Cherokee Strip Museum opens Perry Sports—Featuring Danny Hodge exhibit

The Cherokee Strip Museum announces the opening of a new exhibit entitled Perry Sports—Featuring Danny Hodge. Included in the display are sports photographs, artifacts, and memorabilia from the museum's collection.

Danny Hodge graduated from Perry High School in 1951. Danny's career covered thirty years of wrestling championships beginning at Perry Junior High. As one of the strongest wrestlers ever to step onto a mat, Danny Hodge's strength sounds like fiction. Walking into a hardware store and breaking pliers with his strong grip or squashing an apple with his bare hand are some of the memories his friends in Perry have of Danny.

Danny began his wrestling career at Perry Junior High on a Monday. The following Friday he placed third in a junior high wrestling tournament. By the time he was a senior he pinned everyone that he wrestled. One match was won because the opponent refused to get on the mat with him.

During his college time at the University of Oklahoma Danny pinned thirty-six of his forty-six opponents. In fact, he pinned twenty-four opponents in a row.

The museum's photo gallery displays photographs from the collection following this same sports theme. Football, basketball, baseball, swimming, car racing, horse racing, and fishing are among the sports shown in the photographs. This room also features an Olympics Diploma honoring Jack VanBebber, another Perry wrestler.

Overcoming injuries and illnesses from his childhood, including being run over by a wagon, Jack VanBebber wrestled and played football for Perry High School and graduated in 1927. VanBebber continued his wrestling career at Oklahoma A&M (now Oklahoma State). At the age of twenty-five Jack competed at the 1932 Olympic Games (Tenth Olympiad) in Los Angeles, California. He received a gold medal in Freestyle Welter Weight when he beat his opponent, Eino Leino of Finland.

Admission will be free to the public on September 18, 2010. Other days admission is $3 for adults, $2 for seniors, and $1 for school children. There is no charge for children under age 5. The museum is open 9 a.m.-5 p.m. Tuesday through Friday and from 10 a.m.-4 p.m. on Saturday. For more information contact Peggy Haxton at 580/336-2405.

What is Oklahoma National History Day?

Every May hundreds of students make their way to the Oklahoma History Center for a special contest known as History Day. But what is History Day? In Oklahoma it is more than five thousand students, encouraged by teachers and parents statewide, participating in an academic contest. But History Day is more than that. It begins at the district level with individual students, teachers, and schools. Students start work in early fall. Throughout the semester they conduct research at libraries, archives, museums, historic sites, and more. All of this research is based on a national theme that changes yearly. For example, the National History Day theme for 2011 is Debate and Diplomacy in History: Successes, Failures, Consequences.

Students have the opportunity to develop their research and present their work through original papers, exhibits, performances, websites, and documentaries. Students compete in one of twelve regional contests, then the top three in each category advance to the state competition held each May in Oklahoma City. Professional historians and educators from across the state gather to judge the projects and provide critiques of the students’ works. Awards are given for first, second, and third place in each category for both the junior and senior divisions. In addition, there are several special prizes awarded to projects that stand out in areas such as Best Use of Newspapers, Best Women’s History, and Best Use of Oral History. Students who place first or second qualify to take their project to the National History Day competition at the University of Maryland, College Park.

National History Day makes history come alive for more than five hundred thousand students each year by engaging them in the discovery of the historic, cultural, and social experiences of the past. Through hands-on experiences and presentations, these students are better able to inform the present and shape the future.

As Jason Harris, the state coordinator for History Day, and his staff begin to plan for this year’s event, you too can help these students succeed. Through the generous support of Sonic and the Ad Astra Foundation, History Day is off and running. Each has made $1,000 contributions to the program. You as an individual or group also can help support Oklahoma’s National History Day. If you are would like more information or to make a contribution please contact Jason Harris at 405/522-0785 or jharris@okhistory.org.
Director's Column

By Bob L. Blackburn
Executive Director

There is an old adage, “nothing ventured, nothing gained.” That is important at the individual level, whether it is college and marriage or employment and investments. It is just as important at the institutional level, especially in government service where the temptation is to keep your head down, rely on what has proven successful, and minimize the downside of any action.

Here at the Oklahoma Historical Society, I am pleased to say that the corporate culture has broken out of that mindset and embraced “nothing ventured, nothing gained.”

In all directions I see innovative application of new technology, creative collaborations to try something never done before, and a commitment to constant improvement. A good example of this institutional attitude is the Oklahoma Museum of Music and Popular Culture, better known as the POP, planned for the Brady District of historic downtown Tulsa.

