



State Historic Preservation Office presents annual Citations of Merit

The OHS's State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO) annually presents the Citation of Merit to individuals, organizations, forms, and government agencies in recognition of their many contributions to the preservation of Oklahoma's heritage. These accomplishments may be in the areas of archaeological site preservation, leadership, planning, publications, public programming, research, or restoration/rehabilitation. "Projects and activities having positive impacts at the local, state, or national level are deserving of the recognition," according to Melvena Heisch, the Deputy SHPO.

The 2006 Citations of Merit were presented on June 1 at the annual preservation conference, held at Robbers Cave State Park near Wilburton. The successful meeting drew two hundred people from across the state.

Several individuals were honored for their preservation accomplishments. **Sally Ferrell** of Chandler received the citation for her years of leadership and for acquiring and rehabilitating an abandoned 1903 territorial commercial building on Manvel Avenue (Route 66) in Chandler.



Arn Henderson, Don Ferrell, Sally Ferrell, and Bob Blackburn at the awards ceremony (SHPO photo).

Ron and Mary Frantz were honored for rehabilitating their 1921 house on Northwest Twenty-first Street in Oklahoma City. The house is exemplary of the preservation of the Gatewood East Historic District.

Charles Scott of Guthrie, archivist of the Guthrie Scottish Rite Masonic Temple, was honored for his efforts on the town's Historic Preservation Commission and his leadership as a preservation advocate.

Don Coffin of Guthrie received the citation for his years of service in the revitalization of the Guthrie Historic District. His leadership is further demonstrated by his personal rehabilitation efforts for historic

buildings such as the one on Harrison Avenue in which he and his family operate a restaurant called "Granny Had One."

Rene Spineto, Guthrie's city planner, was honored for helping maintain the Guthrie Historic District's nationally significant collection of resources.

Kent Schell of Tulsa was honored for building that city's historic preservation program and guiding it from 1989 through 2006.

The **Roy Alford Family of Red Oak and the Archeological Conservancy** jointly received the citation for their cooperative efforts to preserve Archeological Site 34LT11 (the Alford Mound, also called the McCutchan-McLaughlin site) on Fourche Maline Creek in Latimer County.

Organizations receiving the Citation of Merit include: **Western Trails Historical Society** of Altus, honored for their efforts to protect the history of southwestern Oklahoma in general and Jackson County in particular. An exemplary project was their feasibility study for the rehabilitation of the Cross S Ranch Headquarters, an 1881 stone house included on Preservation Oklahoma's Most Endangered Places List for 2006.

The **City of Muskogee** was honored for successfully nominating Kendall Place Historic District (112 residential properties) to the National Register of Historic Places.

Durant's **Southeastern Foundation** received a citation for their effort in rehabilitating the Massey Building, now the city's primary venue for university and community functions and a centerpiece of downtown Durant.

Guthrie's **Oklahoma Sports Museum** received the citation for creating its museum in the heart of the Guthrie Historic District and contributing to the community's overall heritage tourism efforts.

The **General Services Administration** received the Citation of Merit for rehabilitation of the National Register-listed U.S. Federal Building and Courthouse in Muskogee.

ERC Development and The Hill Firm were honored for the certified rehabilitation of Shawnee's Aldridge Hotel, a National Register-listed property.

Finally, the **Local Cosponsors of the 17th Annual Preservation Conference**, held in Stillwater last year, were honored for their assistance in hosting the meeting. These included Downtown Stillwater, the

Payne County Historical Society, the Sheerar Museum, the Stillwater Convention and Visitors Bureau, and the Stillwater Community Center.

The annual Citations of Merit are the State Historic Preservation Office's way of saying "thank you" to the state's hundreds of preservation partners.



Kent Schell receives his Citation of Merit from OHS Executive Director Bob Blackburn (SHPO photo).

OHS members reelect four to Board of Directors

At the society's Annual Meeting in late April, Emmy Scott Stidham, chair of the OHS Nominating Committee, announced the names of four incumbents reelected by the membership to serve on the board of directors in 2006.

In District 2, Bill Corbett of Tahlequah retained his seat. Sally Soelle of Lawton will continue to represent District 4.

LeRoy H. Fischer of Stillwater and Barbara Thompson of Oklahoma City will continue to hold at-large seats.

At the reorganizational board meeting, which followed the Annual Membership meeting, Leonard M. Logan IV of Vinita continued his presidency into the second year of a three-year term.

Effective June 28, 2006, the State Historic Preservation Office has relocated to the Oklahoma History Center. Contact information is:

State Historic Preservation Office
Oklahoma Historical Society
Oklahoma History Center
2401 North Laird Ave.
Oklahoma City, OK 73105-7914
405/521-6249
FAX: 405/522-0816
<http://www.okhistory.org>



Director's Column

By **Bob L. Blackburn**
Executive Director

It has now been six months since the Oklahoma History Center opened to the public. And what a six months it has been.

Everywhere I go, people either say that they have been here and loved it, or they have heard great things and want to visit soon. Very few people are unaware of what we have accomplished.

