May Day Celebration and Lawn Social

The George M. Murrell Home May Day Celebration and Lawn Social on Saturday, May 3, from 12 to 4 p.m., will evoke the beauty and color of Park Hill during its golden age in the 1850s. Living historians in period dress will mix with the public in a social function reminiscent of the social galas held at the Murrell Home. The public is encouraged to bring picnic lunches and quilts and join the reenactors between 12 and 1 p.m. for a picnic on the lawn. From 1 to 4 p.m. activities will abound, including dance lessons, lawn games, and croquet and horseshoe tournaments. A maypole will close the event and commemorate the start of the growing season on the plantation. Admission to the May Day Celebration and Lawn Social is free.

The Murrell Home is the only remaining antebellum plantation home in modern-day Oklahoma. It is located at 19479 East Murrell Home Road in Park Hill, and is open Tuesday through Saturday, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. For more information, contact the Murrell Home at 918-456-2751 or murrellhome@okhistory.org.

Spring into research! “Lunch & Learns” scheduled

The John and Eleanor Kirkpatrick Research Center announces the kickoff of their spring/summer series of “Lunch & Learns” to begin May 21. The dates and topics of these workshops are:

May 21 “Researching Oklahoma Prison Records”
Janice Thompson, Oklahoma Department of Corrections

June 18 “Evangelism and the Church in Oklahoma and Indian Territory”
Bill Welge, former Director of Research, Oklahoma Historical Society

July 16 “Photo Dating and Territorial Photographers”
Chester Cowen, former Director of Photo Archives, Oklahoma Historical Society

The cost for each workshop is $10 and includes lunch and materials. Seating is limited and reservations are required. Call 405-522-5225 with credit card information or send a check or money order to:
Oklahoma Historical Society-Research
800 Nazih Zuhdi Dr.
Oklahoma City, OK 73105

Pine needle gourd class

A basic class in the art of pine needle gourding will be offered May 24 from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. at the Pioneer Woman Museum. Students will create a beautiful bowl painted in a wash of archival ink and topped by tightly stitched coils of long pine needles held together with artificial sinew. Students will finish their projects during class. Attendance is limited to six, so call quickly to reserve your seat.

Teaching the class will be Judy Kelley, a Muskogee native who translates her passion for the cultures and colors of the West into creating exquisite pine needle gourds that can be found in homes from San Diego to Vermont. She is represented by JRB Art at the Elms in Oklahoma City, Our Favorite Place in Eufaula, and Wilcox Gallery in Jackson, Wyoming. Judy lives in Oklahoma City. Her website is www.jkgourdworks.com.

The Pioneer Woman Museum is located at 701 Monument Road in Ponca City. For more information or to register, call 580-765-6108 or email piown@okhistory.org.

Children’s fishing clinic at Pawnee Bill Ranch

On Thursday, May 22, at 10 a.m., the Pawnee Bill Ranch will host a children’s fishing clinic free of charge. The clinic will be held at the children’s fishing pond and is being conducted by the Oklahoma Department of Wildlife Conservation. Representatives from the Wildlife Department will present information on such topics as fish identification, knot-tying, fish cleaning and cooking, fishing tackle selection and use, water safety, outdoor ethics, and more.

Children have to be able to cast a pole in order to attend. Poles will be provided. Participation is limited, so if you have a child who would like to attend, please call the Pawnee Bill Ranch at 918-762-2513.

The Pawnee Bill Ranch is located on Blue Hawk Peak on land Pawnee Bill purchased from Blue Hawk, his Pawnee friend, one-half mile west of Pawnee on US 64.

Spiro Mounds to host Archaeology Day

The Spiro Mounds Archaeological Center will hold its ninth annual Archaeology Day on May 10, from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. As a bonus Archaeology Day also will be a free day with no entrance fees collected, although donations are gratefully accepted.

Throughout the day items will be given away by drawing and there will be birthday cake. If you have artifacts, like arrowheads or pottery, someone from the Oklahoma Archeological Survey will be available to identify up to ten artifacts per person.

Flint knappers (stone tool makers) will be on site showing off their skills. Blowgun, stickball, and Chunkee demonstrations will be available upon request. Lectures will be featured during the day, including a lecture on Fort Coffee and the Fort Coffee Choctaw Boys Academy. There also will be a guided tour of the site at 2 p.m. The regular exhibits will be available throughout the day as well.

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.