The venture side of the equation is pretty impressive. The OHS board and staff have invested thousands of hours and a considerable percentage of our resources to the exploration phase, including more than 120 hours of high definition video, three Smithsonian-quality museum exhibits on popular culture, and two years of collaborating with artists, collectors, chamber of commerce officials, foundation staff, and elected officials.

Recently, the venture was taken to new heights by one of our rising stars, Jeff Moore. Jeff has been working on the popular culture topic for years, and he and Larry O’Dell collaborated to lead us in the direction of history interpreted through the topics of Rock and Roll, Country and Western music, cartoonists, and the upcoming exhibit on Hee Haw.

About three months ago Jeff proposed another step up the ladder of our most excellent venture. He said it was time to name a full-time project director of the POP museum and he wanted to tackle the job. For Jeff that meant giving up a tenured position as director of exhibits at the History Center. It meant a leap of faith that we can turn a great idea into reality. The executive team, the staff, and the board of directors agreed it was time to raise the ante.

On the other side of this gamble is the “gained” part of our analogy. If we can step up the planning process to a higher level and gain more support for this world-class museum, we have a chance to do something special. We have a chance to interpret history in a new way, through popular culture and shared memory that will broaden the base of those who understand and celebrate Oklahoma history.

Yes, we believe in nothing ventured, nothing gained. We also believe we can deliver on the promise of an exciting new museum that will serve the people of Tulsa and this great state.

Development News

By Paul F. Lambert

We want to know what our members think about the activities of the Oklahoma Historical Society and the way we handle certain issues, such as annual membership renewals. To achieve this we have devised a member survey that may be completed on paper and returned to us or may be completed online. We have had short articles in OHS EXTRA! containing the link to the online survey and will continue to do that periodically over the next month or two.

We also put copies of the survey in the membership renewal mailing that we sent to those whose memberships were due in October. We may decide to do a special mailing to those members who do not receive OHS EXTRA! or we may continue to put the surveys in the renewal letters, knowing that it will take a year for the survey to reach everyone. Another alternative is to access the survey online by entering www.okhistory.org/survey into your web browser and completing the survey online.

Elsewhere in this issue is our Annual Donor Board List for the recently completed fiscal year. The list includes all those who donated (including memberships) $1,000 or more from July 1, 2009, through June 30, 2010. We also are working on our list of those who donated less than $1,000 to the Annual Giving Campaign Fund during that same period. We will be publishing that list in a future issue, or issues, of Mistletoe Leaves and in OHS EXTRA! We are most grateful for the continued interest and support of all of our members in this difficult economic climate.

New Members, August 2010

*Indicates renewed membership at a higher level

Associate
*Mr. and Mrs. William Anderson, Holdenville
Mr. and Mrs. Phil Bandy, Ponca City
*Mike Birdsong, Choctaw
*Frank Podpechan, Tulsa

Friend
*Angela Ables, Oklahoma City
*Mr. and Mrs. David L. Battles, Edmond
Deanna Bradley, Oklahoma City
*Herbert Bryant, Atoka
*Mr. and Mrs. Ford Drummond, Bartlesville
*Mr. and Mrs. Dale Helmer, Sand Springs, VA
*Mr. and Mrs. Dale Ingram, Little Rock, AR
*Caren and Carl Nordr, Tulsa
Mr. and Mrs. Fred Thompson, Oklahoma City
Phil Tucker, Edmond

Family
*Mr. and Mrs. Glen Bays, Stillwater
Billie Boston, Oklahoma City
Mr. and Mrs. David Bowles, Oklahoma City
Mr. and Mrs. John Bowser, Woodward
Mr. and Mrs. Phil Boyd, Chandler
Tina Callahan, Muskogee
Mr. and Mrs. Carl Downing, Oklahoma City
Marjorie Downing and Karen Howick, Oklahoma City
Eunice Edison, Lawton
Kurt and Charla Gwarnenty, Oklahoma City
Mr. and Mrs. Robert Harper, Midwest City
Tom Harris, Mayesville
*Mr. and Mrs. Alvin Irig, Welston
Mr. and Mrs. Roger Jaksch, Edmond
Mr. and Mrs. Jason Jarrell, Edmond
Mr. and Mrs. David Johnson, Pauls Valley
Alice Kauble, Tulsa
Mr. and Mrs. Gary Lasseter, Mustang
*Mr. and Mrs. David Main, Sapulpa
Mr. and Mrs. Robert McCain, Anadarko
Dr. and Mrs. Wade McCoy, Oklahoma City
Mr. and Mrs. Clay Mikkil, Edmond
Stan Paregien, Edmond
*Mr. and Mrs. Donald Riffel, Anadarko
Shandra Sherry, Oklahoma City
*Mr. and Mrs. D.L. Sigmon, Bartlesville
Mr. and Mrs. Russell Simkins, Stillwater
Mr. and Mrs. Floyd Shanky, Oklahoma City
Sue Thompson, Altus
Tamra Thurmond, Norman
Mrs. Pei-Hsuan Tsai, Oklahoma City
Wayland Wade and Joy Mileham, Chandler
Mr. and Mrs. Al Welch, Alexandria, VA

