



## Pawnee Bill Ranch to host annual Easter events

On Saturday, April 4, the Pawnee Bill Ranch will host its annual Easter Egg Hunt. The egg hunt is cosponsored by the local Pawnee Lions Club and it will begin promptly at 10 a.m., signaled by Pawnee Bill firing his pistol. The egg hunt attracts hundreds of children and their families and is spread out over many acres of the historic site. Thousands of eggs will be hidden, including prize eggs containing money and vouchers for treats. Pawnee Bill started an egg hunt at his ranch more than one hundred years ago. It is in that tradition that the ranch continues to be a place where families can make memories with their children in a beautiful environment. Kevin Webb, who portrays Pawnee Bill, will offer rides on his horse after the egg hunt is over.

On Sunday, April 5, the Pawnee Bill Ranch will host its annual Sunrise Service and Easter Fundraiser Breakfast. The nondenominational service begins at approximately 6:45 a.m. on Blue Hawk Peak, the highest point on the ranch grounds. The service is led by the Pawnee Ministerial Alliance and is a community-wide tradition. Immediately following the service, the Friends of the Pawnee Bill Ranch Association will serve a breakfast to raise money for ranch programs. The breakfast will include eggs, ham, biscuits, gravy, and a drink for \$5.

The Friends of the Pawnee Bill Ranch Association is a 501(c)3 organization dedicated to the support of the Pawnee Bill Ranch. The ranch association helps support the Wild West Show, ranch maintenance, collections acquisition and care, and much more. Please call 918-762-2513 or email [pawneebill@okhistory.org](mailto:pawneebill@okhistory.org) for more information. The Pawnee Bill Ranch is located on Blue Hawk Peak, one-half mile west of Pawnee on US Highway 64.

## May Day celebration at the Murrell Home

The George M. Murrell Home in Park Hill will host a May Day celebration on Saturday, May 2, from 12 to 4 p.m. Formerly called the Murrell Home Lawn Social, this free event will include dance lessons, croquet and horseshoe tournaments, music, and lawn games. Reenactors in period dress will demonstrate daily life in the mid-1800s at Oklahoma's only remaining antebellum plantation. Bring picnic basket lunches, quilts, and lawn chairs to enjoy a picnic on the lawn from 12 to 1 p.m. Experience activities all afternoon, then stay for the maypole, which will close the event and commemorate the start of the growing season on the plantation. For school groups, the May Day living history education day will be held on Friday, May 1, with two sessions: 9:30–11:30 a.m. and 11:30 a.m.–1:30 p.m.

The Murrell Home is located three miles south of Tahlequah at 19479 East Murrell Home Road in Park Hill. For more information please call 918-456-2751.



## Sewing exhibit on display at Cherokee Strip Museum in Perry

The Cherokee Strip Museum is pleased to announce their newest temporary exhibit, *A Stitch in Time*. The sewing exhibit will be displayed from January 2015 through the end of May 2015. It encompasses several areas of the museum and includes a great variety of objects, such as sewing machines, samplers, hand-stitched quilts, and lace.



The items displayed have been selected from the museum's collection to provide a visual understanding of the importance that sewing had for those people who settled in the Cherokee Outlet.

Depicted in the photograph are two hand-stitched quilts from the sewing exhibit. The quilt on the left is a signature quilt that was pieced and hand-stitched in a wedding ring pattern by Ceres Christian Church Ladies Aid Society in 1937. It was owned by Mrs. C. M. Scott, who lived on a farm in Noble County just north of Ceres, Oklahoma. The quilt on the right is an appliquéd and hand-stitched crib quilt made in the Wild Rose pattern in 1872 for Elta Engle Briscoe.

The Cherokee Strip Museum is located at 2617 West Fir Street in Perry. The museum is open Tuesday through Friday, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., and Saturday, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Admission is \$3 for adults, \$2.50 for seniors age 62 and older, \$1 for children age 6 to 18, and children 5 and under are free. For more information about the museum please call Director Kelly Houston at 580-336-2405 or visit [www.cherokee-strip-museum.org](http://www.cherokee-strip-museum.org).

## Fur Trade Rendezvous at Fort Washita

On April 1–5, Fort Washita in Durant will host a Fur Trade Rendezvous. Experience life on the western frontier at this living history event, which includes instructive programs in customs, survival skills, and lifestyles of the period. Visitors will encounter trappers representing the far northwest mountain areas to the desert southwest, as well as traders with French and Spanish influence. Visit Fort Washita and experience the sights, sounds, and smells of history.

Attendees will travel through the camps where reenactors explain life on the frontier in the early nineteenth century. On April 2 and 3, school groups are invited to bring students for two special "School Days," with no charge for school buses. For others visiting the Rendezvous, there is an entrance fee of \$5 per car. Fort Washita is located at 3348 State Road 199 in Durant. For more information please call 580-924-6502.







## Director's column

**By Dr. Bob L. Blackburn**  
**Executive Director**

At least once a year, we need to slow down, gather with friends, and immerse ourselves in Oklahoma history. That opportunity is coming up at the OHS History Conference, scheduled for April 22, 23, and 24 in Sulphur.

There are many reasons to attend this celebration of Oklahoma history.

First are the people who will be there, including speakers, authors, professors, students, and local history enthusiasts from all parts of the state, including the members of the OHS Board of Directors. The History Conference gives us time to share what we are working on and talk about opportunities to work together.

I have attended every OHS Annual Conference since the format was expanded in 1985, and I have found it to be a great opportunity to build a network of historians who really care about collecting, preserving, and sharing history. Each year, my list of friends grows.

