

Legacy

OCTOBER 2011

telling oklahoma's story through its people

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National exhibit makes its mark

Fall visitors to the Gaylord-Pickens Oklahoma Heritage Museum will have the opportunity to experience the stories of Oklahomans and others from around the country who served, or had loved ones serving, in the Vietnam War. **Marking Time: Voyage to Vietnam**, a national traveling exhibit created by the Vietnam Graffiti Project of Keswick, Va., will make its debut in the Museum's Tulsa World Gallery on Oct. 13. The exhibit will remain at the Museum through Jan. 6, 2012, and will give visitors an inside look at the thoughts and feelings of soldiers as they traveled on troopships like the *General Nelson M. Walker* on their way to fight in the war.

After the *Walker* was scrapped in 2005, volunteers from the Vietnam Graffiti Project recovered thousands of historical artifacts from the 1960s, including graffiti-inscribed canvas bunks on which the soldiers slept and contemplated their lives while traveling to Vietnam. From 1965 to 1967, the *Walker*, which was one of 20 such troopships transporting men to Southeast Asia during the war, would carry as many as 5,000 soldiers at a time on an 18- to 23-day journey

of 5,000 miles. When discovered by the VGP, the ship was, in essence, a time capsule of the hopes, dreams and fears the soldiers had shared with few others since returning home from the Vietnam War.

"Our scribbles and doodles were left certainly to mark our passing, our existence, and with the knowledge that when [the ship] turned around and headed home, that even if we never made the return trip, our mark would," said Al Sebaka, a helicopter pilot and passenger aboard the *Walker*.



The central pieces of **Marking Time: Voyage to Vietnam** are the canvas bunks on which the soldiers recorded their names, doodles and

thoughts about serving their country. The Gaylord-Pickens Museum will specifically showcase canvases carrying the names and stories of soldiers from Oklahoma and the region.

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President's Corner



I love the sounds of fall – which to me means the excited chatter and sneakers of Oklahoma school children as they make use of the Museum's free field trip program, now in our third year.

Thanks to generous sponsors, thousands of students will get to experience Oklahoma's story through its people this school year.

Congratulations to the 2011 Oklahoma Hall of Fame class, who will be formally inducted on Nov. 17 at the Cox Center in Oklahoma City: Tommy Franks, Harold Hamm, Marques Haynes, Cathy Keating, Steve Malcolm, Roger Miller and Elizabeth Warren.

We welcome five new Second Century board members, and the team is hard at work planning fall and spring events for young professionals in our area. This group is committed to providing unique opportunities for its members to impact our programming and interact with prestigious Oklahomans. We also have 31 eager new Teen Board members getting ready for their new fundraiser in March, a 5K run, with proceeds benefitting our educational programs.

The first edition in the Museum's new Versus Series, which compares and contrasts a historic Oklahoman with his or her modern contemporary, was extremely successful. Join us the first Tuesday of each month for this educational, interactive new offering.

On Oct. 13 we look forward to opening our first national traveling exhibit, *Marking Time: Voyage to Vietnam*. A project of the non-profit Vietnam Graffiti Project, the exhibit will give guests an emotional look into the thoughts and feelings of soldiers as they traveled to the Vietnam War, recorded on their canvas bunks. Our staff has also created a special "Oklahoma" section of the exhibit, featuring video and artifacts from Oklahoma veterans and the stories of Vietnamese refugees who fled to our state after the war. Please make plans to visit this incredible exhibit between Oct. 13 and Jan. 6.

-Shannon L. Rich

National exhibit makes its mark

continued from Page 1

Other artifacts from the *Walker* to be displayed include personal items left behind by soldiers, ship safety objects, original bedding and life vests.

