



Murrell Home to host two events in May

The George M. Murrell Home in Park Hill will host its sixth annual Living History Education Day on Friday, May 6, with two sessions: 9:30–11:30 a.m. and 11:30 a.m.–1:30 p.m. Teachers are invited to bring their students and experience life in nineteenth-century Indian Territory through exciting hands-on presentations by OHS staff and costumed living history presenters. School groups will enjoy lawn games, music, animals of the plantation, and gardening. Tours of the 1845 Murrell Home mansion also will be available. The public picnic area and playground will be reserved exclusively for Living History Education Day participants. The event is open to public, private, and home school groups. The cost is \$2 per student, with teachers and adult chaperones admitted free. Download a free teacher's curriculum and activity guide at www.okhistory.org/murrellhome. To register a class or group, please call 918-456-2751 or email apritchett@okhistory.org.

Visit the Murrell Home for its annual May Day celebration on Saturday, May 7, from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. A celebration of the beginning of the growing season on the plantation, the event will feature entertainment, food, and living history demonstrations. Music, lawn games, dancing, and hands-on programs about nineteenth-century life will fill the historic site. Reenactors in period dress will demonstrate daily life in the mid-1800s at Oklahoma's only remaining antebellum plantation. Guests will be able to participate in a maypole, which will close the event and commemorate the start of the growing season on the plantation. The historic Murrell Home and outbuildings also will be open for tours. Guests are invited to bring lawn chairs, quilts, and picnic lunches. Refreshments also will be available. The May Day celebration is free and open to the public.

The George M. Murrell Home is located three miles south of Tahlequah at 19479 East Murrell Home Road in Park Hill. Originally the home of the niece of Cherokee Principal Chief John Ross, the Greek Revival mansion was built in 1845 and is the only remaining antebellum plantation in Oklahoma. The site is a National Historic Landmark and a National Trail of Tears site. For more information please call 918-456-2751, email murrellhome@okhistory.org, or visit www.facebook.com/murrellhome.



CSRHC celebrates seventy-fifth anniversary of Vance Air Force Base

The Cherokee Strip Regional Heritage Center (CSRHC) in Enid announces a new exhibit entitled *Keep 'em Flying: 75th Anniversary of Vance Air Force Base*. The exhibit will open Memorial Day weekend and will remain on display in the J. E. and L. E. Mabee Foundation Exhibit Gallery through Veterans Day weekend.



In 1941 land was purchased south of Enid to build a base to train pilots for World War II and was named Enid Army Flying School. Seventy-five years later, Vance Air Force Base is considered the second busiest Radar Approach Control (RAPCON) facility in the United States, training pilots for the Air Force, Navy, Marine Corps, and US Allies. The exhibit was researched and developed by staff of the OHS and CSRHC, and includes the history of Vance Air Force Base from its creation during World War II to present day. The creation of the *Keep 'em Flying* exhibit would not be possible without the generous support of the Enid community.

The Cherokee Strip Regional Heritage Center is open Tuesday through Saturday, 10 a.m.–5 p.m. For more information about CSRHC exhibits or programs, please call 580-237-1907 or visit www.csrhc.org. The CSRHC is located at 507 South Fourth Street in Enid.

Oklahoma Civil War Teachers' Institute announced

The OHS announces its upcoming Oklahoma Civil War Teachers' Institute, set for July 6–8, in Tahlequah. The teachers' institute will explore the war's impact on Indian Territory and techniques for teaching Oklahoma Civil War history in the K–12 classroom.

Conference participants will visit important landmarks of the war, including Fort Gibson Historic Site, Honey Springs Battlefield, the George M. Murrell Home, and more. Facilitators for the event include education staff from the OHS and Northeastern State University. Oklahoma teachers will explore nontraditional classroom experiences relating to the Civil War, as well as field trips and interactive activities to share with students.

Each teacher will receive an extensive resource kit with classroom activities and lesson guides. The cost for the teachers' institute is \$249 per person and includes all materials, plus some transportation and meals. The institute is open to public, private, and home school teachers in Oklahoma, grades K–12. A limit of fifteen Oklahoma teachers will be selected on a first-come, first-served basis. Visit www.okteachersinstitute.weebly.com to register. For more information please contact Amanda Pritchett at 918-456-2751 or apritchett@okhistory.org.



Director's column

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

Jack Zink, one of my mentors and a good friend I dearly miss, liked to quote Winston Churchill's three rules of success: "Never, never, never give up."

This year, as we cope with a 12 percent budget cut and revenue shortfall and anticipate an additional 12 to 15 percent budget cut next year, that mantra is more important than ever. Despite the historically severe budget cuts, we cannot give up.

As I look back on my 37 years at the Oklahoma Historical Society, I see evidence that perseverance pays off.

In 1993, during another budget cut crisis, we had to close a number of museums and lower our expectations for others. Two casualties were modest museums in Clinton and Enid. We never gave up.

Two years later the museum in Clinton reopened as the Route 66 Museum with a self-supporting business plan, and almost two decades later the Enid museum reopened as the Cherokee Strip Regional Heritage Center, thanks to a \$9 million fundraising drive led by the late, great Lew Ward, one of my history heroes.

In 1998 I appeared before the Oklahoma City City Council and asked them to donate the 1937 WKY-Radio Kilgen theatrical organ to the OHS. Our plan was to build pipe chambers in the Devon Great Hall, raise the funds to do a complete restoration, and bring the mighty Kilgen back to life.

We built the chambers and raised a little money, but the dream fell through. The museum opened with empty pipe chambers. We never gave up, however, and kept looking for a way forward.

Thanks to Dusty Miller, the OU American Organ Institute, and the Kimmell, Hill, and Gaylord families, we now have the funds, the plan, and the opening date to share the Kilgen with the public.

