

Washita Love Child book release

The Oklahoma Historical Society is thrilled to host the book release for *Washita Love Child: The Rise of Indigenous Rock Star Jesse Ed Davis* (2024) by Douglas K. Miller on the evening of Tuesday, November 12. Dr. Miller will discuss his research on Jesse Ed Davis (1944–1988), a Kiowa-Comanche guitarist who collaborated with music legends such as Bob Dylan, B. B. King, and John Lennon. The book chronicles Davis’s rise from Oklahoma to international fame in the 1960s and 70s, examining his artistic influence and contributions to music history.

After the discussion, there will be a question and answer session, followed by a book signing and a reception featuring live music by Chebon Tiger, a Seminole-Mvskoke musician with personal and cultural ties to Jesse Ed Davis. Tiger will honor Davis’s legacy by performing selections from his catalog. In addition, Davis’s

iconic Telecaster guitar and Fender Bassman amplifier will be on display, giving attendees a rare glimpse of the instruments that helped define his sound.

Doors open at 6:30 p.m., and the event begins at 7 p.m. Miller will sign copies of *Washita Love Child*, which will be available for \$35. This event is free and open to the public, but registration is requested at okhistory.org/signing. Contact Angela Spindle at angela.spindle@history.ok.gov, or by calling 405-522-0472.



This program is funded in part by Oklahoma Humanities (OH) and the National Endowment for the Humanities (NEH). Any views, findings, conclusions, or recommendations expressed in the program do not necessarily represent those of OH or NEH.



In an upcoming partnership between OKPOP and the Bob Dylan Center, OKPOP staff are busy photographing pieces of their newly acquired collections from Oklahoma guitarist Jesse Ed Davis. On Friday, November 15, the Bob Dylan Center will open *Jesse Ed Davis: Natural Anthem* an exhibit that will span the career, life, and legacy of the legendary musician and member of the Native American Music Hall of Fame.

Jesse Ed Davis’ Fender Bassman amplifier and Fender Telecaster guitar from OKPOP’s collection is on loan to the center for the exhibition and will be on display at the Oklahoma History Center the night of the book release for *Washita Love Child*.



Top: Jesse Ed Davis vinyl sleeve promotional photo from *Keep Me Comin’*—the artist’s last solo album, released in 1973.

Right: Davis’ Fender Telecaster Guitar and Fender Bassman amplifier.



This festive programming is part of the commemoration of the bicentennial of Fort Gibson and Fort Towson, both established in 1824.

WINTER TRADITIONS AND CHEER

The Fort Gibson Historic Site will celebrate winter traditions and cheer practiced by soldiers at the fort through living history programs that will take place on December 12, 13, and 19–21. Soldiers separated from loved ones, stationed at Fort Gibson found small ways to celebrate the season, bringing cheer among their ranks.

CHRISTMAS AT THE FORT

On Saturday, December 14, from 1 to 3 p.m., the Fort Towson Historic Site will explore long-lasting 19th-century holiday traditions that continue to the present day and others that are long forgotten. Santa and Mrs. Claus will be warming up by a cozy fire in the sutler store, giving out cookies and toys. Visitors can also take a tour of the grounds and play historic games. Contact the Fort Towson site at 580-873-2634 to learn more.

FORT GIBSON CANDLELIGHT TOUR

The Fort Gibson Historic Site’s Christmas Candlelight Tour will take place on Saturday, December 14. Guests will be led by candlelight through scenes of 19th-century life in the fort’s palisade and surrounding grounds. Tours will take place every 20 minutes from 6 to 8:30 p.m. Each tour group is limited to 10 people. This program requires tickets to be purchased in advance. Call 918-478-4088 for more information.

WINTER BAKE DAY

On Saturday, December 21, from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m., Fort Gibson will hold its Winter Bake Day, making fresh-baked gingerbread figures like soldiers, nurses, and laundresses from scratch. The public is welcome to visit as the 1860s military bakehouse comes to life. A decoration station at the Fort Gibson Commissary building will have icing and candies for children to decorate a large gingerbread figure, or parents can purchase a complete decoration kit for their little ones to take home, as long as supplies last.

Visit okhistory.org/events to learn more about all OHS seasonal programming.



Oklahoma Historical Society
 Membership Office
 405-522-5242
 ohsmembers@history.ok.gov

Mistletoe Leaves (USPS 018-315) is published bimonthly by the Oklahoma Historical Society, 800 Nazih Zuhdi Drive, Oklahoma City, OK 73105-7917. Periodicals postage paid at Oklahoma City, OK (ISSN 1932-0108)

POSTMASTER: Send address changes to *Mistletoe Leaves*, 800 Nazih Zuhdi Drive, Oklahoma City, OK 73105-7917.