A few weeks ago, a reporter asked me what had changed the most. I quickly had a short list that includes improved staff productivity, an increase in collections activity, more students visiting the museum, easier access to research collections, and a new ability to attract partners. But there is one difference that affects everything we do—higher expectations.

The Oklahoma History Center has proven that we at the Oklahoma Historical Society can produce at the same level as the National Park Service, the Smithsonian, and the National Archives. Given the resources, we can and will raise the bar.

On the flip side, these expectations are affecting everything we do. Now that we have a world-class building, the museums built in the 1970s look dated and inadequate. Now that we have a Smithsonian-quality museum, we need a Smithsonian-quality web site. And now that we have a state-of-the-art Research Center, we need a state-of-the-art offering of documents, pho-

tographs, and film footage over the Internet. And the list goes on.

So the question is, how do we get there? In April the OHS Board of Directors focused on the first step in this reorientation by dealing with the fundamental building block of the organization—its membership.

This September, after three months of study and preparation, the OHS membership program will be restructured and revitalized.

For decades, membership in the OHS has meant primarily two things. One was to get the publications, *The Chronicles of Oklahoma* and the *Mistletoe Leaves*. The other was to vote for the OHS board of directors.

These benefits will remain unchanged. But added to these fundamentals will be a menu of options to engage our members in the greater mission of "collecting, preserving, and sharing Oklahoma history." We will provide more benefits, and we will expect more in return.

What we will expect from each of you is a willingness to share the passion for history with others. We need to recruit new members, encourage friends to visit a museum, and tell others about the opportunities for discovery and education.

We need you to look for and gather collections, alert us to the stories that might be lost, and open the doors to the world of history for others.

In September we will launch a statewide contest to raise membership and participation in history programs. There will be county chairmen, team leaders, and an awards party. And there will be prizes, not just coffee mugs and pen sets, but good stuff like cameras, computers, and trips.

Yes, the Oklahoma History Center has raised our expectations. With the Centennial of Statehood approaching, it is time to do something about it.

Dr. Bob

Development News

By **Tim Zwink**

With our state's centennial year only a few months away, I would like to remind you of one of our special fund raisers, the Oklahoma Past-Times Calendar. The 2007 calendar is in production and will be a unique Centennial Edition, featuring the fifty most important dates in Oklahoma history, as selected by Dr. Bob Blackburn, executive director of the OHS. This centennial calendar will highlight vintage photographs from the Oklahoma Historical Society photo archives, interesting historical dates and facts, and notable festivals and events throughout the state for 2007. Like last year's, this calendar will be distinctive in depicting significant subjects in Oklahoma history. The 2007 edition also includes a special list of Oklahoma Centennial events.

By ordering before September 1, you can customize the calendars for employees or clients. The calendars offer a great way to advertise your business or to use as a fund raiser for your organization, school group, or club. You can order these original calendars for yourself or as a present for friends and family. We again are working with McDowell Incentives to produce the calendar's Centennial Edition. You can view sample calendar pages or order at <www.calendarok.com>. Or you can order by calling 800/599-4669, ext. 22. Proceeds from the calendar sales go to the Oklahoma Historical Society. So order your calendars now. This is an excellent opportunity for you to join the centennial celebration.



New Individual Members

Balsters, Beulah, Tulsa
Barnes, Kenneth H., Fort Worth, TX
Bennett-Jones, Julie, Moore
Cheatham, Gary, Tahlequah
Davenport, Jan, North Little Rock, AR
Falvey, Jody, Springfield, VA
Frank, Donald A., Amarillo, TX
Gibbs, Lawrence, Stillwater
Harvey, Reba, Sand Springs
Henderson, Robert Lee, Broken Arrow
Honiker, June E., Oklahoma City
McCollum, Timothy James, Richardson, TX
Meek, Audrey A., Oklahoma City
Ragsdale, Rhonda, Houston, TX
Reid, Priscilla, Oklahoma City
Sabo, Lisa A., Neptune, NJ
Yoeckel, Debbie & John, Edmond

New Family Members

Cesar, Dana, Norman
Hunter, Losco & Connie, Stillwater
Moore, Mark, Watonga
Nelson, Charles J. & Jerrie D., Broken Arrow
Roork, Henry L. & Ann, Del City

New Institutional Member

Central Oklahoma Quilters Guild, Oklahoma City

New Life Member

Cummings, Brent, Oklahoma City

Summer benefits of OHS membership—

When you vacation in Oklahoma this summer, remember to take your OHS membership card. You'll receive free admission to OHS sites that charge an admission fee, and you'll receive a 10 percent discount at the OHS Gift Shop at the Oklahoma History Center in Oklahoma City.

See the July-December Calendar of Events on pages 4 and 5 for interesting things to do this summer. We've provided a list of OHS historic homes, historic sites, and museums and their addresses and telephone numbers for your convenience.

With gas prices soaring, stay close to home. Make this the summer you explore Oklahoma and its history.

