



Battle of Honey Springs Reenactment

The Battle of Honey Springs Reenactment is an outstanding re-creation of the appearance of the battle fought on July 17, 1863. Join reenactors from across the United States on Saturday, November 7, and Sunday, November 8. The reenactment begins at 1 p.m. on Saturday and Sunday. Admission is \$5 for adults, and children ages twelve and under are free. There will be an Education Day on Friday, November 6, specifically for youth and school groups.

Activities throughout the weekend include two battle reenactments with infantry, cavalry, artillery, and medical personnel. Visitors can take self-guided tours through the Union, Confederate, and civilian camps. There also will be military drills, cooking demonstrations, and other living history programs. Living historians and volunteers will portray Civil War-era civilians including members of soldiers' aid societies, business proprietors, and musicians. Many sutlers and vendors will be on site in the "Sutler's Row" area of the encampment. Traveling with an army or to remote military outposts, sutlers sold wares from the back of a wagon or a temporary tent. Visitors will be able to visit and purchase items from these shops just as soldiers did during the Civil War. Vendors will peddle souvenirs, books, reproductions of nineteenth-century military equipment and clothing, and other goods. Attendees also can visit modern-day vendors offering various food and drinks. Groups are welcome to enjoy lunch at the picnic tables. The Friends of Honey Springs Battlefield will have a gift shop offering keepsakes specific to the battle.

The engagement at Honey Springs (called the Affair at Elk Creek by the Confederates) was the largest of more than 107 documented hostile encounters in Indian Territory. Federal reports place 2,800 Union troops and 6,000 Confederate troops at Honey Springs. Later research estimated the Confederate force between 3,400 and 5,100, not all of whom were physically capable and equipped to fight. Confederate units involved included the Twentieth and Twenty-Ninth Texas Cavalry, the Fifth Texas Partisan Rangers, Lee's Light Battery of Texas Artillery, the First and Second Cherokee Mounted Rifles, the First and Second Creek Mounted Rifles, and the First Choctaw and Chickasaw Regiments of Mounted Rifles. Union forces at the battle included the Sixth Kansas Cavalry, the First, Second, and Third Regiments of Indian Home Guard, a battalion of the Second Colorado Infantry, a battalion of the Third Wisconsin Cavalry, and the First Kansas Colored Infantry.

Visitors are encouraged to wear sturdy shoes and be prepared for obstacles including uneven terrain and gravel. Parking will be available in the field across the road from the reenactment. Honey Springs Battlefield is located east of US Highway 69 between Oktaha and Rentiesville. The physical address is 101601 South 4232 Road in Checotah. For more information please call 918-473-5572 or visit www.okhistory.org/sites/honeyspringsbattle.



Archaeological dig held at Fort Washita

Fort Washita hosted an archaeological dig on September 17–20. The Fall Dig was sponsored by the OHS, Oklahoma Anthropological Society, and the University of Oklahoma.

This dig concentrated on a large, unidentified structure in the area of the original corral. More than sixty professional and amateur archaeologists contributed their time and effort into uncovering another chapter of our state's history. The dig was a great success with numerous artifacts identified and a working idea of the building's original purpose discovered.

Visitors to Fort Washita during this time were given a unique opportunity to witness a true archaeological dig, from mapping a grid to the thrill of discovery. On Saturday night the Oklahoma Anthropological Society sponsored a grilled burger dinner for participants, followed by a concert by the Red River Dulcimer Club. A wonderful time was had by all.



Left and below:
Excavation underway.
Far left: Dragoon button found during the dig (photos courtesy Andy Slaucitajs, Oklahoma Anthropological Society).



Fall Bake Day at Fort Gibson

On Saturday, November 14, at 10 a.m. Fort Gibson will host Fall Bake Day. Partnering with the Friends of Fort Gibson, Bake Day is a fundraiser and educational event that depicts one aspect of army life after the Civil War. The aroma of fresh baked bread will fill the air on Garrison Hill as Fort Gibson staff and volunteers bring a bake house to life. This living history presentation details the bread making process, with Rory Montgomery explaining how to bake bread in an old wood-fired stone oven. Guests can enjoy bread baking demonstrations and sample the finished product. Visitors also may bring their own bread to bake in the oven at Fort Gibson, then spend the day viewing a reconstruction of the early log fort as well as original buildings from the 1840s through 1870s. Exhibits detailing the history of the fort are located in the Commissary Visitor Center on Garrison Hill. For more information please contact Omar Reed at 918-478-4088 or oreed@okhistory.org. Fort Gibson is a National Historic Landmark and is located at 907 North Garrison in Fort Gibson, Oklahoma.



Director's column

By Dr. Bob L. Blackburn
Executive Director

In the life of any person, there are turning points that define what had been and what would be. For most of us, we think of turning points such as graduations, marriage, or the birth of a baby.

For the Oklahoma Historical Society, the turning points are easy to trace: the Oklahoma Territory Press Association creating the OHS in 1893; becoming a state agency in 1907; moving into the State Capitol in 1918; completing the Historical Building in 1930; adding the first staffed satellite museum in 1964.

