



Chisholm Trail Museum Chuck Wagon Gathering—largest in state!



The Chisholm Trail Museum and Horizon Hill (CTM) in Kingfisher is planning two days of cowboy fun at its Chuck Wagon Gathering on Friday, October 1, and Saturday, October 2. From 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. cooks will be keeping the fires burning as they tell the history of the Chisholm Trail, demonstrating that chuck wagons were an essential part of life to cowboys in the late 1800s.

During the two-day event, visitors can drop in and see a variety of working chuck wagons from across the region as they prepare some delicious dishes. This event is free and will include music, Dutch oven cooking demonstrations, Straka longhorns, gunfights, medicine man shows, Annie Oakley demonstra-

tions, stagecoaches, and more!

Live music from Kyle Dillingham and Peter Markes, Cowboy Jim Garling, and the Flying Fiddler Wayne Cantwell will be featured throughout the event.

After taking a year off due to COVID-19, this year's Chuck Wagon Gathering is back bigger and better than ever, and will be the largest free chuck wagon gathering in the state. Wagons representing Oklahoma, Texas, Arkansas, Kansas, and South Dakota will cook both historical cowboy meals and other tasty recipes for visitors to sample.

"Museum visitors will get the chance to explore life on the trail, taste some chuck wagon favorites, and interact with living history characters from across the

West," said CTM Director Jason Harris. "Our Chuck Wagon Gathering allows us to help keep a part of the West alive for our visitors. We want to provide an opportunity for families to explore the West and learn through demonstrations, music, and more."

CTM's Pioneer Village will be open during the event. The village is home to several historic structures, including an early Kingfisher bank, Gant Schoolhouse, Harmony Church, a jail cell, and two historic cabins. Attractions inside the museum include the exhibit *Bridging the Chisholm Trail through Indian Territory*. It is the largest exhibit ever constructed at the museum, emphasizing the history of the Chisholm Trail as it relates to Indian Territory and present-day north-central Oklahoma. Also on exhibit at CTM through October 9 is *Maps and Mapmaking: Historical Maps of Oklahoma*, which highlights a collection of more than 20 historical maps of Oklahoma dating back to 1806.

This family-friendly event is free! For more information about the Chuck Wagon Gathering, please contact the museum at 405-375-5176. The CTM is located at 605 Zellers Avenue in Kingfisher.

Research Center book sale

The John and Eleanor Kirkpatrick Research Center will hold a book sale October 27–30 at the Oklahoma History Center! All proceeds from the sale benefit the OHS Research Center. The book sale will be open from 10 a.m. to 4:45 p.m. on Wednesday, Thursday, and Friday. Saturday hours will be 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.

This is your chance to shop rare and out-of-print books, genealogical materials, historical maps and photos, periodicals, records, posters, puzzles, vintage newspapers, and more! Just in time for the holidays, the Research Center will also be offering a number of framed items at 50 percent off the regular retail price. All proceeds from the book sale will support ongoing projects and programs of the Research Center.

Folklife Festival at Oklahoma History Center



The Oklahoma History Center (OHC) will hold a Folklife Festival on Saturday, October 16, 2021, from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. This community-wide event will celebrate and recognize what the American Folklife Center at the Library of Congress has called "the everyday and intimate creativity that all of us share and pass on to the next generation." The goal is to collaborate with cultural practitioners, communities, and heritage professionals; to spark curiosity; to catalyze intercultural exchange; and to create participatory experiences.

Participants will include the 145th Army Band; 3J Farms OK; Aalim Dance Academy; Angels Modeling and Dance Studio; Blue Thumb water quality education program; Eterna Primavera Folklore Guatemalteco; Everything Goes Dance Studio; Hochatown Historical Association; Hung

Viet Lion Dance Association; Kohl Jackson, stand-up comedian; Larry Newsom, singer-songwriter; Metropolitan Library System; Nritya-Arpan Dance School of Bharatnatyam and Indian Folk Dance; Oklahoma Office of Homeland Security; Oklahoma Archivists Association; Oklahoma Farm Bureau; Oklahoma Historical Society Research Center; Oklahoma State Archives; Oklahoma Wildlife Band; Partners of the Prairie; Renewal by Andersen; Danny Dunagan, rope maker; Samarpan Dance Academy; Southwest Dairy Farmers; Panamanian Society of Oklahoma; Thick Descriptions; Central Oklahoma Antique Tractor Club; "Traditional Music of the Open Prairie" with Wayne Cantwell; and BSA Venturer Scouts program. Also, the Oklahoma Pork Council will be giving away a new roaster/smoker.

The Folklife Festival will be open to the public and held predominantly outdoors at the OHC, located at 800 Nazih Zuhdi Drive in Oklahoma City. Call 405-522-0785 to learn more.



Director's Column

**By Trait Thompson
Executive Director**

Since I started working at the Oklahoma Historical Society in January, one of my favorite things to do has been visiting our wonderful sites and museums. We have 24 different sites across the state that tell the diverse and fascinating story of Oklahoma's history. From battlefields to forts to historic homes and even a prehistoric archaeological site, OHS has you covered regardless of the time period or the subject matter that interests you.