In 2007, after witnessing the positive impact of the Oklahoma History Center, we proposed a matching museum in Tulsa, a market we thought was underserved. We raised a little money, put together a plan, and found new allies in the Oklahoma Legislature, especially Pro Tem Brian Bingman. It got nowhere. Seven years of effort later, it still was nowhere. We never gave up.

Last year, with only one more opportunity, we reloaded, found a new ally in Speaker Jeff Hickman, and made a run at legislative approval. On the last day of the session, in the last hour, we witnessed a minor miracle. It passed and we now have \$25 million to make the OKPOP a reality.

Coming out of the Centennial Celebration of Statehood, we developed an ambitious plan to build a cooperative network of historical societies and museums across the state to protect collections, develop exhibits, and offer educational programs. The heart of the plan was a grants-in-aid fund to drive the projects. For eight straight years, we tried and failed to get a bill heard. We never gave up.

Two years ago, with the support of Senator Ron Justice and Representative Leslie Osborn, we won legislative approval to create a matching grant program that we hope to launch in 2019. Dollar for dollar, nothing will match the effectiveness of that program to save local history.

Yes, the three rules of success are never, never, never give up. The results serve as mileposts on the OHS road to the future. We will never give up.

Dr. Bob

Development News

By Larry O'Dell

The Oklahoma Historical Society is honored to announce the creation of the Shirley Ann Ballard Nero Endowment to benefit programming about historical black towns. Dr. Donnie Nero has donated the initial amount to the fund. The OHS will continue to fundraise to increase the endowment, including an annual Juneteenth event at the Oklahoma History Center.

Shirley Nero, a native of the All-Black town of Clearview, taught at Sapulpa and then Porum Public Schools for thirty years. Shirley received four different teacher of the year honors. She sits on several boards, including those of the Oklahoma Historical Society and the Oklahoma African American Educators Hall of Fame. In 2016 she was a recipient of the Pinnacle Award, which honors outstanding women for their work as role models to women and children in the Tulsa community.

The Shirley Nero Endowment will provide money every year for research, programming, exhibits, and events related to the thirteen historical All-Black towns. If you would like to donate to the endowment, please call 405-522-0317 or email scrynes@okhistory.org.



New Members, March

*Indicates renewed memberships at a higher level

Director's Circle

*Allen Brown, Oklahoma City

Fellow

*Gov. and Mrs. Bill Anoatubby, Ada

*Ronald and Beverly Griffin, Oklahoma City

Associate

*Robert and Kay Avery, Jefferson, TX
Donovan Reichenberger, Alva

Friend

*Bonnie Baker, Burleson, TX
*Terry and Dana Brown, Oklahoma City
*Carolyn Burkhead, Oklahoma City
*Stephen Chilton, Wynnewood
*Helen Clements, Stillwater
*J. R. Cruz and Martha Skeeters, Norman
*Arnold Henderson, Norman
*Joe and Sarah Jones, Oklahoma City
Royce Liston, Oklahoma City
*Alan Livingston, Houston, TX
*Stephanie Pounds, Spring, TX
*Frank Rees, Irving, TX
*David and Paula Severe, Oklahoma City
*Mary Jane Warde, Stillwater

Family

Charles and Doris Ablard, Alexandria, VA
Julie Anneler, Oklahoma City
Yanet Arauz and Dania Borunda, Oklahoma City
James and Debra Askins, Oklahoma City
*Jim and Devota Bowers, Oklahoma City
Kerwin and Carle Brocksmith, Oklahoma City
Sheila Brooks, Edmond
*James and Jo Anne Brown, Bartlesville
David and Beverly Carter, Oklahoma City
*Chris and Carmen Christopher, Norman
Ernest Clark, Shawnee
Stephen and Cathy Dock, Mangum
Charles and Laurie Effinger, Harrah
Ronald and Lida Elkins, Oklahoma City
Rita and Dorothy Elliott, Yukon
*Carol Ellis-Jones, Tulsa
*J. B. Flat, Oklahoma City
Michael Frauenberger, Nowata
*John Griffin, New Bern, NC
Donna Hardwick and Shona Hardwick-Taylor, Oklahoma City
*Kathryn Hewitt, Muskogee
James and Lynn Hicks, Harrah
Alvin and Carol Ihrig, Wellston

cont'd. on p. 7

Oklahoma Historical Society
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Mistletoe Leaves is published for the members and friends of the Oklahoma Historical Society in partial fulfillment of the Society's purpose to "preserve and perpetuate the history of Oklahoma and its people, to stimulate popular interest in historical study and research, and to promote and disseminate historical knowledge."

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

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AROUND OKLAHOMA

Events

Celebrate the fiftieth anniversary of the Plains Indians and Pioneers Museum in **Woodward** with two events this month. On Saturday, May 7, from 2 to 4 p.m. an opening reception will be held for a new exhibit of HDR photography by Mark Lemmons, on display through June 4. The reception will include light refreshments. On Saturday, May 14, at 2 p.m. a dedication ceremony will take place. In celebration of its fiftieth anniversary, the museum will dedicate its new, climate controlled storage room. Refreshments also will be available during this event. The Plains Indians and Pioneers Museum is located at 2009 Williams Avenue in Woodward. Museum hours are Tuesday through Saturday, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. and admission is free. Please contact Director Robert Roberson at 580-256-6136 or pipm@swbell.net for more information.

Experience the spirit of an ancient tradition at the Restoring Harmony Powwow in **Tulsa** on Saturday, May 7. The day's events begin at 10 a.m. with traditional stickball games, followed by an awareness hike. In the afternoon, enjoy gourd dancing performances and browse the booths of American Indian jewelry, home furnishings, art, and other handcrafted items. The grand entry parade begins at sunset. This free event is sure to be fun for the whole family. The powwow takes place at the Westside YMCA, located at 5400 South Olympia Avenue in Tulsa. For more information please call 918-382-2217.

