



Archaeology dig at Rose Hill Plantation



Archaeologists and volunteers recently worked diligently to excavate Rose Hill, an antebellum plantation near Hugo. The purpose of this archaeological dig was to investigate the plantation mansion's footprint. The Oklahoma Anthropological Society, the Oklahoma Historical Society, and the Oklahoma Archeological Survey in Norman collaborated on the dig, which took place October 7-10.

Robert M. Jones, considered the wealthiest Choctaw plantation owner of his time, built the two-story home. Rose Hill represents Oklahoma's largest and most successful plantation. The mansion grounds have been surveyed, but this dig was the first to be authorized.

Jones started construction of the Rose Hill mansion in 1840, eventually adding fifteen rooms to the impressive structure. Interior design elements included European furnishings, marble walkways, a library, and a portrait gallery.

Jones reportedly amassed several plantations comprised of several thousand acres. He owned between two hundred and five hundred slaves, two steamboats that traveled the Red River, and a number of trading posts and stores.

After siding with the Confederacy during the Civil War, Jones saw his economic fortunes decline after the conflict. He died of malaria in 1873.

Although the Rose Hill plantation house burned in 1911, the plantation site was placed on the National Register of Historic Places in 2010.

John Davis, OHS site administrator at Fort Towson, said a goal of the historical society is to develop the Rose Hill Plantation grounds with trails and signage. Then the site will be opened to the public. Davis and Bob Rea, OHS historic sites director from Fort Supply, were co-directors of the dig.



Staff and volunteers digging at Rose Hill (photos by Preston Ware).



Director's Column

By **Bob L. Blackburn**
Executive Director

As a historian, I look for the backstory whether it is a book, a museum exhibit, or a decision affecting the Oklahoma Historical Society.

For example, to tell the story of Ben Johnson as a giant of the movie industry, we have to explore his father's story as a rodeo champion and foreman of the Chapman-Barnard Ranch in Osage County. The backstory sets the stage for a better and richer understanding of the younger cowboy's remarkable career.

The search for backstory also can help the OHS deal with challenges and take advantage of opportunities, including an understanding of the core constituencies we can count on for support. In fact, the history of the OHS is largely a reflection of finding and sustaining constituencies to collect, preserve, and share our history.

In 1893 the first constituency of the OHS was the newspaper community of Oklahoma Territory that recognized a need to collect every edition of every paper as it came off the press. Largely as a result of that support, the OHS became a territorial agency in 1895, a state agency

in 1907, and the ultimate repository of more than thirty-three million pages of newspapers dating to 1844.

In the 1920s the OHS gained two more core constituencies. One was the "patriotic" community that was willing to commemorate the valor of Union and Confederate veterans, the Rough Riders of the Spanish-American War, and the soldiers who fought in the trenches of World War I. The other was the academic and artistic community that celebrated regionalism, from cowboys and Indians to land runs and pioneers. The result was the Indian Archives and the old Wiley Post Historical Building occupied in 1930.

Two more core constituencies were added from the 1930s to the 1960s. One was the Oklahoma Hall of Fame, which operated as a committee of the OHS from 1928 to 1971. The other was the genealogical and ancestral community, which added laser-like passion to building research collections.

An important core constituency added from the 1960s to the 1980s was the rural faction of the Oklahoma Legislature, which worked with OHS leadership to build a statewide network of more than thirty sites and museums. Although that partnership generated increased funding, the culture shock created a dual personality that led to five OHS executive directors in one ten-year time span.

Today, the story of constituent support for the OHS is a story of evolution and outreach.

We still collect newspapers but with the added value of digital conversion and searchability on the internet. We still nurture genealogists, our most motivated allies, at the most fundamental level of family history. We still honor military service to our state and nation. We still celebrate the "crossroads of creativity."

And we still work with rural communities not just to maintain museums and sites but also to raise standards and generate economic development through tourism.

At the same time, we need to build new bridges to additional core constituencies. We want to support teachers who can share the world of history with their students. We need to reach out to the African American community, which was largely excluded from programs for the first seventy-five years of statehood. And we need the support of the business community if we are to grow collections and raise funds for exhibits needed in an era of shrinking governmental support.