On November 16, 2005, we added a new chapter to that list of turning points in the life of the OHS. It was the opening of the Oklahoma History Center. Now it is time to celebrate the tenth anniversary and reflect on what it has meant to our ability to collect, preserve, and share Oklahoma history.

The Oklahoma History Center is more than steel, concrete, glass, and wood. It is more than storage space, museum galleries, and offices. It is even more than the beautiful design and efficient use of space that we sometimes take for granted.

In the big picture of OHS history, the Oklahoma History Center is a new attitude, a new way to approach our responsibility to take care of what has been collected and to improve on the way we use those collections to share the story of our community. After the History Center opened, acceptable mediocrity was no longer good enough. We knew we could do better.

The change did not occur overnight. It was gradual, built on the success of each new exhibit, each new collection, each new partnership formed. And as we raised our expectations, it became easier to recruit high performing staff members, attract partners, and raise money.

With each success came improvement in the OHS brand. The community, from legislators and business leaders to tribal officials and museum professionals, recognized that the OHS was moving forward and worthy of their support.

Today, the quality of the Oklahoma History Center is the new standard for the OHS. You see that reflected in the State Museum, the Research Division, the Historic Preservation Office, the Cherokee Strip Regional Heritage Center, the Route 66 Museum, and the many museums and historic sites where we have completed new exhibits and acquired new collections.

Yes, there are many turning points that define what had been and what would be. The opening of the Oklahoma History Center will rank among the most important in the long history of the Oklahoma Historical Society. It is time to celebrate.

Dr. Bob

New Members, September 2015

*Indicates renewed memberships at a higher level

Director's Circle

Jeanene Naifeh, Oklahoma City

Friend

Robert Baron and Janice Dansby, Oklahoma City
Roger Box, Bartlesville

*Bernard and Iris Duffe, Tulsa
Timothy Larason, Oklahoma City
*Patricia Lowry, Oklahoma City
David and Cathlene Mattix, Jenks
Mark and Megan Moore, Norman
Matt and Cherish Ralls, Oklahoma City

Family

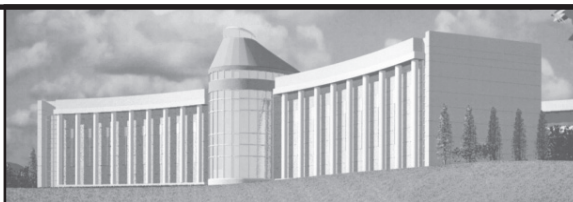
Michael and Sherri Adkins, Newalla
Brandon and Paula Albers, Midwest City
*Marilyn Alsip, Midwest City
Aaron Baker, Oklahoma City
Mr. and Mrs. Matthew Bates, Blanchard
Donald and Adelphia Bellisario, Choctaw
Mary Boone, Oklahoma City
Kevin and Robin Braddock, Harrah
Wade and Rachelle Burleson, Enid
Suzi Byrne, Midwest City
Maria Corpuz and Alecia Nicholson, Oklahoma City
Sara and Alex Cowan, Oklahoma City
William Cunningham and Katherine Dickey, Oklahoma City
Cara Ditto-Marsh, Norman
Kathy Dunn, Midwest City
David and Patricia Duskin, Oklahoma City
David and Jane Edmonds, Oklahoma City
Rosie Elder, Oklahoma City
Heather Englehart and Anne Williams, Choctaw
Darin and Laura Ferguson, Hominy
Pam Flynn, Moore
Chester and Youngae Fonner, Moore
Ruth Ford and Scott Ford, Oklahoma City
*Skeeter Hall and Mike Novotny, Oklahoma City
Marcia Harcourt, Edmond
*Patti Harrold, Edmond
Jacqueline Headlee, Oklahoma City
Karen Jones, Newalla
Rita Jones, Yukon
Keith and Leslie Kelly, Tulsa
Mitzie Klarich, Moore
Linda Kromer and Lori McEntire, Midwest City
Rosa Lambeth, Oklahoma City
Steve and Cheryl Langstraat, Stillwater
Karl and Deena Loret, Ponca City
Craig and Christina Lovett, Duncan
John MacDonald, Edmond
Philip Marshala and Cathy Compton, Oklahoma City

Development News

By Larry O'Dell

As the Oklahoma Historical Society prepares to celebrate the tenth anniversary of the Oklahoma History Center, the development office is kicking off a drive for naming opportunities on the Oklahoma Family Tree. Commemorate your family name on a leaf or leaves of the Oklahoma Family Tree and record your family history in the digital Oklahoma Family History Book. The Family Tree is a beautiful, original wall sculpture made up of gold and silver leaves that are affixed to the wall around the branches of the tree. Each leaf contains three lines of lettering on a three inch by three inch recognition plate. The first line lists the family name, the second line includes the first name(s), and the last line is the family's town or county. The corresponding family histories will be viewable in a digital format at the base of the tree.

