Federal Reserve centennial exhibit

The Federal Reserve Act of 1913, a congressional act, established a central banking system with the legal authority to issue currency. Robert L. Owen, one of the authors of the Federal Reserve Act of 1913, was one of the first senators from Oklahoma. Although born in Virginia, his mother was of Cherokee descent and from Indian Territory. They returned to Muskogee, Indian Territory, in 1879.

Owen’s father experienced serious financial problems during the Panic of 1873 that was a major stress thought to contribute to his early death. Profoundly affected by these events, Owen was determined to improve the system.

His opportunity came when he decided to enter politics in the early 1900s. Although he had other political agendas, reforming the banking system was one of his priorities. Senator Owen struggled alongside Virginia Congressman Carter Glass to bring about the Federal Reserve Act that President Wilson signed into law in December 1913.

Among numerous responsibilities, it established a uniform coin and currency and twelve Federal Reserve Banks across the nation. Neither the government nor private interest groups controlled the Federal Reserve System, but representatives from both sectors. The new national banking system gave insight into the financial trends concerning all people. Oklahoma City was one the sites selected for a branch of the Federal Reserve Bank of Kansas City.

This exhibit features artifacts from Robert L. Owen and his family, examples of coins and currency before 1913, photographs, and original documents, including a signed letter to Owen from President Woodrow Wilson. The Oklahoma Historical Society Research Center will display artifacts and information about the Federal Reserve Bank of Kansas City, Oklahoma City Branch. An eighty-pound adding machine is the highlight of this exhibit area.

The Oklahoma History Center will also offer additional content related to the exhibit online. Visit okhistory.org/federalreserve for more details, images, documents, and activities for students.

Above top: Senator Owen, second from the right (photograph courtesy of Federal Reserve Bank of Kansas City). Above: Oklahoma City Branch Transit Department employees, 1920s (photo courtesy of the Federal Reserve Bank of Kansas City Archives).

Call to Arms military living history day

The Oklahoma History Center invites you and your family to join them for the Call to Arms event on Saturday, November 2. The event will celebrate Oklahoma’s military heritage with a special living history event for all. Call to Arms is scheduled from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m., with activities running throughout the day. The event will feature reenactors and living history interpreters from a variety of time periods as well as military vehicles and artillery. The family-friendly event will include activities for all ages. For more information please contact Jason Harris at jharris@okhistory.org or by phone at 405/522-0785.
It is never too late to learn new tricks, especially when something new comes along that helps us accomplish our goals. Earlier this week, Jeff Moore, Larry O'Dell, and I met with representatives of a new company in Tulsa that has developed a software system and computer application that allows a user to start with one subject, and through multiple choice options, link with unexpected but associated subjects. It will work with documents, photographs, newspaper articles, biographies, events, and artifacts—anything that can be digitized. Once a database is loaded into the program, you can start with a person or a place and surf the internet to find degrees of separation. This is a computer-based version of something we try to do with exhibits, books, and programs. It is a way to connect the dots.

I have talked about this before, but the importance of connecting the dots deserves repetition. History is more than isolated dates and facts; clinically dissected and served in a vacuum. History can be made entertaining that way, but it is like candy, quickly enjoyed and then gone. History really comes alive when it begins to connect with a bigger picture and comes into focus.

With this computer application, we could start with a person and let a user explore connections that might lead to their hometown, a person they worked with, or someone who was influenced by them. A perfect use of this opportunity would be the OKPOP Museum, where we want to connect the creative expressions of Oklahomans with a sense of time and place as well as those who inspired them and those influenced by them. With such a program, we could start with Leon Russell and the Concert for Bangladesh, which was heavily influenced by Oklahoma artists who hit their stride in the 1960s and 1970s. From there, the explorer could connect to artists such as Bob Dylan, George Harrison, and Eric Clapton, places such as Madison Square Garden and the Church Studio in Tulsa, or topics such as film history, the recording industry, and the role of celebrity in raising public awareness to problems in the world.

At the Oklahoma History Center, this application could be applied to the OPUBCO Photograph Collection, where full captions provide a starting point that could lead to other people, places, and events. The element of surprise and wonder would be addictive. Yes, it is never too late to learn new tricks.

