



Special exhibit preview for OHS members and *The Wall That Heals*

Save the dates for two special exhibit openings at the Oklahoma History Center in November. On Sunday, November 5, from 2 to 5 p.m., OHS members are invited to attend a private reception and exhibit opening for *Welcome Home: Oklahomans and the War in Vietnam*. The *Welcome Home* exhibit opens to the public on Monday, November 6, and will be on display for two years.

On Thursday, November 9, the History Center also will have an outdoor exhibition available for guests to view in conjunction with *Welcome Home*. *The Wall That Heals* traveling exhibition and mobile education center will be open twenty-four hours a day November 9–12. This exhibit features a half-scale replica of the Vietnam Veterans Memorial in Washington, DC. *The Wall That Heals* is approximately 250 feet in length and lists the names of more than 58,000 service members who fell in the Vietnam War. The names are arranged chronologically by date of casualty, so that those who died together may be forever linked. To locate names on the wall, visit the Vietnam Veterans Memorial Fund website at www.vvmf.org/about-the-wall-of-faces. The Wall of Faces also is available online and includes details about those honored and photographs.

More details will be published in the November/December 2017 issue of *Mistletoe Leaves* (Vol. 48, No. 6). Please call 405-522-0765 with questions. The History Center is located at 800 Nazih Zuhdi Drive in Oklahoma City.

Doaksville Candlelight Tours

On Friday, October 13, and Saturday, October 14, Fort Towson Historic Site will host its annual Doaksville Candlelight Tours. During this event, attendees will learn about the history of the fort and life in the Choctaw Nation during the Civil War (1861–65). Tours leave from the gate leading to Doaksville at the north end of the Fort Towson Cemetery. The tours begin at 6:30 p.m., leave every thirty minutes, and the last tour leaves at 9:30 p.m. Enjoy a hayride then walk through the cemetery by candlelight with your tour guide. Living historians in period dress will share some interesting information during this unique tour. Admission for the tour is \$6 per person, and children six and under are free. For more information please contact John Davis at 580-873-2634. Fort Towson is located approximately fourteen miles east of Hugo on US Highway 70 in Fort Towson, Oklahoma.



“50 Years of Preservation” celebration at the Sod House Museum



Visit the Sod House Museum southeast of Aline to celebrate fifty years of preservation! On Saturday, October 28, at 10 a.m. Dr. Bob Blackburn will give a presentation about the history of the sod house and OHS efforts to preserve Oklahoma’s only remaining sod house built by a homesteader.

At one time, thousands of sod houses dotted the plains of North America. This two-room soddy, built by Marshal McCully in August 1894, is the only remaining sod house in Oklahoma that was built by a homesteader. McCully took part in the largest of Oklahoma’s land runs when the Cherokee Outlet opened for settlement at noon on September 16, 1893. McCully first lived in a one-room dugout, hollowed out of a ravine bank. He built the two-room sod house in 1894 using blocks of the thick buffalo grass blanketing Oklahoma’s prairies.

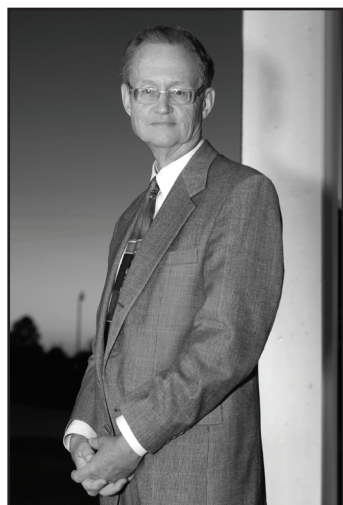
The McCully family lived in the sod house from 1894 until 1909 when they built a large, two-story frame house. They continued to use the soddy for storage until 1963. On December 31, 1963, the OHS acquired the sod house. It remains in its original location, and a cover structure was built in 1967 to protect it from the elements. Visitors can walk through the furnished sod house and imagine what life was like for Oklahoma’s early settlers.

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

OHS Presents A Night in the Life: The Roaring Twenties

Join the OHS for an immersive evening in the Roaring 1920s on Friday, October 20, from 7 to 10 p.m. Held at the Oklahoma History Center, this fundraising event will boast three spaces: a Prohibition-era barrelhouse featuring live blues music; a mingling area with food, bar, and dance lessons; and an exclusive speakeasy featuring live jazz music and an open bar. Enjoy impromptu live performances and live action vignettes that will make you feel like you have stepped back in time to the golden age of jazz. Put on your glad rags or come dressed as your favorite flapper or gangster. Early bird tickets are available until September 15 at \$35 for general admission and \$80 for VIP access to the speakeasy. Tickets will be \$40 and \$100 after that date. Table sponsorships also are available. Please call 405-522-5202 or 405-522-0317 for more information, pricing, or to purchase tickets. Additional details can be found at www.okhistory.org/gala. The History Center is located at 800 Nazih Zuhdi Drive in Oklahoma City.





Director's column

By Dr. Bob L. Blackburn
Executive Director

It is never too late to say thank you.

In 2009, realizing they would never have the opportunity again, a dedicated group of Oklahomans pooled their time, energy, resources, and creativity to say thank you to the surviving Oklahoma veterans of World War II. From May 1, 2010, to April 5, 2016, those volunteers expressed that gratitude by sending 2,055 Oklahoma veterans from 226 different communities on charter flights to Washington, DC, to tour the World War II Memorial. The effort was called Oklahoma Honor Flights.

