oklahoma Historical Society Annual Awards Banquet, Oklahoma History Center, Oklahoma City
- 24 Museum After Dark: Night Tours, Cherokee Strip Regional Heritage Center, Enid

- 25 Modern Soapmaking workshop, Oklahoma History Center, Oklahoma City
- 25 Chuck Wagon Gathering, Chisholm Trail Museum and Horizon Hill, Kingfisher
- 25 Hands-On Historic Skills, Fort Towson Historic Site, Fort Towson
- 28 *Enid Photography* exhibit opens, Cherokee Strip Regional Heritage Center, Enid
- 29 Vietnam War-Era Veterans Commemoration Ceremony, Oklahoma History Center, Oklahoma City
- 31 Movie Night featuring Will Rogers in *They Had to See Paris* (1929), Will Rogers Memorial Museum, Claremore
- 31 #ExploreOHS Travel Contest concludes, OHS museums and historic sites, statewide

April

- 1 Introduction to Basketry: Create a Woven Tote, Oklahoma History Center, Oklahoma City
- 1 *Hammered Aluminum Ware* exhibit opens, Fred and Addie Drummond Home, Hominy
- 1 Museum OKademy volunteer training class and lecture, Cherokee Strip Regional Heritage Center, Enid
- 1 History Alive! on the Cherokee Strip, Cherokee Strip Regional Heritage Center, Enid
- 7 Museum After Dark: A History of Cocktails Walking Tour and *Enid Photography* exhibit opening, Cherokee Strip Regional Heritage Center, Enid
- 8 Embroidered Patches workshop, Oklahoma History Center, Oklahoma City
- 8 Quilting workshop with Martha Ray, Sod House Museum, Aline
- 8 Annual Easter Egg Hunt, Pawnee Bill Ranch and Museum, Pawnee
- 8 Easter Egg Hunt, Will Rogers Memorial Museum, Claremore
- 8 Second Saturday Sewing Circle, Fort Towson Historic Site, Fort Towson
- 9 Sunrise Service, Pawnee Bill Ranch and Museum, Pawnee
- 12 “Lunch and Learn: US Fish and Wildlife Service Historic Resources at the Treasure Lake Job Corps and the Tishomingo Fish Hatchery” (VIRTUAL), State Historic Preservation Office, Oklahoma City
- 15 Carriage House Sit and Sew, Henry and Anna Overholser Mansion, Oklahoma City
- 15 Kids Make History, Fort Towson Historic Site, Fort Towson
- 15 History Alive! on the Cherokee Strip, Cherokee Strip Regional Heritage Center, Enid
- 19 Oklahoma Historical Society Executive Committee meeting, Oklahoma History Center, Oklahoma City
- 20 Historic Preservation Review Committee meeting *canceled,* Oklahoma History Center, Oklahoma City

- 21 Oklahoma Historical Society Board of Directors meeting, Oklahoma History Center, Oklahoma City
- 22 Earth Day Block Printing class, Oklahoma History Center, Oklahoma City
- 22 Fun and Games, Hunter’s Home, Park Hill
- 22 “Perspectives in History”: The 2023 Oklahoma History Symposium, Oklahoma History Center, Oklahoma City
- 22 Oklahoma Historical Society Membership meeting, Oklahoma History Center, Oklahoma City
- 22 Oklahoma Historical Society Board of Directors Organizational meeting, Oklahoma History Center, Oklahoma City
- 22 Hands-On Historic Skills, Fort Towson Historic Site, Fort Towson
- 28 Movie Night featuring Will Rogers in *Doubting Thomas* (1935), Will Rogers Memorial Museum, Claremore
- 29 *Enid Photography* exhibit closes, Cherokee Strip Regional Heritage Center, Enid
- 29 Historical and Modern Use of Medicinal Plants class, Oklahoma History Center, Oklahoma City
- 30 *Hammered Aluminum Ware* exhibit closes, Fred and Addie Drummond Home, Hominy

Please visit okhistory.org/events for additional information about OHS events, programs, and exhibits.