We have to work with developers, architects, and preservationists to encourage the rehabilitation of historic structures not just in Oklahoma City and Tulsa but in every community of the state. We need to reach out to local historical societies and museums working at ground zero. And we need a new institutional home in Tulsa where a third of the state's people are now underserved.

Yes, as a historian I look for the backstory in every situation. The result is a better understanding of who we are and where we are going.

Dr. Bob

New Members, September 2011

*Indicates renewed membership at a higher level

Associate

*Patrick Tinker, Bartlesville

Friend

Melinda Bohnett, Verden

*Dr. and Mrs. Norman Imes, Oklahoma City

Mr. and Mrs. Carlos Johnson, Oklahoma City

Douglas Miller, Tulsa

Nancy Pennington, Oklahoma City

*Kristin Shelby, Hollis

*Mr. and Mrs. Tom Williamson, Edmond

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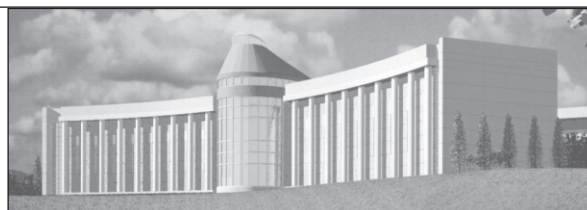
Development News

By Paul F. Lambert

Fall is going to be an exciting time at the Oklahoma Historical Society as we will be conducting our Annual Giving Campaign and our Annual Membership Campaign. Both of these efforts are vitally important to the OHS, and we are grateful to those who have helped us in one or both of these projects.

Letters have been sent to members asking them to consider making a tax-deductible Annual Giving Campaign donation to the OHS. This is a contribution that is made in addition to annual membership donations. These funds are used exclusively to support the preparation of new exhibits and to support education programs, and this helps us serve the people of Oklahoma more effectively. Without private donations it would not be possible for us to maintain our Smithsonian and National Archives affiliations.

In addition, we will be undertaking a major effort to recruit new members to the OHS. While we are compiling large lists of people to invite to join, the best membership prospects are those recommended by existing members. Please let us have the names and addresses of people who should be invited to join. We will check to see if they already are members, of course. Memberships boost both our morale and our bottom line, enabling us to elevate the quality of programs, activities, and exhibits that we produce. Membership recommendations may be sent to me at 800 Nazih Zuhdi Drive, Oklahoma City, Oklahoma 73105 or at plambert@okhistory.org. Thanks, again, for your membership and support!



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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

Meetings

The Oklahoma Genealogical Society will meet on Monday, November 7 at 6 p.m. at the Oklahoma History Center in **Oklahoma City**. Scherrey Cardwell will present a workshop entitled "Germany's Changing Borders and Family History Research" to the membership. Germany's changing borders pose unique problems in locating ancestors. Through lecture, handouts, and audience participation, Cardwell will help those present in their searches for the places of origin of their German ancestors. Cardwell served as chairman of the English department at Cameron University in Lawton from 1983 to 1999 and now offers his services as a professional genealogist.

Events

To commemorate the sesquicentennial of the Civil War, the **Stillwater** Public Library will host "Fighting Beside My Brother," a living history performance by Dr. Joyce Thierer, on November 19 at 7 p.m. in room 119. Thierer will portray Jo, a female character posing as a man to fight in the war. Jo is a composite of the nearly six hundred women who fought alongside men in the Civil War. As a member of the Ride into History historical performance troupe since 1990, Thierer has performed across the country, including at the Smithsonian Institute in Washington, D.C. Thierer teaches history and is a faculty member at Emporia State University in Kansas. The program on November 16 is free and open to the public and is sponsored by the Friends of the Library and KOSU. Refreshments will be provided by the Sheerar Museum. The Stillwater Public Library is located at 1107 S. Duck Street. For more information, please contact the library's Help Desk at 405/372-3633 or email askalibrarian@stillwater.org.