Spend Saturday, May 14, from 10 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. celebrating **Bristow's** Lebanese heritage with a day of free festivities for the entire family. Tabouleh Fest celebrates Bristow's Middle Eastern ancestors who arrived in Oklahoma during the late 1800s. These immigrants brought with them tabouleh, also spelled tabouli, a fresh salad dish made with parsley, bulgur wheat, fresh vegetables, mint, olive oil, and lemon juice. Today this unique festival highlights Bristow's roots with food, music, traditional belly dancers, and more. Visitors to Tabouleh Fest will enjoy craft vendors, carnival rides, the Miss Tabouleh pageant, a children's area, a talent show, and trolley rides. The festivities kick off immediately following the annual Wildflower 5K Run. Enjoy a wide variety of musical acts, see which tabouleh recipe wins the top prize, or tour the only two tabouleh factories in Oklahoma. Do not miss the

festival's tabouleh bar, where festival-goers can mix all of their favorite toppings into a tasty bowl of tabouleh. All festivities will be held on Main Street in Bristow. Please call 918-367-3324 for more information.

As the National Park Service celebrates its centennial, one of its goals is to reintroduce the National Parks to all citizens. To do this, Washita Battlefield National Historic Site in **Cheyenne** will host many activities throughout 2016. On Saturday, May 21, Movie Night will be held at 6:30 p.m., which includes a family film followed by a park ranger leading a discussion. The discussion will include the film's relevance to the Washita Battlefield, the historical accuracies or inaccuracies, and common stereotypes found in Hollywood films. Washita Battlefield National Historic Site is located at 18555 Highway 47A near Cheyenne. For more information please contact Kevin Bowles Mohr at 580-497-2742, ext. 3003 or Kevin_Bowles_Mohr@nps.gov.

Step back in time for a glimpse of Enid's past on Saturday, May 21. Join Cactus Jack on the Chisholm Trail Coalition Historic Walking Tour of downtown **Enid**. During this walking tour, participants will visit fourteen historical sites where reenactors bring the stories to life. Visit the room where David E. George (alias John Wilkes Booth) lived and died. Witness the gunfight and meet the people that ended the life of Marshal E. C. Williams, the first law enforcement officer killed in Enid. Visit the site where the 1893 Land Office stood on the square and hear what it was like on that first day of the land run. The number of participants is limited, so reserve a spot on this exciting tour today. The tour will begin in Enid's Downtown Square. Please call 580-242-2233 for more information.

The Magnolia Festival of Oklahoma in **Durant** will feature games and festivities perfect for a fun-filled family weekend on Thursday, June 2, through Saturday, June 4. As headquarters of the Choctaw Nation, the city of Durant also will showcase the history and folklore of the Choctaws with traditional dances and a Choctaw Princess Pageant. Through their colorful dance movements, the dancers will tell stories rich in American Indian heritage. This free festival will be held at the Choctaw Event Center at 3702 Choctaw Road in Durant. For more information please call 580-924-0848.

Meetings

The monthly meeting of the Oklahoma Genealogical Society (OGS) will be held on Monday, May 2, at the Oklahoma History Center in **Oklahoma City**. Phil Goldfarb will be the speaker and his presentation is entitled "Traveling to America in Steerage and Whether to Admit or Deport Our Ancestors." The meeting and program will take place from 6 to 7:45 p.m., and experienced researchers will be available before the meeting at 5 p.m. to answer research questions. Monthly meetings are free for OGS members. Nonmembers are welcome, but are charged \$5 to attend. All are invited to join, with more information available at www.okgensoc.org. OGS meetings are held on the first Monday of each month at the Oklahoma History Center, which is located at 800 Nazih Zuhdi Drive in the State Capitol Complex. Please call 405-637-1907 for more information.

The Muskogee County Historical Society will hold a joint monthly meeting with the Webbers Falls Historical Society at the **Webbers Falls** Museum on Thursday, May 12, at 12:30 p.m. Attendees are responsible for their own lunch prior to the meeting. The guest speaker will be Chad Williams, director of research at the Oklahoma Historical Society. He will share information about the Oklahoma Civilian Conservation Corps (CCC) camps along with a recently restored short film on the subject. The CCC was created by Congress on March 31, 1933, as part of President Franklin D. Roosevelt's New Deal programs to relieve economic and humanitarian distress. In 1934 Oklahoma had five thousand young men working in twenty-six camps in Oklahoma. The Webbers Falls Museum is located at 103 Commercial Street in Webbers Falls. For more information please call Ellen Johnson at 918-453-9842.

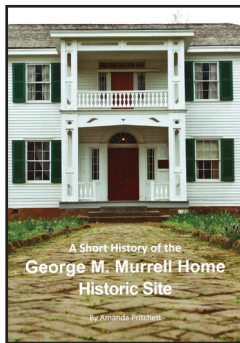
Do you want your organization's meeting, event, exhibit, or announcement included in the "Around Oklahoma" section of *Mistletoe Leaves*? The "Around Oklahoma" section features Oklahoma history and heritage-related activities or programs sponsored by entities other than the Oklahoma Historical Society. To submit news items, please contact Evelyn Brown, assistant editor, by email at eebrown@okhistory.org or by mail at 800 Nazih Zuhdi Drive, Oklahoma City, Oklahoma 73105. If you wish a news item to appear in the June issue, you must submit it by Thursday, May 5.

Murrell Home publishes history book

The Friends of the Murrell Home have published a new book about the historic site entitled *A Short History of the George M. Murrell Home Historic Site*. This thirty-page book features a history of the Cherokee plantation and dozens of full-color photos. Written by OHS Historical Interpreter Amanda Pritchett, this is the first comprehensive book published about the Murrell Home historic site.