Institutional
Bureau of Indian Affairs, Anadarko
Grandfield Public Library, Grandfield
Indian Territory & Okla. Freedmen Hist. Assoc., Spiro

Individual
Mrs. John Adams, Nichols Hills

Cont’d on p. 7
Meeting

The Oklahoma Genealogical Society will hold its October meeting on Monday, October 4, at the Oklahoma History Center in Oklahoma City. The speaker will be Dr. Bob Blackburn, Executive Director of the Oklahoma Historical Society. Dr. Blackburn will speak on “Oklahoma, Melting Pot of America,” discussing settlement patterns and shifts in migration throughout Oklahoma’s history. For more information and events, check the OGS website at www.okgensoc.org.

Events

The Hartshorne Hard Times Festival October 8-9 celebrates the resilient spirit of the men and women who persevered through the lean years of the Great Depression. Activities begin Friday night with a Poor Man’s Supper and Roadhouse Dance and continue Saturday with a day packed with food, contests, shows, crafts, and more. Historic Sts. Cyril and Methodius Orthodox Christian Church will be open for tours on Saturday, October 9, from noon to 2 p.m. For more information, visit www.hardtimesfestival.com.

Chickasha’s Rock Island Depot will host its Second Annual Rock Island Arts Festival Friday and Saturday, October 1-2. The festival is free to the public and includes local artists under the shade of several tents on Chickasha Avenue. There are activities for young and old, including wine and beer tasting of the wines of Oklahoma vineyards and breweries along with an activity tent for all ages sponsored by the students of the University of Science and Arts of Oklahoma. Performers include Ali Harter, who received second place for best local singer/songwriter in this year’s Best of OKC in the OK Gazette magazine and has had her music featured on the television show Grey’s Anatomy. The festival is presented by the Chickasha Area Arts Council and the Rock Island Arts Festival Committee. Log on to www.rockislandartsfestival.org for more information.

Explore history in a spooky environment with Cherokee Nation Cultural Tourism’s “History After Dark,” a guided candlelight cemetery tour of Ross Cemetery. The tour includes both stories and historical reenactments featuring notable figures from Cherokee history. The tours take place October 21-23, 6 to 10 p.m. with tours beginning every thirty minutes. The last tour begins at 9:30 p.m. Tickets are $10 for adults, $8 for students, $5 for children ages 4-12, and children under 3 who sit on a parent’s lap are free. For ticket information, visit www.CherokeeTourismOK.com or call 877/779-6977. The Cherokee Heritage Center is located at 21192 S. Keeler Drive in Park Hill.

Pawnee will celebrate cartoon detective Dick Tracy’s seventy-ninth birthday on Saturday, October 2, from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Birthday cake will be served at Dick Tracy Headquarters inside the Pawnee County Historical Museum. The festival includes arts and crafts, live entertainment, and various vendor booths. Chester Gould, the cartoonist who created the Dick Tracy strip, was born and raised in Pawnee. For more information, contact Dana Hicks at the Pawnee County Historical Society, 918/762-4681.

Experience rugged pioneer life at the Fall Traders Encampment at Wewaoroc Museum and Wildlife Preserve near Bartlesville October 1-3 from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. daily. Nearly 125 tents and tipis will be set up to depict the lives of the men and women who trapped and traded in Indian Territory from the 1820s to the 1840s. To learn more about the encampment, call 918/336-0307.

Exhibits

The Toy and Action Figure Museum in Pauls Valley unveiled a new special exhibit entitled Iron man vs. Batman on August 21. The exhibit consists of a stop motion film, written and directed by Kyle Roberts and produced by Reckless Abandonment Pictures, that asks the question, “What would happen if Iron Man and Batman decided to duke it out?” The film provides a humorous take on this situation with several endings from which to choose. Along with the movie is a behind-the-scenes feature on the making of the film. The gift shop of the museum is also stocked with new merchandise, so stop by and satisfy your inner child. The Toy and Action Figure Museum is located at 111 S. Chickasaw in downtown Pauls Valley. Admission is $6 but discounts for groups, seniors, and military are available. Please call 405/238-6300 or email lisa@actionfiguremuseum.com with any questions.