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

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Events

Miami's historic Coleman Theatre is the venue for *South Pacific*, performed by LOOK (Light Opera of Oklahoma) with cast and orchestra from Tulsa. Sponsored by the Miami Arts and Humanities Council and the Oklahoma Arts Council, the show will be presented on Thursday, July 6 at 7:30 p.m. Tickets are \$25 for reserved seats, \$10 for all other adults, and \$5 for children. Call 918/540-2425 or go to their web site for a calendar of events at the theatre, <www.colemantheatre.org>. (Special to ML)

Woodward's Plains Indians and Pioneers Museum, located at 2009 Williams Avenue, will host "Oklahoma Northwest," a summer institute for Oklahoma teachers and interested historians. The institute, to be held from July 10 to July 14, is jointly sponsored by the Plains Indians and Pioneers Museum, Historic Fort Supply, and Northwestern Oklahoma State University (NOSU). Classes will run from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Thursday and from 8 a.m. to 2 p.m. on Friday. Lectures and reenactments will be led by staff from the Oklahoma Historical Society and NOSU, as well as regional and local historians and authors. Topics include "Physical Setting and Prehistory," "Native American Heritage," "Soldiers and Cowboys," "Transportation and Homesteading," and "Pioneer Communities and Farms." Teachers are eligible for forty-eight Professional Development Points. For information regarding college credit contact Dr. Deena Fisher at 580/256-0047. A fee of \$100 covers class materials and several meals. College enrollment fees are extra. Contact Rob Roberson at the Plains Indians and Pioneers Museum, 580/256-6136, Bob Rea at Historic Fort Supply, 580/766-3767, or Dr. Fisher. (Special to ML)

Okemah, Woody Guthrie's hometown, is hosting its 9th annual festival showcasing folk music from around America. Four venues within the town will provide stages for the more than one hundred expected performers. The event is free and takes place from July 12 to July 16, 10 a.m. to midnight. For information call 918/623-2440 or visit <www.woodyguthrie.com>. (Special to ML)

Edmond's Plunkett Park, at the University of Central Oklahoma, is the summer venue for Oklahoma Shakespeare in the Park, which runs from June 15–September 3. Performances are on Thursdays through Sundays at 8 p.m. and include *Two Gentlemen of Verona* from June 15–July 9, *Titus*

Andronicus from July 13–August 6, and *The Taming of the Shrew* from August 10–September 3. Plunkett Park is located on the UCO campus, between University Drive and Garland Godfrey Drive on Second Street. Contact 405/340-1222, e-mail <okshakespr@aol.com>, or visit the web site <www.oklahomashakespeare.com>. (Special to ML)

Oologah will host aviation enthusiasts on Sunday, August 13, for the Will Rogers–Wiley Post Fly-In. The event honors the two Oklahoma aviation champions who died on August 15, 1935. Event chair and retired Tulsa corporate pilot Dale Frakes stated that pilots with vintage, replica, rebuilt, and new aircraft, as well as ultralights and helicopters, come from a four-state area. Pilots can land at the one-half-mile-long grass strip on the west shore of Lake Oologah. Admission is free, and concessions will be available. E-mail <michelle@www.willrogers.com> or phone 918/341-0719. (Special to ML)

Exhibits

Norman's University of Oklahoma (OU) Carl Albert Congressional Research and Studies Center will display two exhibits, *Veterans for Congress* and *Electioneering Oklahoma Style*, through November 2006. The displays are located on the second floor of Monnet Hall on the OU campus. Monnet Hall is located at 630 Parrington Oval and is open Monday through Friday from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. and Saturday from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. The *Veterans for Congress* exhibit features the large number of congressional representatives and senators who won elections in the decades following World War II by focusing on their status as veterans and on issues affecting veterans, such as health care. For information contact the Congressional Archives at 405/325-5835. (Special to ML)

In **Park Hill**, the *Life of John Ross* exhibit is on display from June 5 through August 20 at the Cherokee Heritage Center (CHC). John Ross, the principal chief of the Cherokee Nation for almost forty years, was born in Alabama in 1790 and died in Washington, D.C., in 1866. The exhibit focuses on his life and military service in the War of 1812 as well as the Trail of Tears and the Civil War. The CHC is open Monday through Saturday from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. and Sunday 1 to 5 p.m. Admission is \$8.50 for adults, \$5 for children, and \$7.50 for seniors (55 and older) and for students with college IDs. Call 918/456-6007, toll free at 888/999-6007, or go to their web site at <www.CherokeeHeritage.org>. (Special to ML)

Happenings

Norman's Carl Albert Congressional Research and Studies Center at the University of Oklahoma is seeking applicants for its Visiting Scholars Program, which provides financial assistance to researchers working at the Center's archives. Awards of \$500–\$1,000 are normally granted as reimbursement for travel and lodging. The Visiting Scholars Program is open to any applicant. Emphasis is given to those pursuing postdoctoral research in history, political science, and other fields. Graduate students, interested undergraduates, and lay researchers can also apply. The Carl Albert Center evaluates each research proposal based upon its merits, and funding for a variety of topics is expected. The center's collections are described in the publication *A Guide to the Carl Albert Center Congressional Archives* (1995), by Judy Day, et al., or at <<http://www.ou.edu/special/albertctr/archives/>>. For information on applying, contact Archivist, Carl Albert Center, 630 Parrington Oval, Room 101, University of Oklahoma, Norman, OK 73019. Inquiries may also be made by calling 405/325-5835, faxing 405/325-6419, or e-mailing <channeman@ou.edu>. (Special to ML)