The Oklahoma Family Tree wall is located just outside the Research Center Reading Room in the West Family Wing at the Oklahoma History Center. Each leaf is \$1,000 with the option of paying throughout a two-year pledge period. You may purchase a leaf on your own or you may get your family members together to purchase them. We want to make sure you are aware of this special opportunity to preserve your family history. All proceeds will go into the Oklahoma History Center Endowment Fund to benefit future generations of Oklahomans. This is a great way for your family to make history and benefit the future at the same time. Contact Shelly Crynes at 405-522-0317 or scrynes@okhistory.org. You also may visit www.okhistory.org/support/familytree to purchase leaves today.



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Oklahoma Historical Society
Membership Office: Alma Moore
405-522-5242
ohsmembers@okhistory.org

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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.

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.

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AROUND OKLAHOMA

Events

Visit Sam Noble Museum at the University of Oklahoma in **Norman** for a special program on Tuesday, November 3. The guest speaker will be LaDonna Brown, tribal anthropologist for the Chickasaw Nation. Her presentation is entitled "Southeastern Indian Finger Weaving Designs." This fall speaker series is free, open to the public, and held in conjunction with the Sam Noble Museum's current exhibit, *Collision & Creation: Indigenous Arts of the Americas, 1890–2015*. A reception will be held at 6:30 p.m. and the presentation begins at 7 p.m. This program is cosponsored by the Sam Noble Museum and the Cleveland County Chapter of the Oklahoma Anthropological Society. It will be held in the Kerr Auditorium of the Sam Noble Museum, located at 2401 Chautauqua Avenue in Norman. Please call 405-325-4712 for more information.

The Spencer Historical Society will host its tenth annual Salute to Veterans in **Spencer** on Wednesday, November 11, at 10:30 a.m. The event will be held at the Alta Mae Black Pavilion in Ben Black Park just south of the Spencer Museum. All veterans and active duty military are invited to attend. Colors will be presented by the JROTC from Star Spencer High School. The brief ceremony will be followed by refreshments and the Spencer Museum will be open. The Spencer Museum and adjacent Ben Black Park are located at the corner of Northeast Fiftieth Street and Palmer Avenue in Spencer. Please call Linda Verges at 405-771-3561 with questions.

Attend the monthly meeting of the Muskogee County Historical Society in **Muskogee** on Thursday, November 12, at 11:30 a.m. The meeting will be held in the second floor conference room at the Cherokee Nation Health Center. It includes a potluck luncheon and a celebration of Statehood Day in Oklahoma. A program entitled "Indian Territory Missionaries" will be presented by Bill Welge, director of the American Indian Culture and Preservation Office at the OHS. The Cherokee Nation Health Center is located at 1001 South Forty-First Street East in Muskogee. For more information please call Ellen Johnson at 918-453-9842.

Spend the day at the World's Oldest Free Fly-In and Air Show in **Fairview** on Saturday, November 14. The sixty-fourth annual air show is held at the

Fairview Municipal Airport and 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. The Fairview Municipal Airport is located at North Main Street and East Oklahoma in Fairview. For more information please call 580-227-3788.

Experience a German tradition at Volkstrauertag on Sunday, November 15, at 2 p.m. in **El Reno**. The memorial event will be held at Fort Reno to honor the German prisoners of war who are buried at the cemetery's annex. There will be musical entertainment and a wreath laying ceremony. Fort Reno is located at 7107 West Cheyenne Street in El Reno. Please call Barbara Conrad at 918-492-3273 for more information.

Announcements

The Museum of the Great Plains in **Lawton** reopens to the public following a \$5 million renovation of the main gallery. The 22,000-square-foot exhibit area features fully immersive, highly interactive environments with tailored activities that appeal to all ages. Beginning Wednesday, November 18, the public is invited to visit the museum and enjoy the renovated exhibits, with admission. Explore the Great Plains from the remote past to the present day. Museum hours are Monday through Saturday, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m., and Sunday, 1 to 5 p.m. For more information please call 580-581-3460 or visit www.discovermnp.org.

The Oklahoma Regional Conference of Phi Alpha Theta and the sixty-eighth annual meeting of the Oklahoma Association of Professional Historians will be hosted by Oklahoma Baptist University in **Shawnee** on February 26–27, 2016. The primary purpose of the conference is for history professionals, faculty, and students to share their research and other aspects of their work. All undergraduate, graduate, and professional historians are invited to submit papers and panel proposals. The deadline for abstracts is Monday, February 1, 2016. To submit abstracts please email Dr. Glenn Sanders at glenn.sanders@okbu.edu. Abstracts may be mailed to 500 West University Street, Shawnee, Oklahoma 74804. Please call 405-585-4157 for more information.

The Founders' Place Historical District in **Muskogee** has received a pledge of \$50,000 from the University of Tulsa, with funds to be used for restoration of the historic Alice Robertson Home. Founders' Place's goal is to restore the home to the time that Robertson owned it in the late 1920s. Plans are to turn the structure into a house museum that will tell the story of this remarkable woman. Born to missionary parents in 1854, Alice Robertson was a teacher, founder of three schools including the University of Tulsa, a businesswoman, farmer, and foster mother caring for several American Indian orphans. The \$50,000 Challenge Grant is meant to serve as seed funds for the project that is estimated to cost more than \$200,000 to complete. Founders' Place Historical District, a 501(c)3 organization, must raise a match of \$50,000 in order to receive the Challenge Grant from the University of Tulsa. A GoFundMe account has been created for this purpose and can be found at www.gofundme.com/zm7ft4g. Donations also will be accepted on the website www.savinghistorichouses.com and by mail at Founders' Place, P.O. Box 3827, Muskogee, Oklahoma 74402. Other fund-raising efforts are being planned and will be announced when finalized. For more information please call Jonita Mullins at 918-682-0312.