One of the sites that has captivated me lately is Honey Springs Battlefield near Checotah. I will admit that I did not know much about the battle before I started working at the OHS. However, since I first visited the battlefield in January, I have made up for lost time. In March, as I was on my way to Spiro to take part in the Equinox Walk, I stopped off at Honey Springs to walk the trails and read the historical markers along the way. It was a beautiful spring day. The flowers were blooming, the leaves were budding out on the trees, and Elk Creek flowed lazily along as it has done for thousands of springtimes.

As I walked the trails, I tried to picture the bloody fighting that occurred along the banks of the creek in 1863 as brother fought against brother and tribe against

tribe. It was difficult to juxtapose the events of that battle in my mind against the tranquil scene that lay before me as the gravel crunched beneath my feet on the trail. You see, for me, history is not just something that happened in the past. It is still living and breathing. The events that happened so long ago continue to echo in our present, and it is our charge at the OHS to tell those stories so we can all decide how to create the future we desire.

On July 17, I spoke at the event to commemorate the 158th anniversary of the battle. It was a hot morning and, once again, I could not help but think of the soldiers who were lined up in this very place at that very hour waiting for the attack to begin and not knowing if they would be alive at the end of it. I also thought about the Black soldiers of the First Kansas Volunteer Infantry Regiment. They had seen some action at a skirmish in Missouri and just a couple weeks before at Cabin Creek, but this was to be their first real test. As formerly enslaved people, this was not a fight for philosophy or even for honor. It was a fight for their very freedom. They proved themselves to be every bit the soldier of their counterparts, and General Blunt remarked afterward that "their coolness and bravery I have never seen surpassed."

The Battle of Honey Springs was a pivotal moment, as it set the stage for Union forces to control Indian Territory for the remainder of the Civil War. On your summer and fall travels, I encourage you to take a road trip to the battlefield, walk the trails, and remember what happened there on July 17, 1863.

Trait Thompson



One Life: Will Rogers

A new online exhibit entitled *One Life: Will Rogers* is the National Portrait Gallery's first exhibition to be presented exclusively on its website. A special selection of portraits, broadsides, posters, paintings, drawings, and a sampling of videos illustrate the story of Will Rogers's life from his birth in Indian Territory through his death in an Alaskan plane crash. A number of images with comprehensive captions explore Rogers's career as a writer, a radio broadcaster, an actor on stage and screen, and as a popular trick roper.

Two years ago, James Barber, now retired historian and curator of the National Portrait Gallery, visited the Will Rogers Memorial Museum in Claremore to view its collections, selecting images and historical documents that would become the final exhibit.

"It is certainly an honor to have Will Rogers's life depicted on such a prestigious site," said Will Rogers Memorial Museum Director Tad Jones. The exhibit can be viewed at npg.si.edu/exhibition/one-life-will-rogers until January 30, 2022.

Development News

By Larry O'Dell

At the end of July, the Publications Division and the Development and Special Projects Division merged to form the Communications and Development Division. This was done for several reasons, but one was that both divisions worked with the public through publications, the website, and interaction with the membership. This consolidation creates clear delineation and structure within our ranks. As a part of this merger, we are working on hiring a new position, director of multicultural outreach, to help with outreach to underserved communities.

The new division has received OHS Board of Directors approval to update the OHS schedule and make changes to the annual Oklahoma History Conference. To that end, we will begin a speaker series this fall; have a large, stand-alone awards ceremony and dinner in February; and a one-day history symposium on a Saturday in April. These alterations will give staff the ability to focus on each event and create quality experiences for attendees. One such activity is coming up this fall, as the Oklahoma History Center Education Department will provide members with the opportunity to attend a Folklife Festival at the Oklahoma History Center in October.

As a reminder, the Annual Giving Campaign has kicked off, and we hope that you will support the OHS and these programs with your donations. You can give at okhistory.org/support. If you have any questions you can contact me at lodell@okhistory.org or 405-522-6676.



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Mistletoe Leaves is published for the members and friends of the OHS in partial fulfillment of its mission to collect, preserve, and share the history and culture of the state of Oklahoma and its people.

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 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.



Cherokee Nation: The Portrait of a People

Fort Gibson Historic Site will be hosting the exhibit *Cherokee Nation: The Portrait of a People* from September to November 2021. This exhibit presents 55 portraits of individuals, couples, and families by noted Oklahoma photographer and artist David Fitzgerald. The strikingly clear and visually rich photographs allow the viewer insight into elements in the broad spectrum of Cherokee life in Oklahoma today.

Fort Gibson Historic Site is located at 907 North Garrison Avenue in Fort Gibson. Please call 918-478-4088 for more information.

Overholser Mansion self-guided tours

The Henry and Anna Overholser Mansion in Oklahoma City has developed a new tour experience at the historic home with the help of Oklahoma Heritage Preservation Grant (OHPG) funds from the Oklahoma Historical Society (OHS). While reservations are still required on Tuesday and Wednesday for 10 a.m., noon, and 2 p.m. tours, Thursday–Saturday the mansion is now open for drop-in tours with no reservations required!

Preservation Oklahoma, the stewards of the mansion, have spent several months installing new signage throughout the home and adding historic photos that depict the rooms with their original furnishings. The 100-year-old carpets have been protected by the placement of new carpet runners to guide foot traffic through the rooms of the home originally built in 1903. A new pamphlet has also been designed for those interested in self-guided tours. Visitors will now be able to walk through the dining room, butler's pantry, and kitchen on the first floor, and through all of the bedrooms and bathrooms of the second floor. While handrails, doorknobs, and doorbells are regularly cleaned, visitors are asked to not touch anything inside the museum on the self-guided tours because artifacts and components of the historic building cannot be safely sanitized without harm to the objects.