By authorization of the Oklahoma Historical Society (OHS) Board of Directors, 3,800 copies are prepared at a cost of \$1,312.41 bimonthly. The publication is financed in part with federal funds from the National Park Service, United States Department of the Interior. Contents and opinions do not necessarily reflect the views or policies of the Oklahoma Historical Society or the United States Department of the Interior. Mention of trade names does not constitute endorsement or recommendation by either organization. *Mistletoe Leaves* is published for the members and friends of the OHS in partial fulfillment of its mission to collect, preserve, and share the history and culture of the state of Oklahoma and its people. Students and teachers are invited to share studies and programs and to duplicate content as desired. Editors are welcome to reprint materials with credit. All Oklahoma Historical Society facilities are for the education and enjoyment of all. State and federal regulations prohibit unlawful discrimination in state and federally-assisted programs on the basis of race, color, national origin, and/or handicap. Anyone denied benefits should contact the grievance manager of the Oklahoma Historical Society, 800 Nazih Zuhdi Drive, Oklahoma City, OK 73105-7917, telephone 405-837-7631 and/or the director, Office of Equal Opportunity, United States Department of the Interior, Washington, DC 20240.

FROM OUR EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR



By Trait Thompson

The wise philosopher Yogi Berra once remarked, “If you don’t know where you are going, you might wind up someplace else.” Many organizations end up in that exact predicament because they haven’t taken the time to formulate their road map to achieve the success they desire. For the many rewards a strategic plan can yield, it is one of the most challenging and time-consuming activities an agency can undertake. A well-thought-out strategic plan aligns staff and leadership on the organization’s priorities, creates actionable goals, clarifies the allocation of financial and human capital resources, and allows for a proactive approach to problem-solving.

Late last year, under the leadership of our Director of Strategic Initiatives, Nicole Harvey, the OHS began the process of formulating a strategic plan for the next three years. The first step in this endeavor was to get an accurate baseline of where we are today by surveying over 3,000 stakeholders, including employees, patrons, members, donors, and others about their perceptions of the OHS in a variety of categories. Armed with data provided by 277 respondents, staff and board members met in January for a series of off-site sessions facilitated by the Oklahoma Center for Nonprofits. During the sessions, we analyzed the survey results, engaged in SWOT analysis, and established the framework for solidifying our goals.

Following the sessions, the Oklahoma Center for Nonprofits provided a first draft

of the strategic plan, which was then distributed to individuals throughout the agency for feedback. After another round of drafting, the plan was distributed agency-wide, and once again, comments were taken into consideration before a final draft was submitted to the OHS Board of Directors for approval at the July quarterly meeting.

Our final strategic plan resulted in four priorities with six goals, listed below, not by order of importance.

Our first strategic priority is to enhance organizational infrastructure and sustainability. The two goals associated with this priority are implementing a pilot program for long-range capital improvement and utilizing available technology to enhance services for all OHS stakeholders including employees, patrons, and partners.

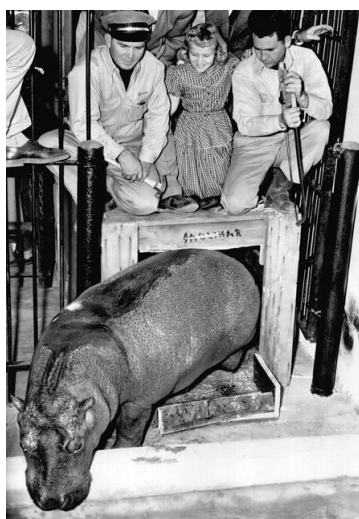
The second strategic priority is to boost financial resources and community engagement. Our goals for this priority are to boost fundraising via membership and annual giving by 5 percent each year and to increase our marketing efforts across the OHS.

The third strategic priority is to optimize internal operations and staff development, with the goal of improving staff development, internal policies, and communication throughout the agency.

Our fourth strategic priority is to ensure program effectiveness and community outreach, with the associated goal of reviewing current programs and creating new ones to best serve Oklahomans.

The completion of our strategic plan is only the beginning of the process. Ultimately, we must now undertake the difficult work of accomplishing our goals. This will require the coordinated efforts of all employees throughout the OHS to achieve the success we all desire.

To see the OHS strategic plan online, visit okhistory.org/strategicplan.



NO CROCODILES OR RHINOCEROSSES

“Only a hippopotamus will do”

In November 1953, a young girl from Oklahoma released a unique song. Ten-year-old Gayla Peevey had a special Christmas wish and she sang about it in “I Want a Hippopotamus for Christmas.” At this time, the Oklahoma City Zoo and Botanical Garden decided that Gayla’s song would be perfect to use for a fundraising campaign. The zoo raised enough money to purchase a hippopotamus named Mathilda. The hippo arrived in a crate on Christmas Eve that year, and Gayla recalled, “I was the first one to peek in and see her, and it was quite exciting!”

Gayla Peevey and Oklahoma City Zoo officials uncrate Mathilda on December 24, 1953 (2012.201.B1002.0610, Oklahoma Publishing Company Photography Collection, OHS).