Join the Oklahoma Council for History Education and the Ronald J. Norick Downtown Library in **Oklahoma City** for the "Let's Talk About It, Oklahoma: Get Your Reading Kicks on Route 66" book discussion series. Three upcoming history book discussion sessions with academics from across the state are scheduled at the downtown Oklahoma City library on November 3, 2011, December 6, 2011, and January 17, 2012, from 6 to 8 p.m.

Books, services, and other materials for this series of programs are provided by "Let's Talk About It, Oklahoma," a project of the Oklahoma Humanities Council with funding from the National Endowment for the Humanities. Funding for this series was provided by a grant from the Inasmuch Foundation. For more information or to borrow one of the books, please visit www.okche.org or contact Greg Oppel at goppel.okche@gmail.com.

The Marshall County of Oklahoma Genealogical and Historical Society in **Madill** will honor local military veterans with a Veteran's Day parade on November 11 at 11 a.m. The parade will be followed by speakers on the town square. The Museum of Southern Oklahoma, affiliated with the society, features military history as a part of its exhibits. For more information on the Veteran's Day activities or to book museum tours, please call 580/795-5060 or visit www.themoso.com.

Step back in time and witness history as it happens at the Dripping Springs Rendezvous November 10 to 12, 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. each day. Blacksmiths, archers, fur trappers, traders, and American Indians will all demonstrate life in the 1830s. The event will feature food, music, souvenirs, and fun for the whole family. Dripping Springs State Park is located five miles west of **Okmulgee** on State Highway 56. For more information, call 918/756-5971. (travelok.com)

Visit **Frederick** to celebrate the Cotton Festival on November 5 from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. This annual agricultural event showcases cotton farming techniques from the 1920s to the present day. Cotton crafts, cotton spinning, weaving, and antique farm equipment will be on display. The festival also features the annual Cotton Pick'n Chili Cook-Off. Visitors can sample the entries and vote for their favorite team's chili. Free tours of the Red River Cotton Gin and the Oklahoma Cotton Cooperative Association Cotton Texoma Warehouse will also be available. For information, call 580/335-2126. (travelok.com)

Claremore will observe Will Rogers Days November 3, 4, and 5. The festival marks the November 4, 1879, birth of Oklahoma's favorite son. A parade, car show, Pony Express rides, and children's activities are on the agenda for a fun weekend of

celebration. Events will be held at the Will Rogers Memorial Museum in Claremore and at the Birthplace Ranch in **Oologah**. For information, call 918/341-0719 or toll free 800/324-9455. (travelok.com)

Announcements

Applications are now being accepted for the 2012 Harold T. Pinkett Minority Student Award. The Pinkett Award was established in 1993 and recognizes minority undergraduate and graduate students, such as those of African, Asian, Latino, or American Indian descent who manifest an interest in becoming professional archivists and active members of the Society of American Archivists (SAA). Preference is given to full-time students possessing a minimum 3.5 grade point average while enrolled in a graduate program focusing on archival management during the academic year proceeding the date on which the award is given. The recipient of this award receives full complimentary registration to the SAA Annual Meeting in San Diego, California, in August 2012 and related expenses for hotel and travel. The deadline to apply is February 28, 2012. For more information or to download the application form, visit www2.archivists.org/governance/handbook/section12-pinkett.

Already thinking about the holidays? The Coleman Theatre in **Miami** is ready to help! Gary Crow, photographer and Friend of the Coleman, will be taking family holiday photographs in the theatre lobby and donating his fee to the preservation efforts at the Coleman. The photography sessions are also sponsored by Osborn Drugs of Miami. For details on this opportunity to support the Coleman, call 918/540-2425.

The Oklahoma Railway Museum's newsletter, *The Dispatcher*, will move to an electronic format in January 2012. Members of the Oklahoma Railway Museum in **Oklahoma City** who do not receive email will still receive a copy of *The Dispatcher* by mail, but the method for that delivery is being finalized. For members of the Oklahoma Railway Museum who do have access to the internet, please contact Anne Murray at the museum at 405/424-8222 to verify your email address or to ask any questions.

Oklahoma African American Educators Hall of Fame inducts first class



Mrs. Willie Mae Etheridge was inducted into the OAAE Hall of Fame (photos by Reginold Smith).

