



Mistletoe Leaves



Vol. 38, No. 3

Published monthly by the Oklahoma Historical Society, serving since 1893

March 2007

Inspired to Lead: First Families of Oklahoma, 1907–2007 premiered on February 13

7 living governors honored at historic event at History Center

On the evening of February 13, 2007, a throng of more than one thousand OHS members, donors, elected and appointed officials, and guests braved the bitterly cold weather to pack the Oklahoma History Center's Atrium for ceremonies to open the Centennial exhibit *Inspired to Lead: First Families of Oklahoma, 1907–2007*.

All seven of Oklahoma's living governors gathered with their wives and the OHS Board of Directors to inaugurate the new exhibit, which is on display in the Gaylord Gallery.

The event was truly a once-in-a-lifetime historic experience for those in attendance, and the excitement was infectious.

At approximately 7 p.m. the ceremony began. After opening remarks by OHS Executive Director Dr. Bob L. Blackburn, a U.S. Navy Honor Guard presented the colors. Oklahoma Highway Patrol trooper Stan McConnell rendered what one guest described as "probably the best *a capella* interpretation of 'The Star-Spangled Banner' ever heard in the Capitol District."

Then came a processional that wound its way from an anteroom into the Atrium as Blackburn introduced each living governor, in order of service. An Honor Guard of OHP troopers escorted the governors and their wives, who often stopped to greet friends and admirers along the way.

Relatives of most of the deceased governors were represented in the audience, and Blackburn recognized each family in order of service. Sponsors of the event were also recognized.

At the conclusion, Girl Scout and Boy Scout troops presented each governor with mementoes of the occasion. The crowd adjourned to view the exhibit, reminisce about their political exploits and dreams, and enjoy the music and refreshments.

First Ladies: Partners in Public Service also premiered that night. The exhibit is located on the third floor of the History Center.

Funding for the exhibits and the event was provided by Chesapeake Energy. The exhibit opened to the public the next day, Wednesday, February 14, and will remain accessible throughout the remainder of the Centennial Year.



Oklahoma's seven living governors: David Walters, David Boren, George Nigh, Brad Henry, David Hall, Henry Bellmon, and Frank Keating (T. Zinn photo).

When told that he was a self-made man, Governor Robert S. Kerr replied, "No, I am a wife-made man."



Rhonda and David Walters, Brad Henry, and David Boren share a memory of Walters' internship in Boren's office (T. Zinn photo).

David Hall and George Nigh (T. Zinn photo)



OHS Board member Denzil Garrison with Frank Keating (T. Zinn photo).



Nigh, Boren, Henry, and Bob Blackburn discuss the exhibit (T. Zinn photo).



Director's Column

By **Bob L. Blackburn**
Executive Director

There are many good reasons to be part of the Oklahoma Historical Society's extended family.

I especially enjoy associating with people who have a burning curiosity about history, followed closely by working with collections and finding ways to share the joys of history with others.

More and more, I enjoy a welling sense of pride when I see others working as a team for a common cause.

I see that regularly at OHS Board meetings when leaders from across the state gather to set policy and offer their guidance to the staff. I see that every day when I greet and thank volunteers who are helping in the trenches of the museum and research library.

Over the past few months, the fruits of teamwork have been easy to spot. This newsletter, along with *The Chronicles of Oklahoma*, is the result of creative collaboration between editors in the Publications and Research Division and graphic artists in the Outreach Division. The good start in the drive to double membership to 10,000 is due to the spirit of teamwork linking the Development staff with the supervisors of museums and sites into a common cause.

In November we opened a remarkable new exhibit in Guthrie about the path to statehood. With only a small budget, team members from headquarters worked hand in hand with the Guthrie team to curate, design, and fabricate an innovative and in-

formative window into the central theme of our centennial year.

As the centennial year began, I saw that same spirit of collaboration at the Centennial Ball here at the Oklahoma History Center. The creative energy behind the planning and staging was matched by the colorful display of period clothing worn by the many people who attended and danced the old year out and the new year in.

We saw that same creative inspiration when we opened the *Code Talkers* exhibit. The engaging story developed by our staff was matched by the design of the innovative display panels that could stand toe to toe with anything seen in the Smithsonian museums.

Teamwork also explains how we assembled and then presented the exhibit about Oklahoma's governors and first ladies, 1907 to 2007. Opened with a gala event on February 13, this exhibit sets a new standard for what people can now expect from the Oklahoma Historical Society.

Jeff Moore, director of exhibits at the Oklahoma History Center, coordinated an effort that drew from all divisions of the organization. He used gentle nudges to keep me working on text and gathering information and artifacts from the families of governors. He assembled a curatorial team that blended into one voice.

Joining the effort were graphic artists who saw the big picture, video and computer specialists who added flair to the story, and fabricators who used torches and saws to turn abstract ideas into real exhibits. Others ordered t-shirts and reproductions of political buttons, designed and sent out invitations, and coordinated the opening night ceremonies.

Yes, there are many good reasons to be part of the Oklahoma Historical Society extended family. Feeling the pride of watching creative people working together is one of them.

Long-time OHS employee William Vandever retires

William Vandever, who served as the Facility Manager for Fort Towson Historic Site, retired on January 31, 2007.

Vandever retired with thirty-four years of service to the Oklahoma Historical Society. Although his longevity did not set a record, he remains one of the longest-serving employees in the agency's history.

He has worked at Fort Towson Historic Site since it opened to the public in 1973. Although he has retired, he will still be a good neighbor, as he lives right next to the fort. William's friends and family held a dinner in his honor on January 25.



Bob Rea, Military Sites supervisor, presents William Vandever with a gift from his fellow employees (OHS photo).