Visit the Will Rogers Memorial Museum in **Claremore** to view nineteen oil paintings by Mike Wimmer. Wimmer's illustrations were featured in Governor Frank Keating's children's book entitled *Will Rogers: An American Legend*. The paintings are now on display in the entry gallery for guests to enjoy. The Will Rogers Memorial Museum is located at 1720 West Will Rogers Boulevard in Claremore. Please call 918-343-8129 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 Evelyn Brown, assistant editor, by email at eebrown@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 2015 issue, you must submit news by Wednesday, November 4, 2015.

Ten Years of Excellence at the

As the Oklahoma History Center celebrates ten years since its opening, we reflect on some highlights of collections, programs, special projects, and exhibits from 2005 through 2015.

Collections

- WKY-TV / Channel 4 Collection

Spanning nearly thirty years the WKY, KTVY, KFOR film collection contains the photojournalistic historical record of the state of Oklahoma from 1953 to 1979. In three decades the face of the nation and Oklahoma changed dramatically and the footage contained in the approximately 10,000 film reels and video tapes tells the story. Through news footage, documentaries, and television specials these archives capture a rare audio/visual view into Oklahoma's past. This collection also contains 1,500 photographs and 7,700 documents.

- Governor George Nigh Collection

- Governor David Walters Collection

- Marian Peter Opala Collection

- Griffin Communications Collection—Channel 9 OKC and Channel 6 Tulsa

- Jim Argo Collection

- Bob Birchall Collection

- Martha Blaine Collection

- *Oklahoma Journal* Photo Collection

- Bob Wills Collection

- LeRoy H. Fischer Collection

- Department of Wildlife Collection

- Barry Switzer Collection



OHS Executive Director Dr. Bob Blackburn and Director of Research Chad Williams accept a collection from Barry Switzer.

- Clara Luper Collection

This collection consists of 50,000 documents, 1,800 photographs, and 479 audio recordings. Clara Luper was a leading Oklahoma civil rights activist. Her long-running radio show reflects Oklahoma and national political, cultural, and economic history and gives first-hand accounts and experiences through the voices of the community. These significant sound recordings represent a number of national subjects, movements, and individuals of note.

- Don Wallace Collection

- William T. Hagan Collection

- Oklahoma City Urban Renewal Collection

- Ned Hockman Collection

- Anita Bryant Collection

- Bill Thrash Collection

- Oklahoma Publishing Company Photography Collection

- Kirkpatrick Family Collection

- Oklahoma State University Collection

- University of Oklahoma Collection

- Rich Martin Collection

This collection consists of 1,085 artifacts related to the steamboat *Heroine*, a riverboat that carried people and supplies to frontier US Army posts and civilian settlements. The *Heroine* sank on the Red River in 1838, and the well-preserved wreck was excavated by the Nautical Archaeology Institute at Texas A&M University in conjunction with the OHS. Artifacts include portions of the steamboat's machinery, barrels of supplies, tools, and personal effects such as shoes.

- Kerr-McGee Collection

This collection consists of 823 films and videos, approximately 182,000 documents, approximately 190,000 photographs, 62 audio tapes, 16 phonograph records, approximately 5,150 library materials, and 396 objects. Robert S. Kerr and James Anderson began as Anderson and Kerr Drilling Company in 1929. The company changed its name to Kerr-McGee in 1946. Upon the death of Senator Kerr in 1963, Dean A. McGee became chairman of the board, a position he held until 1983. Kerr-McGee's most notable technological innovations were in the area of offshore drilling platforms.

- Oklahoma City Chamber of Commerce Collection

This collection consists of 90,000 documents, 1,360 bound volumes, 7,000 photographs, and 42 films and videos. The Oklahoma City Chamber of Commerce was originally formed as the Oklahoma City Board of Trade on May 25, 1889, only one month after the establishment of Oklahoma City following the April 22, 1889 Land Run. The purpose of the Board of Trade and, subsequently, the Chamber of Commerce, was to support business development and promote educational, religious, cultural, and social development in the community. In scope the collection covers the dates from 1919 to 1986. Of the divisions that are represented, the largest number of volumes belong to the Administrative Division and the Public Relations Division, primarily because these had purview over and interacted with every other division.

Programs

- Civil Rights Music Program featuring the Ambassadors' Concert Choir

- *The Dust Bowl* program with Ken Burns

- Rushmore Four living history



Living historians portray the US presidents of Mount Rushmore.

- State Historic Preservation Office workshops

- Ancestry Day in Oklahoma

Ancestry.com, the OHS, and the Oklahoma Genealogical Society presented Ancestry Day in Oklahoma, two days of genealogy and Native culture in November 2014. Both novice and experienced genealogists attended various workshops, a reception, bus tours, and a lunch program.

