



Fall encampment at Fort Gibson

Troops from the 1830s will once again garrison Fort Gibson for the annual Fall Encampment on October 12 and 13. The event portrays the Arkansas Volunteer Militia as well as regular troops who were at the fort during the Indian Removal period. This event will not include a battle reenactment, but living history interpreters will encamp in and around the log fort to show visitors the roles played by soldiers and civilians attached to the post during the 1830s.

Planned presentations include military music, drill, blacksmithing, medicine, cooking, and games and pastimes. Also featured this year will be the post's historic 1830s officers' garden. Watch soldiers drill with their muskets, listen to the fifes and drums play patriotic music, and feel the boom as the cannons are fired. Friday, October 12, will be an education day geared toward teaching students about nineteenth-century military life in Indian Territory. Educators may bring classes to the site starting at 10 a.m. All ages are welcome. Saturday is a day for the whole family to get a taste of historic military life. Come experience life in the 1830s, celebrate the 188th year of Fort Gibson, and interact with soldiers and civilians alike. Admission is free.

The Fall Encampment is presented by the Oklahoma Historical Society, the Friends of Fort Gibson, and the Sixth Infantry Living History Association. Fort Gibson Historic Site is on State Highway 80 in Fort Gibson. For more information, call 918/478-4088 or email fortgibson@okhistory.org.



Bobbin lace class with Lacemakers Guild of Oklahoma

The Oklahoma History Center will host a bobbin lace class with the Lacemakers Guild of Oklahoma on October 13. Bobbin lace is a lacemaking technique that uses bobbins to control the threads as the lacemaker weaves and ties them into intricate designs. Bobbin lacemaking is a fascinating historic art that dates back to the sixteenth century. It requires the lacemaker to use both hands.

The lacemaking class will introduce students to the art of bobbin lacemaking and guide them through a bobbin lace project. This project will teach students a number of important techniques that can later be used in other projects including doilies, book-marks, framed artwork, and garment embellishment. No prior experience is required. The guild will provide two to three members to assist with the hands-on portion of the class.

The class will run from 1 to 4 p.m. and registration is required. The registration fee for the class is \$15 and includes all materials. Class size is limited to provide one-on-one instruction. For more information or to register, please contact Leah Craig at lcraig@okhistory.org or by phone at 405/522-0793.

The Lacemakers Guild of Oklahoma is a nonprofit organization dedicated to the study, creation, and preservation of lacemaking techniques. You may learn more about the Lacemakers Guild of Oklahoma by visiting <http://lacemakersoklahoma.weebly.com>.



Above: Soldiers folding flags at the end of the day.

Below: Military drummers.

Lower left: Dragoons practicing mounted tactics.



Talk with artist Crumbo-Halsey

The History Center will host artist Minisa Crumbo-Halsey for a special gallery walk-and-talk on Saturday, October 13, from 1 to 3 p.m. Museum visitors will have the chance to explore the exhibit *Spirit Talk* with Crumbo-Halsey as well as ask questions of the artist. The initial gallery walk will begin at 1 p.m. followed by a come-and-go reception with Crumbo-Halsey.

In her artwork, Crumbo-Halsey facilitates and presents universal traditional women's ways and endeavors to work in balance and harmony with the natural and spiritual elements of "Mother Earth and Father Sky-Sun . . . that we might truly be alive in a living world." This program is free with museum admission. For more information, contact Jason Harris at jharris@okhistory.org or by phone at 405/522-0785.



Director's Column

By **Bob L. Blackburn**
Executive Director

Sometimes I feel that the future of the Oklahoma Historical Society is one big balancing act.

With the general public, it is a balancing act of investing resources by time periods, geographical regions, and thematic subjects.

With the operational divisions, it is a balancing act of allocating time, resources, and personal engagement.

With the staff, it is a balancing act of mission and organization, duties and compensation, work fatigue and motivation.

One balancing act that spans all of these considerations, and probably one that will have the greatest long-term impact, is the art of strategic planning.

How do we accomplish our core mission of collecting, preserving, and sharing? Do we plow our resources into the long game of gathering artifacts, documents, and information for use in the future? Do we slow the collecting impulse to take care of what we already have? Do we go for quicker and more easily funded goals like exhibits, education programming, and books?

Let me use one example to illustrate how good strategic planning can accomplish all of these goals.

We are discussing a major project called "Crossroads of Commerce." In essence, this effort to focus on the history of economic development in Oklahoma will be a multilayered project that balances collecting, preserving, and sharing, motivates the staff, overlaps each of the operational divisions, and utilizes the statewide leadership qualities of the board members.

The project will be statewide, taking us anywhere that Oklahomans have bridged the gulf between assets and markets for products and services. It will span the centuries, taking us back to the Wichita of the eighteenth century who were the middle men connecting markets in New Orleans and France with the buffalo hides, deer skins, and horses owned by the Comanche, and reach into the modern era with stories such as Sonic and Ditch Witch.

In terms of collecting, we will gather biographical and family stories, business records, and artifacts that illustrate the process of adding value to individual skills, products, and services that someone was willing to purchase.

The possibilities for sharing this story are endless, now and in the future. There will be one major exhibit at the Oklahoma History Center, but the collection will offer opportunities for exhibits at other sites and museums within our system as well as articles, books, and public programming.

Yes, sometimes I feel like the future of the OHS is one long balancing act. With projects like "Crossroads of Commerce," we will run at a high speed and keep all the balls in the air.