2023 Oklahoma Farm-to-Table Festival

The 2023 Oklahoma Farm-to-Table Festival will be held on Saturday, March 18, from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. at the Oklahoma History Center (OHC). This free, community-wide festival highlights historic and modern farm life, with the purpose of demonstrating how food and household items travel from their sources to our homes. Families will experience perspectives from 17th-century America to the modern day, with hands-on activities for visitors of all ages. Admission is free to the public, and the event will be held predominately outdoors on the OHC grounds. The festival will offer a multitude of educational opportunities and experiences, among which will be cooking and nutrition demonstrations, livestock, construction methods, various crafts, and reading. Call 405-522-0765 for more information about the festivities.

Developing the “People of Oklahoma” series

Oklahoma is a crossroads of cultures, home to a diverse range of communities, all working to preserve their own unique history and folkways for the next generation.

The Oklahoma Historical Society Multicultural Office (OHSMO) has a working objective to develop programs and outreach initiatives to tell the story of Oklahoma’s diverse heritage and give voice to these historically underrepresented communities.

OHSMO is currently developing the “People of Oklahoma” series to share that diversity. A series of video interviews are being recorded to create a historical record of the voices of community leaders from a number of backgrounds. This special project is taking place throughout the year, making a public record of Oklahoma’s historically underrepresented communities. Stories of resiliency, hope, tenacity, and innovation are being added to the expansive library of live interviews, video documentaries, and oral histories in the OHS archives.

The OHSMO is working to shape a picture of our collective history. The office also holds several in-person events that include authentic traditions celebrated by the respective communities so that these cultures can be shared, appreciated, and experienced. Contact OHS Multicultural Officer Saidy Orellana 405-522-5204 to join the conversation. Follow the OHS on social media and at www.okhistory.org/calendar/ohs to learn more.

Stay tuned to OKPOP

The folks at OKPOP are excited to see what the spring has in store for them after having an eventful past few months! The staff



has made visits to the Tom Mix Museum, Dewey Hotel Museum, and the Woolaroc Museum and Wildlife Preserve. The team also held a successful OKPOP Radio Hour Sex Pistols 45th Anniversary Live Podcast event across the street at Cain’s Ballroom with Meg Charron and Garrett Weindorf as hosts. Panelists John Holmstrom, Ted Cohen, Larry Shaeffer, and Scott Munz shared favorite memories of the Sex Pistols’s Cain’s performance 45 years ago.

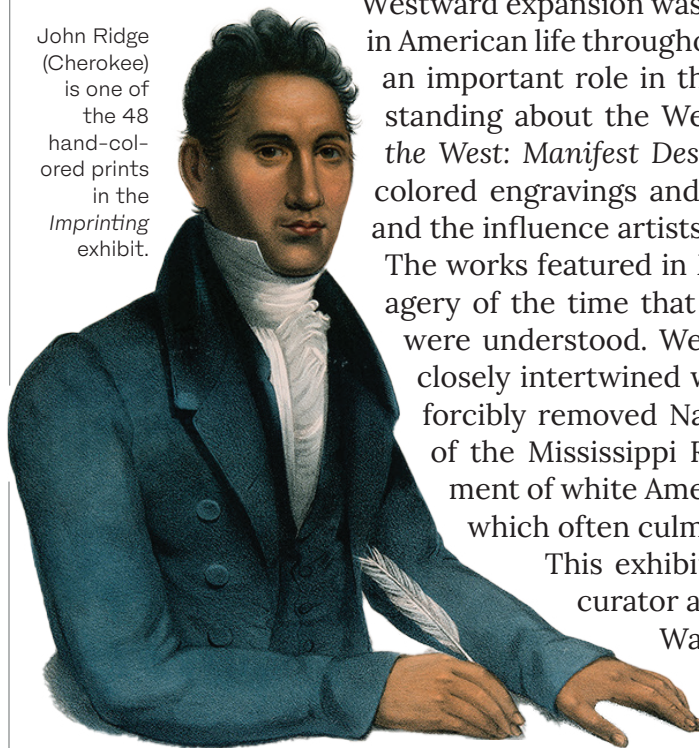
A capital campaign will begin soon, and interesting collection acquisitions are on the horizon. Make sure to keep an eye out for OKPOP events and announcements!