Just as important is the chance to discover something new about Oklahoma history. If there is anything I have learned after completing the PhD, writing books,

and working at the OHS for thirty-six years, it is that I still have much to learn about our state and its people.

This year the planning committee has changed the program format to shorter sessions, with only one speaker and one chairperson per session, so the presentation-hopping that always has been awkward can be avoided. I have seen the list of speakers and the choices still will be difficult.

The tours provide another unique way to learn more about Oklahoma history. We will have tour guides who know local stories, whether it is in the town of Sulphur or on the way to the Chickasaw Cultural Center. Tours are a good way to connect the dots of what we have read and what we can see and experience.

Another reason to go this year is the celebration of our long-standing partnership with the Chickasaw Nation.

Since the 1990s, just as Oklahoma tribes were regaining powers of self-governance, we found a way to reach out to the Chickasaw Nation as an equal partner with a shared mission. Since those early agreements, we have worked with Governor Anoatubby and his staff on a number of projects, from museum collections and exhibits to banquets and archival preservation.

Governor Anoatubby will present the keynote address and join me at a special reception to toast the spirit of a partnership that is based on mutual respect and a shared sense of community. You should take this chance to meet a man who will go down in history as a great leader.

Yes, at least once a year we need to slow down, gather with friends, and immerse ourselves in Oklahoma history. I hope to see you at the OHS History Conference in Sulphur.

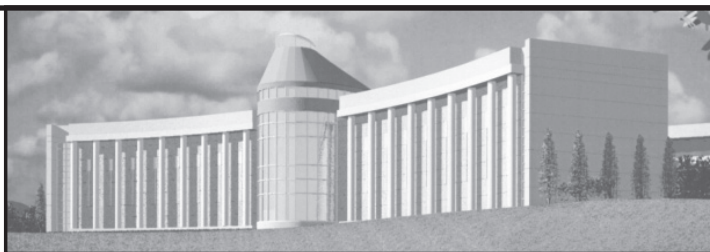
*Dr. Bob*

## Development News

By Larry O'Dell

I want to encourage readers to take advantage of your OHS membership and attend the annual Oklahoma History Conference. The event allows members to hear some of the recent scholarship about our state. The theme this year is "Land, Wood, and Water: Natural Resources in the Course of Oklahoma History." There will be some outstanding presentations by researchers, including Bob Burke, Jonita Mullins, Linda Reese, Kathy Dickson, Nathan Turner, Mike Larsen, and Larry C. Floyd. A few of the eighteen topics are Fords and Ferries, Hochatown, Steamboat *Heroine*, the 1834 Dragoon Expedition, and the Jefferson Highway. A full schedule can be found in the March issue of *Mistletoe Leaves* and on the OHS website.

There are other benefits to joining us at the conference. Attendees can take bus tours through the Chickasaw National Recreation Area and to the Bedré Chocolate Factory. The music of Lowell Fulson, Wayne Bennett, Kay Starr, and others will be featured in a concert at the Chickasaw Cultural Center. A nice evening reception and an awards luncheon are also on the schedule. You can learn more and obtain the registration form online at [www.okhistory.org/about/conference](http://www.okhistory.org/about/conference).



## New Members, February 2015

\*Indicates renewed memberships at a higher level

### Director's Circle

Phil and Avis Scaramucci, Oklahoma City

### Fellow

\*Carmen Richardson, Edmond

### Associate

\*Ken and Barb Buettner, Edmond

### Friend

\*Stephen Adelson, Tulsa  
\*Karl and Jimmie Bergey, Norman  
\*Chris and Patty Hoag, Quinton  
Randy Hogan, Oklahoma City  
\*Keith and Elaine McKee, Edmond  
\*Bill and Kathleen Settle, Muskogee  
Glenn Smallwood Jr., Cape Girardeau, MO  
\*Boyd and Gay Tudor, Edmond  
\*Charles and Kathryn Woltz, Norman

### Family

Carol Beesley, Norman  
C. Lynn Bullard, Shady Pointe  
Anita Chisholm, Oklahoma City  
Thomas Cowger, Ada  
\*Frank Davis, Guthrie  
Terry and Cheryl England, Oklahoma City  
Howard and Peggy Ferrell, Edmond  
Stephen Geries, Yukon  
\*Margret Hall and Mary Myers, Oklahoma City  
\*Eugene Jones, Oklahoma City  
\*Robert Key, Mustang  
\*Alan Livingston, Houston, TX  
Gary and Judith Marrs, Oklahoma City  
Michael Riley, Poteau  
\*Allison Shroff and Amanda Djukic, Claremore  
Michael and Suzanne Wallis, Tulsa  
Ed and Nancy Ward, Moore  
Jo Ann White and Anna Blair, Oklahoma City

### Individual

Sam Adams, Ada  
Dayna Allen, Atoka  
Tawny Baker, Idabel  
Shelby Barnett, Skiatook  
Sharon Bellew, Stratford  
Tim Brewer, Talihina  
Kati Cain, Ada  
Amber Conley, Collinsville  
Carl Cummings, Owasso  
Carolyn Cuskey, Midwest City  
Krisann Diaz, Sapulpa

cont'd. on p. 7

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

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

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

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# AROUND OKLAHOMA

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## Meetings

Members and nonmembers are invited to attend the monthly meeting of the Choctaw County Genealogical Society on Monday, April 6, from 6:30 to 8 p.m. in **Hugo**. Learn about genealogy research, with helpful information for everyone from the beginner to the seasoned researcher. The Choctaw County Genealogical Society is a nonprofit organization dedicated to the collection and preservation of genealogical and historical information of Choctaw County. Meetings are held on the first Monday of each month in the Heritage Room at the Choctaw County Public Library located at 703 East Jackson Street in Hugo. For more information please email [choctawcountyokgensoc@live.com](mailto:choctawcountyokgensoc@live.com).

