



Mistletoe Leaves



Vol. 38, No. 12

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December 2007

Have a Centennial Year Holiday Season at OHS sites and museums

Pawnee Bill Ranch and Museum's Christmas Open House will be on **December 6**. Come and visit the museum and enjoy refreshments while visiting with Santa, who will be making a special appearance. Then view Pawnee Bill's 1910 mansion, decorated for the Holiday Season during the entire month of December. If you are unable to attend the Open House, come out anytime in December for a free guided tour of the mansion. Contact Historical Interpreter Brandon W. Reid at 918/762-2513 for more information.

In Enid on Saturday, **December 8**, beginning at 1 p.m. the Cherokee Strip Heritage Center will be passing out Victorian Holiday tree ornaments to visitors at the center's satellite museum, located at the east end of Oakwood Mall. The ornaments were specially created by Heritage Center volunteers, and each ornament will hold a small surprise for the recipient. The Heritage Center's mall installation is situated next to J. C. Penney. For further information call Glen McIntyre at 580/237-1907.

On **December 9** the George M. Murrell Historic Home in Park Hill will host its annual Holiday Open House from 1 to 5 p.m. Telephone 918/456-2751 for details. Father Christmas will make an appearance.

On **December 9** from 2 to 5 p.m. the Cherokee Strip Museum in Perry will hold its annual Christmas Tea and Open House. The museum will be decorated from December 4 through 29 in its specialty craft, "scherenschnitte," paper cut into fanciful designs. Call 580/336-2405 for additional information.

Tour Fort Gibson Historic Site by candlelight in December. The site staff is presently taking reservations for the 2007 edi-

tion of the ever-popular Candlelight Tour, scheduled for Friday, **December 14** and Saturday, **December 15**. This year's presentation is "Complaints, Many and Various." It examines the concerns voiced by people living at and around Fort Gibson in the 1840s. The complaints ranged in nature from silly and frivolous to serious and very much justified. Tours will be held from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. on December 14 and from 6 to 8:30 p.m. on December 15. Groups will start approximately every fif-

teen minutes. Admission is \$8.50, and reservations are required. For reservations or more information phone the site's staff at 918/478-4088 or send them an e-mail at <fortgibson@okhistory.org>.

The Chisholm Trail Museum in Kingfisher will offer Christmas tours of the Andrew J. Seay Mansion Historic Home and the Pioneer Village from **December 1 through December 24**. Both venues will be decorated for the Holiday Season. Call 580/228-2860 for information.

Oklahoma History Center Holiday Activity Schedule

On Saturday, December 1 and on Saturday, December 8, the Oklahoma History Center and Oklahoma Museum of History will host special Holiday activities for young people aged six and up. The fun will include crafts instruction, music, games, dancing, Santa and Mrs. Claus, reading, cookies, and hot cocoa. Interpreters will help children enjoy and learn about crafts, games, songs, and traditional Holiday customs from various cultures and time periods. Programs available with paid admission to OHC; OHS members admitted free.

Saturday, December 1

- 10 a.m. Devon Great Hall, Caroling by Bishop McGuinness High School Choir
- 11 a.m. Chesapeake Room, Pictures, stories, Santa and Mrs. Claus, cocoa, cookies
- 12 Grand Staircase, Traditional Holiday crafts with Martha Ray
- 1 p.m. Devon Great Hall, Traditional dancing with Martha Ray and Stephanie Kotzum
- 2 p.m. Devon Great Hall, Homesteaders, interpretive program
- 3 p.m. Chesapeake Room, Pictures, stories, Santa and Mrs. Claus, cocoa, cookies
- 4 p.m. Devon Great Hall, Traditional games

Saturday, December 8

- 10 a.m. Devon Great Hall, Caroling by Bishop McGuinness High School Choir
- 11 a.m. Chesapeake Room, Pictures, stories, Santa and Mrs. Claus, cocoa, cookies
- 12 Devon Great Hall, Putnam City High School Show Choir
- 1 p.m. Devon Great Hall, Traditional dancing with Martha Ray and Stephanie Kotzum
- 2 p.m. Grand Staircase, Traditional Holiday crafts with Martha Ray
- 3 p.m. Chesapeake Room, Pictures, stories, Santa and Mrs. Claus, cocoa, cookies
- 4 p.m. Devon Great Hall, Traditional games

