

## Fort Gibson Fall Encampment set for October 13–14

Troops of the 1840s era will once again garrison Fort Gibson for the 2006 Fall Encampment to be held on October 13 and 14. The event portrays a little-known yet crucial period of American history, when the United States and Mexico fought for possession of much of the American West.

Living history presenters from Oklahoma and Arkansas will encamp in and around the log fort to show visitors the roles played by the U.S. Army's infantry, dragoons, and artillery, and by various civilians attached to the army during the 1840s.

Planned demonstrations include musket and artillery firings, horsemanship, blacksmithing, medicine, cooking, and military justice. Friday, October 13 will be set aside as Education Day. Area educators may bring classes to the site from 10 a.m. through 3 p.m. to experience the presentations.

The Fall Encampment is presented by the Oklahoma Historical Society, the Sixth Infantry Living History Association, and the Friends of Fort Gibson. Fort Gibson Historic Site is located on State Highway 80 in Fort Gibson, Oklahoma.

Special admission for Education Day on Friday, October 13 will be \$1 each for adults and seniors as well as students. Regular admission resumes Saturday and is \$3 for adults, \$2.50 for seniors (65 and



**Flag ceremony at 2005 Fall Encampment**  
(Staff photo).

older), and \$1 for students 6 to 18. Children 5 and under are admitted free. For further information call the Fort Gibson staff at 918/478-4088.

## Governor Henry and dignitaries honor James E. Stewart, Sr., at exhibit opening

On August 18, 2006, the OHS Research Center dedicated an exhibit of books, documents, and personal memorabilia illustrating the life of noted Civil Rights activist and long-time Oklahoma City civic leader James E. Stewart, Sr. (1912-97). The ceremony included remarks by Governor Brad Henry, OHS Executive Director Dr. Bob Blackburn, Judge Vicki Miles-LaGrange, former United Nations delegate Hannah Atkins, James E. Stewart, Jr., and others.

Preceding the opening visitors enjoyed a reception hosted by OHS in the Chesapeake Events Room and, following the speeches, received tours of the exhibit and the Research Center's new facilities.



**Gov. Brad Henry presented James E. Stewart, Jr., with a proclamation honoring Stewart, Sr.'s achievements** (T. Zinn photo).

## SeptemberFest draws large crowd to Oklahoma History Center

More than 2,500 Oklahomans and out-of-state visitors registered at the admissions desk of the Oklahoma History Center during SeptemberFest activities on September 9, according to Dan Provo, Oklahoma Museum of History director. The OHS's first year of participation proved very successful. In attendance and enjoying such activities as corn-husk doll making were the children of First Lady Kim Henry, who is SeptemberFest's official sponsor. The event also took place on the Governor's Mansion grounds.



**Visitors learned about cowboy culture from SeptemberFest reenactors** (D. Provo photo).



**Reenactors Matt Reed (Pawnee Scout) and David Davis (as wolf hunter Jack Abernathy)** (D. Provo photo).



**James E. Stewart, Jr., enjoyed a Stewart exhibit tour conducted by Research Division Director William Welge** (T. Zinn photo).



## Director's Column

By **Bob L. Blackburn**  
Executive Director

When you think of Oklahoma history, what emotional reaction comes to mind?

Maybe it is pride, or perhaps understanding, or maybe even sense of community. For some, it probably is the painful recollection of memorizing the names of all 77 counties in ninth-grade history class. I would like to suggest that Oklahoma history, above all, is fun.

First, there is the joy of satisfying our curiosity about the world we live in. It is fun when you say to yourself, "I didn't know that," especially when it opens doors to a better understanding of the events and people who have shaped the shared experiences of our families.

Second, history is fun when it touches our personal lives. When I give tours of the History Center, I joyfully anticipate the smiles on people's faces when an object or a photograph brings back a memory so vivid that it seems like it happened only moments ago.

For some, it might be the Case tractor, which reminds them of a simpler time when their father taught them to work the land. For others, it is a scene from the movie *The Grapes of Wrath*, the "little men" used by Bud Wilkinson on his television show to explain the draw play, or a first glimpse of

Woody the Birthday Horse from the Foreman Scotty Show. It is fun to remember.

Finally, it is fun when we come together to enjoy the celebration of history. As we celebrate the centennial of statehood, the Oklahoma Historical Society will offer a long list of fun activities.

At our military parks, we will offer candlelight tours that give a unique perspective on the frontier experience as visitors peer into dimly lit scenes of soldiers, surgeons, and settlers. At other times the fun comes with the cannon shots and cavalry charges during reenactments.

At our museums and historic homes, visitors will have a chance to interact with weavers, quilters, and doll makers.

At the Oklahoma History Center, the centennial list of events sounds like fun. On December 5 we will unveil the restored Kilgen theatrical organ with a program that features music from radio and television in the 1930s, 1940s, and 1950s. Invitations will be going out to members and donors in early October.