- Brown Bag Lunch and Learn series

- Oklahoma National History Day

This annual event is a highly regarded academic program providing sixth through twelfth grade students an opportunity to conduct original research on historical topics.

Oklahoma History Center

Special Projects

- Oklahoma Century Chest

On April 22, 1913, a “Century Chest” was buried in the basement of the First English Lutheran Church (now the First Lutheran Church of Oklahoma City) at 1300 North Robinson. The ceremony was witnessed by a capacity crowd including Governor Lee Cruce and other notable Oklahoma residents. Through a century of dutiful vigilance the congregation of the First Lutheran Church guarded the Century Chest in order that on April 22, 2013, the chest would be unearthed and the past would come alive. The church partnered with the OHS to ensure the treasures of 1913 are preserved and exhibited at the Oklahoma History Center.



Virginia Weinmann and Pastor Jerry Peterson open the Oklahoma Century Chest on April 22, 2013.

- *The Daughter of Dawn* film

An eighty-minute, six-reel silent film shot in 1920 in the Wichita Mountains of southwest Oklahoma, *The Daughter of Dawn* was named to the National Film Registry in 2013.

- *Oklahomans and Space* exhibit, book, and documentary film

- The Gateway to Oklahoma History

- OHS Film and Video Collection’s YouTube Channel

- WKY, KTVY, KFOR Archives digitization

- Chronicling America newspaper digitization

- The Hillerman Collection digitization

This collection includes many images from the Meyers Photo Shop in Oklahoma City, which employed Hillerman and other photographers. The images begin in the late 1920s and extend into the early 1980s. Although many images are of metropolitan Oklahoma City, the collection includes images from other areas of Oklahoma.

Exhibits

- *We Are Who We Were: American Indian Tribes of Oklahoma*

- *Let the People Rule: Oklahoma Politics*

- *The Scissortail Returns*

- *Oklahoma: An Urban Frontier*

- *Steamboat Heroine*

- *Tierra De Mi Familia Oklahoma*

- *Another Hot Oklahoma Night: A Rock and Roll Exhibit*

- *Hidden Voices, Coded Words*

- *History with an Attitude: Motorcycles*

- *For the Child in All of Us: Toys of the 19th and 20th Centuries*

- *Unconquered: Allan Houser and the Legacy of One Apache Family*

- *Power to Grow: The History of Oil and Gas in Oklahoma*

- *Oklahoma @ the Movies*

- *100 Years of the Federal Reserve System*

- *Enriched: Animal Art from the OKC Zoo*

- *John Zink Racing Vehicles*

- *Crumbo: Spirit Talk*

- *Building a Community: Oklahoma Junior League*

- *Realizing the Dream: The African American Experience in Oklahoma*

- *Oklahoma Writers: A Literary Tableau*

- *Caddo Leadership and Community*

- *Field, Forest & Stream: The History of Oklahomans and the Outdoors*



Field, Forest & Stream exhibit.



Former governors of Oklahoma attend the opening reception for *Inspired to Lead: The First Families of Oklahoma*.

- *Inspired to Lead: The First Families of Oklahoma*

- *The Return of Elegance: An Evening Wear Collection*

- *Born to Freedom: Allan Houser Centennial*

- *The Uncanny Adventures of Okie Cartoonists*

- *Oklahoma & The Day That Will Live In Infamy*

- *Oklahoma Driven: Cars, Collectors, and the Birth of the Oklahoma Highway Commission*

- *Starmaker: Jim Halsey and the Legends of Country Music*

- *Simply Red: A Fashion Statement*

- *Pickin’ and Grinnin’: Hee Haw and Country Humor*

- *Oklahoma Quilts*

- *Crossroads of Commerce: A History of Free Enterprise in Oklahoma*

Traveling exhibits produced by the Oklahoma History Center and sent to various sites:

- *Black Hope, Black Dreams*

- *Cherokee Nation: A Portrait of a People*

- *Another Hot Oklahoma Night*

- *All Black Towns of Oklahoma*

- *Field, Forest & Stream*

- *We Are Who We Were*

- *50 Years of Photojournalism*

- *Deep Deuce and Beyond*

Fall lecture series at Pioneer Woman Museum

The Pioneer Woman Museum in Ponca City continues its fall lecture series with three additional presentations in November and December.

On Saturday, November 7, at 10 a.m., Dr. Sara J. Richter from Panhandle State University will give a presentation entitled "The Hominy Indians." Her lecture will focus on the Hominy baseball team.

On Saturday, November 14, at 1 p.m., Dr. Michael J. Hightower will present "Banking in Oklahoma and the Craft of Historical Writing." Learn more about writing with this lecture.

On Saturday, December 12, at 10 a.m., Dr. Sara J. Richter returns for a lecture entitled "Christmases on the Plains." The presentation and discussion will highlight traditions of the holiday season for those living on the plains.

The lectures are free to attend, with advanced reservations encouraged. For more information please call 580-765-6108, email piown@okhistory.org, or visit the museum's Facebook page. The Pioneer Woman Museum is located at 701 Monument Road in Ponca City.