Headquartered in **Lawton**, the **Southwest Oklahoma Genealogical Society** (SWOG) is encouraging all Oklahoma genealogical and historical societies to determine if their local and county governments as well as museums and newspapers are safeguarding their records from disaster. SWOG suggests society members volunteer to help organizations preserve documents as part of an Oklahoma Centennial Project in their community. (Special to ML)

Writings

Kaw City Museum received copies of the two-volume Kay County history, entitled *North Central Oklahoma: Rooted in the Past, Growing For the Future* (1995), from the North Central Oklahoma Historical Society. They are available for a donation of \$50 or more to the museum. Contact Kaw City Museum, P.O. Box 56, Kaw City, OK 74641-0056. (*Kaw City Museum News*, Spring 2006)



OHS EVENTS AND EXHIBITS

Every effort has been made to list correct information as it was available. Other events may be added throughout the year. Check the monthly issues of *Mistletoe Leaves* for additions, corrections, and/or expanded articles.

Some events require registration and/or admission fees. Registration is limited for some workshops and seminars. Some events sponsored by the OHS are held at sites other than the property on which the OHS site or museum is located.

Please call ahead to verify date, hours, exact location, admission fees, etc. The roster following December's listings includes the phone numbers to call (unless otherwise noted in calendar) for information about the OHS events listed below.

TBA = to be announced

JULY

- 1 Cowboy Ride-in Breakfast, Pawnee Bill Ranch, Pawnee
- 1-31 *Baskets Woven in Oklahoma*, exhibit, Pioneer Woman Museum, Ponca City
- 4 1840s Independence Day Celebration, Ft. Gibson Historic Site, Ft. Gibson
- 10-14 Quilt Kamp for Kids, Pioneer Woman Museum, Ponca City
- 11-29 *The War to End All Wars*, exhibit, Museum of the Western Prairie, Altus
- 14 Honey Springs Memorial 5-K Run, a Sanctioned Race, and 1-Mile Fun Run/Walk, Honey Springs Battlefield, Checotah
- 15 Honey Springs Memorial Service, Honey Springs Battlefield, Checotah
- 15 Tea and Victorian Style Show, Drummond Home, at Calvary Worship Center, Hominy
- 15 Tatting Workshop with Judy Banashek, Chisholm Trail Museum, Kingfisher
- 17-19 "For Quilters and Surface Designers: Gradation Dyeing on Fabric with Natural Dyes," workshop, Pioneer Woman Museum, Ponca City
- 17-27 "The Oklahoma Character," Summer Institute, Museum of the Cherokee Strip, Enid

- 20 "Til We Meet Again: Music of World War I," concert of 1914-19 music, Museum of the Western Prairie, Altus
- 20 Historic Preservation Review Committee meets, Oklahoma History Center, Oklahoma City
- 20-22 "Dyeing As If the Earth Mattered: Introduction to Natural Dyes on Yarn," workshop, Pioneer Woman Museum, Ponca City
- 21 Brown Bag Lecture, "Legends of the Square," by Gary Brown, Museum of the Cherokee Strip, Enid

AUGUST

- 1-6 *Baskets Woven in Oklahoma*, exhibit, Pioneer Woman Museum, Ponca City
- 8-31 *The Big V Ranch: A Retrospective Exhibit of Ranch Life in Northeastern Oklahoma*, exhibit, Pioneer Woman Museum, Ponca City
- 18 James Stewart Exhibit reception, Research Center, Oklahoma History Center, Oklahoma City
- 19 Tatting Workshop with Judy Banashek, Chisholm Trail Museum, Kingfisher
- 21 Brown Bag Lecture, "Fire and Flood," by Fire Chief Phil Clover, Museum of the Cherokee Strip, Enid
- 26 Ask the Archaeologist, Q&A with Dr. Lee Bement, Oklahoma Archaeological Survey, Museum of the Western Prairie, Altus



