



Mistletoe Leaves



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November 2009

OHS museums honored by state's museums association

OHS museums, exhibits, and other programming in 2008 have received the highest accolade given by the Oklahoma Museums Association (OMA). The OMA announced the winners of its 2009 Annual Awards Program at a September 25 luncheon during the annual conference in Lawton.

The OMA awards recognize outstanding achievement by museums and individuals throughout the state during the past year. Categories include exhibition, promotional piece, publication, web site, newsletter, conservation project, and education program. The competition is divided into four budget categories so that museums with similar resources will be competing against each other. In addition, certificates of recognition honor the contributions of an individual, group, or business to Oklahoma museums or to a specific museum or a community.

A Certificate of Recognition was awarded to Richard "Dick" Sharp, Oklahoma Museum of History, Oklahoma History Center, for individual contribution.

OHS facilities swept all three of the Interpretive Exhibit categories. The awards went to Spiro Mounds New Gallery, Spiro Mounds Archaeological Center at Spiro; to *A Moment in Time: The Pastime Puzzles of Jane Phillips*, the Frank Phillips Home at Bartlesville; and also to *Unconquered: Allen Houser and the Legacy of One Apache Family*, at the Oklahoma Museum of History, Oklahoma History Center.

The Outreach or Education Program award for the category of \$500,000 and over went to "Taking History on the Road: Proactive Museum Education," Oklahoma Museum of History, Oklahoma History Center.

The award for the year's best new Web Site in the category of institutions with budgets of \$100,000 to \$499,999 was given to *Another Hot Oklahoma Night: A Rock and Roll Exhibit*, Oklahoma Museum of History, Oklahoma History Center.

With more than 460 members, the OMA supports Oklahoma museums in their efforts to educate, inform, and entertain. OMA is headquartered in Oklahoma City.

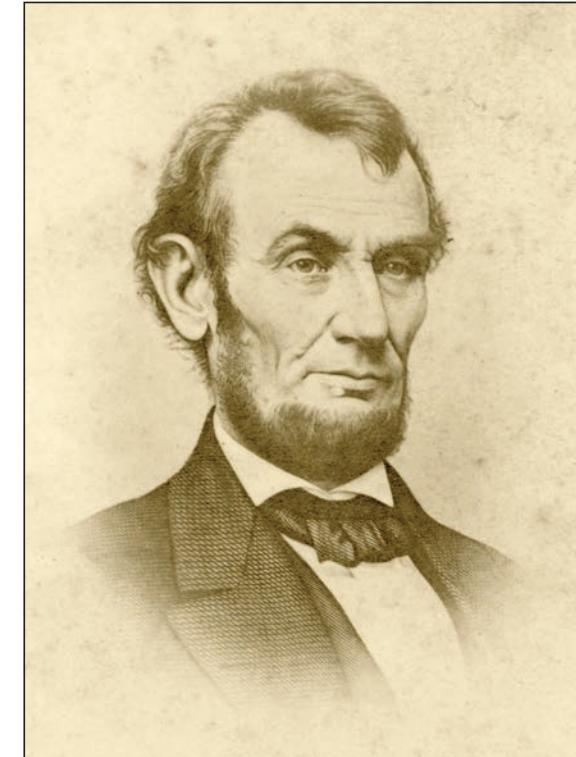
For more information on OMA and its programs, visit <www.okmuseums.org> or call 405/424-7757.

Abraham Lincoln to appear at Oklahoma History Center on November 19

Join the Oklahoma History Center and President Abraham Lincoln on the anniversary of the Gettysburg Address! This fascinating evening will bring the president to life for audience members of all ages. The museum opens at 6 p.m., and until 7 p.m. museum visitors can visit the galleries or enjoy the music of the period. President Lincoln will begin his program at 7 p.m.

Actor Richard "Fritz" Klein of Springfield, Illinois, has been a professional actor and speaker for many years. To prepare for a performance, he needs about an hour for costume and make-up. His natural resemblance to Abraham Lincoln can be quite convincing. He stands six feet, three inches tall and wears a Quaker-like beard. Several years ago when visiting Washington, D.C., he created a stir when he walked into Ford's Theater, the place where Lincoln was shot. Although he was dressed in modern-day street attire, a woman screamed aloud when she looked up to see him casually strolling down the stairs.

Klein researched his presentation carefully and has been able to reproduce the diction and accent typical of Kentucky. He also researched Lincoln's speech patterns. Klein usually peppers his performances with humor, stories, and passion. "The programs are varied," he says. "Adaptation is a specialty. In addition, there is a great variety of flexible and interactive one-man shows on various topics, which have been developed over the years." An exciting part of these shows has been the element of au-



dience participation. It becomes both entertainment and education.

After more than thirty years of research, Klein knows his subject. "It is amazing how well Lincoln's words and ideas bear upon the present," he says. "Leadership training, management, and problem-solving skills take on a new depth of meaning in a historical context, and have a deeper impact when tempered with dramatic narrative, humor, and personal involvement." A member of the National Speakers Association, he has had numerous opportunities to travel the world, portraying Lincoln on stage, in feature films, documentaries, and for many kinds of professional speaking engagements. Call 405/522-0785.

**The Oklahoma Territorial
Museum
Presents**

*The Fashions of Statehood
A 1907 Style Show*

Sunday,
November 22
3 pm
Tickets \$3.00
Wassail will be served

At the
Historic Carnegie Library
402 E. Oklahoma Avenue
Guthrie OK 73044

For more information call (405) 282-1889



Director's Column

By Bob L. Blackburn
Executive Director

When facing a challenge, especially a deep and sustained budget cut, it is often tempting to hunker down, take a defensive position, and resist any change.

Unfortunately, such a reaction can destroy morale and slow momentum that has taken years to generate.

At this time, the Oklahoma Historical Society is facing a 17.4 percent cut in funding. It started with a 7 percent cut during the legislative session, got worse with 3 percent in increased fees and expenses, and shifted to crisis mode with revenue shortfalls that will add another 5 percent to 7.4 percent to the reductions.

Adding to the sense of gloom is the outlook for the next two years, first with continued revenue shortfalls and second with the reality that the State will have to replace federal stimulus money that has kept the cuts from being even worse.

