



## New Oklahoma National Register Listings

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

The Meloy House, at 131 West Carson Drive, is located in Mustang. It is an excellent example of a first-generation house in Canadian County, representing the earliest settlement in the area. While the original downtown area of Mustang is nonexistent and many of the surrounding houses are no longer extant, the Meloy House has been saved from demolition. It was first occupied by Dr. R. C. Meloy and the minimal changes to the building reflect very few owners over time.

The Depew Route 66 segment is located west of downtown Depew in Creek County. This segment was constructed in 1925, designated as US 66 in 1926, and remained so until the newly constructed, straighter alignment of US 66 bypassed this curving road segment. This segment is significant as it reflects the changes in transportation technology and social trends evident in the changing traffic patterns on US Highway 66. It is also significant as a good example of road construction reflecting technological advances of its time, typical of US 66 in Oklahoma in the 1920s.

The Kelley Club, at 2300 North Kelley Avenue, is located in north central Oklahoma City. The building is significant for its association with Alcoholics Anonymous (AA), the group whose mission is to assist alcoholics in finding and maintaining sobriety. Through its Twelve Step program, AA has enabled, and continues to enable, Oklahomans to achieve and sustain permanent sobriety. The Kelley Club had, and still has, a significant impact on the residents of Oklahoma City as well as the treatment and understanding of alcoholism.

The Oklahoma City Ford Motor Company Assembly Plant in downtown Oklahoma City is an excellent example of a manufacturing facility designed specifically for the assembly of automobiles through a process pioneered by the Ford Motor Company. Famed industrial architect Albert Kahn designed the original building for Ford in 1915 and its expansion in 1924. The building retains character-defining features of the automobile manufacturing facility: long open floor plan, large expanses of windows for light, and ventilation, and Kahn's signature octagonal concrete columns with splayed capitals.

Long Branch Creek Bridge is located in northwestern Payne County in the vicinity of Stillwater. Constructed in 1910, this Pratt Half-Hip Pony Truss, in its heyday, was one of the most common bridge types used in rural America. Today it is one of two remaining Pratt Half-Hip Truss bridges in Payne County.

The Waynoka Telephone Exchange Building, located on Main Street in Waynoka, is significant in the area of Architecture as it is the only Art Deco-style building in Waynoka. It is also significant for its telephone-related function in Waynoka as the only remaining example representing technological expansion and corporate consolidation in the development of telephone services for the residents of the community.

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, please contact Lynda Ozan at 405-522-4478 or email [lozan@okhistory.org](mailto:lozan@okhistory.org).



**Depew Route 66 segment**



**The Waynoka Telephone Exchange Building**



**Above: The Meloy House  
Left: Long Branch Creek Bridge**



**The OKC Ford Motor Company Assembly Plant**



**The Kelley Club**





## Director's column

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

History, like any good book or movie, is most compelling when there is dramatic tension. Sometimes that drama is created by a suspenseful challenge. At other times the pivot point is a surprising opportunity.

The forthcoming museum exhibit, *Crossroads of Commerce: A History of Free Enterprise in Oklahoma*, will use that dramatic tension to set the stage for the stories of entrepreneurs who had decisions to make, ranging from business plans and capitalization to production and marketing. No matter the time or place, Oklahomans have had to confront challenges and seize opportunities by committing to action.

Some stories are shrouded in the mists of time, such as the palisaded trading posts built by the Wichitas in the 1720s to trade with the French out of New Orleans and the Southern Plains tribes to the west. Advancing that frontier story will be an exhibit on Robert M. Jones, a Choctaw businessman known as "the richest man west of Natchez" in the 1850s.

Some stories rooted in the soil of Oklahoma will trigger shared memories, such

as Wilson meats, TG&Y, C. R. Anthony's, Braniff Airlines, Chicken-in-the-Rough, and OTASCO. Others will feature companies that are still making history, such as Sonic, Love's, QuikTrip, Kimray, Ditch Witch, Chickasaw Enterprises, and the Oklahoma City Thunder.

We will connect the dots of cultural legacies, individual creativity, and entrepreneurial courage to profile American Indian artists Kelly Haney, Ben Harjo, and Mike Larsen, who gave up their day jobs in the 1970s to commit their careers to creating great art. We will connect the dots of Italian immigration, coal mining, and entrepreneurial courage to trace four generations of the Prichard family who have made Pete's Place a landmark in Krebs.

Banking and capital formation will be a major theme through all of the stories, with individual banks and bankers placed on the stage of history at key times and places to help entrepreneurs start, grow, and sustain businesses.

This is an ambitious plan with its own creative tension. The state provides no funding for exhibits or collections, so we will have to raise the money and seek partners to do justice to the entrepreneurial spirit that has built Oklahoma's economy and contributed so much to our quality of life. And we will stretch the staff and ask them to do more as we collect, preserve, and share great stories.

Yes, history is most compelling when there is dramatic tension. Opening this exhibit in November 2015 will pose challenges and open doors of opportunity. Now is the time to take a chance and invest in an enterprise that will generate healthy returns.