CURRENT EXHIBITIONS

Imprinting the West: Manifest Destiny, Real and Imagined

The Cherokee Strip Regional Heritage Center (CSRHC) is exploring printed imagery of the 1800s through the exhibit *Imprinting the West: Manifest Destiny, Real and Imagined*.

John Ridge (Cherokee) is one of the 48 hand-colored prints in the *Imprinting the West* exhibit.



Westward expansion was one of the most transformational elements in American life throughout the 19th century. Printed imagery played an important role in the dissemination of knowledge and understanding about the West and those who inhabited it. *Imprinting the West: Manifest Destiny, Real and Imagined* features 48 hand-colored engravings and lithographs that explore these depictions and the influence artists had on the perception of the Wild West.

The works featured in *Imprinting the West* explore the potent imagery of the time that shaped how Native peoples and the West were understood. Westward expansion in the 19th century was closely intertwined with the Indian Removal Act of 1830, which forcibly removed Native populations in the east to areas west of the Mississippi River. The migration westward and settlement of white Americans only accelerated territorial tensions, which often culminated in bloodshed.

This exhibit was curated by Dr. Randall Griffey, head curator at the Smithsonian American Art Museum in Washington, DC. It will remain open at the CSRHC, 507 South Fourth St. in Enid, through March 13. Call 580-237-1907 for more information.

“Hey, Little Girl!”

A new exhibit featuring memorabilia of the group Jim Edgar and the Roadrunners has recently opened at the Cherokee Strip Museum (CSM) in Perry. Edgar (1939–2022) is considered by many to be the “Godfather” of the Oklahoma City rock and roll scene.

The exhibit follows Edgar’s life as a musician and the success of his musical group, which thrived in the mid-1960s. The band consisted of Jim Edgar, Sam Edwards, Farland Stanley, Larry Marcum, and Jimmy Driskol. They had several hit records like “Hey Little Girl” and “You Can’t Lie to a Liar.” In 1966, Jim and his band were the first to appear on the new program by Ronnie Kaye titled *The Scene*, a popular television show featured on WKY-TV from 1966 to 1974.

After the group dissolved, Edgar settled back in his hometown of Perry. This exhibit features items from Jim Edgar’s personal collection. They were donated to the CSM by his daughter, Kathy Edgar Lough.



History Center e-exhibits

The Oklahoma History Center (OHC) has a wide variety of e-exhibits you can view from the comfort of your home or classroom! With topics such as archaeology, military history, Latino history, cowboy culture, space, women’s rights, the workings of government, Black history, and popular culture, these digital offerings cover a broad range of themes. Compiled with useful photos and illustrations, OHC e-exhibits can be viewed at the pace you choose.

Each e-exhibit includes historic images, activities, a glossary, and a bibliography. Experience the full selection of e-exhibits by visiting okhistory.org/learn/e-exhibits.

OHC traveling exhibits

The Oklahoma History Center also has over 20 traveling exhibits to rent, intended to bring Oklahoma history and culture to communities across the state and country. Visit okhistory.org/historycenter/visit-traveling-exhibits to learn more about each exhibit theme.

New National Register of Historic Places listings

Listing in the National Register of Historic Places is an honorific designation that provides recognition, limited protection, and, in some cases, financial incentives for these important properties. The SHPO identifies, evaluates, and nominates properties for this special designation.



St. Ann's Home for the Aged, 3825 Northwest 19th St., Oklahoma City, Oklahoma County

Designed by architect Charles Lester (C. L.) Monnot Sr. and constructed in 1950 by Catholic Charities of the Archdiocese of Oklahoma City-Tulsa, St. Ann's Home for the Aged met a growing need for senior housing within Oklahoma City. The property is significant for its association with the social history of Oklahoma City, as no formal housing for senior citizens existed at the time of St. Ann's construction. Although a charity of the Catholic diocese, St. Ann's Home welcomed seniors of all ages and faiths, who had few other options for decent housing. The facility offered dormitory-style accommodations with shared bathrooms, a communal dining hall, gathering spaces, and a chapel. The facility also housed a small infirmary and provided basic nursing care for residents. St. Ann's became a licensed nursing facility with the state in 1980 when Oklahoma enacted its first nursing home laws. State regulations required major interior alterations for the building to remain a licensed facility. Rather than update the building, the diocese opted to build a new nursing home and assisted living center. St. Ann's Home closed in January 1991 when its last residents moved to the new facility.