Museum Manager Lisa Escalon is always on hand to provide more information. Volunteers are also available on Saturdays to answer all questions. For further information call 405-525-5325.

“Life at Hunter’s Home: Ghost Stories”

The folks at Hunter’s Home in Park Hill have created a fun and safe alternative to the historic home’s annual Ghost Stories event. Participants can hear bewitching tales, uncover mysteries of the antebellum property built in 1845, and see the site after dark by joining the private Facebook group “Life at Hunter’s Home: Ghost Stories.” Viewers can enjoy complete access to special, spooky fall videos and demonstrations whenever they like through the month of October! The cost of joining for the month is \$10. To join the virtual events, please contact Hunter’s Home at 918-456-2751.

The Mother Road has international appeal



The Route 66 sign leading visitors to the museum was given a fresh coat of paint over the winter to attract more visitors this summer.

era when thousands streamed along the road.

“The museum offers permanent and changing special exhibits focusing on the Route 66 experience,” said museum director Pat Smith. She has noticed a recent increase in visitors from a variety of countries around the world, all curious to know more about the iconic images and myths relating to the Mother Road.

Exhibits at the Clinton museum are enriched by the sounds of the Big Band era intended to transport visitors to a time when returning soldiers found their way home on Route 66 after World War II. A fully restored, prefabricated Valentine Diner from the 1940s complete with grill, counter and stools is also on-site. Visitors are encouraged to stop at the Oklahoma Route 66 store for books, keepsakes, signs, and more! The museum is located off of I-40 at Exit 65. Call 580-323-7866 for more information.

As the country reopens, fans of a bygone era are streaming to the Oklahoma Route 66 Museum in Clinton. Tourists from as far away as China, Europe, and New York are making the museum a stop in their quest for a true Americana experience.

The museum offers visitors a personal journey through the history of the nation’s most revered highway. Those who visit can experience everything from the building of the highway to the Dust Bowl

Crinolines and early Victorian era fashions

On October 9, the Cherokee Strip Museum and Rose Hill School in Perry will host a demonstration focused on fashion developments of the 1850s and 1860s. Resident schoolmarm and historical seamstress Melissa Grice will be exploring the innovations in women’s fashion early in the Victorian era when women



wore voluminous, elegant dresses. As a historical seamstress, her presentation will focus on a time when ladies wore cage crinolines and crinoline petticoats to create a fashionable silhouette. To preregister for this free event call 580-336-2405.

“Museum After Dark: Village Sounds”

“Museum After Dark,” is a new, monthly evening event exploring Oklahoma’s history and culture featuring Oklahoma singer-songwriters at the Cherokee Strip Regional Heritage Center (CSRHC).

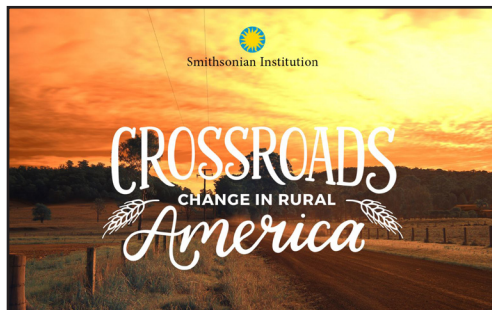
On September 11, Beau Jennings will be the featured performer, followed by Riley Jantzen on October 22. The artists will be performing intimate, acoustic sets in the Village Church at the CSRHC’s Humphrey Heritage Village in Enid.

There is no additional charge for this concert series beyond the regular cost of admission to the CSRHC.

The “Museum After Dark” series of regular monthly programs will continue into the fall, creating opportunities for the public to experience the CSRHC after regular business hours. Performances will begin at 7 p.m., and the CSRHC will be open to the public until 9 p.m. on days when a “Museum After Dark” event is held.

From Prairie to Palate

On Thursday, September 23, at 6:30 p.m. the Pioneer Woman Museum and Statue (PWM) will host its annual Prairie to Palate event. The outdoor, farm-to-table dining experience is a special night of delicious fare, wine, live music, and an auction. All proceeds support the Pioneer Woman Museum and Statue. Tickets are \$60 each or two for \$100 and can be purchased online at the PWM website. Please visit www.pioneerwomanmuseum.com or call 580-765-6108 to learn more.



Smithsonian Crossroads exhibition coming to Fort Gibson Historic Site

The OHS, in cooperation with Oklahoma Humanities, is pleased to announce that the Smithsonian Institution Museum on Main Street traveling exhibition *Crossroads: Change in Rural America* is coming to Fort Gibson Historic Site October 30–December 11, 2021.

Americans come together at the crossroads. They invest in places and build their futures where their paths cross. Small towns became centers of commerce, trade, local politics, and culture. For some, the crossroads affirmed a new life in a new place. For others, the crossroads meant hard work and hard times.

Oklahomans will have a unique opportunity to consider their crossroads stories through the exhibit's themes of rural identity, community, land, perseverance, and managing change. Each site will engage visitors in complementary programming, celebrating their town's history and accomplishments and addressing community concerns.