Director’s Column
By Bob L. Blackburn
Executive Director

Development News
by Larry O’Dell

There are several ways to donate to the Oklahoma Historical Society (OHS) other than just an outright cash donation or leaving money in a will. Many of these are also beneficial to the donor. One such method is called Charitable Gift Annuity. A person or a couple can gift money or property and receive fixed payments from these funds. These payments will continue for a specified time or until the death of the donor(s). Then the remaining money will begin to assist the OHS. There are several benefits to this: you can avoid the capital gains tax on the sale of your appreciated property or enjoy the benefit of tax savings from a charitable deduction. There are a few limitations: the person(s) must be at least fifty-five and the donation(s) must equal a value of at least $20,000.

The OHS always suggests that a donor seek outside counseling from an investment specialist before entering into any of these types of agreements. This is just one of many alternative options for donating to the OHS. If you have any questions you may always contact me at 405/522-6676 or loddell@okhistory.org. You may also receive more information online by visiting the planned giving section on our website located at http://www.oklegacy.org/. Individuals who have designated the OHS to receive a donation in their wills or estate plans qualify for membership in our newly established Legacy Circle.
Openings

The US Marshals Museum (USMM) in Fort Smith, Arkansas, has received a $2 million grant from the Walton Family Foundation. The USMM board recently announced its intention to break ground on a 52,260-square-foot museum on September 24, 2014. The museum will focus on US Marshals all over the nation, including those who worked and traveled in present-day Oklahoma. That date is the 225th anniversary of the establishment of the marshals by President George Washington. A commemorative coin honoring the US Marshals will be unveiled that date as well, with sales to benefit the new museum. The US Marshals Museum at Hotel Lowrey at 303 Dewey Avenue in Muskogee will open on November 1. For more information, please call 918/647-9330.

Events

The Forty-Seventh Annual Heritage Hills Historic Home Tour will be held from noon until 5 p.m. on November 2 and 3. This year’s theme, “Upscale Urban Living in Historic Homes,” features five tour homes in Oklahoma City’s oldest historic neighborhood. In addition to touring the homes, visitors may also enjoy coordinated fashion and vintage car displays, a short narrated walking tour, and Ingrid’s Home Tour Cafe on the grounds of the Overholser Mansion—all within easy walking distance of each other. Tickets are for sale online at http://www.heritagehills.org/hh/ and at select ticket outlets. Advance tickets are $12. On the days of the tour, tickets may be purchased for $15 at the Overholser Mansion or at any of the tour homes. For more information, please contact Katy Leffel at 405/922-5420.

November 9 from 7 to 10 a.m. will be the Annual LeFlore County Historical Society Veterans Day Pancake Breakfast. The event will occur at the LeFlore County Museum at Hotel Lowrey at 303 Dewey Avenue in Poteau. Pancakes, bacon, juice, milk, and coffee will be served and free tours of the museum will be available. Admission is $5 for adults and $3 for children age ten and under. All proceeds go to the LeFlore County Historical Society, a nonprofit organization. For more information, call 918/647-9330.

On Friday, November 15, at 10 a.m. join a group for a historic neighborhood walking tour through the Capital Place and Founders’ Place Districts of Muskogee and learn about the city’s historical ambition to become the state capital. View the site of the proposed capitol and governor’s mansion. The tour will begin at Turner Hill Park at Eleventh and Terrace. The cost is $5 (cash only). Be sure to wear comfortable shoes. More information is available at www.okieheritage.com or contact Jonita Mullins at jonita.mullins@gmail.com or 918/682-0312.

From November 1 to 3 Will Rogers Days in Claremore celebrates the November 4, 1879, birth of Will Rogers, Oklahoma’s favorite son. Come out to this event at Will Rogers’s birthplace, Dog Iron Ranch in Oologah, to enjoy birthday cake and live entertainment. On Saturday head to the Will Rogers Memorial Museum in Claremore for the antique and classic car show. Admire rows of sleek vehicles from decades past, including a variety of makes and models. In the afternoon a wreath-laying ceremony and a reception will honor Will Rogers. Do not miss the Will Rogers Days Parade in downtown Claremore. Watch as decorated floats, marching bands, and more make their way down Will Rogers Boulevard. For more information call 918/343-8113. (travelok.com)

The Beavers Bend Folk Festival and Craft Show from November 8 to 10 in Broken Bow features turn-of-the-century crafts and demonstrations, folk music, a barnyard petting zoo, and more. Exhibitors and vendors will feature crafts and skills such as candlemaking, woodturning, making lye soap, knife making, broom making, paper making, and blacksmithing. There are children’s activities and a smorgasbord of folk food ensembles set the mood with the twang of banjos, the wail of fiddles, and the ring of dulcimer strings. For more information call 580/494-6497. (travelok.com)

