



New exhibits on display at Chisholm Trail Museum

The Chisholm Trail Museum is proud to announce a new temporary exhibit on loan from one of the foremost collectors of Victorian era working dresses, Marna Davis. The exhibit, *No Lady of Leisure*, will display original, rare, Victorian era working dresses from the mid-Victorian era through the early Edwardian period. The exhibit will feature not only original Victorian era working dresses, but also will detail through photographs and narrative “what a difficult situation most respectable but poor in the purse women found themselves in.” Out of necessity these women found a way to clothe themselves respectably “yet still be able to perform household duties which were their sole domain.” The exhibit will explore the impact of the invention and availability of the sewing machine, the development of the sized sewing pattern, and the development of the network of roads and railroads. The dresses on display will represent various geographic and socio-economic styles from those who lived on the frontier during and after the land runs to those who lived in cities throughout the Victorian era.

On display are twelve original Victorian era working dresses from the early 1870s through 1910, an early post-Civil War era bustle wrapper dress, an original 1883 McDowell drafting system made of adjustable brass strips, an 1880s bright turkey red wrapper dress, and a late 1890s original crochet booklet with pattern examples.

According to widely distributed literature throughout the Victorian era, “the female who [was] utterly regardless of her appearance [would] be safely pronounced deficient in some of the more important qualities which the term ‘good character’ implies.” The exhibit reveals the extremely difficult situation in which most middle class women found themselves regarding the wearing of appropriate attire while also bearing large numbers of children and running households on farms and in the cities. Women of this period would have overcome these challenges while making the land runs and living in log cabins or sod houses during some of the most difficult years of Oklahoma territorial and early statehood history.

Additionally, the museum recently opened a new permanent exhibit entitled *Heroes of World War II from the Wheat Buckle*. This exhibit displays various artifacts, such as uniforms, rifles, pistols, and memorabilia, used and owned by former Kingfisher County residents who fought in World War II. In addition, there are several original World War II artifacts now on display, such as an MG-42 German machine gun, Russian artifacts, British

artifacts, and examples of most of the rifles and pistols used by the US soldiers during the war.

There is also a memorial wall with photographs and descriptions of soldiers from Kingfisher County who fought and were killed in battle during World War II. In addition to the various artifacts and the memorial wall, the exhibit contains stories written home by soldiers from Kingfisher County that detailed battle conditions and actions from almost every portion of the war. Those stories and photographs are sectioned off representing the various theatres of World War II and its broader history from those who made the D-Day landings and fought from France to Berlin; those who fought in the Philippines, Bataan, Tarawa, New Guinea, the Solomon Islands; the invasion of Italy including Sicily, Salerno, and Anzio; and those who served and fought in the China, Burma, and India Campaign. Kingfisher County sent approximately 1,500 men and women to fight in World War II, which was 10 percent of the population of Kingfisher County at that time. Of those who fought from Kingfisher County more than forty men lost their lives.

After touring the *No Lady of Leisure* and World War II exhibits visitors are encouraged to tour the rest of the museum, where they will learn about the histories of Jesse Chisholm, the Chisholm Trail, the Land Run of 1889, and early territorial and statehood days in Kingfisher and Kingfisher County. There is also a Victorian era historical site on the museum grounds with five original historical structures including two original log cabins, the first bank building in Kingfisher, an original one-room schoolhouse, and a one-room rural church. Additionally, visitors can enjoy a guided tour of the Governor Seay Mansion that was owned by the second territorial governor of Oklahoma, Abraham Jefferson Seay. This beautiful home is decorated in the Victorian style with original, handcrafted, elaborate crown molding and pocket doors. The home is furnished with many of Governor Seay’s original belongings.

Admission to the museum is \$4 for adults and \$2 for children and seniors. For more information about the Kingfisher Chisholm Trail Museum and to follow upcoming events and programs, please visit www.ctokmuseum.org. The museum has a Facebook page as well. The Governor Seay Mansion and Chisholm Trail Museum are located at 605 Zellers Avenue in Kingfisher. Hours of operation are Tuesday-Saturday, 10 a.m.-5 p.m. The museum is closed major holidays. For more information, call 405-375-5176.





Director's column

By Dr. Bob L. Blackburn
Executive Director

If there is one word that describes the progress the OHS has made over the past two decades, it is partnerships.

It starts with our private side, the members of the OHS, who are the eyes and ears of the organization at the grassroots level. You help us find collections, suggest stories, and open doors to other members of your families, organizations, and communities.

Through your membership dues and contributions to the annual giving campaign, you help fund programs, collections, and exhibits. As it has been since 1893, the OHS family is one big partnership of people and organizations who share a passion for state, tribal, and local history.

On the flip side of our private/public partnership are the other branches of state government.