*Dr. Bob*

## New Members, September 2014

\*Indicates renewed memberships at a higher level

### Director's Circle

\*Lona Barrick, Ada  
\*Dan Little, Madill

### Associate

\*Ronald and Ellenmarie Howland, Oklahoma City

### Fellow

\*Dan and Sarah Hogan, Oklahoma City

### Friend

\*Bill and Phoebe Burkett, Oklahoma City  
Charles and Gloria Epperson, Moore  
\*Bruce Ewing, Oklahoma City  
\*Rebecca Jacobs-Pollez and Alain Pollez, Tishomingo  
\*Steven Newell and Deborah Naylor, Oklahoma City  
\*Jeffrey Spivey, Rush Springs

### Family

Richard and Irene Allen, Oklahoma City  
David and Ruth Archer, Oklahoma City  
Brandy Baldwin, Wynnewood  
Doris Bergerson, Oklahoma City  
Margaret Blackerby, Oklahoma City  
Edward and Helen Blevins, Chickasha  
Don and Bama Blount, Oklahoma City  
Nick and Kathy Bottrosff, Oklahoma City  
Cynthia Kennedy and Charles Brussels, Devine, TX  
Doyle and Edna Clenney, Edmond  
Rosie Coffman, Tuttle  
Judith Coyle and David Royal, Oklahoma City  
Samuel and Catherine D'Alessandro, Oklahoma City  
Jack and Ardena DeSpain, Oklahoma City  
Les and Karen Dougherty, Blanchard  
Justine Foster, Jenks  
Harry and Kathy Goett, Oklahoma City  
Joe and Phyllis Gordon, Yukon  
Stanton and Jane Halley, Norman  
Chad and Jillian Haney, Edmond  
Glenn and Jane Hightower, Oklahoma City  
Alvin and Carol Ihrig, Wellston  
\*Gerald Johnston, Enid  
Donald and Linda Kelly, Yukon  
Timothy and Alyssa Kline, Jones  
Doug and Janet Latham, Oklahoma City  
Michael McCoy, Oklahoma City  
\*Gary and Lindey McDaniel, Bixby  
Ingrid McNutt and Kitty Champlin, Oklahoma City  
Bill Meyer, Enid  
Jack and Jane Morgan, Norman

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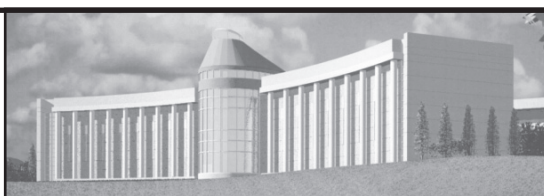
## Development News

By Larry O'Dell

The Oklahoma Historical Society is now actively fundraising for its next major exhibit, *Crossroads of Commerce: A History of Free Enterprise in Oklahoma*. This eight-thousand-square-foot exhibit will trace Oklahoma entrepreneurs and their successes from 1719 through the twentieth century and into the twenty-first. The stories will be shared not only with artifacts and traditional text, but also with dynamic interactives. This huge undertaking will be an agency-wide priority with a budget of \$1.6 million. It will open in November 2015 and will continue to be on exhibit for at least five years.

There are several categories for donating to *Crossroads of Commerce*, with the highest at \$250,000, steadily decreasing to \$100,000, \$50,000, \$10,000, and \$5,000. This does not preclude members from donating less than \$5,000. All donors at the \$5,000 level or more will be recognized for one year on the Annual Campaign Board in the History Center and receive ten complimentary tickets. All donors at the \$10,000 level and above will be recognized in the exhibit for five years and receive group passes. All donors at the \$50,000 level and above will be listed in the invitation to the exhibit opening, educational material, and gallery guides. \$100,000 level and above will be offered one free use of the History Center for a special event and have a promotional video shown on the History Center Capital Donor Screen. A \$250,000 donor will receive naming rights on the exhibit title panel.

If interested in supporting this innovative new project please contact Dr. Bob Blackburn at 405-522-5202 or Larry O'Dell at 405-522-6676 or lodell@okhistory.org.



**Oklahoma Historical Society**  
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**Mistletoe Leaves** is published for the members and friends of the Oklahoma Historical Society in partial fulfillment of the Society's purpose to "perserve 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 grievance manager of the Oklahoma Historical Society, 800 Nazih Zuhdi Dr., Oklahoma City, OK 73105-7917, telephone 405-522-8989, and/or the director, Office of Equal Opportunity, United States Department of the Interior, Washington, D.C. 20240.

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# AROUND OKLAHOMA

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## Exhibits

Visit the **Edmond** Historical Society and Museum as they present *The Edmond Sun: Connecting our Community 1889-2014*. This exhibit represents twenty-five years of community news and reporting by the *Edmond Sun* with an impressive collection of newspapers, cameras, and artifacts that illuminate the workings of this hometown newspaper. It is on display through December 20, 2014. The Edmond Historical Society and Museum is open Tuesday through Friday 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. and Saturday 1 to 4 p.m. Admission is free. The museum is located at 431 South Boulevard in Edmond. For more information about exhibits and programs call 405-340-0078 or visit [www.edmondhistory.org](http://www.edmondhistory.org).