The Oklahoma African American Educators Hall of Fame, Inc., (OAAE) held its first induction ceremony and banquet at the Oklahoma History Center on Friday, September 30. The OAAE Hall of Fame is co-sponsored by the Oklahoma Historical Society's Black Heritage Committee.

The OAAE and the OHS's Black Heritage Committee are working in partnership to raise the awareness and importance of collecting items related to early African American education in Oklahoma. Oral history interviews were conducted for each person inducted into the OAAE Hall of Fame in 2011. The interviews provide a unique look at education throughout the state.

Inductees into the first class of the OAAE Hall of Fame include the following: Curtis Brakeen, Muskogee; Willie Mae Etheridge, Checotah/Warrior; Henry Kirkland, Jr., Atoka; Rev. W. B. Parker, Spencer; William Paterson, Lawton; Meshak Sagini, Langston; Eddie Warrior, Muskogee/Taft; Jimmie Beatrice Williams, Idabel; La Verne Wimberley, Tulsa; and Tom Withers, Jr., Clearview.

Top row, from left to right: Dr. Henry Kirkland, Jr., Dr. Meshack Sagini, Rev. Willie B. Parker, Tom Withers, III

Bottom row, left to right: Curtis Brakeen, Willie Mae Etheridge, Dr. La Verne Ford Wimberly, Edwyna Warrior Walker



Peter Conser Home event on November 5

The Peter Conser Home will host a number of entertaining and educational activities on Saturday, November 5, from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m.



Groups will perform in the historic barn on the Conser Home property throughout the day, including the bluegrass music legend Bill Grant. Activities are planned so that there will be something for nearly everyone, such as a quilt show; antique tractors, cars and motorcycles; arts and crafts; and delicious food.

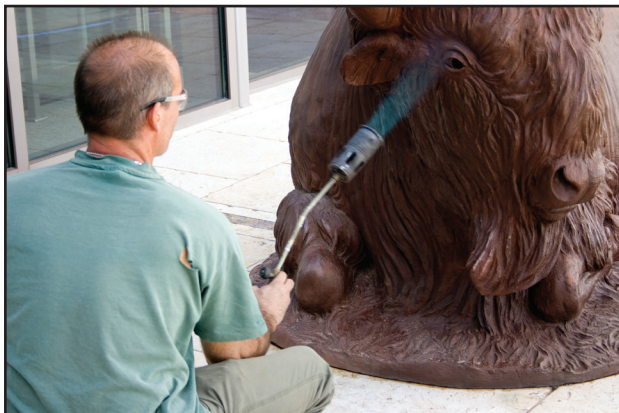
The Salt Fork blacksmiths will be on hand to demonstrate their craft. Historical interpreters from the Oklahoma Historical Society will show candle making and provide other hands-on exhibitions for children who visit the event. Jason Harris, OHS education director, will discuss life during Peter Conser's time in Indian Territory.

The Conser Home will be open for tours during the day, and docents will be available to answer questions. Contributions made in the site's donation box will go toward the upkeep and preservation of the historic Peter Conser Home.

Booth space for the event may be reserved by contacting Pat Skinner at patjon@windstream.net. The Peter Conser Home is located at 47114 Conser Creek Road in Heavener. For more information, contact 918/653-2493 or peterconser@okhistory.org.

History Center sculptures undergo maintenance

The sculptures on the grounds of the History Center received some sprucing up on October 10, 2011. Nate Howe and Todd Jenkins from The Crucible Foundry and Sculpture Garden in Norman performed the scheduled maintenance. The process went as follows:



The sculptures were heated by use of either a torch or the sun to prepare them for the application of wax.



A coat of protective paste wax was applied.



The sculptures were then buffed and polished (photos by Lori Oden).