If you would like more information about Archaeology Day events or volunteer opportunities, please contact Dennis Peterson at 918-962-2062 or spiro@okhistory.org.
By Dr. Bob L. Blackburn
Executive Director

I have good news to share. The proposal to abolish the OHS membership, convert the OHS board of directors to an advisory committee, and transfer all collections and assets to a tourism super-agency did not survive the first few weeks of the legislative session. Unless it reappears as an amendment to a surviving bill, and it could, consolidation is dead for the session.

There are two reasons the bill died. One was the response from people around the state who understood that consolidation would mean the end of the Oklahoma Historical Society as a nonpartisan, independent organization with the ability to raise funds and find partners for the cause of collecting, preserving, and sharing our heritage.

Caring people like you wrote letters, made telephone calls, and sent emails to legislators in both the House and Senate. Legislators and their assistants described the volume as “a flood.” And that was done without a call to action. The Mistletoe Leaves with the stories about consolidation appeared only one day before the bill died, and even then, we did not ask for action. We simply described the facts of the bill and the likely outcomes of passage.

The other reason the bill received such little support is a reflection of our success. Simply put, legislators and their constituents recognize that we have done a good job of raising standards, creating efficiencies, and seeking partners. When the war cry of consolidation was unleashed, we did not have to lobby for support. We already had it.

That support comes from the speeches and educational programs we have shared with communities across the state. It comes from the museum exhibits launched without legislative funding and completed with donated funds and creative collaboration. It comes from buildings saved, lessons learned, and stories shared.

At the most fundamental level, support for the OHS is grounded on the power of our collections. For thirty-five years, I have watched those collections help people connect the dots of history to create a sense of community in our state. I see it in the excitement of students who compete at History Day. I see it in the enthusiasm of researchers who want to share with me the latest discovery in their family history.

Since 1893, our OHS has been collecting the stories of our families and communities. Fortunately for us, there was a Walter Campbell, who collected the first newspapers, a Joseph Ttburn, who wrote the first state history, an E. E. Dale, who started a scholarly journal called The Chronicles of Oklahoma, and a Grant Foreman, who saved the irreplaceable Indian Archives.

Today, we owe it those pioneers to continue this mission. We must collect. We must preserve. And we must share. The only way we can do that is to keep our standards high, demand results through efficiencies, and attract partners who share our enthusiasm for Oklahoma history.

The only way that can be accomplished is to keep the OHS an independent, nimble organization free from politics and empowered by a dedicated board of directors and a motivated staff that is unapologetically passionate about what we do. Consolidating our organization into a super-sized bureaucracy would be a step backward.

Yes, I have good news to share. The OHS is moving full speed ahead, confident that our entrepreneurial business plan, productivity, and partnerships will be recognized and respected. Stay tuned for more details.

Mistletoe Leaves
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By authorization of the Oklahoma Historical Society’s Board of Directors, 6,000 copies are prepared at a cost of $1.358 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 the 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 in duplicate as desired. Editors are welcome to reprint materials with credit.

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

Anyone desiring benefits should contact the grievance manager of the Oklahoma Historical Society, 800 Nazih Zuhdi Dr., Oklahoma City, OK 73105-7917, telephone 405/522-9989, and/or the director, Office of Equal Opportunity, United States Department of the Interior, Washington, D.C. 20240.
News

The historical ecosystem of the Oklahoma Panhandle will be better reflected in the landscaping of the No Man’s Land Museum in Goodwell thanks to a partnership between the Cimarron County Conservation District, the Texas County Conservation District, the Beaver County Conservation District, Oklahoma Panhandle State University (OPSU), the United States Department of Agriculture Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS), and the No Man’s Land Historical Society. Through the planning and planting of native grasses and through additional technical assistance related to the area surrounding the museum, the hope is to provide a type of living history in the form of landscaping on the facility grounds. For more information, call 580-349-2670.

Events

On May 3 the Fort Sill National Historic Landmark and Museum’s Frontier Army Day living history program will occur from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. The event is free to the public and will include hands-on activities and demonstrations of historical army life. The museum is located at 437 Quanah Road in Fort Sill. For more information, call 580-442-5123.

The Italian Festival will be May 17 and 18 at the Expo Center and Fairground in McAlester. On Saturday the event will occur from 9 a.m. until dark, and on Sunday from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. The festival is two days of fun, food, entertainment, shopping, live entertainment, friendship, and celebration of the wonderful Italian heritage with which this little corner of America has been blessed. Admission is free. For more information, visit www.themcalesteritalianfestival.org.