Celebrate Veterans’ Day on November 9 to 10 in Tishomingo at a two-day trout derby. The Blue River, located near Tishomingo, will be stocked with trout for the annual Veterans Day Blue River Trout Derby. Trout fishermen will be awarded prizes for the largest trout, biggest stringer, and heaviest stinger. All age groups are welcome to participate. Join anglers from across the country as they compete for cash prizes, awards, and trophies. This trout derby will be held at the Blue River Public Fishing and Hunting Area, located eleven miles northeast of Tishomingo in Johnston County. This region features the clear, spring-fed river flowing through a unique geologic form filled with the eastern outcrop of the Arbuckle Mountains. Attendance for spectators is free; however, there is a small entry fee for derby participants. For more information call 580/371-9288. (travelok.com)

Spend an amazing evening with King Henry VIII and Queen Margaret at the “Boare’s Heade Feaste” inside the Castle of Muskogee on November 23. Feast upon a magnificent four course meal of the finest foods of the day while enjoying entertainment by minstrels, belly dancers, and a host of other performers. Guests will be transported back in time with authentic decorations, traditional clothing, and festive atmosphere. Advance reservations are required. For more information call 918/687-3625. (travelok.com)

Browse local, handmade arts and crafts at the fourth annual Alliday Show in Tulsa on November 30. Held at the fairgrounds in the Ford Truck Exhibit Hall, this one-day show boasts eighty Oklahoma artists featuring everything from woodwork to jewelry. This is the perfect opportunity to finish holiday shopping in one fell swoop, so stop by and find something you just cannot live without at the Alliday Show Arts and Craft Fair. For more information call 918/671-1390. (travelok.com)

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

Join the Oklahoma History Center on Thursday, November 7 for “A History of Gospel Music: 150 Years on the Wings of Song, 1863-2013.” The Ambassadors Concert Choir will use narrators to highlight gospel’s development from slave chants, shouts, and work songs to the present. The program will feature hymns by Isaac Watts, John Wesley, and others; spirituals by William Dawson, Hall Johnson, and the famed Fisk Jubilee Singers; and gospel music from some of the best known writers of yesterday and today. There will be a portion of the program focusing on Oklahoma writers and musicians, featuring “Swing Low Sweet Chariot” written by Wallis Willis, the music of Guthrie native Glenn Edward Burleigh, the music of Jessie Mae Renfro Sapp, and others. The museum will open at 6 p.m. with the program running from 7 to 9 p.m. Admission is free and seating is limited with reservations required. This program is Sponsored in part by SONIC, America’s Drive-in.

The Ambassadors Concert Choir that will be performing at the event serves to provide an avenue of performance of vocal music that can be shared with a diversity of listeners and to present a composite message to the listening public. Their purpose is to provide the opportunity for serious study and performance of music of all genres, bring about a community awareness of and appreciation for music of all genres, encourage the musical development of young students, and promote workshops for strengthening adult musicians.

For more information or to make reservations please email education@okhistory.org or call 405/522-3602.

Paul Cress Research Library planned

The Cherokee Strip Museum and Cherokee Strip Historical Society are unveiling plans for the Paul Cress Research Library. History and genealogy researchers will have a room and facilities at the museum to access records both digitally and physically. The research library was made possible by a generous donation from the Paul Cress Estate.

Fred Beers’s articles from 1994 to 2006 are the first of the museum’s historical digital resources to be featured. Beers, the long-time newspaperman and Perry historian, left a legacy of “From the NW Corner” articles printed in the Perry Daily Journal that give us a glimpse of life in Perry, Oklahoma, during its early days and over the next century.

Beers began writing his article in 1946 when he returned to work at the Perry Daily Journal after three years of US Army service during World War II. The column continued twice weekly until 1969 when Fred accepted a position as a member of the advertising and public relations staff at the Charles Machine Works, Inc. In 1994 after his retirement Beers picked up where he left off and wrote an astounding thirteen hundred articles before his health began to fail.

The Cherokee Strip Museum recognized the historical value of Fred’s articles and requested permission from Beers and the Perry Daily Journal to digitize the articles for presentation in a searchable format on the museum website, www.cherokee-strip-museum.org.

Beers and museum webmaster Cheryl DeJager worked together on this project until his death in 2007. At that time more than nine hundred of the articles were posted. DeJager continued working on the project and recently finished digitizing all of his 1994 through 2006 columns, more than thirteen hundred articles in all.