Awards

The United Daughters of the Confederacy’s Cowskin Prairie chapter recently awarded Steven L. Warren the Jefferson Davis Historical Gold Medal for his television documentary “Last Raid at Cabin Creek” and for his book Brilliant Victory: The Second Civil War Battle of Cabin Creek, Indian Territory. Chapter president Carrie A. Cook presented the medal to Warren at the organization’s statewide convention in Tulsa. The medal, one of the most prestigious awards given by the UDC, was first awarded in 1941.

New Release

Kent Frates, author of Oklahoma Hiking Trails, and David Fitzgerald, award-winning photographer, have collaborated on a new coffee table photographic book entitled Oklahoma’s Courthouse Legends on Oklahoma’s seventy-seven county courthouses and three U.S. district courts. Oklahoma’s Courthouse Legends will be released on November 1, and you can get more information on the book and its authors, as well as ordering information, at www.courthouselegends.com.
Ghost Stories event returns to Murrell Home

For the eighteenth consecutive year, the George M. Murrell Home in Park Hill will be the backdrop for storytellers spinning yarns about the “Hunter’s Ghost” and other chilling accounts. The event will be held on Friday and Saturday, October 22 and 23.

“The innovative, family-oriented program will feature various storytellers in a number of rooms telling tales about the Murrell house, the Cherokee country, and other ghost stories,” said David Fowler, who manages the historic site for the Oklahoma Historical Society. “The Ghost Stories event is one of our most popular programs of the year,” said Fowler.

The Murrell Home, a plantation house built in 1845, is one of the oldest structures in Oklahoma. Ghost stories related to the home are documented as early as the 1930s. One story is the “Hunter’s Ghost,” which is the legend that grew out of the years George Murrell operated the mansion as his “Hunter’s Home” before the Civil War. He often hosted fox hunts in the Cherokee Nation. Th is and other tales related to the historic home will be revived by storytellers in period costume.

Sessions will begin every fifteen minutes from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m., with visitors moving through the house to listen to stories from five unique storytellers. Guests will also have a chance to explore the smokehouse, which is normally closed to visitors, and sample some hot cider and cookies provided by the Friends of the Murrell Home support organization.

Copies of the Friends’ publication Ghost Stories from the Murrell Home will also be available for purchase for $10. The book contains more than sixty stories about the Murrell Home and the Park Hill area for visitors who would like to read more about alleged strange activity in the area.

A donation of $5.00 per person is requested, with reservations required because of limited seating. The event is not recommended for children under eight years of age. For reservations, call 918/456-2751 or email murrellhome@okhistory.org.

Oklahoma Historical Society sponsors Student Art Contest

Faces of Oklahoma: Notable Oklahomans and Their Accomplishments

Students are invited to share artwork featuring notable people in Oklahoma history. Oklahoma’s heritage includes entertainers and musicians, politicians, activists and leaders, historical figures, innovators, authors, and many others! Draw or paint your favorite figure from Oklahoma. The contest began September 20 and ends October 29, 2010. The categories are grades 1-5, 6-8, and 9-12. First, second, and third place prizes will be awarded in each category. Winning and honorable mention artwork will be exhibited at the Oklahoma History Center. All entries will be displayed on the OHS Kids! section of the OHS website.

For complete contest details, entry forms, and guidelines visit www.okhistory.org/kids/. Contact Jennifer Towry at 405/522-4019 or email kids@okhistory.org for more information.

Third Annual Honorary Ownership Auction and Cookout is October 9

The Chisholm Trail Museum pioneer village and Governor Seay Mansion are for sale. These historic structures will be put on the auction block on Saturday, October 9, for the Third Annual Honorary Ownership Auction fundraiser.

The evening will kick off with bidding between 5 and 6 p.m. Up for bid are the First Bank of Kingfisher, Samuel Cole Log Cabin, Adeline Dalton Cabin, Harmony Church, Gant Schoolhouse, Buswell’s Blacksmith Shop, Kingfisher Jail, and even the village outhouse. The Governor Seay Mansion built in 1892 will also be on the honorary auction block.

In addition to the auction for historic buildings, a silent auction for theme gift baskets will be held. There should be something for just about everyone.

During the evening, hamburgers with all the fixings and sides will be available for $5.

Proceeds from the event will benefit the continued preservation and restoration efforts of the pioneer village buildings and Governor Seay Mansion. For more information, contact the museum at 405/575-5176.

Dutch oven cooking class at History Center October 23

All you cooks who want to learn about Dutch oven cooking, mark your calendars for Saturday, October 23. From 1 to 5 p.m. on that day, the Oklahoma History Center will offer this popular, hands-on, active participation class to teens and adults. The Dutch oven class is designed to introduce the students to Dutch oven cooking. Learn a variety of recipes as you create a dish and discover how to use a Dutch oven in your backyard. Cost for the class is $10. All necessary materials will be provided. Space is limited so sign up early!