Touching history - preservation of family connection

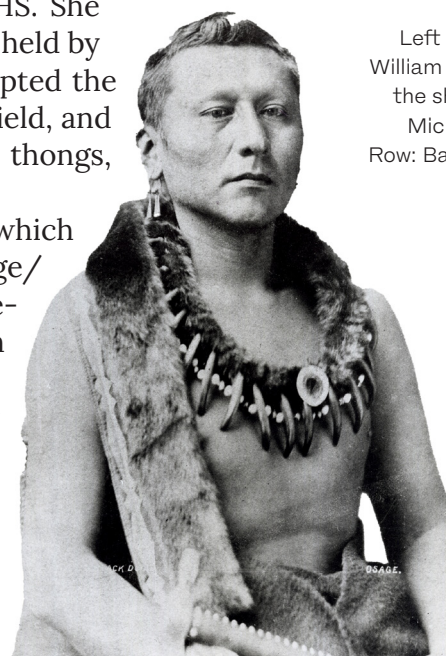
A bison hide war shield belonging to Chief Black Dog II in the Oklahoma Historical Society's (OHS) collections has a storied history. Made c. 1890, the artifact has six crosses representing stars painted on one side of the shield, depicting the night sky. The other side of the shield represents the sun. Hanging eagle feathers are attached to its outer rim.

Many historians know the artifact, which connects directly to the development of our state flag. The artifact served as an inspiration for artist Louise Fluke when she was creating her design for the Oklahoma state flag contest in 1925. Fluke studied Oklahoma history, examined various artifacts, and consulted with Dr. Joseph B. Thoburn of the OHS. She ultimately decided to include an Osage shield in her design. Fluke won the contest held by the Oklahoma Daughters of the American Revolution, and the state officially adopted the design for its flag in 1925. In 1941, the word "Oklahoma" was added beneath the shield, and a 1988 resolution defined the colors for the background, shield, feathers, crosses, thongs, and calumet.

Before this notoriety, the shield carried deep meaning in the Osage Nation, which its lineal descendants have not forgotten. This past spring, Michael Hopper (Osage/Choctaw), who has a direct family connection with the artifact, contacted OHS requesting to visit the object. Mr. Hopper is Chief Black Dog II's great-great-grandson and holds a master's in archaeology from the University of New Mexico. The family visited the collections area just a few months ago to see the shield. Curator Heather Franks led the tour and some of family members held the shield. A drummer accompanying them to OHS sang, drummed, and spoke a prayer. Also in attendance were drum keepers for the Hominy district; Michael Hopper's father, Mike Hopper (Osage), and William S. Fletcher (Osage), both the great-grandsons of Chief Black Dog II.



Left to right, front Row: Irene Hopper, William S. Fletcher, Mike Hopper holding the shield. Second Row: Jianna Jones, Michelle Hopper, Adell Hopper. Back Row: Batt De Roin, Jalen Whitehorn, and Michael Hopper.



Osage chief Black Dog II (20101.9, Frank F. Finney Sr. Collection, OHS).

Museum After Dark: Christmas in the Village

Experience a Victorian Christmas in Humphrey Heritage Village at the Cherokee Strip Regional Heritage Center on Friday, December 6, from 6 to 9 p.m. Visitors will feel the warmth of holiday cheer throughout the beautifully decorated Humphrey Heritage Village.

For just the regular cost of admission, guests can explore seasonally themed stations with loads of activities for the family, including ornament decorating and craft making, while Christmas music echoes overhead.

A temporary museum exhibit featuring 60 years of Christmas tree trends will be on view in the museum. Hot drinks and refreshments and a visit from Santa Claus are also planned for the festive occasion.

For more information about Christmas in the Village, please call 580-237-1907 or visit www.csrhc.org.



Freedmen at Fort Gibson for enrollment before the Dawes Commission, Fort Gibson, Indian Territory (15807, 15814.A, Aylesworth Album Collection, OHS).

Freedmen history focus of photographic exhibit at Fort Gibson

On Saturday, November 16, the Fort Gibson Historic Site will debut an exhibit featuring Freedmen history. The exhibit offers a brief historical moment in the late 1800s when formerly enslaved people from across the territory traveled to Fort Gibson to be enrolled in the Dawes Rolls. Fort Gibson staff have worked directly with Freedmen descendants to curate the photographs that will be on view through February 2025.

Captain McKennon set up an office in one of the officers' quarters to fulfill his commission of enrolling the people once enslaved in Indian Territory. While waiting, a small community gathered, and soon-to-be-enrolled Freedmen visited with long-lost friends, sold goods they brought with them, and held gatherings on the post's grounds. Photographers took several images during the proceedings, recording the small historical moment through images.

When the Five Tribes were forcibly removed from their homelands in the 1830s-40s, people enslaved by the tribes also made the long journey to Indian Territory. By 1861, eight to ten thousand Black people were enslaved throughout Indian Territory. In 1863, the Cherokee National Council passed an act freeing all people enslaved by their tribe, but many slaveholders ignored the law. After the Civil War, new treaties between the US government and the Cherokee, Chickasaw, Choctaw, Muscogee (Creek), and Seminole abolished slavery among the tribes. They outlined citizenship rights available to the Freedmen and their descendants. These treaties were ratified in the summer of 1866.

Discover more about Freedmen history on the OHS website by visiting okhistory.org/freedmen.