New Oklahoma National Register listings

The National Register of Historic Places is a catalogue of the buildings, sites, structures, districts, and objects whose hallowed ground and sturdy walls provide a glimpse into our past. These sites also may be selected for architectural and archeological interests. The Oklahoma State Historic Preservation Office is pleased to announce that the following fifteen properties were recently added to the National Register of Historic Places:

Cleveland County:

Oklahoma Center for Continuing Education, University of Oklahoma, Norman

Custer County:

Thomas Community Building, 120 East Broadway, Thomas

Jackson County:

Frazier Cemetery, two miles west of the Jackson County Courthouse on U.S. 62 and one-half mile south on County Road 202, Altus Vicinity

Elmer and Lela Garrnett House, 801 East Commerce, Altus

Jefferson County:

34JF109, address restricted, Belleville vicinity

Kay County:

Downtown Ponca City Historic District, roughly bounded by Pine, Chestnut, and Seventh Streets and Central Avenue, Ponca City

Latimer County:

Eastern Oklahoma Tuberculosis Sanatorium, 10014 Southeast 1138th Avenue, Talihina vicinity

Love County:

34 LV 181, address restricted, Rubottom vicinity

34LV184, address restricted, Leon vicinity

Murray County

Travertine Nature Center, Chickasaw National Recreation Area, Sulphur

Oklahoma County:

Main Public Library, 131 Dean McGee Avenue, Oklahoma City

Ottawa County

Dobson Family House, 106 A Street Southwest, Miami

Tulsa County

Oil Capital Historic District, roughly between Third and Seventh Streets and Cincinnati and Cheyenne Avenue, Tulsa

KATY Railroad Historic District, roughly along West Easton, old KATY right-of-way, between North Cheyenne and North Boston Avenues, Tulsa

North Cheyenne Historic District, between Frisco tracks, North Denver, and alley between North Cheyenne and North Boulder, Tulsa

Listing in the National Register is an honorific designation that provides recognition, limited protection, and in some cases financial incentives for these important properties. The SHPO identifies, evaluates, and nominates properties for this special designation.

For detailed information, contact Lynda Schwan at 405/522-4478 or email lschwan@okhistory.org.

Christmas festivities at Drummond Home

The Drummond Home will host its annual Christmas festivities on Saturday, December 3, from 1 to 4 p.m. This year the home will celebrate a traditional Victorian Christmas. Decorations will resemble those from the early 1900s.

Festivities will include the beautiful Scottish/Celtic music of Finegans Awake, a band that will hold a concert in the historic home's parlor. Santa George, who is one of Santa Clause's most trusted helpers, will again be handing out treats to all the girls and boys who come for a home tour. And last but not least, for the guests' enjoyment there will be a traditional Wassail table filled with many goodies such as scones, cookies, and, of course, Wassail to drink.

So be sure to mark Saturday, December 3, on your calendars and attend the Drummond Home Christmas festivities. This event will make a perfect afternoon for you and your family and a great way to start the holiday season!

The Drummond Home is located at 305 North Price in Hominy. Days and hours of operation are as follows: Wednesdays through Saturday from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. with the first tour starting at 10 a.m. and the last tour of the day beginning at 4 p.m. On Sundays, the hours are 1 p.m. to 5 p.m. For more information, please call 918/885-2374.



Historic Oklahoma newspapers now online

The Oklahoma Historical Society (OHS) recently announced that an additional one hundred thousand historic Oklahoma newspaper pages will be available free and online as part of the National Digital Newspaper Program (NDNP). The NDNP, a partnership between the National Endowment for the Humanities (NEH) and the Library of Congress (LC), is a long-term effort to develop an internet-based, searchable database of U.S. newspapers. Funded by NEH grants, this rich digital resource will be developed and permanently maintained at the Library of Congress website <http://chroniclingamerica.loc.gov/>.

Currently, pre-1923 historic Oklahoma newspapers account for one hundred thousand of the four million newspaper pages available on the site. In the next two years an additional one hundred thousand Oklahoma pages will be added. "The NDNP newspaper project has revolutionized historic newspaper research. Anyone who has spent hours researching on manual microfilm readers will be amazed at the ease at which the word searchable database brings to life these wonderful Oklahoma newspapers, all available for free from the comfort of your own computer," said Chad Williams, deputy director of the Research Division at the Oklahoma Historical Society.

