

Wistletoe Leaves



Vol. 46, No. 3

Published monthly by the Oklahoma Historical Society, serving since 1893

March 2015

Celebrate spring at the Spiro Mounds Archaeological Center

On March 19, 20, and 21, the Spiro Mounds Archaeological Center will host a series of guided Vernal Equinox Walks and the twenty-eighth annual Family Kite Flite Day.

Visitors can learn from an archaeologist about the significance of the equinox to the American Indian community that called Spiro home. On March 19 and 20, there will be three walks beginning at 11 a.m., 2 p.m., and 7 p.m., led by archaeologist and manager Dennis Peterson. Each walk will take approximately two hours and require one mile of easy walking. Peterson will provide information about this unique prehistoric American Indian 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 discuss the history of the excavations, American Indian ceremonies, and stories of the unusual happenings associated with the mounds.

On Saturday, March 21, from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., visitors to Spiro Mounds can enjoy the twenty-eighth annual Family Kite Flite Day. Kite flying demonstrations, bubble making, a children's area, arts and crafts vendors, and kite giveaways are just a few of the activities that will take place. This event is free and open to the public. All are invited to enjoy the festivities.

The Spiro Mounds Archaeological Center is located three miles east of Spiro, on Highway 9/271 and four miles north on Lock and Dam Road. For more information or to schedule a group or school tour, please call 918-962-2062 or email spiro@okhistory.org.



T. B. Ferguson Home to host quilt presentation and fundraising dinner

On Saturday, March 7, from 10 a.m. to noon, the T. B. Ferguson Home presents "Underground Railroad Quilts" at the Watonga Public Library. Martha Ray will share historic information about quilts used by slaves escaping the South. During the presentation, attendees also can view authentic quilts made during the Civil War.

On Friday, March 20, from 5 to 7 p.m. the T. B. Ferguson Home will host its annual chicken noodle dinner. This fundraising event will be held in the Foley Building at the Blaine County Fairgrounds in Watonga.

For more information about these events please call 580-623-5069. Built in 1901, the T. B. Ferguson Home and was home to Oklahoma's sixth territorial governor. It is located at 519 North Weigle Avenue in Watonga, with regular operating hours on Monday and Thursday, 11 a.m. to 4 p.m.; Friday, 12:30 to 5:30 p.m.; and Saturday, 10:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. This property is managed by the Friends of T. B. Ferguson Home and offers free admission.

Fort Washita to host Fur Trade Rendezvous

On April 1–5, Fort Washita in Durant will host a Fur Trade Rendezvous. Experience life on the western frontier at this living history event, which includes instructive programs in customs, survival skills, and lifestyles of the period. Visitors will encounter trappers representing the far northwest mountain areas to the desert southwest, as well as traders with French and Spanish influence. Visit Fort Washita and experience the sights, sounds, and smells of history.

Attendees will travel through the camps where reenactors explain life on the frontier in the early nineteenth century. On April 2 and 3, school groups are invited to bring students for two special "School Days," with no charge for school buses. For others visiting the Fur Trade Rendezvous, there is an entrance fee of \$5 per car.

Fort Washita was established in 1842 in the Choctaw Nation, Indian Territory, as the southwestern-most military post of the United States. The site is on the National Register of Historic Places and designated as a National Historic Landmark. Fort Washita is located at 3348 State Road 199 in Durant. Please call 580-924-6502 for more information.



Fifth annual Cowboy Roundup at the Oklahoma History Center

The Oklahoma History Center in Oklahoma City will host the fifth annual Cowboy Roundup on Saturday, March 21, from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. All are invited to attend this free event, so load up the family for a rendezvous with adventure. Attendees will enjoy hands-on activities indoors and outdoors, including free admission to the museum exhibit galleries.

Cowboys and chuck wagons will bring the cattle drive era to life. There will be rope making, branding, Dutch oven cooking, horse rides, blacksmithing, square dancing, crafts, a medicine man show, and stage coach rides.

For more information please call 405-522-3602 or email education@okhistory.org. The Oklahoma History Center is located at 800 Nazih Zuhdi Drive in Oklahoma City.





Director's column

By Dr. Bob L. Blackburn **Executive Director**

As I look to the future of the Oklahoma Historical Society, I keep coming back to the value of partnerships.

Foremost is the public-private partnership that has worked so effectively since 1895. On one side are our members, donors, support groups, and volunteers. On the other side is the State of Oklahoma, composed of the entire community of citizens and taxpayers working through the governor and legislature.

Whereas the public-private partnership a long-standing tradition, reliance on formal partnerships with other groups is more recent. Examples include the Oklahoma Military Hall of Fame, the Oklahoma Genealogical Society, the Oklahoma Higher Education Heritage Society, Colonial Williamsburg, Preservation Oklahoma, the National Park Service, and Mount Vernon.

The most rapidly expanding scope of partnerships is with sovereign tribal

Prior to the 1970s and the resurrection of elected tribal governments, the OHS worked with individual American Indian leaders such as Dode McIntosh, Earl Boyd Pierce, and Bat Shunatona. Those types of personal friendships are still highly valued, but working with tribal governments expands the partnerships to include entire communities.

Reaching out to tribal governments accelerated in the 1990s after we worked with the Oklahoma Legislature to pass a law allowing the OHS to transfer historical properties to nonprofit groups for "fair market value." My friendships with Bill Anoatubby, Wilma Mankiller, John Ketcher, and Judy Allen can be traced to those mutually beneficial transactions.

Since then the partnerships have grown. Bill Welge has worked with a number of tribes to preserve archival records. Museum managers such as John Davis and David Fowler have included tribal officials in their short-term and longrange plans for historic sites. The results are spectacular.

A good example on the collecting side of our mission is a partnership with the Chickasaw Nation to digitize tribal records and newspapers that could be shared through the new cultural center in Sulphur. As a result, the History Center added expensive equipment that opened the door to a digital revolution and the information is more accessible to our rural constituency.

On the operational side is our partnership with the Cherokee Nation, which provides an annual grant to support Fort Gibson, the Murrell Home, and Sequoyah's Cabin. We use the grant to keep standards of service at a high level and the Cherokee Nation receives assistance in developing heritage tourism for economic development and classroom education for Cherokees young and old.