Crossroads: Change in Rural America is part of Museum on Main Street, a collaboration between the Smithsonian Institution and state humanities councils nationwide. Support for Museum on Main Street has been provided by the US Congress. This exhibit will visit six communities in Oklahoma on its tour of the state, including Pawnee Bill Ranch and Museum in spring 2022.

For more information about this exhibit and Fort Gibson Historic Site, please call 918-478-4088 or email fortgibson@okhistory.org. Fort Gibson Historic Site is located at 907 North Garrison Avenue in Fort Gibson. *Crossroads: Change in Rural America* has been made possible in Fort Gibson by Oklahoma Humanities.



The mission of Oklahoma Humanities (OH) is to strengthen communities by helping Oklahomans learn about the human experience, understand new perspectives, and participate knowledgeably in civic life. As the state affiliate of the National Endowment for the Humanities, we strive to stimulate discussion, encourage new perspectives, and to actively engage people in the humanities disciplines, such as history, literature, philosophy, and ethics.

Wild West Fest at Pawnee Bill Ranch

The Pawnee Bill Ranch and Museum will celebrate the lives of Major Gordon W. "Pawnee Bill" Lillie and his wife May Lillie and their famous Wild West Shows with a one-day festival on September 18, 2021. Pawnee Bill's Wild West Fest will be held from 11 a.m. to 7 p.m. at the historic original ranch site. Stagecoaches will roll amid thundering horse hooves while the lightning of gunfire explodes around Pawnee Bill, May, and their cohorts as the talented performers thrill and amaze audiences. The festival will feature exhibitions of acts from the original Pawnee Bill's Wild West Shows.

Kevin Webb will portray Pawnee Bill for the 13th time. Webb, a longtime Wild West Show cast member and Pawnee Bill Ranch employee, is also a whip artist and chariot racer. Alyce Webb, Kevin's wife, will portray May Lillie for the third time, performing her act on horseback. This event will include more great performers, such as trick rider Windy Ratchford Lattin, who will demonstrate a complete mastery of her equine companion while performing some of the wildest stunts ever seen. Calvin "Kowboy Kal" Cook will astound guests with his roping feats and skills. The Mike Pahsetopah family will perform as the Dancing Eagles, paying tribute to American Indian culture with their stunning Native dancing. Show cowboys and cowgirls will be back again this year to demonstrate their skills with reckless feats of horsemanship during entertaining races.

The museum will be open to the public during the festival from 11 a.m. to 7 p.m. Food from local food trucks will be available for purchase on-site. There will be historically accurate entertainment such as blacksmithing, gunfighters, and sharpshooters, a medicine man show, and musicians, held continuously on the ranch grounds from 11 a.m. to 7 p.m.

Admission will be taken at the entrance gate to the historic ranch. For more information, please call 918-762-2513 or email pawneebill@okhistory.org. No tickets can be purchased online or in advance. Admission is \$10 for adults, \$8 for active military, veterans, and seniors ages 62 and older; \$5 for children ages 6–12, and free for children ages 5 and under.



From the Collection: Oklahoma City Gridiron Club

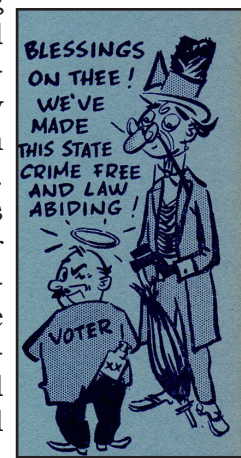
By Jan H. Richardson

In Oklahoma, the term "gridiron" brings thoughts of autumn, football, and tailgating, but the term, coined during the 14th century, originally meant a grate for roasting meat. It was not until the 20th century that the term became associated with comedy. The Oklahoma City Gridiron Club spent 85 years (1928–2015) "roasting," or satirizing and parodying, Oklahoma and national politics.

Only during World War II were politicians given a break from the good-natured but often painfully true mockery. Established in 1928 by members of the Oklahoma Press Association (OPA), the club originally produced the comedy show to encourage attendance at OPA's midwinter meeting, but later the production became a fundraising source for journalism scholarships. Since the 1960s more than \$500,000 was raised from the Gridiron performances; these funds supported the journalism programs at the University of Oklahoma, Oklahoma State University, and the University of Central Oklahoma. Classic Gridiron themes were "Okie's Brokie or Poverty! It's Wonderful!" from 1940, "Hound Dogs of 1956 or Will Success Spoil Raymond Gary?," and "We're Tired of a Democracy! We Want A King! Or Reorganize This!" from 1996.

The Oklahoma City Gridiron Collection (2019.153, 5 legal boxes) contains scripts, song books, programs, financials, and scholarship information. The collection is available for viewing in the OHS's John and Eleanor Kirkpatrick Research Center Tuesday through Saturday from 10 a.m. to 4:45 p.m. The Research Center is located on the first floor of the Oklahoma History Center. For more information and appointments please call 405-522-5225 or email research@okhistory.org.

Jan H. Richardson is the processing archivist in the OHS Research Division's Manuscript Archives.



Whitebird named Oklahoma's History Teacher of the Year

Alona Whitebird, a teacher at Southmoore High School, has been named the 2021 Oklahoma History Teacher of the Year, an award presented annually by the Gilder Lehrman Institute of American History, the nation's leading organization dedicated to K-12 American history education. As the state winner, Whitebird now qualifies to compete for the National History Teacher of the Year Award from the institute. The Oklahoma History Center (OHC) partners annually with the Gilder Lehrman Institute of American History by presenting the Oklahoma History Teacher of the Year award to the state winner.