Now it is our turn to say thank you to both the veterans and the many men and women who made Oklahoma Honor Flights a reality.

Former Representative Gary Banz has written a book manuscript documenting the need, motivation, planning, funding, and execution of the Honor Flights program in Oklahoma. It is a remarkable story of gratitude, generosity, patriotism, and service to our country. It is a story of doing the right thing, even if it was "just in time."

The effort cost \$2.5 million, which came from thousands of donors who wanted to honor those who had served their country during World War II. None of that money went for salaries or office buildings. Every penny went to getting as many veterans to the World War II Memorial as possible.

The story of how they got there is just as touching. There were host partners for each veteran, honor guards to send them off and welcome them home, and courtesies both little and large that made their trips a special moment in their lives. The number of volunteer hours would be in the hundreds of thousands if not more.

The Oklahoma Historical Society played a small role in the project. We duplicated the photographs of each trip so every veteran and their family would have memories of their special day. Today, all of the photographs, plus the archival collections from the entire Oklahoma Honor Flights program, will be preserved in our collections.

We want to add one more salute to the veterans and the volunteers of Oklahoma Honor Flights by publishing the book by Gary Banz. Kelton Spears, owner of Paragon Press in Oklahoma City, is willing to print the book and donate his normal profit margin. Clampitt Paper Company is willing to discount the price of the paper. Still, we need the funds to pay for the press time and binding.

I do not usually use this column to ask for donations. In this case, to honor our World War II veterans and the volunteers who enriched their lives with time and money, I am making an exception.

We need \$20,000 to design, print, and bind the book. Please help us by giving, even if it is a small amount. You can send a check to the Friends of the Oklahoma History Center or you can give by going to our website, www.okhistory.org, and donating online. Be sure to indicate that the funds are for the Honor Flights book. All donors who give at least \$100 will get a copy of the book.

More importantly, every donor will know that they, too, have done something to honor our World War II veterans and those who have shown them how much they are appreciated, now and forever.

Yes, it is never too late to say thank you. Now is the time.

Dr. Bob

Crossroads and Museum of the Western Prairie receive awards

The Oklahoma Museums Association (OMA) recently announced its 2017 award recipients, and the OHS was honored with several awards.

The OHS received one award:

- Technology Media Award (project budget: \$0 to \$5,000) for *Crossroads*, an online publication of the OHS

The Museum of the Western Prairie in Altus received two awards:

- Conservation/Preservation Award (project budget: \$5,001 to \$15,000) for Preservation-In-Place of Historic Cobblestone Structures
- Exhibit Award (project budget: \$5,001 to \$15,000) for *The Stories They Could Tell: The Landscapes and Vernacular Architecture of Southwest Oklahoma*

The complete list of OMA award winners can be found at www.okmuseums.org/services/awards-program. OHS staff will accept these awards at the OMA's awards celebration and dinner, to be held on Thursday, September 21, at the Lawton-Fort Sill Hilton Garden Inn. The awards celebration is held in conjunction with the annual OMA Conference.

OHS members and the general public can enjoy the latest issue of *Crossroads*, published on August 1. Join us for an ancient sea voyage right here in Oklahoma! Issue no. 11 explores the history of the Salt Plains, its importance to American Indians, and present-day efforts of the Salt Plains National Wildlife Refuge. Did you know that Oklahoma's official state crystal is the hourglass selenite crystal? The Salt Plains of Oklahoma is the only place in the world where these particular crystals are found. Learn more at www.okhistory.org/crossroads.

Development News

By Larry O'Dell

The Oklahoma Historical Society will celebrate a landmark year in 2018—our 125th anniversary of collecting, preserving, and sharing Oklahoma history. The OHS has persevered with the support of our members and our donors. Now, we need your help more than ever as we launch our Annual Giving Campaign for fiscal year 2018. Our goal is \$200,000. Every penny donated will go to collections, exhibits, and programs as we celebrate our anniversary.

Whether you can give a small or large gift, we want you to be part of our efforts to save and enjoy Oklahoma history. We owe it to our children, our grandchildren, and the generations to follow to collect the history of our state so they can understand and appreciate the legacy that you, your parents, and your grandparents created. Please call if you would like a tour of collections or to visit about exhibit and program possibilities. We need your gift, but we want you to be involved. If you have questions, or if you would like to come for a visit, please contact me at 405-522-6676 or lodell@okhistory.org.



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

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Anyone denied benefits should contact the grievance manager of the Oklahoma Historical Society, 800 Nazih Zuhdi Drive, Oklahoma City, OK 73105-7917, telephone 405-522-5299, and/or the director, Office of Equal Opportunity, United States Department of the Interior, Washington, DC 20240.

AROUND OKLAHOMA

Events

The Choctaw Nation will host the Choctaw Labor Day Festival in **Tuskahoma** Thursday, August 31, through Monday, September 4. The annual festival includes activities for all ages, sports tournaments, quilting demonstrations, live music, bison tours, a powwow, Choctaw cultural exhibitions, stickball games, arts and crafts, and carnival rides. This year's theme is "New Branches from Strong Roots." Learn about Choctaw tribal customs with traditional village events, dancing, and storytelling. As part of the Labor Day Festival the Choctaw Nation also presents a series of free concerts featuring national stars and well-known performers. These concerts are open to the public and visitors are encouraged to bring lawn chairs. The festivities begin on Thursday at 7 p.m. and end on Monday at noon. Visit www.choctawnation.com for the full schedule. The Choctaw Nation Capitol Grounds are located on Highway 271 South in Tuskahoma. Please call 800-522-6170 for more information.