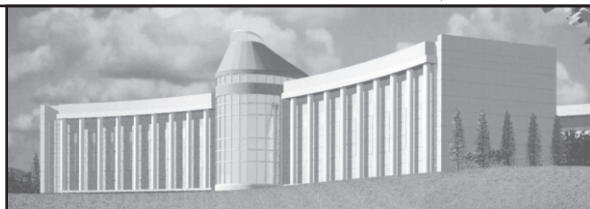
Dr. Bob

Development News

by Paul F. Lambert

In October members will receive a letter from Dr. Blackburn asking them to consider donating to our FY13 Annual Giving Campaign. The purpose of the campaign is to raise additional funds to support education programs, museum exhibits, and special events at the Oklahoma History Center. In addition, members may specify other OHS museums and sites or projects to be supported by their donations. Private funds have made it possible for the Oklahoma History Center to achieve Smithsonian Institution and National Archives affiliate status. This campaign stands apart from annual membership donations, and tax-deductible contributions to the campaign will not replace membership dues.

A wide range of programs and events are supported by Annual Giving Campaign donations. For example, more than 195,000 students have been served by museum division educators! Researching, designing, and constructing major museums exhibits, such as *Oklahoma @ the Movies*, public and school events with historic reenactors, and digitizing all of our pre-1923 newspapers (5 million images) and making them available online and searchable are other examples of projects made possible by private donations. If you have any questions about the Annual Giving Campaign, please feel free to contact me at 405/522-5217 or plambert@okhistory.org. Meanwhile, thank you once again for your membership and support!



New members, August 2012

*Indicates renewed membership at a higher level

Director's Circle

*Mr. and Mrs. Page Dobson, Oklahoma City

Associate

*Oakley Deisenroth, Tulsa
*Mr. and Mrs. John Meikle, Edmond
*Mr. and Mrs. James Turrentine, Ardmore
*Mr. and Mrs. William Woodard, Bartlesville

Friend

*Mr. and Mrs. Pete Holcombe, Oklahoma City
*Anna Smith, Winston-Salem, NC
Suzanne Tate, Dover
*Mr. and Mrs. Douglas Young, Park Hill

Family

Brent Alexander, Oklahoma City
Michael Alvernaz, Edmond
Dana Anderson, Norman
Sandra Austin, Midwest City
Paige Autry, Oklahoma City
*Dr. and Mrs. Kevin Avery, Oklahoma City
*Mr. and Mrs. William Bennett, Crescent
Joyce Bliss, Norman
Terry Brennan, Piedmont
*Barney Brown, Oklahoma City
Mr. and Mrs. Nathan Brubaker, Oklahoma City
Stella Burnett, Midwest City
Nancy Cain, Oklahoma City
Linda Campbell, Midwest City
Martin Cash, Prague
Pam Chandler, Midwest City
Brenda Clink, Oklahoma City
Mr. and Mrs. Harold Clinkenbeard, Richardson, TX
Jennifer Coleman, Mounds
Joyce Coombes, Bethany
Elizabeth Cooper, Oklahoma City
Mary Dean, Oklahoma City
Christine DiGiovanni, Edmond
Mr. and Mrs. V. Baillie Dunlap, Oklahoma City
Mr. and Mrs. Jay Engelbach, Oklahoma City
Fred Fanson, Oklahoma City
Don Finley, Yukon
Mr. and Mrs. Robert Gancarz, Moore
*Nelda Garnder, Bartlesville
Julia Goff, Oklahoma City
Mr. and Mrs. Ben Goodwin, Bartlesville
Mrs. Dru Graves, Bethany
Krista Greer, Mounds
Judy Harvey, Oklahoma City
Bill Hill, Norman
Irene Jondahl, Arcadia
Melissa Kamm, Edmond
Ted Lam, Oklahoma City
Kathy Langley, Blanchard
*Joy Luinstra, Bartlesville
Paula Matlock, Oklahoma City
James Miller, Dallas, TX

cont'd. on p. 7.

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

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Mistletoe Leaves is published for the members and friends of the Oklahoma Historical Society in partial fulfillment of the Society's purpose to "preserve and perpetuate the history of Oklahoma and its people, to stimulate popular interest in historical study and research, and to promote and disseminate historical knowledge."

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

All Oklahoma Historical Society facilities are for the education and enjoyment of all. State and federal regulations prohibit unlawful discrimination in state and federally assisted programs on the basis of race, color, national origin, and/or handicap.

Anyone denied benefits should contact the grievance manager of the Oklahoma Historical Society, 800 Nazih Zuhdi Dr., Oklahoma City, OK 73105-7917, telephone 405/522-8989, and/or the director, Office of Equal Opportunity, United States Department of the Interior, Washington, D.C. 20240.

AROUND OKLAHOMA

Events

Walk in the footsteps of the legendary African American lawman Bass Reeves through downtown **Muskogee** on the Bass Reeves Legacy Trail Walking Tour on Friday, October 12, at 5:30 p.m. This walking tour includes costumed interpreters who will tell the story of the heroic lawman as it happened more than one hundred years ago. After the tour, stay for a barbecue dinner and a concert of Muskogee's musical heritage. Space is limited so call early to make your reservation at 918/683-2400. The cost is \$15 per person. Tickets for just dinner and the concert are \$10. On Saturday, the Heritage Days Living History Festival features a chuck wagon setup, shootouts in the street, reenactors and storytellers, live music, food, western crafts, American Indian song and dance, outhouse races at 1 p.m., kids' games, and more. For more information, visit www.downtownmuskogee.org.