Another fun event is the Centennial Ball scheduled for New Year's Eve on December 31, 2006. As the first event of the centennial year, the ball will feature a band playing 1907-era music, dance lessons for everyone, a full meal, an old-fashioned cake walk, and more than 100 reenactors dressed in period clothing.

Other fun events scheduled for 2007 are a "soul food" festival, a folk life festival with demonstrations and musical traditions, and SeptemberFest, a big party for children that spreads out over the History Center grounds and the Governor's Mansion.

As members of the Oklahoma Historical Society, you will be on the preferred guest invitation list. I think you will enjoy yourself. Yes, Oklahoma history can be fun.

## Development News

By **Tim Zwink**

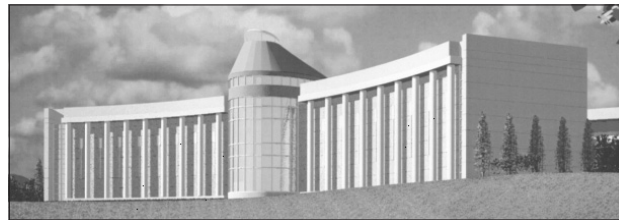
One of our very popular fund-raising projects for the new Oklahoma History Center has been the monogrammed brick project. Since I regularly get questions about the monogrammed bricks, I wanted to take this opportunity to give you an update on the progress of the project.

At present, we have installed about 4,000 monogrammed bricks in 15 patios that are located in the Red River Journey area on the History Center grounds. These bricks were laid last November, just prior to the grand opening of our History Center.

We immediately began a "phase two" of the brick project for those who still wanted a monogrammed brick at the History Center. Phase two is now completed. During this period more than 250 monogrammed bricks were ordered. On September 13, they were installed.

For those of you still wanting to order a monogrammed brick, you still have some time. Phase three of the brick project has started. We will take brick orders during the remainder of this year and into next year. We plan to have these bricks installed before our state's centennial celebration in November 2007.

If you need an order form, you can locate one on the Oklahoma Historical Society web page by using the "Special Projects" drop-down menu. You can also contact me for assistance at 405/522-5217 or at <tzwink@okhistory.org>. The monogrammed bricks are a wonderful way to create a memory or a memorial and to be a part of the new Oklahoma History Center and the Oklahoma Centennial.



## New Individual Members

Baker, Karen K., Bartlesville  
Bettes, Carol, Cushing  
Chapman, Vickey M., Bakersfield, CA  
Cox, Hollisutah, Iberville, LA  
Gorake, Lowell, Oklahoma City  
Hagman, Paul, Luther  
Htuchinson, Thelma, Oklahoma City  
Kittrell, Thomas, Ardmore  
Marshall, Donna, Broken Arrow  
Maurer, Mary E., Caddo  
McConnell, Tommy R., Norman  
McMullen, Kieran, Rush Springs  
Miles, Glennita, Armona, CA  
Morgan, Fred S., Oklahoma City  
Moser, Shelley, Bethany  
Oppel, Gregory R., Edmond  
Osby, Marta, Oklahoma City  
Pate, James, Addison, TX  
Statham, Larry J., Highlands Ranch, CO  
Sullivan, Elizabeth, Muskogee  
Vesta, Glenda, Midwest City

## New Family Members

Despain, Matt & Carla, Norman  
Ellinger, Jeanne, Weatherford  
Frith, Sharyn, Oklahoma City  
Jennings, J. B., Ada  
Turpin, Carl & Carla, Oklahoma City

## New Institutional Members

Kingfisher Memorial Library, Kingfisher  
Moore, Rick, Oklahoma City  
Washita Battlefield Natl. Hist. Site, Cheyenne

## New Life Members

Dryden, Ray, Scranton, PA  
Hayes, Jo Ellen, Norman  
Sumner, Delores T., Tahlequah  
Van Hanken, Barbara, Tulsa

**Gift Shop offers  
annual October 40%  
discount on OHS  
publications.  
See page 7 for details.**

## Oklahoma Historical Society Publications Division

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The public and OHS members are encouraged to submit heritage-related items for publication. Students and teachers are invited to share studies and programs and to duplicate contents as desired. Editors are welcome to reprint materials with credit.

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## Events

The Oklahoma Genealogical Society will hold its annual fall workshop on Saturday, October 7, 2006. The free one-day workshop, "Genealogy Skill Building," will be held from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. in the Chesapeake Events Room at the Oklahoma History Center, 2401 North Laird Ave., **Oklahoma City**. This year's workshop will cover topics such as how to begin your genealogical research, using census and vital records, organizing and documenting your research, using internet resources, finding military records, and conducting courthouse research. Although the workshop is free, there will be a \$10 charge for the workshop syllabus. For additional information send an e-mail to <okgensoc@aol.com> or call the OGS president at 405/286-1190.