Built in 1845, the Murrell Home was the residence of the niece of Cherokee Chief John Ross, Minerva Ross, and her Virginia-born husband, George M. Murrell. The book chronicles the construction of their home in Park Hill (just south of Tahlequah) following Cherokee removal, through the suffering of the Civil War, and beyond.

The book is available online at www.mkt.com/murrellhome and in the museum's gift shop. The site is located at 19479 East Murrell Home Road in Park Hill. For more information about the book or the Murrell Home, please call 918-456-2751 or visit www.okhistory.org/murrellhome.



Eleventh annual Archaeology Day at Spiro Mounds

Spiro Mounds Archaeological Center will host its eleventh annual Archaeology Day on Saturday, May 7, from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. The event also will celebrate the Spiro Mounds site's thirty-eighth year of increasing awareness of Oklahoma archaeology. Archaeology Day is a free admission day, but donations are appreciated. The celebration will include demonstrations, lectures, a guided tour of the site at 2 p.m., and birthday cake. Flint knappers will showcase their stone tool making skills. Blowgun, stickball, and chunkee demonstrations will be available upon request. Throughout the day drawings will take place for giveaways. All Spiro Mounds exhibits will be available to tour throughout the event as well. If guests wish to bring artifacts such as arrowheads or pottery, individuals from the Oklahoma Archeological Survey will be available to identify up to ten items per person.

Spiro Mounds Archaeological Center is located three miles east of Spiro, Oklahoma, on Highway 9/271 and four miles north on Lock and Dam Road. For more information please contact Dennis Peterson at spiro@okhistory.org or 918-962-2062.



Penn Square Bank revisited

On February 11, Robert Burch of OETA interviewed Dr. Michael J. Hightower about a turning point in Oklahoma history—the FDIC takeover of Penn Square Bank on July 5, 1982. The interview will be included in a *Back in Time* documentary chronicling the rise and fall of Penn Square Bank. It is slated for broadcast this month.

“As a producer for *Back in Time*, Robert knew that the *Crossroads of Commerce* exhibit at the Oklahoma History Center would be an ideal place for the interview,” said Hightower. “Penn Square Bank’s collapse was both cause and effect of an oil patch depression unrivaled since the Great Depression, and it affected banks and businesses throughout the state and nation. For once, the lessons of history are crystal clear, and we ignore them at our peril.”

For more information about the *Back in Time* documentary, please contact Dr. Hightower at mhightower@okhistory.org or 434-249-6043. Individuals also are encouraged to schedule presentations for businesses or community groups in your area, or to suggest avenues of research on Oklahoma banking and commerce.

New trunk and exhibit about African American history in Oklahoma

The Oklahoma History Center education team has introduced a new trunk and exhibit in the Traveling Trunks program, “African American History in Oklahoma.” The trunk and exhibit have many educational possibilities. The trunk includes lesson plans, hands-on activities, photographs, and hands-on objects for teachers to use in their classrooms. The exhibit has five panels that can be set up in a classroom or library for students to read and enjoy.

Both the trunk and exhibit focus on African Americans in Oklahoma, including Clara Luper, Roscoe Dunjee, Ada Lois Sipuel Fisher, and Ralph Waldo Ellison. The hands-on activities include playing Scrabble (Clara Luper’s favorite game), exploring black newspapers, online activities, and several trade books. Teachers can reserve the “African American History in Oklahoma” trunk and exhibit by visiting www.okhistory.org/historycenter/trunks.

Museum Store News

By Jera Winters

Celebrate National Barbecue Month with a selection of Oklahoma-made barbecue products! Get grillin’ with one of our fine, Made in Oklahoma barbecue sauces. The Oklahoma History Center Museum Store carries delicious Sweet Spirits barbecue sauce, made right here in Oklahoma City. This one is a local favorite. We also carry the well-known Cornerstone and Cookshack sauces.

Cookshack is recognized for its smoker ovens, another Made in Oklahoma product. Their cookbook, *Get Smokin’*, is the ultimate guide for smoker ovens. For the serious smoked meat aficionado, this book is filled with wonderful and sophisticated recipes. It even covers smoked vegetables!

See the stories of how these companies developed in the Oklahoma History Center’s *Crossroads of Commerce* exhibit, then visit the Museum Store and take the products home with you. As always, members receive a 15 percent discount on all purchases in the OHC Museum Store. Please call us at 405-522-5214 with questions or to place an order.



Tonkawa POW Camp lecture at Pioneer Woman Museum

Visit the Pioneer Woman Museum on Saturday, May 14, at 10 a.m. for a free lecture by Rex Ackerson. The topic is the Tonkawa Prisoner of War (POW) Camp. More than thirty World War II POW camps were located in Oklahoma, with one of these in Tonkawa. The camp was an economic boon to both Tonkawa and the surrounding area. Prisoners who returned to the site in later years always remarked about how well they were treated in the camps. The Tonkawa camp was noted for the murder of a prisoner by his fellows and the subsequent trial and hanging of five German POWs. The discussion will cover the development of the camp, why it was in Tonkawa, and the life of the camp. Ackerson will also touch on the repatriation of the prisoners to Germany. Please call 580-765-6108 for more information. The Pioneer Woman Museum is located at 701 Monument Road in Ponca City.

Office of American Indian Culture and Preservation to host Lunch and Learn workshop

The Office of American Indian Culture and Preservation (AICP) of the OHS will host a Lunch and Learn workshop about Choctaw Indian records on Wednesday, May 25, from 11:30 a.m. to 2 p.m. The program will highlight the Choctaw National Records of 1856–1906, the manuscript holdings of the OHS, and oral histories including the WPA Indian-Pioneer History Collection.

The cost of the workshop is \$15 and includes lunch. The fee must be paid at the time the reservation is made. Class size is limited to forty attendees, so early registration is recommended. The Lunch and Learn will be held in the OERB Classroom at the Oklahoma History Center, 800 Nazih Zuhdi Drive in Oklahoma City. For more information or to make reservations, please call the AICP office at 405-522-5206.