## Events

Learn about the world of cotton farming at the annual Cotton Festival in **Frederick** on Saturday, November 1, from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Visitors to this event will enjoy educational displays, spinning and weaving demonstrations, crafts, children's games, and antique farm equipment. The grounds will feature live entertainment, food vendors, and a chili cook-off. View exhibits about cotton farming in the early twentieth century and take a tour of a local cotton gin. Activities will be held on the Tillman County Courthouse lawn, located at Highway 183 and Highway 5. For more information, please call 580-335-2126.

The National Weather Center in **Norman** will host the annual National Weather Festival on Saturday, November 1, from 10 a.m. until 2 p.m. This unique event features hourly weather balloon launches, children's activities, storm research vehicle displays, amateur radio demonstrations, and weather-related information and products. Visitors can also view the National Weather Center's premier facilities during the festival. The event will take place at 120 David L. Boren Boulevard in Norman. Call 405-325-6933 for more information.

Head to Cowboy Trade Days at the **Poteau** Fairgrounds on Saturday, November 1, and Sunday, November 2, for live entertainment, crafts, antiques, and food vendors. Enjoy free wagon rides, country and gospel singers, cowboy and cowgirl poets, and storytellers. For more information, please call 479-996-4314.

Celebrate the birthday of Oklahoma's favorite son, Will Rogers, by attending a variety of festivities taking place Saturday, November 1, through Tuesday, November 4, in **Claremore**. Will Rogers Days celebrates the November 4, 1879, birth of Will Rogers with activities such as a wreath-laying ceremony, a theater production, children's activities, and a special presentation by champion trick roper Kowboy Kal. Don't miss the kick-off parade through downtown Claremore on Saturday, November 1, at 10 a.m. Enjoy the decorated parade floats, marching bands, show horses, Shriners, and more as they make their way down Will Rogers Boulevard. The Will Rogers Memorial Museum is located at 1720 West Will Rogers Boulevard. Some events are held at Dog Iron Ranch, located at 9501 East 380 Road in Oologah. Please call 918-343-8113 for more information.

Step back in time to the 1830s and see history come alive at the Dripping Springs Rendezvous in Dripping Springs State Park. This three-day rendezvous will take place Thursday, November 6, through Saturday, November 8, approximately five miles west of **Okmulgee** on Highway 56. The event runs from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. each day. Visitors will witness demonstrations of blacksmithing, hawk and knife throwing, archery, black powder shooting, flint and steel fire-starting, leather crafting, and more. Many living history interpreters will be on hand portraying trappers, traders, mountain men, and American Indians from the 1800s. This event also features music, food, educational displays, souvenirs, and fun for all ages. Dripping Springs State Park is located at 16830 Dripping Springs Road in Okmulgee. Please call 918-756-5971 for more information.

Spend Friday, November 7, and Saturday, November 8, at the Euchee/Yuchi Heritage Festival in **Kellyville**. The festival will take place at the Creek County Fairgrounds where attendees will enjoy a Euchee language play, flute music by Randy Kemp, bingo, and a traditional meal. Saturday's events include traditional church hymn singing, a horseshoe tournament, fancy dancing by Mike Pahsetopah, bow shooting, a silent auction, and a stomp dance. Vendor booths and live demonstrations of traditional American Indian crafts will also be available for visitors. The Creek County Fairgrounds are located at 17806 West Highway 66 in Kellyville. For more information, please call 918-695-0195.

Experience the World's Oldest Free Fly-In and Air Show in **Fairview** on Saturday, November 8, at the Fairview Municipal Airport. The sixty-third annual air show features displays of antique, experimental, and classic aircrafts, a parachute jump, and aerobatics. Free breakfast will be served for all who fly in from 7 to 10 a.m. A veteran's ceremony will be held at 10:45 a.m. and the high-flying air show will begin at 12:30 p.m. This event is free and open to the public. For more information, please call 580-227-3788.

Help support the Edmond Historical Society and Museum at the annual Wine Through Time fundraiser. This year's honorary chairs, Ron and Beth Decker, invite you to join in the fun on Thursday, November 13, from 6 to 8:30 p.m. at the museum in **Edmond**. The festivities will include sixteen different wines from Premium Brands Wine and Spirits, gourmet tastings provided by local restaurants, entertainment by DJ Mark Burney, and silent and live auctions. At the end of the evening guests will take home a complimentary wine glass. Ticket pricing is \$50 and up. The Edmond Historical Society and Museum is located at 431 South Boulevard in Edmond. To purchase tickets or sponsor the event, please call 405-340-0078.

Ring in the holiday season at the Rock Island 905 Museum in **Duncan** on Saturday, November 29, at 7 p.m. Enjoy the museum's holiday decor, hot chocolate, cookies, and music. The 905 train's bell will start ringing at 7 p.m. and the locomotive will be lit for the first time in the 2014 season. Bring the entire family and even meet Santa Claus in the caboose. The Rock Island 905 Museum is located at 314 North Fourteenth Street in Duncan. Please call 580-252-2182 for more information.

Do you want your organization's meeting, event, or exhibit included 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 Elizabeth Bass, editor, by email at [ebass@okhistory.org](mailto:ebass@okhistory.org) or by mail at 800 Nazih Zuhdi Drive, Oklahoma City, OK 73105, during the first week of the month before you wish a news item to appear. For example, if you wish an item to appear in the December issue, you must submit by the first week of November.