New Members

Individual

Brooks-Jimenez, Michael, Oklahoma City
Burk, James M., Columbia, MO
Cox, Wayne M., Depew
Croze, Jr., John C., Oklahoma City
DuFour, Debra, Jenks
Dyer, Barbara, Ardmore
Evans, Delliah, Warner Robins, GA
Finley, Mary Jo, Plano, TX
Holliday, Lori, Oklahoma City
Ingram, Keeshi, Tulsa
Jackman, George J., Oklahoma City
Johnson, David E., Broken Arrow
Larue-Stopp, Lisa C., Tahlequah
McCoy, Sharolyn, Miami
Odom, Don, Guthrie
Pollock, Alan, Edmond
Tauber, Mike, Tulsa
Whitney, Carol, Gracemont
Winters, Michelle, Oklahoma City

Family

Andrews, Bennett & Claudia, Perkins
Arnot, Mr. & Mrs. Jim, Oklahoma City
Barman, Michael & Erin, Oklahoma City
Brod, Charles & Cathy, Edmond
Burnett, Brad & Teresa, Shawnee
Davis, Jr., William Isaac, Oklahoma City
Despain, Matt & Carla, Norman
Fulgenzi, Bill & LaDawn, Yukon
Garrett, Jane T., Oklahoma City
Glowaski, Michael, Lawton
Griffin, Charles E., Woodstock, GA
Halfacre, Dale, Choctaw
Hood, Robert, Jones
Johnston, D. Craig & Hillary, Oklahoma City
Kohlman, Lou, Oklahoma City
Larsen, Mike & Martha, Perkins
McKee, Travis, Blanchard
Mohr, John & Barbara, Oklahoma City
Murphy, James & Paula, Oklahoma City
Patrick, Helen & Allison, Norman
Pugh-Seemster, Nora, Oklahoma City
Rucker, Abe & Greta, Edmond
Shanker, Jay/Sara Jane Rose, Oklahoma City
Spencer, Mark D. & Jeanette, Edmond
Starchman, Mike & Marcia, Purcell
Steele, Ardis, Oklahoma City
Steward, Odell & Christine, Norman
Walke, Geary, Edmond
Willis, Laura, Oklahoma City
Woolbright, Dick & Dorothy, Edmond

Friend

Bacon, Charles E., Norman
Canfield, Karen, Oklahoma City
Hightower, Dr. Michael J., Charlottesville, VA

Associate

Kaniatobe, Karen, Shawnee

Oklahoma Historical Society Publications Division

Editorial Office: 405/522-4860

Dianna Everett, Ph.D., Editor
Linda D. Wilson, Assistant Editor
William E. Siemens, Graphic Artist

Membership Office: Alma Moore
405/522-5242

<ohsmembers@okhistory.org>

Mistletoe Leaves (USPS 018-315) is published monthly by the Oklahoma Historical Society, 2401 N. Laird Avenue, Oklahoma City, OK 73105-7914. Periodicals postage paid at Oklahoma City, OK. (ISSN 1932-0108)

POSTMASTER: Send address changes to *Mistletoe Leaves*, 2401 N. Laird Avenue, Oklahoma City, OK 73105-7914.

By authorization of the Oklahoma Historical Society's Board of Directors, 5,100 copies are prepared at a cost of \$1,025.00 each month. The publication is financed in part with federal funds from the National Park Service, United States Department of the Interior.

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.

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Meetings

In **Oklahoma City** the Oklahoma Genealogical Society's monthly meeting will be held on Monday, March 5, 2007, at 6 p.m. in the Chesapeake Events Center at the Oklahoma History Center, 2401 N. Laird Avenue. Jim Slade will present a program regarding land records available on the Internet. The OHS Research Center will be staffed and remain open until 7:45 p.m. that evening.

(Special to ML)

Exhibits

Ada's East Central University Library is the venue for a traveling exhibit sponsored by the Congressional Archives at the Carl Albert Congressional Research and Studies Center at the University of Oklahoma. Entitled *We Know We Belong to the Land: A Hundred Years of Oklahoma and the Congress*, the exhibit offers photographs and memorabilia relating to Oklahomans who have served in the U.S. Congress. Historian Danney Goble has written exhibit text that offers a brief history of Oklahoma. The exhibit will remain at East Central University during March before it moves to Lawton's public library in April.

(Special to ML)

Oklahoma City Museum of Art will host a traveling exhibit entitled *NAPOLÉON An Intimate Portrait*, from the Russell Etling Company. On display until April 22, the exhibit showcases rare, personal belongings of Napoléon I and features more than 250 objects, paintings, prints, documents, and furniture from the Imperial palaces. The museum is located at 415 Couch Drive. For further information phone 405/236-3100, ext. 237, or visit <www.okcmoa.com>. (Humanities Interview, Winter 2007)

In **Oklahoma City** the Oklahoma History Center will offer *The Power to Dream, The Power to Achieve*, a display of original American Indian student art works from the Smithsonian Museum of the American Indian and the federal Office of Indian Education. The works of four Oklahoma prize winners are included. The exhibit continues through March 31. (Special to ML)

Events

During Oklahoma's Centennial of statehood, quilt shows and programs are being presented throughout the year around the state. For example, **Yukon's** Mabel Fry Public Library will be hosting a Centennial Quilt Program from 7-8:30 p.m. on March 15. The library is located at 1200 Lake

Shore Drive. Telephone 405/354-8237 for information.
(Special to ML).