Alona Whitebird is an accomplished and passionate educator. Her lessons for her Advanced Placement US History class equip students with the tools to engage with history critically. She builds into her lessons the opportunity for students to hone their reading, writing, and analysis skills through a structured process. Her approach in the classroom is truly multidisciplinary. Whitebird is both a scholar and a mentor. She is a James Madison fellow and a highly regarded graduate student at the University of Central Oklahoma, where she is pursuing a master's degree while regularly presenting and publishing her work. She invests time in her students outside the classroom, sponsoring several organizations on her high school campus including the Junior Class and the Social Justice and Equity Committee: Race, Religion and Rights.

In addition to a \$1,000 honorarium, Whitebird will receive a core archive of American history books and Gilder Lehrman educational materials, as well as a recognition at a ceremony in Oklahoma. "Ms. Whitebird is clearly a committed educator and historian," said Carrie Fox, OHC state coordinator for the Gilder Lehrman National History Teacher of the Year competition. "Through her passion to share the lessons of history with her students, she will continue to positively impact her students and the future for years to come."

Nominations for the 2022 History Teacher of the Year awards are now open. Students, parents, colleagues, and supervisors may nominate K-12 teachers for the award by visiting gilderlehrman.org/nhtoy. The deadline for 2022 nominations is March 31, 2022.



"Pioneer Projects" series

A new weekly program, "Pioneer Projects," will be offered on the Pioneer Woman Museum and Statue's (PWM) Facebook page. Every Saturday evening, a new video in the "Pioneer Projects" series will be prepared and posted at 7 p.m.

The virtual series will feature demonstrations of antique tools and items that will take people of all ages back to the days of the pioneers. In the videos, Museum Director Kelly Houston and special guests will be demonstrating and teaching useful life skills in an educational and fun way!

Follow @PioneerWomanMuseum on Facebook to view the latest videos in this series.

Oklahoma Heritage Preservation Grant applications open

The Oklahoma Historical Society will open applications for the 2021/2022 grant cycle of the Oklahoma Heritage Preservation Grant Program on Wednesday, September 1, 2021. This grants-in-aid program will set aside \$600,000 to award grants ranging from \$500 to \$20,000 to municipal, county, or tribal governments and not-for-profit historical organizations, as well as the support groups for these entities. All not-for-profit applicants must be registered and in good standing with the Oklahoma secretary of state. The grants will be specific to four categories: collections, exhibits, programs, and capacity building.

The online application process will open Wednesday, September 1, 2021, and close Friday, October 22, 2021, at 5 p.m. For applicants wishing to receive optional draft application feedback, draft applications will be due October 1, 2021. Award announcements will be made in late January 2022.

The Oklahoma Heritage Preservation Grant Program was launched in 2019 and, over the course of two grant cycles, has provided more than \$800,000 to help accomplish over 80 projects across the state. Projects have ranged from collections care and exhibit development to strategic planning and educational programming.

A virtual, online workshop to inform the public about this program is scheduled for September 10 at 11 a.m. To see the official rules for the program, as well as to sign up for the online workshop, please visit www.okhistory.org/grants or contact Nicole Harvey, director of strategic initiatives and grants administrator, at 405-522-5202 or grants@okhistory.org.

Hunter's Home in the Cherokee Nation

The Friends of the Murrell Home have published a new book featuring a compendium of stories tracing the Murrell and Ross families, who were the former residents of the home. This work, *Hunter's Home in the*



Cherokee Nation: The Murrell and Ross Families of Indian Territory, has taken several years to research and presents a detailed history going back to Indian Territory. In authoring the book, Shirley Pettengill, the retired site manager of the historic home, has collected over 60 stories from The Friends group's newsletters published between 2003 and 2020. She has also added considerable biographical and genealogical research of the Murrell and Ross families, and has followed the histories of friends of the family who inhabited the historic antebellum home. Her dedicated research includes first-hand material from 19th-century diaries, over 260 photographs, images of glass plate negatives, and a section of Civil War experiences. A comprehensive family tree and genealogical charts are also included in the 317-page tome.

One of the many points of interest in the book is the biography provided of Jennie Ross Cobb, who was the great-granddaughter of John Ross the chief of the Cherokees from 1828-1866. Jennie was an American Indian photographer and the first curator of Hunter's Home. Images of her glass plate negatives that were recently donated to the home's collections are included in the new publication. Jennie started taking photographs around 1896 and continued until around 1903, leaving a showcase of what life was like for affluent Cherokees in the late 19th and early 20th centuries.

Many other friends, scholars, and writers contributed to the book including David Fowler, Jennifer Frazee, Amanda Pritchett, Rachael Whitaker, and Lois Albert. *Hunter's Home in the Cherokee Nation: The Murrell and Ross Families of Indian Territory* is a fundraising project, paid for by the Friends of the Murrell Home. Friends members receive a 10 percent discount on the cost of the book. The cost of the book is \$38.95 plus tax. All proceeds from its sale will go directly to the historic site. Email huntershome@okhistory.org or call 918-456-2751 to arrange to buy a copy and for shipping arrangements. The title is also for sale at the Oklahoma History Center Museum Store in Oklahoma City.