The next big opportunity for building on those partnerships is the upcoming exhibit, Crossroads of Commerce: A History of Free Enterprise in Oklahoma. In that exhibit, we will illustrate how tribal business income serves as a tax base for tribal programs and how modern tribal enterprises are connected to ancient traditions.

Yes, as I look to the future, I keep coming back to the value of partnerships. With mutual respect and a willingness to innovate, we are stronger together than we are divided.

New Members, January 2015

*Indicates renewed memberships at a higher level

Benefactor

Larry and Polly Nichols, Oklahoma City

Business Benefactor

Ann Alspaugh, Oklahoma City

Director's Circle

*Joanna Champlin and Shawnee Brittan, Oklahoma

Fellow

Tricia Everest, Oklahoma City

Associate

*Bob and Mary Brown, Burneyville *Jerry and Nancy Cotton, Edmond *Clark and Kay Musser, Oklahoma City *Lee Allan and Dee Ann Smith, Oklahoma City

Friend

Sheila Brooks, Edmond *William and Charlene Clark, Bryan, TX *Philip and Carol Comp, Oklahoma City *Peter and Christi Eischen, Fairview Marian Escobar, Chickasha *Gilbert Gibson, Oklahoma City *Betty and Charles Kemp, Norman *Cheryl Key, Ardmore *J. P. London, Arlington, VA *Dennis and Karen Luman, Oklahoma City *John and Vicki Phillips, Beggs Mollie Reidland, Oklahoma City Ronald Schaulat, Oklahoma City *Jack Shakely, Rancho Mirage, CA Charles Sherman, Purcell *Harold Simons, Oklahoma Citv *Robert and Mary Touchstone, Moore

Family

Orin and Fredrica Allen, Pittsburg, CA Noah Bailey, Enid Neil Bergstrom, Oklahoma City *Robert Bookout, Tulsa *Robert and Glenna Cheek, Oklahoma City John Clackler, Plattsburgh, NY Rochelle Converse, Edmond Dr. and Mrs. A. Sam Coury, Edmond Richard Dike, Oklahoma Čity Dennis and Charlene Fowler, Houston, TX Tyrone and Trent Giles, Edmond Bill and Barbara Grant, Hugo H. T. and Edna Mae Holden, Kremlin

cont'd. on p. 7

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Mistletoe Leaves (USPS 018-315) is published monthly by the Oklahoma Historical Society, 800 Nazih Zuhdi Drive, Oklahoma City, OK 73105-7917. Periodicals postage paid at Oklahoma City, OK. (ISSN 1932-0108)

POSTMASTER: Send address changes to $\it Mistletoe\ Leaves$, 800 Nazil-Zuhdi Drive, Oklahoma City, OK 73105-7917.

By authorization of the Oklahoma Historical Society's Board of

By authorization of the Oklahoma Historical Society's Board of Directors, 6,000 copies are prepared at a cost of \$1,276 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 "perserve and perpetuate the history of Oklahoma and its people, to stimulate popular interest in historical study and research, and to promote and disseminate historical knowledge."

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

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All Oklahoma Historical Society facilities are for the education and enjoyment of all. State and federal regulations prohibit unlawful discrimination in state and federally assisted programs on the basis of race, color, national origin, and/or handicap.

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

Development News

By Larry O'Dell

The Oklahoma Historical Society continues to produce quality events, programs, and exhibits around the state. Upcoming exhibits and events

include the Crossroads of Commerce exhibit in Oklahoma City; Patti Page exhibits in Claremore, Clinton, Enid, and Ponca City; the annual history conference in Sulphur; a new Bob Wills record created from recordings found in the Bob Wills Collection; and an Oklahoma authors exhibit in the Brady District of Tulsa. Now, more than ever, we depend on partners to complete these projects. Oklahoma foundations, American Indian tribal governments, companies, and individuals have stepped up to help fund OHS projects.

The OHS will aggressively plan more projects and keep to our mission of collecting, preserving, and sharing Oklahoma history. We have confidence that we will keep attracting new partners and our supporters will continue to foster our success. As always, if you are interested in increasing your support of the OHS, you can choose which programs you wish to support at www.okhistory.org/support/giving. You can also contact me at 405-522-6676 or lodell@okhistory.org.

AROUND SELAHOMA

Events

Head to Miami on Saturday, March 7, for the annual Peoria Stomp Dance. The festival includes dinner at 5:30 p.m., and the stomp dance will take place from 7 p.m. to midnight. This cultural dance event of the Peoria tribe is an exciting display of slow, stomping steps set to rhythm. The traditional stomp dance ceremony contains both religious and social meaning. Experience American Indian heritage in a festival atmosphere complete with old-fashioned cake walks and raffles. Visitors are encouraged to bring lawn chairs and admission is free. The event will take place at the Ottawa-Peoria Cultural Center, located at 114 South Eight Tribes Trail in Miami. Please call 918-540-2535 for more information.

Visit Atoka as Court Street comes alive during the city's annual Fire Truck Parade on Friday, March 13. Featuring fire trucks from around Oklahoma, the parade begins at 6 p.m. and is free to the public. Witness as a variety of antique and modern fire trucks make their way through the town showcasing their timeless designs, sounding sirens, and displaying lights. This event holds the Guinness World Record for the largest fire truck parade with 220 trucks in the 2012 parade. Do not miss the craft booths, fun activities, and live music. The parade travels down Court Street, located at the first traffic light in Atoka heading south. Please call 580-889-3341 for more information.

Take a fun and educational walking tour through downtown Tulsa on Saturday, March 14, from 10 to 11 a.m. The Tulsa Foundation for Architecture leads a one-hour educational walking tour that gives an insightful look into the exciting architecture that abounds in downtown Tulsa. Key in on some of the highlights Tulsa's prestigious architectural collection and learn something new about the buildings around you. The tours are conducted the second Saturday of every month and depart from Topeca Coffee inside the historic Mayo Hotel in downtown Tulsa. Streetside parking is available along Cheyenne and Boulder. Please call 918-583-5550 for more information.