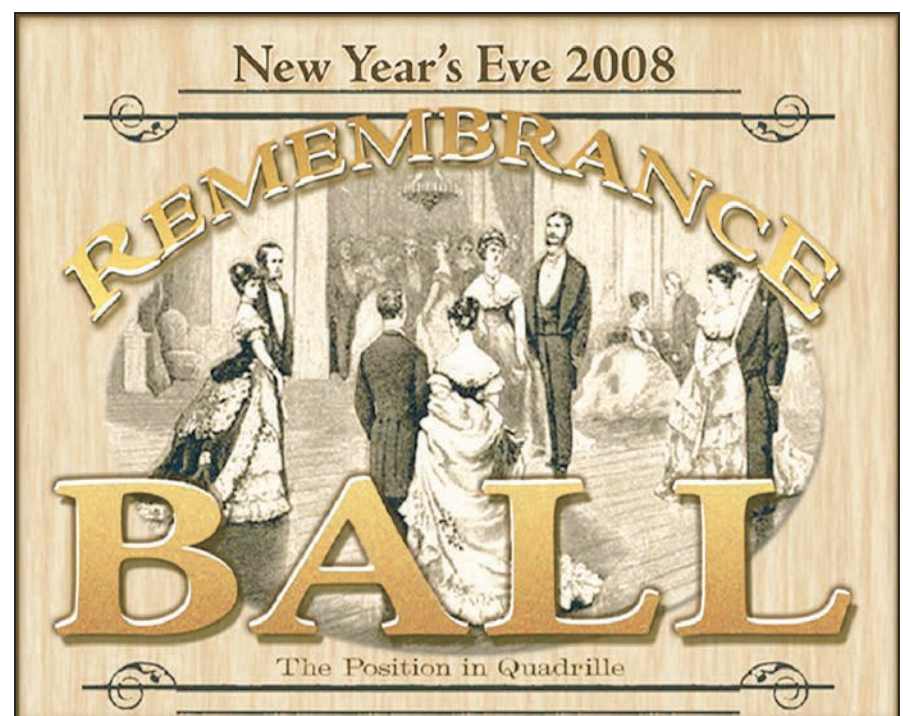
OHS to end Centennial Year with second annual New Year's Eve Ball

Dance in the History Center Atrium with the Capitol Building illuminated in the background! The Oklahoma Historical Society will host a New Year's Eve Dress Ball on Monday, December 31, 2007. The event will commence at 8 p.m. and conclude at 1:30 a.m. on New Year's Day, 2008. Formal attire, or 1907 period dress, is requested.

Dance lessons will be offered at 7 p.m., dancing will begin at 8, and a full-course dinner will be served at 10. A seventeen-piece brass band will provide the music, a traditional cake walk will take place during the evening, and a cash bar will be available.

Tickets are \$100 per person, and a table of 8 may be reserved for \$650. RSVP by December 15, 2007, by calling Kelsey Arnold at 405/522-0692 or by e-mailing <karnold@okhistory.org>.

Phone Whit Edwards, the OHS Special Events Coordinator, at 405/522-5235 or call Arnold for additional details and advice on obtaining appropriate period attire.





Director's Column

By **Bob L. Blackburn**
Executive Director

As the New Year approaches, it is time for me to admit to an addiction. I am addicted to history.

My wife recently bought a book for me written by one of my favorite authors, Joseph Ellis. The book is about the formative years of our country from 1775 to 1803.

At first, when she gave me the book, I thought out loud that I had recently read his works on Jefferson, the "founding brothers," and Washington, along with books on Adams, Franklin, and Hamilton by other authors. How could he offer anything new?

I should not have doubted either my wife or Joseph Ellis.

In his new book Ellis leads the reader through familiar territory, but he offers his story in a unique light, with new angles and new points to consider. With each descriptive metaphor and perceptive passage, my understanding of our founding fathers and their momentous times grew page by page.

Oklahoma history deserves that same creative genius.

We certainly have the stories. Gifted storytellers in Hollywood have been mining the mother lode of Oklahoma history for decades, from the telling and retelling of Cimarron to the pathos and enduring spirituality of *Grapes of Wrath*. When Elizabeth Anthony produced her documentary on the way Hollywood has shaped the image of our state, she found more than four hundred films with a connection to Oklahoma.

We also have the characters to carry a string of new books. Writers of fiction could not fabricate lives with as much drama and texture as Sequoyah, Will Rogers, Jim Thorpe, and Woody Guthrie. Each time we learn about one of our own, we learn a little more about our collective story, the story of Oklahoma.

What we need are more historians and writers to tackle these subjects. We need creative minds to take their material and weave it into stories that open doors to a greater understanding of who we are and where we have been. We need a Joseph Ellis to offer our story in a unique light, with new angles and new points to consider.

Yes, I am addicted to history. And I cannot wait to turn that next page of the story.

Dr. Bob

Development News

By Tim Zwink

With the Holiday Season upon us and the close of our state's exciting centennial year near, I would like to suggest a few unique gift ideas for upcoming special occasions.

For those of you who are interested in a gift that will commemorate your family history, I encourage you to consider a leaf for the Oklahoma Family Tree in the Oklahoma History Center. You can create a family legacy with this special gift. Your family name will be placed on one of the tree's gold or silver replica redbud leaves, and your family history will be recorded in the Oklahoma Family History Book at the base of the Oklahoma Family Tree. This would make a truly exceptional gift for the family.