(Special to ML)

**Boise City's** Cimarron Heritage Center will host a tour of Santa Fe Trail sites in Cimarron County on Saturday, October 7. The tour, by private vehicles with high clearance, will leave from the museum located at 1300 North Cimarron at 8 a.m. Sites may include Trujillo Springs, Wolf Mountain, Signature Rock, Autograph Rock, and Camp Nichols. Lunch will be served at the museum for \$8, and Larry Melton of Union, Missouri, will give a presentation entitled "Origins of the Trail." For reservations contact the museum by October 2 at 580/544-3479 or e-mail <museum@ptsi.net>.

(Cimarron County Historical Society Foundation & the Cimarron Heritage Center Museum Newsletter, Fall 2006)

**Oklahoma City's** Harn Homestead Museum is hosting an OU vs. TX Watch Party on October 7 and a Halloween Celebration on October 31. Sooner fans can watch the game via two large screens provided by Cory's Audio Visual, eat barbecue from Earl's Rib Palace, and drink beverages furnished by Great Plains Coca-Cola. The watch party is free to the public, but advance registration is required by calling 405/235-4058. On October 31 the Harn will be open from 5 to 8 p.m. for a family-friendly, fun-for-all-ages, Halloween extravaganza. Youngsters can trick-or-treat at each of the museum's seven historic buildings. Victorian crafts, sweets and treats, and pioneer games will be set up in the large Event Barn. For more information phone 405/235-4058.

(Harn Homestead and 1889ers Museum Oklahoma Territory News, Fall 2006)

**Jones** Oklahoma Historical Society, organized in 2001, invites the public to attend the Jones City Annual Old Tymer's Event

to be held October 7. The society operates the restored C. G. Jones home and the Jones Oklahoma Historical Society Museum. You may call Earline Carpenter at 405/399-5434 for more information.

(Special to ML)

## Exhibits

**Norman's** Jacobson House, located at 609 Chautauqua Ave., is hosting an exhibit titled *Children of the Middle Waters: Osage Art and Culture*. From August 20 to October 22, 2006, this new exhibit of paintings, textiles, beadwork items, three-dimensional works, and other art forms will be on display. For more information call 405/366-1667, or contact them at <russtallchief@aol.com>, or visit <www.jacobsonhouse.com>.

(Special to ML)

**Tahlequah's** Cherokee Heritage Center is the venue for the 11th Annual Cherokee Homecoming Art Show and Sale, scheduled from August 26 through October 29. The event draws artisans and visitors to view Cherokee paintings, graphics, traditional arts, textiles, sculpture, pottery, and basketry. All works entered in the show are available for purchase through Cherokee Heritage Arts and the Museum Store. The Cherokee Heritage Center is open Monday through Saturday from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. and Sunday from noon to 5 p.m. Admission is \$8.50 for adults and \$5 for children.

(Special to ML)

**Oklahoma City's** National Cowboy and Western Heritage Museum will be displaying a traveling exhibit titled *Reflections After Lewis and Clark—Contemporary Native American Art* from October 13 through December 17, 2006. Circulated by the Montana Museum of Art and Culture at the University of Montana, the exhibit presents contemporary American Indian artistic responses to the Lewis and Clark expedition and bicentennial commemoration. The museum will hold a special opening reception for this exhibit, as well as for a collateral exhibit titled *Indian Modernism: Selections from the Silberman Collection*, on October 20, at 6 p.m. For reservations, direct calls to 405/478-2250, ext. 219.

(Special to ML)

## Writings

In time for Oklahoma's Centennial in 2007, Eakin Press is releasing *Paradise on the Prairie*. The title was a phrase used by Oklahoma territorial Governor Thompson B. Ferguson to describe the future 46th state. Award-winning author Molly Levite

Griffis's latest book weaves little-known facts about Oklahoma history into the novel, which has been approved by the Oklahoma Centennial Commission for inclusion as a Centennial Project. *Paradise on the Prairie* is available in both cloth and paper cover editions. Call the press at 1-800/880-8642 or e-mail <tom@eakinpress.com> for pricing and order information. For a summary and prepublication reviews, go to the web site <www.mollygriffis.com>.

(Special to ML)

## Awards

**Edmond's** University of Central Oklahoma's Rho Lambda chapter of Phi Alpha Theta has received the prestigious national Best Chapter Award for 2005-06. Congratulations to Jason Harris, Rho Lambda president, other chapter officers, and Dr. Jeff Plaks of the Department of History and Geography.

(Special to ML)

## Happenings

**Colcord's** Talbot Library and Museum has been notified by the Oklahoma Centennial Commission that the Springtown School restoration, ongoing at their library, has been designated an official Centennial Project. After its restoration the school will be used for school-related museum exhibits, community functions, and educational projects. Anyone who can offer assistance with the project should call the Talbot Library and Museum at 918/326-4532.