Caring for Your Family Heirlooms workshop

Join OHS staff for a workshop on preserving your own family collections on Wednesday, November 4, from 10 a.m. to 4:15 p.m. Knowledgeable staff will share tips and best practices for preserving photos, maps, textiles, paper items, and scrapbooks. Participants also will learn how to conduct and preserve oral histories. The workshop will cover the tools and supplies available for preserving your treasures for future generations. Do not miss this chance to learn how to care for your precious family mementos. Door prizes will be awarded throughout the day. Registration is \$45 per person and lunch is included. Preregistration is required. Call the Research Center at 405-522-5225 to register by phone, and please have your credit card ready. The OHS Research Center's Caring for Your Family Heirlooms workshop will be held in the classrooms of the Oklahoma History Center, located at 800 Nazih Zuhdi Drive in Oklahoma City.



Murrell Home to host Christmas-themed workshop

The Murrell Home in Park Hill will host a workshop full of Christmas merriment on Saturday, November 14. Participants will learn how to make various Christmas decorations including Moravian star ornaments and gilded walnut ornaments. Attendees also will make Victorian Christmas cards and Christmas crackers. All items made during the class may be taken home by participants. The class will be held from 9 a.m. to noon on November 14. Cost for the class is \$35 per person, and space is limited to twenty participants. To reserve your spot please call 918-456-2751 or email murrellhome@okhistory.org. Visa, Mastercard, and Discover are accepted. The George M. Murrell Home, a National Historic Landmark, is located at 19479 East Murrell Home Road in Park Hill.



Sod House Museum to host History of Cemetery Symbols presentation

Join the Sod House Museum in Aline for a History of Cemetery Symbols presentation on Saturday, November 21, at 10 a.m. Luann Sewell Waters will present an overview of gravestone images and symbols so attendees can better understand their significance and history. Cemetery symbols express characters, devices, figures, motifs, and patterns. While many of these can reflect religious affiliation, they may provide insight regarding how a person lived prior to death. This includes determining their affiliation within society, status, personality, religious identification, and association membership. Attendees will learn about the language of cemetery symbols and how to interpret them. Participants will receive a printout of symbols and are encouraged to ask questions following the presentation. Preregistration is required. Please call 580-463-2441 for more information. The Sod House Museum is located at 4628 State Highway 8 in Aline.

Chisholm Trail Museum accepts award

The Chisholm Trail Museum accepted the Award of Merit from the American Association for State and Local History (AASLH) on September 18, 2015. It was presented during the annual AASLH awards banquet in Louisville, Kentucky. The Chisholm Trail Museum in Kingfisher is the first Oklahoma museum to win this award in five years.

The award was accepted by Adam Lynn, director of the Chisholm Trail Museum, and Dennis Mueggenborg, current owner of a historic storefront in Kingfisher. Mueggenborg's store originally housed Raymond Young's first five and dime store, which would become a TG&Y store.

For more information about the award-winning exhibit *TG&Y: An Original Oklahoma Icon*, please call 405-375-5176 or email ctmus@pldi.net.



Frank Phillips Home to celebrate the holidays with decorations

The Christmas season is a special time to visit the Frank Phillips Home in Bartlesville, which will open in full holiday splendor on Frank Phillips's birthday, Saturday, November 28.

Beautiful poinsettia arrangements will grace the front foyer, and the grand stairway will be trimmed with garland. Throughout the house there will be festive floral arrangements, beautifully decorated Christmas trees, and wreaths. Visitors will see the traditional centerpiece used by Jane Phillips when entertaining guests and family during the holiday season. The centerpiece, approximately four feet long, is a snow scene with Santa Claus and his sleigh. Along the sides of the sleigh are small, wrapped gifts attached to ribbons that run across the table to each guest's place setting. According to Director Jim Goss, when Aunt Jane gave permission, each guest would pull the string in front of them and the gift attached to it would be theirs. Also of particular interest are handmade, jeweled, cone-shaped trees in Mrs. Phillips's bedroom. Be sure to visit the home and view all of the beautiful decorations.

The Frank Phillips Home is located at 1107 Southeast Cherokee in Bartlesville. Regular hours are Wednesday through Saturday from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. For more information please call 918-336-2491 or email fphome@sbcglobal.net.

New Members, cont'd.

Family

Mark McGugan, Oklahoma City
Linda Miller, Oklahoma City
Dean and Bunnie Morgensen, Oklahoma City
Jim and Carolyn Munger, Ponca City
Katherine Neale, Ponca City
David Nickell, Oklahoma City
Richard and Krista Norton, Oklahoma City
Nancy Owens, Oklahoma City
John and Pat Parker, Edmond
Ruthie Phillips, Oklahoma City
Shamon Pickens, Oklahoma City
Joyce Porter and Danielle Basset, Oklahoma City
John and Cindy Posey, Moore
Gustavo and Corinne Ravello, Edmond
Kurt and Cristi Reiger, Oklahoma City
Bill and Carol Rice, Oklahoma City
Glenna Royce, Midwest City
Santos and Iris Rubio, Lawton
Beverly Russell, Oklahoma City
Brent and Stephanie Schoenecke, Moore
*Frank and Kathy Sissons, Duncan
Greg and Eleen Savanas, Edmond
Matthew and Fara Taylor, Edmond
Dennis Trout and Jack Thompson, Shawnee
Leona Urschel and Patti Hall, Oklahoma City
Pamela Vestal, Oklahoma City
David and Sue Woodson, Edmond
Johnita Young, Spencer
David and Cynthia Zornes, Edmond