The Oklahoma Past-Times Calendar for 2008 is another special gift idea. This calendar is the Second Centennial Edition, featuring significant people and events from Oklahoma's fascinating history. The calendar is custom-made and highlights numerous historic photographs from the Oklahoma Historical Society collections. It also includes interesting dates from Oklahoma history as well as notable festivals and events throughout the state in 2008. For your friend or family member who loves history, this captivating calendar will be of great interest and entertainment.

Finally, the Oklahoma Centennial Coin will make a perfect present to commemorate our state's 100th birthday. This beautiful, collectible coin has two of Oklahoma's most important symbols engraved on its sides. One is the impressive Osage war shield from the state flag. The other is the Great Seal of the State of Oklahoma. The coins are available in three finishes: antique bronze, 24K gold plate, and .999 fine silver. Collectors and history buffs alike will enjoy these attractive coins.

Perhaps one or all of these ideas will suit your gift-giving needs. If you need any additional information or an order form for an Oklahoma Family Tree leaf, please contact me at 405/522-5217 or <tzwink@okhistory.org>. Calendars and coins may be ordered from the Oklahoma History Center Gift Shop at 405/522-5214.

Have a wonderful Holiday Season!



New Members, October 2007

*Indicates renewed memberships in a higher category

Benefactor

*Bob & Chimene Burke, Oklahoma City
Chesapeake Energy Corporation, Oklahoma City
Chickasaw Nation, Ada
Ethics & Excellence In Journalism Foundation, Oklahoma City
Chip & Shannon Fudge, Oklahoma City
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The Kirkpatrick Family Fund, Oklahoma City
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*Chris & Myrna Speligene, Guthrie
Dick Stubbs, Oklahoma City
Ty & Lori Taylor, Oklahoma City
*Burl Watson, Tulsa

Cont'd on page 3

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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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Meetings

In **Oklahoma City** the Oklahoma Genealogical Society's monthly meeting will be held on Monday, December 3, 2007, at 6 p.m. in the Chesapeake Events Center at the Oklahoma History Center, 2401 North Laird Ave. Due to a scheduling conflict resulting in the cancellation of the November meeting that month's planned program will be presented on December 3. Janelle Lee Miller, a long-time genealogical researcher and coordinator of the OGS Centennial Project, will present a program entitled "Locating Oklahoma Public School Census Records." As leader of the society's centennial project Lee will provide general information about various Oklahoma public school records before and after statehood but will primarily focus on each county's school censuses, where they are located, the years covered, and whether they are microfilmed. The OHS Research Center will be staffed and remain open until 7:45 p.m. that evening. (Special to ML)

Events

Take a trip to see a new exhibit at **Stillwater's** Sheerar Museum, located at 702 South Duncan. The *Aggie Foods* exhibit highlights the contributions that Oklahoma A&M College/Oklahoma State University graduates, with careers in agricultural research, have made to a variety of vegetables, fruits, wines, and convenience foods that we consume. Admission to the museum is free, and it is open Tuesday through Friday from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. and Saturday and Sunday from 1 to

4 p.m. For information call Barbara Dunn at 405/377-0359. (Special to ML)

Oklahoma City's National Cowboy and Western Heritage Museum, 1700 Northeast 63rd St., will offer "A Night Before Christmas" open house on December 11 from 6 to 9 p.m. The turn-of-the-century Western town, known as Prosperity Junction, will come alive with historical characters, a schoolhouse cakewalk, and choirs singing traditional Christmas music. An evening buffet at Dining on Persimmon Hill restaurant will be offered from 5 to 8 p.m. (Special to ML)

Communities all around Oklahoma are offering Christmas parades in December. Enjoy the Holiday Season with the family in **Davis** on December 4 from 5 to 8:30 p.m. with lighted floats and a chili cookoff. Be in **Pryor** on December 6 when the Christmas parade of lights begins at 7 p.m. Beginning at 6:30 p.m. on December 7 in **Tahlequah** the parade will make its way down Muskogee Avenue. **Frederick's** parade is scheduled for Saturday, December 8, from 11 to 11:45 a.m. In **Antlers** local merchants will remain open on the evening of December 8, when their parade of lights begins at 6 p.m. **Tulsa's** event takes place along Cincinnati, Fourth, and Boulder Streets on Saturday, December 8 from 6 to 7 p.m. (Special to ML)

Cimarron Heritage Center Museum will hold their annual Christmas party on December 11 beginning at 6 p.m. Everyone is invited to bring finger food and celebrate the season as well as the center's past successful year. Also, the museum's

gift shop has items for holiday gift giving. (*Cimarron Heritage Center Museum Newsletter*, Fall 2007).