## Oklahoma National History Day takes off



What is Oklahoma National History Day (OkNHD)? It is a great way to engage students and connect them with the past. It is also a big part of what the Oklahoma History Center education staff does. Over the past several years the program has grown by leaps and bounds, spreading to elementary, middle, and high school campuses across the state. Since school started in August, OHC staff have provided dozens of workshops for thousands of students and implemented the first Oklahoma History Day Institute for teachers and youth. Partnering with universities across Oklahoma, OkNHD is on the move reaching out to urban and rural students in schools of all sizes, helping students research the past and develop projects including papers, exhibits, websites, documentaries, and performances. Once projects are completed in the spring, students travel to universities and colleges across the state to present their work to historians, professors, and museum professionals. Winners of these regional competitions then advance to the state finals at the Oklahoma History Center in May.

Why is this important to you? OkNHD helps students develop skills that will make them college and career ready and creates engaged citizens. Because of the tremendous growth in the program, the coordinators need

your help. We are beginning our annual fundraising campaign for OkNHD and making a simple challenge: consider skipping a coffee or a coke for a week and make a \$10 donation to help sponsor a student. Help the education staff reach its goal of providing scholarships to every History Day student this year. To find out more about OkNHD, visit [www.okhistory.org/historyday](http://www.okhistory.org/historyday) or call 405-522-0785.



## Oktoberfest Events a success for Pioneer Woman Museum and Marland Mansion

The Pioneer Woman Museum joined the Marland Mansion in celebrating Oktoberfest on Saturday, October 4, and Sunday, October 5, by hosting various pioneer learning experiences on the Pioneer Woman Museum lawn. Hands-on activities included traditional crafts, spinning by Joan Galbraith, weaving by Lorraine McDonagh and Kathy Carter, tatting by Bonny Galbraith, and candle making by Thomas Galbraith. Attendees enjoyed a variety of activities both days. There were demonstrations of rope making by OHS employee Keith Rohlman and pioneer laundry by OHS employee Rachel Kellum. Kellum assisted visitors as they tried their hand at doing laundry with a washtub and washboard.

Blacksmiths from the Saltfork Craftsmen Artist-Blacksmith Association, Inc., showed families their skills. Volunteers Jim Carothers, Tom Nelson and Charlie Mertz demonstrated blacksmithing techniques as they created functional items from hot metal. More information about this organization can be found at [www.saltforkcraftsmen.org](http://www.saltforkcraftsmen.org).

Oktoberfest events at the Pioneer Woman Museum were in partnership with the E. W. Marland Estate Foundation. The Marland Mansion's Oktoberfest event is held annually on the first weekend of October. Pioneer Woman Museum Director Robbin Davis extends many thanks to the staff and volunteers who made Oktoberfest at the Pioneer Woman Museum a great success.



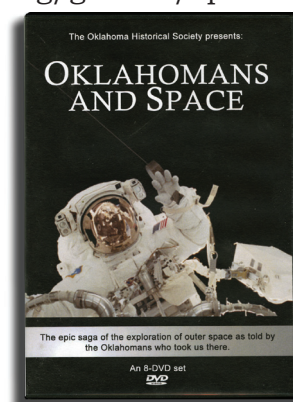
Tom Nelson and Charlie Mertz demonstrate blacksmithing (photo by Jim Carothers).

## Oklahomans and Space

For those who may have missed the OHS documentary series *Oklahomans and Space* that played over the summer on OETA, there will be a second chance to watch it in November. OETA will air the entire series during the daytime for student and teacher viewing, so you may have to set your DVR to record it.

Program #1 - November 10 – 1 p.m.  
 Program #2 – November 11 – 1 p.m.  
 Program #3 – November 12 – 1 p.m.  
 Program #4 – November 13 – 1 p.m.  
 Program #5 – November 14 – 1 p.m.  
 Program #6 – November 17 – 1 p.m.  
 Program #7 – November 18 – 1 p.m.  
 Extra Program – November 19 – 1 p.m.

Please note that the first six programs are sixty minutes in length. Program number seven is ninety minutes long and the extra program titled “The Oklahoma Influence” is thirty minutes in length. For more info on the series, go to [www.okhistory.org/general/space](http://www.okhistory.org/general/space).





## Pioneer Woman Museum hosts Gifts From Your Kitchen workshop



On Tuesday, November 11, the Pioneer Woman Museum is hosting a workshop with an opportunity for hands-on learning. The Gifts From Your Kitchen workshop will allow participants to work with others and create many gifts for the upcoming holiday season. It starts at 11 a.m. and provides an opportunity for adults to learn about the benefits of making gifts from their kitchens, including marshmallow stir sticks, sugar scrub, milk bath, and a barbecue rub. Participants can take their handmade gifts home and will receive a booklet including seventy recipe ideas.

Registration is due by November 3, and the cost is \$20 per person, which will cover all materials for the day. To register or receive additional information, please call Robbin Davis at 580-765-6108 or Lindsay Grace at 580-362-3194.

This workshop is made possible in part by the Oklahoma State University Cooperative Extension Service. The Cooperative Extension Service offers its programs to all eligible persons regardless of race, color, national origin, religion, gender, age, disability, or status as a veteran and is an Equal Opportunity Employer.