We have developed a good working relationship with legislators and their staffs. Whereas some agencies fall back on the blame game and resort to public confrontation to gain an advantage in the give and take of the legislative process, we rely on open communication and consultation to deal with challenges and seize opportunities.

I consider many members of the legislature, past and present, as good friends who care about the preservation of our history. One of those past legislative

friends, Bill Settle of Muskogee, has recently been appointed to the OHS Board of Directors.

Most recently our productive partnership with the Oklahoma Department of Transportation continued with another \$400,000 grant for exhibits at the Oklahoma History Center. The Oklahoma Aeronautics Commission, another partner, has offered to help create a flight simulator that will allow museum visitors to land a Braniff Lockheed Vega in either Oklahoma City or Tulsa as the cities looked in 1931.

We give as well as we receive. We are helping the Fallin Administration with the renovation of the State Capitol. We are working with the State Regents for Higher Education to tell their story through a new book. We are taking a leadership role with Septemberfest in partnership with the Friends of the Governor's Mansion. The list goes on.

On the near horizon is an opportunity to strengthen our partnerships with business leaders across the state through the upcoming museum exhibit *Crossroads of Commerce: The History of Free Enterprise in Oklahoma*.

We are working with more than one hundred businesses to tell the story of taking a chance and contributing to our quality of life. While we are telling those stories and building collections, we will be nurturing new partnerships.

In a recent conversation, Enoch Kelly Haney shared a story his father told him when they were in the woods. His father, Woodrow, grabbed a stick and easily broke it into small pieces. Then he gathered the pieces and tried to break the bundle. It would not bend.

The moral of the story is that we are stronger together than we are alone. Through partnerships, the OHS will be stronger today and tomorrow.

Dr. Bob

Development News

By Larry O'Dell

The Oklahoma Historical Society's annual membership campaign kicks off this month. You can view the different membership levels, benefits of membership, and join online at <http://www.okhistory.org/support/membership>.

One unique aspect of the Oklahoma Historical Society is the Oklahoma History Center's affiliation with both the National Archives and the Smithsonian Institution. No other organization is affiliated with both entities.

The OHS is emphasizing our Smithsonian Affiliation this year. This membership is automatically added to the \$100 Friend level and higher. It can be added to the Individual and Family levels for an additional \$20. There are numerous benefits to adding a Smithsonian Affiliate Membership through the OHS, including a one-year subscription to *Smithsonian Magazine* or *Air & Space Magazine*, free admission and merchandise discounts from other participating Smithsonian Affiliates across the country, discounts on Smithsonian Folkway Recordings, IMAX tickets at the Smithsonian, an iPad app, and tour opportunities.

You may already be a member, but consider upgrading to the Friend level and take advantage of this partnership. Contact Shelly Crynes with any questions or to change your membership at 405-522-0317 or scrynes@okhistory.org



New Members, August 2014

*Indicates renewed memberships at a higher level

Associate

*Michael Sporleder, Davenport

Fellow

*Herschel and Betty Crow, Oklahoma City

Friend

Ken Bartlett, Del City

*Royce and Joyce Bender, Alva

*David Brown, Oklahoma City

Peter Dolese, Oklahoma City

*Douglas Phelps, McAlester

*Floyd and Linda Skarky, Oklahoma City

*Owen and Susan Sutter, Oklahoma City

*Joe and Arlena Trumbly, Pawhuska

Family

William and Laurisa Bernhardt, Midwest City

*Barbara Eskridge, Oklahoma City

Michael Kraus, Oklahoma City

Mark Lawrence, Edmond

Charles and Sharon Milligan, Oklahoma City

*Jeanetta Mish and James Murray, Albuquerque, NM

Dwight Shephard, Burns Flat

*Walter and Judy Stoyanoski, Midwest City

*Richard Wilson and John Abbott, Normandy Park, WA

Individual

Gloria Berenguer, Collinsville

Toni Blackburn, Lawton

Sandra Bullard, Mounds

Robert Carothers, Lawton

Mary Ducote, Okmulgee

James Feltman, Durant

Zach Head, Noble

Walter Huff, Claremore

Colby Johnson, Broken Bow

Edward Lashum, Shawnee

Linda Manning, Palmdale, CA

Assunta Martin, Stillwater

Jon McCasland, Tulsa

Nona Miller-Lang, Enid

Amanda Nedlose, Bristow

Cherlyn Packard, Tulsa

Jaycee Perrenoud, Bartlesville

Donna Randolph, Tulsa

Brian Raney, Arcadia

Sabrena Reef, Davis

Jacob Samuels, Duncan

J. Todd Scott, Seattle, WA

Michael Skaistis, Tulsa

Terry Smith, Edmond

Stacey Thetford, Collinsville

Kevin Ward, Stillwater

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

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

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

Exhibits

Visit the **Claremore** Museum of History to view the Lynn Riggs Memorial Exhibit. Lynn Riggs introduced the world to Claremore through his play *Green Grow the Lilacs*, the work that was adapted into the award-winning musical *Oklahoma!* by Richard Rodgers and Oscar Hammerstein II. RCB Bank generously sponsored this exhibit. The museum is open on Saturdays from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. and is located at Fourth and Weenonah in Claremore. Groups of ten or more visitors may make arrangements for tours at other times by appointment. Please call 918-857-5630 or email soonerwildcat@att.net for more information or to arrange a group tour.