El Reno's historic Fort Reno is offering a "Ghosts of Fort Reno" tour on Saturday, March 17. Beginning at 8:30 p.m. participants will gather at the visitors' center. By lantern light they will wander through various buildings and the cemetery and hear tales of hauntings, unsolved mysteries, urban legends, and mysterious deaths. Cost is \$5 per person and \$4 for seniors age 60 and older. As reservations are required, telephone Bob Warren or Jessica Wells at 405/262-3987 or visit <www.fortreno.org> and click on Calendar for reservations online. (Special to ML)

Pryor Better Homes Club is sponsoring a Centennial Quilt Show and Spring Fling. The event takes place from 4-10 p.m. on March 30 and 31 at the United Methodist Church, Fellowship Hall, 1217 S.E. 18th, Pryor. Admission is \$5. Children under age 12 are free. For info call 918/825-3005 or e-mail <HeavenlyPatchwork@cox.net>. (Special to ML)

Oklahoma City's National Cowboy and Western Heritage Museum will be the venue for a dinner, a highlight of the Will Rogers Writers' Workshop, on Friday, March 16, 2007. A limited number of dinner tickets will be made available to Oklahomans not attending the workshop. Jesse Mullins, Jr., editor of the *American Cowboy* magazine, will be the featured speaker at the dinner. For more information e-mail <willrogersok@gmail.com>. (Special to ML)

Waurika's Chisholm Trail Historical Museum is hosting the 9th Annual Western Writers Round-up and Chuck Wagon Feed beginning at 10 a.m. on March 31. Approximately seven authors of American West literature will spend the day visiting with those in attendance and telling the "story behind the story." Sara Jane Richter of Oklahoma Panhandle University will start the program with her tales of "Wild, Wild Women of the West." The Diamond W Ranch Wagon will prepare and serve the meal. Admission to the program is free. However, donations are accepted. Food prices start at \$6. The museum is located east of the four-way stop, near the junction of U.S. Highways 70 and 81. (Special to ML)

Putnam City Christian Church (Fellowship Hall), 4215 N. Grove, Bethany, will be the venue for the "Centennial Stitches—Oklahoma History in Quilts" program at 12:15 p.m. to 1 p.m. on March 20. Admission is free to the public. Call Angie Lewis at 405/789-7722. (Special to ML).

Happenings

Claremore's Will Rogers Memorial Museum, located at 1720 W. Will Rogers Boulevard, is offering Sunday movie matinees during the month of March. Double features of Will Rogers's movies will be shown in the museum's large theater at 2 p.m. and 3:30 p.m. on March 4, 11, 18, and 25. *Lightnin'* and *Judge Priest* will be presented on March 4; *Young as You Feel* and *The County Chairman* on March 11; *Life Begins at Forty* and *Ambassador Bill* on March 18; *Too Busy to Work* and *David Harum* on March 25. Admission is free. The museum is open year round from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. For more information call 918/341-0719. (Special to ML)

Miami's Coleman Theatre will show the silent movie, *Tumbleweed*, starring Thomas Hart, while Dennis James performs on the Mighty Wurlitzer on Saturday, March 17, at 7:30 p.m. Tickets are \$15 for adults, \$12 for seniors, \$8 for students, and children under age five are free. Call 918/540-2425 or visit <www.colemantheatre.org>. (Friends of the Coleman Newsletter, Winter 2006-07)

Wanted

The Comanche Reformed Church, formally organized in May 1907 in **Lawton**, is planning its centennial commemoration on Sunday, May 6, 2007. The first church building was erected in 1905 and dedicated in 1906. Individuals who have photographs or memorabilia pertaining to the church's history are requested to contact Wahne Clark at 580/492-5799. Clark can also answer any questions about the planned event for May 2007. (Special to ML)

Writings, Etc.

Jonita Mullins, writer and columnist, has recently released a new book entitled *Glimpses of Our Past*. The 200-page book is a compilation of more than 80 articles that she has written for her Three Forks history column published each Sunday in the *Muskogee Phoenix*. The work covers the early history of the area up to 1907 statehood. To order send \$12 per book plus \$3 for shipping to Jonita Mullins, P.O. Box 3827, Muskogee, OK 74402. Reach her at 918/441-4735 or <jonita@netscape.com>. (Special to ML)

Oscar Ameringer
(Ohs photo).



Oscar and Freda Ameringer (OHS photo).

Freda and Susan Ameringer
(OHS photo).



Hidden Collections . . .

The Oscar and Freda Ameringer Collection

By Larry O'Dell

In 2006 Susan Brown, daughter of Oscar and Freda Ameringer, donated a portion of her parents' collection to the Oklahoma Historical Society. This invaluable material highlights the careers of these two very influential Oklahomans. Freda's papers help show the evolution of an early-day socialist into a mainstream civic leader as the twentieth century progressed. The Oscar and Freda Ameringer Papers (2006.02) are precious to researchers of the state's alternative responses to the two-party system. In fact, in 1914 Fred Holt received 20 percent of the statewide vote, when he ran for governor on the Socialist Party ticket.

Oscar Ameringer, born in Germany on August 4, 1870, arrived in Oklahoma in 1907. He served as a force in the national Socialist Party, and was close to party leaders such as Victor Berger and Eugene V. Debs. He helped organize Oklahoma's Socialist Party, which held considerable influence prior to World War I. He and his wife, Freda, established the *Oklahoma Daily Leader*, a Socialist newspaper based in Oklahoma City. Oscar also edited the *American Guardian* and the *Illinois Miner* and published several books and pamphlets, including *If You Don't Weaken: The Autobiography of Oscar Ameringer*.

Freda Ameringer was born in Arkansas on November 12, 1892. Her father, Dan Hogan, held a leadership position in that state's Socialist Party, introduc-

ing Freda to visiting notables such as Mother Jones, Ida Heyman Callery, May Wood Simmons, Lena Morrow Lewis, and Kate O'Hare. In 1917 the family relocated to Oklahoma and joined Oscar in his work. Freda and Oscar married in 1930. As Oscar focused on his national work, Freda published the *Oklahoma City Advertiser*, which endured as a non-political entity until 1968. She continued to be active in civic affairs, including the Urban League, the YWCA, the Pilot Club, and UNICEF, and in 1956 she was named national Clubwoman of the Year. Oscar died on November 5, 1943, and Freda passed away on October 4, 1988.