The Pioneer Woman Museum is located at 701 Monument Road in Ponca City. The hours of operation are Tuesday through Saturday, 10 a.m.-5 p.m. Admission is \$4 for adults, \$3 for seniors, \$1 for children ages six to eighteen, and children under six are free. For more information, please call 580-765-6108 or email [piown@okhistory.org](mailto:piown@okhistory.org).



## 2014 OMA awards presented

The Oklahoma Museums Association (OMA) presented awards to OHS museums on Friday, September 25. Oklahoma History Center Director Dan Provo was awarded the Laura McDonagh Streich Award for Service to the Profession, and Diana Collinsworth earned a Certificate of Recognition for her volunteer service. The History Center's exhibit *Steamboat Heroine* won the award for best exhibit with a budget of \$15,001 and over.

The Oklahoma Territorial Museum's exhibit *The Life & Death of an American Outlaw: The Story of Elmer McCurdy* won the award for best exhibit with a budget of \$0-\$5,000. OTM also took home an award for best publication for its *Osage Hills Detective Stories*.

The Cherokee Strip Regional Heritage Center was awarded best outreach or education program with a budget \$0-\$5,000 for their program Pioneer Life: Homesteading the Cherokee Outlet.

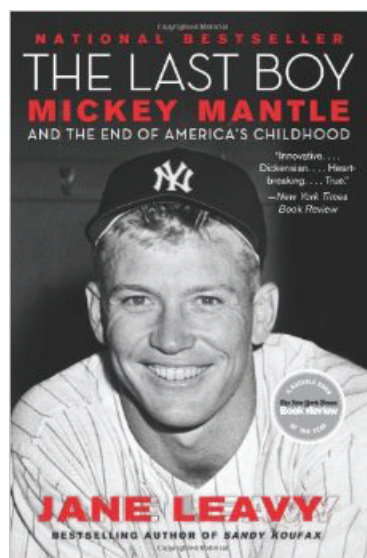


Left: Dan Provo  
Right: Diana

Collinsworth with History Center staff members Jason Harris and Sarah Dumas.

## Museum Store News

By Jera Winters



The Oklahoma History Center Museum Store is proud to showcase the history of Oklahoma and beyond, including the state's role in the shaping of the United States. From the expansion to the West, to how our state's shape impacts the shape of the US, to Oklahomans that have shaped sports history, Oklahoma is a vital part of the American experience. We are happy to offer fascinating new books on Oklahoma and America.

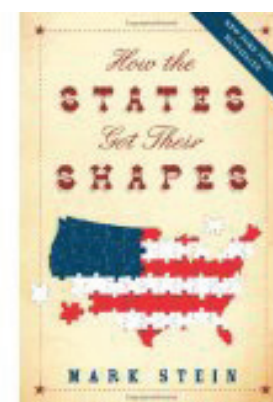
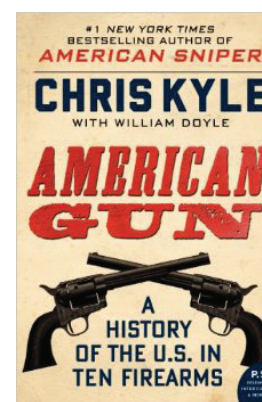
***American Gun: A History of the U.S. in Ten Firearms* by Chris Kyle with William Doyle.** This book dramatically chronicles the story of America—from the American Revolution to the present—through the lens of ten iconic guns and the remarkable heroes who used them to shape history. The book is priced at \$15.99, and available to members for \$13.59.

***How the States Got Their Shapes* by Mark Stein.**

Playwright and screenwriter Stein compiles the story of each state's border, channeling them into a cohesive whole. Proceeding through the states alphabetically, Stein takes the innovative step of addressing each border—north, south, east, and west—separately. The price of the book is \$22.99, and is available to members for \$19.54.

***The Last Boy: Mickey Mantle* by Jane Leavy.** In *The Last Boy*, Leavy plumbs the depths of the complex athlete, using copious first-hand research, as well as her own memories, to show why The Mick remains the most beloved and misunderstood Yankee slugger of all time. The book is priced at \$27.99, and available to members for \$23.79.

Stop by and visit us for these and many other unique products. Members always receive a discount of 15 percent on Museum Store purchases. Please contact us at 405-522-5214 with questions about these or any other of our great items.



## The Encyclopedia of Oklahoma History and Culture

*The Encyclopedia of Oklahoma History and Culture* makes a great gift. This 1,700-page, two-volume set includes 2,455 articles by noted historians including biographies, town and county histories, major events, and much more about the rich history and culture of Oklahoma and its people.

The retail price is \$100 for the set, plus shipping and handling. OHS members receive a discount, and institutions may also qualify for discounts. For purchase or more information, contact the Museum Store at 405-522-5214 or [giftshop@okhistory.org](mailto:giftshop@okhistory.org).



## Museum and Research Center staff share resources at Oil and Gas Expo

On October 2, museum and research staff teamed up to participate in a one-day Oil and Gas Expo event at the state fairgrounds. OHS staff were invited by Saving Oklahoma's Energy Resources (SOER). Their booth highlighted the new Oil and Gas exhibit, Oil and Gas education trunk, and photograph and document archives and research resources.