Oklahoma City's Oklahoma Railway Museum, 3400 Northeast Grand Blvd., will be offering rides on the ORM Christmas Train on Saturday, December 15. The museum will be open from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Phone 405/424-8222 or visit their web site at <oklahomarailwaymuseum.org> for ticket information. (Oklahoma Railway Museum *Dispatcher*, November 2007)

Happenings

Colcord's Talbot Library and Museum is selling paving bricks that will be used in a walkway that will connect the museum with the recently renovated Springtown Schoolhouse. The bricks can be engraved with three or four lines of text to honor family members, friends, events, or businesses. During Oklahoma's centennial year of 2007, each paver will cost \$50. Thereafter, the price will be \$75. Send orders to the Talbot Library and Museum, P.O. Box 349, Colcord, OK 74338. For more info call 918/326-4532 or e-mail <talbotlibrary@earthlink.net>. (Special to ML)

Kingfisher native Marjorie Ellen Bennett Scott has gathered information about **Harmony** community and Methodist Church in *The Harmony Epic, 1889-1970*. Printed in 2007, it costs \$11.50 plus \$2.50 for shipping (no credit cards). Contact Chisholm Trail Museum, 605 Zellers Ave., Kingfisher, OK 73750-4228 or telephone 405/375-5176. (Special to ML)

New Members, Cont'd.

Family

Jacqueline B. Acers, Edmond
 Marsone Jane Austin, Edmond
 Jerry & Linda Barnett, Oklahoma City
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 John & Lillian Boland, Oklahoma City
 Bill & Sherri Bowen, Bethany
 *Frank Kell Cahoon, Midland, TX
 *Carl & Kay Chaves, Broken Arrow
 Jim Clark & Judy Ellis, Tulsa
 *Charles & Geneva Coates, Oklahoma City
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 Hal & Darby Daugherty, Bethany
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 Charles & Loretta Donaghe, Duncan
 *Cindy Downes, Broken Arrow
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 Delmas & Carol Ford, Oklahoma City
 *Mr. & Mrs. Joe Ford, Lawton
 Ralph & Nancy Gilstrap, Oklahoma City
 *Doug & Lou Hale, Stillwater
 *Richard & Gail Hamill, Oklahoma City
 Conner L. Helms, Oklahoma City
 *Gerald & Charlotte Hickman, Warr Acres
 *Ronald & Ellenmarie Howland, Oklahoma City
 Cheryl Jackson, Sapulpa
 James & Connie Jackson, Oklahoma City
 John Johnson, Castle Rock, CO

John & Flossie Jones, Sallisaw
 Perthena Latchaw, Shawnee
 Mr. & Mrs. Mike Lingenfelter, El Reno
 Dan & Prudence Little, Madill
 Mr. & Mrs. William Little, El Reno
 Craig Lovett, Duncan
 Scott & Leigh Ann Matthews, Muskogee
 Dub & Jennifer McElvany, Choctaw
 Donald Moore, Oklahoma City
 Don & Bonnie Muegge, Lamont
 *Richard Murray, Tulsa
 *Steven Newell & Deborah Naylor, Oklahoma City
 *John & Pat Parker, Duncan
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 Allan Pinkston & Doris Clark, Oklahoma City
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 Drs. John & Lois Salmeron, Oklahoma City
 Leon & Jeanetta Schroeder, Edmond
 Donna Shuler, Oklahoma City
 Frank & Kathryn Shurden, Henryetta
 Gordon & Dorothy Swanson, Los Angeles, CA
 Richard Teeman, Stillwater
 Dave & Eileen Wallace, Harrah

David L. Walters, Eufaula
 *Ann Whitchurch, Ardmore
Individual
 Leslie Jack Ake, Jr., Del City
 Delbert D. Amen, Oklahoma City
 Winston Banta, Edmond
 Laura Beers, Perry
 J. Brooks Bishop, Beaumont, TX
 Robert L. Blackburn, Owasso
 Dr. Earl W. Bourne, Oklahoma City
 Ed Bradway, Clayton
 Roy Brashears, Sapulpa
 William Bullard, Morrisonville, IL
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 Sharon Dodd, Chandler
 Joan Eaton, Okmulgee
 N. Maxine Haddock, Tahlequah
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 Nelda Latham, Oklahoma City
 Bette Hogue Leatherwood, Salisbury, MD
 Delma Loftis, Cape Girardeau, MO
 Dr. Linda Mason, Edmond

Linda McAbee, Rocky
 Lisa McAfee, Henryetta
 Shirley McBride, Garland, TX
 Barbara Nathman, Vian
 Joy Palmer, Clinton
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Institutional

Skirvin Hilton Hotel, Oklahoma City
 Phillips University Legacy Foundation, Enid

Hidden Collections . . .

The OHS Map Collection

By Larry O'Dell

The Research Division of the Oklahoma Historical Society has been collecting maps from its 1893 inception and now owns nearly ten thousand. Since moving to the new Oklahoma History Center the archival staff has taken on the task of rearranging them in a new, logical order. Part of this new goal is to digitize the maps, allowing storage of the originals and prolonging the life of many of these fragile documents. A generous grant from the Chickasaw Nation has helped purchase the special equipment needed for the project.

Once the maps are scanned at a high quality, researchers can digitally “zoom in” and retrieve the information that they need. OHS is also providing a lower-resolution image in the on-line database, which can be accessed by users at home.