Come to Tuttle on May 17 for the annual Ice Cream Festival and enjoy luscious ice cream flavors from Braum’s. The day begins with a parade at 10 a.m. followed by live music and talent acts throughout the event. The festival also features a variety of food vendors, a princess pageant, a car show, children’s activity center, inflatables, and vendors selling a vast array of items. For more information, call 405-381-3775.

Battle of Middle Boggy

The Atoka County Historical Society hosted the Sesquicentennial Commemoration of the Battle of Middle Boggy on Friday, February 14, at the Confederate Memorial Museum and Cemetery in Atoka.

Attendees gathered at the museum and followed the Brown’s Funeral Service 1879 horse drawn hearse to the cemetery. Civil War reenactors from the 20th Regiment Dismounted Texas Cavalry, Douglass Texas Battery, the 19th Texas Infantry, and the Oklahoma Division of the Sons of Confederate Veterans marched to the cemetery. State Representative Charles McCall gave a brief history of the Battle of Middle Boggy. He was followed by Gwen Walker, site manager of the museum, who explained the research process that identified the soldiers whose graves are marked in the cemetery.

The Atoka Museum and Confederate Cemetery is located a 258 North Highway 69 in Atoka. The site is open Monday through Friday from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. For more information, contact the Confederate Memorial Museum at 580-889-7192 or atokamuseum@yahoo.com.

Book discussions on Wild West capitalism

In April, OHS bank and commerce historian Michael J. Hightower discussed his book, Banking in Oklahoma before Statehood (OU Press 2013), with the following business and community groups: Rotary 29, downtown OKC; OHS annual history conference, Stillwater; Brace Books, Ponca City; Clinton Lion’s Club, Clinton; Rivermont Retirement Community, Norman. Banking in Oklahoma before Statehood was selected as a nonfiction finalist in the Oklahoma Center for the Book’s annual awards competition. Winners were announced at the twenty-fifth annual Oklahoma Book Awards on Saturday, April 12. All book sales accrue to the benefit of the Oklahoma Historical Society. To schedule a book review in your area, contact Hightower at mhightower@okhistory.org or 405-249-6043.

Honoring the heritage of Durant, the Magnolia Festival of Oklahoma from May 29 to June 1 will feature games and festivities perfect for a fun-filled family weekend. Ride the ferris wheel and bring the kids to enjoy a wide array of other carnival rides, or simply peruse craft booths and other exhibitor displays. The festival also will include live entertainment, a parade, yummy fair food, and plenty of free children’s events. Wander through rows of vintage, antique, and modern vehicles in the annual car show, or head inside for a quilt show. For more information, call 580-924-1550.

Do you want to have your organization’s meeting, event, or exhibit featured in the “Around Oklahoma” section of the Mistletoe Leaves? The “Around Oklahoma” section features Oklahoma history and heritage-related activities or programs sponsored by entities other than the Oklahoma Historical Society. To submit news items, please contact Tabatha Toney, assistant editor, by email at ttoney@okhistory.org or mail at 800 Nazih Zuhdi Drive, Oklahoma City, OK 73105, during the first week of the month before you wish a news items to appear.

SHPO workshops

The Oklahoma State Historic Preservation Office is pleased to announce its May workshop series. The sessions will be held May 7 to 9 at the Guymon Public Library Conference Room, 1718 North Oklahoma, Guymon.

The workshops are free and open to the public, but please register by 5 p.m., Wednesday, May 2. Space is limited and will be available on a first-come basis. To register, contact Betty Harris at 405-521-6249 or bharris@okhistory.org. Registration also can be made online at www.okhistory.org/shpo/workshops.php.

Workshop Schedule:

May 7 (9:30 a.m. to 12 p.m.) – The Section 106 Review Process: Introduction and Overview.

May 8 (9:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.) – Determination of Eligibility under Section 106.

May 7 (1:30 to 4:30 p.m.) – Working with the National Register of Historic Places.

May 9 (9:30 a.m. to 12 p.m.) – Federal and State Tax Incentives for Rehabilitating Historic Buildings.

May 9 (1:30 to 4:30 p.m.) – The Secretary’s Standards and Guidelines for Rehabilitating Historic Buildings.
### Oklahoma’s Twenty-Sixth Annual Statewide Preservation Conference

The Oklahoma SHPO invites you to attend “Historic Preservation ABCs: Oklahoma’s Twenty-Sixth Annual Statewide Preservation Conference.” It will be held June 4 to 6 in Norman, with most events on the University of Oklahoma campus. Registration opens at noon on June 4 in Gould Hall at 830 Van Vleet Oval. For questions, contact Melvena Heisch, Deputy SHPO, at 405-522-4484 or mheisch@okhistory.org.