Experience a real cattle drive as drovers "head 'em north" from **Oklahoma to Kansas**. The O-K Chisholm Trail Cattle Drovers Association will celebrate the 150th anniversary of the Chisholm Trail beginning in Pond Creek, Oklahoma, on September 12 and ending in Wichita, Kansas, on September 23. Plan to join the drovers at their cow camps along the trail, open to the public daily from 3 to 6 p.m. Visitors to the camps can expect to see drovers in authentic gear, their horses, approximately ninety head of cattle, and cowboy campfire cooking demonstrations. View the entire trail route at www.chisholmtrail150.org. For more information please email okctcda@gmail.com.

Spend the day at the forty-fifth annual Arts N Action Festival in **Frederick** on Saturday, September 16. This free festival will be held from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. in the Tillman County Courthouse Square. Browse booths filled with original artwork and shop the book sale. There will be food vendors and live entertainment by local acts. Activities will be held on the Tillman County Courthouse lawn, located at the intersection of Highway 183 and Highway 5 in Frederick. For more information please call 580-335-2126.

Experience the National Cavalry Competition in **El Reno** from Wednesday, September 27, through Saturday, September 30. The US Cavalry Association, located

at Oklahoma's historic Fort Reno in the original 1876 Officer's Quarters, invites all to attend. Gates open at 9 a.m. Fort Reno will host the competitions, which will include mounted pistol, military field jumping, combat horsemanship, mounted saber, wheeled horse, and many more. There also will be a special exhibit of approximately eighty historic military vehicles presented by the Military Vehicle Preservation Association. Fort Reno is located at 7107 West Cheyenne Street in El Reno. For more information please call Wendy Ogden at 405-422-6330 or visit www.uscavalry.org.

The Wynnewood Historical Society will host a celebration for the 117th anniversary and grand reopening of Mettry's Store in **Wynnewood**. The festivities begin at 5 p.m. on Saturday, September 30. The band Brown Note will provide live entertainment and there will be free food and drinks for all in attendance. Craig Mettry's grandfather Richard Mettry was an immigrant from Lebanon. He started the business in 1900. Craig began the latest remodeling of the store this spring. The original brick walls and high ceilings of the more than one-hundred-year-old building have been revealed. A large antique National Cash Register will be part of the décor, and many long-time customers know it was a working part of the store since the mid-1950s. Mettry's Store is located at 101 South Dean A. McGee Avenue in Wynnewood. For more information please call 405-665-2230.

The Oklahoma City/County Historical Society will host its twenty-eighth annual Pathmaker Awards luncheon at noon on Tuesday, October 3. The luncheon will be held at the Jim Thorpe Association in **Oklahoma City**. This is the society's annual fundraiser and tickets are \$45 per person. The Jim Thorpe Association is located at 4040 North Lincoln Boulevard in Oklahoma City. For more information please email okchistoricalsociety@gmail.com.

Celebrate the 150th anniversary of the Chisholm Trail at the Denny Crump Rodeo Arena in **El Reno** on Friday, October 13, and Saturday, October 14. A special celebration will be held on Friday from 6 to 8 p.m. The event includes a chuck wagon cooked meal, concert, and historical cowboy camps as they would have been on the Chisholm Trail. The camps will be candlelit and occupied by historians ready to share their tales. Return on Saturday morning at 9 a.m. to enjoy a fun-filled family day with historical trade

demonstrations, a kid's corral, vintage fashion show, and entertainment by the Marlow Gunfighters. The Denny Crump Rodeo Arena is located at 215 North Country Club Road in El Reno. For ticket information please contact Wendy Ogden at 405-422-6330 or cavalry@uscavalry.org.

Visit **Wewoka** for the forty-second annual Wewoka Sorghum Festival on Saturday, October 28, from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. This free festival will take place in downtown Wewoka and at the Seminole Nation Museum. It is a community celebration of sweet sorghum and Wewoka's rich history, and will include food vendors, a parade, car show, 5K run, live music, children's activities, and more. The Seminole Nation Museum is located at 524 South Wewoka Avenue in Wewoka. For more information please call 405-683-3636 or visit www.sorghumfestivalok.org.

Meetings

Join the Oklahoma Postal History Society for its upcoming monthly meetings at Saint Luke's United Methodist Church in **Oklahoma City**. Meetings begin at 7:30 p.m. and the general public is encouraged to attend. On Tuesday, September 12, the program will feature a presentation by Joe Crosby about the rare Indian Territory Steamboat Mail. On Tuesday, October 10, Norman Pence will give a presentation about postage stamps related to first day covers of Oklahoma. The Oklahoma Postal History Society holds regular meetings on the second Tuesday of each month in Room 207 at Saint Luke's United Methodist Church, located at 222 NW Fifteenth Street in Oklahoma City. Visitors are always welcome. For more information please contact Joe Crosby at joecrosby@cox.net or 405-990-2389.

Do you want your organization's meeting, event, exhibit, or announcement included in the "Around Oklahoma" section of *Mistletoe Leaves*? The "Around Oklahoma" section features Oklahoma history and heritage-related activities or programs sponsored by entities other than the Oklahoma Historical Society. To submit news items, please contact Evelyn Moxley, assistant editor, by email at emoxley@okhistory.org or by mail at 800 Nazih Zuhdi Drive, Oklahoma City, OK 73105. If you wish a news item to appear in the November/December 2017 issue, you must submit it by Monday, October 2.