After watching this organization mature over the past thirty years, I know one thing for sure. We have to fight through this short-term setback and keep our dreams alive.

First, we cannot compromise on our new standards. We must keep the History Center the Smithsonian of the Southwest.

We will not abandon our plans for special events to celebrate history, whether it is a family recipe handed down from one genera-

tion to another or a Lincoln reenactor sharing the message of the Gettysburg Address.

We will not pull back on our efforts to reach out to ever more school kids, whether it is Agriculture Day for 1,500 students or our outreach program that takes living history to school districts in the four corners of the state.

And most importantly, we will not give up on our plans to build new exhibits on the Red River steamboat, on the French in Oklahoma, or on the story of oil and gas. Such projects take years to plan and build, so a delay now will have ripple effects for years to come.

Our dreams are not limited to the History Center.

We will release *The Encyclopedia of Oklahoma History and Culture* on schedule. We will continue to digitize the newspaper collection so anyone anywhere with access to the Internet can tap that reservoir of community history. And we will maintain the brisk pace of bringing in new collections, whether it is a complete set of Thunder basketball jerseys or a set of drawings by journalist/illustrator Jim Lange.

It may surprise some people, but I believe it is important to maintain our commitment to building new museums, even as we are closing others. We must be aggressive in serving the people of Tulsa with a new museum on popular culture. We must take advantage of an opportunity to build a living history farm at Perry. And we must finish the reinvention of the museum in Enid where we will establish a new standard for regional facilities.

Yes, it is tempting to hunker down, take a defensive position, and resist any change when faced with a challenge. We cannot and will not let that happen at the Oklahoma Historical Society.

Development News

By Paul F. Lambert

I recently was thinking about the various ways in which members could support the Oklahoma Historical Society. I began making a list and was surprised when I came up with sixteen different means of supporting the OHS—and not all of them involve money! I plan to work with our webmaster to create a page on our web site that deals with the list. Meanwhile, I would be pleased to discuss these possibilities with anyone. My phone number is 405/522-5217. For this column, however, I want to discuss the importance of membership.

We need more members at all levels. Both the number of members and the revenue generated by membership contributions are vitally important to sustaining our programs. In order for our membership to continue to grow, we need our current members to renew their memberships when they come due. Many of you have renewed annually for many years, for which we are grateful. For every member who does not renew we have to recruit a new member just to break even.

In addition, it would be wonderful for members to consider giving Oklahoma for Christmas by providing gift memberships to family members or friends. Information on gift memberships is provided elsewhere in this newsletter. Finally, we would be happy if members would send in the names and addresses of individuals and couples who should be invited to join. Such lists could be mailed to me at the Oklahoma History Center or e-mailed to me at <plambert@okhistory.org>. Thanks, again, to all of our members for their generous support!



New Members, September

*Indicates renewed membership at a higher level

Fellow

Mr. and Mrs. Donald K. Beck Jr., Tulsa
Associate

Frank W. Merrick, Oklahoma City

Friend

Peter Abuisi, Vail, CO
Adolph Brown, Oklahoma City
Mr. and Mrs. Donald Hackler, McAlester
*Patty J. Johnston, Oklahoma City
Mr. and Mrs. Derek Kueter, Oklahoma City
*Martin L. J. Newman, Tulsa
Mr. and Mrs. Carl R. Renfro, Ponca City
Mr. and Mrs. Rick Vermillion, Edmond

Family

*Samuel T. Allen, Sapulpa
Mr. and Mrs. Kirk Boatright, Tahlequah
Mr. and Mrs. Daniel A. Bolding, Edmond
Kayleen Browning, Yukon
*Mr. and Mrs. Walter J. Chapman, Stigler
Jennifer Daftari, Jay
Steve Domjanovich, Norman
Mitchell Gardiner, Mustang
Mr. and Mrs. Bill Grant, Hugo
Brian M. Grimm, Tulsa
Mr. and Mrs. Charles G. Hallbert, McAlester
Mr. and Mrs. William Hammond, Lawton
Mr. and Mrs. Donald Hellwege, Kingfisher
Greg Lang, Tulsa
Dr. and Mrs. Brent W. Laughlin, Tulsa
Dr. and Mrs. David Lollis, Norman
*Mr. and Mrs. Gary McDaniel, Bixby
Dr. Janise McIntyre, Elgin
Mary Pace, Norman
Lt. Col. and Mrs. Allison H. Patrick, Norman
Mr. and Mrs. David B. Ragland, Tulsa
Russell Randolph, Mustang
Mr. and Mrs. Ken Rees, Edmond
Thomas Richardson, Norman
Mr. and Mrs. Warren L. Rieger, Tulsa
Jennifer Robinson, Oklahoma City
Shannon Rundell, Oklahoma City
Lisa Seay, Sand Springs
Rusty D. Sellars, Nowata
Stacy Shepherd, Duran
Mr. and Mrs. Gale Smith, Edmond
*Mr. and Mrs. Vergil D. Smith, Marietta
Kristy VanDorn, Edmond
Leahana West, Ada
Laura Willis, Oklahoma City

Individual

Mr. and Mrs. Lawrence L. Ashbaugh, Tulsa
Martin Baum, Lucerne Valley, CA
Margaret Bladen, Sallisaw
Dena L. Compton, Oklahoma City
Jane Denker, Enid
Robert Lee Henderson, Broken Arrow
Mrs. Ardon Hinton, Blair
Linda Lee Hughes, Tulsa

cont'd. on page 7

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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.

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 Executive Director of the Oklahoma Historical Society, 2401 N. Laird Avenue, Oklahoma City, OK 73105-7914, telephone 405/521-2491, and/or the Director, Office of Equal Opportunity, United States Department of the Interior, Washington, DC 20240.



Meetings

The **Oklahoma Genealogical Society** will hold its regular monthly meeting on Monday, November 2, 2009, at 6 p.m. in the Chesapeake Events Center inside the Oklahoma History Center, 2401 North Laird Ave., in Oklahoma City. Research Library staff members Laura Martin and Debra Spindle will present "Treasures at the Oklahoma History Center Library." The Oklahoma History Center will be staffed and remain open until 7:45 p.m. that evening. Starting at 5 p.m. experienced researchers will be available before the meeting to answer your genealogical questions.