#### WEDNESDAY, JUNE 4

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<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Session</th>
<th>Speakers</th>
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<tr>
<td>1:45-3:15 p.m.</td>
<td><strong>Track A: Academic Pursuits</strong> Welcome to Norman and OU</td>
<td>“How a Fired Professor of English Shaped the Development of the University of Oklahoma Campus,” David W. Levy</td>
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<td>“History of the University of Oklahoma’s College of Architecture,” Charles W. Graham</td>
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<td>3:30-5 p.m.</td>
<td><strong>Track B: Back to Basics</strong> Rehabilitation Projects Roundtable</td>
<td>“Proposing Nominations to the National Register of Historic Places,” Lynda Ozan</td>
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<td>“Appropriate Treatment of National Register Buildings: Secretary of the Interior’s Standards for Rehabilitation,” Harry Simms</td>
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<td>6-8 p.m.</td>
<td><strong>Open Reception</strong></td>
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#### THURSDAY, JUNE 5

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<tr>
<td>8:30-10 a.m.</td>
<td><strong>Track A: Academic Pursuits</strong></td>
<td>“The Study and Protection of Oklahoma’s Distant Past: Mobile Workshop,” Robert L. Brooks</td>
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<td>“Paleoindian Bison Kills,” Leland Bement</td>
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<td>Oklahoma’s Prehistoric Ceremonial Centers,” Scott Hammerstedt and Amanda Regnier</td>
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<td>“Historic Wichita Villages,” Richard Drass</td>
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<td>10:15-11:45 a.m.</td>
<td><strong>Track A: Academic Pursuits</strong> Rehabilitation Projects Roundtable</td>
<td>“Oklahoma City’s Jones Ford Factory,” David Hornbeek</td>
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<td>“Oklahoma City’s Marion Hotel,” Chris Fleming</td>
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<td>“Oklahoma City’s Central High School/Round 3,” Fred Schmidt</td>
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<td>“Tulsa’s Bill White Chevrolet,” Mark Larson</td>
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<td>“Tulsa’s 1969 City Hall,” Joel Slaughter and John Snyder</td>
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<td>“Oklahoma City’s John Roddy House,” Terry Cline</td>
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<td>11:45 a.m.-1:45 p.m.</td>
<td><strong>Track C: Comprehensive Community Preservation</strong></td>
<td>“Appropriate Infill for Original Town Sites,” Ron Franz and Larry Lucas</td>
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#### FRIDAY, JUNE 6

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<th>Time</th>
<th>Session</th>
<th>Speakers</th>
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<tr>
<td>3:30-5 p.m.</td>
<td><strong>Track B: Back to Basics</strong></td>
<td>“Diving into the New Deal:1930s Municipal Parks at Norman, Henryetta, Pawnee, and Fort Sill,” Cynthia Savage</td>
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<td>10:15-11:45 a.m.</td>
<td><strong>Track A: Academic Pursuits</strong> Reconstruction Projects Roundtable</td>
<td>“Oklahoma Arts Council’s Cultural District Initiative,” Joshua Lunsford</td>
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<td>“START Norman! How the Arts Affect Place”</td>
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<td>“How Oklahoma Fits into the National Modernism,” Anna Mod</td>
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<td>“OU’s Oklahoma Center for Continuing Education: Modern Architecture Case Study,” Lynda Ozan</td>
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#### PLENARY SESSION

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<td>6:15 p.m.</td>
<td><strong>Prebanquet Reception/SHPO Awards</strong></td>
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<td>9 p.m.</td>
<td><strong>Preservation Oklahoma, Inc.’s Conference Mixer</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>10:15-11:45 a.m.</td>
<td><strong>Track A: Academic Pursuits</strong> Special Places, Special Challenges</td>
<td>“Oklahoma Arts Council’s Cultural District Initiative,” Joshua Lunsford</td>
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<td>“START Norman! How the Arts Affect Place”</td>
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<td>“Encouraging Historic Preservation through Heritage Tourism: Session 1 Historic Preservation and Heritage Tourism Workshop,” Elizabeth Watson</td>
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### Special Events

- **Eggs and Architects Breakfast**
- **Distant Past: Mobile Workshop**
- **Conference Mixer**
- **Prebanquet Reception/SHPO Awards Banquet**
- **Preservation Oklahoma, Inc.’s Conference Mixer**
New Oklahoma National Register Listings

The Oklahoma SHPO is pleased to announce six new National Register of Historic Places listings. The National Register of Historic Places is our nation’s official list of properties significant in our past.