Drummond Home hosted Easter egg hunt

The Drummond Home in Hominy hosted its annual Easter egg hunt for a group of twenty-five children from the Hominy Head Start program on Thursday, March 24. It was a wonderful morning as children hunted for Easter eggs and spent time with the Easter Bunny. The Drummond Home staff would like to thank Danielle Graham of Hominy for playing the part of the Easter Bunny. Each child had a photo taken with the Easter Bunny and was given one special egg to remember the day. This event was sponsored by the Hominy Head Start program.

The Drummond Home is open to the public Wednesday through Saturday from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., and Sunday from 1 to 5 p.m. Tours are available between the hours of 10 a.m. and 4 p.m., with the last tour beginning at 4 p.m. For more information please call 918-885-2374. The Fred Drummond Home is located at 305 North Price Avenue in Hominy.



Renovations at the Cherokee Strip Museum in Perry

The Cherokee Strip Museum in Perry is currently under construction. Throughout the renovations, the museum will be open and admission will be free. The south gallery and research library will be closed, but the north gallery, front entrance, and gift shop will be open. Restroom renovations began on March 24, but alternate restrooms are available on site.

The Cherokee Strip Museum also is in the process of building a thirty-foot-by-sixty-foot blacksmith shop on the museum grounds. The exterior will resemble a blacksmith shop from the early 1900s.

The front half of the building will have a gallery for exhibiting blacksmithing tools. There will be two restrooms located in the center, and the back half of the building will be a working blacksmith shop where classes and blacksmithing demonstrations will be held. This project has been made possible by the work of the Cherokee Strip Historical Society and through many generous donations.

The Cherokee Strip Museum and Rose Hill School are located at 2617 West Fir Street in Perry. For more information please call 580-336-2405 or email khouston@okhistory.org.

New Oklahoma National Register listings

The State Historic Preservation Office is pleased to announce two new National Register of Historic Places (NRHP) listings in Oklahoma. The National Register of Historic Places is our nation's official list of properties significant in our past.

Located in Guthrie, the Excelsior Library is significant in the area of Social History, Education, and Ethnic Heritage (Black) as the historic African American library. It was added to the 1954 bond issue at the urging of the Negro Chamber of Commerce, and was built after the citizens of Guthrie voted to approve the bond issue. It was built before a modern library for whites in Guthrie and during the beginning of the Civil Rights Movement, which some hoped would end segregation of public facilities. Even after separate but equal was outlawed and a new integrated library was built, the Excelsior Library remained vital to the African American community as a community center and symbol of its heritage.



Excelsior Library in Guthrie

The Lincoln Plaza Historic District, constructed between 1966 and 1974, is significant for its association with Community Planning and Development in Oklahoma City. Lincoln Plaza represents the culmination of Oklahoma City postwar expansion encouraged by civic and political leaders in the 1940s and 1950s. The northeastern part of the city was prepared for expansion by widening Lincoln Boulevard from two lanes to six in 1956 and appropriating funds for significant storm water management improvements

in 1961. In the specific area of the future Lincoln Plaza, the development stage was set for a monumental complex that would complement the efforts of downtown renewal and development dreams born of the ambitious annexation efforts of the previous postwar decades. Lincoln Plaza also enjoyed a reputation as a center for political meetings and "horse trading" among state leaders. Although the resultant development never fully achieved the scale of regional activity originally intended as a major convention and office complex, it continues to represent an important trend in civic design and urban planning on a local and regional level. The Lincoln Plaza complex is the enduring legacy of an innovative developer who aspired to create a major new focal point using bold, contemporary architecture at this suburban location.



Lincoln Plaza Historic District

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 State Historic Preservation Office identifies, evaluates, and nominates properties for this special designation. These nominations are made on a quarterly basis. If you believe a property in your area is eligible, please fill out the Historic Preservation Resource Identification Form located at www.okhistory.org/shpo/nrprelim.htm. For more information about the National Register of Historic Places, please contact Lynda Ozan at lozan@okhistory.org or 405-522-4478.

Oklahoma's Twenty-Eighth Annual Statewide Preservation Conference

Preservation is Golden: Oklahoma's Twenty-Eighth Annual Statewide Preservation Conference will be held on Wednesday, June 1, through Friday, June 3. Conference registration and all sessions will be held at the Enid Symphony Center, located at 301 West Broadway in Enid.

In 2016 the United States is celebrating the fiftieth anniversary of the National Historic Preservation Act through Preservation50. The statewide preservation conference is just one of the ways Oklahoma's preservation partners will participate in the celebration.

The registration fee is \$40 if post-marked or made online by May 20. After that date (including at the door), the fee is \$50. Several optional events and tours are on the agenda and require purchase of tickets. For a program, hotel information, and registration brochure, please contact Melvena Heisch at 405-522-4484 or mheisch@okhistory.org. To register online, please visit www.mainstreetenid.org/preservation.

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 1

Noon

Registration opens at noon and runs throughout the conference.

1:45–3:15 p.m.

Track A: Preservation50

The National Historic Preservation Act at Work in Oklahoma

"Development of Historic Preservation in Oklahoma," Melvena Heisch

"Exploring Cultural Diversity in Historic Preservation in Oklahoma," Susan Allen Kline, Cynthia Savage

Track B: Gold Medal Preservation Performances

"The Oklahoma State Capitol Preservation Project," Stephen J. Kelley, K. Vance Kelley, Elizabeth Rosin, Trait Thompson

Track C: Golden Opportunities

Welcome to Enid

"Around the Square: Early Development of Industry in Enid," Aaron Preston

"Main Street at Work in Enid," Kelly Tompkins

3:30–5 p.m.