Individual

Betty Bays, Stillwater
Sherri Beson, Oklahoma City
Clark Brant, Tulsa
Donna Brinkley, Elk City
Lita Briscoe, Norman
Billy Carson, Muskogee
Devin Chiang, Lawton
Danny Cushman, Enid
Joseph D'Agostino, Lawton
Austin Davis, Kingfisher
Janie Davis, Wewoka
Aaron Elam, Laverne
Bucky Ensey, Boswell
Bruce Glasrud, San Antonio, TX
Heather Goodson, Tulsa
Sandra Harlow, Tahlequah
Ashton Harris, Madill
Charles Helm, Oklahoma City
Teresa Herburger, Stillwater
Susan Hill, Ponca City
Patsy Hunt, Mangum
William Hunter, Healdton
Christopher Jones, Kingfisher
Mitchell Kennedy, Pauls Valley
Kive Kerr, Pauls Valley
Lisa Landmark, Lawton
Harvey Legrone, Pioneertown, CA
Chrystal Littrell, Apache
Lauren Locust, Glenpool
Eric Long, Moore
Bernice Loreto, El Reno
Randy Marquez, Hennessey
Jasson Meadows, Fort Gibson
Linda Mills, Midwest City
Barbara Nathman, Vian
Rigoberto Navarro, Enid
Greg Nelson, Broken Arrow
Jeremy Pace, Kingfisher
Sarah Parker, Shawnee
Roger Patton, Paoli
Don Peacock, Stillwater
Benjamin Pigg, Pauls Valley
Vicki Pipkin, Shawnee
Dorinda Plummer, Enid
Ryan Porter, Stillwater
Joseph Rains, Stillwater
Aric Rigdon, Kingfisher
Dillon Rind, Stillwater
Crystal Risher-Prevatte, Broken Bow
Alejandra Rodriguez, Stillwater
Curtis Rohr, Claremore
Floyd Ross, Milburn
Doug Sanderson, Guthrie
Jarod Savage, Marlow
Andrew Schweitzer, Edmond
Malinda Searcy, Pauls Valley
Marek Soucek, Stillwater
Melissa Stuckey, Rembert, SC
Danny Sullivan, Holdenville
Jacob Thoma, Altus

Cody Thompson, Lawton
George Thompson, Henryetta
Yuliana Trevino, Madill
Margaret Verble, Lexington, KY

Organizational

Grandfield Public Library, Grandfield

Call for papers and presentations for 2016 Oklahoma History Conference

The OHS is seeking papers and presentations for the 2016 Oklahoma History Conference, sponsored by the Oklahoma Historical Society. The conference will be held on April 27, 28, and 29, 2016, at the Woodward Conference Center in Woodward, Oklahoma. A total of eighteen presentation sessions will take place on Thursday, April 28, and Friday, April 29.

The theme for the 2016 conference is "Landmarks and Turning Points in Oklahoma History." Presentation proposals are now being accepted by mail or email. Postal mail 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 plambert@okhistory.org. The deadline for submitting proposals is Thursday, December 31, 2015. Please contact Paul Lambert at 405-522-5217 or the email address above with inquiries.

American Indian Heritage Month events

The American Indian Culture and Preservation Office is hosting two events in November to commemorate American Indian Heritage Month. The first event, entitled "Native American Spirituality," will be held Thursday, November 5, from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. in the classrooms at the Oklahoma History Center. Two speakers, J. C. High Eagle (Cherokee/Osage) and Reverend Wade Burleson, will speak on the subject.

The second event will be held on Saturday, November 21, from 1 to 3 p.m. in the classrooms at the Oklahoma History Center. Dr. Lindsey Claire Smith, Oklahoma State University professor and editor of the *American Indian Quarterly*, will present a lecture entitled "Native Writers of Oklahoma and Urban Homeland."

Both events are free to the public, although seating is on a first-come basis and is limited. For more information on these lectures, please call Bill Welge at 405-522-5206 or Tara Damron at 405-522-2298.

SHPO accepting awards nominations

The State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO) is now accepting nominations for its 2016 awards program. Individuals, businesses, government agencies, and other organizations contribute to the preservation of Oklahoma's heritage through rehabilitation/restoration projects, archaeological site protection, field and archival research, publications, and public programming. Previous award recipients are featured on the SHPO's website at www.okhistory.org/shpo/shpoawards.htm. Submit a nomination and help the SHPO focus attention on accomplishments like these in your community.

The SHPO's awards program includes the Shirk Memorial Award for Historic Preservation and the SHPO's Citation of Merit. The deadline for nominations is Friday, December 4, 2015, at 5 p.m. Nomination sponsors and award recipients will receive notice of the results of the selection process in February 2016. The awards will be presented at the banquet during Oklahoma's Twenty-eighth Annual Statewide Preservation Conference in Enid on June 1-3, 2016.