OHS Calendar of Events



November

- 1 Oklahoma Heritage Preservation Grant Program application deadline, Oklahoma Historical Society
- 1-2 Will Rogers Days and Motion Picture Festival, Will Rogers Memorial Museum, Claremore
- 2 Fort Gibson Hospital reopens, Fort Gibson Historic Site, Fort Gibson
- 2 *A Broader View: The 1893 Land Run in an Era of American Change* exhibit closes, Cherokee Strip Regional Heritage Center, Enid
- 2 Blacksmithing Demonstration, Cherokee Strip Museum and Rose Hill School, Perry
- 2 The Indian Women's Pocahontas Club wreath laying and "Hats off to Will" luncheon, Will Rogers Memorial Museum, Claremore
- 2 History Alive! on the Cherokee Strip, Cherokee Strip Regional Heritage Center, Enid
- 2 Will Rogers Days Parade, Downtown Claremore



2 - Will Rogers's Birthday Party with trick ropers Kevin and Will Fitzpatrick, Will Rogers Memorial Museum, Claremore

- 3 *Citizen Cowboy: Will Rogers and the American People* (2024), book signing and conversation with Steven Watts, Will Rogers Memorial Museum, Claremore
- 7 "Oklahoma Calabooses: The History and Stories of Oklahoma's Early Jails," Oklahoma Territorial Museum and Carnegie Library, Guthrie
- 7-9 "Washington Irving" living history programs, Fort Gibson Historic Site, Fort Gibson
- 8 Museum After Dark: Lantern Tours, Cherokee Strip Regional Heritage Center, Enid
- 9 Quilting Workshop, Sod House Museum, Aline
- 9 Cast-Iron Cooking Class, The Chisholm, Kingfisher
- 12 *Washita Love Child: The Rise of Indigenous Rock Star Jesse Ed Davis* (2024) book release with Douglas K. Miller, Oklahoma History Center, Oklahoma City
- 13 "Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA)" webinar, State Historic Preservation Office



- 14-16 "Washington Irving" living history programs, Fort Gibson Historic Site, Fort Gibson
- 15 OHS Awards and Honors nominations deadline, Oklahoma Historical Society
- 15 Oklahoma *in Context*: The 2025 Oklahoma History Symposium presentation proposals deadline
- 15 "National Register of Historic Places: Overview" webinar, State Historic Preservation Office
- 15 "The Black Experience and Route 66" program and pop-up exhibit, Oklahoma History Center, Oklahoma City
- 16 Freedmen exhibit opens, Fort Gibson Historic Site, Fort Gibson
- 16 Embroidery Workshop for Beginners, Hunter's Home, Park Hill
- 16 History Alive! on the Cherokee Strip, Cherokee Strip Regional Heritage Center, Enid
- 16 "Introduction to Knitting: Make Your Own Mug Cozy" workshop, Oklahoma History Center, Oklahoma City
- 18 Kilgen Theatre Organ performance featuring Dennis Scott and the silent film *Speedy* (1928), Oklahoma History Center, Oklahoma City
- 19 - 1850s Christmas Traditions program begins, Hunter's Home, Park Hill
- 20 - Oklahoma Historical Society Executive Committee meeting, Oklahoma History Center, Oklahoma City
- 21-23 "Washington Irving" living history programs, Fort Gibson Historic Site, Fort Gibson



- 14 "Christmas at the Fort: 19th-Century Traditions" program, Fort Towson Historic Site, Fort Towson
- 14 Holiday Open House, Pawnee Bill Ranch and Museum, Pawnee
- 14 Drummond Christmas Open House, Fred and Addie Drummond Home, Hominy
- 14 "A Quilter's Christmas" - The Sod House 130th Anniversary celebration, Sod House Museum, Aline
- 14 Christmas Candlelight Tour at Fort Gibson, Fort Gibson Historic Site, Fort Gibson
- 15 Christmas Open House, Hunter's Home, Park Hill
- 19-21 - "Winter Traditions and Cheer" living history programs, Fort Gibson Historic Site, Fort Gibson
- 20 - Christmas on the Prairie, Cherokee Strip Museum and Rose Hill School, Perry
- 21 - Winter Bake Day, Fort Gibson Historic Site, Fort Gibson
- 21 History Alive! on the Cherokee Strip, Cherokee Strip Regional Heritage Center, Enid

Please visit okhistory.org/events for additional information about OHS events and programs.

December

- 3 Tenth Annual Holiday Market at the Museum, Museum of the Western Prairie, Altus
- 6 Museum After Dark: Christmas in the Village, Cherokee Strip Regional Heritage Center, Enid
- 7 Guthrie Distinctive Homes Tour and Wassail at the Oklahoma Territorial Museum and Carnegie Library, Guthrie
- 7 History Alive! on the Cherokee Strip, Cherokee Strip Regional Heritage Center, Enid
- 7 Photos with Santa, Will Rogers Memorial Museum, Claremore
- 8 Christmas Tea, Cherokee Strip Museum and Rose Hill School, Perry
- 12-13 "Winter Traditions and Cheer" living history programs, Fort Gibson Historic Site, Fort Gibson
- 12-13 Oklahoma History Center Museum Store Annual Holiday Sale, Oklahoma History Center, Oklahoma City
- 14 Holiday Open House, Pioneer Woman Museum and Statue, Ponca City
- 14 1850s Christmas Traditions program ends, Hunter's Home, Park Hill
- 14 Photos with Santa, Will Rogers Memorial Museum, Claremore
- 14 Pawnee Bill Ranch Association Annual Members' Meeting and Meal, Pawnee Bill Ranch and Museum



"A Quilter's Christmas"

The Sod House Quilters are stepping in to celebrate and commemorate the 130th anniversary of the Sod House the "quilted way." Christmas trees throughout the museum will be decorated with quilt blocks such as log cabins, yo-yos, four patches, stars, and Christmas tree blocks. The Sod House itself will have seasonal decorations on display.