The collection contains correspondence between Freda and Oscar and Freda and her family. There are also a number of pieces of business correspondence and documents. One very interesting item is a handwritten autobiography of Freda's early life in Arkansas. The material on Oscar is just as compelling; including early drafts and the manuscript for *If You Don't Weaken*. There are also several notes and various writings that were taken from his desk after he died. The material also houses several of Ameringer's pamphlets, speeches, and books, including some written by others. The various correspondences include letters to or from Victor Berger, Covington Hall, F. D. Moon, H. L. Mitchell, Morris Udall, Carl Sandburg, Eugene Debs, William Borah, and Oswald Garrison Villard. The documents span the years from 1908 until 1988. The Oscar and Freda Ameringer Papers can be accessed in the John and Eleanor Kirkpatrick Research Center at the Oklahoma History Center.

OHS Places . . .

Tom Mix Museum

721 N. Delaware
P.O. Box 190
Dewey, OK 74029
Phone: 918/534-1555
Hours: Tuesday-Friday, 10 a.m.-4:30 p.m.
Open weekends only in February.
Closed: Mondays and state holidays.
Closed the month of January.
Admission: Suggested donations, \$1 for adults,
50 cents for children.

Howdy partner! You don't have to take the next stage to Hollywood to learn about Western movie star Tom Mix, whose film career spanned from 1909 through 1935. Just mosey on over to the Tom Mix Museum in Dewey, Oklahoma. The museum's exhibits offers a collection of his saddles, boots, guns, and costumes. His movies are shown continuously until 3:30 p.m. each day in the museum's thirty-seat theater.

Hollywood publicity glamorized his life by printing untrue stories of his having served as a Texas Ranger and having ridden with Teddy Roosevelt's Rough Riders

during the 1898 Spanish-American War. So learn about the myth and about the man with a visit to the museum.

Born in Pennsylvania in 1880, Mix came to Guthrie, in Oklahoma Territory, circa 1902. There he worked sundry jobs including as a bartender in the Blue Belle Saloon. Between 1905 and 1908 he performed as a bronc buster for the Miller Brothers 101 Ranch Wild West show. In 1909 a motion picture company, filming horse scenes near Dewey, hired Wild West show performers. Thus, Mix got his start in Western films. During his movie career, he had several horses, but Tony "The Wonder Horse" is probably the best remembered. Mix stayed in good physical shape and preferred to perform his own stunts. He died in an automobile accident in Arizona on October 12, 1940.

The Tom Mix Museum opened on June 1, 1968. It is an Oklahoma Historical Society affiliate managed by contract with a local group, the Tom Mix Museum Board of Directors, Incorporated.



Preservation Oklahoma, Inc., names Most Endangered Historic Places for 2007



Route 66 motel at 3600 Northwest 39th Street, Oklahoma City (Heather Seifert photo).

**Preservation Oklahoma, Inc.
405 Northwest 15th Street
Oklahoma City, OK 73103
405/525-5325
E-mail: <info@preserveok.org>**

**Hayworth Hall,
Chilocco
(Jim Gabbert
SHPO photo).**



In January, Preservation Oklahoma announced the 2007 Oklahoma's Most Endangered Historic Places list during a ceremony held at the Oklahoma State Capitol. Despite a snowstorm, a large crowd assembled for the event.

The Oklahoma's Most Endangered Historic Places list is co-sponsored by the Oklahoma State Historic Preservation Office and Preservation Oklahoma, Inc. Site selection is based on architectural integrity, historical significance, identifiable threat, and the likelihood that inclusion on this list will have a positive impact on their preservation efforts.

The annually compiled Most Endangered Places list is just a sample of the thousands of landmarks across Oklahoma in need of our attention and protection. While the list does not ensure the protection of a site, or guarantee funding, the designation has been a positive tool for raising awareness and rallying resources to save these endangered sites.

Preservation Oklahoma is a statewide nonprofit organization whose mission is to encourage the preservation of Oklahoma's

historic places. The State Historic Preservation Office, a division of the Oklahoma Historical Society, administers federal historic preservation programs in Oklahoma.



**H. L. Fogg House, El Reno
(Todd W. Clark photo).**

Oklahoma's Most Endangered Historic Places List for 2007 includes:

- Archeological Sites, Statewide
- Boley Historic District, Boley
- Cemeteries, Statewide
- Chilocco Indian School, Kay County
- Eagle Park, Cache vicinity
- Former Pawnee Indian Boys Dormitory, Pawnee
- Judge H. L. Fogg House, El Reno
- Masonic Orphanage, Darlington
- Mid-Century Elementary Schools, Blackwell
- Route 66 Motels, From Sayre to Miami
- Wheelock Academy, Millerton vicinity
- Wichita Falls and Northwestern Depot, Altus

National Register Nomination Grants available from the SHPO

The Oklahoma State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO) announces its annual matching grants to state, local, and tribal governments and nonprofit organizations for the preparation of National Register of Historic Places nominations. The SHPO has reserved \$10,000 of its FY 2007 Historic Preservation Fund (HPF) allocation from the U.S. Department of the Interior for the program. The funds will be equally divided for award in two grant rounds with any funds remaining from Round 1 carried over for Round 2. Applications and detailed instructions became available from the SHPO on February 1. The deadline for Round 1 applications is 5 p.m. on April 2, and the deadline for Round 2 applications is 5 p.m. on June 1. Each grant is limited to \$900, and the applicant must provide a nonfederal, cash match of at least \$600. Grant recipients will use the funds to retain an appropriately qualified professional to complete preparation of an individual property nomination for the National Register of Historic Places.

The National Register is the catalogue of our nation's significant buildings, structures, sites, districts, objects, and landscapes important in our past. While listing in the National Register is not a guarantee of preservation or of financial assistance, it is one of the most important components of the preservation strategy for any significant property. The designation provides increased public awareness of these irreplaceable resources, provides limited protection for them, qualifies property owners for federal and state tax credits under certain circumstances, and may qualify the property owner for grant assistance when such programs are funded.