OHS Calendar of events, programs, and exhibits

September 2017

- 1-30

Oklahoma Pride: The Next 50 Years of Oklahoma Art exhibit, Museum of the Western Prairie, Altus
- 1-16

Chisholm Trail 150th Anniversary exhibit, Cherokee Strip Regional Heritage Center, Enid
- 1-16

Pieces of a Collection: Selected Quilts of the Pioneer Woman Museum exhibit, Pioneer Woman Museum, Ponca City
- 2

Family Day at the Ranch, Will Rogers Birthplace Ranch, Oologah
- 2

Preservation and Conservation class, Oklahoma History Center, Oklahoma City
- 5

“Washita Battlefield: The Battle, Lieutenant Colonel Custer, and Chief Black Kettle” presentation by Kevin Bowles Mohr, Museum of the Western Prairie, Altus
- 5

Memoir Writing workshop, Chisholm Trail Museum, Kingfisher
- 7

Story Time with Cowgirl Tennessee Owens, Cherokee Strip Regional Heritage Center, Enid
- 8

“Denim and Pearls” Eighth Annual Cherokee Strip Days Gala, Central National Bank Center, Enid
- 9

Septemberfest, Oklahoma History Center, Oklahoma City
- 9

Cancer Kids’ Day Out, T. B. Ferguson Home, Watonga
- 9

Quilting workshop with Martha Ray, Sod House Museum, Aline
- 9

Preservation and Conservation class, Oklahoma History Center, Oklahoma City
- 13

“Cattle Trails” Brown Bag Lunch and Learn program by Dr. Sara J. Richter, Cherokee Strip Regional Heritage Center, Enid
- 14

Story Time with Cowgirl Tennessee Owens, Cherokee Strip Regional Heritage Center, Enid
- 15

Living History Lantern Tours through Humphrey Heritage Village, Cherokee Strip Regional Heritage Center, Enid
- 15

Public meeting for the SHPO’s FY 2018 Historic Preservation Fund grant application, Oklahoma History Center, Oklahoma City
- 16

“History of the Chisholm Trail in Northwestern Oklahoma” presentation by Jana Brown, Sod House Museum, Aline
- 16

Third Saturday Living History program, George M. Murrell Home, Park Hill
- 16

Tatting workshop, Chisholm Trail Museum, Kingfisher
- 16

Preservation and Conservation class, Oklahoma History Center, Oklahoma City



- 19

“Finding Your Female Ancestors” Lunch and Learn program, Rose State College, Midwest City
- 19

Memoir Writing workshop, Chisholm Trail Museum, Kingfisher
- 21

Milam Lecture Series presentation by Hugh Foley, Will Rogers Memorial Museum, Claremore
- 21

Mysteries of the Mansion tour, Henry Overholser Mansion, Oklahoma City
- 22

Autumnal Equinox Walks, Spiro Mounds Archaeological Center, Spiro
- 23

Leaf and Flower Printing class, Oklahoma History Center, Oklahoma City
- 23

Smithsonian Magazine’s Thirteenth Annual Museum Day Live!, various OHS museums and sites
- 23-24

Thirteenth Annual Western Heritage Weekend and Tom Mix Festival, Tom Mix Museum, Dewey
- 26

Preservation 50 exhibit opens, Pioneer Woman Museum, Ponca City
- 29

Firefighting in the Strip exhibit opens, Cherokee Strip Regional Heritage Center, Enid
- 30

Fifty-First Annual Heritage Hills Historic Homes and Gardens Tour, Henry Overholser Mansion, Oklahoma City



October 2017

- 1-31

Annual Quilt Show, Pawnee Bill Ranch, Pawnee
- 1-31

Oklahoma Archaeology Month events and programs, various sites across Oklahoma
- 1-31

Firefighting in the Strip exhibit, Cherokee Strip Regional Heritage Center, Enid
- 1-31

Preservation 50 exhibit, Pioneer Woman Museum, Ponca City
- 1-31

Oklahoma Pride: The Next 50 Years of Oklahoma Art exhibit, Museum of the Western Prairie, Altus
- 1

Fifty-First Annual Heritage Hills Historic Homes and Gardens Tour, Henry Overholser Mansion, Oklahoma City
- 3

An Evening with Author Kim Parrish, Museum of the Western Prairie, Altus
- 3

Memoir Writing workshop, Chisholm Trail Museum, Kingfisher
- 6-8

Second Annual Antique Agriculture Festival, George M. Murrell Home, Park Hill
- 7

“Preservation 50” presentation by David Pettyjohn, Pioneer Woman Museum, Ponca City
- 7

Family Day at the Ranch, Will Rogers Birthplace Ranch, Oologah
- 7-8

Ponca City Oktoberfest, Pioneer Woman Museum, Ponca City

- 9

Ninth Annual Home School Day, Oklahoma History Center, Oklahoma City
- 11

“History of Firefighting” Brown Bag Lunch and Learn program by Ken Helms, Cherokee Strip Regional Heritage Center, Enid
- 13-14

Doaksville Candlelight Tours, Fort Towson Historic Site, Fort Towson
- 13-14

Watonga Cheese and Wine Festival, T. B. Ferguson Home, Watonga
- 14

Quilting workshop with Martha Ray, Sod House Museum, Aline
- 17

Twenty-Fourth Annual Oklahoma Higher Education Heritage Society induction ceremony, National Cowboy and Western Heritage Museum, Oklahoma City
- 17