A. J. Seay Mansion, Kingfisher
(OHS photo)



SEPTEMBER

- 1-30 A Day at Rose Hill School, Fall Semester begins, 1910 living history program, student activities for classes from around the state, Cherokee Strip Museum, Perry
- 1-30 *The Big V Ranch: A Retrospective Exhibit of Ranch Life in Northeastern Oklahoma*, exhibit, Pioneer Woman Museum, Ponca City
- 5-30 Turkey Creek School Fall Session starts, living history program, student activities for classes from around the state, Museum of the Cherokee Strip, Enid
- 8 Day Cap-making Workshop, George M. Murrell House, Park Hill
- 8 Public Meeting, State Historic Preservation Office's Fiscal Year 2007 Historic Preservation Fund Grant Application
- 9 Ladies' Camp of Instruction for Reenactors, George M. Murrell House, Park Hill
- 12 Hatbox-making Workshop, Pawnee Bill Ranch Site, Pawnee
- 12-15 Cherokee Strip Land Run Celebrations, Museum of the Cherokee Strip, Enid
- 16 Cherokee Strip Celebration Tea and Open House, Cherokee Strip Museum, Perry
- 16 Civil War Life Program, Honey Springs Battlefield, Checotah
- 16 "Meet and Greet," volunteer information session, Oklahoma Museum of History at the Oklahoma History Center, Oklahoma City
- 16 Living History Day, Ft. Supply Historic Site, Ft. Supply
- 16 Tatting Workshop with Judy Banashek, Chisholm Trail Museum, Kingfisher
- 22-24 Civil War Reenactment of the Battle of Middle Boggy (1864), vicinity Confederate Memorial Museum, Atoka
- 22-30 *From Mexico to Southwest Oklahoma, by Way of Texas: An Illustrated Narrative*, photo exhibit/essay, Museum of the Western Prairie, Altus
- 23 Festival of the Arts and Fall Fling Car Show, Pioneer Village, Frederick
- 23-24 Autumnal Equinox Walks, Spiro Mounds Archaeological Center, Spiro

Salute Old Glory at Fort Gibson on the Fourth of July!

Join a red, white, and blue salute to Independence Day. Fort Gibson Historic Site will present "An 1840s Independence Day" on Tuesday, July 4, 2006. This living history event will show visitors how the Fourth of July was observed at an 1840s army post. Members of the Sixth Infantry Living History Association will do infantry and artillery drill, including firing demonstrations. At noon there will be a reading of the Declaration of Independence, followed by a cannon salute. Troops will demonstrate games and pastimes of the period, and visitors are welcome to participate.

Living history activities will take place in the log fort area of the site from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m., when the site closes. Later in the evening, the troops will present the colors at the Fort Gibson town fireworks display. Admission is \$3 for adults, \$2.50 for seniors (65 and over), and \$1 for students (ages 6-18); children 5 and under are admitted free. Fort Gibson Historic Site is located on State Highway 80 in Fort Gibson, Oklahoma. For more information, contact Chris Morgan or David Fowler at 918/478-4088 or 918/478-4088 or e-mail <fortgibson@okhistory.org>.

JULY-DECEMBER 2006

30 Rug-hooking Workshop, Pioneer Woman Museum, Ponca City

OCTOBER

- 1-21** *Doing Their Part: Oklahomans and the World War II Experience*, exhibit, Centennial Gallery, Museum of the Cherokee Strip, Enid
- 1-31** A Day at Rose Hill School, Fall Semester continues, 1910 living history program, student activities for classes from around the state, Cherokee Strip Museum, Perry
- 1-31** Turkey Creek School Fall Session continues, living history program, student activities for classes from around the state, Museum of the Cherokee Strip, Enid
- 1-31** Annual Quilt Show, Pawnee Bill Ranch Site, Pawnee
- 5** Crazy Quilt Workshop, Pawnee Bill Ranch Site, Pawnee
- 7** Victorian Brunch, sponsored by the Seay Society and Chisholm Trail Museum, Kingfisher
- 7** Volunteer training, Oklahoma Museum of History at the Oklahoma History Center, Oklahoma City
- 10-28** *Keeping the Peace*, exhibit on law enforcement in early southwest Oklahoma, Museum of the Western Prairie, Altus
- 10-31** *Hoffman Challenge Quilt Exhibit*, Pioneer Woman Museum, Ponca City
- 13-14** Fall Encampment, Ft. Gibson Historic Site, Ft. Gibson
- 14** Heritage Skills Workshop, Pawnee Bill Ranch Site, Pawnee
- 18** Brown Bag Lecture, "Stalag Oklahoma," by Dr. Bill Corbett, Museum of the Cherokee Strip, Enid
- 19** Historic Preservation Review Committee meets, Oklahoma History Center, Oklahoma City
- 21** Penny Rug Workshop, Pioneer Woman Museum, Ponca City
- 21** Tatting Workshop with Judy Banashek, Chisholm Trail Museum, Kingfisher
- 21** Ghost Stories at the Mansion, Pawnee Bill Ranch Site, Pawnee
- 26** Volunteer Appreciation Banquet, Museum of History, Oklahoma History Center, Oklahoma City

26 *The Banker & The Examiner: A Depression-Era Tale of Murder*, dramatic presentation, Museum of the Western Prairie, Altus, hosted by Western Trail Historical Society