Join the Oklahoma Postal History Society for its monthly meeting on Tuesday, April 14, from 7 to 9 p.m., at St. Luke's United Methodist Church in **Oklahoma City**. This month's meeting will include the Postal History Society's first member postal auction. Members and guests can bid on postcards and envelopes with postmarks that largely come from Oklahoma and Indian Territory. The public is encouraged to attend. The Oklahoma Postal History Society holds regular meetings on the second Tuesday of each month at St. Luke's United Methodist Church at Northwest Fifteenth Street and Harvey Avenue. For more information please contact Joe Crosby at [jocrosby@cox.net](mailto:jocrosby@cox.net) or 405-990-2389.

The public is invited to join the Noble County Genealogy Society for a meeting on Saturday, April 18, at 10 a.m. in **Perry**. Mary Jo Parker, a new member, will give a special presentation on the history of the Chisholm Trail. The meeting will be held at the Cherokee Strip Museum at 2617 West Fir Street in Perry. Please contact President Virginia Slay with questions at 580-336-9221.

## Events

Experience the weeklong Cimarron Territorial Celebration in **Beaver** from Saturday, April 11, through Saturday, April 18. Enjoy activities commemorating the pioneers of the Oklahoma Panhandle, including a carnival, craft show, parade, children's activities, Wild West shootout, musical entertainment, cow chip throwing contests, and festival food vendors. The cow chip throwing tournament celebrates the early traditions of frontier

pioneers in Oklahoma. Bitter winters in the open plains found these early settlers in desperate need of fuel. They soon realized that dried cow chips could be burned for fuel and heat. When dry, the chips emitted no odor, gave a clear and bright flame, burned with intense heat, and produced no soot. In the fall, settlers would take their entire family to the pastures to load up cow chips for the winter, each attempting to throw the chips into the wagon with the most accuracy. Attendees to this free event certainly will have a unique experience. The Cimarron Territorial Celebration not only has garnered national attention, but also keeps a pioneer tradition alive. All activities will be held at the Beaver County Fairgrounds located at 1107 Douglas Avenue in Beaver. Please call 580-625-4726 for more information.

Celebrate American Indian culture and more than one hundred years of higher education at Northeastern State University's forty-third annual Symposium on the American Indian in **Tahlequah**. The symposium will be held from Tuesday, April 14, to Saturday, April 18, on the campus of Northeastern State University. Attendees will enjoy cultural presentations, workshops on American Indian traditions, stickball demonstrations, traditional art vendors, an ongoing film series, and a powwow featuring traditional tribal dancing. The symposium brings renowned scholars and tribal traditionalists together in a university venue to educate and offer discourse in sovereignty, scholarship, creative works, tribal issues, and cultural diversity. All events of the symposium are free and open to the public. Northeastern State University is located at 600 North Grand Avenue in Tahlequah. Please call 918-444-4351 for more information.

Visit the Oklahoma City National Memorial and Museum in downtown **Oklahoma City** to remember those who were killed, those who survived, and those changed forever by the April 19, 1995, bombing of the Alfred P. Murrah Federal Building in Oklahoma City. This year commemorates twenty years since the bombing of the Murrah Federal Building. The ceremony begins at 8:55 a.m. on Sunday, April 19. Join state and local dignitaries, family members, survivors, and rescue workers for the Day of Remembrance at the Oklahoma City National Memorial and Museum. Music, 168 seconds of silence, and a reading of the 168 names will be a part of the ceremony. The public is invited to this event, which is held on the grounds of the Outdoor Symbolic Memorial at 620

North Harvey Avenue. Admission to the National Memorial and Museum is free on April 19. Please call 405-235-3313 for more information.

Head to the Land Run Festival in **Choctaw** on Thursday, April 23, and Friday, April 24, from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. Celebrate the Oklahoma Land Run of April 22, 1889, at this educational event. Planned activities specifically tailored to school children include historical presentations, reenactors, cowboy and cavalry encampments, a jailhouse, mock gun fights, and old-fashioned games. The east boundary of the 1889 Land Run was the Indian Meridian, known today as Indian Meridian Road that runs through Choctaw. Enjoy American Indian fancy dancers, traditional cowboy camps, gun fights, and a land run reenactment at this free event. Food and merchandise vendors will be on site. The festival will be held at the Choctaw Creek Park at 2001 North Harper Road in Choctaw. For more information please call 405-390-8198.

The Jefferson Highway Association will hold its annual conference in **Muskogee** from Thursday, April 30, through Saturday, May 2. This event will mark the centennial year of the highway and the association that was organized in 1915 to build an early north-south interstate between New Orleans, Louisiana, and Winnipeg, Manitoba, Canada. The Three Rivers Museum in Muskogee will act as host for the recently revitalized association. Conference attendees will be able to interact with presenters on topics related to the conference theme, "The Jefferson Highway through the Indian Nations." Along with presentations, the conference features trolley tours, a film screening, concert, and classic car parade. For a schedule and registration information please visit [www.jeffersonhighway.org](http://www.jeffersonhighway.org) or call 641-377-2248 or 918-682-0312.