Plenary Session One

"The National Historic Preservation Act at Fifty: Click Here to Save," Erik M. Hein

5:30–7 p.m.

Opening Reception

THURSDAY, JUNE 2

7–8 a.m.

Eggs and Architects Breakfast

Ron Frantz, Organizer

8:30–10 a.m.

Track A: Preservation50

The National Historic Preservation Act at Work in Oklahoma (cont'd.)

"Oklahoma's Great Inheritance," Lynda Ozan

"Oklahoma Archaeology 1966–2016: Fifty Years of the National Historic Preservation Act," Robert L. Brooks

Track B: Gold Medal Preservation Performances

Rehabilitation: Productive Uses for Historic Buildings

"Enid's Clay Hall and Cherokee Terrace Apartments," Elizabeth Rosin

"Oklahoma City's Santa Fe Depot's New Life as the Oklahoma City Intermodal Transportation Hub," Rick Lueb

"Universal Ford Rehabilitation," Chris Lilly

Track C: Golden Opportunities

Along the Chisholm Trail

"Celebrating the Chisholm Trail's 150th Anniversary," Kathy Dickson, Marcy Jarrett, Stacy Cramer Moore

"The McGranahan's Legacy: Rebuilding History," Maree Lunsford, Robert Treece

10:15–11:45 a.m.

Track A: Preservation50

Oklahoma's First NHLs/First NRHP Listings and Their Preservation

"Fort Gibson: Preserving the Guardian of the Frontier," David Fowler

"Preserving Fort Sill's Landmark Before and After the National Historic Preservation Act," Glen Wheat

Track B: Gold Medal Preservation Performances

Rehabilitation: Productive Uses for Historic Buildings (cont'd.)

"Rehabilitation of a Postwar Apartment Building: Tulsa's Sally Ann Apartments," Brenda Spencer

"A New Vision for (Old) Douglass High School and Its Environs," Hans Butzer

"Sixty-Six Phillips 66 Stations: From *The Walking Dead* to *American Restoration*," Mike Kertok

"Dunbar School, Atoka," Catherine Montgomery

Track C: Golden Opportunities

The National Park Service (NPS):

A Century of Heritage Preservation

"NPS Partnership Programs," Tom Keohan

"Washita: Preserving a Landscape to Tell a Story," Tucker Blythe

11:45 a.m.–1:45 p.m.

Tours with Lunch

Tour One—Historic Homes Tour

Tour Two—Terminal Grain Elevators Historic District Tour

Tour Three—Downtown Through the Decades

Archaeologists' Lunch

Catharine M. Wood, Organizer

Architectural Historians' Lunch

Merged with Tour Two

1:45–3:15 p.m.

Track A: Preservation50

"Protecting Historic Properties: Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act," Valerie Hauser

Track B: Gold Medal Preservation Performances

Special Treatments for Special Places

"Henry Overholser Mansion: From Funding to Completion of Extensive Restoration," Bill Gumerson

"The Good, the Bad, the Disastrous: Reconstruction and Stabilization of the Fort Washita Barracks," Kathy Dickson

Track C: Golden Opportunities

Preparing for Preservation Leadership

"Effective Boards: Interpreting the Score Board," Ken Culp

3:30–5 p.m.

Track A: Preservation50

FHWA and ODOT—A Preservation Partnership: Transparency, Outreach, and Public Participation in Protecting Important Historic Properties

"Bridging the South Canadian: Federal Programs Better Oklahoma's Transportation Infrastructure," Jennifer Jones

"Bringing the Past to the Public: Historic Oklahoma Bridge and Roadway Resources," Kristina Wyckoff

"ODOT's Archaeological Past, Present, and Future," Nicholas Beale

"Tribal Consultation: Theory and Practice," Rhonda Fair

"Fifty Years of Preservation Under Our Belts: Challenges and Opportunities for ODOT in the Twenty-First Century," Scott Sundermeyer

Track B: Gold Medal Preservation Performances

"Maintenance: The Ultimate Preservation Approach," Ron Frantz, Larry Lucas

Track C: Golden Opportunities

Preparing for Preservation Leadership (cont'd.)

"Developing an Effective, Contributing Board of Directors," Ken Culp

6:15 p.m.

Prebanquet Reception

7 p.m.

SHPO Awards Banquet

9–10 p.m.

Preservation Oklahoma, Inc.'s Conference Mixer

FRIDAY, JUNE 3

8:30–10 a.m.

Track A: Preservation50

"Tribal Governments and Tribal Historic Preservation Officers: Partners in the Protection of Historic Properties," Valerie Hauser

Track B: Gold Medal Preservation Performances

Identification, Documentation, Evaluation: Archaeology

"The Role of Bison in Paleoindian Cultures: Evidence from the Cooper Site," Leland C. Bement

"Recent Research on Spiro: The Past and the Future," Scott Hammerstedt, Patrick Livingood, Amanda Regnier

"Excavation and Preservation of the Steamboat *Heroine*," John Davis

Round two National Register nomination grant applications available

The State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO) is now accepting applications for round two of its annual matching grants to state, local, and tribal governments and nonprofit organizations for the preparation of National Register of Historic Places (NRHP) nominations. The SHPO reserved \$10,000 of its FY 2016 Historic Preservation Fund (HPF) allocation from the US Department of the Interior for these grants. The deadline for round two applications is Friday, June 3, at 5 p.m.

Each grant is limited to \$1,000, and the applicant must provide a nonfederal, cash match of at least \$700. Grant recipients will use the funds to retain an appropriately qualified professional to complete an individual property nomination for the NRHP.

The NRHP is the list of our nation’s significant buildings, structures, sites, districts, objects, and landscapes. While listing in the NRHP is not a guarantee of preservation or financial assistance, it is one of the most important components of the preservation strategy for any significant property. To obtain a NRHP nomination grant application, please visit www.okhistory.org/shpo/nrgrant.htm. Applications also may be obtained from the SHPO by calling 405-521-6249.