Experience Cherokee history and culture from the 1880s at the Cherokee Heritage Center's annual Indian Territory Days in **Tahlequah**. On Thursday, March 26, and Friday, March 27, students from

kindergarten to twelfth grade can learn about Indian Territory in the late 1800s prior to Oklahoma statehood. Educational and entertaining demonstrations, handsactivities, and interaction with historical interpreters at nine different cultural stations will illustrate the unique Cherokee lifestyle of this time period. While geared towards school-age children, Indian Territory Days is also open to the public. Additional activities will include storytelling, blowgun shooting, finger weaving, Cherokee marbles, a Cherokee language lesson, basket weaving, and pottery demonstrations. The event will be held at the Adams Corner Rural Village, a nineteenth-century recreated Cherokee rural village. After lessons in Cherokee culture, head inside the Cherokee Heritage Center to experience the museum's Trail of Tears exhibit. Identical activities are conducted on both days. While there is a small admission charge for all participating students, all chaperoning adults will be admitted free of charge. Please call ahead for pricing and recommended reservations at 918-456-6007. The Cherokee Heritage Center is located at 21192 South Keeler Drive in Tahlequah.

Spend the day in **Woodward** at the K-101 Farm Expo. This free expo takes place on Friday, March 27, through Sunday, March 29, and is one of the largest tri-state agriculture, farm, and ranch trade shows. Featuring more than 180 exhibitors, arts and crafts booths, and food vendors, the Farm Expo provides entertainment for the entire family. There are rides for children, agriculture exhibits, trade and recreation products, and farm equipment. The event will be held at the Woodward County Fairgrounds at 108 Temple Houston Drive in Woodward. For more information please call 580-254-2034.

Journey to a time of kings, queens, knights, and shining armor at the Medieval Fair in **Norman** on Friday, March 27, through Sunday, March 29. Held annually since 1977, this exciting three-day event celebrates the Middle Ages with arts and crafts, food, games, jousting tournaments, human chess games, costume contests, and more. Bring the whole family for a day of entertainment including minstrels, dancing, hand-cranked carousel rides, theater and reenactments, jugglers, magicians, and knights jousting on horseback. Brightly costumed characters such as King Arthur, mermaids, and the fair's king and queen will also make appearances. Food vendors at the Medieval Fair offer a variety of delicious foods and drinks. Visitors can learn about the Middle Ages with educational exhibits, craft demonstrations, and medieval games. This event is free and open to the public. The Medieval Fair is held at Reaves Park at 2501 South Jenkins Avenue in Norman. From I-35, take Highway 9 east to Jenkins Avenue. Turn north (left). Parking is available at Lloyd Noble Center on Jenkins Avenue. For more information, please call 405-325-8610.

Meetings

The annual meeting of the Presbyterian Historical Society of the Southwest will be held at the First Presbyterian Church in Tulsa on Friday, March 6, and Saturday, March 7. On Friday, events will include free workshops on capturing, storing, and maintaining church histories; constructing historical displays; and using art and architecture to further a church's faith stories. The dinner Friday night will highlight the history of First Church in the Tulsa community. Dinner costs \$10 per person. Saturday morning will feature presentation papers by the Reverend Dr. Jeff Francis, Greg Olds, and Dr. Al Turner. Following the Saturday morning lectures docents will lead tours of the magnificent new stained glass windows in the main sanctuary which portray key events in the Biblical narratives. There is no charge to attend the lectures, but registration is encouraged. Individuals may register at www.firstchurchtulsa.org then click on the "Event Calendar" tab and go to the month of March. For additional information please call Bill Wiles at 918-607-2309.



Do you want your organization's meeting, event, or exhibit included in the "Around Oklahoma" section of the Mistletoe Leaves? The "Around Oklahoma" section features Oklahoma history and heritagerelated activities or programs sponsored by entities other than the Oklahoma Historical Society. To submit news items, please contact Evelyn Brown, assistant editor, by email at eebrown@okhistory. org or by mail at 800 Nazih Zuhdi Drive, Oklahoma City, OK 73105, during the first week of the month before you wish a news item to appear. For example, if you wish an item to appear in the April issue, you must submit by the first week of March.

Candidates for election to the OHS Board of Directors announced

OHS members will receive election ballots, candidate biographies, and related materials in the mail. We hope that members will take time to consider the candidates and participate in the election. To facilitate that process, the candidate biographies are printed below. Members will be asked to vote for one candidate from District Two, one candidate from District Four, and two of the at-large candidates.

District Two

William Corbett (Tahlequah)

A Pennsylvania native, Corbett served in the US Navy from 1970-74, and received a PhD in history from Oklahoma State University in 1982. He taught at Northern Oklahoma College and is a professor of history at Northeastern State University in Tahlequah. He has presented numerous public programs on a variety of historical topics including POW camps, the Civil War in Indian Territory, the women's suffrage movement in Oklahoma, Oklahoma/Indian Territory Rough Riders, and as a Let's Talk About It, Oklahoma scholar. He is author of Oklahoma Passage: The Telecourse Study Guide, chapters in two OHS books, and articles as well as book reviews in professional journals including The Chronicles of Oklahoma, South Dakota History, Red River Valley Journal of History, and Western Historical Quarterly. He was a consulting editor and contributor to the Encyclopedia of Oklahoma History and Culture. He received the OHS's Muriel Wright Award in 1981. In 2012 Corbett received the Public Humanities Award from the Oklahoma Humanities Council for providing outstanding public programming and in 2013 he became a member of the Oklahoma Historians Hall of Fame. He joined the Oklahoma Historical Society in 1980. Corbett was elected OHS treasurer in 2008, vice president in 2011, and president in 2014.

Jimmie L. White (Warner)

White served as chair of the Social Science Division of Connors State College from 1990-2013. A native of Langston, he earned a MA degree in history at Oklahoma State University in 1975. He has been a professional educator in Oklahoma for more than thirty-nine years and joined the faculty at Connors State College in 1976. He has been active in civic and professional affairs, a sampling of which includes the Association for the Study of Afro-American Life and History, Inc., Higher Education Alumni Council of Oklahoma, and Phi Alpha Theta National Honor Society. He represented Connors State College on the Oklahoma State Regents' Faculty Advisory Council and on the steering committee of the Oklahoma Alliance for Geographic Education. A lifetime member of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, he is a founding member, board member, and treasurer of the Oklahoma African American Educators Hall of Fame. He has received numerous honors and awards, including Distinguished Service by Langston University in 1980, one of the Outstanding Young Men of America by the US Jaycees in 1980 and 1981, a Certificate of Special Congressional Recognition by Congressman Mike Synar, being named to the 1921 Tulsa Race Riot Commission by Governor Frank Keating in 1997, and the Bass and McCasland Award for Excellence in Teaching Oklahoma History by the Oklahoma Heritage Association in 2004. He also has been active in researching, writing, and publishing articles as well as public speaking.