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



## ***The Highway Patrol: Regulating Route 66 and Oklahoma's Highways* exhibit reception**

On the evening of Thursday, May 7, the Oklahoma Route 66 Museum will be hosting an event from 5 to 7 p.m. celebrating the storied history of the Oklahoma Highway Patrol (OHP) in conjunction with the museum's current temporary exhibit, *The Highway Patrol: Regulating Route 66 and Oklahoma's Highways*.

Born in the summer of 1937, the Oklahoma Highway Patrol made a swift and decisive impact on the poor driving habits and lawlessness plaguing Oklahoma's roads and highways. The formidable first years of the OHP's presence in Oklahoma were defined by diligent law enforcement, educating the public, and acting as a model organization for state police forces nationwide. In the seventy-eight years since, OHP troopers have continued to carry on the legacy of the first academy of patrolmen by making Oklahoma a safer place for all its citizens.

The event will feature notable speakers from across the state, including Dr. Bob Blackburn, executive director of the Oklahoma Historical Society, speaking on the history of the OHP. A citation from State Representative Harold Wright and State Senator Mike Schulz will be presented to the OHP, and the evening will conclude with remarks from Commissioner of Public Safety Michael C. Thompson and OHP Chief Rick Adams.

Refreshments will be served, and the museum would like to encourage all state and local law enforcement, first responders, and everyone interested in the history of the Oklahoma Highway Patrol to attend this incredible event.

This special exhibit can be viewed at the Oklahoma Route 66 Museum in Clinton, Monday through Saturday, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., and Sundays, 1 to 5 p.m., through the month of April. Beginning in May, the museum will be open Monday through Saturday, 9 a.m. to 7 p.m., and Sundays, 1 to 6 p.m. The museum is located at 2229 West Gary Boulevard in Clinton. For additional information, please contact Director Pat Smith at 580-323-7866 or email [rt66mus@okhistory.org](mailto:rt66mus@okhistory.org).



**Photo from July 1937 of the newly formed Oklahoma Highway Patrol parading their 1937 Fords in front of the State Capitol (2012.201.B0259.0074, OPUBCO Collection, OHS Research Division).**



## **Oklahoma authors exhibit in Tulsa's Brady Arts District**

The Oklahoma Center for Poets and Writers at Oklahoma State University-Tulsa and the Oklahoma History Center present the exhibit *Oklahoma Writers: A Literary Tableau* from March 6 to April 16 in downtown Tulsa.

This six-week event will showcase Oklahoma's rich literary tradition by introducing participants to some of the state's most accomplished authors. It will feature exhibits at numerous venues, most in downtown Tulsa's Brady Arts District.

One exhibit will feature the legendary Jim Thompson, an Anadarko, Oklahoma, native and author of *The Killer Inside Me*. There will also be items on display such as the leather-bound copy of *Where the Heart Is* that Oprah Winfrey had made for author Billie Letts.

Exhibit locations include the Arts and Humanities Council of Tulsa Hardesty Arts Center, the Henry Zarrow Center for Art and Education, Philbrook Downtown, the Greenwood Cultural Center, the Tulsa Historical Society, and the Woody Guthrie Center. This event is funded by the Kirkpatrick Foundation in Oklahoma City. For more information please contact Sean Kennedy, marketing and communications services, Oklahoma State University-Tulsa, at 918-594-8360.

## **NTHP president to speak at preservation conference**

One of the nation's leading preservationists, Stephanie K. Meeks, president of the National Trust for Historic Preservation (NTHP), will present "The Future of the Past: Reconceiving Historic Preservation for the Twenty-First Century" in the opening plenary session for Tradition and Transition: Oklahoma's 27th Annual Statewide Preservation Conference. It will be held June 3-5 in Bartlesville.

Meeks has been the president and chief executive officer of the NTHP since July 2010. Under her leadership, the organization has developed an ambitious strategic plan designed to refocus direct action on saving imperiled places, engage new audiences in preservation, and increase the organization's impact by a factor of ten. The NTHP is working to bring a more diverse and younger group of Americans into the preservation movement and support their efforts in their communities and across the nation. It also has launched an effort to highlight the critical connection between older buildings and vibrant cities, and spearheaded research reflecting the benefits of historic preservation in today's urban areas.

Before joining the NTHP, Meeks held several senior executive positions with the Nature Conservancy; served as director of RARE, a US-based conservation group that uses social marketing to address environmental challenges in communities around the world; and currently serves as vice chair of the Board of the Potomac Conservancy. She holds a BA in English from the University of Colorado and an MBA from George Washington University.

Full conference program and registration information for Oklahoma's 27th Annual Statewide Preservation Conference will be available in late April. For more details, contact Melvena Heisch at [mheisch@okhistory.org](mailto:mheisch@okhistory.org) or 405-522-4484. You also can visit the SHPO's conference website at [www.okhistory.org/shpo/conference.htm](http://www.okhistory.org/shpo/conference.htm).



**Stephanie K. Meeks, president and chief executive officer of the National Trust for Historic Preservation.**



## Cherokee Strip Regional Heritage Center to host upcoming exhibits and events

The Cherokee Strip Regional Heritage Center (CSRHC) in Enid will host new museum exhibits and events in the coming months.

From Wednesday, April 1, through Saturday, April 18, the CSRHC will roll out the red carpet for the winners of the Red Dirt BBQ student art competition with a delightful exhibit of multimedia art from area students. Do not miss the unique *Red Dirt BBQ Student Art Winners* exhibit.