Events

Celebrate Chickasaw heritage and customs September 26-October 4 at the Chickasaw Nation Annual Meeting and Festival at the Chickasaw National Capitol Building in **Tishomingo**. This year's theme is "Honor, Tradition, Courage, and Our People." The festival will include activities and events at different cities and venues throughout the Chickasaw Nation including Tishomingo, Ada, Emet, Kullihoma, and the Chickasaw Cultural Center in Sulphur. The festival features the Chickasaw Princess pageant, a cultural evening, festival parade, traditional meal, and children's activities. Traditional dancing, a fry bread-making class, a Chickasaw history challenge bowl, and living history vignettes will also be available for visitors. The Annual Meeting of the Chickasaw Nation will be held Saturday, October 4, with a state of the union address by Governor Bill Anoatubby at the Fletcher Auditorium at Murray State College in Tishomingo. For more information, please call 580-371-2040.

Spend Friday, October 3, and Saturday, October 4, at Woolaroc Museum and Wildlife Preserve in **Bartlesville** for the Fall Traders Encampment. Visitors can observe the lifestyle of the nineteenth-century traders as reenactors from across the United States set up nearly 125 tents to recreate the rugged pioneer life of the men and women who trapped and traded throughout 1820s and 1840s-era Indian Territory. Woolaroc Museum and Wildlife Preserve is located at 1925 Woolaroc Ranch Road in Bartlesville. For more information, visit www.woolaroc.org/.

The **Tulsa** Foundation for Architecture leads an educational walk around Tulsa on the second Saturday of each month. The Second Saturday Walking Tour, scheduled for October 11 at 10 a.m., is a one-hour tour that gives an insightful look into downtown Tulsa's architecture. The tours depart from the Topeca Coffee Shop inside the historic Mayo Hotel in downtown Tulsa. For more information on the Second Saturday Walking Tour, visit the Tulsa Foundation for Architecture website at www.tulsaarchitecture.com/.

Jump on the Haunted History Trolley Tour in **Muskogee** to hear the spooky stories about local haunts. Tours will leave in "Okie from Muskogee" trolleys from the Three Rivers Museum October 17-25. Have a hauntingly good time visiting area sites to hear of ghostly tales, unusual experiences, and eerie events. Tours will last two to three hours, and sturdy shoes and parental discretion are advised. This event includes stops at local cemeteries. To reserve your tour, please call 918-686-6624.

On October 23 the Harn Homestead in **Oklahoma City** will host an evening of trick-or-treating and games at its annual Haunt the Harn, a family-friendly event for children of all ages. Children can trick-or-treat among the historic buildings while enjoying face-painting, a cupcake walk, and pumpkin bowling. There will be marshmallows to roast around the campfire and a hayride around the site. The Harn Homestead Museum is an original 1889 Land Run property that includes the family's original home, a one-room schoolhouse, and other buildings from Oklahoma's territorial past. For more information on Haunt the Harn, please contact the museum at 405-235-4058 or visit its website at www.harn-homestead.com/. The Harn Homestead is located at 1721 North Lincoln Boulevard in Oklahoma City.

Travel back in time on Friday, October 24, and Saturday, October 25, while attending **Coweta's** Civil War Candlelight Tour and Reenactment. Visitors to the candlelight tour to be held Friday evening from 5-9 p.m. should allow one hour for the guided walking tour and wear comfortable clothing and shoes. Living history tours will begin Saturday at 10 a.m.

and continue until the reenactment begins at 1 p.m. The reenactment will feature fifty to seventy-five infantry members and Civil War-era artillery. After the reenactment living history tours will resume until 4 p.m., with a Civil War period dance to follow at 6:30 p.m. On Sunday, a second reenactment will be held from 1-2:30 p.m. The Civil War museum on the grounds will be open during all activities except the dance. Call 918-625-4900 with any questions.