(Special to ML)

Events

The Robertson Activity Center in **Yukon** will be bustling with activity during the Pumpkin Harvest Craft Festival to be held on Saturday, November 7, from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. This one-day event will feature more than forty booths of crafts, wood art, jewelry, baked goods, and holiday decorations. Contact Jan Scott at 405/350-8937 for more. (Special to ML)

The Coleman Theatre, located at 103 North Main, in **Miami**, will be the venue for the "RAVE ON" tribute to Buddy Holly on Saturday, November 14, at 7:30 p.m. Tickets for the show cost \$28 for premium, \$22 for adults, \$18 for seniors, \$14 for students, and \$8 for children. Call 918/540-2425 for tickets.

(The *Encore*, Friends of the Coleman Newsletter, Fall 2009)

You can still get your kicks on Route 66 with the National Park Service's recently launched online *Discover Our Shared Heritage* travel itinerary available online at <www.nps.gov/history/nr/travel/route66>. Route 66, known as the Mother Road, connected Chicago with Los Angeles. The NPS travel itinerary lists unique places to discover in each state as you motor along Route 66. Among those significant sites located in Oklahoma are the Coleman Theatre in **Miami**, Galloway's Totem Pole Park in **Foyil**, Vickery Phillips 66 Station in **Tulsa**, Rock Café in **Stroud**, Seaba Station in **Warwick**, Arcadia Round Barn in **Arcadia**, the Milk Bottle Grocery in **Oklahoma City**, the Provine Service Station in **Hydro**, and the Y Service Station and Café in **Clinton**.

(Special to ML)

If you enjoy dancing and listening to the sounds of the Big Band era, put on your dancing shoes and trek over to the Tulsa Technology Center in **Jenks** on Saturday,

November 7, from 10 a.m. to 10 p.m. Join the "Celebrate Freedom" bash that will include a World War II style big band hangar dance, a 1940s movie theater, and military displays. The Oklahoma P-51 race plane *Miss America* will perform exciting flyovers. The Tulsa Technology Center is located at 801 East Ninety-first St. For more information and admission details go to <www.caftulsa.org>.

(Special to ML)

Waynoka is hosting a Chili Cook-off and Fall Festival on Saturday, November 7, from 10 a.m. to 7 p.m. Enjoy the fall weather at the event with a food fair, entertainment, a chili cook-off, and more along Main Street in Waynoka. Angie Koehn at 580/515-8634 is the contact person.

(Special to ML)

An American Indian Festival is slated in **Newcastle** at 705 Northwest Tenth St. on Saturday, November 14, from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. There will be Native American storytelling by Kricket Connywerdy, Fancy dancing by Kevin Connywerdy, music by local artists, Indian crafts, children's games, and food booths. Call Stacy Hensley at 405/387-5076 for more info.

(Special to ML)

Visit historic downtown **Claremore** on Friday and Saturday, November 20 and 21, for Dickens on the Boulevard. This is a Victorian theme holiday festival featuring stage entertainment, an artisan village, a street dance, a costume contest, and food. The happenings will take place from 6 to 10 p.m. each day, and the admission is free. For more information contact Cindy Bissett at 918/341-5881.

(Special to ML)

The Castle of Muskogee, at 3400 Fern Mountain Rd., in **Muskogee** will be the venue for the Boare's Heade Feaste on November 14, from 7 to 10 p.m. Spend the evening dining with King Henry VIII and Queen Margaret and enjoying an array of entertainers. Send an e-mail to <karen@okcastle.com> or call Karen Cunningham at 918/687-3625 for more details.

(Special to ML)

Schedule some holiday shopping at the numerous arts and crafts shows slated for November. The Southeast Expo Center in **McAlester** will hold a holiday arts and crafts show on November 7, from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Call 918/424-2539 for additional info. The Murray County Expo Center, located between **Davis** and **Sulphur** on State Hwy. 7 will host the Arbuckle Affair featuring crafts, collectibles, antiques, and art. Hours are 9 a.m.

to 6 p.m. on November 7 and 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. on November 8. Audrey Baugh at 580/369-2552 is the contact person. **Stillwater's** Payne County Expo Center will be the venue for the Fall Festival, Arts, Crafts, and Home Show on November 6, from 10 to 6 p.m.; November 7, from 9 to 6 p.m.; and November 8, from 11 to 5 p.m. Call Sue Roberson at 405/747-7206 for additional info.

(Special to ML)

Enjoy reenactments at Dripping Springs State Park in **Okmulgee** on November 12-14, from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. An 1830s rendezvous will include primitive skills demonstrations, blacksmithing, knife throw, black powder shoot, and primitive archery shoot. For more details call Jaime Cheatwood at 918/756-5971.

(Special to ML)

Oklahoma communities are planning their holiday lighting displays. Among them are **Woodward's** Crystal Beach Park. An opening night celebration on November 21 will include fireworks, singing, concessions, and the turning on the lights ceremony. Call toll free at 800/364-5352 for more info. Also, on November 21, **Yukon's** Community Center and City Park will open with activities such as a 5K run and walk and a Kris Kringle Karnival complete with games, crafts, and pictures with Santa. This event will take place from 5 to 9 p.m. The park Christmas lights display will remain open through New Year's Eve. Jan Scott at 405/350-8937 is the contact person. From the evening of November 25 through December 30 visitors to Kingfisher Park in **Kingfisher** will view more than eighty-two animated light displays and pass over a beautifully lighted, 104-year-old swinging bridge. Children age seven and younger can ride a miniature train through the park for free. Buggy and carriage rides are available on Friday and Saturday nights. Call 405/375-4445 for more info.

(Special to ML)

From 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. on November 28, **Braman** will be hosting its annual craft show and Christmas parade. Admission is free to the event to be held at 302 Broadway. Santa Claus will make an appearance, the Braman Voluntary Firemen will serve chili and stew beginning at 11 a.m., and the parade will start at 1 p.m. Contact Betty Evans at 580/385-2169 for additional details.

(Special to ML)

OHS Places . . .