Cherokee Strip Museum manager Peggy Haxton said, “Fred Beers’s articles are a great resource for researchers here at the museum and online. We are extremely excited now that the collection is complete. The pursuit of family history seems to be growing in popularity, mainly out of a desire to place one’s family in the larger historical picture and to preserve the past for future generations. I think Fred would be pleased.”

The Cherokee Strip Museum is operated under a special arrangement between the Cherokee Strip Historical Society and the Oklahoma Historical Society. For more information, call 580/336-2405 or email csmuseum@okhistory.org.

Museum Store News

By Jera Winters

The Oklahoma History Center Museum Store is pleased to announce the addition of another Oklahoma company to our group of quality vendors. Celebrate your Oklahoma pride with fashionable, fresh designs from the Oklahoma Shirt Company.

We are offering three new T-shirt designs that are focused on the Oklahoma experience. Equally suitable for visitors to the state and homegrown Okies, these simple but bold designs represent the best of our fine state.

The Thunder Colors shirt is a vision in bright orange, and features a simplified cutout of the state in blue. Show your team and state spirit by sporting Thunder Colors. The Scissortail is a bold, red shirt with a stylized depiction of Oklahoma’s own scissortail flycatcher. The We Heart Oklahoma shirt is a gray heather, and demonstrates the wearer’s love for Oklahoma with its mash-up of the Osage shield and a heart.

All of these Oklahoma Shirt Company designs are available for $16.50 each. Purchase yours today and show your support for this great state and a great Oklahoma company.

Come in today and experience Oklahoma’s local flavor at the OHC Museum Store. As always, members receive a 15 percent discount on all regularly priced merchandise. Contact us at 405/522-5214 with any questions.
New Oklahoma National Register listings

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

The Turner House, located at 1501 Third Street Southwest, Ardmore, Carter County, was built in 1935 for local oilman, Waco Turner, and his wife, Opie. It is a beautiful and distinctive example of Spanish/Mediterranean Revival residential architecture and a local landmark. Spanish/Mediterranean Revival architecture was introduced to American homebuilders during the 1915 Panama-California Exposition and the style continued to be popular through the 1930s. The Turner House, built at the height of the style’s popularity, is the best remaining residential example of the style in Ardmore. The nomination was prepared by Brannyn McDougal for the City of Ardmore.

Wesley Hospital at 300 Northwest Twelfth Street, Oklahoma City, Oklahoma County, Oklahoma, is locally significant in the area of health and medicine. The building is a rare and intact example of an early twentieth century hospital in the Midtown neighborhood of Oklahoma City, which historically had a concentration of hospitals and medical facilities. Dr. Foster K. Camp founded Wesley Hospital circa 1910 in rented space downtown until the first block of the freestanding hospital was completed in 1911. Over the next forty years, four additions enlarged the building to keep it a relevant and operating hospital. Two of the oldest building sections were demolished during this period of growth. In 1964 Wesley Hospital became Presbyterian Hospital and shortly thereafter relocated to the newly developed Oklahoma Medical Center complex just east of the Midtown neighborhood. Since the development of the Oklahoma Medical complex, many of Oklahoma City’s historic hospital and medical buildings have been razed. Wesley Hospital remains one of two surviving hospitals from a rich cluster that once thrived in Midtown Oklahoma City. The nomination was prepared by Rosin Preservation, LLC of Kansas City, Missouri.

The Ballard Creek Roadbed, located in the vicinity of Westville in Adair County, is the remnant of a nineteenth-century wagon road along Ballard Creek. It is associated with the arrival and resettlement of the Cherokees in present-day Oklahoma at the end of their Trail of Tears. It linked an important location in the new Cherokee Nation with supply sources and services in northwestern Arkansas. In early 1839 some Cherokee immigrating parties completing the Trail of Tears disbanded near today’s Westville, Oklahoma. Baptist Mission was soon founded nearby, and beginning in 1841 missionary Evan Jones and Cherokee minister Jesse Bushyhead made it a center for Cherokee Christian evangelism, church organization, education, and publishing. The wagon road connected the Baptist Mission settlement to supply sources in Silvia, Cincinnati, Arkansas, and beyond. However, the Baptist Mission settlement was destroyed in 1862 during the Civil War. It was not rebuilt, and the need for the wagon road along Ballard Creek diminished as the mission moved to another location. It is significant for its association with events that have made important contributions to the broad patterns of our history and for its association with archaeology. It has the potential, given its location, to yield information about the Trail of Tears and its aftermath.