Tom Mix Museum Fundraiser

The Tom Mix Museum will host a fundraiser to support day-to-day management of the Dewey museum. "Mix'n It Up Under the Stars" will be held October 15 at the Timber Oaks Event Center, located three miles west of downtown Bartlesville. The event will have a live and silent auction, and a chuckwagon barbecue dinner with all the fixings. A dance will follow with entertainment featuring the toe-tapping country swing stylings of western entertainer Belinda Gail, "America's Country Sweetheart." Tickets are \$50 for adults and \$10 for children 12 and under. Call 918-534-1555 to order tickets.

Wardville Cemetery book

The staff of the Atoka Museum and Civil War Cemetery have a new book for sale in their gift shop that is keeping the history of nearby Wardville, Oklahoma, alive. The publication is the pride of the remaining residents of the unincorporated town in Atoka County. The *Wardville Cemetery Record* explores the history of the area through historical photos, local histories, and burial locations of residents of this formerly thriving community.

The former ranchers, farmers, and merchants of the town once connected to the Rock Island Railroad would be happy to know that small town efforts are keeping their history from perishing.

The town derives its name from Henry Pleasant Ward (1865-1917), who was its first postmaster. Locals take pride in keeping the cemetery mowed, and make sure nearby roads and fences are repaired. At the cemetery, hand-stamped aluminum plates as markers have been lovingly placed to identify all known graves that lack a headstone. When the old Methodist church bell was stolen from its platform at the cemetery this spring, residents employed Facebook to guilt the local thief into returning it with a good result.

Hometown pride runs deep in Wardville. Thanks to the hard work of Margaret Hooe Daniel and many of the old families from the area, the cemetery records were finally published in 2020. The Hooe, Rhyne, Williams, and Adams families have all pitched in to keep the history of their ancestors alive. The publication is for sale at the Atoka Museum and Civil War Cemetery for \$40. Call 903-496-2914 for more information.

Taking trips back in time

Jennie Buchanan and her staff take the mission of the Museum of the Western Prairie (MWP) seriously. Exhibits at the Altus museum tell the story of southwest Oklahoma, from the geologic history of the area into the present day. Yet, museum guests may not realize the commitment the staff regularly makes for local high school reunions.

If you graduated from Altus High School and have a reunion planned, the staff of the museum wants it to be an authentic experience. While the museum is well-known for its coverage of topics about American Indians and homesteaders, they are also experts in tracing the more recent histories relating to specific graduating class years. Gathering, preserving, and sharing the area's history has, under Buchanan's leadership, come to include a sentimental look back at hometown history.

"We spend hours reading the old newspapers, and looking through class yearbooks to get it right, so many of the reunion participants are surprised by the names and remembrances from their high school days," said Buchanan. Many may not realize the man-hours museum staff have dedicated to the cause of taking what they call "a trip back in time." The concentrated research reveals all sorts of "remember when" moments that include \$2 dates at the Plaza Theater, weekly radio broadcasts on KWHW, and even the long-lost scores of football games when the Altus Bulldogs played the Chickasha Chicks. Her PowerPoint presentations are full of historic and funny photos held in the MWP collections that look back at forgotten details of school years. Thanks to their work, the history of Altus is being kept alive and well.

The MWP is open Tuesday through Saturday from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Call 580-482-1044 or visit www.okhistory.org/westernprairie for more information. The MWP is located at 1100 Memorial Drive in Altus.

Addie Drummond recipes

The Friends of the Fred & Addie Drummond Home have published a recipe book of Addie Drummond's recipes collected from a 101 year old copy of the First Presbyterian Church of Hominy Cookbook, published in 1927. Visit the Fred and Addie Drummond home to tour the kitchen and purchase her cookbook now on sale at the Drummond home for \$10. To learn more, call 918-885-2374.



Historic Skills Expo at Fort Towson

Fort Towson Historic Site will host its "Historic Skills Expo" Second Saturday Demo on Saturday, September 11, from 1 to 3 p.m. Guests are welcome to watch and learn as craftsmen and artisans demonstrate how objects were made before industrialization. Historical interpreters will be demonstrating the art of candle making, wooden bucket making, the operation of a wooden lathe, the preparation of black powder, and cooking. Living history reenactors will be on-site to explain a variety of time-honored crafts, and the Sutler's Store will be open for touring. Call 580-873-2634 for more information.

SHPO to host workshops

The State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO) will host virtual workshops in November and December. Each workshop is devoted to one of the SHPO's federal preservation programs and is designed for preservation professionals, government agency representatives, and concerned citizens. All workshops are free and open to the public, however, the SHPO requests that participants register for each session they wish to attend.

National Register Workshops:

Thursday, November 18, 10 a.m. to noon: What is the National Register of Historic Places?

Friday, November 19, 10 a.m. to noon: How to Write a National Register of Historic Places Nomination

Section 106 Workshops

Wednesday, December 1, 10 a.m. to noon: Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act

Thursday, December 2, 10 a.m. to noon: Section 106 and the Oklahoma Archeological Survey

Friday, December 3, 10 a.m. to noon: Section 106 and Forms, GIS, Fieldwork

Monday, December 6, 10 a.m. to noon: Section 106 and Tribal Consultation

Tax Credit Workshops

Wednesday, December 8, 10 a.m. to noon: Tax Incentives Program Overview

Thursday, December 9, 10 a.m. to noon: The Secretary of Interior's Standards for Rehabilitation

Friday, December 10, 10 a.m. to noon: The Secretary of the Interior's Guidelines for Rehabilitation

For more information or to register for classes, please contact Tifani Darata at tdarata@okhistory.org or 405-521-6249. You may also register online at www.okhistory.org/shpo/workshops.