District Four

Betty Crow (Altus)

Crow grew up in Tulsa and is a graduate of Oklahoma State University in elementary education. She retired after teaching twenty-five years in the Altus Public School System. She was appointed to the first Board of Trustees of the Oklahoma School for Science and Mathematics, and she has served on the boards of

the Oklahoma Center for the Book, Red Earth, Inc., A+ Schools, Oklahoma City Town Hall, and the Oklahoma Heritage Association. Crow also served on the Altus Library board and was involved in events benefitting the Museum of the Western Prairie. She received the Oklahoma Heritage Regional Award for "People Who Have Made a Difference in Oklahoma" in 2004. As a member of the Board of Guardians of the Oklahoma Governor's Mansion, she compiled a series of scrapbooks portraying the history of the mansion and its families. She has coauthored three books: The House Oklahoma Built, The Art Treasures of the Oklahoma State Capitol, and The History of the Oklahoma Governor's Mansion. An avid artist and a hobby genealogist, Crow has been a member of the OHS since 1998 and has served on the OHS board since 2008. She has served on numerous OHS committees, including the Oklahoma Museum of History Committee and the Development/Endowment/ Membership Committee in 2014.

Linda Reese (Norman)

A native of Norman, Oklahoma, Reese retired as an associate professor of history at East Central University in Ada in 2010. She also served as department chair: director of the Oklahoma Studies Program, and director of the Teaching American History Grant at ECU. She has taught courses on Oklahoma history, the American West, women of Oklahoma, US history survey, and women and the American West. She earned her PhD in history at the University of Oklahoma in 1991 with emphasis on Oklahoma, the American West, Women, and American Indian courses. She also served on the Graduate College and College of Liberal Studies Faculty at OU from 1998-2009. Her book Women of Oklahoma, 1890-1920 was published by OU Press in 1997, and her book Trail Sisters: Freedwomen in Indian Territory, 1850-1890 won the Outstanding Book on Oklahoma History Award from the OHS. She coedited the book Main Street Oklahoma: Stories of Twentieth Century Oklahoma. She has written numerous articles for scholarly publications, encyclopedia and website entries, and book reviews. She also has served as a trustee of the Oklahoma Humanities Council. Reese's honors have included Outstanding Teacher of the Year Award from the New Mexico Military Institute, Exemplary Faculty Award and Outstanding History Professor from East Central University, and the University of Oklahoma Jasper P. Baldwin Award for Excellence in Undergraduate Teaching.

State At-Large

Samonia Lee Byford (Oklahoma City)

Born in Oklahoma City as a ninth generation Oklahoman, Byford has lived in Norman, Muskogee, Tahlequah, Loyal, Mustang, and Oklahoma City. She currently lives in Lincoln Terrace, the historic neighborhood south of the state capitol, and has served on the neighborhood association board since 2005, including three years as president. In 1998 she graduated from Oklahoma City University with a dual major in history and Spanish. After having worked at a state agency, in 2003 she went to work for her parents, Mary Ellen (Milam) Meredith and the late Dr. Howard L. Meredith, editing and proofreading manuscripts, handling distribution for Noksi Press (Cherokee-English language books), helping oversee an addition to the historic Roy Turner home and renovations to the historic Berry home, planning and directing annual festivities, and other such duties. She has served on the board of the Friends of the Oklahoma History Center since 2005, becoming president her first meeting and currently serving as treasurer. She has served as an active member in Leadership Oklahoma (Class XX), the Oklahoma Academy for State Goals (board member 2005-09), Boy Scout Troop 389 (Will Rogers District, Last Frontier Council), and Pocahontas Club, and was scrapbook chair for the Oklahoma City Arts Festival. She served on the OHS board from 2009 to 2012.

Sandra Barker Olson (Waynoka)

Olson is president of the Waynoka Historical Society, and a member of the OHS, Oklahoma Museums Association, American Association of State and Local

History, and Preservation Oklahoma. She is the editor of Waynoka Chronicles, and has authored articles for the Oklahoma Heritage Association's Heritage magazine. Olson serves on the board of the Cherokee Strip Regional Heritage Center in Enid. In 2011 she was inducted into the Oklahoma Historians Hall of Fame. A graduate of Oklahoma State University, Olson has been on the conference programs of the OHS, Oklahoma Museums Association, and Preservation Oklahoma, and also served on the Oklahoma Governor's Tourism Task Force. An active community leader, Olson was named Waynoka's Citizen of the Year in 2010. As a fundraiser, Olson has secured funds totaling more than \$2.5 million for the preservation and rehabilitation of the Waynoka Harvey House and Santa Fe Depot. She also oversaw the Oklahoma Centennial projects undertaken by the Waynoka Historical Society, and coordinated the dismantling, moving, and reconstruction of a 1904 threeroom log cabin. She served as the Waynoka contact for the Woods County Family History Book, a centennial project of the Cherokee Strip Volunteer League, and as a pro bono consultant for books related to the Santa Fe Railroad, Fred Harvey, and aviation history. An active civic leader, she serves on the Waynoka Industrial Authority, Woods County Industrial Development Committee, and the Tri-County Industrial Authority. She is a lifelong Oklahoman whose grandmother staked a claim in the Land Run of 1893. She was elected to the OHS Board of Directors in 2012.