## CSRHC Fall Lecture Series continues in Enid

The Cherokee Strip Regional Heritage Center (CSRHC) in Enid will host two additional installments of the Fall Lecture Series. This year's theme is "Surviving the Ebb and Flow of Water in the West." All lectures are free and open to the public.

On November 3 at 7 p.m. the topic will be "Conservation Born out of Crisis" with Clay Pope, executive director of the Oklahoma Association of Conservation Districts.

On November 10 at 7 p.m. the topic will be "Issues Today for Water Tomorrow" with J. D. Strong, executive director of the Oklahoma Water Resources Board.

All lectures will be held at the Gantz Center on the Enid Campus of Northern Oklahoma College at 7 p.m.

For more information, please call 580-237-1907. The CSRHC is located at 507 South Fourth Street in Enid.



## Spotlight on a Site . . .

### Fort Towson

HC 63, Box 1580

Fort Towson, OK 74735-9273

Phone: 580-873-2634

Hours: Tuesday-Saturday 9 a.m.-5 p.m.;

Admission: Free, donations accepted

Directions: Located approximately fourteen miles east of Hugo on US Highway 70.

Situated in far southeastern Choctaw County, Fort Towson is one of five military sites operated by the Oklahoma Historical Society. The fort served intermittently as an important frontier bastion from 1824 to 1865. Named for Colonel Nathan Towson, a hero of the War of 1812, the site was originally known as Cantonment Towson when Colonel Matthew Arbuckle and two companies of men of the Seventh Infantry cleared the area for a small garrison in May 1824. For five years the soldiers tried to remove settlers who believed the area was part of Miller County, Arkansas. The troops also constructed roads to connect the site with Fort Smith, Arkansas, and Fort Jesup, Louisiana. Considered unsuccessful, the post was abandoned in June 1829, and Miller county settlers burned it to the ground.

In preparation for the removal of the Choctaws from the southeastern part of the United States to Indian Territory, the post was reopened on the same site in November 1831. On February 8, 1832, it was designated as Fort Towson. In addition to serving as a terminal point for the Choctaw removal, the fort was a staging area for troops during the Mexican War (1846-48). The site was again abandoned in 1854 only to be resurrected during the Civil War (1861-65). On June 23, 1865, Cherokee Brigadier General Stand Watie surrendered near the fort at Doaksville.

A visitor center and period sutler's store are open to the public. The Oklahoma Historical Society acquired the property in 1960, and Fort Towson was added to the National Register of Historic Places in 1970 (NR 70000531). Those interested in learning more about the fort should consult "Bulwark of the American Frontier: A History of Fort Towson," by Patrick B. McGuigan, in *Early Military Forts and Posts in Oklahoma*, edited by Odie B. Faulk, Kenny A. Franks, and Paul F. Lambert. Published by the Oklahoma Historical Society in 1978, the work is currently out of print, so consult your local public or university library for a copy.



## Call for papers for 2015 Oklahoma History Conference

The Oklahoma Historical Society is seeking papers and presentations for the 2015 OHS Annual Oklahoma History Conference, which will be held April 22, 23, and 24, 2015, at the Artesian Hotel in Sulphur, Oklahoma. A total of ten presentation sessions will be held on the mornings of Thursday, April 23, and Friday, April 24. Each session will feature either two or three presentations.

The theme for the conference is "Land, Wood, and Water: Natural Resources and the Course of Oklahoma History." The history and culture of the state of Oklahoma from the prehistoric era to the present have been shaped by the area's natural environment. Settlement patterns, business and economic development, cultural diversity, and quality of life issues all were influenced by land, wood, and water. A small sample of the wide range of topics that could be relevant to this theme includes agriculture; transition of public lands to private property; extraction of oil, gas, coal, and other underground resources; transportation; conservation; forest industry; banking; tourism; establishment of communities and lifestyles; and businesses relating directly or indirectly to natural resources.

Presentations should be limited to twenty or thirty minutes in length, depending on the number of participants in each session. One-page proposals should include the title of the presentation; a one-hundred-word description of the presentation; the name, address, phone number, and email address of the presenter; and a short curriculum vitae or brief biographical sketch. Those who submit proposals will be notified of their status by early February 2015 if not earlier. Registration fees for program participants will be waived.

Presentation proposals are being accepted now. The deadline for submitting presentation proposals is Wednesday, December 31, 2014. Proposals should be sent to Annual Conference Committee, Attn: Paul Lambert, Oklahoma Historical Society, 800 Nazih Zuhdi Drive, Oklahoma City, OK 73105. Proposals also may be emailed to Paul Lambert at [plambert@okhistory.org](mailto:plambert@okhistory.org). Please call 405-522-5217 with any questions.