Wewoka will host its annual Sorghum Festival on Saturday, October 25. The festival occupies most of downtown Wewoka, running from the Wewoka Switch Depot seven blocks to the Seminole Nation Museum. The museum grounds will feature historic reenactors, Native American foods, children's crafts, live music, and entertainment, as well as pioneer and Native American living demonstrations. The Wewoka Chamber of Commerce offers a myriad of exciting events downtown including a parade, car show, art and photography show, live entertainment, food and sales booths, and the John Lively Memorial 5K Run. More information can be found on the Seminole Nation Museum website at www.seminolenationmuseum.org/events/sorghum-festival or by calling the museum at 405-257-5580.

Attend the Women in the Outdoors Workshop at Tenkiller State Park near **Vian** October 31-November 1 to learn about shooting, archery, Dutch oven cooking, hunting, and fishing. Women ages fourteen and older are encouraged to sharpen their outdoor skills at this workshop taught by knowledgeable instructors. These hands-on courses are taught at a beginner level. For more information, please call 918-489-5025 or 918-489-5025.

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



Great Wolf Hunt of 1923 presentation at Sod House Museum



Jim Wilkinson, retired judge of Major County, will be at the Sod House Museum Saturday, October 18, at 10 a.m., to present his reflections and an overview of an event he calls the Great Wolf Hunt of 1923. This event led to several years of organized endeavor to reduce the coyote population of Major County. Wilkinson will describe how organizers mapped out a region of the county from time to time and recruited locals to participate in a round-up of coyotes on foot. Up to seven square miles were mapped and lines were drawn on the perimeter from which

a ring of captives would result. They had intricate rules and regulations and a chain of command by which they expected to operate. The efficiency of the activity drew the attention of Oklahoma state leaders who published their admiration of the hunts. To recruit masses of people and gain some enthusiasm they dubbed it a “wolf hunt,” knowing interest in finding wolves was more prevalent than interest in nabbing a wiry coyote.

The event grew until local leaders discovered the advertising power and notoriety available through the recently developed motion picture. The local theater manager made arrangements with a national concern to do a movie of the January 1923 hunt. The Great Hunt was expected to be a huge success and was filmed in its entirety. The resulting movie would then be distributed across the nation and Major County would become famous for its location as a mecca for hunters. The hunt took place but complications ensued, causing turmoil in Fairview. The suspenseful events that transpired make this an enjoyable story to relate.

Wilkinson, a native of the area, has been involved in researching the history of Major County for a number of years. During the time Wilkinson was judge in Major County he served as delegate from the Oklahoma Judicial Conference to the American Bar Association. He was on various committees in the Judicial Division, published articles in the *Judges Journal* about the working conditions of rural judges, and was editor of *National Trial News* until 1996. In 2002 he completed the publication of *Gloss Mountain Country, Volume 2: A History of Major County, Oklahoma*. It was while doing extensive research for this book that he stumbled onto the Great Hunt. His judicial work gave him valuable experience, as he converted his talents to doing historical research after his retirement. He now works with the Major County Historical Society on a volunteer basis, where he finds resources for his ongoing research.

The Sod House Museum is located southeast of Aline on State Highway 8. The museum is open Tuesday-Saturday, 9 a.m.-5 p.m., with admission. For more information contact Renee Trindle at 580-463-2441 or email sodhouse@okhistory.org.

Museum Store News

by Jera Winters

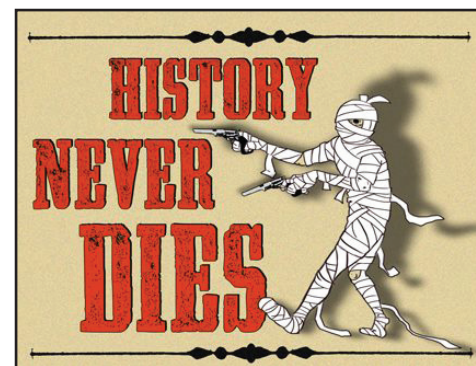
The Oklahoma History Center Museum Store is proud to offer unique and handmade Oklahoma merchandise. We are happy to be adding three quality products by three creative Oklahomans.

First, the Museum Store now has dish towels made here in Oklahoma by Christina Sharpe-Crowe. She has built a career and lifestyle out of blending modern life with traditional craftsmanship and ideals. Sharpe-Crowe creates unique Oklahoma designs on linen tea towels with silkscreening. Each linen tea towel is designed and illustrated by Christine, hand printed, dried in the sweet Oklahoma air, and folded and packaged by real human hands.

Longtime friend of the Oklahoma History Center Janet Wheeler has brought the store cute kitchen towel and potholder sets. Each set contains one towel and one potholder, with the state of Oklahoma appliqued by hand. These sets make great gifts for locals and visitors alike. The Museum Store also carries handmade purses and key chains made with care by Wheeler.