Memoir Writing workshop, Chisholm Trail Museum, Kingfisher
- 19

Historic Preservation Review Committee meeting, Oklahoma History Center, Oklahoma City
- 19

Mysteries of the Mansion tour, Henry Overholser Mansion, Oklahoma City
- 20

OHS Presents A Night in the Life: The Roaring Twenties, Oklahoma History Center, Oklahoma City
- 21

History Never Dies, Oklahoma Territorial Museum, Guthrie
- 21

Family Farm Day, Cherokee Strip Regional Heritage Center, Enid
- 21

Third Saturday Living History program, George M. Murrell Home, Park Hill
- 21

Tatting workshop, Chisholm Trail Museum, Kingfisher
- 23

“Writing from Historical Objects” workshop with Oklahoma’s State Poet Laureate Dr. Jeanetta Calhoun Mish, Oklahoma Territorial Museum, Guthrie
- 23

“Halloween at the Movies” Kilgen Organ performance by Clark Wilson (**SOLD OUT**), Oklahoma History Center, Oklahoma City
- 27-28

Twenty-Fifth Annual Murrell Home Ghost Stories, George M. Murrell Home, Park Hill



- 28

“50 Years of Preservation” celebration and presentation by Dr. Bob Blackburn, Sod House Museum, Aline
- 28

Halloween Carnival and Haunted House, T. B. Ferguson Home, Watonga
- 28

Oklahoma Archives Bazaar, Oklahoma History Center, Oklahoma City
- 28

Tracing Your Roots class, Oklahoma History Center, Oklahoma City
- 31

Memoir Writing workshop, Chisholm Trail Museum, Kingfisher
- 31

Halloween Night at the Museum, Will Rogers Memorial Museum, Claremore
- 31

“Haunt the Historic Mansion” and trick-or-treating at the museum, A. J. Seay Mansion and Chisholm Trail Museum, Kingfisher

Oklahoma National Register listings added in June 2017

The State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO) is pleased to announce two new National Register of Historic Places listings in Oklahoma. The National Register of Historic Places is our nation's official list of properties significant in our past.

Harrison School is located at 212 West Birch Avenue in Enid, Garfield County. The school is an excellent example of an early twentieth-century primary school that evolved to meet the tenets of the Progressive Era educational movement. Designed by Enid architect R. W. Shaw, the building is also an outstanding example of the Collegiate Gothic style.



Harrison School

The Ozark Trail-Indian Meridian Obelisk, located in Langston, Logan County, was constructed in 1922. The monument served as a waypoint for those traveling along the Ozark Trail. It is significant at the state level for its promotion of early automobile highways in Oklahoma.



Ozark Trail-Indian Meridian Obelisk

Listing in the National Register is an honorific designation that provides recognition, limited protection, and, in some cases, financial incentives for these important properties. The SHPO identifies, evaluates, and nominates properties for this special designation. If you believe a property in your area is eligible, fill out the Historic Preservation Resource Identification Form located at www.okhistory.org/shpo/nrprelim.htm.

Living History Lantern Tours at CSRHC

On Friday, September 15, the Cherokee Strip Regional Heritage Center (CSRHC) in Enid will host Living History Lantern Tours. After dark, visitors to the CSRHC's Humphrey Heritage Village will travel back to the days after the Land Run of 1893. Lantern-led tours through the historic buildings and campsites will explore daily life, its hardships, and its rewards. This year's theme is "Early Day Medicine: Cures, Ailments, and Absurd Concoctions." Following the tour, attendees also will enjoy historical entertainment. The cost for tickets is \$12 per person, and they must be purchased in advance. Tours begin at 7 p.m. To order tickets please call 580-237-1907. This event is sponsored by John and Nancy Burgett. The CSRHC is located at 507 South Fourth Street in Enid.

Sequoyah's Cabin Museum now open

On June 29, 2017, Cherokee Nation held a ceremony to celebrate the reopening of Sequoyah's Cabin Museum. The cabin, built in 1829, was home to Sequoyah, inventor of the Cherokee syllabary. On November 9, 2016, Cherokee Nation Principal Chief Bill John Baker and OHS Executive Director Dr. Bob Blackburn signed a historic document transferring title and operations of Sequoyah's Cabin from the OHS to Cherokee Nation.

Cherokee Nation is pleased to welcome visitors to Sequoyah's Cabin Museum, now with updated exhibits. The historic site is a National Historic Landmark and a National Literary Landmark. Plan your visit to see the new exhibits and enjoy the beautiful ten-acre park, located at 470288 Highway 101 in Sallisaw. Regular hours are Tuesday through Saturday, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Due to the change in ownership, Sequoyah's Cabin Museum no longer offers free admission for OHS members. Admission is \$5 for adults, \$3 for seniors and students, and free for children under five years old. Please visit www.visitcherokeenation.com for more information.



Antique Agriculture Festival at Murrell Home

The George M. Murrell Home will host the second annual Antique Agriculture Festival on October 6-8. The festival will highlight nineteenth-century agricultural practices and will feature activities for the entire family. The three-day festival focuses on the end of the growing season and will include ongoing living history demonstrations, harvesting, food preparation, live entertainment, games, shopping, and food vendors.