The Museum has personalized the national exhibit by adding an Oklahoma section, which will include a video of Oklahoma veterans describing their experiences in Vietnam and what it was like to return to the state after their tours. Family members and friends share recollections of waiting at home for loved ones. Also on display will be artifacts from Oklahoma veterans and Miss America 1967 Jane Jayroe, a Laverne, Okla. native and the first Miss America to visit a combat zone. The experiences of the thousands of Vietnamese who immigrated to Oklahoma City after the war and helped shape the city's culture also will be shared.



"We are thrilled to host a national exhibit of this caliber, and we hope it will allow our visitors a better understanding of the experiences our men and women faced during the Vietnam War," said Shannon L. Rich, president of the Gaylord-Pickens Museum. "Above all, we want to thank those veterans who served in Vietnam – as many of the Oklahoma veterans we worked with in creating the localized portion of

this exhibit expressed, no medal or certificate could ever compare to a simple, heartfelt 'thank you.'"

The exhibit will open with a reception on Thursday, Oct. 13 from 5 to 7 p.m. The reception is free to Museum members and free with paid Museum admission for non-members (\$7 for adults, \$5 for seniors and students).

In honor of Veteran's Day, the Museum and the *Marking Time* exhibit will be open free on Nov. 11 and 12 to all active and retired military and their immediate families with valid military ID. On Friday, Nov. 11 from 10 to 11 a.m. a ceremony will honor the Oklahoma veterans who participated in the creation of the exhibit. The ceremony is open to the public. On Saturday, Nov. 12, various family-friendly activities in conjunction with the *Marking Time* exhibit will be offered throughout the day.

To RSVP for the Oct. 13 reception or for more information about the exhibit, contact Corie Baker at 405.523.3212 or clb@oklahomaheritage.com.

Marking Time:
Voyage to Vietnam events

Thursday, Oct. 13

Opening reception
5 to 7 p.m.

Free for museum members; free with paid admission for non-members

Friday, Nov. 11

10 to 11 a.m.
Veteran's Day ceremony

**Friday, Nov. 11 and
Saturday, Nov. 12**

10 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Free admission for active and retired military and their immediate families.

Versus Series launches, draws a crowd

The Gaylord-Pickens Museum launched its new Versus Series in September to give community members another opportunity to experience Oklahoma's story through its people. The monthly interactive series was designed to compare and contrast a historic Oklahoma figure with her or her modern contemporary.



and Museum's mission of telling Oklahoma's story through its people."

The Oct. 6 edition of the Versus Series will feature Kate Barnard, portrayed by author and storyteller Glenda Carlile, and Jari

Askins, groundbreaking figures in Oklahoma's state government.

At the Sept. 6 launch, witty political commentators Will Rogers, portrayed by author and historian Bob Burke, and Mike Turpen discussed Oklahoma in their lifetimes, compared and contrasted their industry and answered questions from the audience.

At the age of 32 and when women did not yet have the right to vote, Barnard was the first female elected

to a major Oklahoma office. She was a firm believer in equality and devoted herself to improving the lives of those deemed "less desirable" by society – prisoners, orphans and Native Americans.

"Both quick-witted, both gregarious and both well-respected for their political commentary, Rogers and Turpen were the perfect opening act for the new Versus Series," said Nicole Harvey, museum services coordinator for the Gaylord-Pickens Museum and creator of the program. "This program is intended to give guests an insider's look into the people who created our history and are shaping our future."



Moderator Meg Salyer looks on as Will Rogers (portrayed by Bob Burke) and Mike Turpen "duke it out" at the Museum's first Versus Series presentation.

According to author and historian Bob Burke: "If the state budget didn't have enough money for children's homes, for adoptive parents, Kate would often give all of her paycheck. She spent every dime she ever earned in her life on causes of charity for the state."

City Councilwoman and president of Accel Financial Staffing Solutions Meg Salyer served as moderator, and the event was sponsored by Harland and Shirley Stonecipher.

Askins carries on Barnard's tenacious spirit – serving as the first female of the Oklahoma Pardon and Parole Board and the first female to lead a caucus in Oklahoma. Her focus on education and the state's children also gives a nod to what Kate held dear.