(Special to ML)

## Call for Papers

The Missouri Valley History Conference is issuing a call for papers or panels in all areas of history for their 50th annual meeting to be held March 1-3, 2007, in **Omaha, Nebraska**. Proposal abstract and one-page vitae are due October 20, 2006. Forward to Prof. Moshe Gershovich, Program Chair, Missouri Valley History Conference, Dept. of History (ASH 287E), University of Nebraska, Omaha, NE 68182-0213, or call 402/554-3175. You may also e-mail him: <mgershovich@mail.unomaha.edu>.

(Special to ML)



## OHS Places . . .

### Frank Phillips House

1107 Cherokee Ave.  
Bartlesville, OK 74003-5027  
Phone: 918/336-2491  
E-mail: <fphillipshome@okhistory.org>  
Hours: Wed.-Sat., 10 a.m.-5 p.m.  
Sun., 1-5 p.m.  
Closed major holidays.  
Donations Requested: \$3 for adults; \$1 for children  
(ages 6-17)



Fall has arrived! So enjoy the autumn colors as you travel to Bartlesville to visit the Frank Phillips House.

Frank Phillips (1873-1950), co-founder of Phillips Petroleum Company, arrived in Bartlesville, Indian Territory, in 1905. Three years later he had a palatial home built for his family, which included his wife, the former Jane Gibson, son John Gibson, and two orphaned sisters named Mary Francis and Sara Jane. The Greek Revival-style house, designed by Walter Everman, is constructed of brick, accented by blocks of white sandstone, and has a red tile roof. Ionic columns support a portico and create spacious porches.

The first floor has a large entrance hall, a dining room, a music room, a library, a sun-room, and a kitchen. Bedrooms are located on the second floor, and the third floor offered space for a ballroom. The elegant home, with its fine woodwork, marble, and decorative plastering, provides the visitor with an opportunity to witness the grandeur of a house constructed during Oklahoma's early statehood period. The furnishings include Oriental rugs, fine art, and period furniture belonging to the Phillips family. A six-bay garage at the rear of the house has an interpretive exhibit and museum shop.

In November 1973 Phillips's granddaughter Elizabeth and her husband, Henry D. Irvin, deeded the property to the Oklahoma Historical Society. Since that time the house has been open to the public. In 1975 it was added to the National Register of Historic Places (NR 75001576). Friends of the Frank Phillips Home, a nonprofit organization, provides support. Events at the Frank Phillips House have included a style show, a music concert, a scrapbooking workshop, and an annual Frank Phillips birthday party.

## Pawnee Bill Ranch hosts October quilt show and workshops

During the entire month of October the Pawnee Bill Ranch and Museum hosts its Annual Quilt Show. The exhibit features historic and modern quilts.

A Heritage Skills Workshop is scheduled for October 14 from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. This year the following classes are offered: Dutch-oven cooking; blacksmithing; natural dyeing; corn-husk doll and flower making; candle making; basket making; flint knapping; soap making; and traditional pioneer games.

Registration takes place from 8:30 to 9 a.m., and classes begin at 9 a.m. Preregistration is required. Workshop fees, based on a participant's choice of classes, reflect the kinds of supplies used in the class. The fees are reasonable, however, and most have a completed project for the creator to take home.

A Victorian Crazy Quilt Workshop will be offered on October 5 from 6:30 to 9 p.m. Participants must bring a pair of fabric scissors and a thimble and any special fabrics they would like to use in the quilt. All other supplies will be furnished. Preregistration and prepayment are required. Staff will present the history of crazy quilting and also describe the quilt's uses in fashion, decoration and gifts.

Call 918/762-2513 to enroll.

## OHS Faces . . .

Laura Martin

Research Division Director of  
Public Services

"I started working at OHS when I was just out of high school," says Laura Martin, who has devoted her career to the Historical Society.

A native of Midwest City, Oklahoma, she began at OHS in 1986 as a library assistant and worked her way up to a job as technician, an administrative assistant, and an administrative programs officer, and in the twenty-first century she became head of the Public Services Department.

*Mistletoe Leaves* asked Martin to describe the most pleasing aspect of her job: "I love working with the people, helping them find out about their family history. The ultimate experience was helping a man [an adoptee] from Ireland who wanted to find his family. We found them, and he had a reunion with them, and I was invited. It was very exciting."

Martin holds an associate of arts degree from Rose State College and a bachelor's degree in sociology, with history minor, from the University of Central Oklahoma.

She is always in demand as a speaker. Over recent years Martin has presented programs on "Little-known Resources of the Research Division" and "Using Federal Census Records." She also serves as coordinator for "County Day," a new program

## Museum of the Cherokee Strip hosts 1907 clothing workshop and style show

The Museum of the Cherokee Strip hosted a 1907 clothing workshop and style show on Tuesday, September 5 in the Humphrey Heritage Village Church. OHS Director of Historic Homes Martha Ray talked about fashions in Oklahoma around the time of statehood. Participants learned what fabrics were available, what styles were fashionable, and where to find patterns and accessories to create period-correct clothing. A style show of men's and women's clothing was also presented.