**New Members, cont’d.**

Robert and Sandralee Moynihan, Yukon  
Dan and Mary Nixon, Midwest City  
Mark and Sheree Norman, Edmond  
Georgia Pattison and Dana Garcia, Newalla  
Ronald and Gayleen Rabakukk, Edmond  
Michael Shanbour, Edmond  
Bill and Reese Todd, Oklahoma City  
Ione and Jamie Tracy, Moore  
Jerry Lee Tyner, Oklahoma City  
Neal and Cindy Van Kley, Spencer  
Joseph Wilson and Sarah Roberison, Yukon

**Individual**

Carrie Adams, Blackwell  
Karen Anson, Seminole  
Glenn Bauer, Loveland, OH  
Roger Bell, Muskogee  
Jack Brock, Broken Bow  
Rachel Brooks, Yukon  
Terry Calvert, Wewoka  
Elizabeth Canfield, Austin, TX  
Thelma Chappel, Ravia  
Don Diehl, Mulhall  
Robert Dooley, Oklahoma City  
Daniel Franklin, Eufaula  
Rebecca Fuller, Atoka  
Kevin Guenther, Owasso  
David Hampton, Tulsa  
Taylor Haught, Oklahoma City  
Adam Hudspeth, Hartshorne  
Lakishia Lee, Idabel  
Jimmie McFarland, Claremore  
Clyde Mickle, Pryor  
Kevin Miller, Wagoner  
Pamela Miller, Enid  
Duane Murray, Tulsa  
Kathy Norton, Duncan  
Maritza Ortiz, Stillwater  
Sharon Pack, Enid  
Doris Parker, Barnsdall  
Roger Posey, Muskogee  
Tonya Redwing, Miami  
Linda Richter, Bronx, NY  
Heather Smith, Ada  
Sandra Soli, Edmond  
Gabriel Valdez, Broken Arrow  
Rhonda Wood, Tishomingo  
Barbara Yuill, Edmond

**Ancestry Day in Oklahoma on November 7-8**

Ancestry.com, the Oklahoma Genealogical Society, and the Oklahoma Historical Society present Ancestry Day in Oklahoma, two days of genealogy and native culture, on November 7-8. Both novice and experienced genealogists are welcome at this event. Registration to the main event is \$40 and includes admission to all Saturday classes presented by Ancestry.com.

On Friday, November 7, participants may choose from three bus tours exploring Historic Downtown Guthrie, Chickasaw Country, or Scenic Downtown Oklahoma City. Bus tours are 9 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. and the cost is \$69 per person.

Friday sessions include two concurrent tracks. Learn about the resources of the Oklahoma Historical Society, historic newspapers, Oklahoma and Indian Territory history, land records and more. Debra Spindle and Billie Fogarty will present these sessions at Metro Technology Center’s Springlake Campus Conference Center from 1-4:45 p.m. At the Oklahoma History Center speakers William D. Welge, Gene Norris, Kenneth Sivard, and Mary Jane Warde will explore the history of the Five Civilized Tribes from 1-4:45 p.m. The History Center will offer free admission to museum galleries for class attendees. Registration to either of the Friday sessions is \$5 per person.

Friday evening the Oklahoma History Center will host “Native Reflections: Experience Tribal Traditions,” a reception from 5-7 p.m. featuring Chickasaw dancers and demonstrations of American Indian finger weaving, beadwork, and other native craft techniques. The reception is \$20 per person and refreshments will be served. History Center galleries will be open for this event.

On Saturday, November 8, all activities will be held in downtown Oklahoma City at the Renaissance Ballroom in the Cox Convention Center. Classes are 8 a.m.-4:30 p.m. and include Ancestry 101: New & Review; Getting the Most from Ancestry.com; Using AncestryDNA to Further Your Family History Research; the exciting new American Indian Collection on Ancestry; and Sharing Your Family Story. Door prizes will be awarded throughout the day. Participants have the option of enjoying lunch on their own in nearby Bricktown or purchasing tickets to a special lunch on location. The lunch program will feature Choctaw author and storyteller Tim Tingle. Tickets are \$35 per person and seating is limited.

For complete conference details and registration information visit [www.okhistory.org/ancestryday](http://www.okhistory.org/ancestryday) or contact Laura Martin at 405-522-5225 or [lmartin@okhistory.org](mailto:lmartin@okhistory.org). Ancestry Day in Oklahoma is sponsored in part by the Oklahoma Department of Tourism.



**Twenty-year members renew in September 2014**

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

James Tilly, Tulsa, June 1, 1969  
Langston University, Langston, October 1, 1972  
Harvey and Kathryn Nye, Norman, November 1, 1980  
J. Carl Richeson, Eldorado, September 1, 1981  
John and Marsha Greiner, Oklahoma City, October 10, 1986  
Wanda Haggard, Shawnee, August 4, 1988  
Robert Klemme, Enid, August 30, 1988  
Robert and Mary Haught, Reva, VA, September 13, 1988  
Sallie Cotter-Andrews, Decatur, TX, September 15, 1988  
Nancy Chapman, Stigler, September 21, 1988  
Gary Brown, Enid, April 19, 1989  
Gary and Lindey McDaniel, Bixby, August 8, 1989  
Peter Winn and Gail Deaton, Edmond, August 15, 1989  
Gary Gallagher, Edmond, October 27, 1989  
K. W. Armstrong, Fort Worth, TX, August 13, 1991  
Mary Ryan, Saint Ann, MO, September 3, 1991  
Paul Barker, Springfield, MO, September 14, 1992  
Mr. and Mrs. Don Symcox, Norman, March 9, 1993  
Rick and Jean Corley, Moore, August 12, 1993  
Helen Cline, Hennessey, September 7, 1993  
John and Phyllis Rearden, Charleston, IL, September 14, 1993  
David Levy, Norman, September 14, 1993  
Earl and Joan Naylor, Edmond, September 22, 1993  
Marina Metevelis, Tulsa, February 10, 1994  
James Floyd, Tulsa, August 18, 1994  
Ronald Owens, Oklahoma City, September 21, 1994  
Dale and Carolyn Tompkins, Del City, September 21, 1994

**History Center to host Dutch oven cooking class**

Join the Oklahoma History Center on Saturday, November 15, from 1 to 5 p.m. for a hands-on learning experience in Dutch oven cooking. Learn a variety of recipes as you create a dish and discover how to use a Dutch oven in your own backyard. Cost for the class is \$15 and all necessary materials will be provided.