Roger Rinehart (El Reno)

Roger Rinehart has been an attorney with Rinehart, Rinehart & Rinehart, P.C., in El Reno since 1989. He has been a board member and officer of Preservation Oklahoma, Inc.; a founding member of Preservation El Reno, Inc.; a board member of Historic Fort Reno, Inc.; a graduate of Leadership Oklahoma (Class XXI); and a graduate of Leadership Canadian County. Rinehart has served as a board member and president of the El Reno Main Street Program, a board member of the El Reno Chamber of Commerce, and as a board member and chairman of the El Reno Municipal Planning Commission. He has been the El Reno City Attorney since 2001 and has served on the Board of Bar Examiners for the state of Oklahoma. He has received two Citations of Merit from the Oklahoma State Historic Preservation Office and participated in a successful grant application under the Federal Intermodal Surface Transportation and Efficiency Act. Rinehart prepared a successful PSF grant application for funding from the National Trust for Historic Preservation on behalf of Preservation El Reno, Inc., for restoration of the Canadian County sheriff's stable. He served on the OHS board in 2010 and 2011.

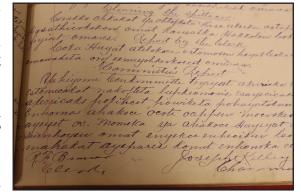
Barbara Thompson (Oklahoma City)

Thompson has served on the OHS board since 1990 and currently serves on the Executive Committee, the Historic Preservation Committee, and chairs the Oklahoma Museum of History Committee. She chaired the OHS volunteer research committee that developed training manuals on Plains Indians, Pioneers, Black history, and the Five Civilized Tribes. She coordinated the OHS Plains Indians program that was presented to more than twenty thousand schoolchildren. She participated in the planning to completion of the Oklahoma History Center. She assisted with education programs for the History Center Indian Gallery, and is a longtime supporter of the Friends of Honey Springs Battlefield. She earned a BA in French and teaching certificates in French and history from the University of Oklahoma. She taught in Oklahoma City area public and private schools, developing and teaching French programs on educational television, writing teachers' guides, and conducting workshops. She was Oklahoma and America's Mother of the Year. As the Honorary Consul of France for Oklahoma, she was named Chevalier de la Legion d'Honneur seven years ago and was promoted to the higher rank of Officier de la Legion d'Honneur in June 2013. She was selected for the OU Regents' Alumni Award, OU College of Arts and Sciences Distinguished Alumnus, OU College of Education Meritorious Service Award, and is past president of OU's Bizzell Library Society. She also was recipient of the Junior League of Oklahoma City's 2011 Mary Baker Rumsey Lifetime Commitment Award.

Office of American Indian Culture and Preservation receives grant

Last fall the OHS's Office of American Indian Culture and Preservation (AICP) applied to the Pauline Dwyer Macklanburg and Robert A. Macklanburg, Jr. Foundation for funding to translate Muscogee (Creek) Nation records written in their native tongue into English. In early December the foundation awarded a grant request of \$25,000 to the Office of AICP for this worthy project.

The records of the Five Civilized Tribes were deposited with the Oklahoma Historical Society in 1934 and opened for research that same year. Rella Watts Looney, Indian archivist from 1929 to 1974, was successful in securing assistance from the Works Progress Administration (WPA) in the mid-1930s to





translate certain documents found in the Choctaw national records. However, once that project was completed no funds were available to work on the Muscogee records.

Through this generous grant, an important aspect of Muscogee national life during the latter half of the nineteenth century will be available to researchers. "Mr. Ted Isham, Muscogee elder, has been hired to head up the translation project," stated Bill Welge, director of AICP. "Mr. Isham is fluent in the Muscogee language and has accepted the challenge of revealing more than 2,500 pages of text hidden for more than one hundred and forty years," Welge said.

The Office of American Indian Culture and Preservation is grateful to the Pauline Dwyer Macklanburg and Robert A. Macklanburg, Jr. Foundation for supporting this important translation project. For more information, please contact Bill Welge at 405-522-5206 or mrarchives@okhistory.org.

In Memoriam: Pendleton Woods December 18, 1923 - December 1, 2014



The Oklahoma history community has lost a good friend. Since 1969 journalist, author, and historian Pendleton Woods was committed to preserving and sharing the history of Oklahoma. Woods was born on December 18, 1923, in Fort Smith, Arkansas, to John Powell and Mabel (Hon) Woods. After he graduated from Fort Smith High School, he attended the University of Arkansas. During his freshman year Pearl Harbor was attacked. In 1942 he enlisted in the US Army Reserve and later became a member of the 99th Infantry Division. While on a reconnaissance mission behind enemy lines, he was captured and sent to a prison labor camp near Berlin. He managed to escape from prison on April 20, 1945. Returning to civilian life in the United States, he completed a bachelor's degree in journalism at the University of Arkansas in 1948. On April 3, 1948, Woods married Robin Freeman, and they had three children.

From 1948 to 1969 Woods worked as editor and as assistant publishing manager for Oklahoma Gas and Electric Company. In 1969 he joined the staff of Oklahoma Christian College (now Oklahoma Christian University) as director of the Living Legends Library. In this capacity he organized and directed a newly formed oral history program. Working with volunteers and local historical societies throughout Oklahoma, Woods collected approximately three thousand taped interviews, which eventually were given to the Oklahoma Historical Society.

Through his association with the OHS, he reinstated the *Mistletoe Leaves* monthly newsletter in 1973 and served as editor for ten years. For many years Woods wrote a weekly column on state and local history called "Historic Trails," which appeared in statewide newspapers. He was a founder of the Oklahoma City/County Historical Society and served on the board of the 45th Infantry Division Museum from its inception. He played an active role in the Oklahoma Semicentennial, Oklahoma Diamond Jubilee, the Will Rogers Centennial, the Centennial of the Run of '89, and the Oklahoma Centennial. He authored or coauthored nine books and one article on Oklahoma and military history topics. Woods was inducted into the Oklahoma Journalism Hall of Fame in 2001 and the Oklahoma Historians Hall of Fame in 2007. The OHS wishes to honor the memory of Pendleton Woods and extend condolences to his family and friends.

2015 Statewide Preservation Conference in Bartlesville

Save the dates June 3–5, 2015, for "Tradition and Transition: Oklahoma's 27th Annual Statewide Preservation Conference." The special places we appreciate, protect, and adapt for new uses embody our traditions. A more diverse preservation community develops, what is considered significant evolves, and new preservation methods and strategies emerge. The conference program will address these topics during two plenary sessions and three concurrent tracks of sessions. The full conference schedule will appear in a future issue of *Mistletoe Leaves*.