"The Oklahoma Historical Society wants to get communities across the state involved in the centennial celebration next year," said Ray. "Many people want to make clothing that would have been worn at the time of statehood, but we found out there was a lot of incorrect information out there. We showed people what materials were available then, what colors, styles, and accessories were used. People are generally shocked at the variety."

In addition to the workshop and style show, original clothing from 1907 was displayed, along with photographs and advertisements from period newspapers and magazines. The event will be repeated as the centennial year approaches, according to museum staff. For more information call 580/237-1907.



that is a joint project involving the historical and genealogical groups in each of the state's 77 counties. Each group has been requested to compile a list of its historical as well as genealogical resources, so that researchers who visit OHS can learn about them. OHS is compiling a list of its own county resources, as well, and during the

summer of 2007 the county organizations will start coming to the Research Center for meetings to discuss the lists.

Another of Martin's current Public Services Department projects involves indexing the U.S. District Court Records for Indian Territory. In addition to all of that, she is the Research Division's Volunteer Coordinator, organizing the activities of the Research Center's more than 100 volunteers. They work in all areas of the collection, inventorying, organizing, and making sure the collections are useable by the public.

Like many of the people who come to the Research Center, Martin is pursuing her own family's history. She's presently preparing her documentation for DAR membership. And she needs only two birth certificates to finish the requirements.