On Wednesday, April 8, at noon, the Brown Bag Lunch and Learn program will feature a presentation entitled “Lebanese in the Cherokee Strip” by Dr. Jay Price from Wichita State University. The Lunch and Learn is free, open to the public, and will be held in the Humphrey Village Church on the CSRHC property. Each month features a new topic, with Lunch and Learn lectures held at noon on the second Wednesday of each month.

From Friday, May 1, until Saturday, August 15, an exhibit entitled *Grant County: From Stockade to Strip, 1865–1895* will be on display at the CSRHC. This exhibit provides a closer look at commerce in the Cherokee Strip and the important part Grant County has played in the settlement of northwest Oklahoma. From cattle trails to the land run, Grant County has played a key role in shaping Oklahoma and the United States. This exhibit was made possible through a generous gift from the James C. and Teresa K. Day Foundation.

On Friday, May 8, from 5 to 9 p.m., the CSRHC will host a Frontier Festival and Dance. Experience what life was like in 1893 as attendees celebrate the



largest land run in American history with a carnival, town social, live music, and dancing. The Humphrey Heritage Village will be transformed into a makeshift frontier town, with living history demonstrations and hands-on activities. Humphrey Heritage Village is home to four authentic historical buildings, including the only remaining 1893 United States Land Office, a 1902 village church, an 1895 one-room country school, and a 1905 Victorian home featuring the family belongings of J. W. and Alice Glidewell. The town social, supper, and carnival games begin at 5 p.m. The Prairie County Avengers band will play for a called dance at 7 p.m. Tickets are \$5 per person, or \$15 for a ticket that includes a fried chicken box supper.

The Cherokee Strip Regional Heritage Center is located at 507 South Fourth Street in Enid. Regular museum hours are Tuesday through Saturday from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. On days the museum is open, the Humphrey Heritage Village is open for tours at 11:30 a.m., 1:30 p.m., and 3 p.m. For more information, please call 580-237-1907, email [csrhcinfo@okhistory.org](mailto:csrhcinfo@okhistory.org), or visit [www.csrhc.org](http://www.csrhc.org).

## Updated *Encyclopedia of Oklahoma History and Culture* online

The OHS launched an updated version of the popular *Encyclopedia of Oklahoma History and Culture* on its website. The internet resource is accessible at [www.okhistory.org](http://www.okhistory.org), by clicking “Encyclopedia” on the Publications page. Nearly 1,000 of the 2,466 original encyclopedia articles have been updated, and several hundred more will be prepared and added. The encyclopedia joins the OHS’s ever-increasing set of online research resources for historians, genealogists, students, teachers, and the public.

According to Dr. Dianna Everett, editor and project manager since 1998, the encyclopedia is a reference work produced between 1999 and 2009 with funding from the OHS and the National Endowment for the Humanities (NEH). “NEH promoted a nationwide effort to produce fifty state encyclopedias, and Oklahoma was the sixth state to be funded and to release its book. Four OHS staff historians and 550 scholars at universities and other historical societies produced the research and writing. The book, in two volumes, was published in 2009. It’s still available for purchase,” Everett said.

The new website “will make the online encyclopedia much more attractive and more useable,” Everett added. “While visitors are reading encyclopedia articles at OHS online, other online resources are just a click away. Each encyclopedia article includes a bibliography, and almost all the bibliographies refer the reader to resources like digitized newspapers at the Gateway to Oklahoma History, the National Register of Historic Places, and the Indian history and genealogy documents on the OHS Research Center’s web pages.” To view the encyclopedia online, visit [www.okhistory.org/publications/encyclopediaonline](http://www.okhistory.org/publications/encyclopediaonline).

## Museum Store News

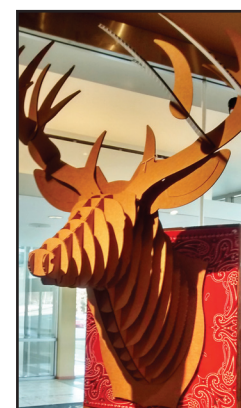
by Jera Winters

Spring has sprung at the Oklahoma History Center Museum Store. We are celebrating the change in seasons with all new products that highlight the diversity of animals in Oklahoma.

Cardboard Safari is an American company that creates interesting sculptures and art out of ecologically-sound cardboard. Whether decorating your own space or giving as a gift, these quirky pieces of art celebrate Oklahoma wildlife with bison, deer, and wreaths of leaves. Easy and fun to put together, these pieces of art are sure to be a hit.

Folkmanis Puppets are well-known throughout the country for their quality puppets. This American company makes many of the Oklahoma animals we know and love come to life with a little help. Well-constructed and imaginative, these puppets are a great choice for the creative person in your life.

Call or stop by for these and many other unique items that reflect the rich diversity of life in Oklahoma. As always, members receive a 15 percent discount on Museum Store purchases. Please contact us at 405-522-5214 with questions about these or any of our other great items.





## Oklahoma Century Chest exhibit now open in Stilwell

A new exhibit of materials from the Oklahoma Century Chest recently opened in Stilwell at the Stilwell Kansas City Southern Depot. The Adair County exhibit opened February 4, 2015, with an event that included a personal address by Jerry Peterson, the current minister of the First Lutheran Church in Oklahoma City, where the Century Chest was buried. The exhibit features several authentic photographs and documents, and film footage of the time capsule's unearthing. Additionally, the exhibit displays historic photographs of Adair County communities taken at approximately the same time as the Century Chest burial in 1913.