The staff first scanned the maps associated with the Indian Archive, and most of these can be viewed through the Indian Archive Collection in the online catalog. If a higher resolution map is needed, a researcher may purchase one online or through e-mail or may view the maps in person in the John and Eleanor Kirkpatrick Research Center at the OHC. This is an ongoing project, and other maps will eventually be processed by subject, for example, railroad maps or highway maps.

Find a preview of the map collection online on the OHS web site at <www.okhistory.org/research/index.html>.

The OHS Research Division has also mass-produced reproductions of some of the more popular maps in its collection. These include Indian Territory, early bird’s-eye views of Tulsa



(1918), Oklahoma City (1890), and Guthrie (1891), the proposed State of Sequoyah, and the new State of Oklahoma in 1907. These can be purchased online or at the Research Library for \$10. Any map in the collection can be reproduced for a researcher on demand.



OHS's fall activities included a stickball game at Sequoyah's Cabin's Cherokee Heritage Day on October 12, left (OHS photo), attended by 350 students. Bobbing for apples took place at the Cherokee Strip Museum's Halloween Event on October 31, bottom left (OHS photo). OHS participated in the October 14 Centennial Parade in downtown Oklahoma City. Below, Pawnee Bill (Wayne Spears) rode his strikingly beautiful steed in the parade (T. Zinn photo).



OHS Places . . .

Black Kettle Museum

P.O. Box 252
Cheyenne, OK 73628-0252
Phone: 580/497-3929
Hours: Tues.-Fri., 10 a.m.-4 p.m.
Sat.-Sun., 9 a.m.-5 p.m.
Admission: Free; donations are accepted.
Directions: Take I-40 West to U.S. 283,
turn north, travel approximately 25
miles north to Cheyenne. The museum
is on the east edge of Cheyenne's
business district.

In the far west-central Oklahoma county of Roger Mills, the Black Kettle Museum is located at Cheyenne, the county seat. The museum offers a glimpse into the life of Southern Cheyenne Chief Black Kettle, or Moke-tavato, who was killed on the morning of November 27, 1868, during a pre-dawn attack by U.S. Army Seventh Cavalry troops led by General George A. Custer. In addition to the artifacts from the battle site, the facility features a diorama of the action in the Battle of the Washita.

The exhibits also include other artifacts that illustrate the various Plains Indian cultures in the 1800s. Emphasis is on the Cheyenne.



After visiting the museum, go two miles west and tour the Washita Battlefield, which was listed as a National Historic Landmark in 1965 and added to the National Register of Historic Places in 1966. A pathway invites visitors to take a walking tour of some or all of the site.

Those interested in learning about Black Kettle and the Battle of the Washita should consult articles that appeared in past issues of *The Chronicles of Oklahoma*. See Theodore A. Ediger and Vinnie Hoffman, "Some Reminiscences of the Battle of the Washita," Vol. 33 (Summer 1955) and Duane Gage, "Black Kettle: A Noble Savage?" Vol. 45 (Fall 1967). See also "Black Kettle, A Friend of Peace," by Donald J. Berthrong in *Indian Leaders: Oklahoma's First Statesmen*, which was published by the Oklahoma Historical Society in 1979.

Celebrate the Winter Solstice December 22 at Spiro Mounds Archaeological Center

Today's rushed and hectic pace sometimes makes us forget about the natural rhythms of the Sun, Moon, and stars. Native American farmers understood these rhythms. In the rhythm of the Sun the Winter Solstice is a period of rest, preparation, and celebration. Come to the Spiro Mounds Archaeological Center on December 22, 2007, and enjoy a guided walk to learn more about the Winter Solstice and how Native Americans dealt with changes in the seasons.

Archaeologist and manager Dennis Peterson will lead guided tours starting at 11 a.m., 2 p.m., and 7 p.m. Each walk will take about two hours and require a mile of easy walking. Peterson will tell about this unique prehistoric Native American mound site, the types of mounds, why they were created, and why some of the mounds are aligned for the sunsets of the Solstices and Equinoxes. He will also explain the history of the excavations, Native American ceremonies, and tales of the unusual happenings associated with the mounds. For those wishing to see the sun go down, the 2 p.m. walk will end just about sunset, which is when the alignment will take place. Come out to experience one of the most unique historical sites in the United States as seen through the eyes of an archaeologist.

There is a small fee for this series of tours: \$3 for adults and \$2 for children. No reservations are required unless you are bringing a big group. Be certain to dress for the sometimes chilly autumn weather. Call 918/962-2062 for more information and see page 7 for directions.

It Takes More than Money . . .

. . . to create collections and exhibits that can fulfill the Oklahoma Historical Society's goals of educating the public and providing research opportunities. It takes the donation of an artifact, an art work, a book, a document, or a whole collection of those things that help us tell Oklahoma's story. It also takes volunteers who put their time where others put their money or their artifacts.