"What a fun evening of learning!" said Salyer. "To share the stage with two such inspirational and dedicated Oklahomans was a true joy. Bob Burke as Will Rogers was mesmerizing, and Mike Turpen was the perfect contemporary personality. This series will provide a great opportunity to demonstrate the Association

The presentation will be from 6 to 7:30. It is free for Museum members and \$5 for non-members. To RSVP, contact Nicole Harvey at 405.523.3231 or nh@oklahomaheritage.com.

UPCOMING BATTLES

Oct. 4 - Kate Barnard vs. Jari Askins
Nov. 1 - Vietnam War veteran Rear Admiral Greg Slavonic vs. Iraq War veteran Major Ed Pulido, U.S. Army (ret.)
Dec. 6 - TBD

Versus Series presentations are held the first Tuesday of the month from 6 to 7:30 p.m. at the Gaylord-Pickens Museum. Admission is free for Museum members or \$5 for non-members.

For more information, visit www.oklahomaheritage.com.

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*Chairmen's Circle

Teen Board selected

After receiving the most applications ever for the 2011-2012 Teen Board, 31 students from 15 Oklahoma high schools were selected to serve.

For more information about the Teen Board, contact Erin Page at 405.523.3208 or ep@oklahomaheritage.com.

The board offers ninth through 12th grade students an opportunity to promote Oklahoma pride in their communities, as well as gain valuable real-world skills, such as event planning, fund-raising and collaborative group work. In addition, students have the opportunity to meet notable Oklahomans – the board has already met with board member Chief District Judge Vicki Miles-LaGrange and will participate in escorting honorees at the 2011 Oklahoma Hall of Fame.

Charged with developing and implementing a fund-raiser for the Oklahoma Heritage Association and increasing the awareness of the Association and Museum among a young demographic, the board will host its annual fund-raiser in March at the Gaylord-Pickens Museum.

2011-2012 Teen Board

Katie Boecking – Bishop McGuinness
Kody Bollenbach – Bishop McGuinness
Christian Cormack – Carl Albert
Melissa Dang – Oklahoma School of Science & Mathematics
Julia Davidoff – Bishop McGuinness
Jef Danusantoso – Mount St Mary's
Blake Fabian – Bishop McGuinness
Lauren Flynn – Harding Charter
Haley Goodin – Deer Creek
Andrew Head – Bishop McGuinness
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Sarah McCoy – Edmond Memorial
Bridget McGuire – Bishop McGuinness
Kendall Morgan – Bishop McGuinness
Steven Mudd – Norman
Kolton Shipley – Tecumseh
Britton Stowell – Edmond Memorial
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Francie Trimble – Bishop McGuinness
Taylor Vu – PC North
Grace Winter – Edmond Memorial
Eric Woitchek – Bishop McGuinness
Jenny Zou – Edmond North

Looking for the perfect venue for a

HOLIDAY PARTY or
SPRING WEDDING?

Look no further than the
Gaylord-Pickens Museum!

Use of the beautiful Bennett-McClendon Great Hall or Edith Kinney Gaylord Garden is a privilege of membership beginning at the \$1,000 membership level.

For more information, contact
Karlee Chill at 405.523.3206 or
kc@oklahomaheritage.com.



New book releases



ODOT 100: Celebrating the First 100 Years of Transportation in Oklahoma
by Bob Burke
\$25.00

A compelling look at the Oklahoma Department of Transportation's past through historical photos and definitive text, through which the reader can explore not only the highways, but also the waterways, railways and airways through 100 years of transportation in Oklahoma.