Beatie’s Prairie, located in Delaware County (address restricted), is associated with the Cherokee Trail of Tears and its immediate aftermath. In 1839 Cherokee parties completing the Trail of Tears disbanded at this site.

The Logan Apartments, at 720 West Boyd Street, Norman, is located near the University of Oklahoma campus. The apartments are significant in the areas of community planning and development, architecture, and social history. Erected in 1929 by local businessman David Logan and designed by Thomas Lester Sorey, the building represents a change in the patterns of community development in the surrounding Chautauqua neighborhood.

The Woodward Park and Gardens Historic District, located in Tulsa, is significant in the area of landscape architecture and as one of the finest public gardens established in the city during the first half of the twentieth century. It is also significant for the David R. Travis House, an Italian Renaissance-inspired villa designed by architect Noble B. Fleming and constructed in 1919. Finally, the Woodward Park and Gardens Historic District is also significant in the area of entertainment/recreation. The district includes the first municipal rose garden established in the state.

The Washington County Memorial Hospital (WCMH), located in Bartlesville, served the county for thirty years as the county’s only hospital from 1922 to 1952, providing services and medical assistance to the community and surrounding area.

The final two nominations are both located in Muskogee, Muskogee County. The first is the Masonic Temple at 121 North Broadway Street, Muskogee, and the final nomination is the Episcopal Church at 518 East Houston Street, Muskogee, Muskogee County.

The OHS has created the Oklahoma Historical Society Legacy Circle to recognize donors who make contributions to an OHS endowment fund. A minimum endowment, estate, or planned giving contribution of pledge in the amount of $1,000 qualifies a donor to be a Legacy Circle member. Because endowment donations provide perpetual income to the OHS, membership in the Legacy Circle is also perpetual. For more information, please call the Development Department at 405-522-6676.

Guardians

|$500,000 and up|
---
Emily Bell

|Protectors of the Past|
---
$150,000 to $499,999

|Keepers of History|
---
$50,000 to $149,999

|Time Travelers|
---
$10,000 to $49,999

Enduring Circle

|$1,000 to $9,999|

OHS Legacy Circle January 28, 2014

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The final two nominations are both located in Muskogee, Muskogee County. The first is the Masonic Temple at 121 South Sixth Street constructed in 1925. It is significant for both its social function and its Classical Revival architectural style. The second is the First Methodist Episcopal Church at 518 East Houston Street Constructed in 1911, it is significant for Classical Revival styling.

Listing in the National Register is an honorific designation that provides recognition, limited protection, and, in some cases, financial incentives for these important properties. The SHPO identifies, evaluates and nominates properties for this special designation. For more information, contact Lynda Ozan at 405-522-4478 or lozan@okhistory.org.
New members, March, cont’d.

Individual
Garry Carter, Guymon
Craig Chuny, McAlester
Elden Chestnut, Del City
Michael Coats, Broken Arrow
Ramona Copeland, McAlester
Cesar Cordova, Tulsa
Sharon Cox, Bartlesville
Troy Crase, Idabel
Sharon Dennison, Ponca City
Lee Dobbs, Moore
David Dunham, Jay
Mary Finch, Hominy
Betty Finley, Oklahoma City
Trevor Fuhrig, Kingfisher
Jeremy Garlow, Muskogee
Kathryn Garner, Idabel
Jeffery Gillispie, Muskogee
Sylvia Goodwin, Broken Arrow
Lee Gregory, Arapaho
Nancy Griffith, Blanchard
Tracey Hannah, Stillwater
Cendegas Harley, Ardmore
Keith Hayes, Lone Grove
Wesley Hibbs, Wagoner
Charles Holcomb, Moore
Linda Hubbutta, Wewoka
Tyrieshia Hunt, Wagoner
William Hutchinson, Houston
Derek Kress, Purcell
Patti Jo King, Tahlequah
Rocky Leslie, Stillwater
Nikia Lyles, Duncan
Shavonn McCarty, Tahiliana
Dakota McCollum, Muskell
David Meek, Bethany
Hannah Moskowitz, Norman
Bill Nickolls, Okemah
Angela Parker, Sperry
Helen Perry, Broken Arrow
David Peters, Stillwater
Kathryn Ramsey, Norman
Darre1 Ray, Stillwater
Robert Reynolds, Vian
Thomas Rice, Stillwater
Steven Robinson, Chandler
Daniel Schraub, Okemah
Lavina Russell, Alex
Terry Schreiner, Duncan
Linda Settlemyre, Henryetta
Reginald Smith, Garvin
Judy Spence, Carnegie
Jeffrey Swuyne, Skiatook
Susan Terry, Oklahoma City
Mary Toler, Broken Arrow
Ricardo Velaquez, Norman
Monica Webb, Sapulpa
Toby Wescrke, Clinton
Lacey Wilkerson, Broken Arrow
Brandon Williams, Guthsa
Mark Williams, Ada
Michael Williams, Elmore City
Donald Wilson, Ardmore
Jenny Young, Eagletown