"A Quilter's Christmas" open house will be on Saturday, December 14, from 1 to 3 p.m. The Friends of the Sod House Museum will celebrate this milestone with cookies and cider and give away door prizes! Visitors can buy tickets for a queen-size quilt with the theme of "chickadees and trees," made by the Sod House Quilters. They will be \$2 each, three for \$5, and 6 for \$10.

The Silver Strings and Friends musical group will share their love of music with guests at the Christmas Open House. They will play folk, traditional Christmas music, gospel, country, and unusual instrumental music throughout the day. As part of the celebration, the audience will be encouraged to join in during the musical presentation.

For more information, please call 580-463-2441.

Oklahoma Medical Research Foundation donates archives to OHS

To cap a celebratory 77th year in which the Oklahoma Medical Research Foundation paid a visit to all 77 counties in the state, OMRF has donated its archives to the Oklahoma Historical Society (OHS).

“At OMRF, we have always thought of ourselves as belonging to the entire state,” said OMRF President Andrew Weyrich, PhD. “Now, every Oklahoman will be able to access and learn about their medical research foundation.”

OMRF’s archives consist of a trove of historical documents, photographs and other artifacts that date to OMRF’s founding in 1946. The collection had grown over the decades, and the foundation decided it would be better entrusted to professional archivists at OHS who could organize and catalogue the collection.

When the project is completed, the collection will be available to the public, both in person and through The Gateway to Oklahoma History, a free online repository.

“OMRF’s history intertwines deeply with the history of Oklahoma,” said OHS Executive Director Trait Thompson. “By making these archives accessible, we’re proud to help tell this uniquely Oklahoma story.”

For the next year, historical artifacts and documents from OMRF’s archives are also on display at the Research Center located in the Oklahoma History Center.

The exhibit features photos from OMRF’s history; documents detailing the grassroots

effort to create the foundation; the Western Union telegram to Sir Alexander Fleming, the famed British scientist and discoverer of penicillin who dedicated OMRF’s first building in 1949; an interactive display that lets people experience what it is like to live with macular degeneration—a condition that OMRF studies—and many other items.

“This collection will fill a considerable gap,” said Mallory Covington, who oversees archival collections for OHS. “Our goal is to include all aspects of Oklahoma history, but until now we had very little representing medical research.”

A grant from the Puterbaugh Foundation made the entire project possible.

The Puterbaugh Foundation’s president, retired Oklahoma Supreme Court Chief Justice Steven Taylor, describes the project as “a perfect fit” for the McAlester-based philanthropy, which was created by coal magnate J. G. Puterbaugh, OMRF’s second president. “Mr. Puterbaugh would approve of a gift that preserves the archives and the history of a place he dearly loved,” Taylor said.

For Weyrich, the partnership with OHS represents a way to ensure OMRF’s history lives on. “We’re proud of our past, and we want to preserve it,” he said. “But we also want to share it, and with the help of OHS, we will.”



Laura Martin, deputy director of the OHS Research Division, discusses the OMRF collection with Dr. Weyrich at the John and Eleanor Kirkpatrick Research Center.



The OMRF exhibit in the History Center showcasing photos, artifacts, documents, and objects that tell the 77-year history of the organization. (photos courtesy OMRF)

Mark your calendar

Some important deadlines are occurring this November. OHS Awards and Honors nominations and submissions for proposals for the Oklahoma History Symposium are open through November 15. Additionally, the Oklahoma Heritage Preservation Grant Program will be taking applications through November 1. We encourage you to track these important deadlines!

UPCOMING DEADLINES

NOVEMBER 1

Oklahoma Heritage Preservation Grant Program
Deadline for application

NOVEMBER 15

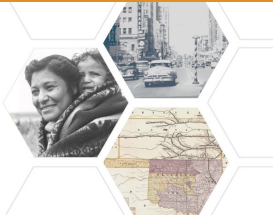
Oklahoma Historical Society Awards and Honors
Nominations due

NOVEMBER 15

Oklahoma in Context:
The 2025 Oklahoma History Symposium
Deadline for presentation proposals

Oklahoma
in context

The Oklahoma History Symposium
May 3, 2025 | Oklahoma History Center | OKC



Jane Jayroe Gamble Collection

Jane Jayroe was born on October 30, 1946, in Clinton. She grew up in Sentinel and Laverne and has recently donated items of clothing from her personal collection to the Oklahoma Historical Society. The donation includes a wedding dress and veil; the evening gown she wore when she was crowned Miss America in 1967; and objects relating to the Miss Oklahoma Pageant.