To obtain a National Register Nomination Grant Application or further information about the National Register, telephone the SHPO at 405/521-6249 or visit our web site at <www.okhistory.org> (select "Programs" and then "National Register").

Oklahoma Route 66 Museum to host traveling exhibit in March

Throughout March 2007 the Oklahoma Route 66 Museum will host *Through Our Grandmother's Eyes: Interviews and Photographs of the Women Who Settled Oklahoma*. The exhibit is a traveling TRACKS exhibit sponsored by the Oklahoma Humanities Council. The exhibit highlights the participation of women in the settlement of the Great Plains. It is based on interviews with Native American, black, and white women over the age of 85. The focus is on their families' migration to the prairies and their day-to-day lives there. A documentary film entitled *Wind Grass Song: The Voice of Our Grandmothers* accompanies the display.

The exhibit is scheduled through March 25, 2007, in the museum's Wow! Room, which is free to the public; other galleries are accessible with regular admission fees. The Oklahoma Route 66 Museum is located at 2229 W. Gary Blvd. in Clinton. Contact Pat Smith at 580/323-7866.

Committee names candidates for 2007 Board election

Board member Emmy Scott Stidham, chair of the OHS Nominating Committee, has announced the names of 8 candidates who have agreed to stand for election to three-year terms on the OHS Board of Directors.

According to the OHS Constitution and By-laws, 13 of the 25 members of the Board are elected by the OHS membership on a rotating basis. In 2007 the membership elects one member from District 1, one member from District 3, and two from the State-at-Large.

Biographical sketches for the 2007 nominees appear below by district and in alphabetical order.

The OHS will mail the ballots and voting instructions to the membership in March. Completed ballots may be cast in person or by mail, but must be received in the executive director's office before 12:00 noon, Friday, April 6, 2007.

District 1

Hannibal B. Johnson (Tulsa)

Hannibal Johnson is a Harvard Law School graduate, attorney, author, and consultant who has taught at the University of Tulsa, Oklahoma State University, and the University of Oklahoma. He is past president of Leadership Tulsa, Metropolitan Tulsa Urban League, and Northeast Oklahoma Black Lawyers Association. He has provided leadership for Anytown, Oklahoma, The Community Leadership Association, Oklahoma Appleseed Center for Law and Justice, Oklahoma Department of Libraries, Advisory Board of the Maybom Literary Nonfiction Writers Conference of the Southwest, and OSU Center for Health Sciences. His books include *Black Wall Street—From Riot to Renaissance in Tulsa's Historic Greenwood District*, *Up From the Ashes—A Story About Community*, *Acres of Aspiration—The All-Black Towns in Oklahoma*, *Mama Used To Say—Wit & Wisdom From The Heart & Soul*, and *No Place Like Home—A Story About an All-Black, All-American Town*. His honors include the "Don Newby/Ben Hill" award (Tulsa Metropolitan Ministry), "Keeping The Dream Alive" award (Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Commemoration Society), "Outstanding Service to the Public Award" (Oklahoma Bar Association), "Ten Outstanding Young Tulsans" award (Tulsa Jaycees), "Distinguished Leadership Award" (National Association for Community Leadership), "Ralph Ellison Literary Award" (Black Liberated Arts Center), and the Human Rights Award (Oklahoma Human Rights Commission). Johnson has been an OHS member since 2001.

Guy William Logsdon (Tulsa)

Guy Logsdon is an Ada native with degrees from East Central State University (B.A.), University of Oklahoma (M.L.S.), and Oklahoma State University (Ed.D.). He served as Director of Libraries at the University of Tulsa, 1967–1981, and as Professor of Education and American Folklife, 1981–1989. A nationally recognized authority on Woody Guthrie and western and cowboy music, poetry, and musicians, he also is known for his expertise on the Dust Bowl and western swing music. He has authored or co-authored four books, including the award-winning *The Whorehouse Bells Were Ringing and Other Songs Cowboys Sing*. He has published thirty-one articles and numerous essays, encyclopedia entries, and book introductions. He also has produced recording compilations, annotations, or liner notes for twenty-seven record albums or CDs involving Woody Guthrie, Lead Belly, Pete Seeger, Jack Guthrie, Marty Robbins, Tex Ritter, and Johnnie Lee Wills. Logsdon worked with the Smithsonian to document the life and music of Woody Guthrie. He has received major awards from the National Cow

boy and Western Heritage Museum, Western History Association, Academy of Western Arts, Westerners International, Oklahoma Heritage Association. A lecturer and performer, he has presented hundreds of programs to audiences nationwide. A former Board member, Logsdon joined the OHS in 1988.

District 3

Marvin E. Kroeker (Ada)

Marvin Kroeker was born and reared near Corn and Colony, the descendant of '89ers and German-Russian Mennonite homesteaders. He completed the M.A. and Ph.D. in History at the University of Oklahoma. He is Professor Emeritus and former chairman of the Department of History at East Central University in Ada. His board memberships include the Associates of the Western History Collections (OU) and Friends of Honey Springs Battlefield. Kroeker is the author of numerous works, including *Great Plains Command: William B. Hazen in the Frontier West*, *Comanches and Mennonites on the Oklahoma Plains: A. J. and Magdalena Becker and the Post Oak Mission*, and essays in Paul Hutton, ed., *Soldiers West: Biographies from the Military Frontier*, and in Davis Joyce, ed., *"An Oklahoma I Had Never Seen Before": Alternative Views of Oklahoma History*. He also authored "Natives and Settlers: The Mennonite Invasion of Indian Territory," and is co-author of *A Pictorial History of Ada, Oklahoma*. He has written articles on Indian-white relations and Mennonites of Oklahoma for *The Chronicles of Oklahoma*. Kroeker is a past president of the OHS Board of Directors and currently serves on the Executive, Evaluation, Oklahoma Museum of History (chair), and Publications committees.