OHS Calendar of autumn events, programs, and exhibits

September

- 1 *Drummond Heirlooms* exhibit opens, Fred and Addie Drummond Home, Hominy
- 1 Oklahoma Heritage Preservation Grant Program online applications open, Oklahoma History Center, Oklahoma City
- 4 History Alive! on the Cherokee Strip, Cherokee Strip Regional Heritage Center, Enid
- 10 Oklahoma Heritage Preservation Grant Program workshop (VIRTUAL), Oklahoma History Center, Oklahoma City
- 11 Will's Barter Bash, Will Rogers Memorial Museum, Claremore
- 11 "Historic Skills Expo" Second Saturday Demo, Fort Towson Historic Site, Fort Towson
- 11 Ice Cream Social, Fred and Addie Drummond Home, Hominy
- 11 "Let's Talk About It" Book Discussion Series, Pawnee Bill Ranch and Museum, Pawnee
- 11 "Museum After Dark: Village Sounds" featuring Beau Jennings, Cherokee Strip Regional Heritage Center, Enid
- 14-18 Mayan Art Exhibit, Oklahoma History Center, Oklahoma City
- 15 Oklahoma Historical Society Executive Committee meeting, Oklahoma History Center, Oklahoma City
- 17 Thursday Night Lecture Series featuring Jim Bridenstine, Will Rogers Memorial Museum, Claremore
- 18 *Smithsonian* magazine's Museum Day, Oklahoma History Center, Oklahoma City
- 18 Guatemalan Cultural Celebration, Oklahoma History Center, Oklahoma City
- 18 A Long Walk in the Sun: Mexican-American War Days, Fort Towson Historic Site, Fort Towson
- 18 History Alive! on the Cherokee Strip, Cherokee Strip Regional Heritage Center, Enid
- 18 Family Day at the Museum, Will Rogers Memorial Museum, Claremore
- 18 Pawnee Bill's Wild West Fest, Pawnee Bill Ranch and Museum, Pawnee
- 19 *Votes for Women: A Portrait of Persistence* exhibit closes, Pawnee Bill Ranch and Museum, Pawnee
- 22 *A Very OK Podcast + Brain Box LIVE* crossover event, Oklahoma History Center, Oklahoma City
- 22 Autumnal Equinox Walks, Spiro Mounds Archaeological Center, Spiro
- 23 OKNHD Library Day, Oklahoma History Center, Oklahoma City
- 23 Prairie to Palate outdoor dining experience and fundraiser, Pioneer Woman Museum and Statue, Ponca City
- 24 Movie Night featuring Charlie Chaplin in *The Kid* (1921), Will Rogers Memorial Museum, Claremore
- 30 *From the Collection: American Indian Art and Photographs* exhibit closes, Cherokee Strip Museum and Rose Hill School, Perry
- 30 *Drummond Heirlooms* exhibit closes, Fred and Addie Drummond Home, Hominy

October

- 1 "Life at Hunter's Home: Ghost Stories" begins (VIRTUAL), Hunter's Home, Park Hill
- 1-2 Chuck Wagon Gathering, Chisholm Trail Museum and Horizon Hill, Kingfisher
- 1-2 Doaksville Candlelight Tours, Fort Towson Historic Site, Fort Towson
- 2 History Alive! on the Cherokee Strip, Cherokee Strip Regional Heritage Center, Enid
- 9 *Maps and Mapmaking: Historical Maps of Oklahoma* exhibit closes, Chisholm Trail Museum and Horizon Hill, Kingfisher
- 9 Will's Barter Bash, Will Rogers Memorial Museum, Claremore
- 9 "Crinolines and Separating Buses: Innovations in Women's Fashion in the Early Victorian Era" presentation by Melissa Grice, Cherokee Strip Museum and Rose Hill School, Perry
- 9 Cherokee Strip Regional Heritage Center Annual Gala, Stride Bank Center, Enid
- 15 "Mix'n It Up Under the Stars" Tom Mix fundraiser, Tom Mix Museum, Dewey
- 16 Folklife Festival, Oklahoma History Center, Oklahoma City
- 16 History Alive! on the Cherokee Strip, Cherokee Strip Regional Heritage Center, Enid
- 16 Family Day at the Museum, Will Rogers Memorial Museum, Claremore
- 16 "Let's Talk About It" Book Discussion Series, Pawnee Bill Ranch and Museum, Pawnee
- 16 Archaeology Day, Spiro Mounds Archaeological Center, Spiro
- 20 Oklahoma Historical Society Executive Committee meeting, Oklahoma History Center, Oklahoma City
- 21 Historic Preservation Review Committee meeting, Oklahoma History Center, Oklahoma City
- 22 Oklahoma Heritage Preservation Grant Program online applications due, Oklahoma History Center, Oklahoma City