Your class will begin inside the museum with background information, instructions on how to care for and clean Dutch ovens, recipes, and different cooking methods. The majority of the class will be spent outdoors preparing a group meal. All food items and ovens are provided by the History Center. Please remember to dress for the weather. And please, no open-toed shoes or sandals.

Grab a friend and join us for a great time! Registration begins September 1, 2010. To register, call or email Jason Harris at 405/522-0785 or jharris@okhistory.org. Payment must be received by October 20, 2010.

Make a Light Candlemaking scheduled

Come to the History Center and see how beeswax candles are made at the Make a Light classes November 6 from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. You can make your own candle by pouring beeswax into a mold, by dipping a wick into melted wax, or by rolling up a wick inside a sheet of beeswax. Afterward, take home your candle.

This activity is free with the price of admission to the museum.

For more information contact Walter Eskridge at weltereskridge@okhistory.org or call 405/522-0791.
Lunch & Learn Lectures for October

On Wednesday, October 6, from 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. the Lunch & Learn lecture on “Finding the Girls” will be held in the History Center classrooms. Back by popular demand, the workshop addresses the problems with researching females in family histories. Dr. Debra Spindle, Research Division librarian, will provide the lecture and offer techniques to use in finding the family females in historic documents.

On Tuesday, October 26, from 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. the Lunch & Learn lecture on “Research in the Choctaw and Chickasaw Nations: Indians, Intruders and Inter-marriage” will be held in the History Center classrooms. This lecture will cover topics such as Choctaw and Chickasaw removals, their first settlements, their participation in the Civil War, and the formation of their governments. Participants will learn about the role of intermarried citizens, intruders, and other non-citizens. Participants will also hear about the vast resources available to individuals who research these intriguing subjects.

The registration cost is $10 for each lecture, which includes lunch. Pre-registration is required. For more information or to register, call 405/522-5225.

OHS Fall Book Sale, September 30-October 2

The OHS Research Center will hold its biggest book sale of the year Thursday, September 30, through Saturday, October 2. The sale includes books on a variety of topics including history, geology, education, genealogy, and more. Shop for rare and out-of-print books as well as microfilm, maps, photos, CDs, records, and videos.

The sale runs 10 a.m. to 4:45 p.m. on Thursday and Friday and 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. on Saturday.

Research Center to host workshop

On Saturday, October 23, from 10:15 a.m. to 3:45 p.m. the Research Center will host a workshop on “Oklahoma! The Land We Belong to is Grand!”

During the day there will be four sessions on the following topics: Treaties & Allotment; The Opening of the Indian Territory, 1830-1906; Boomers & Sooners; Runners & Stripers; and Lottery Winners & High Bidders.

Early registration is $40; after October 1 registration is $45. The registration fee includes lunch. Pre-registration is required. For more information or to register by phone call 405/522-5225.

Check out these events and workshops, plus many others, on the web at www.okhistory.org/calendar.

New edition of Citizen's Guide to Section 106 process now available

Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act requires federal agencies and their authorized designees to consider the effects of their undertakings on archaeological and historic properties listed on or eligible for the National Register of Historic Places. The State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO) assists these agencies to meet their responsibilities under the Act through comment on their determinations of National Register eligibility and project effects on historic properties.

But, the SHPO is not the only entity a federal agency consults. For example, the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation’s (ACHP) regulations require that agencies seek input from the public. When concerned citizens express their views, they help the agencies reach the best possible decision about how a project is carried out.

To help members of the public understand the Section 106 process and the role they can play, the ACHP has released a new edition of its Citizen's Guide to the Section 106 process. It is now on the ACHP and Preserve America homepages as well as in their online publications library http://www.achp.gov/pubs.html as a downloadable PDF.

For further information about the Section 106 process in Oklahoma, please visit the SHPO’s website at www.okhistory.org/shpo/section106.htm. SHPO Fact Sheet #10: Frequently Asked Questions about Section 106 Review is available on this website and serves as a quick reference to how the process works. The SHPO’s December 9 workshop on the Section 106 Review Process offers an opportunity to learn more about this important federal law and how it protects historic properties.
Annual Donor Board  
July 1, 2009 to June 30, 2010  
This list is to recognize donors to the Annual Fund Campaign of the Oklahoma History Center and the Friends of the Oklahoma History Center during the recently completed fiscal year. Pledges, matching grant pledges, grants, and donations made during FY10 are included. The Annual Donor Board is prominently located on the first floor of the History Center.