The Coleman Theatre Beautiful in **Miami** will be hosting several events in October, including the "Beau Powers Country Music Show," *The Mark of Zorro* silent film, and "Switchback: Authentic Irish Music." For dates, times, and ticket information call 918/540-2425 or visit <http://www.colemantheatre.org/>.

The **Honobia** Bigfoot Festival and Conference is a three-day event from October 5 to 7 held in the heart of the southeast Oklahoma Kiamichi Mountains. The event is held throughout the Honobia Community Center and primitive tent camping is available. This unique festival features live music, handcrafted arts and crafts, games, a 5K run, food, an art show, and plenty of family-friendly entertainment. Multiple musical performances and other live acts will be interspersed throughout the event. Bring your own four-wheeler for Bigfoot rides or watch as the kids enjoy a wide variety of children's activities including pony rides and a petting zoo. Enjoy Bigfoot storytelling by the campfire on Friday. Stories will be told by people who have experienced mysterious Bigfoot sightings. This event is free to the public. The annual event provides research workshops and prominent Bigfoot researchers speaking about their experiences and subsequent research. Past presentation topics have included Sasquatch communication, history of Honobia, witness profiles, and habitual locations of Bigfoot. For more information, call 580/244-7323. (travelok.com)

The annual **Tecumseh** Frontier Festival on October 5 and 6 is a tribute to the area's land run that took place in September 1891. Highlights include vendor booths, food, live music, a parade, Miss Frontier Days coronation, inflatables, games, and more. Come to Frontier Days to immerse yourself in the spirit of the Old West. Gunfighters, American Indian dancers, and live bands will keep the crowds entertained throughout the festival. Bring the kids for a carnival, peruse the entries in the annual car show, or stick around for a street dance after the festivities wind down. For more information, call 405/598-8666. (travelok.com)

The PrimeTime Senior Expo on October 11 and 12 is a trade show for active seniors' interests. This incredibly diverse trade show held at **Oklahoma City's** State Fair Park features a full array of products and services for busy, active seniors ages fifty and older. The event is free and open to the public and includes free entertainment and food. Browse through more than one hundred vendor booths filled with information on activities, home improvement, business development, special services, health and wellness, volunteer opportunities, gifts, and more. Come join the fun at this year's PrimeTime Senior Expo. For more information call 405/623-8183. (travelok.com)

Experience **Hartshorne's** twelfth annual Hard Times Festival on October 13 to celebrate the spirit of those who survived the Great Depression. The festival reminds visitors of the American values of strength, faith, and survival of the people from the former coal mining town. The festival occurs at the historic Saints Cyril and Methodius Orthodox Christian Church. For more information, visit www.hardtimesfestival.com or call 918/297-3651.

Experience the annual **Watonga** Cheese Festival on October 12 and 13. Enjoy two days of fun-filled musical entertainment, cheese tasting, an art show, quilt show, classic car show, children's games, and a 5K run. Do not miss the parade on Saturday, along with a cheese food contest and rat race. Visitors to this event will also enjoy a great assortment of vendors in three locations, including the armory and the craft tent, which offers a collection of items ranging from handmade crafts and food items to home décor and gifts. Visit the Made in Oklahoma tent for items made throughout the wonderful state of Oklahoma. For more information, call 580/623-3367. (travelok.com)

The **Wynnewood** Chamber of Commerce has planned the annual Pumpkinfest and car show to be held downtown on Saturday, October 20. Andy Alexander has planned the car show, promising more divisions and prize money, as well as the addition of a tractor show. The annual soapbox derby race is being reinvigorated this year as the first annual Brick Hill Classic with various age divisions. All interested enthusiasts, beginner or advanced, are encouraged to build a racer. Member businesses also have sponsored the construction of chamber soapbox derby cars for every age for use by those without a ride. Additional activities for all ages will include a new 5K race, live music, games, contests, food, and vendors. For more information or for booth applications, contact Cindy Lewis at 405/808-2478 or by email at cindylewis@reagan.com.

Make your way to downtown **Cleveland** on October 20 for a celebration of the city's heritage at Pioneer Day. The event kicks off at 11 a.m. with a parade featuring decorated floats. Festivities will include a barbecue cook-off, kids' games, live entertainment, a street dance, rodeo, and more. Arts and craft vendors will be present, as well as a variety of food vendors. For more information, call 918/358-2131.

Opportunities

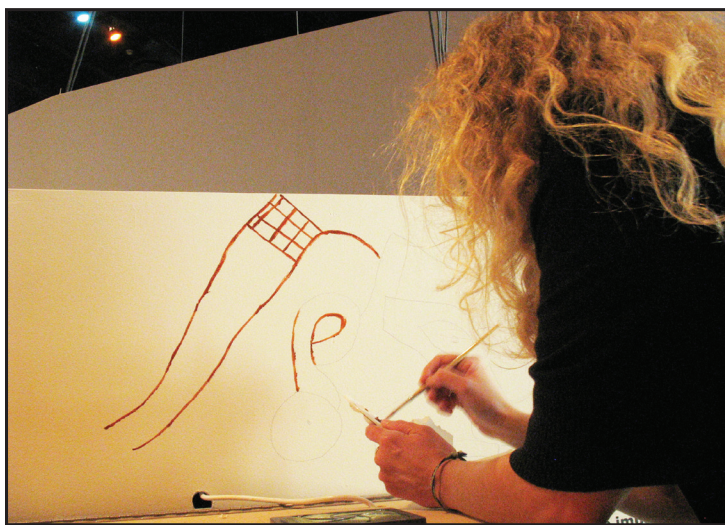
The University of Arkansas at Little Rock has compiled a database for Arkansas Territory court records. These records also include some items from Indian Territory. Visit <http://arcourts.ualr.edu/subjectindex.htm> to view these records. Keep checking the webpage as more collections are transcribed and digitized. For more information, email arcourts@ualr.edu.