The Oklahoma State Capitol: A History of our Seat of Government

By Charles Ford & Bob Burke
\$29.95

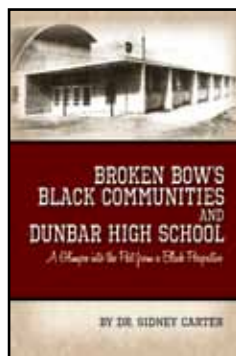
Oklahoma's first capital building was in a rented courthouse in the temporary capital of Guthrie after joining the Union as the 46th state in 1907. An election in 1910 made Oklahoma City the permanent capital, and state leaders envisioned a magnificent structure on a vacant piece of land northeast of

downtown Oklahoma City. This is the story of the move of the state capital and of the unique Oklahoma leaders working together to make certain that the Capitol is restored to its intended dignity.

Broken Bow's Black Communities and Dunbar High School: A Glimpse into the Past from a Black Perspective

By Dr. Sidney Carter

\$19.95



Chronicles Broken Bow's early history and incorporation as a city, as well as family life, leisure time and the black communities and their citizens. Black churches, Dunbar High School, successful graduates and athletic programs are featured, and the author shares personal memories of his hometown, high school and the teachers that mentored him.

To order these or any of the Association's other publications, visit the Gaylord-Pickens Museum Store, www.oklahomaheritage.com, www.amazon.com or bookstores statewide.



MEMBER SPOTLIGHT

Gov. Bill Anoatubby

Gov. Bill Anoatubby has been a member of the Oklahoma Heritage Association since 2004, was inducted into the Oklahoma Hall of Fame in 2004 and currently serves on the organization's board of directors. Anoatubby has served the Chickasaw Nation as its governor since 1987, and he credits the Association and Museum with providing continued motivation to the Nation to preserve its history, heritage and culture. The Association and Nation have worked together to establish the Chickasaw Nation Heritage Preservation awards, and the Museum was honored to showcase an exhibit of Chickasaw elders by artist Mike Larsen.

Anoatubby cites one of the most inspiring projects he's been a part of as the establishment of the Oklahoma Hall of Fame Scholarship, created and funded by Hall inductees who wish to encourage and inspire the next generation of Oklahoma leaders. The project linked he and the Nation's passion for educating and promoting pride among Oklahoma's young people.

"This organization is doing incredibly important work by helping to preserve the legacy of this state for future generations," said Anoatubby. "Our children and grandchildren will benefit from the work the Oklahoma Heritage Association is doing today, enabling them to learn from our history and inspiring them to build a better future."

Upcoming Events

October

4: Versus Series

Gaylord-Pickens Museum

13: Opening of *Marking Time: Voyage to Vietnam*

Gaylord-Pickens Museum

18: Tulsa membership reception

Lorton Performance Center, University of Tulsa

21: Heritage Week entries due

November

1: Versus Series

Gaylord-Pickens Museum

11: Veteran's Day ceremony, in conjunction with the exhibit *Marking Time: Voyage to Vietnam*

Gaylord-Pickens Museum

11 & 12: Free Museum admission for active and retired military and immediate families, in conjunction with the exhibit *Marking Time: Voyage to Vietnam*

Gaylord-Pickens Museum

15: *The State Capitol of Oklahoma:*

The History of our Seat of Government book signing

Full Circle Bookstore, Oklahoma City

16: Free Museum admission, in honor of Statehood Day (9 a.m. to 2 p.m.)

Gaylord-Pickens Museum

16: Heritage Week awards ceremony

Gaylord-Pickens Museum

17: Oklahoma Hall of Fame Banquet & Induction Ceremony

Cox Convention Center, Oklahoma City

December

6: Versus Series

Gaylord-Pickens Museum

10: *The State Capitol of Oklahoma:*

The History of our Seat of Government book signing

Steve's Books, Tulsa

18: Free Museum admission, as part of Downtown in December's Free Museum Sundays (12 to 6 p.m.)

Gaylord-Pickens Museum

Get details on all Association and Museum events through our bi-monthly e-update, *Heritage Headlines*. Sign up to receive it at www.oklahomaheritage.com.

Heritage Week entries due Oct. 21

The Oklahoma Heritage Association hosts the Heritage Week competition each year to encourage fourth through 12th grade students throughout the state to embrace and honor their heritage. Fourth through sixth graders compete in the poster competition, seventh through ninth graders compete in the essay competition and 10th through 12th graders will compete in the new video competition.