Here are the contributions of some of your friends and associates who understand those needs:

In September the **Central Oklahoma Quilters Guild** presented the Oklahoma History Center with a check for \$2,096.94 to assist in continuing research and preservation of Oklahoma quilts. The check's amount represented a portion of the proceeds received from the Centennial Celebration of Quilts 2007 Quilt Show raffle and quilt sales.

Also in September the **Oklahoma Society, National Society Colonial Dames Seventeenth Century** donated genealogical books on seventeenth-century colonial America to the OHS Research Division's library. The purchase of the books was enabled through

support and monetary donations by members of Oklahoma's five state chapters. Marilyn Spence, the project's chair, and her committee of one member from each chapter selected the books. The collection includes

43 books and 7 CDs. Some of the titles include: *1671 Census of the Swedes on the Delaware*, *Marriage Returns of Lincoln County, Maine, to 1866*, and *Tidewater Virginia Families: Generations Beyond*.



Darlene J. Shawn, of the National Society Colonial Dames, presented a collection of books to Bob Blackburn for OHS on September 27 (Courtesy photo).

Records of Oklahoma veterans updated on OHS web site

The Research Division, Manuscripts Department, has recently updated the records of two large collections of Oklahoma veterans' files. These materials have been in the research collection for many years and now have detailed container lists available online. The Union Soldiers' Home Collection 1890–1933 [88.25] contains administrative records of the Oklahoma City home and individual files on soldiers, wives, and mothers who resided there. The Union Soldiers' Home was created for veterans of the Civil War, the Spanish American War, and World War I. The collection also contains ledgers from the Grand Army of the Republic posts in Oklahoma and Ladies' Auxiliary groups.

The Oklahoma War Memorial Collection 1944–1946 [2004.01] contains files on Oklahoma military personnel who died in service since the bombing of Pearl Harbor on December 7, 1941. The files represent individuals who have their names on the Memorial Plaza on Lincoln Boulevard in Oklahoma City. Each file contains some biographical information, usually a questionnaire sent by the Historical Society and any additional information offered by the family. After the end of World War I the Oklahoma House of Representatives introduced House Bill 240, which was endorsed by the Chamber of Commerce and passed in 1925, in order to appropriate funds for the erection of a memorial for all American service people lost in war worldwide. The bill also provided for the maintenance of the archival files of the Historical Society. That project was undertaken in 1943 by the OHS staff.

A detailed list of both collections is available via the Research Division web page at <www.okhistory.org>.

December events at Cherokee Strip Regional Heritage Center in Oakwood Mall, Enid

On Wednesday, **December 12**, at noon, museum staff member Glen McIntyre will discuss "Oklahoma at the Beginning of the 1800s." He will detail the Native American tribes that lived in Oklahoma at that time and discuss the beginning of American trading posts in eastern Oklahoma.

Saturday, **December 15**, at 1 p.m., Don Wyckoff, OU archaeology professor and former director of the Oklahoma Archaeological Survey, will demonstrate flint knapping, making stone points in the style of the original Native Americans.

Wednesday, **December 19**, at noon, Dr. Deena Fisher, who is dean of the Woodward campus of Northwestern Oklahoma State University, will discuss the life of Kate Barnard. She was the first woman to hold elected office in Oklahoma and held the position of Commissioner of Charities and Corrections, an elective post established especially for her.



Smithsonian Affiliations Membership Program

As part of its affiliate relationship with the Smithsonian Institution, the Oklahoma Historical Society is pleased to announce that the Smithsonian Affiliate Membership Program is being offered to OHS members at a special rate of \$20 per year. Benefits of Smithsonian Affiliate Membership are:

- ✓one-year subscription to *Smithsonian Magazine* (12 issues) or to *Air & Space* (6 issues),
- ✓10 percent discount on purchases from Smithsonian Catalogue and SmithsonianStore.com,
- ✓20 percent discount on publications from Smithsonian Books,
- ✓Discounts on shopping and dining at the _____,
- ✓Discounts at participating Smithsonian affiliate institutions and national retailers,
- ✓Exclusive international and domestic travel programs and study tour opportunities,
- ✓Free admission to the Smithsonian's Cooper-Hewitt, National Design Museum in New York City,
- ✓A personalized membership card, and
- ✓Access to a members-only web site.

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SHPO and OBA present workshop for attorneys

On Thursday, October 25, the OHS State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO) and the Oklahoma Bar Association (OBA) Continuing Legal Education Program presented a one-day course entitled *Introduction to Historic Preservation Law in Oklahoma*. It was held at the OBA headquarters in Oklahoma City, and attorneys earned six hours of Continuing Legal Education Program credits for participating. Seventy attorneys and government officials attended.

The SHPO administers the federal historic preservation programs for the State of Oklahoma, and one of its responsibilities is to provide technical assistance and education and training opportunities on a wide range of topics. Federal, state, and local legislation impacts the preservation of our state's significant buildings, structures, districts, sites, and objects. The workshop introduced participants to the field of historic preservation and how the SHPO's and other programs relate to publicly and privately owned historic properties and to their respective development.