"The Oklahoma Historical Society is extremely pleased to bring the story of the Oklahoma Century Chest to Adair County," said Chad Williams, director of research at the OHS. On February 4, Williams traveled to Stilwell, Oklahoma, to join with the volunteers of the Adair County Historical and Genealogical Association (ACH&GA) and the Stilwell Chamber of Commerce in the official opening of the Century Chest exhibit.

More than one hundred years ago, the members of the First English Lutheran Church of Oklahoma City buried a time capsule to tell the story of Oklahoma from 1889–1913. Through a century of diligent supervision, the congregation guarded the artifacts, making possible the opening of the time capsule on April 22, 2013. The Oklahoma Century Chest revealed a collection of manuscripts, books, photographs, maps, clothing, Indian artifacts, sound recordings, and other items, all in pristine condition.

In October 2014 the ACH&GA partnered with the Oklahoma Historical Society to create an exhibit about the time capsule. Stilwell holds the honor of being the first city in Oklahoma to participate in a Century Chest exhibit partnership with the OHS.

Jan Lockard, president of ACH&GA, said, "We urge all county residents to take advantage of this unique opportunity to view the artifacts these Oklahoma pioneers placed in the time capsule." The exhibit is open at the depot Monday through Thursday, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Reproductions of one-of-a-kind items from the chest are available for purchase along with other historic Oklahoma maps and photographs. For additional details or to schedule a group tour, call the office of ACH&GA at 918-696-2535. More information about the Century Chest can be found at [www.okhistory.org/centurychest](http://www.okhistory.org/centurychest) or by contacting OHS Director of Research Chad Williams at 405-522-5207 or [chadw@okhistory.org](mailto:chadw@okhistory.org).

## SHPO announces May workshops

The State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO) is pleased to announce its May workshop series. The sessions will be held Wednesday, May 6, through Friday, May 8, in the third floor Presentation Room of Tulsa City Hall. City Hall is located at 175 East Second Street in Tulsa. Parking is available in the pay lot at the corner of Second Street and Cincinnati Avenue.

The workshops are free and open to the public, but we ask that you register by Wednesday, April 29, at 5 p.m. Space is limited and will be available on a first-come basis. To register, contact Betty Harris at 405-521-6249 or [bharris@okhistory.org](mailto:bharris@okhistory.org). You may also register online at [www.okhistory.org/shpo/workshops.php](http://www.okhistory.org/shpo/workshops.php).

Design professionals who attend the workshops will qualify for HSW hours needed to fulfill requirements of the State of Oklahoma's Board of Governors of Licensed Architects, Landscape Architects, and Interior Designers. A certificate of attendance will be mailed to participants after the workshops, then attendance must be self-reported to the board. The workshop schedule and descriptions are listed below. If you have questions about any of the workshops, contact Melvena Heisch, deputy SHPO, at 405-522-4484 or [mheisch@okhistory.org](mailto:mheisch@okhistory.org).

**The Section 106 Review Process: Introduction and Overview**, Wednesday, May 6, 9:30 a.m.–noon, presented by Cate Wood, historical archaeologist/Section 106 coordinator

This half-day workshop provides the basics about Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act and how the process works in Oklahoma. Specific topics include who is responsible for Section 106 compliance, when does Section 106 apply, what is the SHPO's role in the process, what other agencies are involved, what is a historic property, and what happens when a project will affect a historic property. This workshop is designed as a stand-alone session and as a companion to Determination of Eligibility Under Section 106. Participants should also consider attending The Secretary's Standards and Guidelines for Rehabilitating Historic Buildings.

**Determination of Eligibility Under Section 106**, Wednesday, May 6, 1:30–4:30 p.m., presented by Lynda Ozan, architectural historian/National Register coordinator

This session provides a step-by-step description of how to document standing structures for the SHPO's review. Specific topics include a discussion of the National Register of Historic Places Criteria for Evaluation, how to complete the Historic Preservation Resource Identification Form, photograph requirements, what a determination of eligibility means, how differences of opinion about eligibility are resolved, and when consultants may be helpful to agencies in preparing documentation for the Section 106 process. This session is designed as a stand-alone workshop or as a companion to The Section 106 Review Process. Participants should also consider attending The Secretary's Standards and Guidelines for Rehabilitating Historic Buildings.

**Working with the National Register of Historic Places**, Thursday, May 7, 9:30 a.m.–4:30 p.m., presented by Lynda Ozan, architectural historian/National Register coordinator

The National Register of Historic Places is the foundation of the SHPO's programs, and a basic understanding of the register is essential for those involved in historic preservation at all levels of government and in the private sector. This workshop provides detailed information about the National Register criteria, what listing means, the rights of property owners in the nomination process, tips for preparing successful nominations, and much more.

**Federal and State Tax Incentives for Rehabilitating Historic Buildings**, Friday, May 8, 9:30 a.m.–noon, presented by Harry Simms, historic preservation architect

In this workshop, participants will learn about the federal and state investment tax credits for certified rehabilitation of a certified historic structure. A detailed discussion of the Historic Preservation Certification Application, Parts 1, 2, and 3, will guide owners and developers in successfully preparing the information needed for the State Historic Preservation Office to review the project and for the National Park Service to certify it. This session is designed as a stand-alone workshop or as a companion to the Secretary's Standards and Guidelines for Rehabilitating Historic Buildings.