# New OHS Membership Benefits Structure



## OHS MUSEUMS AND SITES

**Black Kettle Museum**  
junction of US 283 & SH 47  
Cheyenne, 580/497-3929

**Cherokee Strip Museum/  
Rose Hill School**, 2617 W  
Fir, Perry, 580/336-2405

**Chisholm Trail Museum/  
Seay Mansion**, 605 Zellers  
Ave., Kingfisher  
405/375-5176

**Chisholm Trail Historical  
Museum**, E of US 81/US 70  
junction, Waurika  
580/228-2166

**Confederate Memorial Mu-  
seum**, US 69, ½ mi. N of  
Atoka, 580/889-7192

**Fort Gibson Historic Site**  
907 N. Garrison, SH 80 in  
Fort Gibson, 918/478-4088

**Fort Supply Historic Site**  
Campus of W.S. Key  
Corr. Center, Fort Supply  
580/766-3767

**Fort Towson Historic Site**  
NE of Fort Towson off US 70  
580/873-2634

**Fort Washita Historic Site**  
SH 199, 13 mi. E of Madill  
580/924-6502

**Frank Phillips House**  
1107 Cherokee Ave.  
Bartlesville, 918/336-2491

**Fred Drummond House**  
305 N Price, Hominy  
918/885-2374

**Frederick Pioneer Village**,  
201 N 9th St., Frederick,  
580/335-5844

**George M. Murrell House**  
19479 East Murrell Home Rd  
3 mi. S of SH 82, Park Hill  
918/456-2751

**Healdton Oil Museum**  
315 E Main, Healdton  
580/229-0900

**Honey Springs Battlefield**  
1863 Honey Springs Battle-  
field Rd., E of US 69, near  
Rentiesville, 918/473-5572

**Jim Thorpe House**  
706 E Boston, Yale  
918/387-2815

**Museum of the Cherokee  
Strip**, 507 S 4th, Enid  
580/237-1907

**Museum of Higher Educa-  
tion**, Old Central, OSU Cam-  
pus Stillwater, 405/744-2828

**Museum of the Western  
Prairie**, 1100 N Memorial Dr.  
Altus, 580/482-1044

**National Hall of Fame for  
Famous American Indians**  
US 62 east, Anadarko  
405/247-5555

**No Man's Land Museum**  
PSU Campus, Goodwell  
580/349-2670

**Oklahoma Museum of His-  
tory**, 2401N Laird Ave., OKC  
405/522-5248

**Oklahoma Route 66 Mu-  
seum**, 2229 W Gary Blvd.  
Clinton, 580/323-7866

**Oklahoma Territorial Mu-  
seum/Carnegie Library**  
402 E Oklahoma, Guthrie  
405/282-1889

**Henry Overholser House**  
405 NW 15th St., OKC  
405/528-8485

**Pawnee Bill Ranch**  
½ mi. W on US 64, Pawnee  
918/762-2513

**Peter Conser House**  
4 mi. S of Heavener on US  
59, 3½ mi. W of Hodgen  
918/653-2493

**Pioneer Woman Museum**  
701 Monument Rd., Ponca  
City, 580/765-6108

**Robert S. Kerr Museum**  
6 mi. SW of Poteau, US 270  
at Kerr Conference Center  
918/647-9579

**Sequoyah's Cabin**  
SH 101, 11 mi. NE of  
Sallisaw, 918/775-2413

**Sod House Museum**  
SH 8, 5½ mi. N of Cleo  
Springs, 580/463-2441

**Spiro Mounds Archaeo-  
logical Center**, 3 mi. E  
and 4 mi. N of Spiro  
918/962-2062

**State Capital Publishing  
Museum**, 301 W Harrison  
Guthrie, 405/282-4123

**T. B. Ferguson House**  
519 N Weigle, Watonga  
580/623-5069

**Tom Mix Museum**  
721 N Delaware, Dewey  
918/534-1555

**White Hair Memorial**  
½ mi. S of SH 20 on Black-  
burn Rd., Ralston

**Basic Benefits for All Annual Membership Categories:**  
One-year subscription to *The Chronicles of Oklahoma*, the quarterly historical journal  
One-year subscription to *Mistletoe Leaves*, the Society's monthly newsletter  
Right to vote for members on the Society's Board of Directors  
Advance notice of Society activities and statewide historical events  
Invitations to private previews of events and exhibits and the Annual Meeting and  
Awards Banquet  
Free admission to OHS sites and museums (number varies with level)

### \$35 Individual

Admission for member (unlimited times, all sites & museums)  
10% discount at OHC Gift Shop and Research Center  
(Smithsonian Affiliates benefits are \$20 additional)

### \$50 Family

Admission for member & family (unlimited times, all sites & museums)  
10% discount at OHC Gift Shop and Research Center  
(Smithsonian Affiliates benefits are \$20 additional)

### \$50 Institutional (Subscription Membership)

(Defined as educational institution such as library, historical society, school, etc.)  
10% discount at OHC Gift Shop and Research Center  
(Smithsonian Affiliates benefits are \$20 additional)

### \$100 Friend

Admission for member and 5 guests (unlimited times, all sites & museums)  
15% discount at OHC Gift Shop and Research Center  
10% discount at *Winnie Mae Café*  
Smithsonian Affiliate benefits  
2 one-time-admission "gift" passes (one person each)

### \$250 Associate

Admission for member and 7 guests (unlimited times, all sites & museums)  
15% discount at OHC Gift Shop and Research Center  
10% discount at *Winnie Mae Café*  
Smithsonian Affiliate benefits  
4 one-time-admission "gift" passes (one person each)  
Recognition in selected OHS publications

### \$500 Fellow

Admission for member and 9 guests (unlimited times, all sites & museums)  
15% discount at OHC Gift Shop and Research Center  
10% discount at *Winnie Mae Café*  
Smithsonian Affiliate benefits  
6 one-time-admission "gift" passes (one person each)  
Recognition in selected OHS publications  
Annual lunch for 2 with the Executive Director and private tour of OHC

### \$1000 Director's Circle

4 Reusable "VIP" passes (unlimited times, all sites & museums)  
20% discount at OHC Gift Shop and Research Center  
10% discount at *Winnie Mae Café*  
Smithsonian Affiliate benefits  
Recognition in selected OHS publications  
Recognition at selected exhibits and events at OHS museums and sites  
Recognition on OHC Donor Board  
Annual lunch for 4 with the Executive Director and private tour of OHC  
Special Collector Set of 3 Centennial Commemorative Coins (One-time enrollment gift)

### \$5000 Benefactor

8 Reusable "VIP" passes (unlimited times, all sites & museums)  
25% discount at OHC Gift Shop and Research Center  
10% discount at *Winnie Mae Café*  
Smithsonian Affiliates benefits  
Recognition in selected OHS publications  
Recognition at selected exhibits and events at OHS museums and sites  
Recognition on OHC Donor Board  
Annual lunch for 10 with the Executive Director and private tour of OHC  
Special Collector Set of 3 Centennial Commemorative Coins (One-time enrollment gift)  
Bronze maquette (6") of H. Holden's *Monarch at Rest* (One-time enrollment gift)  
25% discount on fee for use of a room at Oklahoma History Center (One time per year)



## An a-Maze-ing October awaits visitors at Kingfisher's Chisholm Trail Museum

The Chisholm Trail Museum's fall programming includes a Pumpkin Patch. The patch will be open during the entire month of October. In addition, a fall maze is a relatively new addition to the museum's popular autumn events schedule.

Several years ago Karon McKinley of the Seay Mansion Society put in a pumpkin patch on the museum grounds. During a discussion at one of the meetings she mentioned that the kindergarten and preschool children needed a museum activity. She came up with the pumpkin patch program and tailored it to that age group. It was a rousing success! The crop of pumpkins was bountiful that year and really added to the atmosphere.

This activity has continued as one of the staples of the museum's fall programming, although the staff have sometimes had to scramble to get enough pumpkins.

Groups that participate are treated to a tour of the museum and hear a story that is read in a darkened, spookily decorated auditorium. The kids have some gooey stuff to stick their hands in (brains?) and there is a "pumpkin smash" competition, using a piñata filled with surprises. The children leave with a pumpkin and, hopefully, a memory that will continue to grow as they do.