If you have ever wanted to venture back to a simpler time or are curious to see how nineteenth-century folk carried out their day-to-day activities, then this is the festival for you! Spend a day or the entire weekend with living historians as they prepare the farm for winter. There will be draft horses plowing, campfire cooking, apple preservation, woodworking, soap making, and much more. All demonstrations and activities will be performed utilizing nineteenth-century methods. Do not miss out on the family fun! The Murrell Home, built in 1845, is the last remaining nineteenth-century plantation in Oklahoma. It is located at 19479 East Murrell Home Road in Park Hill. Please call 918-456-2751 for more information.



Heritage Hills Historic Homes and Gardens Tour

Visit Oklahoma City for the fifty-first annual Heritage Hills Historic Homes and Gardens Tour on Saturday, September 30, and Sunday, October 1. Tours will be held from noon to 5 p.m. each day.

This self-guided tour allows attendees to visit several private residences and the Henry Overholser Mansion. The tour offers a glimpse of the past beautifully melded with the present, showcasing the neighborhood's historic charm. The Overholser Mansion will be the central hub of activities including food trucks, pop-up shops, and transportation via trolley to the tour locations.

Advance tickets are \$15 if purchased before Friday, September 29, or \$20 if purchased on the day of your tour. Please call 405-525-5325 for more information. The Overholser Mansion is located at 405 NW Fifteenth Street in Oklahoma City.

OHS Photo Archives Starring Roles

By Rachel Mosman

If you haven't already, check out some of the following documentaries and publications in which OHS Photo Archives images have appeared in the past few months. First, Oklahoma's place in Civil Rights history is significant, and about a third of our requests are for Civil Rights images. This summer, the Smithsonian Channel will present the documentary series *America in Color*. The film spans five decades from the 1920s to the 1960s, and features one of the most poignant images in the OHS Photo Archives, which was taken in the aftermath of the Tulsa Race Riot. Another documentary, *Oklahoma City: A Cautionary Tale of Hate in America* aired February 7, 2017, on PBS. The film, produced by American Experience, traces the events that led to the Murrah Bombing. Be sure to watch this film.

The OHS Photo Archives' most notable contribution this year was to the book *Killers of the Flower Moon: The Osage Murders and the Birth of the FBI* by New York Times award-winning author David Grann. The photo and manuscripts staff worked closely with Grann to provide photos from our collections that you can see in his book. Additional requests followed for our images and were used by NPR, CBS Sunday Morning, the book *The Good Fight: America's Ongoing Struggle for Justice*, *Rolling Stone Magazine*, and the FBI.

For paranormal conspiracy buffs, the History Channel's popular documentary series *Ancient Aliens* used images of Harley Byrd from the OPUBCO Photography Collection. What does this nephew of Admiral Richard Byrd have to do with aliens? Find out by watching *Ancient Aliens*, season 11, episode 8.

On the Travel Channel, Andrew Zimmer of *Bizarre Foods* has eaten his way through odd meals across the globe, and season 9, episode 5 entitled "Road Tripping Route 66" features images from our own Route 66. Also on the Travel Channel, you will see our images of the first shopping cart in a forthcoming episode of "Mysteries at the Museum." In addition to these, look out for many of our images that appear in books, news, and popular television!

For more information about the OHS Photo Archives please call 405-522-5225 or email research@okhistory.org.

Rachel Mosman is the photo archivist in the OHS Research Division's Photo Archives Department.



Battle of Honey Springs Reenactment

Save the date for the Battle of Honey Springs Reenactment on November 4–5, 2017. A battle reenactment will take place at 1 p.m. each day. Attendees can take self-guided tours through the camps, witness various military drills, and enjoy other living history demonstrations.

Students and school groups are invited to attend Education Day from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. on Friday, November 3. Education Day is free but preregistration is required. A registration form can be found at www.okhistory.org/sites/honeyspringsbattle. Honey Springs Battlefield and Visitor Center is located east of US Highway 69 between Oktaha and Rentiesville. For more information please email Adam Lynn at alynn@okhistory.org.

SHPO accepting awards nominations

The State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO) is now accepting nominations for its 2018 awards program. Individuals, businesses, government agencies, and other organizations contribute to the preservation of Oklahoma's heritage through rehabilitation/restoration projects, archaeological site protection, field and archival research, publications, and public programming. Submit a nomination and help the SHPO celebrate these accomplishments and the many ways the National Historic Preservation Act impacts communities of all sizes. Previous award recipients can be found at www.okhistory.org/shpo/shpoawards.htm.

The SHPO's awards program includes the Shirk Memorial Award for Historic Preservation and the SHPO's Citation of Merit. The Shirk Memorial Award 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.

The deadline for nominations is Friday, December 1, 2017, at 5 p.m. The SHPO accepts nominations in either electronic or hard copy format. Obtain the nomination forms and instructions from the SHPO's website at www.okhistory.org/shpo/shpoawards.htm. To request hard copy forms, instructions, or to ask questions, please contact the SHPO at 405-521-6249 or jmatthews@okhistory.org.

Nomination sponsors and award recipients will receive notice of the results of the selection process in February 2018. The awards will be presented at a banquet during Oklahoma's Thirtieth Annual Statewide Preservation Conference, to be held June 6–8, 2018, in Tulsa.

Chisholm Trail Museum to continue Memoir Writing workshops

The Chisholm Trail Museum in Kingfisher is pleased to continue its popular Memoir Writing workshops through Christmas.