When she was a student at Oklahoma City University, she entered and went on the win the Miss Oklahoma Pageant, and was even-

tually crowned Miss America in 1967 at the age of 19.

After her pageantry experiences, Jayroe enjoyed a seventeen-year career as a primetime television news anchor in Oklahoma City and the Dallas/Fort Worth area. She has been a key spokesperson for health advocacy, has dedicated her talents toward civic work, government service, and enriching communities throughout the state.

Jayroe is the author of several inspirational books and is an active leader in the state’s volunteer community. She was inducted into the Oklahoma Hall of Fame in the state’s centennial year, 2007.

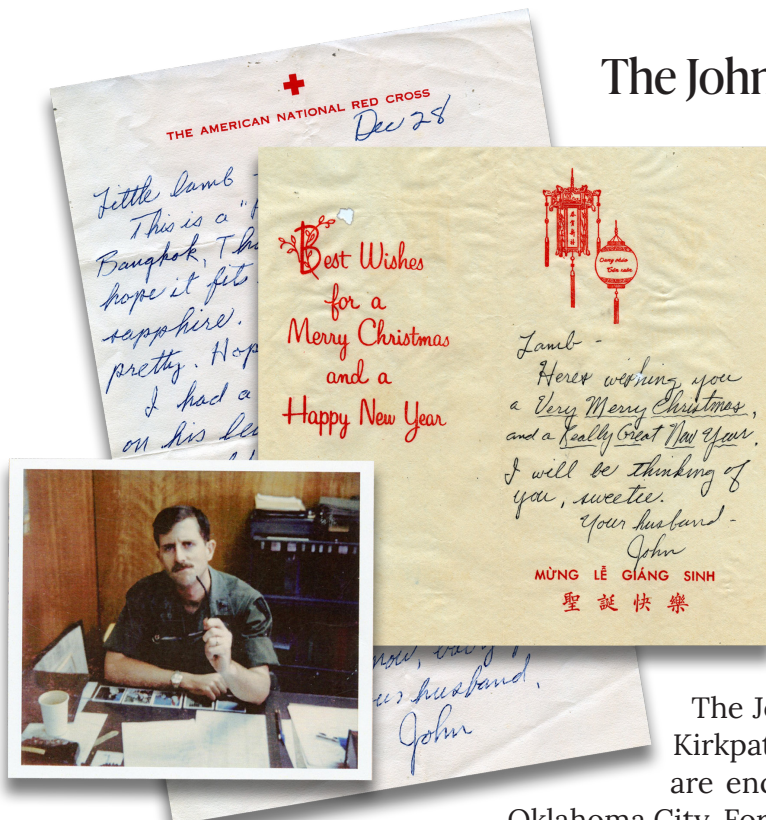
Photo: (2012.201, B0308B.0290, OPUBCO, OHS).

Jayroe’s pink evening gown with silver beading (2024.119.004, OHS).



The John Moreland Bagwell Collection

By Jan Richardson



John Moreland Bagwell and letters he penned to his wife while serving in Vietnam.

John Moreland Bagwell, hailing from Oklahoma City, served in Vietnam from November 1969 to November 1970 as an adjutant with the 67th Evacuation Hospital in Quy Nhon. The collection features original correspondence from this time period, including exchanges between Bagwell, his spouse, Jana Lee Bagwell, and his parents, Elizabeth and Carl Bagwell. These letters shed light on how the family navigated the challenges of the Vietnam conflict back home. Jana's letters provide insights into her life as a student at the University of Oklahoma in Norman, and her time in Arkansas City, Arkansas, during John's deployment. She also shares her thoughts on Vietnam-related matters and briefly touches on the political climate at the university. Carl Bagwell's correspondence focuses on his legal career in Oklahoma City and John's aspirations in the field of law. It is a time capsule of life abroad and at home during the Vietnam era.

The John Moreland Bagwell Collection (2009.198, three boxes) contains correspondence and a self-published book of facsimiles of the original letters, photographs, currency, certificates, and ephemera, and a map of the Indochina region.

The John Moreland Bagwell Collection is available for viewing at OHS's John and Eleanor Kirkpatrick Research Center Tuesday through Saturday, 10 a.m. to 4:45 p.m. Appointments are encouraged. The Research Center is located inside the Oklahoma History Center in Oklahoma City. For more information call 405-522-5225 or email research@history.ok.gov.

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

Repatriation ceremony held at the History Center

On Monday, September 23, a special repatriation ceremony was held at the Oklahoma History Center. The event included representatives and dignitaries from the Kiowa Tribe, the Phoebe A. Hearst Museum of Anthropology, the Fort Sill National Historic Landmark and Museum, and the Oklahoma Historical Society.