Peter Conser House

47114 Conser Creek Rd.
Heavener, OK 74937-9022
Phone: 918/653-2493
Hours: Wed.-Sat., 10 a.m.-5 p.m.
Sun., 1-5 p.m.
Closed: Mon. and Tues.
Admission: Free; donations accepted.
Directions: 4 miles south of Heavener on
U.S. Hwy. 59, then 3.5 miles west
of Hodgen



Enjoy the beautiful fall foliage as you make your way to southeastern Oklahoma to visit the Peter Conser House, located south of Heavener in Le Flore County. Peter Conser (ca. 1852–1934), of French and Choctaw descent, served as an official in the Choctaw Lighthorsemen for the Moshulatubbe District, Choctaw Nation, Indian Territory, and as a legislator in the Choctaw Council. He and his first wife, Amy (Bacon) Conser, had a daughter named Susan. Amy Conser soon died, leaving Conser to rear his child. He later married Martha Jane Smith, with whom he had eight children. After his second wife's death he wed Mary Ann Holson.

With nine children in the household, Peter Conser had a two-story, white-frame house built, which was completed in 1894. Although representative of a modest 1890s farmhouse, it reflected Conser's measure of success at that time. The home is furnished with pieces typical of the turn of the twentieth century. A bed frame, leather sofa, and icebox belonged to the family. The double porches, situated between the tall, cut-stone chimneys on the east and north sides of the house, provided the family with a view of their six hundred acres of bottomland to the north. A porch located off the kitchen looked out to a log smokehouse and a barn. Livestock included milking cows, mules, and horses. In addition to the farm, he owned a blacksmith shop, a gristmill, a sawmill, and a general store with a post office. The home remained in the Conser family until it was donated to the Oklahoma Historical Society in 1967. The home was added to the National Register of Historic Places in 1971 (NR 71000665).

Hidden Collections . . .

The Pink Williams Collection

By Larry O'Dell

Born James Pinckney Williams in 1892 at Newberry, South Carolina, "Cowboy Pink" Williams came with his family to Oklahoma in 1900 after a time in Texas. They settled in Caddo, Choctaw Nation, Indian Territory. Williams became a businessman and rancher, building and operating Ardmore's first tourist court. In 1949 he unsuccessfully ran for state representative. In 1953, feuding with the U.S. Postal Service, he legally changed his name to Cowboy Pink Williams. In 1954 he soundly won his bid for lieutenant governor, serving one term before George Nigh defeated him in his incumbent campaign. In 1963 Oklahomans elected Williams to the office of state treasurer. Cowboy Pink Williams died in April of 1976 after a massive heart attack.

The collection (2008.136) contains genealogical records of Cowboy Pink and his wife Daisy Lane, personal correspondence, business papers, as well as papers related to his ranch. Several folders deal with the feud with the Post Office, concerning political postcards with his name that the postal service considered "obscene." Also covered are his political campaigns, correspondence, and records kept while in office. As with many political figures, Williams kept numerous newspaper articles about him-



self. Within the collection are four scrapbooks that his family assembled during his life. Interspersed are his writings for publications and some of his diaries.

As with all OHS archival collections, the finding aid to the Williams Collection can be viewed on the Research Division's online catalog at the Oklahoma Historical Society's web site at <www.okhistory.org>. The originals may be accessed at the Oklahoma History Center in the John and Eleanor Kirkpatrick Research Center. Related material exists in the John Dunning Political Collection (2006.16).



Fort Gibson Fall Bake Day is November 14

Fort Gibson Historic Site will heat up its big stone oven for Fall Bake Day on Saturday, November 14. From 10 a.m. to 5 p.m., visitors will have a chance to see how the army baked bread at the fort in the late 1800s. For a suggested donation of \$3 to the Friends of Fort Gibson, visitors may take home a fresh-baked loaf of bread from the fort's oven. Donations will support activities of the Friends group, which benefits the operation of Fort Gibson Historic Site.

Visitors are also welcome to bring their favorite bread recipes to bake. Be sure to bring your oldest pans, as they'll be placed directly on the floor of the oven. The oven is in the post bake house near the Visitors Center at Fort Gibson Historic Site.

Located on State Highway 80 in Fort Gibson, Oklahoma, the site is operated by the Oklahoma Historical Society. For more information call 918/478-4088 or e-mail <fortgibson@okhistory.org>.

Pioneer Woman Museum hosts holiday cooking class

The holidays are looming, and turkey day requires cranberry sauce and other delicious treats. On Saturday, November 14, the Pioneer Woman Museum will hold a holiday cooking class from 10 a.m. until 12 noon. Learn the culinary arts of making holiday relishes and also create a garland for a festive holiday table. The cost is \$30, all supplies included. Preregistration is required.

On the same day, from 2 to 4 p.m., classes continue with lessons in creating a beautiful holiday centerpiece. The cost is \$30, supplies included, and preregistration is required.

Sign up for both classes, pay \$50, and save \$10. Call early, as classes will fill quickly. Phone 580/765-6108 to get your spot!

Make your own light!

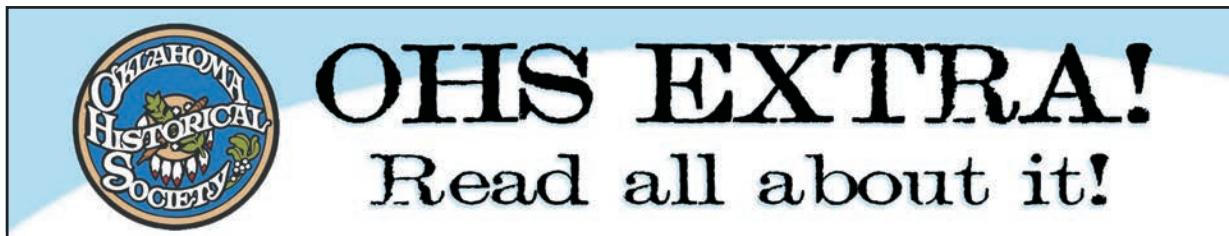
On Saturday, November 7, from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m., a paid admission to the Oklahoma History Center (free to OHS members) entitles you to make your own beeswax candle. Educators will be located in the picnic area outside. You'll use historic materials and methods and may choose one of three ways to make a candle—pour, roll, or dip. When you're done, take it home!