Family
Marion Austin, Oklahoma City
William and Melva Brown, Graham, TX
*John and Nancy Burgett, Tulsa
Andrew Cobb, Edmond
Linda Cole, Oklahoma City
Linda Comer, Oklahoma City
Philip and Carol Comp Oklahoma City
*Dolores Crist, Guthrie
Rundell and Eunice Edson, Lawton
Carolyn Eldredge, Bethany
Sam and Patricia Garner, Norman
Carolyn Gay Harris, Oklahoma City
*La Donna Harris, Albuquerque, NM
Mary Ann Harroz, Oklahoma City
Velma Herman, Stillwater
Chris and Patty Hogan, Quinton
Niles Jackson and Barbara Thornton, Edmond
Arthur and Barbara Johnson, Drumright
*Marti Jourden, Oklahoma City
James and Gayle Keene, Chandler
John and Raynette Kyle, Edmond
Mary Lindemann, Norman
Thomas and Peggy Massey, Oklahoma City
Howard McAllister, Moore
Tom and Valerie McEvoy, Oklahoma City
Edward and Beverly Miller, Midwest City
Chris and Trina Morrison, Oklahoma City
Ronald and Carolyn Myers, Norman
Thomas and Billie Napolitano, Grove
Joe and Iris Park, Checotah
Bill and Susan Perry, Edmond
Mike and Amy Perry, Yukon
Bill Phelps, Norman
Glen and Anna Roosevelt, Harrah
Jackie Robinson, Guthrie
D. R. and Linda Rodriguez, Midwest City
David and Paula Severe, Oklahoma City
*Ann Shanks, Edmond
Jim and Joanie Smith, Frederick
Karleen Smith, Norman
Alena Snyder, Oklahoma City
Joe Ray and Jonita Thomas, Harrah
Patricia Thompson Fabry, Cookson
Roy and Darlene Thornton, Midwest City
John and Jeanette Willet, Oklahoma City
*Juanita Williams Firmaning, MA
Rheonee Wilson, Oklahoma City

Individual
Jay Allen, Broken Bow
Maggie Anderson, Tuskahoma
Jackie Baker, Tishomingo
Norma Baker, Nichols Hills
Laura Beers, Perry
Rennie Bellnap, Weatherford
Autum Bennett, Henryetta
Billy Blackwell, Ringling
Sabrina Blatchford, Chehla
Travis Bosley, Norman
Roger Bowles, Wichita, KS
Je6e Britton, Skiatook
Jana Brown, Cleo Springs
Chad Bunch, Stilwell
Joseph Byrd, Cumming, GA
Jim Campbell, Davis
Rachel Caswell, Bartlesville
Chace Chapman, Stuart
Deedra Clark, Norman
Erma Coburn, Oklahoma City
Gene Conner, Iroanoke, TX
Travis Conrad, Muskogee
Ken Darus, Ledi, CA
Peggy Donovan, Shawnee
Margaret Edson, Vian
Grace Erickson, Fairlanda, CA
Mindy Esquivel, Bixby
Patrick Evans, McAlester
Jessica Fisher, Broken Arrow
Michael Haley, Houston, TX
Betty Hall, Wilburton
Richard Harris, Broken Arrow
Erma Hunter, Fairview
Ahmed Ibrahim, Tulsa
Chloe Jamming, Clinton
Ollie Jensen, Austin, TX
Robert Johnson, Broken Arrow
Wight Jones, Edmond
Karen Kirkpatrick, Oklahoma City
Regina Lagaly, Union City
Nathanial Lawler, Duncan
Carolyn Lea, Oklahoma City

Paul Robitaile, Bozeman, MT
*Robert Scott, Oklahoma City
*Dale and Joan Stauffer, Tulsa
*Tom and Karen Vollbrecht, Edmond
Jim and Penny Von Thaer, Oklahoma City
Jay Wilkinson, Nichols Hills

Ron and Linda Powell, Norman
DeAnn Parham, Oklahoma City

New members, February 2014
*Indicates renewed memberships at a higher level.