Alva Municipal Swimming Pool and Bathhouse, 1402 Flynn St., Alva, Woods County

Once known as the "Little Ocean," the Alva Municipal Swimming Pool and Bathhouse is an important landmark that symbolizes the importance of New Deal programs to Alva's historic development. Completed by the Works Projects Administration (WPA) in 1940, the property served a dual purpose of alleviating economic hardship resulting from the Great Depression and providing Alva with a recreational facility. The swimming pool is 200 feet long with a capacity of over 500,000 gallons of water. A smaller, circular-shaped wading pool and concrete gazebo are also on the property. The one-story bathhouse is notable for its poured concrete construction and Art Moderne features that include fluted pilasters with beveled corners, horizontal fenestration, and low relief ornamentation around the main entrance. Together, the swimming pool and bathhouse are exemplary of the WPA's efforts to utilize modern architectural designs in their construction of municipal structures for local communities in northwest Oklahoma.

For more information about the NRHP, contact Dr. Matthew Pearce, National Register of Historic Places coordinator, at 405-522-4479 or matthew.pearce@history.ok.gov.

LUNCH AND LEARN

"US Fish and Wildlife Service Historic Resources at the Treasure Lake Job Corps and the Tishomingo Fish Hatchery" webinar

On Wednesday, April 12, at noon (Central Time), the State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO) will host a webinar focused on the US Fish and Wildlife Service's Historic Resources at the Treasure Lake Job Corps and the Tishomingo Fish Hatchery. George MacDonell, archaeologist and regional historic preservation officer of the US Fish and Wildlife Service; Natalie Sanford, regional archaeologist for the US Fish and Wildlife Service; and Kristina Wyckoff of the SHPO will be presenting. Visit www.okhistory.org/shpo/lunch-and-learns to register for this and many other webinars offered by the SHPO.



Save the dates for Movie Nights in 2023!

The Will Rogers Memorial Museum (WRMM) in Claremore is planning a Movie Night on the last Friday of each month from January to October.

Come to the theatre to enjoy Will Rogers in the films *Mr. Skitch* (1933), *They Had to See Paris* (1929), *Doubting Thomas* (1935), and *State Fair* (1933), all to be shown in 2023. Rogers's fans can also see the filmed version of the Broadway musical *The Will Rogers Follies: A Life in Revue* (1991). The 1955 film *Oklahoma!* will be shown in February and might have you humming the words to the state song, or folks can feel nostalgic for the days before video games when kids would play ball at *The Sandlot* (1993) in May.

Movie Night takes place in the renovated Will Rogers Theatre inside the WRMM. It is a great place to make connections with family, friends, and community members. Movie Night begins with planned activities that occur an hour before each show. "Horsing Around with Will" will take place from 6 to 7 p.m., during which families can enjoy activities and crafts relating to the movie's theme.

Guests can enjoy free admission, popcorn, and drinks while watching the film. Seating is limited, so early arrival is suggested. This event is FREE to attend, thanks to sponsorship by the Bank of Commerce. Please call 918-341-0719 for more information.

Chuck Wagon Gathering

Visit the Chisholm Trail Museum (CTM) on Saturday, March 25, from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. for a day filled with cowboy fun! Drop in and be a part of this nationally recognized event. See a variety of working chuck wagons from across the region as the cooks prepare some of their favorite dishes.

Activities will include live music with Kyle Dillingham and Horseshoe Road, cooking demonstrations, gunfights, Wild West Show performers, medicine man shows, Annie Oakley performances, and more.

The daytime activities are free. Please contact the museum at 405-375-5176 for more information. The CTM is located at 605 Zellers Ave. in Kingfisher.





Put a little spring in their step!

Five afternoons of fun, games, and learning about Will Rogers are in store for children ages 17 and younger during Spring Break, March 13–17. Activities are planned from 1 to 3 p.m. at the Will Rogers Memorial Museum in Claremore on Monday, Wednesday, and Friday, and at the Will Rogers Birthplace Ranch near Oologah on Tuesday and Thursday.