The ceremony marked an important act as the Hearst Museum of Anthropology in Berkeley, California, repatriated a sacred object to the Kiowa Tribe. The sacred object is a Kyôin (war shield) estimated to have been created in 1792 by Black Horse (formerly identified as "Satanta's Shield"). Black Horse passed guardianship of the Kyôin to Sét:t'ái:n:dè, who passed guardianship of the Kyôin to his son Grey Goose between 1872 and 1874. US Cavalry Captain Hugh Lenox Scott obtained the Kyôin from Grey Goose in 1894—purportedly through Grey Goose's will. In 1901, Phoebe A. Hearst purchased the Kyôin along with other Plains Indian objects from Captain Scott. The Kyôin was part of the Hearst Museum collections and was on loan to the Fort Sill National Historic Landmark and Museum.

The Oklahoma Historical Society is temporarily being entrusted to care for it until the Kiowa Tribe opens a new cultural facility in the future.



OHCM Docent Training begins November 6

Do you know anyone interested in becoming a docent at the Oklahoma History Center Museum (OHCM)? Applications are always being accepted, but this November and December, docent training is being offered free of charge to interested candidates.

The OHCM encourages potential volunteers to take all or part of the six-week course which begins on November 6. Through classroom and online instruction, the training sessions will teach ways to make presentations memorable experiences. The OHCM strives to prepare its volunteers to leave patrons with an appreciation for artifacts and articles on display through interesting storytelling. If you or anyone you know are interested in learning productive ways to approach tour presentations through the docent training sessions, please contact Steve Hawkins, volunteer coordinator, at 405-522-0754 or email steve.hawkins@history.ok.gov.



Members of the Kiowa Tribe joined Chairman Lawrence SpottedBird, OHS Executive Director Trait Thompson, and the Kiowa Tribe's District 7 Legislator Warren Queton at the ceremony.



Some members of the Kiowa Tribe shared stories and songs during the event.

Annual Giving Campaign

With your help, the Oklahoma Historical Society (OHS) has been collecting, preserving, and sharing Oklahoma's history for over a hundred years. Our donors' support helps us uncover Oklahoma's unique past, tell our state's story in new and innovative ways, and create opportunities for learners of all ages to engage with history. This work is only possible because of the generous contributions of our community. This fall, we ask that you consider supporting our efforts through a contribution to our annual giving campaign.

Your gift to the annual campaign goes directly to the development of new exhibits, events, and educational opportunities—it supports preservation efforts, collections care, and more.

A gift to the annual giving campaign provides the direct support that makes this mission possible.

Every dollar donated to the annual giving campaign makes an impact, and we are proud to acknowledge especially generous gifts in support of our mission. As such, gifts over \$500 are recognized in *The Chronicles of Oklahoma*, the scholarly history journal

of the OHS that has been in publication since 1921, and gifts over \$1,000 are given prominent recognition at the Oklahoma History Center, in our annual report, and on our website. Regardless of size, your contribution makes a meaningful impact on our work, and we are incredibly grateful for your support.

“Oklahoma's bold and exciting history is not about places and events—it is about our people. Being a member and supporter of the Oklahoma Historical Society guarantees that the stories about our people and their resilience and brilliant ideas that changed the world will live on for future generations.”

– Bob Burke

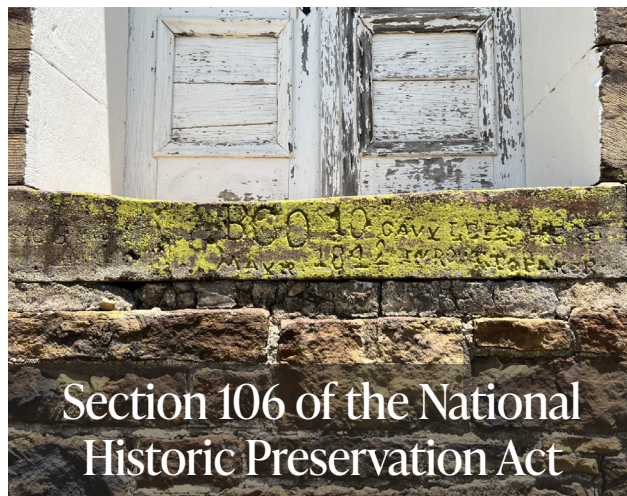
Your gift to the OHS is tax deductible. To give, please visit okhistory.org/donate. Checks can be sent to 800 Nazih Zuhdi Drive, Oklahoma City, OK 73105 with attention to the development department. For inquiries, comments, or more information about giving opportunities at the OHS, please contact Brittney Berling, development officer at 405-522-0317 or brittney.berling@history.ok.gov.

Agreement signed with Osage

The Oklahoma Historical Society and the Osage Nation have signed a service contract that will allow the tribe to take over the day-to-day operations of the White Hair Memorial in Hominy, effective September 20. The date for reopening the site is still pending.

The White Hair Memorial is located in the former home of Lillie Morrell Burkhart, an Osage and descendant of Chief Pawhuska (White Hair). The Burkhart Trust took possession of the site in 1984 and operated it in accordance with the adjudicated Last Will and Testament of Lillie Morrell Burkhart, which established the Burkhart Trust for the benefit of the Osage Nation and to honor Chief White Hair. The site will still be governed by the Burkhart Trust, which consists of nine OHS Board of Directors members. The Burkhart Trust will provide a stipend to the Osage Nation to assist in the site's operations. The trust will continue to own the land and the White Hair Memorial.