The Shirk Memorial Award for Historic Preservation recognizes historic preservation programs or activities that have had statewide impact. The SHPO's Citation of Merit highlights noteworthy accomplishments in historic preservation at the state or local level.

Nominations will be accepted in either electronic or hard copy format. To request nomination forms and instructions, please call 405-521-6249. With questions about the awards criteria please contact Melvena Heisch at 405-522-4484 or mheisch@okhistory.org.

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!

Larson Keso, Oklahoma City, May 1, 1981
J. Carl Richeson, Eldorado, September 1, 1981
Robert Klemme, Enid, August 30, 1988
Greg Olds, Austin, TX, January 5, 1989
Gary and Lindey McDaniel, Bixby, August 8, 1989
Mary Ryan, Saint Ann, MO, September 3, 1991
Paul Barker, Springfield, MO, September 14, 1992
Mr. and Mrs. Don Symcox, Norman, March 9, 1993
Marina Metevelis, Tulsa, February 10, 1994
W. Macy and Ann Lewis, Wichita, KS, July 7, 1994
Dale and Carolyn Tompkins, Del City, September 21, 1994
Ronald Owens, Oklahoma City, September 21, 1994
Pat and Melanie Hall, Norman, August 5, 1995

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

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

PERIODICALS

 Smithsonian Affiliations
Membership Program

November events at a glance

- 4 Caring for Your Family Heirlooms workshop, Oklahoma History Center, Oklahoma City
- 5 “Native American Spirituality” program, Oklahoma History Center, Oklahoma City
- 6 Battle of Honey Springs Education Day, Honey Springs Battlefield, Checotah
- 7 “The Hominy Indians” public lecture by Dr. Sara J. Richter, Pioneer Woman Museum, Ponca City
- 7 Gourd-Stitch Beadwork class, Oklahoma History Center, Oklahoma City
- 7-8 Battle of Honey Springs Reenactment, Honey Springs Battlefield, Checotah
- 11 Candle Making workshop, Pioneer Woman Museum, Ponca City
- 14 Christmas-themed workshop, George M. Murrell Home, Park Hill
- 14 “Banking in Oklahoma and the Craft of Historical Writing” public lecture by Dr. Michael J. Hightower, Pioneer Woman Museum, Ponca City
- 14 Fall Bake Day, Fort Gibson Historic Site, Fort Gibson
- 14 Decorative Gourd workshop, Oklahoma History Center, Oklahoma City
- 14 “Let’s Talk About It, Oklahoma!” book discussion group, Pioneer Woman Museum, Ponca City
- 18 History Center Tenth Anniversary Celebration, Oklahoma History Center, Oklahoma City
- 19-20 Rushmore Four living history presentation, Oklahoma History Center, Oklahoma City
- 21 History of Cemetery Symbols presentation, Sod House Museum, Aline
- 21 “Native Writers of Oklahoma and Urban Homeland” lecture with Dr. Lindsey Claire Smith, Oklahoma History Center, Oklahoma City
- 21 American Indian Heritage Month celebration, Oklahoma History Center, Oklahoma City

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

Oklahoma History Center
celebrates tenth anniversary

The completion and opening of the Oklahoma History Center in November 2005 paved the way for the Oklahoma Historical Society to provide services, develop relationships, and create new programs and exhibits on a larger scale than had been possible in the past. During the planning process, the OHS promised to keep the History Center relevant by constantly updating and changing exhibits, introducing new programming, and maintaining a commitment to excellence. Over the past ten years OHS staff and volunteers have kept and exceeded these promises.

In the ten years since the opening of the History Center, 2,069,368 people have visited the building to conduct research, view innovative exhibits, and enjoy events. The resources available at the History Center have been instrumental in the expansion of education programs for learners of all ages. In the past ten years, 746,406 students and adults have been impacted by education programs originating at the History Center. Volunteers at the History Center have donated more than 140,000 hours of service since the opening of the building.

The Oklahoma History Center is the only facility in the world that is a National Archives affiliate, a Smithsonian Institution affiliate, and accredited by the American Alliance of Museums. These prestigious affiliations allow the History Center to exhibit unique artifacts from the collections of the Smithsonian and National Archives, including the Gemini VI spacecraft and numerous American Indian objects.

A reception for OHS members commemorating the tenth anniversary of the Oklahoma History Center’s opening will be held Wednesday, November 18, from 6–8 p.m. The event will include live music and hors d’oeuvres, and business attire is requested. This reception also will be an opportunity for members to preview the History Center’s newest exhibit, *Crossroads of Commerce: A History of Free Enterprise in Oklahoma*. Join the staff and volunteers of the Oklahoma History Center in celebrating the past and looking toward the future.

The Oklahoma History Center has come a long way in just ten years. We look forward to continuing our commitment to collect, preserve, and share the history and culture of Oklahoma through new programs, exhibits, and opportunities yet to come!



Groundbreaking ceremony for the Oklahoma History Center.