From Shawnee resident Jonathan Hilton, the store is happy to have received wood cutting boards in the shape of the great state of Oklahoma. The boards are made of black walnut, with an inlay of Osage Orange. The product is Oklahoman from beginning to end, starting with wood milled right here. The Museum Store is excited to add Hilton to our growing family of Oklahoma artists and artisans.

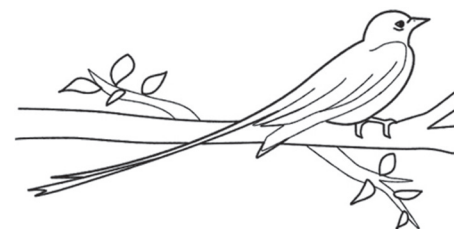
Call or stop by for these and many other unique products. Products can also be ordered on the Museum Store website at www.okhistory.org. Members always receive a discount of 15 percent on Museum Store purchases. Please contact us at 405-522-5214 with any questions about these or any other of our great items.



History Never Dies at OTM

Join the Oklahoma Territorial Museum (OTM) in Guthrie for History Never Dies on October 25 from 5-9 p.m. Give the kids another place to show off their fabulous costumes. Do not bother cooking dinner that night; instead enjoy hot dogs, popcorn, and festive appetizers prepared by the Friends of the Oklahoma Territorial Museum. The museum galleries will be free and open to all who venture to the museum that evening. Staff will pass out scavenger hunts and play the “Oklahoma or Bust” game a few times throughout the evening. The kids can win prizes at the carnival games and make some Halloween crafts to take home.

The Oklahoma Territorial Museum is located at 402 East Oklahoma in Guthrie. Call 405-282-1889 for more information.





Fall Lecture Series and Farm Day scheduled at CSRHC

The Cherokee Strip Regional Heritage Center (CSRHC) in Enid will host two big events in October. The first is the annual Fall Lecture Series. This year's theme is "Surviving the Ebb and Flow of Water in the West." On October 20, OHS Executive Director Dr. Bob

Blackburn will present a lecture entitled "Water and Historical Settlement Patterns." Dust Bowl survivor Pauline Hodges and State Climatologist Gary McManus will present "Drought and the Dust Bowl" on October 27. The lecture series will continue into November with two more lectures. All lectures will be held at the Gantz Center on the Enid Campus of Northern Oklahoma College at 7 p.m.

On Saturday, October 25, from 11 a.m.-3 p.m., the CSRHC will host Family Farm Day, a hands-on experience for the whole family. This interactive event harkens back to a time when the nation's food came from farms powered by animals and human muscle. A pie auction will be held at 1 p.m., with the proceeds to benefit the Turkey Creek School. For a donation, visitors can enjoy a dinner of beans and cornbread. The event is free with regular museum admission. Admission is \$5 for adults, \$3 for students, military, and seniors, and children five and under are free. For more information on these events, call 580-237-1907. The CSRHC is located at 507 South Fourth Street in Enid.

Murrell Home to host living history conference

The Mountain Plains Regional Conference of the Association for Living History, Farm, and Agricultural Museums (ALHFAM) will take place October 9-11 in Tahlequah. The George M. Murrell Home in Park Hill will be the host institution for the event, and the theme is "Interpreting Our Multicultural Past."

The regional conference will feature hands-on workshops, field trips, and classroom sessions. On Thursday, October 9, six workshops will be held between the Murrell Home, Fort Gibson Historic Site, and the Cherokee Heritage Center. That night an opening reception will be held at the Murrell Home. On Friday, October 10, more than a dozen classroom presentations will be offered at the Armory Municipal Center in downtown Tahlequah. Friday evening a hog fry will be held at the Cherokee Heritage Center. On Saturday, October 11, conference attendees will travel by bus to the Pawnee Bill Ranch for tours and living history demonstrations. The conference will end Saturday night with a banquet in the barracks building at Fort Gibson.

ALHFAM is an international organization of history and museum professionals, reenactors, farmers, volunteers, and those interested in living history. Anyone interested in historic skills and trades, preservation, or research is invited to attend. The conference is sponsored by the Oklahoma Historical Society, Cherokee Nation Cultural Tourism, Friends of the Murrell Home, and Friends of Fort Gibson. For the complete program and to register for the conference, visit www.alhfam.org and click on "Conferences." For more information on the event, contact the Murrell Home at 918-456-2751 or murrell-home@okhistory.org. The Murrell Home is located at 19479 East Murrell Home Road in Park Hill.



Ghost Stories of the Murrell Home event

For the twenty-second consecutive year, the George M. Murrell Home in Park Hill will host storytellers spinning yarns about the "Hunter's Ghost" and other chilling accounts. The Ghost Stories of the Murrell Home event will be held on Friday and Saturday, October 24 and 25.

"This innovative, family-oriented program will feature various storytellers in a number of rooms telling tales about the Murrell Home, the Cherokee Nation, and other local ghost stories," said Amanda Pritchett, a historical interpreter for the OHS.