- 22 Ghost Stories Facebook Live After Dark tour (VIRTUAL), Hunter's Home, Park Hill
- 22 "Museum After Dark: Village Sounds" featuring Riley Jantzen, Cherokee Strip Regional Heritage Center, Enid
- 23 "History Never Dies" Halloween Carnival, Oklahoma Territorial Museum, Guthrie
- 27-30 Research Center Book Sale, Oklahoma History Center, Oklahoma City
- 27 Oklahoma Historical Society Board of Directors meeting, Oklahoma History Center, Oklahoma City
- 29 Movie Night featuring Max Schreck in *Nosferatu* (1922), Will Rogers Memorial Museum, Claremore
- 30 *Crossroads: Change in Rural America* exhibit opens, Fort Gibson Historic Site, Fort Gibson
- 30 Halloween Night at the Museum, Will Rogers Memorial Museum, Claremore
- 30 Family Farm Day, Cherokee Strip Regional Heritage Center, Enid
- 31 "Life at Hunter's Home: Ghost Stories" concludes (VIRTUAL), Hunter's Home, Park Hill



The Battle of Honey Springs film debuts



The film *The Battle of Honey Springs* debuted on August 28 at Honey Springs Battlefield in Checotah. The first-class production depicts the events of July 17, 1863, a date that marks the largest Civil War battle to take place in present-day Oklahoma, then Indian Territory.

The battle took place near Honey Springs in the Muscogee Nation, where Union and Confederate forces battled for control of Indian Territory. Previously enslaved members of the First Kansas Volunteer Infantry Regiment fought against former enslavers and proved themselves to their commanders as they held the center of the line. Ten different American Indian tribes fought in the battle, including members of the Muscogee, Cherokee, Chickasaw, Choctaw, Seminole, Delaware, Kickapoo, Osage, Quapaw, and Seneca tribes.

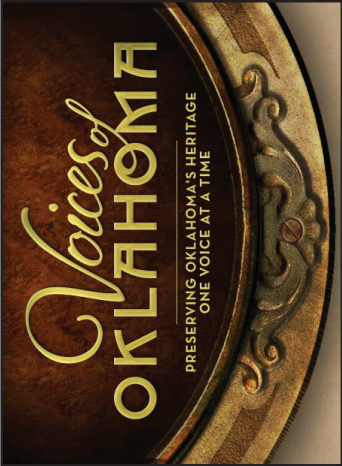
The Battle of Honey Springs is a Pantheon Digital Production, written and directed by Bryan Beasley and produced by Jaime Roman and Jon Roman. The film stars Sidney Flack, Aaron Martin, David Burkhart, TS Akers, Roderick Berko, Tyler Huffman, Warren Gavitt, Jeremy Guana, and Elisha Pratt. The production was made possible by a grant from the Inasmuch Foundation. A shortened version of the film will become part of the experience at the Honey Springs Battlefield Visitor Center beginning later this year.

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PERIODICALS

Oklahoma Historical Society announces partnership with Voices of Oklahoma



The Oklahoma Historical Society (OHS) is pleased to announce that it is partnering with John Erling and his oral history project, Voices of Oklahoma—one of the premier oral history projects in the country. This partnership will ensure Erling’s critical work of enhancing Oklahoma’s historical record continues in perpetuity. The project is available and accessible to a variety of listeners with online content that can be heard on any device.

A Tulsan since 1976 with a background in journalism and radio, John Erling guides the interviews in a professional and heartfelt manner, creating an interesting and engaging final product. Erling has been capturing the fascinating stories of renowned Oklahomans and interesting citizens in their own words through Voices of Oklahoma for more than 12 years. He will continue to interview accomplished Oklahomans and share these stories on www.voicesofoklahoma.com and the *Voices of Oklahoma* podcast.

In partnership with the project, the OHS will create a landing page on its website, www.okhistory.org, for listeners and researchers to readily access the recorded interviews. All interviews previously conducted by Erling will eventually be housed in the OHS Audio and Oral History Archives, and the OHS will continue Erling’s work when he decides to retire.

The debut interview for Voices was with Wilma Mankiller, the first female chief of the Cherokee Nation. Thanks to Erling’s vision, remarkable storytelling continues to be captured for the next generation through this growing audio treasure.



100 Block of Greenwood added to the NRHP



The 100 Block of North Greenwood Avenue, Tulsa

The Oklahoma Historical Society, State Historic Preservation Office is pleased to announce the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP) designation for the 100 Block of North Greenwood Avenue in Tulsa, Tulsa County. The NRHP is our nation’s official list of properties significant in our past.

The 100 Block of North Greenwood Avenue is listed in the NRHP for its significance in Commerce and Ethnic History: Black. This district, also known as “Black Wall Street,” was the economic, cultural, and professional center for Tulsa’s African American community. Shops, restaurants, offices, and other Black-owned and operated enterprises offered essential services and employment. Likewise, the consumption of goods and entertainment within the district attained cultural significance among African Americans and the city of Tulsa as a whole. The 100 Block of North Greenwood Avenue helped provide a foundation for African American community building through the mid-20th century. It remains an important symbol of African American identity, cultural innovation, and free enterprise.

Listing in the NRHP is an honorific designation that provides recognition, limited protection and, in some cases, financial incentives for these important properties.

Notable interviewees include, from left to right, top: Enoch Kelly Haney, Bart Conner, Marilyn Luper, and N. Scott Momaday; middle: David Boren, Jane Jayroe Gamble, Marques Haynes, and Johnny Bench; bottom: Joy Harjo, T. Boone Pickens, Wilma Mankiller, and Ada Lois Sipuel Fisher.