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

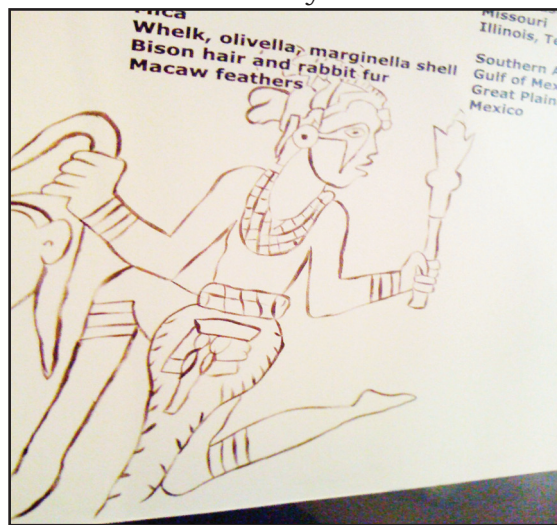
New American Indian exhibit at the Oklahoma History Center



The staff of the Oklahoma History Center redesigned a section of the American Indian gallery during August. The new section highlights the early indigenous history of the state by interpreting Spiro, Kay County, and the Black Mesa area. Staff removed old panels discussing Spiro and replaced them with more in-depth interpretation and graphic design. The new interpretive area features vinyl text placed directly on the wall and hand-painted renditions of shell engravings taken from artifacts within the Indian collections. A small case in this area contains several artifacts from the Black Mesa area that might be some of the oldest pieces in the OHS artifact collections. Ranging in age from 8000 BCE to 1268 BCE, the pieces highlight the role of early Oklahoma as an intersection of cultures, ideas, and trade. Staff also added a case containing several artifacts from the Bryson-Paddock archaeological site in Kay County. These objects from a Wichita village occupied from roughly 1680 to 1760 demonstrate the role of the Wichita people in conveying goods and technology from Spanish colonial New Mexico and French colonial Arkansas into Oklahoma. These updates currently can be seen in the ONEOK Indian Gallery.



Above, counterclockwise: Curator of American Indian Collections Matt Reed; Curator of Exhibits Lori Oden painting Spiro graphics; finished graphic; and Colorado Plateau-influenced sandal fragments.



Civil War 150 Teachers' Institute

Doaksville historic candlelight tour

The Fort Towson Historic site will host a walking candlelight tour of Doaksville, the first capital of the Choctaw Nation. A group of scenes will depict the later years of the town. Each scene will inform visitors of historical events that took place at this site. This year the theme will incorporate regional events associated with the Civil War and other depictions of events taking place during the 1860s.

Reservations are requested but not required. The tours begin at 6:30 p.m. To make reservations please contact Fort Towson Historic Site at 580/873-2634 or email jdavis@okhistory.org.



Ruins of Doaksville jail.



Back row: David Fowler, Correy Twilley, Cody Jolliff, Brian Bullock, and Keith Lough.
Middle row: Phillip Lavender, Laura Howard, Debra Deskin, and Toni Keener-Gordon.
Front row: Amanda Pritchett, Georgie Chapuis, Becky Adair, Sharon Owen, and Bill Corbett.

The participants enjoyed class lectures with Dr. Bill Corbett, the chair of social sciences at Northeastern State University and a member of the OHS Board of Directors. Dr. Corbett expressed his appreciation of the diverse atmosphere of the institute, with interactive activities, classroom time, and hands-on experience in daily life of the Civil War in Indian Territory. Teachers enjoyed the program stating they did not understand the complexity of Indian Territory Civil War history, but now had a great insight and want to learn more about Oklahoma history. Teachers received a resource kit that included hands-on items for their classroom students to use. Institute staff included Project Director David Fowler, Murrell Home staff member Amanda Pritchett, CW150 Coordinator Cody Jolliff, and Fort Gibson Historic Site staff member Corey Twilley. Presenters included Chad Williams, OHS Research Division, and Jason Harris, Oklahoma Museum of History. Sponsors included the Oklahoma Historical Society, Oklahoma Humanities Council, Cherokee Heritage Center, and the Cherokee Nation Cultural Tourism.

An update on the geophysical survey at Spiro

By Scott W. Hammerstedt, Oklahoma Archaeological Survey

Spiro Mounds Archaeological Center, named for the nearby town, consists of one burial mound, two platform mounds, at least eight house mounds, and at least four small midden (or trash) mounds. Spiro is best known for the spectacular artifacts found within the Great Mortuary in the Craig Mound (the burial mound). These include engraved marine shells, copper, textiles, pottery, shell beads, wooden masks, cedar litters, and effigy pipes; some of these artifacts came from as far away as the Gulf Coast, Great Lakes, Mississippi Valley, and California. It is also Oklahoma's only archaeological park, encompassing eighty-two acres.