OHS EXTRA! now available by e-mail

The Membership and Development Office has begun publishing and distributing a weekly e-newsletter to members who have submitted their e-mail addresses to receive the publication. Its purpose is to supplement *Mistletoe Leaves* by providing information on the activities of the OHS, stories about collections or artifacts from collections, reminders of special events, links to various sources of information, and short articles on interesting Oklahoma history subjects.

Members may submit their e-mail addresses by accessing the Oklahoma Historical Society web site at <www.okhistory.org> or by sending their e-mail addresses to *OHS EXTRA!* editor Shelly Crynes at <scrynes@okhistory.org>, or Membership and Development Director Paul Lambert at <plambert@okhistory.org>. The Membership and Development Office has received a number of favorable remarks regarding the e-newsletter, according to Dr. Lambert.

The OHS will not distribute e-mail addresses to any other organization or business. Members may opt out of the e-mail list by clicking an "unsubscribe" link in *OHS EXTRA!* or by notifying Lambert or Crynes that they wish to be removed.



New Oklahoma National Register listings

The Oklahoma State Historic Preservation Office is pleased to announce three new listings from the State of Oklahoma to the National Register of Historic Places. The National Register is our nation's official list of properties significant in our past.

The Jewel Theater, located at 904 Northeast Fourth St. in Oklahoma City, is the last remaining historically African American theater in Oklahoma City. What was once a thriving commercial area for the historically African American neighborhood now has an open lot pattern. The area once included beauty shops, restaurants, a grocery store, and blues and jazz clubs. With the passage of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, African Americans and other minority groups were provided judicial relief from discrimination in places of public accommodations, including theaters. The change in population base and the competition from newer multiplex theaters undermined the historically segregated theaters; by the late 1970s the Jewel Theater had closed. With the demolition of the surrounding buildings on Fourth Street, the Jewel Theater (right, bottom) is the remaining facility that serves as a historic link to the development of early African American social progress in Oklahoma City. Sherri Williams of Oklahoma City prepared the nomination for the property.

Located in Downtown Tulsa, the Sixth Street Commercial/Residential Historic District is locally significant. It emerged in the late 1910s as Tulsa grew outside the original town core, and it conveys a period in Tulsa's community development when manufacturing and heavy industries located near the railroads on the east side of town. These enterprises were followed by working-class residences and commercial space. This small commercial area is dis-

tinguished by the residential units, which were an important attribute of the district until 1960 when parking for automobiles became more important than housing. Until then, the Sixth Street Commercial/Residential Historic District buildings provided a large number of apartments for individuals and families in transition during one of the city's most explosive periods of growth, through the years just after the World War II housing shortage. The area gave neighborhood residents an important shopping locale for everyday needs. Dr. Cathy Ambler prepared the nomination for the City of Tulsa.

The Atlas Life Building (right, top), constructed in 1922, is one of Tulsa's most outstanding Boston Avenue buildings. Its architecture represents the significance of the primary business that occupied it, Atlas Life Insurance Company. Constructed when the Classical Revival style was popular between ca. 1885 and 1940, the Atlas Life Building is among Tulsa's finest remaining examples of this architecture, with nearly intact original features on the exterior and the primary public space on the first floor. The four-story neon sign, which is now a visual Tulsa landmark, and the roof line's Atlas sculpture, with the world on his shoulders, overlooking the street below, have become icons that merged building architecture with building purpose. Dr. Cathy Ambler and Dr. Michael Cassity prepared the nomination for the property owners.

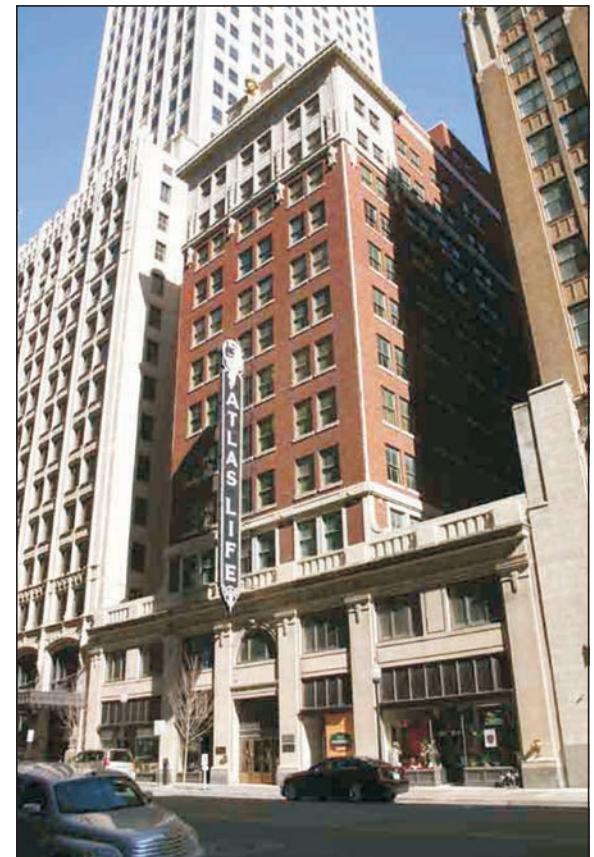
The State Historic Preservation Office continues to strive to gain recognition for those places significant in Oklahoma's history. For more information on these or other National Register properties, contact Lynda Schwan at 405/522-4478 (e-mail <lschwan@okhistory.org>).

Pawnee Bill Ranch offers buckskin-making workshop

On Sunday, November 8, from 1 p.m. to 3 p.m., Randy Ledford of the Pawnee Bill Ranch staff will reintroduce a long-standing popular class that has not been offered in several years. He will teach students the brain-tanning dry-scrape method. Ledford states that "with a minimum of low-cost tools and materials and a little labor, buckskin can be made from a deerskin that would otherwise be thrown away."

During the two-hour session Brown will demonstrate the simple, step-by-step process of how to brain-tan a buckskin. A twenty-year veteran of this craft, he began teaching these classes at Eufaula State Park in the 1980s.

Advance registration is required, as is payment of the \$10 fee. To preregister call 918/762-2513. You may also send an e-mail to <ebrown@okhistory.org>. (Yes. They use real brains.)



It Takes More than Money . . .