**The Secretary's Standards and Guidelines for Rehabilitating Historic Buildings**, Friday, May 8, 1:30–4:30 p.m., presented by Harry Simms, historic preservation architect

This half-day workshop features a thorough discussion of the Secretary of the Interior's Standards and Guidelines for Rehabilitation. Generally referred to as The Standards, these commonsense principles are widely used in the historic preservation field. Whether you are involved in a rehabilitation project for the 20 percent federal and 20 percent state tax credits, planning a rehabilitation project funded with federal assistance, serving on a local historic preservation commission, or just wanting to know the best approach to rehabilitate your historic private home, you will find this session invaluable. It is designed as a stand-alone workshop and as a companion to Federal and State Tax Incentives for Rehabilitating Historic Buildings.

## New Members, cont'd.

### Individual

Norman Doctorman, Kaw City  
Joe Dorman, Rush Springs  
Ivory Grayson, Oklahoma City  
Megan Hamby, Sapulpa  
Debra Hitchye, Muskogee  
Jackie Hunsucker, Ponca City  
Jordan Perceful, Muskogee  
Janet Ramsey, Ardmore  
Gracie Rice, Tulsa  
J. D. Scott, Oklahoma City  
Lisa Wallis, Union City  
Alan Wika, Claremore  
Alfred Wilder, Okmulgee  
Marsha York, Okmulgee

### Organizational

Albion Public School, Albion  
Blackwell Public Library, Blackwell  
Clayton Library, Houston, TX  
Southwestern Urban Foundation, Oklahoma City

## Twenty-year members renew in February

Listed below, with the date they joined the OHS, are people and organizations that, when they renewed their memberships in February, have been members twenty or more years. Their long-term loyalty is most sincerely appreciated!

Jerry Anduss, Piedmont, February 17, 1970  
Barbara Kinzer, Jenks, January 1, 1971  
Bill and Kathleen Settle, Muskogee, February 1, 1973  
Shirley Rider, Adair, February 1, 1974  
Kenny and Diane Brown, Edmond, May 1, 1976  
Harvey Yost, Stillwater, February 1, 1977  
Eugene Baade, Renton, WA, January 1, 1978  
Allen and Linda Hicks, Kenefic, May 1, 1980  
Floyd Stephens, Bixby, January 2, 1981  
Richard Mullins, Edmond, January 2, 1982  
Mary Jane Warde, Stillwater, January 2, 1984  
Frank and Loreece Dennis, Oklahoma City, February 1, 1984  
Evelyn Hart, Weatherford, May 1, 1985  
Kenneth Corder, Edmond, February 1, 1986  
Museum of the Red River, Idabel, February 6, 1986

Tim Morgan, Norman, November 4, 1986  
Michael Tower, Cortez, CO, December 29, 1986  
Eva Gerard, Denison, TX, February 9, 1987  
John Heisch, Oklahoma City, January 31, 1989  
Southern Prairie Library, Altus, October 16, 1989  
Lloyd Noble, Tulsa, December 26, 1989  
Greer County Genealogical and Historical Society, Mangum, February 23, 1990  
Mike and Darla Terry, Enid, February 23, 1990  
I N C O G, Tulsa, September 18, 1991  
Alan Livingston, Houston, TX, November 9, 1991  
Jay Wagoner, Tucson, AZ, February 5, 1992  
Jewel Lynch, Oklahoma City, February 22, 1993  
Santa Fe High School Media Center, Edmond, September 7, 1993  
Mary Alice Foster, Stillwater, February 22, 1994

## Round two National Register nomination grant applications available

The State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO) is now accepting applications for round two of its annual matching grants to state, local, and tribal governments and nonprofit organizations for the preparation of National Register of Historic Places (NRHP) nominations. The SHPO reserved \$10,000 of its FY 2015 Historic Preservation Fund (HPF) allocation from the US Department of the Interior for these grants. The deadline for round two applications is Wednesday, June 3, at 5 p.m.

Each grant is limited to \$1,000, and the applicant must provide a nonfederal, cash match of at least \$700. Grant recipients will use the funds to retain an appropriately qualified professional to complete an individual property nomination for the NRHP.

The NRHP is the catalog of our nation's significant buildings, structures, sites, districts, objects, and landscapes. While listing in the NRHP is not a guarantee of preservation or financial assistance, it is one of the most important components of the preservation strategy for any significant property. The designation provides increased public awareness of these irreplaceable resources, provides limited protection for them, qualifies property owners for federal tax credits under certain circumstances, and may qualify the property owner for grant assistance when such programs are funded.

To obtain a NRHP nomination grant application, please visit [www.okhistory.org/shpo/nrgrant.htm](http://www.okhistory.org/shpo/nrgrant.htm). Applications also may be obtained from the SHPO by calling 405-521-6249.

## Oklahoma History Center to host classes

The Oklahoma History Center in Oklahoma City will host two classes in April. The Education Department invites individuals to learn a new skill with upcoming hands-on classes, including Southeastern Beadwork I and Dutch Oven Cooking.

On Saturday, April 11, from 10 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., the History Center will host a Southeastern-style beadwork class with Martha Berry, a nationally known beadwork artist. During the class, participants will create a traditional Cherokee purse. The registration fee of \$100 includes all necessary materials, one-on-one instruction, and lunch. The class is intended for participants eighteen years and older and pre-registration is required. To allow for one-on-one instruction, the class size is limited to fifteen students. For more information about instructor Martha Berry, please visit [www.berrybeadwork.com](http://www.berrybeadwork.com).



**Luann Waters demonstrates cooking with a Dutch oven.**

[berrybeadwork.com](http://www.berrybeadwork.com).