Thanks to the work of a number of scholars, particularly James Brown, over the past seventy years, we know quite a bit about the Great Mortuary despite considerable damage done by looters in the 1930s. Artifacts found within it continue to inform and refine our understanding of Southeastern ceremonial practices and iconography. However, even with limited excavations in off-mound areas by Works Progress Administration (WPA) crews associated with the University of Oklahoma in the 1930s and by the Oklahoma Archeological Survey in the 1970s and early 1980s, we know very little about the nature and extent of nonmound habitation at Spiro.

Researchers from the Oklahoma Archeological Survey, University of Oklahoma Department of Anthropology, and the Arkansas Archaeological Survey conducted a near-surface geophysical survey at Spiro for four weeks between October 2011 and May 2012. This is the first stage of a collaborative, multidisciplinary project aimed at understanding the internal organization of this important site.

Geophysical surveys, conducted with equipment such as gradiometers or ground penetrating radar, have become increasingly popular in North American archaeology, in part because they allow for a more thorough coverage of parcels of land, allow archaeologists to "see" beneath the soil and plan excavations accordingly, and the price of some of the equipment is occasionally within reach of our often meager budgets. As of this writing, we have surveyed fifty-four acres at Spiro, or most of the site that is not covered in trees, steeply sloped mounds, or both. We have also mapped much of Spiro to one centimeter accuracy with a robotic total station.

At this early stage of the project, we cannot say much about our results since the fieldwork is not complete. We can say with certainty that there are quite a few cultural features, including what appear to be numerous buildings. In several areas we also have relocated what appear to be old excavation trenches. I can say that while operating a gradiometer through calf-deep water in March may raise questions about my sanity, the results appear to be worth it. Stay tuned for more as the survey continues!

We would like to thank the US Army Corps of Engineers-Tulsa District, the Oklahoma Historical Society, the Caddo Nation of Oklahoma, and the Wichita and Affiliated Tribes for their ongoing support of our work.

Yoga to benefit Pioneer Woman Museum

In October the Pioneer Woman Museum will be offering the last of a series of gentle yoga classes on the lawn with OM Yoga of Ponca City. These will take place from 7 to 8 a.m. on Saturday, October 6, and Saturday, October 13, and are open to the general public at no cost. Donations will be accepted to benefit the Pioneer Woman Museum. The classes are suitable for all levels of experience and interested participants should bring a yoga mat and a blanket. Please call the Pioneer Woman Museum for more information at 580/765-6108.

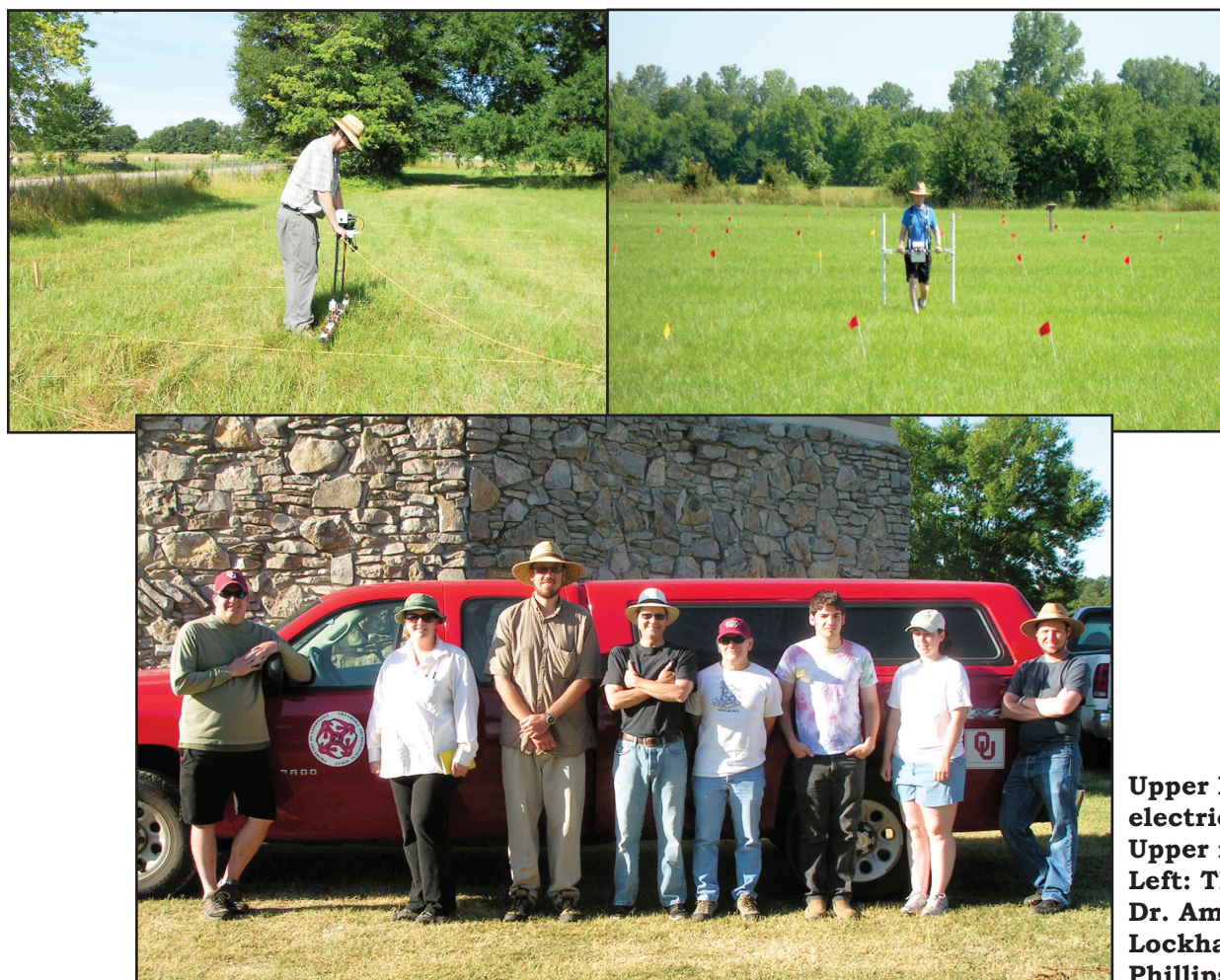
In the Pioneer Woman Museum's gift shop, we would like to place a preorder for Pioneer Woman statues. These quality, 4.5-inch, bronze-tone replicas are made in the USA. We need thirty orders to place an order with our vendor. If interested, please call the gift shop at 580/765-6108.