. . . to create collections and exhibits to fulfill the Oklahoma Historical Society's goals of educating the public and providing research opportunities. It takes the donation of an artifact, an art work, a book, a document, or a whole collection of things that help us tell Oklahoma's story. It also takes loyal members.

An OHS membership, explained at right, brings a family hours of educational entertainment. Give a Gift Subscription for Christmas! See page 8.

Research Division Donors

July, August, September 2009

Alfalfa County Historical Society, Cherokee
Allen, Mark, Oklahoma City
Allen, Pam, Corona Del Mar, CA
American Red Cross of Central Oklahoma, Oklahoma City
Argo, Jim, Edmond
Balenseifen, Winnie, Oklahoma City
BancFirst (formerly Lincoln National Bank), Oklahoma City
Blackburn, Bob, Oklahoma City
Blochowiak, Mary Ann, Edmond
Boatman, Bill, Stillwater
Bowlby, Robert A., Denver, CO
Bryant, Anita, Oklahoma City
Buffalo Creek Press, Cleburne, TX
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Cariker, Mark, Bethany
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Clark, Vivian N., Tulsa
Cole, Jodie, Oklahoma City
Crow, James, Shawnee
Crum, Betty Fleck, Sinking Spring, OH
Danker, Jeanette, Wellston
Denman, Mary and Rowland, Edmond
Dolan, Thomas Bryan, Cincinnati, OH
Driscoll, John Charles, Ithaca, NY
Edgin, John, Oklahoma City
Elliott, Jerry, Oklahoma City
Erickson, Mahlon, Oklahoma City
Ferrell, Sally, Chandler
Finley, Gravelly, Jr., Miami, FL
Fogarty, Billie, Oklahoma City
Foley, Lois Pennington, Mary Alice, KY
Frech, Cheryl B., Norman
Friends of the Grand Prairie Library, Inc., Grand Prairie, TX
Gilbert, Lois, Oklahoma City
Glispey, Terri, Visalia, CA
Goranson, Rita, Mason City, IA
Hickman, Gerald W., Warr Acres
Higdon, Levonne, Jones
Howe, Rosie, Denham Springs, LA
Jones, Eugene DePriest, Jr., Oklahoma City
Jungroth, John W. "Jack," Oklahoma City
Kinzer, Cal, Beggs
Kiser, Christina, Arcadia
Krumanocker, Carolyn, Midwest City
Lail, Michael, Tulsa
Layman, Earl R., Knoxville, TN
Lightfield, Joe C., Chickasha
Lofgren, V.G., Edmond
Mauk, Kent, Oklahoma City
Mayflower Congregational Church, Oklahoma City
Mayse, Robert H., Fredericksburg, TX
McCormick, Peggy Ramsey, Stillwater
McCowan, Gary Paul, Oklahoma City
McMillan, Sue, Oklahoma City
Miami Tribe of Oklahoma, Miami
Muller, Carole S. Carlin, Oklahoma City
Noble County Court Clerk Office, Perry
Occhi, A.J., Port Washington, NY
Oklahoma Genealogical Society, Oklahoma City
Oklahoma Prairies Chapter, NSDAR, Bethany
Peace House and Peace Education Institute, Oklahoma City
Pettit, A. Susan Carpenter, Edmond
Pitts, Bill, Lawton
Pitts, Bob, Spartanburg, SC
Pratt Museum, Homer, AK
Prentice, John Wayne, Albuquerque, NM
Riverton Branch Library, Riverton, WY
Robinson, Clark Henry, Oklahoma City
Rogers, Lucile Davison, Odessa, TX
Rogers, Lynn C., Norman
Sapulpa Historical Museum, Sapulpa
Schwartz, Rosie, Oklahoma City
Stephens County Genealogical Society, Duncan
Tulsa City-County Library, Tulsa
United Daughters of the Confederacy, General Robert E. Lee
Chapter, Oklahoma City
Watkins, Terri, Oklahoma City
Whitesell, Lois, Edmond
Wooten, Catherine, Chickasha
Zoeller, Ben, Oklahoma City

OHS Membership Benefits Structure

Basic Benefits for All Annual Membership Categories:

One-year subscription to *The Chronicles of Oklahoma*, the quarterly historical journal

One-year subscription to *Mistletoe Leaves*, the Society's monthly newsletter

Right to vote for members on the Society's Board of Directors

Advance notice of Society activities and statewide historical events

Invitations to private previews of events and exhibits and the Annual Meeting and

Awards Banquet

Free admission to OHS sites and museums (number varies with level)

Membership in the Time Travelers Network

Smithsonian Affiliate Membership Benefits (\$20 additional for

OHS Memberships under \$100)

\$35 Individual

Basic Benefits PLUS free admission for member (unlimited times, all sites & museums)

10% discount at OHC Gift Shop and Research Center

\$50 Family

Basic Benefits PLUS free admission for member & family

(unlimited times, all sites & museums, maximum 12 individuals per visit)

10% discount at OHC Gift Shop and Research Center

\$50 Institutional (Subscription Membership)

(Defined as educational institution such as library,
historical society, school, etc.)

Basic Benefits PLUS 10% discount at OHC Gift Shop and Research Center

\$100 Friend

Basic Benefits PLUS free admission for member, family, and 5 guests

(unlimited times, all sites & museums)

15% discount at OHC Gift Shop and Research Center

10% discount at *Winnie Mae Café*

2 one-time-admission "gift" passes (one person each)

Smithsonian Affiliate benefits included

\$250 Associate

Basic Benefits PLUS free admission for member, family, and 7 guests

(unlimited times, all sites & museums)

15% discount at OHC Gift Shop and Research Center

10% discount at *Winnie Mae Café*

4 one-time-admission "gift" passes (one person each)

Recognition in selected OHS publications

\$500 Fellow

Basic Benefits PLUS free admission for member, family, and 9 guests

(unlimited times, all sites & museums)

6 one-time-admission "gift" passes (one person each)

Annual lunch for 2 with the Executive Director and private tour of OHC

15% discount at OHC Gift Shop and Research Center

10% discount at *Winnie Mae Café*

Recognition in selected OHS publications

\$1000 Director's Circle

Basic Benefits PLUS free admission for member, family, and 9 guests

(unlimited times, all sites & museums)