$100,000 plus  
Family of Emily Bell  
Cherokee Nation  
Chesapeake Energy Corporation  
Continental Resources, Inc.  
Devon Energy Corporation  
Ethics & Excellence in Journalism Foundation  
George Kaiser Family Foundation  
Kirkpatrick Family Fund  
Nahiz and Annette Zuhdi

$50,000 to $99,000  
Chickasaw Nation  
E.L. and Thelma Gaylord Foundation  
Marvin D. and Barbara Jirous  
State Regents for Higher Education

$20,000 to $49,000  
George and Nancy Records  
Inasmuch Foundation  
Oklahoma Humanities Council

$10,000 to $19,999  
Frederick and Janet Drummond  
Junior League of Oklahoma City  
The 1889ers Society  
Tierra Media Group

$5,000 to $9,999  
Aubrey and Katie McClendon  
Doug and Peggy Cummings  
Ed and Mary Malzahn  
Frank and Kathy Keating  
Herman and LaDonna Meinders  
Mustang Fuel Corporation  
John Steele Zink Foundation  
Robert Klemme  
Seminole Nation of Oklahoma  
The Oklahoma Publishing Company

$1,000 to $4,999  
Paul and Leigh Ann Albers  
Ann Alspaugh  
Glenn and Arlene Ashmore  
Mike Barber  
Bob and Debbie Blackburn  
Barney and Virginia Brown  
Henry W. Browne, Jr.  
Chaparral Energy LLC  
Pawnee Bill Trail Arena  
Norvell Clark  
Tiajuana Cohnmayer  
Elizabeth Cole  
ConocoPhillips  
Cox Connects Foundation  
James and Teresa Day  
Drummond Law PLLC  
Mohammad and Jafar Fazlazar  
Charles and Carla Floryou  
Josephine Freede  
Arch Gorthard  
Melvin and Bobbie Gragg  
John and Virginia Groendyke  
Michael and Mary Beth Guard  
V. Burns and Ann Hangs  
Claudean Harrison  
Richard Lee Hauchchild, Jr.  
Bonnie Heffner  
Richard Hillemyer  
Nadine Holloway  
Steve and Pam Holton  
James H. and Madalynne Norkich Foundation  
Robert Lemon  
Harrison and Elaine Levy  
Duke R. Ligon  
Leonard Logan  
Tom and Judy Love  
Majors Energy LLC  
Jack and Sue Massey  
John Massey  
Ann Maxwell

Pawnee Bill Ranch offers full schedule of programs in October

Pawnee Bill Ranch will host its annual quilt show throughout the month of October. Visitors will see a variety of quilts that are heirloom/antique, hand sewn, machine quilted, traditional pattern, abstract, modern, and antique reproduction. Patrons can see the quilts during normal museum operating hours of Wednesday through Saturday, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., and Sunday, 1 to 4 p.m.

On October 2 the Mansion Centennial Style Show will be held. Pawnee Bill and his wife May’s dream home is one hundred years old in 2010, and the museum is celebrating that special anniversary with a style show. Models will wear reproduction clothing from around 1910, while Martha Ray narrates the show, describes each garment, and talks about the history of fashion. Admission for the style show is $5, and pre-registration is requested. Light refreshments will be available.

Also on October 2 the Pawnee Bill Ranch will hold a two-part blacksmithing workshop in its historic blacksmith shop. Andy Martin will teach Introduction to Blacksmithing from 9 a.m. to 12 p.m., and he will lead a more hands-on, advanced class from 1:30 to 4 p.m. Each class costs $20, and pre-registration is required.

The Quilt Block of the Month class is scheduled for October 12 and will meet in the museum conference room at 6:30 p.m. The fee for the class is $5.

On October 23 the popular ghost story tours will take place in the mansion from 6:30 to 9:30 p.m. Visitors can tour the eerily decorated mansion and listen to tales that tingle the spine. Ghost story tours book up fast, so pre-registration is required. The tour cost is $8.

Pawnee Bill Ranch is located just west of the town of Pawnee on U.S. Highway 64 at 1141 Pawnee Bill Road. For more information, call 918/762-2513 or email pawneebill@okhistory.org.

Chisholm Trail Museum to host Third Annual Victorian Fall Costume Ball

The Chisholm Trail Museum will host the Third Annual Victorian Fall Costume Ball on Saturday, October 16, at 7:00 p.m. in Kingfisher at the Memorial Hall, 123 West Miles.

The museum will recreate the festive atmosphere of a masquerade ball, which was quite popular during the Victorian era. Guests are invited to dress as a historic figure, famous or infamous. The music and dancing are 1800s style, but costumes may include any time period, including Sunday best from 2010.

Dancing is the highlight of this celebration, and the steps are easy to learn. Being a spectator is just as much fun as participating. Dainty refreshments will be provided as well as the opportunity to win a beautiful cake or other delicious treat.