Track C: Golden Opportunities
Preparing for Preservation Leadership (cont’d.)
“NAPC: Building Strong Local Preservation Programs Through Education, Advocacy, and Training,” Amanda DeCort
“Preservation Oklahoma: The Tools for Promoting Historic Preservation Statewide,” David Pettyjohn

10:15–11:45 a.m.
Track A: Preservation50
Local Governments and the National Historic Preservation Act
“City of Enid Historic Preservation Program,” Chris Bauer
“Almost Golden: OKC’s Preservation Program Through (Almost) Fifty Years,” Katie Friddle

Track B: Gold Medal Preservation Performances
Identification, Documentation, Evaluation: Architecture
“From the Utilitarian to the Over-the-Top: Modern Architecture on the National Register of Historic Places,” Lynda Ozan
“Failures and Successes in Preserving Oklahoma’s Mid-Century Modern Architecture,” Lynne Rostochil

Track C: Golden Opportunities
Preparing for Preservation Leadership (cont’d.)
“Recruiting Youth Volunteers for Community Service,” Ken Culp

11:45 a.m.–1:30 p.m.
Preservation Oklahoma, Inc.’s Annual Meeting and Luncheon
Tours with Lunch
Tour Four—Historic Home and Garden Tour
Tour Five—Living Upstairs Downtown Tour
Tour Six—Downtown Historic Walking Tour
Tour Seven—Mid-Century Modern Tour

2–3:30 p.m.
Plenary Session Two
“The Changing Face of Preservation and Main Street,” Norma Ramirez de Miess

Conference Cosponsors
Oklahoma Historical Society, State Historic Preservation Office; Oklahoma Department of Commerce, Oklahoma Main Street Center; Preservation Oklahoma, Inc.; Main Street Enid, Inc.; City of Enid; and Visit Enid



New Members, cont’d.

- Family
- *Don Kerby, Oklahoma City
 - Robert LaFortune, Tulsa
 - James and Jack Maney, Yukon
 - Joe and Pam Mansour, Oklahoma City
 - Paul Meerholz, Catoosa
 - Seth and Kristi Meier, Norman
 - Patti Moree, Claremore
 - Stephen and Trisha Myles, Edmond
 - *Leanne Newell, Newalla
 - John and Deenie Oliver, Midwest City
 - Mario and Liz Pined, Comanche
 - Lou Polk, Oklahoma City
 - Jasmine Pratt and Sonya Rogers, Midwest City
 - *Jack and Lora Reavis, Muskogee
 - Harold Reel, Oklahoma City
 - *Joyce Robison, Oklahoma City

- Robert and Tanya Schnetzer, Oklahoma City
- Donna Shirley and Laura Thomas, Tulsa
- Arthur Smith, Nederland, TX
- John and Ramona Soos, Chickasha
- Ralph Thompson, Oklahoma City
- Bailey and Michelle Vinson, Yukon
- *Erick Wagner, Allen, TX
- Pete and Lynne White, Oklahoma City
- Jonathan and Keith Willett, Ada
- Joe and William Williams, Claremore
- *Stan Young, Tulsa

- Individual
- Richmond Adams, Alva
 - Helen Alexander, Houston, TX
 - Bob Blasing, Oklahoma City
 - Jewel Boganey, Chicago, IL
 - Barbara Brookes, New York, NY
 - Fowler Brown, Llano, TX
 - Glenda Brown, Norman
 - Nocona Bumgarner, Pauls Valley
 - Gerald Cich, Spencer
 - Greg Colbert, Atoka
 - Mary Davis, Annapolis, MD
 - Karen Dye, Newkirk
 - Craig Engles, Midwest City
 - Patricia George-Craig, Santa Clara, CA
 - Erick Glenn, Ada
 - Mark Hatcher, Oklahoma City
 - Charles Henderson, Arkansas City, KS
 - Jo High, Paoli
 - Pamela Hoskins, Edmond
 - Tammy Idleman, Pauls Valley
 - Kelly Johnson, Newton Square, PA
 - Rick Jones, Norman
 - Andres Kinslow, Tulsa
 - Margaret McKinney, Florissant, CO
 - Jose Guerreiro, Kingfisher
 - Rita Moore, Oklahoma City
 - Helen Moorer, Tulsa
 - Timothy Morgan, Norman
 - Teresa Mueller, Bourbonnais, IL
 - Joan Murray-Hogan, Muskogee
 - Jessie Roberts, Foyil
 - Raelene Rollins, Altus
 - Allison Shroff, Claremore
 - Dean Simmons, Norman
 - Jennifer Sparks, Fort Gibson
 - Andrea Tharp, Pauls Valley
 - Judy Tracy, Cheyenne
 - Joanne Van Coevern, Salina, KS
 - Lonnie Williams, Wynnewood

- Organizational
- Wah-Zha-Zhi Cultural Center—Osage Nation, Pawhuska

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!