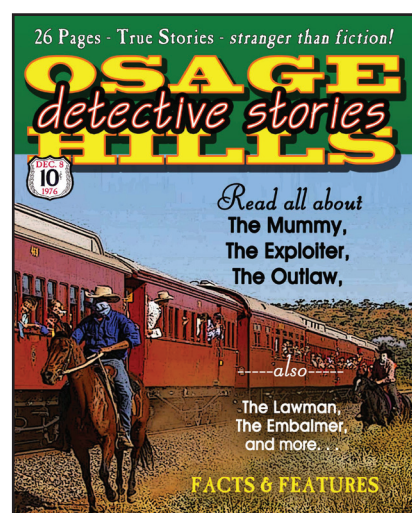
Ghost stories related to the 1845 plantation mansion are documented as early as the 1930s. One story, the "Hunter's Ghost," is the legend that grew out of the years George Murrell operated the mansion as his "Hunter's Home" before the Civil War.

Sessions will begin every fifteen minutes beginning at 6:30 p.m. The last session will begin at 8:15 p.m. Visitors will move through the house and listen to stories from several unique storytellers. Guests will also have a chance to sample some hot cider and cookies in the Murrell Mercantile Store.

A donation of \$5 per person is requested, with reservations required because of limited seating. Visa, MasterCard, and Discover are accepted. The event is not recommended for children under eight. For reservations call 918-456-2751. The home is located at 19479 East Murrell Home Road in Park Hill.

History Center to hold Mother-Son Cowboy Camp

Join the Oklahoma History Center for a special mother-son camp on October 18 from 2-5 p.m. Young cowpokes and their mothers will learn traditional cowboy songs, learn how to make ropes and lasso, shoot targets, and have a Dutch oven lunch. Please wear your best cowboy outfits. Registration is required and space is limited. Cost is \$35 per pair and \$10 for each additional person. All ages are welcome. For more information about the event, please contact the Oklahoma History Center education staff at education@okhistory.org or 405-522-3602.



Oklahoma Territorial Museum earns accolades

The Oklahoma Territorial Museum in Guthrie was the recipient of two awards from the Oklahoma Museums Association. The first award recognized the exhibit *The Life & Death of an American Outlaw: The Story of Elmer McCurdy*, which tells the story of the criminal career of Elmer McCurdy and his postmortem career as a carnival attraction. The gun that killed him and the lawman who fired the fatal shot also are featured in the exhibit. Recent research shed new light on McCurdy as a criminal and reintroduced Stringer Fenton as the hero of the story in 1911.

The second award is for a publication titled *Osage Hills Detective Stories*, a stand-alone booklet that uses the exhibit script to tell the story of Elmer McCurdy. Both awards were presented at the Oklahoma Museums Association annual meeting in September.

Archaeology Month activities planned for October at Spiro Mounds

October is Archaeology Month in Oklahoma and the Spiro Mounds Archaeological Center will hold a special day with a lecture and a guided walk on October 18, 2014. Archaeology Month is sponsored and promoted by the Oklahoma Anthropological Society and includes many more events throughout Oklahoma in October.

A lecture on Fort Coffee and the Fort Coffee Boys Academy will be held at 1 p.m. There also will be a guided tour of the site at 2 p.m. led by Site Manager Dennis Peterson. The regular exhibits will be available throughout the day as well. The Spiro Mounds Archaeological Center is the only prehistoric, Native American archaeological site in Oklahoma open to the public and is the perfect place to celebrate Archaeology Month.

The Spiro Mounds Archaeological Center is open Wednesday through Saturday from 9 a.m. until 5 p.m. and Sunday from noon until 5 p.m. Admission is \$4 for adults, \$3 for seniors, and \$1 for children. The center is located three miles east of Spiro on Highway 9/271 and four miles north on Lock and Dam Road.

If you would like to know more about Archaeology Month events please visit www.ou.edu/cas/archsur/oas/. For more information on the Spiro Mounds Archaeological Center, please contact Dennis Peterson at 918-962-2062 or spiro@okhistory.org.

Call for papers for 2015 Oklahoma History Conference

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

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

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

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

Style show a success for Drummond Home

The Fred Drummond Home hosted a *Downton Abbey* inspired style show on Saturday, August 16, entertaining sixty guests who purchased tickets to the event.

Dresses and attire dating back to the turn of the twentieth century were showcased for guests by Martha Ray. From the racy, arm-baring, flapper-style dresses of the 1920s to heavy, multilayered ball gowns, guests were given a lesson in fashion history and how it can drastically change in a very short time.