Museum Store News

by Jera Winters

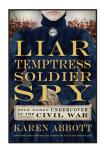
The Oklahoma History Center Museum Store is proud to offer products that highlight the culture and history of our state. In celebration of the women of Oklahoma, we are happy to offer great books that tell the story of women in history.

This is My Song: A Memoir, by Patti Page with Skip Press, chronicles Page's extraordinary story and takes readers on the moving and heartwarming journey from her poor upbringing to her greatest challenges and success as an artist. The book is \$24.95, available to members for \$21.20.

Outlaw Woman: A Memoir of the War Years, 1960-1975, by Roxanne Dunbar-Ortiz, tells the story of Dunbar-Ortiz as she goes from a poor, part-Native American woman in rural Oklahoma to a writer, teacher, historian, social activist, and one of the founders of America's Women's Liberation Movement. The book is \$22.95, available to members for \$19.50.

Liar, Temptress, Soldier, Spy: Four Women Undercover in the Civil War, by Karen Abbot, is a powerful narrative about a fascinating, little-known chapter of the Civil War. Well researched and entertainingly written, this tale of women in the Civil War is hard to put down. The book is \$27.99, available to members for \$23.80

As always, members receive a 15 percent discount on Museum Store purchases. Please contact us at 405-522-5214 with any questions about these or any other of our great items.







2015 Oklahoma History Conference Sulphur, Oklahoma

Land, Wood, and Water: Natural Resources in the Course of Oklahoma History

Sponsored by the Oklahoma Historical Society

Presenting Sponsor Chickasaw Nation

General Information

The 2015 Oklahoma History Conference will be held in Sulphur, Oklahoma, at the Artesian Hotel on April 22, 23, and 24, 2015. The conference will feature program sessions with presentations related to the theme "Land, Wood, and Water: Natural Resources in the Course of Oklahoma History," two luncheons, a bus tour, concert, reception, and shuttle bus service to the Chickasaw Cultural Center.

Arrangements have been made by the OHS to have hotel rooms blocked and special rates made available. Detailed information regarding conference hotels was provided on page seven of the February Mistletoe Leaves newsletter, Vol. 46, No. 2. Hotels with group room blocks and discounts include the Artesian Hotel. Chickasaw Retreat and Conference Center, The Inn at Treasure Valley, and Super 8 Sulphur.

An invitation to the conference, registration forms, and detailed hotel information have been mailed to all members of the OHS. The registration fee is \$15 for OHS members and \$20 for nonmembers. There also will be charges for the optional events, including the reception, luncheons, concert, and bus tour. Please complete the form and return it with payment in the envelope provided. Registration forms also may be obtained by emailing Paul Lambert at plambert@okhistory.org.

Wednesday, April 22, 2015

Registration Lobby, Artesian Hotel

1001 West First Street 1 - 4 p.m.

Board of Directors meeting Conference Room C-2, **Artesian Hotel**

1:30 p.m.

Reception Chickasaw Retreat and **Conference Center**

4205 Goddard Youth Camp Road 6:30 p.m.

The reception will honor twenty years of partnership between the Chickasaw Nation and the Oklahoma Historical Society.

Shuttle buses to the reception will depart from the Artesian Hotel at 6 p.m.

Thursday, April 23, 2015

Registration Lobby, Artesian Hotel 8 – 11:45 a.m.

Presentation Sessions Conference Rooms, Artesian Hotel

9 - 9:45 a.m.

Session 1 Land, Wood, and Water in Oklahoma Music

professor, Presenters: Hugh Foley, Department of Communications and Fine Arts, Rogers State University, Claremore

Jeff Moore, project director, Museum, OHS, Oklahoma City

director of Moderator: Larry O'Dell, development and special projects, OHS, Oklahoma City

Session 2 Fords and Ferries of Early **Indian Territory**

Jonita Mullins, independent Presenter: historian and author, Muskogee

Moderator: Christiane Faris, emeritus professor of German and former chair of the Modern Languages Department, Oklahoma City University, Oklahoma City

Session 3 Water, the Chickasaw Nation, and the Arbuckle-Simpson

Presenter: Stephen Greetham, general counsel, Chickasaw Nation Department of Commerce, Ada

Moderator: Bill Lance, secretary commerce, Chickasaw Nation, Ada

10 - 10:45 a.m.

Session 4 Putting Water to Good Use: Hochatown, Moonshine Capital of the World

Presenter: Bob L. Burke, independent historian and author, Oklahoma City Moderator: William Corbett, president, OHS

Board of Directors, Tahlequah

Session 5 Steamboat Heroine: Commerce and **Travel on Western Rivers**

Presenter: Dan Provo, director, Oklahoma History Center, OHS, Oklahoma City

Moderator: Lori Oden, director of exhibits, Oklahoma History Center, OHS, Oklahoma

Session 6

Oklahoma's Naturalist: Frederick Samuel Barde and the Development of Oklahoma Conservation

Presenter: Amanda Hudson, senior archives manager, Chickasaw Cultural Center, Sulphur Moderator: Deena Fisher, Executive Committee member, OHS Board of Directors, Woodward

11 - 11:45 a.m.

Session 7 The Oklahoma Ozark Trail

Presenter: Stephen A. Dock, independent historian, Mangum

Moderator: Linda Reese, Norman, associate professor emeritus, Department of History and Native American Studies, East Central University, Ada

Session 8 Farmers' Luck: The Building of Lake Eufaula

Presenter: Kathy Dickson, director, Museums and Historic Sites Division, OHS, Oklahoma City

Moderator: Rick Moore, PhD candidate, College of Education, Oklahoma State University, Stillwater

Session 9 From Crossroads to Railroads: The Choctaw Road in Early Day Oklahoma City

Presenter: Michael Hightower, independent historian and principal researcher for the Oklahoma Bank and Commerce History Project, OHS, Oklahoma City

Moderator: Patti Loughlin, member, OHS Board of Directors, Stillwater

Annual Conference Luncheon Banquet Hall, Artesian Hotel

12:15 p.m.