The winners will be honored in a ceremony at the State

Capitol, where they will receive commendations from the governor, and with a reception at the Gaylord-Pickens Museum. State awards and regional awards are bestowed in each category, and winners also receive cash prizes sponsored by IBC Bank.

The entry deadline is Oct. 21. Rules and entry forms can be downloaded at www.oklahomaheritage.com.

For more information, contact Gini Moore Campbell at 405.523.3202 or gmc@oklahomaheritage.com.

Second Century plans fall events

Second Century board members are planning the group's first fall event on Oct. 26. From 3 to 4 at the Museum, members will have the opportunity to meet and network with Oklahoma Hall of Fame members T. Boone Pickens and V. Burns Hargis. Pickens will share his thoughts about growing up in Holdenville, becoming the businessman he is today and his highly successful "Pickens Plan," which seeks to reduce America's dependence on foreign oil.

For more information or to RSVP, contact Alexis Lux at 405.523.3207

or alux@oklahomaheritage.com.

Second Century Board

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BOSSSES' DAY october 16

Surprise your boss with an Oklahoma-themed gift on Oct. 16, National Bosses' Day! From cufflinks to Old World Christmas ornaments and Oklahoma books to mugs, our Museum Store has something that's sure to please. Individual items range from \$10 to \$100, or we can customize a gift basket for you.

To order a gift, customize a gift basket or with questions, contact Meredith Knowles at 405.523.3211 or mk@oklahomaheritage.com.



Members & Donors

To more accurately thank those who have made contributions to the Association and Museum, this section is comprised of both members and donors at the \$2,500 level and above. As we are funded primarily through private donations and memberships, we are extremely grateful for the support of our donors at every level. Listed below are the donors and members at the \$2,500 level and above, current as of Sept. 1, 2011.

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We want to ensure we accurately thank our supporters. If you notice an error, please contact Alexis Lux at 405.523.3207 or alux@oklahomaheritage.com.

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Membership
opportunities
start at just \$35.

Members and donors at the \$50 level and above receive free admission to the Gaylord-Pickens Museum

Members and donors at the \$1,000 level and above receive use of event space at the Gaylord-Pickens Museum

For information on becoming a member of the Oklahoma Heritage Association and Gaylord-Pickens Museum, contact Alexis Lux at 405.523.3207 or alux@oklahomaheritage.com, or visit www.oklahomaheritage.com.

Oklahoma through its people



(left) Judge Ralph Thompson signs copies of his biography *Gentleman Jurist* with authors Eric Dabney and Bob Burke.



(left) Vaughn deean Fuller and Alexis Lux at the *Pure Color* reception.

(below) Gil Adams showcases his talents during an artist talk.



(below) The Oklahoma Society of Impressionists, featured in the *Pure Color* exhibit, at the reception in their honor.



(right) Second Century board members Stacey Huddleston and Wes Knight at the *Pure Color* artist talk.



(left) Myra and Lew Ward enjoy the Thompson book signing.

(right) Erin Page and Debbi Marshall wait to get copies of *Gentleman Jurist* signed by Judge Ralph Thompson and authors Eric Dabney and Bob Burke.



(below) Teen Board members Andrew Head, Britton Stowell and Kendall Morgan meet Versus Series speakers Mike Turpen and Bob Burke and moderator Meg Salyer.



(above) Clay Cockrill and Mike Turpen at the Museum's first Versus Series presentation, where Turpen and Will Rogers (portrayed by Bob Burke) were the featured speakers.



(above) J.W. Peters and Wes and Mary Margaret Knight at the Second Century *Twister* event.



(below) Tre Dupuy and Shane Kempton enjoy the May Second Century event.



(right) Members of the 2011-2012 Teen Board attend a naturalization ceremony and meet with Chief Judge Vicki Miles-LaGrange in her chambers.