Linda Reese (Ada)

Linda Reese, originally from Norman, received a B.A. in History from the University of Oklahoma and an M.A. in History/Education from the University of Kansas. She taught at New Mexico Military Institute in Roswell, New Mexico, for nine years. She returned to the University of Oklahoma where she completed a Ph.D. in 1991. Since 2002 she has taught United States History, Oklahoma History, and Women's History at East Central University where she is currently chair of the History Department. She is the author of *Women of Oklahoma, 1890–1920* (University of Oklahoma Press, 1997) as well as journal articles and book reviews in *The Chronicles of Oklahoma* and *Western Historical Quarterly*. She has won teaching excellence awards at NMMI, OU, and ECU, and in 2003 she received the American Historical Association Coordinating Council for Women in History Catherine Prelinger Award. In 2006 she was chair of the Oklahoma Association of Professional Historians/ Phi Alpha Theta program committee, and she has served on the Oklahoma Humanities Council. Her Oklahoma research involves issues of race and gender. She has been an OHS member since 1998.

State At-Large

Kenny L. Brown (Edmond)

Kenny L. Brown, Professor of History and former department chair at the University of Central Oklahoma, earned his Ph.D. degree in History at Oklahoma State University. He has taught Oklahoma history for thirty years and has authored *The Italians in Oklahoma*, ten articles in scholarly publications, two booklets, and eight portions of edited books or encyclopedia articles. He also is a specialist in the American West, the Gilded Age, and the Progressive Era. Honors include the Muriel Wright Award for his article on Robert L. Owen in *The Chronicles of Oklahoma*, the McCasland Award for Excellence in Teaching Oklahoma History, and UCO Distinguished Teacher Award. Brown has served as consultant to several museums, is a charter member of the Friends of the OHS Archives, and is on the Board of Trustees of the Associates of the Western History Collections at OU. A McAlester native, Brown has taught at Cameron University, Panhandle State University, and UCO. He has served on the boards of the Oklahoma Humanities Council, the Oklahoma Historical Records Advisory Board, and Harn Gardens and Homestead Museum. A member since 1976, Brown served on the OHS Board from 1989 to 1991.

Jack D. Haley (Roosevelt)

Jack Haley is a rancher, Professor Emeritus of Bibliography at the University of Oklahoma, and retired Associate Curator of the Western History Collections, University of Oklahoma. He is a member of the Western History Association, Society of American Archivists, Western Trail Historical Society, and the Indian Territory Posse of Oklahoma Westerners International. Haley is a former board member of the Institute of the Great Plains, Jacobson Foundation, Society of Southwest Archivists, Harn House and '89er Museum, and the Oklahoma Image Project, and former chairman of the Oklahoma Archives and Records Commission. He has served as a consultant on numerous humanities/history projects, including Time-Life Books, American Heritage, NBC Project 20, BBC, and state documentaries, libraries, and museums. Haley is a Life member of the OHS. He was elected to the OHS Board in 1981 and has served on the Archives, Building, Nominating, Library, and Annual Meeting committees and as a Burkhart Trustee. He currently serves on the Executive, Evaluation, and Research Division committees. Haley served a three-year term as president of the OHS Board beginning in 1998. In 2003 the OHS named Haley to the Oklahoma Historians Hall of Fame.

William D. Pennington (Tishomingo)

William Pennington was born in Anadarko and raised in Duncan. He received his undergraduate degree from the University of Tulsa where he majored in History and Secondary Education. He earned his master's in History at the University of Tulsa and his Ph.D. in History from the University of Oklahoma. His major fields of study at OU were the American West and Indian History. He studied under noted historians Arrell Gibson, Gilbert Fite, and Donald Berthrong. Pennington has been a teacher and administrator at the secondary, community college, and university levels for over thirty-five years, primarily in Oklahoma. He has made numerous presentations and published various articles in the field of Western history. He portrays Will Rogers and Alfalfa Bill Murray for the Oklahoma Humanities History Alive Program. He has been active and held office in many organizations, currently including the Johnston County Chamber of Commerce (president), Greater Southwest Historical Museum in Ardmore (vice president), Johnston County Industrial Authority (president), Johnston County Historical Society, Western History Collection Associates Board, Ardmore Rotary Club, and Tishomingo Lions Club. He now is president of Murray State College. Elected to the OHS Board in 2001, he presently chairs the Research Division Committee.

Mary Bresser Young (Oklahoma City)

Mary Bresser Young was born in Muskogee, graduated from Muskogee Central High School, attended Saint Mary's College of Notre Dame in South Bend, Indiana, and later studied traditional Indian art under Dr. Richard West at Bacone College. She is descended on her mother's side from Mississippi Choctaws. She became interested in oriental brushwork while touring China in 1980 and began formal studies under Dr. Ming-fai Yu. She returned to China in 1985 with other members of the Oriental Brushwork Society of America, and was awarded Certificate of Recognition for participation in the tour "to promote cultural exchange and to support artistic activities between China and the United States." In 1989 she was appointed by Governor Henry Bellmon to the OHS Board of Directors. In 1992 she was appointed by the Secretary of the Interior to the National Historic Trails Advisory Council. She is married to Revere Young, Brigadier General, USAF (Retired), former Director of the Oklahoma Aeronautics Commission. They have one surviving daughter, Dr. Lillian D. Young Stevens, retired Professor of Education at Northeastern State University in Tahlequah, Oklahoma. She is a life member of the OHS.



Ponca City museum seeks nominations for 2007 Woman of the Year

The Pioneer Woman Museum in Ponca City is accepting nominations for the annual Woman of the Year Award. The deadline for submitting a nomination form is March 15, 2007. Interested persons may download the form by visiting the web site <www.pioneerwomanmuseum.com>, and then selecting "Special Events."

Criteria state that "this woman, living or deceased, should have been or be active in her community and considered a 'notable' woman in Oklahoma." For questions, call 580/765-6108.