On Monday at the museum, kids will have the opportunity to go behind the scenes. Visitors to the ranch on Tuesday will get to participate in kids' tractor pulling. Back at the museum on Wednesday, it will be Aviation Day, with an air evacuation helicopter landing on the grounds. Thursday at the ranch will include 19th-century games and activities. The week will end on Friday at the museum!

The Spring Break activities at Will Rogers Memorial Museum and Birthplace Ranch are free, thanks to a donation from Win and Kay Ingersoll. Advance registration is not required. For more information about this event, please call 918-341-0719 or visit will-rogers.com. The Will Rogers Memorial Museum is located at 1720 W. Will Rogers Blvd. in Claremore, and the Will Rogers Birthplace Ranch is located at 9501 E 380 Road in Oologah.

Put your eggs in one basket



Visit the Will Rogers Memorial Museum for the annual Easter Egg Hunt on Saturday, April 8.

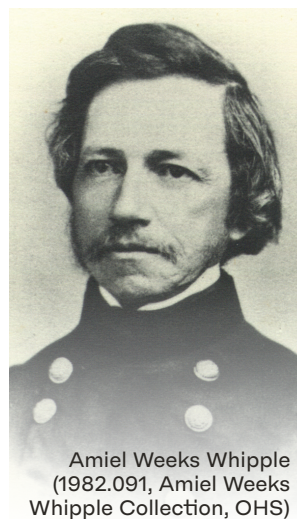
The egg hunt begins promptly at 11:30 a.m. on the museum grounds, so be sure to arrive early.

The Easter Bunny will hide thousands of candy-filled eggs for the children to find, and some eggs will contain special prizes. Please call 918-341-0719 for more information.

Amiel Weeks Whipple Collection

by Mallory Covington

Amiel Weeks Whipple was born in Greenwich, Massachusetts, in 1817. He attended Amherst College and West Point. He started his career with the US Army as a surveyor of rivers and the northeastern boundary of the United States. In 1853, after being promoted to lieutenant for his work surveying the US-Mexico border after the Mexican-American war, Whipple was tasked with leading the survey along the 35th parallel as a part of the Pacific Railway Surveys. His route would take him from Fort Smith, Arkansas, to Los Angeles. His group included a medical doctor and botanist, geologist, and now-famous German artist Heinrich Balduin Mollhausen (H. B. Mollhausen). Along the route, Whipple kept journals of his thoughts and experiences, as well as sent samples back to the Smithsonian Institution in Washington, DC.



Amiel Weeks Whipple
(1982.091, Amiel Weeks Whipple Collection, OHS)

After completing the survey, Whipple went on to serve in the Civil War and died from wounds received in the Battle of Chancellorsville.

The Amiel Weeks Whipple Collection (1982.091, 21 boxes) contains the journals of Amiel Weeks Whipple. The journals include descriptions of landmarks, animals, and places he traveled during the survey. Also included are drawings and descriptions of the Indigenous communities he met along the way. The collection also contains the drawings from H. B. Mollhausen that he created during his time on the survey team. Additionally, the collection contains maps, publications, and some genealogical materials.

The Amiel Weeks Whipple Collection is available for viewing at the OHS John and Eleanor Kirkpatrick Research Center Tuesday–Saturday, 10 a.m. to 4:45 p.m. The journals and drawings are also available to be viewed on the Research Center online catalog. Appointments are encouraged. The Research Center is located inside the Oklahoma History Center in Oklahoma City. For more information call 405-522-5225 or email research@history.ok.gov.

Mallory Covington is the archival collections manager in the OHS Research Division.

Fort Towson offering weekend educational programs

Staff at the Fort Towson Historic Site have begun a full slate of activities and events scheduled for 2023. Opportunities for learning will be plentiful, with weekend activities on the second, third, and fourth Saturdays of each month.

The Second Saturday Sewing Circle is a free, informal monthly event focusing on sewing and historic domestic skills. Participants may bring their own modern or historic projects or purchase kits from the site's gift shop.

"The idea behind this series is for a group of people to inspire one another through the sharing of ideas. The mixture of skill levels in the group will allow more experienced guests to provide guidance for beginners," said Calista Stephens, site director. "We strive to foster the organic relationships and sharing of knowledge that can come from social experiential learning."