Drummond Home Site Manager Beverly Whitcomb was responsible for decorating the venue, gathering door prizes, and promotion of the event, but the show would not have been possible without the help of First National Bank of Hominy, Tom Smith, Frederick Drummond, Wild Country Meats, Javier's Mexican Restaurant, Cha Tullis Gallery, SONIC Drive-In, Dividing Bread Ministries, Debi Hiltzman, Chapman Black Florists, Martha Ray and her models, Friends of the Fred Drummond Home, Jimmie Ratliffe, Michelle Webb, Mika Fields, Sandra Sunberg, Patty Rye, Beulah Moutray, Diane Moutray, Hominy Rexal Drug Store, Nell Butler, Mary Pogue, Evelyn Ingersol, the First Presbyterian Church in Hominy, and all those who attended this year's style show.

SHPO accepting award nominations

The Oklahoma Historical Society, State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO), is now accepting nominations for its 2015 awards program. Individuals, businesses, government agencies, and organizations contribute to the preservation of Oklahoma's heritage through rehabilitation/restoration projects, archaeological site protection, field and archival research, publications, and public programming. Previous recipients are featured on the SHPO's website at www.okhistory.org/shpo/shpoawards.htm. Submit a nomination to focus attention on accomplishments like these in your community.

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

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

If you have questions about the awards criteria, contact Melvena Heisch at 405-522-4484 or mheisch@okhistory.org. The SHPO accepts 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.

Doakesville candlelight tour scheduled

On Friday, October 17, and Saturday, October 18, Fort Towson will host its annual candlelight tour of Doakesville. Learn about life during the Civil War in the Choctaw Nation during this popular event.

Tours leave from the gate at the north end of the Fort Towson Cemetery beginning at 6:30 p.m., with the last tour starting at 9:30 p.m. Admission for the tour is \$6, and children six and under are free. The event is sponsored by the OHS, the Friends of Fort Towson, and the Fort Towson Volunteer Fire Department. For more information, please contact John Davis at 580-873-2634.

Ancestry Day in Oklahoma set for November 7-8

Ancestry.com and the Oklahoma Historical Society present Ancestry Day in Oklahoma, two days of genealogy and native culture, on November 7-8. Both novice and experienced genealogists are welcome at this event. Registration to the main event is \$40 and includes admission to all Saturday classes presented by Ancestry.com. Participants may also attend optional activities for an additional charge including Friday sessions, bus tours, a reception, and a Saturday lunch program.

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

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

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

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

For complete conference details and registration information visit www.okhistory.org/ancestryday or contact Laura Martin at 405-522-5225 or lmartin@okhistory.org.

Ancestry Day in Oklahoma is sponsored in part by the Oklahoma Genealogical Society and the Oklahoma Department of Tourism.

Home School Day scheduled at Oklahoma History Center

The Oklahoma History Center will host its sixth annual Home School Day on Monday, October 13, from 10 a.m.-2 p.m. Home School Day at the History Center is designed to offer family learners 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. Visitors can explore the museum with the help of gallery guides, follow along with a scavenger hunt, take part in hands-on demonstrations, and enjoy a variety of historical interpreters. Students will find activities and demonstrations throughout the galleries. No registration is required for this event, and admission to the program is free.

For more information on Home School Day please contact the Oklahoma History Center education staff at education@okhistory.org or by phone at 405-522-3602. This program is sponsored in part by SONIC, America's Drive-in.

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!

Jane McConnell, Norman, August 1, 1976
Miami Public Library, Miami, January 14, 1982
Bruce and Betty Gaillie, Rancho Cucamonga, CA, August 1, 1984
Northern Oklahoma College, Tonkawa, December 1, 1984
Robert Dorman, Edmond, August 14, 1985
Anadarko Community Library, Anadarko, December 16, 1986
Leah Nellis, Norman, February 18, 1987
Lee and Mary Stidham, Checotah, May 27, 1988
D. L. Myers, Tulsa, December 16, 1988
J. D. Smith, Tulsa, August 22, 1991
B. J. and Sue Branon, Midwest City, August 27, 1991
Donna McSpadden, Chelsea, July 1, 1992
Jo Ann Hunt, Ada, August 1, 1993

Banking in Oklahoma on tour

Michael Hightower, principal researcher for the OHS's Oklahoma Banking Project and author of *Banking in Oklahoma before Statehood* and *Banking in Oklahoma, 1907-2000*, will be on the road promoting these works. His schedule is as follows:

Friday, October 3, 11 a.m.-Century Club, Oklahoma Golf and Country Club, Oklahoma City

Sunday, October 5, 1:30 p.m.-Brace Books, Ponca City

Monday, October 6, 1-3 p.m.-*"Frontiers of Banking,"* OLLI-OSU, Oklahoma History Center, Oklahoma City