Director’s Circle
*Dr. and Mrs. Glenn Ashmore, Oklahoma City

Associate
Jeffrey and Kathy Brown, Oklahoma City
Elliot + Associates Architects, Oklahoma City
*Marian Greenwood, Tulsa
*Jim Griffith, Stillwater

Friend
Bob and Mary Lee Allen, Oklahoma City
*Jay and Jo Bond, Oklahoma City
*Donald and Kitty Clark, Anadarko
*Carl and Holly Conner, Chockat
Fred and Monica Dupuy, Round Rock, TX
Marion Fry, Wagoner
*Carey and Beth Johnson, Lawton
The Kerr Foundation, Oklahoma City
*Gary Kuck and the Kilpatrick, Tulsa
James Martin, Yukon
Jim and Suzanne McAuley, Norman
Robert Morford, Lawton
DeAnn Parham, Oklahoma City
Ron and Linda Powell, Norman

Organizational
Oklahoma Association for Academic Competition, Carnegie

New members, February 2014
*Indicates renewed memberships at a higher level.

Organizational
Dave and Nancy Smith, March 14, 1986
Kenneth Nash, Oklahoma City, March 24, 1993
Robert and Judy Mascho, Chandler, March 24, 1993
Pat and Nancy Smith, Oklahoma City, March 9, 1993
Robert and Judy Mascho, Chandler, March 24, 1993

Twenty-year members renew in March

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

Jerry Andrus, Piedmont, February 17, 1970
Bill Settle, Muskogee, February 1, 1973
Paul Fisher, Lawton, March 1, 1974
Michelle Hibbs, Oklahoma City, March 1, 1975
Franklin Eckhardt, Edmond, February 1, 1977
Richard Wood, Bethany, March 1, 1977
John and Bettye Minnett, Ardmore, December 1, 1979
Marybelle Chase, Tulsa, March 1, 1982
Charles and Cheryl Saxon, Oklahoma City, March 1, 1983
Marie Wren, Fillsmore, CA, March 1, 1984
James and Marly Bradley, Woodward, KS, March 1, 1985
Directorate of Museums & Military History, Fort Sill, October 1, 1985
William Hamilton, Edmond, March 1, 1986
Martha Merideth, Tulsa, March 14, 1986
David and Nancy Smith, Edmond, March 14, 1986
Gilcrease Museum Library, Tulsa, March 20, 1986
Robert and Judy McCormack, India, CA, March 25, 1986
Joe and June Stone, Oklahoma City, April 11, 1986
David and Jean Klaus, Oklahoma City, August 25, 1986
Eva Gerard, Denison, TX, February 9, 1987
Tom Walker, Ardmore, March 27, 1987
Bishop Kelley High School Library, Tulsa, May 6, 1987
Michael Lekson, Arlington, VA, March 7, 1988
Will Rogers Library, Claremore, February 24, 1989
Gary and Sherry Strebel, Oklahoma City, February 8, 1990
John Goffe, Oklahoma City, May 13, 1991
Don Adkins, Norman, March 11, 1992
Roy Helm, Tulsa, May 21, 1992
Charles and Charlene Wilson, Oklahoma City, March 3, 1993
Pat and Elma Rayma Smith, Okemah, March 9, 1993
Robert and Judy Mascho, Chandler, March 24, 1993
Kenneth Nash, Oklahoma City, March 24, 1993
Pat Miller, Muskogee, March 31, 1993
Dave and Nancy Smith, March 14, 1986
Consolidation

Letter to members of the Fifty-Fourth Legislature

In a previous letter I expressed my opposition to HB 3028 by explaining what I see as the proven record, over many decades, of the Tourism Department’s inability to manage effectively and professionally the state’s historic sites, museums, and collections.

I now address another topic that is closest to my professional heart and background. I worked as an editor in the OHS Publications Division for more than sixteen years, so I know whereof I speak.

HB 3028 would not only destroy a 121-year-old organization; it would eliminate the ten thousand-strong OHS membership, resulting in the demise of The Chronicles of Oklahoma, which has been the state’s history journal since 1921. Without the wide and varied membership base, which includes not only individuals but also libraries and museums around the world, there will be no Chronicles of Oklahoma. Of course, the OHS monthly newsletter, Mistletoe Leaves, would go by the wayside, but the loss of The Chronicles would have a more serious and far-reaching impact.