OHS Research's Lunch and Learn lecture

On October 24 participants will learn to use the advanced features of FamilySearch.org with speaker Donna Waddle. Find out how to locate records by location and in individual collections. Use the FamilySearch.org Learning Center to explore the wiki, blogs, and books. Identify new records with the Family History Catalog. For those who are early users of the family tree, find out how to access your family tree and utilize the My Source Box feature.

This Lunch and Learn is 10:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. in the Oklahoma History Center classrooms. Registration is \$10 per person and lunch is included. Contact the OHS Research Center at 405/522-5225 to register.



Upper left: Dr. Patrick Livingood operating an electrical resistance meter.

Upper right: John Samuelsen operating a gradiometer.

Left: The crew in May 2012. Dr. Scott Hammerstedt, Dr. Amanda Regnier, Dr. Patrick Livingood, Dr. Jami Lockhart, Dr. George Sabo, David Halperin, Dr. Erin Phillips, and John Samuelsen.

Trail of Tears voyage ends at Fort Gibson



The Cherokee Trail of Tears has been driven by motor vehicle, hiked, and biked, but as far as anyone knows, never paddled solo its full length by water. That is until August 17, when Dale Stewart landed his hybrid kayak/canoe at the historic Fort Gibson boat landing on Grand River, completing his retracing of the Cherokee Removal water route.

Stewart was greeted at the riverfront by Karen Cooper, director of the Cherokee Heritage Center,

Glenn Jones of the Benton County, Arkansas, Historical Preservation Commission, Dusty Helbling of the Cherokee National Historical Society and Trail of Tears Association, and Bob Dalton of the Sequoyah County Historical Society. Also present were members of the Fort Gibson Historic Site staff.

"This boat is going to spend some time at the Cherokee museum. Then it's going to the Smithsonian. They've got another one of my boats there," said Stewart, referring to a boat that he had used on one of his earlier river voyages. Stewart said that, besides the Amazon, he has also paddled the Nile.

Stewart, an author, explorer, and survival educator, became interested in the project because he had not yet done anything related to American Indians. "I've stayed with indigenous peoples on six continents," Stewart said, "and I've learned something from all of them." He said it occurred to him that his home in Asheville, North Carolina, is about twenty-five miles away from the home of the Eastern Cherokees. So he went to visit them, and got the idea for retracing the water route of the Cherokee Removal.

The voyage began June 18 at Ross's Landing near Chattanooga, Tennessee. Stewart's route took him along the Tennessee River to the Ohio, the Mississippi, and then the Arkansas Rivers. He stopped at historic sites relevant to the Trail of Tears along the way. The last few miles were on Grand River, which connects Fort Gibson to the Arkansas. In all, the voyage was 1,229 miles, according to Stewart's website. Stewart was able to phone, text, and email from his kayak the length of his voyage. The last call he took before landing at Fort Gibson, he said, was from Phillipe Cousteau, grandson of Jacques Cousteau. "I met him when I was paddling the Amazon," Stewart explained.

Everyone helped Stewart load his boat and luggage onto vehicles brought by the reception committee. After a tour of the site by Fort Gibson staff, he went on to Tahlequah for a speaking engagement.

Stewart plans to document the voyage in a book and film both entitled *The Four Waters*. He also says that, in addition to raising awareness about the water route of the Trail of Tears, the voyage is raising funds to help support a children's home being built in the Qualla Boundary in Cherokee, North Carolina.

Museum of the Western Prairie event a success



On Saturday, July 28, the board members of the Western Trail Historical Society hosted Breakfast on the Prairie at the Museum of the Western Prairie in Altus. Members and guests were invited to enjoy a full morning of activities built around three themes: a cowboy's campfire breakfast, a pioneer breakfast in a half-dugout, and a ranch headquarters breakfast. Each of these programs in the museum's courtyard was a living history presentation designed to recreate a typical breakfast in each of the three settings. In addition, a fourth vignette featured a storyteller

entertaining guests with a sampling of food-related stories, such as "How to Bake a Jack Rabbit" and "How to Prepare Angels on Horseback."

Each of the vignettes capitalized on the uniqueness of the people who settled in southwest Oklahoma. The presentation at the half-dugout focused on dishes prepared for a family, like a dinner of "venison, poke salad, hot corn bread, butter, cottage cheese, and wild dewberry pie" as well as the experience of living in a half-dugout, which is reflected in a young girl's story. And at the campfire, a cowboy reminisced about "the heavenly perfume of fried bacon mingled with the aroma of camp coffee."