Wednesday, October 8, 12 p.m.-Cherokee Strip Regional Heritage Center, Enid

Thursday, October 9, 3 p.m.-Harvey House Museum, Wynoka

Thursday, October 9, 7 p.m.-Beaver County Historical Society, Beaver

Friday, October 10, 12 p.m.-No Man's Land Museum, Goodwell

Monday, October 13, 1-3 p.m.-*"Frontiers of Banking,"* OLLI-OSU, Oklahoma History Center, Oklahoma City

Cemetery symbols workshop to be held

Visit the Oklahoma History Center to explore the meaning behind historic gravestones on Saturday, October 11, 2014. Gravestones and cemeteries are rich in a language of symbols. Those symbols can be difficult to interpret because of changes in meaning over time. By examining grave markers one can learn more than just the person's name. This class will provide the skills necessary to investigate the past through tombstones. The class will run from 1-3 p.m. and is free with admission. Registration is required. For more information or to register please contact the Oklahoma History Center education staff at education@okhistory.org or by phone at 405-522-3602.

Octoberfest at Pioneer Woman Museum

The Pioneer Woman Museum will join the Marland Mansion in celebrating Octoberfest on October 4-5 by hosting various pioneer learning experiences on the Pioneer Woman Museum lawn. Hands-on learning experiences will include laundry the old fashioned way, candle making, and other pioneer crafts. A rope maker and a blacksmith will also be on hand to show families their skills. Activities will continue both Saturday and Sunday. The museum will be free and open to the public both days. For more information please contact the museum at 580-765-6108 or piown@okhistory.org.

Oklahoma Historical Society
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PERIODICALS

Scary Story Tours and a quilt show at Pawnee Bill Ranch in October

For the twelfth consecutive year, the Pawnee Bill Ranch in Pawnee will be the backdrop for storytellers weaving tales that tingle the spine. The Scary Story Tours event will be held on Saturday, October 25, and will feature storytellers in various rooms in Pawnee Bill’s mansion telling ghost stories. The stories will be told amid creepy noises, unexplained phenomena, and spooky creatures. The mansion will be lit entirely by intricately carved jack-o-lanterns created by local art students. The event is family friendly, but children under age eight are not encouraged to attend. Stories will begin every fifteen minutes from 6:30-8:15 p.m. with visitors moving through the house to listen to each story. Story tours are \$3 per person and reservations are required as seating is limited. For reservations, please call the ranch at 918-762-2513.

The entire month of October, the Pawnee Bill Ranch will host a quilt show in the museum. Area quilters will bring 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 on exhibit for visitors to see. The quilt show is a way for community members to show off their beautiful works of fiber art. It has been an annual event at the ranch for more than twenty years, and people have shared quilts that date back to the land runs, Civil War era quilts, friendship quilts, and modern quilts that tell a story or whose patterns reflect a theme. The ranch has many quilts in its collection that can be seen during the quilt show. The event is free. The Pawnee Bill Ranch is located one-half mile west of Pawnee on US Highway 64.



October events at a glance

- 1-31 Quilt show, Pawnee Bill Ranch, Pawnee
- 4-5 Octoberfest, Pioneer Woman Museum, Ponca City
- 7 Brown Bag Crafting, Pioneer Woman Museum, Ponca City
- 9-11 ALHFAM Conference, George M. Murrell Home, Park Hill
- 11 Cemetery symbols workshop, Oklahoma History Center, Oklahoma City
- 13 Home School Day, Oklahoma History Center, Oklahoma City
- 16 Historic Preservation Review Committee meeting, Oklahoma History Center, Oklahoma City
- 17-18 Doakesville candlelight tour, Fort Towson, Fort Towson
- 18 Archaeology Month activities, Spiro Mounds Archaeological Center, Spiro
- 18 Third Saturday Living History, George M. Murrell Home, Park Hill
- 18 Mother-Son Cowboy Camp, Oklahoma History Center, Oklahoma City
- 20 Fall Lecture Series, “Water and Historical Settlement Patterns” by Dr. Bob Blackburn, Northern Oklahoma College Gantz Center, hosted by Cherokee Strip Regional Heritage Center, Enid
- 24-24 Ghost Stories of the Murrell Home, George M. Murrell Home, Park Hill
- 25 Scary Story Tours, Pawnee Bill Ranch, Pawnee
- 25 History Never Dies, Oklahoma Territorial Museum, Guthrie
- 25 Born to Freedom gallery walks, Oklahoma History Center, Oklahoma City
- 27 Fall Lecture Series, “Drought and the Dust Bowl” by Pauline Hodges and Gary McManus, Northern Oklahoma College Gantz Center, hosted by Cherokee Strip Regional Heritage Center, Enid



Pawnee Bill jack-o-lanterns illuminating the mansion for the Scary Story Tours.