Melvena Heisch, Deputy SHPO, introduced the participants to historic preservation terminology and the public agencies and private organizations with key roles in the field at the national, state, and local levels. She provided an overview of related federal and state statutes, and she also discussed how the National Historic Preservation Act's programs are implemented in Oklahoma. She focused on the National Register of Historic Places criteria, process,

and meaning of listing or eligibility and on the Act's Section 106, which requires federal agencies to consider how their undertakings may effect significant archaeological and historic properties.

James K. Reap, an attorney representing the National Alliance of Preservation Commissions, discussed the effective enforcement of local historic preservation ordinances. He explained how such ordinances promote community revitalization, and he outlined the challenges facing local officials who are charged with enforcing the ordinances. Reap also discussed covenants, easements, and other legal mechanisms for protecting important archaeological and historic properties.

The final two segments of the workshop concerned federal and state rehabilitation tax credits. Catherine Montgomery, Historic Preservation Architect representing the SHPO, provided information about certified rehabilitation of certified historic structures, including the eligibility criteria, the rehabilitation standards, and the certification process. Joel Cohn, Principal, Reznick Group P.C., addressed the financial issues associated with rehabilitation projects, including the Internal Revenue Service and Oklahoma Tax Commission requirements that must be met to insure that owners/developers can maximize the use of these important historic preservation incentives.

OHS HOLIDAY GIFT TIME

Give the gift of Oklahoma history this Holiday Season! Consider giving your friends, relatives, colleagues, teachers, and students a gift membership in the Oklahoma Historical Society. Share your enjoyment of OHS's publications, free admission to all OHS sites and museums, and the many other benefits of membership. Just fill out the form below and return it with your payment. In mid-December we will send personalized gift membership announcements.

With every five new or renewal gifts, you will receive an OHS tote bag that features the logo of our new Oklahoma History Center. For every ten new or renewal gifts, you will receive an autographed copy of *Images of History: The Oklahoman Collection* by Jim Argo and Bob Blackburn. This beautiful book includes essays and images that chronicle the birth and growth of Oklahoma. Please attach a separate list for additional orders.

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Return entire form to: Oklahoma Historical Society, Membership Office,
2401 N. Laird Ave., Oklahoma City, OK 73105-7914.

OHS MUSEUMS AND SITES

Black Kettle Museum
junction of US 283 & SH 47
Cheyenne, 580/497-3929

**Cherokee Strip Museum/
Rose Hill School**, 2617 W
Fir, Perry, 580/336-2405

**Chisholm Trail Museum/
Seay Mansion**, 605 Zellers
Ave., Kingfisher
405/375-5176

**Chisholm Trail Historical
Museum**, E of US 81/US 70
junction, Waurika
580/228-2166

**Confederate Memorial Mu-
seum**, US 69, ½ mi. N of
Atoka, 580/889-7192

Fort Gibson Historic Site
907 N. Garrison, SH 80 in
Fort Gibson, 918/478-4088

Fort Supply Historic Site
Campus of W.S. Key
Corr. Center, Fort Supply
580/766-3767

Fort Towson Historic Site
NE of Fort Towson off US 70
580/873-2634

Fort Washita Historic Site
SH 199, 13 mi. E of Madill
580/924-6502

Frank Phillips House
1107 Cherokee Ave.
Bartlesville, 918/336-2491

Fred Drummond House
305 N. Price, Hominy
918/885-2374

Frederick Pioneer Village,
201 N. 9th St., Frederick,
580/335-5844

George M. Murrell House
19479 E. Murrell Home Rd
3 mi. S of SH 82, Park Hill
918/456-2751

Healdton Oil Museum
315 E. Main, Healdton
580/229-0900

Honey Springs Battlefield
1863 Honey Springs Battle-
field Rd., E of US 69, near
Rentiesville, 918/473-5572

Jim Thorpe House
706 E. Boston, Yale
918/387-2815

**Museum of the Cherokee
Strip**, 507 S. 4th, Enid
580/237-1907

**Museum of Higher Educa-
tion**, Old Central, OSU Cam-
pus Stillwater, 405/744-2828

**Museum of the Western
Prairie**, 1100 N. Memorial Dr.
Altus, 580/482-1044

**National Hall of Fame for
Famous American Indians**
US 62 East, Anadarko
405/247-5555

No Man's Land Museum
PSU Campus, Goodwell
580/349-2670

**Oklahoma Museum of His-
tory**, 2401N. Laird Ave., OKC
405/522-5248

**Oklahoma Route 66 Mu-
seum**, 2229 W. Gary Blvd.
Clinton, 580/323-7866

**Oklahoma Territorial Mu-
seum/Carnegie Library**
402 E. Oklahoma, Guthrie
405/282-1889

Henry Overholser House
405 N.W. 15th St., OKC
405/528-8485

Pawnee Bill Ranch
½ mi. W on US 64, Pawnee
918/762-2513

Peter Conser House
4 mi. S of Heavener on US
59, 3½ mi. W of Hodgen
918/653-2493

Pioneer Woman Museum
701 Monument Rd., Ponca
City, 580/765-6108

Robert S. Kerr Museum
6 mi. SW of Poteau, US 270
at Kerr Conference Center
918/647-9579