26 Wire Angel Workshop, George M. Murrell House, Park Hill

27-28 Ghost Stories, George M. Murrell House, Park Hill

NOVEMBER

- 1-31** *Hoffman Challenge Quilt Exhibit*, Pioneer Woman Museum
- 1-31** A Day at Rose Hill School, Fall Semester continues, 1910 living history program, student activities for classes from around the state, Cherokee Strip Museum, Perry
- 6** *Hidden Voices, Coded Words and Native Words, Native Warriors*, exhibits, Museum of History, Oklahoma History Center, Oklahoma City, through January 2007
- 7-30** Artwork of Enoch Kelly Haney, exhibit of original works, Museum of the Western Prairie, Altus
- 11** Fall Bake Day, Ft. Gibson Historic Site, Ft. Gibson
- 15** Brown Bag Lecture, TBA, Museum of the Cherokee Strip, Enid



- 16** Statehood Day, Oklahoma's 99th
- 18** Victorian Christmas Decorations, Pawnee Bill Ranch Site, Pawnee
- 23** Thanksgiving Day

DECEMBER

- 1-31** *Hoffman Challenge Quilt Exhibit*, Pioneer Woman Museum. Continues through January 14, 2007
- 1-25** Christmas Tours of the Seay Mansion and Pioneer Village, Chisholm Trail Museum, Kingfisher
- 2** A Prairie Christmas, elementary school choirs, Humphrey Heritage Village, Museum of the Cherokee Strip, Enid
- 6** "Federal and State Tax Incentives for Rehabilitating Historic Buildings" and "Guidelines and Tax Incentives for Rehabilitating Historic Buildings," SHPO workshops, Oklahoma History Center, Oklahoma City
- 7** "The Section 106 Review Process," SHPO workshop, Oklahoma History Center, Oklahoma City

7 Holiday Open House, Pawnee Bill Ranch Site, Pawnee

8 "Working with the National Register of Historic Places," SHPO workshop, Oklahoma History Center, Oklahoma City

8-9 Candlelight Tour, Ft. Gibson Historic Site, Ft. Gibson

10 Christmas Tea and Open House, Cherokee Strip Museum, Perry

10 Christmas Open House, Murrell House, Park Hill

21 Winter Solstice Walks, Spiro Mounds Archaeological Center, Spiro

25 Christmas Day

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 East 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 NW 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
918/538-2417



Frank Phillips House, Bartlesville
(OHS photo)

Hidden Collections . . .

The Arthur Ramsey Film Collection

By **Larry O'Dell**

There are many research options for those interested in exploring Oklahoma's history. Researchers are not confined to merely poring over written documents, oral interviews, and printed items to gather rich information. The Ramsey Film Collection, housed in the Daugherty Family Rare Book Room at the OHC research library, provides moving pictures, many with the accompanying sound, of 1930s culture and events. Arthur Ramsey, born November 27, 1914, in Oklahoma City, began filming newsreels as a teenager. He served in a combat film unit of the Signal Corps in World War II and later opened his own Oklahoma oil business. In 1969 he moved his headquarters to Albuquerque, New Mexico, where in 2000 he passed away.

The collection, which can be viewed in the anteroom to the rare book room, contains an array of Great Depression-era footage. It encompasses more than 8,400 feet of black-and-white film. Included are scenes of Oklahoma's oil industry, early radio industry, politics, theatrical commercials, and other events. A radio broadcast of "Serenade to the Stars" atop Ramsey Tower, highlights Oklahoma City's radio production. The political footage includes William "Alfalfa Bill" Murray's gubernatorial inauguration (no sound), a Murray speech (sound), Murray at the Red River during the "bridge war" with Texas, E. W. Marland, Victor Wickersham, Thomas Gore, and Robert Hefner. Events include the opening of the Oklahoma City Golf and Country Club clubhouse (1931), an Oklahoma City flood (1932), a Seminole Courthouse explosion (1934), and a Guthrie train wreck (1936). In 1935 Ramsey documented Oklahoma City's new parking meters, the nation's first. Notables that he filmed included baseball great Pepper Martin, Wiley Post's parents, Cornelius Vanderbilt, Jr., and WKY's "Aunt Susan," the cooking-school host. Clips of the 101 Ranch Rodeo, OU football highlights, a polo match honoring Will Rogers in Claremore, and auto races at the Oklahoma State Fair showcase the era's entertainment. Another event is an Oklahoma Reunion picnic held in California circa 1933 and featuring William Murray and Will Rogers. The filming of railroads, airplanes, and oil wells in a defined, Oklahoma environment offers historians much significant period context. A guide for the video collection is located in the Daugherty Family Rare Book Room. Also of interest may be oral histories conducted with Ramsey and with his wife, Lyle Ramsey.



Museum of Cherokee Strip examines "Oklahoma Character"

Northwestern Oklahoma State University (NOSU) and Enid's Museum of the Cherokee Strip will host the annual summer institute July 17 through 21. The program is geared for Oklahoma history teachers but is open to all interested persons.

The intensive, five-day course is divided between classroom lectures and hands-on training. Lectures and reenactments will be led by individuals from the Oklahoma Historical Society, NOSU-Enid, Turkey Creek School Teachers, and the Railroad Museum of Oklahoma, as well as regional historians, authors, and local craftsmen. Participants will leave with a better knowledge of and additional resources to enhance the teaching of Oklahoma history, acquired in a fun, interactive way. Teachers who complete the course are eligible for 48 professional development points. Students can earn 3 college credit hours through NOSU-Enid.