The newspapers are accessible at <http://chroniclingamerica.loc.gov/>. Specific Oklahoma newspapers can be found by selecting "Oklahoma" under the "All Digitized Newspapers 1836-1922" section. Then click the "Browse" icon to the right of the title and select the calendar date you wish to view. Papers may be downloaded at no cost in a variety of formats. Oklahoma newspapers already online include: *Anadarko Daily Democrat* (1893-1895); *Beaver Herald* (1895-1922); *Branding Iron* (Atoka) (1884); *Cheyenne Transporter* (Darlington) (1880-1886); *Daily Ardmoreite* (1893-1895); *Durant Weekly News* (1904-1922); *Farmers Champion* (Elgin) (1912-1922); *Guthrie Leader* (1893-1895); *Indian Advocate* (Sacred Heart) (1893-1908); *Indian Chieftain* (Vinita) (1882-1902); *Langston City Herald* (1892-1898); *Muskogee Cimeter* (1904-1921); *Oklahoma Miner* (Krebs) (1912-1922); *Tulsa Star* (1913-1921); and *Tulsa World* (1920-1922).

For more information, please contact Project Manager Angela Spindle at newspaper@okhistory.org.

Fort Washita reenactment deemed success

Civil War buffs and those just wanting to learn more about Oklahoma history helped to commemorate the sesquicentennial of the Civil War in Oklahoma with a special reenactment at historic Fort Washita on September 23 and 24. Activities included music, food, Civil War-era shopping, exhibits on Oklahoma history, and, of course, the Civil War battle reenactment.

Located in present Bryan County, Fort Washita was established in 1842. Positioned one and one-half miles east of the Washita River and about eighteen miles north of the Red River, the site of Fort Washita was approved by General Zachary Taylor, then commander of the Second Military Department. Construction of the post was performed by men of the Second Dragoons under the command of Capt. George A. H. Blake. The fort served to protect the Chickasaw people from aggressive Plains Indian tribes and unscrupulous whites, and it also stood guard over the Texas frontier.

During the 1850s the fort was a bustling stop for travelers destined for the California gold fields. On May 1, 1861, the fort was abandoned by U.S. forces and was occupied the next day by Confederate troops from Texas. Southern soldiers used the post as a headquarters during the remainder of the Civil War. After the war the Chickasaw Nation received the old post grounds and buildings from the federal government.

For more information about the Fort Washita Historic site, please contact 580/924-6502 or ftwashita@okhistory.org.

Nix monument placed in Alva

By Paul Lambert

Dr. Nazih Zuhdi made possible the placement of a monument in the Alva Community Cemetery honoring the memory of Terry Gene Nix. At the age of seven Nix was the first person to undergo open heart surgery during which total hemodilution of the blood, a technique pioneered by Dr. Zuhdi, was used. This process made open-heart surgery on a mass scale possible for the first time. The successful operation occurred on February 25, 1960.

During the dedication ceremony Dr. Zuhdi saw many members of the Nix family for the first time in more than fifty years. Dr. Zuhdi's machine that made this new process possible may be seen at the Oklahoma History Center in an exhibit that highlights Dr. Zuhdi's remarkable career.

Grand reopening of Museum of the Western Prairie

By Kathy Dickson

A fun time was had by all at the grand reopening of the Museum of the Western Prairie in Altus on September 26. When the museum closed in fall 2007 for asbestos abatement, no one realized it would be almost four years before we could reopen. The damage to the interior of the museum during the abatement process was extensive, and work could not even begin on drafting the scope of work to bid the repair work until the abatement was completed.

The museum now has new modern exhibits with computer interactives, and the restroom facilities have been remodeled to meet modern requirements. The community turned out in force to celebrate with more than five hundred in attendance. The crowd enjoyed the exhibits, music, great food, and wonderful weather. Lt. Governor Todd Lamb, along with Senator Mike Schulz and Representative Charles Ortega, attended the opening.

The Museum of the Western Prairie is located at 1100 Memorial Drive in Altus. For more information, please contact 580/482-1044 or muswestpr@okhistory.org.

Hidden Collections . . .