One of the main goals of the Chisholm Trail Museum is to reach as many people as possible in a variety of ways to give them the opportunity for a museum experience. The Pumpkin Patch does the job of bringing younger children for a taste of history, along with other fun activities.

Throughout the month of October, by calling the museum at 405/375-5176, groups may schedule a Pumpkin Patch date and time.

For the second year, the staff has build a maze in the Chisholm Trail Museum pioneer village. Last year Jeremy Ingle, CTM board member, designed and constructed the winding passages that made up "the trail on the old Chisholm Trail." The maze is an appropriate and fun activity for all ages. Not only was the maze a popular attraction in 2005, but many people went through multiple times and, of course, toured the museum. This year Ingle has expanded on his original design and added some other features that will delight those taking the journey. The maze will be open throughout the month of October during regular museum hours.

The Chisholm Trail Museum is located at 605 Zellers Ave. Hours of operation are Tuesday through Saturday from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. and on Sunday from 1 to 5 p.m. Call 405/375-5176 for more information.



## Seay Mansion to host Annual Society Brunch October 7

It is time for the Seay Mansion Society Brunch, held annually to raise money for the restoration of the 1892 Governor Seay Mansion. The date is October 7, and the place is the Kingfisher Fairgrounds Exhibit Building. Viewing of tables begins at 9:30 a.m. Each table has a different hostess, and she provides the table setting and decorations. The society's participating members accessorize their dishes in many different ways.

Brunch begins promptly at 10:30 a.m. The menu includes many beautifully presented and delicious food items, and each hostess will tell about her particular table setting. Cost is \$10 per person.

This event receives rave reviews every year. The atmosphere is welcoming, and

many of the guests leave the festivities with new friends and new ideas of how to enhance their next dinner gathering at home. There will be several drawings for prizes.

The Seay Mansion, located in Kingfisher, sits across the street from the Chisholm Trail Museum. The mansion is undergoing extensive restoration, with another major job to begin in the near future. Each step brings this historic structure closer to its original appearance. This goal is the incentive to keep the fund-raising effort alive.

A large attendance will greatly benefit this important historic preservation project.

Call 405/375-5176 for more information.



A table setting on display at a past Seay Mansion Society Brunch (Staff photo).

## Heisch named to *Preserve America* Summit Panel

On May 31, 2006, Mrs. Laura Bush, First Lady of the United States and Honorary Chair of the *Preserve America* program, announced that, in cooperation with the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation (ACHP), she will lead a national *Preserve America* Summit in October 2006 in New Orleans to mark the fortieth anniversary of the passage of the National Historic Preservation Act.

Leading up to the New Orleans summit, ACHP established a number of expert panels to review the major components of the national historic preservation program and recommend ways to improve the nation's historic preservation programs and policy. One of the expert panels deals with Addressing Security. The panel met August 30 at the U.S. Naval Academy in Annapolis, Maryland. The topic involves proposing ways to more effectively balance security concerns with the preservation and interpretation of historic properties. The co-chairs of the Addressing Security panel are Deputy Under-secretary of the Department of Defense (Installations and Environment) Philip W. Grone and James Malanaphy, AIA, chair of the American Institute of Architects Historic Resources Committee.

Panel members also include OHS State Historic Preservation Office/ Deputy State Historic Preservation Officer Melvena Heisch; Curt Betts, structural engineer, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Design Protective Center; Michael Chipley, vice president, Geospatial Solutions and Strategic Development, Technology Associates International Corporation; Roger Courtenay, principal, EDAW, Inc.; Horace H. Foxall, Jr., program manager, Center of Expertise for Preservation of Historic Structures and Buildings, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers; Frank V. Giblin, Urban Development/Good Neighbor Program, General Services Administration; Eve Hinman, principal engineer, Hinman Consulting Engineers, Inc.

Other members are Bruce A. Judd, FAIA, principal, Architectural Resources Group; National Park Service/National Mall and Memorial Parks Deputy Superintendent Steve Lorenzetti; Robert D. Loversidge, Jr., president and CEO, Schooley Caldwell Associates; Joseph Moravec, consultant; Barbara A. Nadel, FAIA, principal, Barbara Nadel Architect; Barbaralee Diamonstein-Spielvogel, chair, Historic Landmarks Preservation Center, New York; Paul Westlake, Jr., managing principal and lead designer, Westlake Reed Leskosky; National Capital Planning Commission/Federal Preservation Officer Nancy Witherell.

Other issues that will be considered at the *Preserve America* Summit in New Orleans include: Building a Preservation Ethic and Public Appreciation for History; Coordinating the Stewardship and Use of Our Cultural Patrimony; Determining What's Important; Protecting Places that Matter; Improving the Preservation Program Infrastructure; Dealing with the Unexpected; Using Historic Properties as Economic Assets; Involving All Cultures; Fostering Innovation; and Participating in the Global Preservation Community.