Keynote speaker: Chickasaw Governor Bill Anoatubby

Annual OHS Membership Meeting Banquet Hall, Artesian Hotel 2 p.m.

OHS Board of Directors Meeting Banquet Hall, Artesian Hotel 2:20 p.m.

Bus Tour Chickasaw National Recreation Area and Bedre Chocolate Factory 2:45 p.m.

"Music of South Central Oklahoma" Concert Anoli' Theater, **Chickasaw Cultural Center**

867 Charles Cooper Memorial Road 7:30 p.m.

The music of south central Oklahoma will be celebrated, featuring the songs of Lowell Fulson, Kay Starr, and Gene Autry.

Shuttle buses to the concert will depart from the Artesian Hotel at 6:45 p.m.

Friday, April 24, 2015

Registration Lobby, Artesian Hotel

8 – 11:45 a.m.

Presentation Sessions Conference Rooms, Artesian Hotel

9 – 9:45 a.m.

Session 10

You Can't Get There From Here, from Pines to Palms—The Jefferson Highway

Presenters: Cindy Wallis, director. Confederate Memorial Museum, Atoka Tracv Walker and Gwen Walker, volunteers, Confederate Memorial Museum, Atoka

Moderator: Nicole Harvey,

assistant, OHS, Oklahoma City

Session 11 In Search of the Comanche: A Dragoon **Expedition Through Indian Territory** in 1834

Presenter: Lauren Brand, Bethany, PhD candidate, Rice University, Houston, Texas Moderator: Elizabeth Bass, director of publications and editor, The Chronicles of Oklahoma, OHS, Oklahoma City

Session 12 The Oklahoma Land Run of 1889: Boomers, Sooners, and the Settlement of the Unassigned Lands

Presenter: Nathan V. Turner, regional director of Museums and Historic Sites Division, OHS, Guthrie

Moderator: Alvin O. Turner, Norman, emeritus dean and professor of history, School of Humanities and Social Sciences, East Central University, Ada

10 - 10:45 a.m.

Session 13 The Southern Plains Ghost Dance as an **Environmental Movement**

Presenter: Matthew R. Deepe, candidate, Department of History, Oklahoma State University, Stillwater

Moderator: Matt Reed, curator of American Indian collections and military history, Oklahoma History Center, OHS, Oklahoma City

Session 14

Harvesting the Flow:

Robert S. Kerr's Conservation of Oklahoma's Water Resources to Promote **Economic Development**

Presenter: Larry C. Floyd, adjunct history instructor, Oklahoma State University, Oklahoma City

Moderator: Mason Mungle, president, Farmers Royalty Company, Oklahoma City

Session 15 Historic Uses of Timber in Oklahoma

Presenter: Timothy K. Cannon, registered forester and owner, Cross Timbers Forestry,

Moderator: Dan Provo, director, Oklahoma History Center, OHS, Oklahoma City

11 - 11:45 a.m.

Session 16 Risky Business: My Life and Art

Presenter: Mike Larsen, artist and author,

Moderator: Lona Barrick, executive officer, Division of Cultural Tourism, Chickasaw Nation, Ada

Session 17 Preserving Chickasaw History: The R. M. Harris Mercantile Store

Presenters: William Welge, director, Office of American Indian Culture and Preservation, OHS, Oklahoma City

Tara Damron, deputy director, Office of American Indian Culture and Preservation, OHS, Oklahoma

Moderator: Chad Williams, director, Research Division, OHS, Oklahoma City

Session 18 Public Interest, Private Lands: Soil Conservation in Oklahoma, 1907-37

Presenter: Sam Stalcup, independent historian and operations supervisor, Trivestco Energy Company, Oklahoma City Moderator: Glen Roberson, coordinator, Oklahoma Centennial Farms and Ranches Program, State Historic Preservation Office, OHS, Oklahoma City

Annual Awards Luncheon Banquet Hall, Artesian Hotel

Noon

New Members, cont'd.

Family

*Linda Hughes, Tulsa *Frank Johnston, Sand Springs *Mr. and Mrs. Marvin Jones, Broken Arrow

Taylor and Laura Jordan, Yukon *Larry and Corene Kerr, Watonga Joe and Lynn Land, Piedmont *Mr. and Mrs. Robert Leveridge, Norman

*Patrick and Susan McGregor, Yukon Pat Parkhurst and Kathryn Winter-Scheidt, Edmond

Nicole Poole, Norman *Lindsay Robertson, Norman Eric Schmaltz, Alva Ed Shadid, Oklahoma City Margret Tomlin, Oklahoma City *Joe and Marsha Vassar, Bristow

Heidi Vaughn, Luther *Robert Vick, Edmond

Amy Aldridge, Edmond

Individual

Shawn Baker, Broken Bow Anna Bookout, Ponca City Jim Bowers, Oklahoma City Leonard Branen, Perry Alex Brown, Norman William Cassidy, Tulsa Randy Clark, Grandfield Lowell Craig, Depew Earl Dalke, Hugo Jessica Elroy, Comanche Roy Esparza, Hennessey Tom Fowler, Overland Park, KS Beverly Garrison, Tulsa Donna Gilmore, Sand Springs Patricia Hardin, Muskoge Ronald Harris, Vian Christy Henley, Canute Donna Hogg, Tulsa Carol Jasak, Norman William Jones, Canute Lucinthia Johnson, Pauls Valley Johna Kafka, Skiatook Garret King, Weatherford Brenda Land, Disney Alan Lewis, Preston Erica Morgan, Tulsa Justin Moseley, Kingfisher Reford Nash, Norton, OH Jeromy Peterson, Sand Springs Larry Potter, Sperry Terri Potter, Edmond Norma Ragsdale, Sapulpa Bobby Raines, Bixby Richard Rodgers, Tuttle Ronald Stone, Roff Sharee Thornberry, Santa Ana, CA Matthew Torchia, Okemah Michael Trammell, Wilson John Watson, Fallbrook, CA Chelsea Weathers, Woodward James White, Big Cabin Leslie White, McAlester Martha Williams, Davis, CA Delbert Wortham, Garvin