By Bill Welge

Within the past week Fredrea Cook and her husband, Fredas, of Wyandotte, Oklahoma, both long-time friends of the Oklahoma Historical Society Research Division, stopped in to leave with us a new Ottawa County newspaper entitled the *Rounder*. Published between March and October 1918 and then a lone issue of September 27, 1919, the *Rounder* can be best described as yellow journalism at its finest or what we would consider as tabloid news today. The newspaper had been safely cared for by the Baxter Springs Museum located in extreme southeastern Kansas. The museum graciously allowed the Cooks to borrow the nineteen issues of the newspaper so they could be microfilmed by the OHS.

The editor and publisher of this attempt at journalistic endeavors was one J. J. Shepherd, aged fifty-two in 1918, who was born in Massachusetts in 1866. It is not known just when Shepherd migrated to Oklahoma, but it is apparent he was interested in labor issues of the lead-zinc mining activities in northern Ottawa County. Depending on his mood or what he was editorializing about at the time, the title of the newspaper changed with great regularity. The first few issues of March and April 1918 were entitled *The Rounder*, but beginning in June of that year there were no less than thirteen different name changes for the paper. For example, in the June 29 issue the masthead was the *Hun-Chaser* followed two weeks later as the *Gaff*. The August 31 issue was titled the *Exposer* followed two weeks later as the *Truth*. Shepherd has been classified as a "wackadoddle" by Fredas Cook, who spent time scanning each issue and providing the OHS Research Division a CD of the scans.

In February 1918 Shepherd was arrested by a sheriff for operating a gambling house. Shepherd entered a plea of guilty and was fined \$69.30 and released. Soon after that incident he began to publish the four-page tome for the masses. In December 1918 Shepherd was brought up on charges again and was sentenced to seven years in prison at McAlester. Dr. Debra Spindle of the Research Division staff located an appeals record online from the Court of Criminal Appeals from September 1920 where extracts of testimony about Shepherd's case were reviewed, and it subsequently was discovered that the charges were inconsistent as to the crime and were reversed by the court. Consequently, Shepherd was released from prison in McAlester and was returned to the Ottawa County jail. No new information has surfaced to determine what occurred after his return to Ottawa County.

With the microfilming of *The Rounder* and subsequent titles, the percentage of extant newspapers held by the OHS now stands at nearly 92 percent of all newspapers published since 1844. Friends such as the Cooks have paved the way for this and potentially other important records pertinent to Oklahoma to be microfilmed. Because of the great cooperation of the Baxter Springs Museum, the OHS has added another piece of interesting history to the collection.

I wish to thank Fredrea and Fredas Cook for serving as ambassadors for us, Debra Spindle for providing additional context to the story on J. J. Shepherd, Delbert Amen for microfilming the issues on such short notice, and Clark Duffe for running the test roll to make sure the filming of the newspaper turned out well.

President Theodore Roosevelt to visit Enid on November 7

Step back in time to 1915 and meet a bully of a president as President Theodore Roosevelt makes an appearance on Monday, November 7, in Montgomery Hall on the Northern Oklahoma College campus in Enid at 7 p.m. President Roosevelt will dive into his family's experiences in the White House, his adventures as a rancher and cowboy on the Dakota Plains, his experiences in Oklahoma Territory on a great wolf hunt, life in Cuba with the Rough Riders, and much more!

Theodore Roosevelt will be portrayed by Gib Young, who is a member of the Theodore Roosevelt Association and the Mount Rushmore Society. He has portrayed President Roosevelt for ten years across the country for a variety of venues such as historical societies, schools, libraries, and museums.

Join President Roosevelt for an educational evening featuring a patriotic concert, an address by the president, and an autograph reception.

For more information, contact 580/237-1907 or csrhinfo@okhistory.org.

Fort Gibson Fall Bake Day slated for November 12

Fort Gibson Historic Site will heat up its big stone oven for the last time in 2011 for Fall Bake Day on Saturday, November 12. 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 nominal donation 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. Chief baker Rory Montgomery advises everyone to bring their oldest pans, since they will 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, the site is operated by the Oklahoma Historical Society. For more information, call 918/478-4088 or email fortgibson@okhistory.org.