From 2 to 4 p.m. every other Tuesday, author Andrea Foster presents a Memoir Writing workshop. Foster will provide instruction on how to write a memoir, edit your finished work, publish your work, and preserve your stories for posterity. The Chisholm Trail Museum is pleased to host this workshop and help share the importance of written firsthand accounts, biographies, and autobiographies in piecing together our history.

These programs are open to the public and free to attend. All workshop dates are included in the OHS Calendar on page four of this issue. For more information please email ctokmuseum@gmail.com or call 405-375-5176. The Chisholm Trail Museum and A. J. Seay Mansion are located at 605 Zellers Avenue in Kingfisher.



Get a glimpse of military life on Veterans Day

Two OHS historic sites will host military programs on Veterans Day 2017.

Fort Gibson Historic Site will host Fall Bake Day on Saturday, November 11, at 10 a.m. The aroma of fresh-baked bread will fill the air on Garrison Hill as OHS staff and volunteers bring Fort Gibson's bake house to life. Enjoy bread making demonstrations in the original wood-fired oven from 1863. Visitors can even sample the finished product. Bake Day is a fundraiser and educational event that depicts one aspect of army life during and after the Civil War. Attendees are welcome bring their own bread to bake in the oven at Fort Gibson, then spend the day viewing a reconstruction of the early log fort as well as original buildings from the 1840s through 1870s. Exhibits detailing the history of the fort are located in the Commissary Visitor Center on Garrison Hill. For more information please call 918-478-4088.

Visit Fort Towson Historic Site for Military Day on November 11 from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. This event will explore the military history of the fort with several living history demonstrations. First, stop and visit the sutler to learn about trade in the 1800s. Then watch military maneuvers, learn something new from knowledgeable interpreters, and see the cannon fire. For more information please call 580-873-2634.

Kilgen Organ performance in January 2018

The Oklahoma History Center is pleased to announce the date for its first Kilgen Organ performance of 2018. On Monday, January 22, R. Jelani Eddington will perform at 7 p.m. If you are interested in attending the January 22 Kilgen performance, please call 405-522-0765 for more information. Names will be taken on a first-come, first-served basis. Ticket prices are \$10 for OHS members and \$20 for the general public. The Oklahoma History Center is located at 800 Nazih Zuhdi Drive in Oklahoma City.



Autumnal Equinox Walks at Spiro Mounds

Visit Spiro Mounds Archaeological Center on Friday, September 22, for the Autumnal Equinox Walks. There will be walks at 11 a.m., 2 p.m., and 7 p.m., led by archaeologist and Spiro Mounds Archaeological Center Manager Dennis Peterson. As the end of summer nears and crops are ready for harvest, it also is time for an important ceremony. For American Indians, the Busk or Green Corn Ceremony was a harvest and renewal ceremony that took place around the autumnal equinox in the Spiro area.

During the guided Autumnal Equinox Walks, attendees will learn about the Green Corn Ceremony. Each walk will be approximately two hours and require one mile of easy walking. Peterson will share information about this unique, prehistoric American Indian mound site, the types of mounds, why they were created, and why some of the mounds are lined up for the sunsets of the solstices and equinoxes.

The small fee for the tour is \$5 for adults and \$3 for children, in addition to the daily admission fee. OHS members do not pay the daily admission fee. No reservations are required except for large groups. Spiro Mounds Archaeological Center is the only prehistoric American Indian site open to the public in Oklahoma. It is located three miles east of Spiro on Highway 9/271 and four miles north on Lock and Dam Road. For more information please call 918-962-2062 or email spiro@okhistory.org.

Will Rogers Days

To commemorate the November 4, 1879, birth of Will Rogers, the Will Rogers Memorial Museums in Claremore and Oologah have several events planned. Will Rogers Days will take place November 2–5 throughout Rogers County. View a list of events at www.willrogers.com/will-rogers-days.

From the OHS Archives: The Hope Sober Collection

By Jan H. Richardson

Hope Sober's research papers on Creek Indian folklore were recently donated to the Manuscripts Department of the OHS, and are now available to researchers. The Hope Sober Collection (M2017.114) consists of two boxes. Box 1 of the collection highlights the research of James R. Gregory (1842–1912). Gregory was one-quarter Creek Indian, and was educated at the Kowetah Mission, one mile south of Coweta, Oklahoma. His parents were adamant that he speak both English and Creek, and he became fluent in both languages at a young age. He was considered one of the premier interpreters in Indian Territory. Gregory was known as a voracious reader and was said to have a cabin full of books. Though he was plagued with symptoms of malaria that slowed his research and writing, he devoted the last two years of his life to interviewing members of the Creek Nation and recording their stories. The stories survived because he mailed them to Reverend A. M. Miller of Perry, Oklahoma, who hoped to put the stories into book form. The collection contains twenty-six stories, all handwritten by Gregory. It includes stories entitled "The Holy Drum," "Creek Indian Story of Fairy Folk," "The Creek Indian Story of the Windwalker," "Tradition of the Flute," "Origin of Water Life," and many others. In addition to his work as an interpreter, Gregory studied law and was elected a judge for the Creek Nation. In 1896 he was the Progressive candidate for principal chief of the Creek Nation but was defeated by L. C. Perryman. Box 2 of the collection is devoted to the correspondence and personal documents of Reverend Miller.

The Hope Sober Collection is available for viewing in the OHS Research Center Tuesday through Saturday, 10 a.m. to 4:45 p.m. It is located inside the Oklahoma History Center in Oklahoma City. For more information call 405-522-5225 or email research@okhistory.org.