During Victorian times ladies often wore soft slippers for dancing and sometimes wore holes through them in a beautiful dance. This occasion is truly a family affair. Admission cost is $8 per person, $9 per couple, and free for children age 5 or less.

The ball is a fundraiser for the continuing upkeep of the Governor Seay Mansion. For more information, call the Chisholm Trail Museum at 405/375-5176.

Twenty-year Members Renew in August

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!

Gerald Baehler, Broken Arrow, May 1, 1974
Jane McConnell, Norman, August 1, 1976
M.A. Architecture, Oklahoma City, August 1, 1983
Bruce and Betty Gallie, Rancho Cucamonga, CA, August 1, 1983
Northern Oklahoma College, Tonkawa, December 1, 1984
Clyde Williams, Indiana, May 1, 1985
Robert and Sarah Dorman, Edmond, August 14, 1985
William Anderson, Cullowhee, NC, December 1, 1985
Carol Jordan, Oklahoma City, June 24, 1986
Anadarko Community Library, Anadarko, December 16, 1986
Brenda Granger, Oklahoma City, July 6, 1987
Sue Parham, Las Vegas, NM, August 17, 1987
Murray Stewart, Broken Arrow, August 17, 1987
Ltc. Stanley Botts, Waukomis, March 21, 1988
Wanda Norton, Vinita, May 2, 1988
W.H. and Karen Anderson, Holdenville, July 6, 1988
McCurtin County Historical Society, Idabel, July 14, 1988
Dannie Pierce, Newalla, July 27, 1988
Wanda Haggard, Shawnee, August 4, 1988
D.L. Myers, Tulsa, December 16, 1988
Lonnie Fink, Oklahoma City, June 20, 1989
Fort Gibson Public Schools, Fort Gibson, July 21, 1989
Mrs. George Williams, Tulsa, February 14, 1990
**SHPO accepting award nominations for 2011**

The State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO), a division of the Oklahoma Historical Society, is now accepting nominations for its 2011 awards program. Do you know someone who rehabilitated an important historic building in your community? Who protected an important archaeological site located on their property? Who has worked with a dedicated group of volunteers to save an endangered historic landmark? Who developed a walking tour brochure for a historic district? These and many more projects and activities contribute to the preservation of Oklahoma’s heritage. Help the SHPO recognize the many preservation success stories across the state by nominating a person or an organization for an award.

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 5 p.m. on Friday, December 3, and candidates will be notified in February 2011 about the results of the selection process. The awards will be presented at the banquet during Oklahoma’s Twenty-Third Annual Statewide Preservation Conference in Guymon on June 8-10, 2011.

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

The SHPO will accept nominations in either electronic or hard copy format. To request nomination forms and instructions, contact Betty Harris at 405/521-6249 or bharris@okhistory.org. Or, obtain the information from the SHPO’s website at www.okhistory.org/shpo/shpoawards.htm.

---

**Fall Maze and Haunted Village at Chisholm Trail Museum**

Visitors to the Chisholm Trail Museum in Kingfisher can test their navigational skills in finding their way through a challenging maze, which will be open during regular operating hours the entire month of October. Museum hours are 10 a.m. to 5 p.m., Tuesday through Saturday.

On October 29 and 30 the Haunted Village will open evenings at dusk. The creativity of volunteers is reflected in this project, and a frightfully good time is in store for visitors of all ages who are brave enough to venture into this village of the past as it comes “alive” for only these two fall nights.

Admission is $1 per person. For more information, please call 405/375-5176.

---

**Gift Shop News**

by Russ Haynes

Hello everyone! We are continuing to have a great summer here at the Oklahoma History Center. I hope your summer is going well, too. I just wanted to say “thanks” to all of you who order from us throughout the year. It is greatly appreciated! Here are a few of the new books we have added to the Gift Shop for your reading pleasure.

**A PITCHER’S MOMENT: Carl Hubbell and the Quest for Baseball Immortality by Fritz A. Buckallew.** Tells the story of Carl Hubbell’s rise from a small town in Oklahoma to his fifteen-year, Hall of Fame pitching career (1928-1943) as well as his influence beyond that as a top executive with the Giants. 202 pages. Paperback. $16.95

**CIVIL WAR ARKANSAS, 1863: The Battle for a State by Mark K. Christ.** Analyzes the 1863 campaign for the Arkansas River Valley from both military and political perspectives. Shows how these events in Arkansas affected the war on a larger scale while also describing key engagements at the tactical level. 321 pages. Hardcover. $34.95

**IN RECKLESS HANDS: Skinner v. Oklahoma and the Near Triumph of American Eugenics by Victoria F. Nourse.** Tells the disturbing story of America’s forgotten experiments in eugenics and how these laws were challenged and eventually overcome through a landmark legal case that was taken all the way to the U.S. Supreme Court. 240 pages. Hardcover. $24.95