The nearly two hundred participants also enjoyed a butter-making demonstration and had the opportunity to make a pat of butter for themselves. Throughout the morning, the Western Trail Historical Society served A Taste of a Prairie Breakfast featuring the modern-day equivalents of sourdough biscuits, salt pork, and campfire coffee along with juice for the younger guests.

Dutch oven cooking class

The Oklahoma History Center is hosting a hands-on, active participation Dutch oven cooking class on Saturday, October 20, for teens and adults. The class is designed to introduce the students to basic 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. The class is from 1 to 5 p.m. All necessary materials will be provided by the museum. Space is limited so sign up early.

Your class will begin inside the museum for background information, instructions on how to care for and clean Dutch ovens, recipes, and different cooking methods. The majority of the class will be spent outdoors preparing a group meal. All food items and ovens are provided. Please remember to dress for the weather. Because of the nature of the class, please do not wear open-toed shoes or sandals. For more information or to register, please contact Jason Harris at jharris@okhistory.org or by phone at 405/522-0785.

Home School Day at the OHC

The Oklahoma History Center will host the fourth annual Home School Day on Monday, October 1, from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Home School Day at the History Center is designed to offer family educators the chance to participate in a program specifically designed for mixed age groups. Activities run throughout the day allowing participants to stop by any time. The museum will offer a hands-on adventure into Oklahoma's past. Visitors can explore the museum with the help of gallery guides, follow along with our scavenger hunt, take part in hands-on demonstrations, and enjoy a variety of historical interpreters. Visitors will find activities and demonstrations throughout the galleries.

Home School Day is designed for family educators and home school groups to come, experience, and do! No registration is required. Best of all, admission to the program is free. The museum offers a number of outdoor picnic areas or you can drop by the Winnie Mae Café during your visit for lunch. For more information please contact Jason Harris at jharris@okhistory.org or by phone at 405/522-0785.

Annual donor list 2012

Below are those who made cash donations to the Oklahoma Historical Society or to the Friends of the Oklahoma History Center during the period from July 1, 2011, through June 30, 2012. These donors also are listed on the Annual Donor Board in the Oklahoma History Center.

\$100,000 +
Inasmuch Foundation

\$50,000-99,999
The James C. and Teresa K. Day Foundation
Devon Energy Corporation
Express Employment Professionals
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Kirkpatrick Family Fund
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\$25,000-49,999
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Western Trail Historical Society
Bud and Betsy White
Chuck and Renate Wiggin
Laurie Williams
Pendleton and Robin Woods
John Yoeckel

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!

Harrison Townes, Tulsa, July 1, 1962
Elk City High School, Elk City, August 1, 1981
Miami Public Library, Miami, January 14, 1982
MA+ Architecture, LLC, Oklahoma City, August 1, 1983
Mary Jo Watson, Oklahoma City, August 1, 1984
Fairfax Public Library, Fairfax, January 2, 1985
Twylla Berger, Ocala, FL, October 24, 1986
Anadarko Community Library, Anadarko, December 16, 1986
Leah Nellis, Norman, February 18, 1987
Brenda Granger, Oklahoma City, July 6, 1987
Sue Parham, Las Vegas, NM, August 17, 1987
McCurtain County Historical Society, Idabel, July 14, 1988
Wanda Haggard, Shawnee, August 4, 1988
Carolyn Calloway, McClellan, CA, May 4, 1990
Michael and Suzanne Wallis, Tulsa, August 15, 1990
Daniel Fields, Oklahoma City, January 15, 1991
K. M. Armstrong, Fort Worth, TX, August 13, 1991
J. D. Smith, Tulsa, August 22, 1991
Mary A. Finley, Oklahoma City, July 24, 1992

Enriched: Animal Art
from the OKC Zoo

Enriched: Animal Art from the Oklahoma City Zoo is an exhibit partnering with the OKC Zoo and their ZooZeum to showcase the process of animal enrichment through painting. The paintings are extremely unique and provide the animals with new sensations that stimulate them mentally and physically. The Oklahoma City Zoo has been an important local institution in the community for more than a century and the History Center is delighted to share their history and conservation efforts with our guests.

New members, cont’d.

Family
Stephen Myles, Edmond
Rodney O'Dell, Yukon
Patty Phillips, Bartlesville
Kristi Potts, Oklahoma City
Karen Prior, Oklahoma City
Rita Pugh and Joe Jones, Oklahoma City
Ronald Reynolds, Guthrie
Linda Rosser, Nichols Hills
Carolyn Russell, Oklahoma City
Mr. and Mrs. Tom Shannon, Edmond
Suzanne Simpson, Edmond
Mr. and Mrs. Floyd Skarky, Oklahoma City
Leslie Smith, Edmond
Tasha Smith, Edmond
Mr. and Mrs. James Stallcup, Seminole
Rodney Stearns, Edmond
Mr. and Mrs. Scott Swearingen, Tulsa
Keith Swezey, Edmond
Janet Tucker, Oklahoma City
David Warren, Oklahoma City
Mr. and Mrs. Harold Williams, Sapulpa
Dorothy Young, Edmond
Heather Zinn, Guthrie