4 Reusable "VIP" passes (unlimited times, all sites & museums)

Recognition in selected publications, exhibits, and events at OHS museums and sites

Recognition on OHC Donor Board

Annual lunch for 4 with the Executive Director and private tour of OHC

Special Collector Set of 3 Centennial Commemorative Coins (One-time enrollment gift)

20% discount at OHC Gift Shop and Research Center

10% discount at *Winnie Mae Café*

\$5000 Benefactor

Basic Benefits PLUS free admission for member, family, and 9 guests

(unlimited times, all sites & museums)

8 Reusable "VIP" passes (unlimited times, all sites & museums)

Recognition in selected publications, exhibits, and events at OHS museums and sites

Annual lunch for 10 with the Executive Director and private tour of OHC

Special Collector Set of 3 Centennial Commemorative Coins (One-time enrollment gift)

Bronze maquette (6") of H. Holden's "Monarch at Rest" (One-time enrollment gift)

25% discount on fee for use of a room at Oklahoma History Center (One time per year)

25% discount at OHC Gift Shop and Research Center

10% discount at *Winnie Mae Café*

Mystery quilt workshop at Sod House

The mystery quilt was selected as the beginning quilt of the monthly workshop at the Sod House Museum in Aline. On November 14 Martha Ray will bring the basic supplies, and for \$5 you may continue (or begin) your quilt.

For more info call 580/463-2441 or e-mail <sodhouse@okhistory.org>.

Twenty-year members renew in August and September

Listed below, with the date they joined the OHS, are people and organizations that had been members for twenty or more years when they renewed their memberships in August and September. We sincerely appreciate their long-term loyalty!

August

Harrison L. Townes, Tulsa, July 1, 1962
Jane McConnell, Norman, August 1, 1976
MA + Architecture, LLC, Oklahoma City, August 1, 1983
Northern Oklahoma College, Tonkawa, December 1, 1984
Clyde L. Williams, Indiana, May 1, 1985
Sandra Olson, Waynoka, June 1, 1985
Donnie Ward, Denison TX, October 1, 1985
Anadarko Community Library, Anadarko, December 16, 1986
Leah L. Nellis, Norman, February 18, 1987
Sue K. Parham, Las Vegas NM, August 17, 1987
Murray B. Stewart, Broken Arrow, August 17, 1987
Wanda Norton, Vinita, May 2, 1988
Wanda P. Haggard, Shawnee, August 4, 1988
Lonnie Fink, Oklahoma City, June 20, 1989

September

Samuel T. Allen, Sapulpa, September 21, 1955
Page Belcher, Enid, October 18, 1956
Stan and Patricia Hoig, Edmond, August 1, 1974
Glenn and Judy Hudgens, Tulsa, September 3, 1980
J. Carl Richeson, Eldorado, September 1, 1981
Bruce and Betty Gallie, Ranch Cucamonga, CA, August 1, 1984
Robert and Sarah Dorman, Edmond, August 14, 1985
Ardron Hinton, Blair, October 31, 1986
Marjorie B. Scott, Hennessey, December 17, 1987
Walter and Nancy Chapman, Stigler, September 21, 1988

New Members in September, cont'd.

Garrett King, Norman
Sharon Kirk, Sacramento, CA
Pam Koenig, Oklahoma City
Dr. Charlene Lingo, Miami
Angela G. Mainwaring, Durango, CO
Linda McAbee, Rocky
Betty Miller, Portland, OR
Velma Mims, Panama City, FL
Lois Olzawski, Tulsa
Miles Philpott, Pauls Valley
Roger Rinehart, El Reno
Karen L. Rodriguez, San Antonio, TX
Richard Ryan, Tulsa
Albert J. Smith, Oklahoma City
Sylvia D. Stockton, Waco, TX
Marjorie Thomas, Norman
Carol Whitaker, Tulsa
Gracie Winters, Newkirk
Charles E. Yantis, Oklahoma City
Mary Alice Young, Oklahoma City

Institutional

*State Historic Preservation Officer, Little Rock, AR
Haskell Indian Nation University Library, Lawrence, KS

Dates set for SHPO December workshops

The Oklahoma State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO) will hold its annual fall workshop series on December 9–11, 2009, in the classrooms at the Oklahoma History Center. Each workshop is devoted to one of the SHPO's federal preservation programs and is designed for preservation professionals, government agency representatives, and concerned citizens. The workshops are free and open to the public, but you should register by 5 p.m., Wednesday, December 2. Space is limited for all sessions.

December 9 (10:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.) - Federal and State Tax Incentives for Rehabilitating Historic Buildings

December 9 (1:30 p.m. - 4:30 p.m.) - The Secretary's Standards and Guidelines for Rehabilitating Historic Buildings

December 10 (10:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.) - The Section 106 Review Process: A Workshop for Agency Officials and Cultural Resource Management Consultants

December 11 (10:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.) - Working with the National Register of Historic Places

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

To register for any or all of the workshops contact Betty Harris at 405/521-6249 or <bharris@okhistory.org> by 5 p.m., Wednesday, December 2. You may also register online at <www.okhistory.org/shpo/workshops.php>.