Organizational

Ottawa County Historical Society, Miami

Twenty-year members renew in January

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

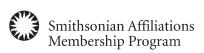
Huntington Library, San Marino, CA, January 8, 1967 State University of NY at Albany, Albany, NY, October 1, 1972 Maris Ward, Stillwater, November 1, 1977 University of Washington Libraries, Seattle, WA, November 1, 1977 Steven Fiser, Oklahoma City, March 1, 1982 Suzanne Crawford, Lawton, November 1, 1982 Mr. and Mrs. Robert Leveridge, Norman, January 1, 1983 Carl Cochrane, Hendersonville, NC, January 1, 1983 David Stevens, Noble, January 2, 1984 Bob and Mary Brown, Burneyville, February 1, 1984 Directorate of Museums and Military History, Fort Sill, October 1, 1985 William and Mae Butler, Quinton, February 1, 1986 David and Jean Kelsay, Meeker, August 25, 1986 Eastern Oklahoma State College, Wilburton, October 6, 1986 Nancy Davies, Enid, October 31, 1986 Betty and Charles Kemp, Norman, November 4, 1986 K. A. Klopfenstein, Fort Smith, AR, December 9, 1986 Jean Tomassi, Tulsa, November 16, 1987 San Antonio Public Library, San Antonio, TX, November 14, 1988

Sybil Mayes, Mustang, December 22, 1989 Van and Liz Hughes, Edmond, November 22, 1989 Linda Horn, Edmond, January 2, 1990 Sequoyah County Historical Society, Sallisaw, February 7, 1990 Choctaw Library, Choctaw, December 1, 1990 Roger Hardaway, Alva, December 17, 1990 Ann Alspaugh, Oklahoma City, December 18, 1990 Jerry and Nancy Cotton, Edmond, January 30, 1991 Dick and Teri Shifrin, Oklahoma City, February 20, 1991 Dennis Peterson, Spiro, March 12, 1991 George Verstraete, Oklahoma City, November 25, 1991 Arnold Henderson, Oklahoma City, January 3, 1992 Tulsa City County Library, Tulsa, January 3, 1992 Tom and Kathleen Hughes, Wheaton, IL, January 27, 1992 Claire Martin, Springfield, IL, January 28, 1992 Joanna Champlin and Shawnee Brittan, Oklahoma City, April 20, 1993 Larry Wingo, Yukon, May 10, 1993 Gilbert and LaVonne Carlton, Denver, CO, November 2, 1993

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

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

PERIODICALS



March events at a glance

- 1-28 Trappings of the Cherokee Strip Western art and gear show and sale, Cherokee Strip Regional Heritage Center, Enid
- 7 "Underground Railroad Quilts" presentation with T. B. Ferguson Home, Watonga Library, Watonga
- **7** "OHS Resources for Genealogists" presentation, Pioneer Woman Museum, Ponca City
- 7 "Becoming a Pioneer Woman" workshop, Oklahoma History Center, Oklahoma City
- 10 Brown bag craft, Pioneer Woman Museum, Ponca City
- 10 Spring Green Cleaner with Kay County Extension, Pioneer Woman Museum, Ponca City
- 14 Girl Scout Day, Pioneer Woman Museum, Ponca City
- 14 Quilting workshop, Sod House Museum, Aline
- 17-19 Spring Break hands-on activities, Pioneer Woman Museum, Ponca City
- 17-20 Spring Break hands-on activities, Oklahoma History Center, Oklahoma City
- 19-20 Vernal Equinox Walks, Spiro Mounds Archaeological Center, Spiro
- 20 T. B. Ferguson Home annual chicken noodle dinner, Blaine County Fairgrounds, Watonga
- 21 Twenty-eighth annual Family Kite Flite Day, Spiro Mounds Archaeological Center, Spiro
- 21 "Railroads that Built the West" panel discussion, Sod House Museum, Aline
- 21 Fifth annual Cowboy Roundup, Oklahoma History Center, Oklahoma City
- 21 Third Saturday living history program, George M. Murrell Home, Park Hill
- 28 Tatting lace making workshop, Chisholm Trail Museum, Kingfisher
- 28 Beginning lace making class, Oklahoma History Center, Oklahoma City



"Railroads that Built the West" panel discussion

A panel discussion entitled "Railroads that Built the West" will be hosted by the Sod House Museum in Aline on Saturday, March 21, at 10 a.m. The panel is comprised of Mark Stubsten, Bill Cornelsen, and Jim Wilkinson, who are all from Major County, Oklahoma. They have collected interesting stories of many western railroads, with particular emphasis on the Orient (later called the Santa Fe Railroad) that crossed the Cherokee Strip. When the Orient Railway was initially built, the town of Fairview was directly impacted. On August 20, 1903, residents celebrated the arrival of the first train. By 1908 the Kansas City, Mexico and Orient Railways maintained machine shops, a round house, and a division point in Fairview. Such development meant workers in Fairview provided repairs to all engines and cars, and it became a railroad-minded community. The speakers will share stories about railroads in western Oklahoma, and the discussion promises to both intrigue and entertain attendees.

Mark Stubsten is a retired vice president of the Farmers and Merchants National Bank of Fairview, and he remains an active civic leader. His interest in railroads and ability to remember details have aided local historians as they collect first-hand accounts of railroad history in the area.

Bill Cornelsen is a third generation resident of Major County, Oklahoma. He was born in Fairview in 1955 and his interest in railroads developed at an early age, watching trains on the Santa Fe Railway. Cornelsen served on the Fairview City Council from 1989 to 1993. He was involved in an effort to save the railroad through Fairview and also attempted the restoration of Santa Fe steam engine No. 2522.

Jim Wilkinson is a former associate district judge of Major County. After his retirement Wilkinson assisted with the publication of the second volume of *Gloss Mountain Country*, a history of Major County. He researched and prepared an in-depth review of the history of the Orient Railway for the book. Wilkinson grew up in Fairview and remains active with the Major County Historical Society and works on restoration of the railroad museum.

The Sod House Museum is located southeast of Aline on State Highway 8. The museum is open Tuesday–Saturday, 9 a.m.–5 p.m. For more information please contact Director Renee Trindle at 580-463-2441 or sodhouse@okhistory.org.



Locomotive from the Oklahoma Historical Society Photograph Collection.