Institutional
Washington County Historical Society, Dewey

Individual
Doris Anderson, Edmond
Sherry Barnes, Davis
Emmanuel Barnett, Muskogee
Rhonda Bass, Ardmore
Louis Bauhaus, Broken Arrow
Barbara Bilek, Oklahoma City
Matthew Cambell, Wynnewood
Patricia Carver, Enid
Georgie Chapuis, Muskogee
Gerald Cich, Spencer
Spring Cleveland, Tecumseh
Emesto Cortes, Seminole
Max Davis, Claremore
Jason Deal, Elk City
Jason Dersham, Eufaula
Debra Deskin, Edmond
Joseph Ducote, Okmulgee
Barbara Eskridge, Oklahoma City
Roberta Forman, Tulsa
Christopher Hager, Broken Arrow
Ronald Herman, Lindsay
Hecter Herrera, Enid
Chad Herring, Crescent
Charlene Holloway, Tulsa
Mattie Ivie, Hobart
Terry Jewell, Pawnee
Toni Keener-Gordon, Hulbert
Ashley Key, Broken Arrow
Robert King, Vian
Faith Kirksey-Pearce, Broken Arrow
Herman Kirkwood, Oklahoma City
Bruce Mager, Broken Arrow
Christi Marline, Ardmore
Robert Martin, Henryetta
Brenda McCool, Tahlequah
Consuelo Medrano, Ada
William Merchant, Blackwell
Farris Moore, Okmulgee
Brandon Mudgett, Elk City
James Noland, Ardmore
Cora Osborne, Konawa
Sharon Owen, Chouteau
Pat Paty, Overbrook
Mike Perou, Indianoma
Anthony Porchia, Tulsa
Antonio Porter, Tulsa
Althea Roberson, Lawton
Bruce Roberts, Sunset, LA
Susan Scherm, Edmond
Waylon Seiger, Waynoka
Jill Sharp, Yukon
Kim Shelley, Woodward
Christopher Short, Broken Arrow
Kenneth Sivard, Idabel
William Snider, Ardmore
Rickey Southard, Davis
Tasha Steward, Tulsa
Michael Turner, Dover
Brenda Wilson, Durant
Douglas Young, Tulsa

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

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

PERIODICALS

Ghost stories at the Murrell Home

For the nineteenth 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 26 and 27.

“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 among our most popular events of the year,” said Fowler.

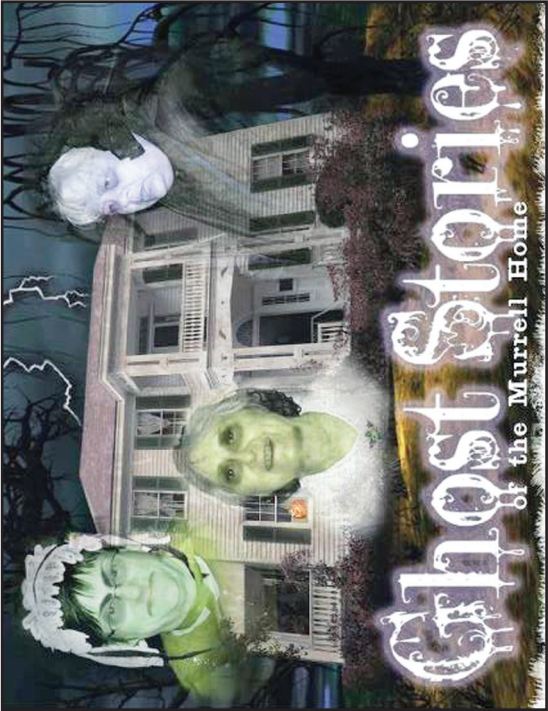
The Murrell Home, a plantation built in 1845, is one of the oldest structures in Oklahoma. Ghost stories related to the home are documented as early as the 1930s. One story, the “Hunter’s Ghost,” is the legend that grew out of the years before the Civil War when George Murrell operated the mansion as his “Hunter’s Home.” He often hosted fox hunts in the Cherokee Nation. This 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 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 each while supplies last. 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 per person is requested, with reservations required because of limited seating. Credit cards are accepted. The event is not recommended for children under eight years of age. For reservations, call 918/456-2751.

The George M. Murrell Home is a National Historic Landmark, a Certified Trail of Tears Site, and is listed on the National Register of Historic Places. It was the residence of two nieces of Cherokee Principal Chief John Ross.



Smithsonian Affiliations
Membership Program

Style show, ghost story tour,
and quilt show at Pawnee Bill Ranch

There are several things going on in October at the Pawnee Bill Ranch. On October 6 at 2 p.m., the ranch is having a wedding style show on the front porch of the mansion. Martha Ray, retired director of historic homes for the Oklahoma Historical Society, will narrate the show. The show will feature vintage bridal gowns and historic wedding party clothing. Please call 918/762-2513 to make reservations. The fee for the style show is \$5.

On October 27 the ranch will host ghost story tours through the mansion. The mansion will be transformed into a spooky home completely illuminated by the eerie light of elaborately carved jack o’lanterns. Storytellers will be stationed throughout the home and visitors will move from room to room to hear a variety of scary stories. Story tours are from 6:30 to 9 p.m. with a tour starting every fifteen minutes. Reservations are required and there is a \$3 fee per person. Please call 918/762-2513 to make a reservation.

During the entire month of October, the Pawnee Bill Ranch will host a quilt show in the museum. Area quilters will bring in their handiwork to be exhibited during the museum’s normal hours of operation. Everything from historic family heirlooms to modern abstract works of art will be seen. The quilt show is a way for community members to show off their beautiful works of fiber art.