Jan H. Richardson is the processing archivist in the OHS Research Division's Manuscripts Department.

SHPO seeks input for FY 2018 program

The State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO) will hold a public meeting on Friday, September 15, at 10:30 a.m. in the classrooms of the Oklahoma History Center. SHPO staff will provide information about the National Historic Preservation Act and how it supports the statewide preservation program. During the meeting, the SHPO will receive public input for development of the Fiscal Year 2018 Historic Preservation Fund application to the US Department of the Interior. Participation in this meeting is one important way to help the SHPO advance Oklahoma's preservation goals. If you are unable to attend the meeting, your written comments and suggestions are welcome. Complete the SHPO's "Project Suggestion Form" and return it by 5 p.m. on Friday, September 15. Please call the SHPO at 405-521-6249 for more information.

New officers for Friends of the Oklahoma History Center

The Board of Directors of the Friends of the Oklahoma History Center recently announced the results of its election to select officers for the current fiscal year. The three officers are Gean B. Atkinson, president; Joey Sager, vice president; and Samonia Byford, treasurer. Learn more about the Friends of the Oklahoma History Center and view biographical information for the officers at www.okhistory.org/historycenter/friendsboard.

History Never Dies at the Oklahoma Territorial Museum

Visit the Oklahoma Territorial Museum in Guthrie for History Never Dies on Saturday, October 21, from 5 to 7 p.m. This free event includes carnival games, prizes, scavenger hunts, and Halloween-themed crafts. It also gives children another chance to dress up, as costumes are encouraged.

Attendees will enjoy free hot dogs, popcorn, and festive appetizers prepared by the Friends of the Oklahoma Territorial Museum. The museum exhibit galleries will be free and open to the public during the event. The Oklahoma Territorial Museum is located at 406 East Oklahoma Avenue in Guthrie. For more information please call 405-282-1889.

The new Gateway to Oklahoma History now available online

The OHS Digital Archives Department launched the new Gateway to Oklahoma History in July 2017. The Gateway to Oklahoma History is a digital portal sharing Oklahoma's rich history and cultural heritage and includes the largest repository of Oklahoma newspapers offered online. All resources on The Gateway are available free to the public at gateway.okhistory.org.

The new Gateway to Oklahoma History provides a user-friendly way to search, download, and print materials in a fresh, new online platform. Changes include a simple interface that allows for greater accessibility; more search options to locate and filter results; easy-to-use download options for small, medium, or large free downloads; and the ability to easily share information on social media, including Twitter, Facebook, Pinterest, Tumblr, and Reddit.

Along with the new platform, new collections are now available on The Gateway from the Photo Archives Department, the Manuscripts Department, and the Maps Archive of the OHS. The OHS Digital Archives Department continues to release items for public access.

A few of the new collections include photographs from the John Melton Collection, Ollie M. Edwards Collection, Arch Dixon Collection, Luther Bishop Collection, Charles Turner Hocker Collection, Ray Jacoby Collection, Edd Roberts Collection, W. P. Campbell Collection, Althia Hart Collection, Clayton E. Soule Collection, Eva Jenkins Winter Collection, Florence Correll Collection, H. H. Henston Collection, Jennie Elrod Collection, OPUBCO WKY Radio and Television Collection, Ruth Harris Collection, William F. Harn Collection, Thomas Doyle Collection, Juanita Hardy Collection, Lee Harkins Collection, and Martha Curl Collection.

Also added to The Gateway are collections from OHS museums and sites, including the T. B. Ferguson Home Collection and the William Edson Photograph Collection from the Cherokee Strip Regional Heritage Center. The Clark-son Fire Insurance Maps Collection also is available to browse. For more information please call the Digital Archives Department at 405-522-0689 or visit The Gateway online at gateway.okhistory.org.



Canning Club in Oklahoma City, July 1914 (20778.BL.3.31, Edd Roberts Collection, OHS).



Long-Bell Lumber Company in Eagle City, Oklahoma (20912.018, T. B. Ferguson Home Collection, OHS).



Smithsonian Affiliations
Membership Program

OHS and UCO announce fall classes

The OHS Research Center and the University of Central Oklahoma (UCO) Department of History and Geography are partnering to offer two fall courses, to be held in the Research Center's Clark and Kay Musser Learning Lab.

The Preservation and Conservation class began on Saturday, August 26, and continues on September 2, 9, and 16, from 1 to 4:30 p.m. This four-week course introduces participants to the fundamentals of preserving significant works housed at cultural institutions and in personal collections. Attendees will learn to assess and evaluate storage conditions, identify harmful environmental factors, perform basic preservation and reformatting procedures on paper-based items and multimedia materials, and respond to and recover from disastrous situations. At the end of the course, participants will feel more prepared and confident to handle and care for historically significant items.

The Tracing Your Roots class will meet on Saturday, October 28, and November 4, 11, and 18, from 1 to 4:30 p.m. This course is designed to teach individuals the basics of genealogy. Topics include: how to begin your genealogical search, census and vital records, using newspapers for research, American Indian resources, beginning DNA, how to obtain free resources, and how to access materials located at the OHS. In addition, attendees will receive a behind-the-scenes tour of the OHS Research Center.

Both fall courses are open to the public and UCO students, with no prerequisite requirements. Register online at go.uco.edu/outreachcourses-link. Please call 405-522-5225 for more information. The OHS Research Center's Clark and Kay Musser Learning Lab is located inside the History Center at 800 Nazih Zuhdi Drive in Oklahoma City.