The program's tentative schedule includes "Indians, Explorers, and Soldiers," "Cowboys and Cattle Kings," "Homesteaders," "Transportation and Education Day," and "Territory and Statehood."

Class size is limited to 25. A registration fee of \$100 is due by July 17, payable at the museum. For enrollment details, contact Northwestern-Woodward's Dean, Dr. Deena Fisher, at 580/256-0047 or the Enid registry office at 580/213-3127. For general information call Glen McIntyre at the museum at 580/237-1907.



On Your Mark!! Run in the Honey Springs Memorial on July 14

On Friday, July 14, 2006, the Friends of Honey Springs Battlefield and the Oklahoma Running Association will host the 4th Annual Honey Springs Memorial 5-K Run and a 1-Mile Fun Run/Walk. The 1-mile event begins at 7:30 p.m. (with a reproduction Civil War cannon as the "starter's pistol"). The 5-K event begins at 8 p.m. (again with the cannon going "boom!"). At 10:30 a.m., Saturday, July 15, 2006, the site will host its Annual Memorial Service honoring those who fought and died (and some of whom are still buried) on the battlefield. Reenactors from the "Trans-Mississippi Rifles" will form the joint color guard and men from the "Union Rifles" will perform the gun salute. Volunteers from the "Arkansas Brigade" will provide a cannon salute before "Taps."

This year Kansas native Arthur Collins will offer a brief program on his book *General James G. Blunt: Tarnished Glory*. The Memorial Service will be followed by the annual luncheon and business meetings of the Friends of Honey Springs Battlefield.

Frank Phillips House receives two financial boons

The Friends of Frank Phillips Home recently received a substantial grant from ConocoPhillips. The funding will be used for preservation and conservation of the Frank Phillips House and its collections. Lloyd Cullison, ConocoPhillips representative, presented the grant to Vicki Stewart, president of the Friends board (below).



Owned and operated by the Oklahoma Historical Society, the house is listed in the National Register of Historic Places. The purpose of the site is to preserve and interpret information about the lifestyle of oil industry pioneers Frank and Jane Phillips.

The Friends of Frank Phillips Home is a non-profit organization that supports OHS in the preserving this important historic resource located in Bartlesville, Oklahoma.



In addition, the Frank Phillips House was recently presented a contribution from the Jane Phillips Society. The donation is to be used to repair the signage in front of the building. Above, Jim Goss, the historic house's director, accepts the donation from JPS president Sandy Mason, vice president Mary Jane Wyatt, and treasurer Michelle Swaney.

Civil Rights leader James E. Stewart, Sr., honored with Research Center exhibit

Noted Civil Rights activist and long-time Oklahoma City civic leader James E. Stewart, Sr., is featured in a new exhibit in the John and Eleanor Kirkpatrick Research Center at the Oklahoma Museum of History.

"The exhibit is presently on view, and it will be dedicated on August 18 at 2 p.m.," stated William D. Welge, Research Center director. Stewart's family and friends will attend the special ceremony. Special credit is given to Historical Collections Specialist Larry O'Dell, who developed the exhibit. A Marine Color Guard will be present at the dedication, and vocal music will provide ambience.

James Stewart (1912-97), born on September 6, 1912, in Plano, Texas, served as a leader in the Oklahoma City Civil Rights Movement. From 1916 until 1928 his family lived in Oklahoma City, where he at-



tended Douglass High School. In 1930 he graduated from a school in Wichita, Kansas, and then entered the Oklahoma Colored Agricultural and Normal University (later Langston University). After one year he moved to Oklahoma City and gained the trust of *Black Dispatch* publisher Roscoe Dunjee.

Stewart wrote the column "Jimmy Says" for Dunjee's newspaper, commenting on the ongoing activities of Oklahoma City's African American community. In 1937 the Oklahoma Natural Gas Company hired Stewart as a janitor, and by 1940 he managed the eastside office. He volunteered for the U.S. Marines during World War II. After the war he continued to work for ONG, becoming a vice president in 1976. He retired from the company in 1977. In 1982 Stewart chaired the Oklahoma City Urban Renewal Authority, and in 1984 Governor George Nigh appointed him to the State Narcotics and Controlled Drug Commission. Stewart died on April 13, 1997.

The Stewart Collection was donated to the Oklahoma Historical Society in 2004 by James E. Stewart, Jr., of Temple Hills, Maryland. The younger Stewart's gift has enabled the OHS to attract other African American-oriented collections, including a 50,000-image collection of photographs by amateur photographer James Gatewood.

The exhibit displays four cases of items from the Stewart Collection. Included are autographed photos of Dorothy Dandridge and Joe Louis. Also on view is memorabilia from Stewart's Marine career and letters from Ralph Ellison and W. C. Handy. Evidence of Stewart's prominence in the Civil Rights Movement is attested by NAACP convention programs, souvenirs, awards and letters from such luminaries as Roy Wilkins. Other awards on display include a trophy given to Stewart at his induction into the Afro-American Hall of Fame in 1983 and a plaque representing his induction into the Oklahoma Journalism Hall of Fame in 1997.