Sequoyah's Cabin
SH 101, 11 mi. NE of
Sallisaw, 918/775-2413

Sod House Museum
SH 8, 5½ mi. N of Cleo
Springs, 580/463-2441

**Spiro Mounds Archaeo-
logical Center**, 3 mi. E
and 4 mi. N of Spiro
918/962-2062

**State Capital Publishing
Museum**, 301 W. Harrison
Guthrie, 405/282-4123

T. B. Ferguson House
519 N. Weigle, Watonga
580/623-5069

Tom Mix Museum
721 N. Delaware, Dewey
918/534-1555

White Hair Memorial
½ mi. S of SH 20 on Black-
burn Rd., Ralston

Fort Washita living history presentations set for December weekends

Reenactor troops will drill and practice their maneuvers at Fort Washita Historic Site on the first three weekends in December. This year the participating units will represent the Confederate States of America during the War of the Rebellion (elsewhere known as the Civil War).

On Saturday, December 1, the 19th Texas Infantry, CSA, will drill and provide informal lessons and information on Confederate soldiering, camp life, and battle.

On Saturday, December 8, the 7th Texas Cavalry, CSA, will drill. This horse unit will illustrate the methods of cavalry training and combat operation during the War of the Rebellion.

On Saturday, December 15, the 36th Texas Cavalry, CSA, will drill with horses, equipment, and appropriate battle gear used during the war.

Fort Washita will be open to the public during the drills, and anyone present may observe the activities. The site is located at 3348 State Road 199 near Durant. Telephone 580/924-6502 for further details and directions.



Just in time for Holiday gift giving!

Oklahoma's 2008 Commemorative Calendar is now available from the OHS History Center Gift Shop. The price is \$9.95 plus shipping and handling. Reserve your copy by calling 405/522-5214.

Oklahoma Historical Society
2401 N. Laird Avenue
Oklahoma City, OK 73105-7914

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PERIODICALS



Smithsonian Affiliations
 Membership Program

Mistletoe Leaves

Vol. 38, No. 12

December 2007

Fort Gibson certified Trail of Tears site by National Park Service

The National Park Service has designated Fort Gibson Historic Site an official site of the Trail of Tears National Historic Trail, which commemorates places of significance in the history of the Cherokee removal. Aaron Mahrs of the National Trail System Office of the National Park Service presented Fort Gibson's official certification plaque to OHS Executive Director Bob Blackburn on October 13 during the fort's twentieth annual Fall Encampment. Cherokee Nation officials present included Principal Chief Chad Smith, Deputy Principal Chief Joe Grayson, Jr., Councilman Don Garvin of (Three Rivers) District 4 of the Cherokee Nation, and Cara Cowan-Watts of (Will Rogers) District 7. Also participating was Councilman-at-Large Jack D. Baker, who is also president of the National Trail of Tears Association and is a member of the OHS Board of Directors.

Also featured at the event were hymns sung in Cherokee by the Cherokee Adult Choir and a talk by Dr. Brad Agnew of Northeastern State University on Fort Gibson and the Cherokee removal. Official guests included Mayor Steven Hill and several municipal officials of the Town of Fort Gibson, State Representative George Faught, and Senator Earl Garrison's personal representative. Also present were Derald Glover, Superintendent of the Fort Gibson Schools, and Assistant Superintendent Linda Clinkenbeard. After the presentation of gifts to the speakers and the choir, participants and spectators were invited to a hog fry provided by the Cherokee Nation and the Oklahoma Chapter of the Trail of Tears Association. Attendance was estimated at approximately two hundred.

In memoriam

Dr. William D. Pennington, member of the OHS Board of Directors, tragically died in a traffic accident on October 13, 2007. Born November 15, 1943, in Anadarko, he was raised in Duncan. A history and secondary education major, he received a bachelor's degree from the University of Tulsa. He earned a master's in history at the University of Tulsa and the Ph.D. in history at the University of Oklahoma. His major fields were the American West and Indian history. He was a teacher and administrator at the secondary, community college, and university levels for more than thirty-five years, primarily in Oklahoma. After being Dean of Northwestern Oklahoma State University's Enid campus, since 2004 he had been president of Murray State College, Tishomingo. He was active in many organizations, including the Johnston County Chamber of Commerce (president), Greater Southwest Historical Museum in Ardmore (vice president), Johnston County Industrial Authority (president), Johnston County Historical Society, Ardmore Rotary Club, and Tishomingo Lions Club. Elected to the OHS Board in 2001, he chaired the Research Division Committee. He is survived by a son, David, two daughters, Martha Link and Mallory Roarck, and his wife, Dr. Marty Pedersen Pennington. Pennington was interred in Duncan Cemetery, Duncan, Oklahoma.