The agreement with the Osage Nation will ensure the White Hair Memorial remains an important cultural destination in Osage County for years to come.



On Wednesday, November 13, at 10 a.m., the State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO) will host a free webinar to provide an overview of Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA).

This training is intended to provide an introduction or refresher to Section 106 of the NHPA. The Oklahoma SHPO strives to convey the importance of the Section 106 process and to assist those who may be involved in the process in Oklahoma.

This presentation addresses the basic requirements of Section 106, the regulations that govern the process, the process for determining National Register eligibility, what constitutes an adverse effect, mitigating adverse effects, and streamlining Section 106 review. It will also include guidance specific to submitting projects for SHPO review.

To register for webinars through SHPO, visit okhistory.org/shpowebinars.

New Oklahoma National Register Listings

The Oklahoma Historical Society and State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO) are pleased to announce the National Register of Historic Places designation for the following properties in Oklahoma.



Booker T. Washington School, completed in 1922, was constructed as a segregated public school building to provide better education to Enid's Black students. This new school significantly impacted the Black community as it served as a permanent structure to teach first through 12th grades during the legal segregation of Oklahoma schools. In addition, it was momentous because it was the first segregated school in Enid that offered a high school and manual (vocational) training. Roy W. Shaw, a local architect, designed the school and its 1926 addition using the Classical Revival architectural style. It is located at 801 Pastor Alfred Baldwin Jr. Way, Enid, in Garfield County.



Built in 1923-1924, **Tipton Orphans Home** is an example of Late 19th and 20th century Revivals/Classical Revival Orphanage. Through an act of benevolence, Sol and Maggie Tipton donated 80 acres for the new home to be built. It has helped over 3,100 children who needed assistance, physically, mentally, socially, and spiritually. The Tipton Orphans Home has provided a safe place for those who did not have a home. Still in existence today, it remains a safe haven for children. The Tipton Orphans Home is significant for its impact on social history as it has been a vital part of Tillman County since 1923. It is also the oldest children's home in Oklahoma. It is located at 1000 N. Broadway Avenue, Tipton, in Tillman County.

Listing in the National Register of Historic Places is an honorific designation that provides recognition, limited protection and, in some cases, financial incentives for these important properties. The SHPO identifies, evaluates, and nominates properties for the special designation.

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

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

PERIODICALS

Mistletoe Leaves

Vol. 55, No. 6

November/December 2024

Kilgen Theatre Organ performance and silent film *Speedy*

On Monday, November 18, from 7 to 8:30 p.m., a Kilgen Theatre Organ performance will be held in the Devon Great Hall at the Oklahoma History Center (OHC) featuring organist Dennis Scott accompanying the Harold Lloyd silent film *Speedy* (1924).

Dennis Scott, (pictured above), is an award-winning and internationally known silent film organist. He is currently the house organist at Chicago's historic Music Box Theatre. Scott's style is compared to his legendary mentor, John Muri.

Suzanne Lloyd, granddaughter of the comic genius Harold Lloyd, dubbed Scott the "master of magic notes." Among other prestigious appointments, he has been the official organist for the International Buster Keaton Society and accompanies silent Keaton films for their annual convention in Michigan.

This Kilgen performance follows the film *Speedy*, directed by Ted Wilde and featuring Harold Lloyd as a scatterbrained New Yorker who has trouble keeping a job. The fast-paced film includes a wild chase through New York City. It is considered by some to be an invaluable historical record of the city in the 1920s. The film includes footage at the Plaza Hotel, the Brooklyn Bridge, Wall Street, Times Square, Yankee Stadium, and an extended cameo by Babe Ruth.

Tickets are \$10 for Oklahoma Historical Society members and \$20 for the general public and are available by visiting okhistory.org/tickets or by calling 405-522-0765.



1850s Christmas traditions explored at Hunter's Home



Visit Hunter's Home—the only remaining pre-Civil War plantation home in Oklahoma—for a genuine 1850s Christmas experience from Tuesday, November 19 through Saturday, December 14.

During these dates, the historic home will be decorated in the style of an 1850s Christmas. Did you know that in 1850, the Christmas holiday was just beginning to include traditions we know today? In that time period, Christmas was a more modest occasion.

Christmas trees may have been just generous branches, small in size, and set up on a tabletop or the corner table of a room. The art of homemade decorations might have included making paper or straw decorations or stringing popcorn, cranberries, dried fruit rings, and beads with a needle and thread. Handwritten missives took the place of Christmas cards, and gifts, if given, were hand-sewn and hand-made.

Be sure to attend the Christmas Open House at Hunter's Home from 10 a.m. to 8 p.m. on Sunday, December 15! Call 918-456-2751 for more information.

NOW AVAILABLE ONLINE



OHS FY2024 Annual Report

Our latest annual report highlights OHS events, resources, and activities from July 1, 2023, through June 30, 2024. Discover newly acquired artifacts and archival materials, collection highlights, reflections from our donors and members, statistics, and more at okhistory.org/2024report.