To learn more about *Preserve America* and to follow the results of the summit, visit <[www.preserveamerica.gov](http://www.preserveamerica.gov)>.





**Boo!**  
**Ghost stories abound at OHS sites  
 for Halloween!**

Prepare for a scare. During the month of October the normally mild-mannered staffs of various OHS historical sites will throw on their masks of deception and provide thrilling entertainment to begin the fall holiday season.

On October 21 the Pawnee Bill Ranch offers Halloween ghost stories at the (reportedly haunted) home of Gordon W. "Pawnee Bill" Lillie. The "howling good" event begins at 6:30 and continues to 9 p.m. Costumed "tour ghouls" will guide visitors around Pawnee Bill's historic mansion to hear tales that tingle the spine! A \$3 admission fee purchases an evening of fun and all the ghost stories your heart can survive. A small treat will be provided for children. Preregistration is required, as space is limited. Call the ranch at 918/762-2513 for reservations.

The staff of Fort Towson Historic Site will make the ghosts of Doaksville appear in visitors' imaginations on October 25 through 28. During a candlelight walking tour, storytellers will focus on the myths and the history of Doaksville, formerly the capital of the Choctaw Nation. Call the fort's staff at 580/873-2634 for information about admission fees and reservations.

A few days later, on October 27 and 28 the Murrell House in Park Hill hosts its 14th Annual Murrell House Ghost Stories from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. Visitors move through the house to listen to stories from six yarn spinners who tell about the ghostly past of the Murrell House, Cherokee County, and various locations. A donation of \$4 is requested, and, as space is limited, reservations are required. Content is not deemed appropriate for children under age 6. For reservations contact the Murrell House at 918/456-2751. Things will go "bump" in the night. . . .

**Mark your calendar—**

- Oct. 3 Rt. 66 Museum, Clinton, Sports Classic Owner Association meets
- Oct. 10 History Day Performance & Exhibit Workshop. Call 405/522-0692. RSVP.
- Oct. 14 Peter Conser House Quilt Show
- Oct. 18 Enid Brown Bag Lecture, "Stalag Oklahoma," by Dr. Bill Corbett
- Oct. 25-28 Fort Washita Ghost Stories
- Oct. 26 Murrell House Workshop, "String Angels."
- Oct. 26 "The Banker and the Examiner," Outdoor Performance, Museum of the Western Prairie

# Mistletoe Leaves

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## Sequoyah's Cabin on National Literary Landmark Register

In an October 6 ceremony at Sequoyah's Cabin Historic Site, ten miles northeast of Sallisaw, Friends of Libraries in Oklahoma (FOLIO) will commemorate Sequoyah's contributions to Cherokee culture and Oklahoma history. Sequoyah's Cabin will become the nation's sixth landmark to be listed in the NLLR.

The event, to be held at 1:30 p.m., will include speeches by Cherokee Nation Principal Chief Chad Smith, OHS Executive Director Bob Blackburn, Clare Delaney, president of FOLIO, Phyllis Yargee, Tribal Councilor for Sequoyah County, and State Rep. Glen Smithson. Michael Wallis will serve as master of ceremonies.

The cabin is also listed in the National Register of Historic Places. More information is available by calling 918/775-2413.

## Big V Ranch exhibit opens at Pioneer Woman Museum

The Pioneer Woman Museum recently hosted 155 guests at the opening reception for the Big V Ranch exhibit. It showcases the historic ranch established by William Vanselous and situated to the west of the famed 101 Ranch. On display are a hand-drawn map of the Cherokee Strip prior to the Land Run, two covered wagons, a pictorial history of the ranch and William Vanselous family, quilts, china, a replica of the ranch with miniature outbuildings, and other items depicting life on the Big V. The Cherokee Strip Land Run in 1893 brought Vanselous to a spot near Enid, Oklahoma, although he actually settled in Kay County on what he dubbed "the Big V Ranch." Eventually expanding the ranch to about 10,000 acres, Vanselous became well known for mule trading and producing high-quality corn. The first crop on the ranch, however, was 30 acres of onions. He made a very good profit from the crop because most of the area's fields were planted in corn. He further become well known and respected for his business skill. The ranch was sold in the early 1950's. The sale, which was the largest ever handled by auctioneer Bill Heldenbrand, was attended not only by potential buyers, but also by many spectators. The Pioneer Woman Museum is located at 701 Monument Road in Ponca City. Admission is \$3 for adults, \$2.50 for seniors over 65, and \$1 for children 6 to 18.

## Devon Energy honored with OHS award

At the completion of the replica 1920s oil rig and derrick in the outdoor interpretive exhibit on the Oklahoma History Center grounds, OHS thanked project funder Devon Energy Corporation with an award. Dr. Bob Blackburn presented a specially created, cut-crystal sculpture to Devon Chair and CEO Larry Nichols (center) and President John Richels (left). (Staff photo).



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