The Walker Farmhouse, located in the Welch Vicinity in Craig County, was built by George Washington Walker, or Tahlakitchi (1829-1911), a Cherokee Indian who survived the Trail of Tears as a child. Forced west during the Cherokee removal in the late 1830s, the Walker family settled near Tahlequah, Cherokee Nation, in present-day Oklahoma. In the late 1850s George Walker moved to the Cherokee Neutral Lands in Kansas. Forced out again after the Civil War, Walker moved his family to the Cooweescoowee District in the Cherokee Nation and built the Walker Farmhouse in 1866. There he farmed, helped found Rogers Indian School in the Cherokee Nation’s school system, and represented Cooweescoowee District on the Cherokee National Council. The Walker Farmhouse was his home until his death in 1911. The Walker Farmhouse is significant for its association with historical events and as the only extant building associated with George Washington Walker, a Cherokee Trail of Tears survivor who later attained prominence as a Cherokee Nation citizen, settler, soldier, and elected national official. Now 147 years old, the Walker Farmhouse remains the property of a Walker descendant.

The Ballard Creek Roadbed and Walker Farmhouse nominations were prepared by Dr. Mary Jane Warde for the Oklahoma State Historic Preservation Office as part of a special project for the National Park Service.

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 Ozan at 405/522-4478 or email lozan@okhistory.org.

From top to bottom: The Turner House, Wesley Hospital, Ballard Creek Roadbed, and the Walker Farmhouse.

CSRHC fall lecture series

The Cherokee Strip Regional Heritage Center’s annual Fall Lecture Series continues into November. The lectures will be held at 7 p.m. on the Enid Campus of Northern Oklahoma College in the Gantz Center. The lecture series is free and open to the public.

On November 4 the presentation is on “The Legacy of Determination, Deprivation, and Resilience.” Dr. Kenny Brown, a professor of history at the University of Central Oklahoma, will speak on pioneers who settled the Cherokee Strip.

On November 13 will be “Cheyenne Culture” with Minoma Littlehalk Sills, an interpreter at the Roman Nose State Park.

For more information call 580/237-1907.
FY 2013 donor list, cont’d.

Below is a list of those donors who made cash donations to the Oklahoma Historical Society or to the Friends of the Oklahoma History Center during the period from July 1, 2012, through June 30, 2013. These donors also are listed on the Annual Donor board in the Oklahoma History Center. This list is continued from the October issue of the Mistletoe Leaves. Due to length constraints, the donors contributing up to $100,000 were listed in the October issue. The names below are a continuation of the list.

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Theresa Lillegard, Broken Arrow  
Mario Llamas, Broken Arrow  
Stacey Loogridge, Ardmore  
Heather Meldrum, Oklahoma City  
Susan Merriam, Arcadia  
Sharon Moody, Tulsa  
Chanci Morrow, Asher  
Hugh Ortiz, Dill City  
Carla Pratt, Carlisle, PA  
Randal Ranier, Mannsville  
Caleb Redd, Elk City  
Toie Reed, Muskogee  
Carrie Reese, Tulsa  
Terrance Rorick-Roby, McAlester  
Robert Salat, Muskogee  
Troy Sanders, Claremore  
Barbara Smith, Leon  
Keith Smith, Bennington  
William Sullivan, Tulsa  
Taylor Sweetland, Ardmore  
Adrienne Taylor, Lone Grove  
James Votaw, Maud  
Lesia Wallace, Haworth  
Cody Wilson, Atoka  

Organizational  
Fredrick Public Library, Frederick  
Northern Oklahoma College, Enid  

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.  

Samuel Allen, Sapulpa, September 21, 1955  
Jane McConnell, Norman, August 1, 1976  
J. Carl Richeson, Eldorado, September 1, 1981  
Miami Public Library, Miami, January 14, 1982  
Bruce and Betty Gallie, Rancho Cucamonga, CA, August 1, 1994  
Northern Oklahoma College, Tonkawa, December 1, 1994  
Robert Dormon, Edmond, August 14, 1985  
McCurtain County Historical Society, Idabel, July 14, 1988  
Robert Klemme, Enid, August 30, 1988  
Sallie Cotter-Andrews, Decatur, TX, September 15, 1990  
Walter and Nancy Chapman, Stigler, September 21, 1990  
D. L. Myers, Tulsa, December 16, 1988  
Greg Olds, Austin, TX, January 5, 1989  
Lindey McDaniel, Bixby, August 8, 1989  
Peter Winn and Gail Deaton, Edmond, August 15, 1989  
Daniel Fields, Oklahoma City, January 15, 1991  
Mary Ryan, Saint Ann, MO, September 3, 1991  
Carolyn Nuckolls, Oklahoma City, February 10, 1992  
Paul Barker, Springfield, MO, September 14, 1992  
Vela-Alma School, Vela, September 17, 1992  
Kathleen Dees, Don Symon, Norman, March 9, 1993  
Helen Cline, Hennesssey, September 7, 1993  
David Levy, Norman, September 14, 1993  
Earl and Joan Naylor, Edmond, September 22, 1993  