In 2006 an elementary school teacher, Ethel Dorothea Franklin of McCurtain captured the award. Past winners have been former First Lady of Oklahoma Shirley Bellmon, Lillian Taylor, who taught British Royal Air Force pilots to fly in Ponca City during World War II, and Laura Clubb, a Kaw City hotel owner who gave an extensive art collection to the Philbrook Museum of Art in Tulsa.

Mail completed forms to: Pioneer Woman Museum, 701 Monument Road, Ponca City, OK 74604, or fax them to 580/762-2498.

March is National Women's History Month

Exhibit honors Agents of Change

This year's theme for National Women's History Month is "Generations of Women Moving History Forward." To learn more about women's history and to find the list of 2007 honorees, visit website of the National Women's History Project on the Internet at <www.nwhp.org>.

Three Oklahomans, LaDonna Harris (founder of Americans for Indian Opportunity), attorney Anita Hill, and Cherokee Principal Chief Wilma Mankiller, have been honorees in past years. In addition to these women many other Oklahoma women have achieved great accomplishments. Oklahomans women in politics include U.S. Representative Alice Robertson, Kate Barnard, Oklahoma's first Commissioner of Charities and Corrections, former Oklahoma City Mayor Patience Latting, and former Oklahoma Supreme Court Chief Justice Alma Wilson. Oklahoma women involved in science and aviation include Shannon Lucid, Donna Shirley, Jerrie Cobb, Dorothy

Pressler Morgan, Dr. Leila Andrews, and Dr. Winnie Sanger.

Articles about some of these women have been published in the Oklahoma Historical Society's quarterly journal, *The Chronicles of Oklahoma*. Use the three published indexes as well as the cumulative *Annotated Guide to the Chronicles of Oklahoma* to locate a specific article. Also, the full text of volumes 1 through 40 and the table of contents for volumes 41 through 80 of *The Chronicles* can be accessed online (free of charge) at OSU's web site <<http://digital.library.okstate.edu>>.

In conjunction with Women's History Month the Oklahoma History Center offers an exhibit entitled *Agents of Change: The Women of OCW* from March 1-31 on the third floor atrium bridge. The exhibit salutes the achievements of Oklahoma women from the former Oklahoma College of women (now USAO), located in Chickasha.

Mark Your Calendar!

The Oklahoma Historical Society Annual Meeting is April 12-14, 2007.

Full details will appear in the April issue of *Mistletoe Leaves*.

Walk, fly a kite, decorate an egg, or bake bread this month at OHS Sites and Museums

Kite Flite March 17 and Equinox Walk March 21-22

Are you ready to get rid of the dreary and cold winter and open up the promise of a warm spring? Wonder about the importance of spring to Native Americans? Come celebrate the beginning of spring a little differently this year.

On March 21 and 22 there will be a series of guided Vernal Equinox walks at the **Spiro Mounds Archaeological Center**. You can learn from an archaeologist and ask questions too. Each day there will be walks at 11 a.m., 2 p.m. and 7 p.m., led by archaeologist and manager Dennis Peterson. Each walk will take about two hours and require a mile of easy walking. Peterson will tell about this unique prehistoric Native American mound site, the types of mounds, why they were created, and why some of the mounds are lined up for the sunsets of the Solstices and Equinoxes.

He will also tell the history of the excavations, discuss Native American ceremonies and stories, relate tales of the unusual happenings associated with the mounds, and answer your questions.

There is a small fee for this series of tours, \$3 for adults and \$2 for children. No reservations are required unless you are bringing a big group.

On Saturday, March 17 the Center will host its Annual Family Kite Flite Day. This event is free, although there is a \$1 parking

donation. Hundreds of people will be flying kites, and kids will digging in the sandbox, making bubbles, and enjoying arts-and-crafts booths. Donated kites will be given away by drawings held throughout the day. Kite Flite Day takes place from 9 a.m. until 5 p.m.

The Spiro Mounds Archaeological Center is the only prehistoric Native American site open to the public in Oklahoma and is administered by the Oklahoma Historical Society. Hours of operation are Wednesday through Saturday from 9 a.m. until 5 p.m. and Sunday from 12 noon until 5 p.m. Admission, except for special programs, is free although donations are appreciated. The Center is located 3 miles east of Spiro, Oklahoma, on State Highway 9/271 and 4 miles north on Spiro Mounds Road.

If you need more information or wish to schedule a group or school tour, please call 918/962-2062. You may also contact the Center by e-mail at <spiromds@ipa.net>.

Victorian egg-decorating class set for March 10

Participate in a fun workshop and take a decorated Easter egg home. The class will be held on March 10 at 1 p.m. at the **Chisholm Trail Museum**, 605 Zellers Avenue, Kingfisher. Martha Ray, OHS Director of Historic Homes, will offer a selection of colors and floral prints to make each egg unique. She will give participants ideas for

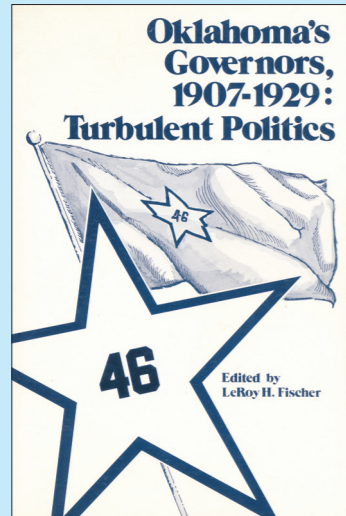
decorating their home with Easter eggs and for creating an egg tree. The session is free, but please call ahead to reserve a seat. For more information call 405/375-5176 or e-mail <reneem@okhistory.org>.

Fort Gibson Bake Day March 31

Fort Gibson Historic Site will heat up its big stone oven for Public Bake Day on Saturday, March 31 to give visitors a chance to see how bread was baked at the fort in the 1800s. For a suggested donation of \$3 to the Friends of Fort Gibson, visitors may purchase a loaf of bread baked in the oven. Donations support activities of the Friends group for Fort Gibson Historic Site.