The Tourism Department publishes Oklahoma Today, a lovely, award-winning travel and tourism magazine. It differs in significant ways from The Chronicles of Oklahoma, in terms of purpose, standards, guidelines, and audience. Students of history and professional historians do not, and would not, consult Oklahoma Today for a record (chronicle) of the state’s past. Professional historians do not, and would not, seek to publish their scholarly essays in Oklahoma Today. They look to The Chronicles, which has published thousands of articles by hundreds of historians throughout its ninety-three-year history. I urge you to consider carefully the ramifications of eliminating this valuable resource for future generations that would result from consolidation under HB 3028.

In addition to The Chronicles of Oklahoma, the OHS has a broader scholarly publishing program. OHS publications have received a number of awards over the years. The OHS’s scholarly publications extend beyond its own book list through contractual agreements with other entities, and reach hundreds if not thousands of people who may or may not be OHS members.

I apologize for this long missive, but I am compelled to demonstrate the breadth of, and the high regard for, the scholarship produced by the OHS. The transfer of OHS to the Tourism Department would severely compromise the professional integrity and reputation of the OHS. Administration of the OHS at the top level and in its various divisions and programs requires history professionals, not political appointees.

HB 3028 will do irreparable harm on many levels and in many areas. The loss of The Chronicles of Oklahoma alone will be incalculable.

Sincerely,

Mary Ann Blochowiak

Energy efficiency at the Oklahoma History Center

The OHS is striving constantly to achieve higher efficiencies in all areas. When the Oklahoma History Center opened, the state’s Department of Central Services controlled the maintenance staff and environmental operations settings at the OHC. As part of statewide budget cuts in 2008, OHC staff assumed full responsibility and control of all maintenance functions, resulting in dramatic increases in energy efficiency and cost savings.

The OHC decreased electricity use by 19 percent with a cost savings of 22 percent. Natural gas savings were even more dramatic. From peak annual costs of $148,000, natural gas costs and use have decreased to $37,000 per year for a cost savings of 76 percent. Combined, electric and natural gas energy costs have been reduced by almost 39 percent from peak use years.

Fine tuning environmental settings, changing to energy efficient LED bulbs, installation of energy efficient window films, and the use of large window shades have all helped reduce costs. To date, roughly four hundred of five hundred fixtures in the museum galleries have been converted to LED bulbs, reducing gallery lighting energy use by 80 percent. In 2013 the OHC added a new capacitor for the facility, increasing energy transmission efficiency to 90 to 95 percent. While significant savings have been realized, the staff continues to look for more savings and efficiencies in all areas of operations.

T.G.&.Y. exhibit extended

The Chisholm Trail Museum in Kingfisher announces that due to the huge success and turnout they will be extending the T.G.&Y. exhibit through August 2, 2014.

This nostalgic and first of its kind exhibit continues to draw large crowds from across the state and from neighboring states. Visitors have traveled to tour the exhibit from far eastern, western, northern, central, and southern portions of Oklahoma, including visitors from surrounding states. For those who either remember shopping at or working for T.G.&.Y., this exhibit is a must-see. The Chisholm Trail Museum is housing a true Oklahoma icon with items and memorabilia that has not been displayed since the chain’s decline in the early 1980s. Come out one last time to relive those less hectic and more personal days of T.G.&;Y; those days that are no more.

For more information, visit www.ctkmuseum.org or call 405-375-5176.

Museum Store News

By Jera Winters

The Oklahoma History Center Museum store is proud to be the source for great books about the fascinating history of Oklahoma. The Museum Store has recently added three titles by two of Oklahoma’s most well-known historians.

Distinguished Oklahoma historian Bob Burke has added two exciting books to his catalog of works about Oklahoma history. Uniquely Oklahoma features stories about prominent Oklahomans and way that they have changed lives for people everywhere. Oklahoma: How We Got the Best State Song tells the inspiring story of the state song, from its birth in musical theater to its adoption by the state of Oklahoma. Uniquely Oklahoma and Oklahoma: How We Got the Best State Song retail for $19.95, and are available to members for $16.96.

Oklahoma Historical Society Executive Director and prominent historian Dr. Bob L. Blackburn has written a thorough history of one of Oklahoma’s most recognizable institutions, Love’s Travel Stops and Country Stores. Love’s follows the company’s journey from its first gas station to the large Oklahoma icon that it is now. Love’s retails for $29.95, and is available to members for $25.46.

Call or stop by for these and many other unique products. Books also can be ordered at the Museum Store website at www.okhistory.org. Members always receive a discount of 15 percent on Museum Store purchases. Please call 405-522-5214 with any questions about these great items.