Register now for SHPO workshops  

The Oklahoma State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO) is pleased to announce the schedule for its fall 2013 workshop series. 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 sessions will be held Wednesday, December 4, through Friday, December 6. All sessions will be held at the Oklahoma History Center. The workshops are free and open to the public but the SHPO requests that you register by 5 p.m. on Wednesday, November 27. Space is limited for all sessions and will be reserved on a first-come basis.  

The workshop schedule is as follows:  
December 4 (10:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.): Federal and State Tax Incentives for Rehabilitating Historic Buildings  
December 4 (1:30 p.m. to 4:30 p.m.): The Secretary’s Standards and Guidelines for Rehabilitating Historic Buildings  
December 5 (10:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.): The Section 106 Review Process: A Workshop for Agency Officials and Cultural Resource Management Consultants  
December 6 (10:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.): Working with the National Register of Historic Places  

If you have questions about workshop 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, November 27. You may also register online at http://www.okhistory.org/shpo/workshops.php.  

SHPO accepting award nominations  

The SHPO is now accepting nominations for its 2014 awards program. Help the SHPO recognize the many preservation success stories across the state by nominating worthy individuals, agencies, firms, or organizations from your community. The deadline for nominations is 5 p.m. on Friday, December 6, and candidates will be notified in February 2014 about the results of the selection process. The awards will be presented during Oklahoma’s Twenty-sixth Annual Statewide Preservation Conference in Norman from June 4 to 6, 2014. To request nomination forms and instructions, contact Betty Harris at 405/521-6249 or bharris@okhistory.org. Or, obtain the information from the SHPO’s website at http://www.okhistory.org/shpo/awards.htm.
Honey Springs battle reenactment

The Honey Springs Battlefield Historic Site will commemorate the 150th anniversary of the Battle of Honey Springs with events from November 8 to 10. The battle, fought on July 17, 1863, was the most important engagement of the Civil War in Indian Territory.

Activities will include two battle reenactments featuring infantry, cavalry, and artillery. Visitors can attend guided and self-guided tours of Union, Confederate, and civilian camps. Various demonstrations and living history programs will include military drills, cooking demonstrations, and more. A "sutler's row" will feature several vendors selling nineteenth-century reproduction military equipment, clothes, books, and souvenirs.

Friday, November 8, at 9 a.m. will be an education day for students. Battle reenactments will be held at 1 p.m. on Saturday and Sunday. Admission for adults is $5 and children age twelve and under are free. For more information, contact the Honey Springs Battlefield at 918/473-5572 or honeysprings@okhistory.org, or visit the website at www.okhistory.org/hsb2013. Honey Springs is located at 1863 Honey Springs Battlefield Road in Checotah.

Century Chest American Indian exhibit

A previously unknown photograph of Comanche Chief Quanah Parker, two finger woven garters made of red and blue yarn with white beads, a horn spoon carved from a bison horn with trade beads attached to the handle, and a bow. These priceless American Indian artifacts discovered in the 1913 Oklahoma Century Chest are just a few of the items currently on display at the Oklahoma History Center.

"The American Indian materials in the Century Chest are extensive," says Chad Williams, Director of Research at the OHS. "The story of Oklahoma's Indian tribes are expressed in messages from the chiefs of 1913 to their counterparts in 2013, as well as in photographs, letters, books, newspapers, laws, constitutions, bibles, and pottery," added Williams. The tribes represented in the exhibit include the Chickasaw Nation, Choctaw Nation, Cherokee Nation, Delaware Tribe, Muscogee Creek, Cheyenne and Arapaho, Apache, and Comanche.

On April 22, 2014, the Oklahoma History Center will open a major exhibit revealing all of the Century Chest treasures in the Noble Foundation Gallery. For more information visit the Century Chest website at http://www.okhistory.org/centurychest/ or call 405/522-0765.