Young visitors will learn about history through fun, hands-on historic activities during the Kids Make History series on the third Saturday of each month. The research-based programs will include games, cooking, historic arts and crafts, and reenacting skills. This program is a partnership with Oklahoma 4-H and Choctaw and Pushmataha County OSU Extension.

On the fourth Saturday of each month, a different skill will be featured during a program called Hands-On Historic Skills.

"Hands-on demonstrations allow individuals the chance to get a different view of the past than merely reading about it or only viewing an untouchable artifact," said historical interpreter David Reed. "This type of program is made even more special by getting to partake in it at an important historic site such as Fort Towson."

Updates on monthly programs and special events at Fort Towson

Historic Site can be found on their Facebook page or at www.okhistory.org/fort-towson. For more information, email fttowson@history.ok.gov or call 580-873-2634.

Fort Towson Historic Site Director Calista Stephens threads a needle to demonstrate the process of handsewn quilt blocks.



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PERIODICALS

Mistletoe Leaves

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Hidden Oklahoma Speaker Series

The State Historic Preservation Office is digging deep to find guest speakers for the 2023 Hidden Oklahoma Speaker Series. The series seeks to uncover how the many disciplines of archaeology reveal secrets from our past. Notable archaeologists and researchers will discuss important sites in Oklahoma and illustrate why archaeology is critical to understanding our history in this series that will run from spring to fall in 2023.

On March 1, Dr. Lee Bement of the University of Oklahoma will make a presentation on “Notable Archaeological Discoveries in Northwestern Oklahoma.” In June, Dr. Debora Green will explore “Geoarchaeology,” and in August Dr. Ian Thompson, Choctaw Nation tribal historic preservation officer, will make a presentation on “Revitalizing Traditional Art and Foodways.” The speaker series continues in the fall with Dr. Shawn Lambert of Mississippi State University and a deeper look at the “Ceramics and Community Interaction at Spiro.”

In October, Dr. Richard Drass, professor emeritus of the University of Oklahoma, will focus on “Early-Historic Wichita Sites: Bryson-Paddock and Longest.” Bryson-Paddock is an archaeological site associated with the Wichita people, an Indigenous tribe. It is located in north-central Oklahoma along the Arkansas River near the Kansas-Oklahoma border. This is an important early site because the Wichitas were able to use the flint and chert to make tools. Some examples of the features found across the thirty-acre site are the postholes that the Wichitas dug for the fences that held livestock, hearths, middens, bison bones, stone hide scrapers, glass beads, and fabric.

All of the Hidden Oklahoma webinars are free. Upcoming lectures, dates, times, and online registration can be found by visiting www.bigmarker.com/communities/oklahoma-historical-society-/conferences. Check out the “On-Demand” section, which provides access to past recordings of SHPO workshops.

Items from the Bryson-Paddock site (OHS Collections).



Wheels exhibit started with a bicycle donation

Last December, the record-setting athlete and distinguished alumni of Perry High School Steve Kine donated a bicycle to the folks at the Cherokee Strip Museum (CSM) in Perry, and that started the wheels of an exhibit idea turning for museum director Diana Simon.

The simple chrome Firestone bicycle had been in Kime’s possession since 1964. It was purchased by his mother from Perry’s Western Auto Store, which was operated faithfully for 31 years by Harry “Leonard” Mayes. At the age of 10, Kime pinned 1960s baseball cards in the spokes of the wheels with clothespins so it would make a cool sound as he rode along. The bike still has a bit of shine left after all of the miles it has seen in its lifetime.

The donation set an idea into motion—Simon and the Board of the CSM decided to curate an exhibit that centered around all of the different types and uses of wheels found in the museum’s collections. From an 1800s-era spinning wheel to the four wheels of a 1900s Studebaker “Junior” wagon, to push lawnmowers, hand-cranked butter churns, and cast-iron pulleys, this exhibit is designed to have you going in circles. This “bespoke” collection of every wheel of every type comprises the museum’s newest exhibit *Wheels*. It will remain open until Friday, June 30. For more information about all of the exhibits and programs at CSM, please visit www.cherokee-strip-museum.org, or call 580-336-2405.