The exhibit is installed at the west wall of the Research Center's Reading Room, to the right of the main entrance. Following the exhibit dedication on August 18, a reception will be held in the Chesapeake Special Events Center.



James Stewart accepts the NAACP's Golden Plate Award (Stewart Collection photo, OHS)

OHS Places . . .

T. B. Ferguson Home

519 N. Weigle
Watonga, OK 73772-3032
Phone: 580/623-5069
Hours: Wed.-Sat., 10 a.m.—4 p.m.
Admission: Free

Take a weekend trip to Watonga to see the T. B. Ferguson home, which novelist Edna Ferber visited in 1927. She stayed with Thompson B. (1857-1921) and Elva S. (1868-1947) Ferguson and loosely based her novel *Cimarron* (1930) on their frontier life. The Ferguson family migrated from Kansas to the Cheyenne and Arapaho country after it was opened to non-Indian settlers in 1892. After arriving in Watonga, the Fergusons established the *Watonga Republican* newspaper. In 1901 President Theodore Roosevelt appointed T. B. Ferguson as Oklahoma Territory's eighth governor.

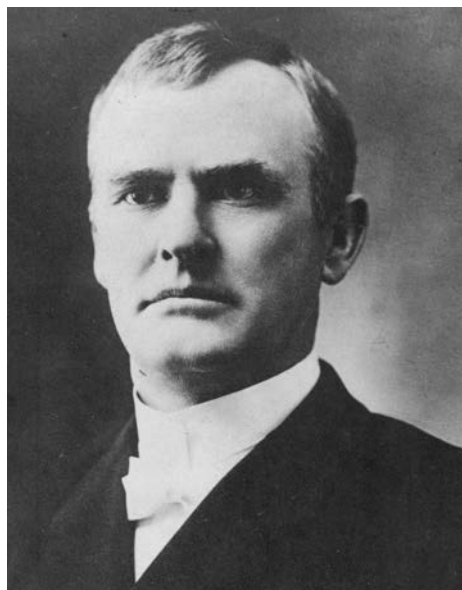
This three-story, wood-frame house, constructed in 1901, is surrounded by a white picket fence. The first floor witnessed many gala events, especially during the years when Ferguson served as territorial gover-



nor. Bedrooms, a bathroom, and space for the Fergusons to read and write were located on the second floor. The third floor had extra guest bedrooms and was used by the Fergusons to store magazines and newspapers. The house is furnished with period furniture contributed by local and Blaine County residents.

In 1967 the Mothers Self-Culture Club of Watonga launched a drive to restore and refurbish the house. Thus, rehabilitation occurred in the 1970s. In 1973 the T. B. Ferguson Home was listed in the National Register of Historic Places (NR 73001555). The property was transferred from the Oklahoma Tourism Department to the Oklahoma Historical Society in 1991.

Also located on the grounds are the first Watonga city jail and an 1870 U.S. Cavalry remount station, a log building. Annual events at the home include a fund-raising dinner in March, a volunteer appreciation dinner in June, an art show as well as an antique and collectible sale in conjunction with the annual Watonga Cheese Festival in October, and a display of Victorian-style Christmas decorations in December.





Smithsonian Institution Affiliations 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:

- ✓ A 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 Smithsonian,
- ✓ 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.

To become a Smithsonian Affiliate Member, please remit an additional \$20 at any time or when you renew your OHS membership. *We'll handle all the rest.*

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

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PERIODICALS

 Smithsonian Affiliations
Membership Program

Mistletoe Leaves

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July 2006

Lone Star Model T Fords visit Fort Washita

Eighteen Model T Ford automobiles arrived at the Fort Washita Historic Site in early May. This model of the Ford car dates from 1908 to 1926.

The vintage vehicles, piloted by members of the Lone Star Model Ts of the Model T Ford Car Club of America, were on a tour from the Dallas-Fort Worth, Texas, area.

David Rosenow, club chairman, had scheduled the road trip to Fort Washita and environs.

In a surprise visit, two Model A Fords (produced in 1927 and afterward) happened to drop on the way south from Wichita, Kansas. They arrived only a few minutes before their elder "cousins" appeared.

Historical Interpreter Ron Petty conducted a tour of the fort for the "autoists." Other lucky visitors to the site were treated to an impromptu vintage car show in the site's parking lot.



Traffic jam, 1920s style? Model T and Model A autos at Fort Washita (Courtesy Joe Mabry).



What is that?

Keep an eye on the new outdoor exhibit now under construction on the grounds of the Oklahoma History Center. The display should be completed by mid-July.

(Staff photo)

The Oklahoma State Historic Preservation Office is now open in the Oklahoma History Center, 2401 North Laird Avenue, Oklahoma City. Call 405/521-6249 for further information and directions.