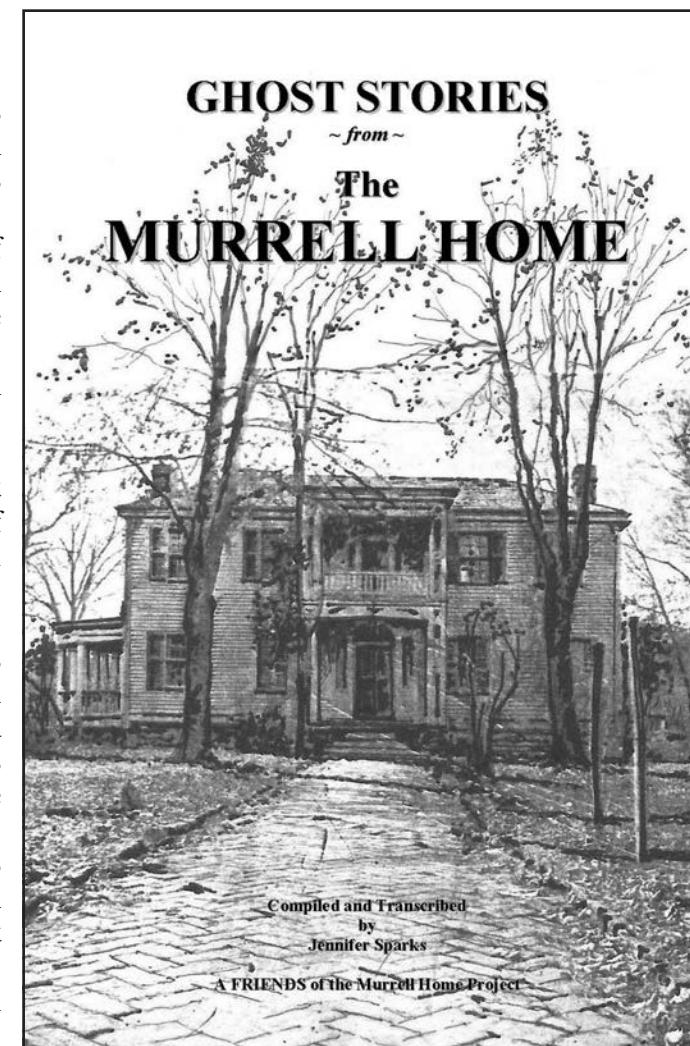
New ghost stories book released by Murrell Home

The Friends of the Murrell Home announce the release of their new book, *Ghost Stories from the Murrell Home*. The book is a collection of ghost stories about the George M. Murrell mansion and the surrounding area of the Illinois River watershed.

Located at Park Hill, in the foothills of the Ozark Mountains of northeastern Oklahoma, the Murrell Home is the state's only surviving antebellum house. A social center of the Cherokee Nation before, during, and after the Civil War, the house has been witness to generations of historical and human-interest events. Collected over a number of years, the stories have been contributed by Murrell Home staff, volunteers, visitors, and local residents.

More than sixty stories and pictures from the past and present are featured in this collection. This book provides a glimpse into the supernatural events that are said to have occurred at the site and in the surrounding area.

The cost of the book is \$10 plus \$3 shipping and handling. For information contact the Murrell Home, 19479 East Murrell Home Road, Park Hill, OK 74451. Phone 918/456-2751 or e-mail <murrellhome@okhistory.org>.



Honey Springs encampment set for November

Members of the Second Colorado Infantry will set up camp at Honey Springs Battlefield and will present a public program on Saturday, November 21, from 12 noon to 4 p.m. Their Civil War Life program depicts camp life in a noncombat setting. The thirty men will be encamped across from the temporary visitors center and will demonstrate cooking and drilling according to the Civil War "Manual of Arms."

The reenactors will be available to answer questions from the public. For information, contact battlefield superintendent Ralph Jones at 918/473-5572. Honey Springs Battlefield, seven miles northeast of Checotah, is open every day Tuesday through Saturday from 8 a.m. until 5 p.m. and on Sundays from 1 p.m. until 5 p.m. The site is closed on Mondays and on holidays.

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

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

PERIODICALS

Mistletoe Leaves

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November 2009

Ready for a guided tour of the Moon?

November 12 at the History Center

What formed the craters of the Moon? Why does the Moon always keep one face pointed toward the Earth, and why does the side we see look so different from the far side? Where did the Apollo astronauts visit, and what did they find?

Learn the answers to these and other fascinating Moon mysteries when science journalist and space historian Andrew Chaikin gives a guided tour of the earth's satellite.

The Oklahoma History Center presents "Back to the Moon with Andy Chaikin," an award-winning science journalist, on November 12, 2009, for students, teachers, and the public. The bonus school program and teacher workshop are offered free to Oklahoma students and teachers. Registration is required. The museum will open at 6 p.m. for an evening of space exploration, and Chaikin's program is scheduled to begin at 7 p.m. Call 405/522-0785.



Forty years after the historic Apollo 11 moon landing, Chaikin looks back at the incredible lunar adventures of Neil Armstrong, Buzz Aldrin, and the other Apollo astronauts who made humanity's first journeys to another world. Chaikin will share anecdotes from his extensive conversations with the moon voyagers during his research.

Chaikin, author of *A Man on the Moon: The Voyages of the Apollo Astronauts*, will also present the findings of the LCROSS lunar-impact mission, which struck the Moon's south pole on October 9, 2009, to tell scientists whether deposits of ancient ice lie waiting at the lunar poles.

For more than twenty-five years Andrew Chaikin has researched and written several books and articles about space exploration and astronomy. He is best known as the author of *A Man on the Moon: The Voyages of the Apollo Astronauts*, widely regarded as the definitive account of the Moon missions.

Cherokee Strip Regional Heritage Center lecture will feature POW history

Dr. Tim Zwink, OHS Deputy Director, will present an informative program on Prisoner of War Camps of World War II at the Heritage Center in Enid on November 12 as part of the Center's monthly brown-bag lecture series. Zwink served as professor of History and vice president for academic affairs at Northwestern Oklahoma State University in Alva prior to joining the OHS staff. His Enid presentation will focus on the German prisoner of war camps in Oklahoma, particularly the ways in which they impacted the United States during the war.

Zwink's presentation will take place at noon on Thursday, November 12, in the church in the Humphrey Heritage Village, adjacent to the Cherokee Strip Regional Heritage Center at 507 South Fourth. The lecture is free and open to the public. For additional information call the Heritage Center at 580/234-8999.



Smithsonian Affiliations
Membership Program

OHS Holiday Gift Time!

Give the gift of Oklahoma history this Holiday Season! Consider giving your friends, relatives, colleagues, teachers, and students a gift membership in the Oklahoma Historical Society. Share your enjoyment of OHS's publications, free admission to all OHS sites and museums, and the

many other benefits of membership. Just fill out the form below and return it with your payment. In mid-December we will send personalized gift membership announcements.

Please attach a separate list for additional orders.

Name _____

Address _____

City/St/Zip _____

Type of membership _____

Amount _____

Sign Gift Card _____

Name _____

Address _____

City/St/Zip _____

Type of membership _____

Amount _____

Sign Gift Card _____