Visitors are also welcome to bring their favorite bread recipes to bake. Chief baker Rory Montgomery advises everyone to bring their oldest pans, since they will be placed directly on the floor of the oven. Past "guest bakers" have had success with a variety of items, including French bread, Bavarian black bread, and Greek Easter bread.

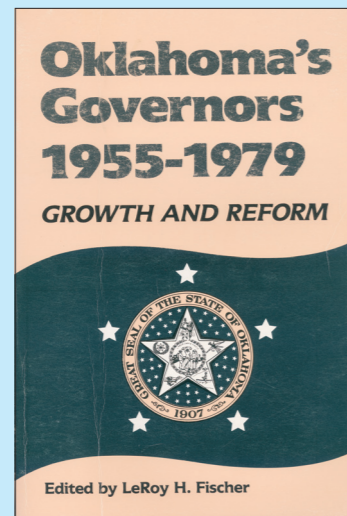
The post bake house is near the Visitors Center at Fort Gibson Historic Site. It will be open for visitors to view the baking procedures from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Saturday, March 31. Fort Gibson Historic Site is located on SH-80 in Fort Gibson, OK and is operated by the Oklahoma Historical Society. For more information call the staff at 918/478-4088 or e-mail <fortgibson@okhistory.org>.



Centennial Bookshelf

Oklahoma's Governors is a four-book series, beginning with the Territorial Era, 1889-1906. The series also includes *Oklahoma's Governors, 1929-1955: Depression to Prosperity*. All are edited by Dr. LeRoy Fischer of Oklahoma State University and published by the Oklahoma Historical Society.

\$13.95 in paper.



\$8.95 in paper.

OHS publications are always available through the Oklahoma History Center Gift Shop.

Telephone the OHC Gift Shop at 405/522-5214 or e-mail the staff at <giftshop@okhistory.org> to get additional information on these and other titles relating to the *First Families of Oklahoma* exhibits and the 2007 Centennial Celebration.

Purchases may also be made online.

Member discounts always apply.

Oklahoma Historical Society
2401 N. Laird Avenue
Oklahoma City, OK 73105-7914

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

PERIODICALS

SHPO announces May workshops

The Oklahoma State Historic Preservation Office is pleased to announce its May workshop series. The sessions will be held May 9-11 in Carnegie Hall, 215 West Broadway, in Elk City, Oklahoma. The workshops are free and open to the public, but we ask that you register by 5 p.m., Wednesday, May 2. To register, contact Shea Otley at 405/521-6249 or <sjotley@okhistory.org>.

Registered architects who attend these workshops can earn American Institute of Architects Continuing Education System (AIA/CES) learning unit hours. For further details about the credits, contact Catherine Montgomery, Historic Preservation Architect, at 405/522-4479 or <catherinem@okhistory.org>.

If you have questions about any of the workshops, contact Melvena Heisch, Deputy SHPO, at 405/522-4484 or <mheisch@okhistory.org>.

Workshop Schedule and Descriptions:

May 9 (9:30 a.m.-12 noon) The Section 106 Review Process: Introduction and Overview
The half-day workshop provides the basics about Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act and how the process works in Oklahoma. Specific topics include who is responsible for Section 106 compliance, when does Section 106 apply, what is the State Historic Preservation Office's role in the process, what other agencies are involved, what is a historic property, and what happens when a project will effect a historic property. The workshop is designed as a stand-alone session and as a companion to Determination of Eligibility under Section 106. Participants should also consider attending Guidelines for Rehabilitating Historic Buildings.

May 9 (1:30 p.m.-5 p.m.) Determination of Eligibility under Section 106
The session provides a step-by-step description of how to document standing structures for the State Historic Preservation Office's review. Specific topics include a discussion of the National Register of Historic Places Criteria for Evaluation, how to complete the Historic Preservation Resource Identification Form, photograph requirements, what a determination of eligibility means, how differences of opinion about eligibility are resolved, and when consultants may be helpful to agencies in preparing documentation for the Section 106 process. The session is designed as a stand-alone workshop or as a companion to The Section 106 Review Process: Introduction and Overview. Participants should also consider attending Guidelines for Rehabilitating Historic Buildings.

May 10 (9:30 a.m.-5 p.m.) Working with the National Register of Historic Places
The National Register of Historic Places is the foundation of the SHPO's programs, and a basic understanding of the register is essential for those involved in historic preservation at all levels of government and in the private sector. The workshop provides detailed information about the National Register criteria, what listing means, the rights of property owners in the nomination process, tips for preparing successful nominations, and much more.

May 11 (9:30 a.m.-12 noon) Federal and State Tax Incentives for Rehabilitating Historic Buildings
In this workshop participants will learn about the federal and state investment tax credits for certified rehabilitation of a certified historic structure. A detailed discussion of the Historic Preservation Certification Application, Parts 1, 2, and 3 will guide owners and developers in successfully preparing the information needed for the State Historic Preservation Office to review the project and for the National Park Service to certify it. This session is designed as a stand-alone workshop or as a companion to Guidelines for Rehabilitating Historic Buildings

May 11 (1:30 p.m.-5 p.m.) Guidelines for Rehabilitating Historic Buildings
The half-day workshop features a thorough discussion of the Secretary of the Interior's Standards and Guidelines for Rehabilitation. Generally referred to as the Standards, these common-sense principles are widely used in the historic preservation field. Whether you are involved in a rehabilitation project for the 20 percent federal and 20 percent state tax credits, planning a rehabilitation project funded with federal assistance, serving on a local historic preservation commission, or just wanting to know the best approach to rehabilitating your historic private home, you will find this session invaluable. It is designed as a stand-alone workshop and as a companion to Federal and State Tax Incentives for Rehabilitation.



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