On Saturday, April 25, from 1 to 5 p.m., experience a participatory class and learn to cook in a Dutch oven. Teens and adults will learn various cooking methods, discover new recipes, and create a dish to share with the group. Cost for the class is \$15 and all necessary materials will be provided. The class will begin with background information in a classroom setting, but the majority of the class will take place outdoors. Please remember to dress for the weather and no open-toed shoes or sandals are permitted.

Please call 405-522-3602 or email [education@okhistory.org](mailto:education@okhistory.org) with questions or to register for a class.

## Adventure Road highlights selected destinations along the I-35 Super-Corridor

The Oklahoma History Center is pleased to announce its participation in Adventure Road, a marketing initiative to expand tourism efforts in Oklahoma. Adventure Road will unite the tourism assets of the Chickasaw Nation with those of Oklahoma City and other select destinations situated on or near the booming I-35 corridor.

Adventure Road will present a comprehensive, multimedia campaign beginning in March and continuing through the August peak travel season in Oklahoma, Texas, and Kansas. Promotion efforts will include Oklahoma City, Sherman/Ada/Ardmore, Wichita Falls/Lawton, Dallas-Fort Worth, Waco, Austin, San Antonio, Amarillo, and Wichita.

Between online, television, and cable, the Adventure Road initiative will generate more than 230 million advertising impressions in 2015. This comprehensive marketing effort, plus the extensive network of cross-promoting partners, should result in increased awareness and business throughout the super-corridor.

The Oklahoma History Center is located at 800 Nazih Zuhdi Drive in Oklahoma City. For more information about the History Center's participation in Adventure Road, please contact Steve Hawkins at 405-522-0754 or [shawkins@okhistory.org](mailto:shawkins@okhistory.org).





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

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

PERIODICALS

 Smithsonian Affiliations  
Membership Program

### April events at a glance

- 1-31** *A Stitch in Time* exhibit, Cherokee Strip Museum, Perry
- 1-18** *Red Dirt BBQ Student Art Winners* exhibit, Cherokee Strip Regional Heritage Center, Enid
- 1-5** Fur Trade Rendezvous, Fort Washita, Durant
- 4** Annual Easter Egg Hunt, Pawnee Bill Ranch, Pawnee
- 5** Easter Sunrise Service and Friends of the Pawnee Bill Ranch Association Easter Breakfast Fundraiser, Pawnee Bill Ranch, Pawnee
- 8** Brown Bag Lunch and Learn program, Cherokee Strip Regional Heritage Center, Enid
- 11** Quilting workshop, Sod House Museum, Aline
- 11** Southeastern Beadwork I class, Oklahoma History Center, Oklahoma City
- 14** Brown Bag Craft, Pioneer Woman Museum, Ponca City
- 16** Historic Preservation Review Committee meeting, Oklahoma History Center, Oklahoma City
- 17** “Collecting Oral Histories” workshop, Pioneer Woman Museum, Ponca City
- 18** Third Saturday living history program, George M. Murrell Home, Park Hill
- 18** Tatting lace making workshop, Chisholm Trail Museum, Kingfisher
- 22-24** Oklahoma History Conference, Artesian Hotel, Sulphur
- 25** Victorian hat making class, Pioneer Woman Museum, Ponca City
- 25** Dutch oven cooking class, Oklahoma History Center, Oklahoma City
- 28** National Youth Summit: War on Poverty, Oklahoma History Center, Oklahoma City

# Mistletoe Leaves

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## “Music of South Central Oklahoma” concert

On Thursday, April 23, during the 2015 Oklahoma History Conference, the Oklahoma Museum of Popular Culture (OKPOP) will present a concert titled “Music of South Central Oklahoma.” The music of Kay Starr, Lowell Fulson, Wayne Bennett, and Gene Autry will be featured. Walter Taylor and his Taylormade Band will play the music of Bennett and Fulson. Dr. Greg White and some actors from his new musical on Kay Starr will provide Starr’s signature songs.

Lowell Fulson, raised in Ada, Oklahoma, met bluesman Texas Alexander in Ada and played with him regionally in 1940 and 1941. After World War II Fulson migrated to California and helped develop the “Uptown Blues,” a style of blues that added a horn section. He had hits with “Every Day I Have the Blues,” “Reconsider Baby,” “Three O’Clock Blues,” and several more.

Blues and jazz guitarist Wayne Bennett of Sulphur, Oklahoma, collaborated with Buddy Guy, John Lee Hooker, and Willy DeVille. Bennett also influenced Duane Allman. Bennett’s best known work was with Tennessee’s Bobby “Blue” Bland. The guitarist is featured on the recordings of “Stormy Monday Blues” and “Turn on Your Love Light.”

Born Kathryn LaVerne Starks in Dougherty, Oklahoma, Kay Starr changed her name when she starred on WREC radio’s Saturday Night Jamboree. She became a huge success in the 1940s and 1950s, with hits such as “Wheel of Fortune” and “Rock and Roll Waltz.”

Like Will Rogers, Gene Autry was a megastar who had his own radio show, scored big hits with his recordings, and was a big draw in movies. He owned a ranch near Berwyn, Oklahoma, in Carter County. The town changed its name to Gene Autry in November 1941.

The “Music of South Central Oklahoma” concert will be held at the Chickasaw Cultural Center’s Anoli’ Theater at 867 Charles Cooper Memorial Road in Sulphur. Tickets to the concert are \$10. The show begins and 7:30 p.m. and popcorn and soft drinks will be provided.



**Gene Autry singing in Tulsa in 1941  
(21412.B36.N6, Barney Hillerman Collection,  
OHS Research Division).**



**Lowell Fulson  
(photo courtesy of Hugh Foley).**