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| Donovan Reichenberger, Alva, March 1, 1968 | Will Rogers Library, Claremore, February 24, 1989 |
| Bill and Kathleen Settle, Muskogee, February 1, 1973 | Hartshorne Public Library, Hartshorne, March 6, 1989 |
| Paul Fisher, Lawton, March 1, 1974 | Jennifer Sparks, Fort Gibson, May 14, 1989 |
| Michelin Hobbs, Oklahoma City, March 1, 1975 | Southern Prairie Library System, Altus, October 16, 1989 |
| Franklin Eckhart, Edmond, February 1, 1977 | Gary and Sherry Strebel, Oklahoma City, February 8, 1990 |
| Old Greer County Museum, Mangum, June 1, 1977 | Mike and Darla Terry, Enid, February 23, 1990 |
| Broken Bow Public Library, Broken Bow, March 1, 1978 | Susan Oliver, Tulsa, May 11, 1990 |
| Stigler Public Library, Stigler, June 1, 1979 | Alan Livingston, Houston, TX, November 9, 1991 |
| Patrick Lynch Public Library, Poteau, April 1, 1981 | Arnold Henderson, Norman, January 3, 1992 |
| Marybelle Chase, Tulsa, March 1, 1982 | Roy Heim, Tulsa, May 21, 1992 |
| Mr. and Mrs. Robert Leveridge, Norman, January 1, 1983 | Pat and Rayma Kaye Smith, Okemah, March 9, 1993 |
| Charles and Cheryl Saxon, Oklahoma City, March 1, 1983 | Robert and Judy Mascho, Chandler, March 24, 1993 |
| Mary Jane Warde, Stillwater, January 2, 1984 | Kenneth Nash, Oklahoma City, March 24, 1993 |
| Marie Wren, Fillmore, CA, March 1, 1984 | Pat Miller, Muskogee, March 31, 1993 |
| University of Virginia, Charlottesville, VA, March 1, 1984 | Stephanie Pounds, Spring, TX, March 10, 1994 |
| Idabel Public Library, Idabel, December 1, 1985 | Betty Dutcher, Edmond, March 21, 1995 |
| Hulda Hamilton, Edmond, March 1, 1986 | Jamie and Markita Broyles, El Reno, March 23, 1995 |
| David and Nancy Smith, Edmond, March 14, 1986 | Delbert and Mary Lou Foltz, Billings, March 28, 1995 |
| Robert and Judy McCormack, Indio, CA, March 25, 1986 | Jack Paschall, Ada, May 2, 1995 |
| Joe and June Stone, Oklahoma City, April 11, 1986 | |
| Mitchell Adwon, Tulsa, December 14, 1987 | |
| Michael Lekson, Arlington, VA, March 7, 1988 | |

Oklahoma Historical Society
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Oklahoma City, OK 73105-7917

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

PERIODICALS

Mistletoe Leaves

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From Barrels and Boxes to Feed Sacks exhibit and lecture at the Sod House Museum

The Sod House Museum presents a new exhibit, *From Barrels and Boxes to Feed Sacks*, for guests to enjoy when visiting the museum. The display features bonnets, aprons, garments, a sugar crystal bag, and various feed sacks, along with a one-hundred-pound bag for Cherokee Chief Egg Mash, manufactured by the Cherokee Grain Company in Cherokee, Oklahoma. Museum Director Renee Trindle will present an overview of the history and use of feed sacks on Saturday, May 21, at 10 a.m. Trindle will present a timeline of feed sacks, starting with the invention of the lockstitch sewing machine and including World War I, the Great Depression, and the patriotism of World War II.



One-hundred-pound bag for Cherokee Chief Egg Mash.

In the early 1800s tins, boxes, and wooden barrels were used to transport goods such as food, grain, seed, and feed. Between 1840 and 1890 cotton sacks gradually replaced barrels as food containers because of the invention of the lockstitch. The lockstitch sewing machine, invented in 1846 by Elias Howe, made it possible to sew double locking seams strong enough to hold the contents of a bag and practical for repeated use. Bags were produced in varying sizes from one pound for household use to those twelve feet long for picking cotton. As late as the 1880s barrels were still the preferred storage unit, but by World War I they had all but disappeared.

The sacks were originally plain, unbleached cotton and the farmer's name often was stamped on his bag so it could be reused. In the late 1800s textile mills were producing strong, inexpensive cotton, which quickly replaced canvas as the preferred material for feed sacks. Feed sacks first were sold in colors, then in colorful prints beginning around 1925. Farmers' wives enjoyed this new source of basically free fabric by turning the cotton sacks into items of use such as clothes, pillowcases, undergarments, curtains, and quilts. Feed companies began

to print their sacks in colored patterns, and since it usually took more than one bag to make a dress, the idea was to give the farmer an incentive to keep buying their products.

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



Embroidered hand towel made from a feed sack.



May events at a glance

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|--------------|---|
| 3–31 | <i>From Barrels and Boxes to Feed Sacks</i> exhibit, Sod House Museum, Aline |
| 4–5 | State Historic Preservation Office workshops, Bureau of Land Management's Oklahoma Field Office, Tulsa |
| 6 | Sixth annual Living History Education Day, George M. Murrell Home, Park Hill |
| 7 | May Day celebration, George M. Murrell Home, Park Hill |
| 7 | Thirty-Eighth Birthday Bash and eleventh annual Archaeology Day, Spiro Mounds Archaeological Center, Spiro |
| 7 | First Saturday Hands-on History program, Oklahoma History Center, Oklahoma City |
| 11 | Brown Bag Lunch and Learn program—"The Cold War," Cherokee Strip Regional Heritage Center, Enid |
| 13–14 | Living History Days, Chisholm Trail Museum, Kingfisher |
| 14 | Tonkawa Prisoner of War Camp lecture, Pioneer Woman Museum, Ponca City |
| 14 | Quilting workshop with Martha Ray, Sod House Museum, Aline |
| 21 | "From Barrels and Boxes to Feed Sacks" presentation, Sod House Museum, Aline |
| 21 | Hat making workshop with Barbara Byrd, Pioneer Woman Museum, Ponca City |
| 25 | AICP Lunch and Learn—Choctaw Indian records, Oklahoma History Center, Oklahoma City |
| 28 | Family Saturday program—World War II living history activities in the <i>Keep 'em Flying</i> exhibit, Cherokee Strip Regional Heritage Center, Enid |
| 28–31 | <i>Keep 'em Flying: 75th Anniversary of Vance Air Force Base</i> exhibit, Cherokee Strip Regional Heritage Center, Enid |

Please visit www.okhistory.org/calendar for a complete list of OHS events, programs, and exhibits.