Registration is required and space is limited, so sign up early. The class will begin inside the museum for background information, instructions on how to care for and clean Dutch ovens, recipes, and different cooking methods. The majority of the class will take place outdoors, preparing a group meal for all to enjoy. Dutch ovens and food items are provided by the History Center. Please remember to dress for the weather and no open-toed shoes or sandals are permitted. For more information or to register, please contact the Oklahoma History Center Education Department at [education@okhistory.org](mailto:education@okhistory.org) or 405-522-3602.



Oklahoma Historical Society  
800 Nazih Zuhdi Drive  
Oklahoma City, OK 73105-7917

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PERIODICALS

**Oklahoma History Center achieves  
AAM accreditation**

The Oklahoma History Center, a division of the Oklahoma Historical Society, has achieved accreditation from the American Alliance of Museums (AAM), the highest national recognition for a museum. Accreditation signifies excellence to the museum community, to governments, funders, outside agencies, and to the museum-going public.

AAM accreditation is the field’s primary vehicle for quality assurance, self-regulation, and public accountability, and earns national recognition for a museum for its commitment to excellence in all that it does: governance, collections stewardship, public programs, financial stability, high professional standards, and continued institutional improvement. Developed and sustained by museum professionals for thirty-five years, AAM’s Museum Accreditation Program strengthens the profession by promoting practices that enable leaders to make informed decisions, allocate resources wisely, and provide the best possible service to the public.

History Center Director Dan Provo said, “The History Center is very pleased to have successfully completed the rigorous accreditation process. The two-year process involved the entire museum staff, volunteers, OHS leadership, and board members of both the OHS and the Friends of the Oklahoma History Center. The History Center strives to achieve excellence in all areas of operation. Accreditation lets us know that we operate at the highest levels and on par with some of the best museums in the country.”

Of the nation’s estimated 35,000 museums, 1,005 are currently accredited. The Oklahoma History Center is one of only twelve accredited museums out of roughly five hundred museums in Oklahoma.

“Accreditation assures the people of Oklahoma that their state museum is among the finest in the nation,” said Ford W. Bell, president of the AAM. “As a result, the citizens can take considerable pride in their homegrown institution, for its commitment to excellence and for the value it brings to the state.”

Accreditation is a rigorous process that examines all aspects of a museum’s operations. To earn accreditation, a museum first must conduct a year of self-study, and then undergo a site visit by a team of peer reviewers. AAM’s Accreditation Commission, an independent and autonomous body of museum professionals, review and evaluate the self-study and the visiting committee report to determine whether a museum should receive accreditation. While the time to complete the process varies by museum, it generally takes three years.

The Oklahoma History Center opened in November 2005. Since that time it has served roughly 1.8 million people, including almost six hundred thousand students and four hundred thousand people participating in special events. With accreditation, the Oklahoma History Center with the Museum and Research Center becomes the only facility in the world that is accredited by the AAM, is an affiliate of the Smithsonian Institution, and is an affiliate of the US National Archives.



**November events at a glance**

- 1-15** *Pieces of Home* exhibit, Cherokee Strip Regional Heritage Center, Enid
- 1-30** *No Lady of Leisure* exhibit, Chisholm Trail Museum, Kingfisher
- 1-30** *Born to Freedom: Allan Houser Centennial* exhibit, Oklahoma History Center, Oklahoma City
- 1-30** *Oklahoma @ the Movies* exhibit, Oklahoma History Center, Oklahoma City
- 3** “Conservation Born Out of Crisis” lecture, Cherokee Strip Regional Heritage Center, Enid
- 7-8** Ancestry Day in Oklahoma, Oklahoma History Center, Governor’s Mansion Phillips Pavilion, Renaissance Hotel, Metro Technology Center, Oklahoma City
- 8** Quilting workshop, Sod House Museum, Aline
- 8** Weaving class, Oklahoma History Center, Oklahoma City
- 8** American Indian Heritage Month – Men’s Clothing and Traditional Hunting, Oklahoma History Center, Oklahoma City
- 10** “Issues Today for Water Tomorrow” lecture, Cherokee Strip Regional Heritage Center, Enid
- 11** Gifts From Your Kitchen workshop, Pioneer Woman Museum, Ponca City
- 15** Dutch oven cooking class, Oklahoma History Center, Oklahoma City
- 15** Third Saturday Living History Program, George M. Murrell Home, Park Hill
- 15** *Allan Houser: Unconquered* documentary screening, Oklahoma History Center, Oklahoma City
- 19** Patti Page exhibit opens, Oklahoma History Center, Oklahoma City