**THE COLOR OF THE LAND: Race, Nation, and the Politics of Landownership in Oklahoma, 1832-1929 by David A. Chang.** Brings the histories of Creek Indians, African Americans, and whites in Oklahoma together into one story that explores the way races and nations were made and remade in conflicts over who would own the land, who would farm it, and who would rule it. 293 pages. Paperback. $22.95

To order please use the order form included here, or you can call us at 405-522-5214. Please make checks payable to the Oklahoma Historical Society. To facilitate orders paid for by check we ask that, if possible, you call or email first to check for product availability. If this is not possible, don’t worry. We will do our best to fill any part of your order that we can. Overseas members must email us for a shipping quote before submitting an order. For questions and suggestions you can call us or email us at giftshop@okhistory.org. Thanks once again for your patronage, and we look forward to hearing from each and every one of you!
**Dr. Jimmie Franklin to provide public lecture at Oklahoma History Center**

Dr. Jimmie Franklin will be a guest lecturer at the Oklahoma History Center on Tuesday, October 19, 2010, at 7 p.m. in the Chesapeake Events Center. This program is free and open to the public.

Dr. Franklin holds the prestigious title of emeritus professor of history from Vanderbilt University in Nashville, Tennessee. He was the second African American to earn a Ph.D. in history from the University of Oklahoma in 1968. Dr. Franklin has authored many articles and four books: *Born Sober: Prohibition in Oklahoma, 1907-1959* (1971), *Blacks in Oklahoma* (1980), *Journey Toward Hope* (1982), and *Back to Birmingham: Richard Arrington, Jr., and His Times* (1989). In 1993 Dr. Franklin was elected president of the Southern Historical Association and has held committee positions with the Organization of American Historians and the American Historical Association. While at Vanderbilt he received numerous professional awards. He also remained connected to his students. He played an active role in the African American Studies Program, the Martin Luther King, Jr. Commemorative Series, the Compton Fellowship Advisory Board, and the Bishop Joseph Johnson Black Cultural Center Advisory Board.

The evening’s program will include a performance by the Langston University Choir and the introduction of an initiative sponsored by the Oklahoma African American Educators Hall of Fame in partnership with the Oklahoma Historical Society Black Heritage Committee to collect historical research material, photographs, and other archive data pertaining to early African American schools in Oklahoma. The Oklahoma African American Educators Hall of Fame is a non-profit organization headed by Dr. Donnie Nero, president of Connors State College.

**Caddo Leadership and Community exhibit opens in History Center OneOK Gallery**

Inside the OneOK Gallery at the Oklahoma History Center there is a temporary exhibit space set aside for each of Oklahoma’s American Indian tribes to interpret their own history for the public. Each of these small venues is a cooperative effort between the tribe and the Oklahoma Museum of History. Beginning this September the Caddo Nation will be featured in one of the four venues.

This exhibit is the result of a year-long cooperative effort between the Caddo Nation Museum and the Oklahoma Museum of History. The Caddo Nation Museum provided the interpretation, graphics, design ideas, and artifacts for the area. The staff of the Oklahoma Museum of History provided tools, material, and technical expertise for artifact installation and creation of graphic panels.

The title of the exhibit is *Caddo Leadership and Community*. The exhibit presents visitors with information regarding Caddo history, the Caddo Turkey Dance, and artifacts from the tribe’s traditional homelands. These artifacts are core pieces of the interpretation of the geographic expanse that the Caddo confederacy once covered. The artifacts include a pot from Craig Mound at Spiro, two chert points from a village site in Louisiana, a pipe from Battle Mound in Arkansas, and a replica of a shell gorget from a village site in Texas. The original Texas gorget is too fragile to move from its current storage location. Also on display is a cast replica of an effigy pipe from Spiro Mounds. This pipe, commonly referred to as “Big Boy” or the “Resting Warrior,” features the carved figure of a kneeling man wearing heads for earrings.

The exhibit opened to the public on September 17, 2010.

**Oklahoma Museums Association honors History Center**

The Oklahoma Museums Association recently held its 2010 Awards Banquet at the joint meeting of the American Association for State and Local History and the Oklahoma Museums Association. The Oklahoma History Center earned the award for Best Interpretive Exhibit for *Another Hot Oklahoma Night: A Rock and Roll Exhibit* and Best Publication for the exhibit’s companion book, *Another Hot Oklahoma Night: A Rock and Roll Story*. History Center volunteers Thomas and Joan Galbraith were honored with Certificates of Recognition for their outstanding and devoted service to the History Center and the Oklahoma Museum of History.