Museum Store News

By Russ Haynes

Fall is finally here! Whew, I was wondering if the one hundred degree days would ever end. We have a great new series of reprinted books we just got in from the University of Oklahoma Press. The series is called Newcomers to a New Land and features major ethnic groups that have shaped Oklahoma's culture and history. Some of you may be familiar with the series. It was originally published in 1980 but has been out-of-print for the last ten years. Each book is paperback and contains from sixty to one hundred pages of text. The price for each book is \$9.95.

Here the titles in the series:

THE POLES IN OKLAHOMA by Richard M. Bernard
THE CZECHS IN OKLAHOMA by Karel D. Bicha
THE BRITISH AND IRISH IN OKLAHOMA by Patrick J. Blessing
THE ITALIANS IN OKLAHOMA by Kenny L. Brown
THE BLACKS IN OKLAHOMA by Jimmie Lewis Franklin
THE GERMANS FROM RUSSIA IN OKLAHOMA by Douglas Hale
THE GERMANS IN OKLAHOMA by Richard C. Rohrs
THE MEXICANS IN OKLAHOMA by Michael M. Smith
THE JEWS IN OKLAHOMA by Henry J. Tobias

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New Members, cont'd.

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*Coy Green, Norman
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Betty Henderson, Bartlesville
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Julie Moring, Norman
Dawn Poyndexter, Tulsa
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Anthony Rose, Edmond
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Mr. and Mrs. Jack Skaggs, Edmond
Lori Sosenko, Choctaw
Mr. and Mrs. Gene Staten, Oklahoma City
Jill Steeley, Coweta
Tonya Stites, Sallisaw
Mr. and Mrs. Mark Thomas, Stillwater
Lyndal Westmoreland, Okarche

Institutional

Eastern Trails Historical Society, Vinita

Individual

Cheryl Atherton, Edmond
Bill Birchall, Oklahoma City
Yvonna Douglas, Edmond
Jim Hart, Chandler
Brian Hosmer, Tulsa
Rudy Kima, Pittsburg, PA
Pat Meyer, Edmond
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Yankton bison hide tipi receives conservation

An iconic artifact in the American Indian collections of the Oklahoma Museum of History received some much-needed conservation over the past few months. The Yankton bison hide tipi, once on display in the Wiley Post Building and now located in the collections storage area of the Oklahoma History Center, has been the focus of a conservation effort to preserve this invaluable artifact and make it available for researchers well into the future.

Catherine L. Williams, an ethnographic leather conservator, made her second trip to work on the tipi in September. She and her assistant used a vacuum with special filters and dry sponges to clean significant areas of dirt around the pictographs. Williams repaired some tears and weak spots in the leather with Japanese tissue, which is a strong, handmade paper, adhered to the inside of the tipi with a thermoplastic acrylic resin compound.

Curator of American Indian Collections Matt Reed oversaw the conservation effort. The now-stabilized tipi remains in the collections storage area of the Oklahoma History Center.

Twenty-year Members Renew in September

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

- Patricia Hoig, Edmond, August 1, 1974
- Billie Mysinger, Yukon, December 1, 1977
- Glenn and Judy Hudgens, Tulsa, September 3, 1980
- Harvey and Kathryn Nye, Norman, November 1, 1980
- J. Carl Richeson, Eldorado, September 1, 1981
- Mary Jo Watson, Oklahoma City, August 1, 1984
- David and Arlene Baker, Lawton, October 4, 1984
- Redlands Community College, El Reno, July 1, 1985
- Marjorie Scott, Hennessey, December 17, 1987
- Wanda Norton, Vinita, May 2, 1988
- Dannie Pierce, Newalla, July 27, 1988
- Robert Klemme, Enid, August 30, 1988
- Robert and Mary Haight, Reva, VA, September 13, 1988
- Sallie Rae Andrews, Decatur, TX, September 15, 1988
- Rex George, Oklahoma City, June 20, 1989
- Fort Gibson Public Schools, Fort Gibson, July 21, 1989
- Polly Dee Sandlin, Norman, July 9, 1990
- Mary Ryan, Saint Ann, MO, September 3, 1991



Conservator Catherine Williams cleans around the pictographs on the Yankton bison hide tipi (photo by Matt Reed).



Conservators working on the Yankton bison hide tipi in the American Indian collections storage area (photo by Matt Reed).