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2006 OKLAHOMA HALL OF FAME HONOREES ANNOUNCED

Seven Oklahomans, six living and one deceased, will be inducted into the Oklahoma Hall of Fame in 2006, said Roxana Lorton of Tulsa, chairman of the board for the Oklahoma Heritage Association.

The honorees are Bob Burke, Oklahoma City; Glen D. Johnson Jr., Durant; King Kirchner, Tulsa; J. Philip Kistler, Belmont, Mass.; Tom McDaniel, Oklahoma City; and Lynn Schusterman, Tulsa. Folk singer Woody Guthrie, an Okemah native, will be posthumously inducted.

Inductions will take place Nov. 16 in Tulsa. Tickets go on sale Sept. 1. Individuals interested in attending may call the Oklahoma Heritage Association at (405)235-4458 or e-mail the association at oha@oklahomaheritage.com.

Bob Burke

A native of Broken Bow, Burke graduated from Broken Bow High School. He received a bachelors degree in journalism from the University of Oklahoma in 1970 and a law degree from Oklahoma City University in 1979. Burke served in the administration of Gov. David L. Boren and managed Boren's U.S. Senate campaign. Burke is a regular on the Oklahoma speaking circuit, traveling weekly to talk about notable Oklahomans and looking for untold stories that he can preserve.

Burke, an Oklahoma City workers' compensation attorney, has authored or co-authored at least 64 books, nearly all of them dealing with some aspect of Oklahoma history. He has authored or co-authored more than 50 books for the Oklahoma Heritage Association, donating his time and expenses for each project. He received the 2006 Arrell Gibson Lifetime Achievement Award from Oklahoma Center for the Book, won the 1999 Oklahoma Book Award for Non-Fiction, and is a three-time nominee by the association for the Pulitzer Prize for non-fiction biography in recognition of his works on Bryce Harlow, Ralph Ellison, and W. French Anderson.

Glen D. Johnson, Jr.

Johnson is president of Southeastern Oklahoma State University in Durant, a position he has held since his appointment in 1997. While serving a term as chairman of the College and University Council of Presidents in 2005, Johnson played a significant role with the governor and Legislature in the successful passage of a \$475 million higher education bond issue, which is the largest capital building program for higher education in the history of Oklahoma.

Prior to becoming a university president, Johnson served several terms in the House of Representatives as a Democrat from Okemah. In 1990, at the age of 36, he was elected Speaker of the House and served in that capacity through 1996. Significant legislation authored by

Johnson included the Drug Free School Zone Bill, the Quality Jobs Bill and the 1992 Higher Education Bond Issue. In 1996, he was appointed director of Public Policy and Adjunct Professor of Law at the University of Oklahoma College of Law. While at the University of Oklahoma, he was a key negotiator in the merger of University Hospital/Presbyterian Hospital/Columbia HCA. He serves on the National Board of Directors of the American Association of State Colleges and Universities, is past president of the NCAA Lone Star Conference and is a current member of the NCAA's National President's Council for Division II.

King Kirchner

Kirchner was co-founder, chairman and chief executive officer of Tulsa-based Unit Corporation from 1963-2001. Now retired, he still serves as a director of Unit Corporation, the fourth largest onshore drilling contractor in the United States. Kirchner grew up in Perry and graduated from Perry High School in 1945. At age 16, he began working as a roughneck in the oilfields. Between 1954 and 1963, he was an engineer and then vice president of the Unit Drilling Division of Woolaroc Oil Company in Bristow. Kirchner and his partner invested \$10,000 each, then borrowed \$140,000 to buy three rotary drilling rigs, along with the Unit Drilling name, thus founding Unit Drilling Company which later became Unit Corporation. The company now employs more than 2,800 people nationally, with an annual Oklahoma payroll in excess of \$80 million

Kirchner also holds a pilot's license and loves to fly. He has logged more than 8,000 flying hours and owned more than 150 airplanes. In 1982, he formed Sky King Corporation, which buys and sells used aircraft. He received a B.S. in Mechanical Engineering from Oklahoma A&M (now Oklahoma State University) in 1950 and later received a B.S. in Petroleum Engineering from the University of Oklahoma. Kirchner served in Germany during the Korean War.

John Philip Kistler

Dr. Kistler was born in Tulsa and went on to become director of Stroke Services at Massachusetts General Hospital and professor of neurology at Harvard Medical School. At age five, he spent a half year at the Sister Elizabeth Kenney Institute in Minneapolis, Minn., as a quadriplegic with poliomyelitis. He recovered function in 1944. Kistler later graduated with a B.A. from Harvard College and received a M.D. from Columbia College of Physicians and Surgeons in New York

Kistler is credited with changing the practice of medicine by defining the use of MRI imaging in cerebrovascular disease. He is the recipient of the C. Miller Fisher Award for outstanding achievement in neuroscience by the American Heart Association and the A. Clifford Barger Excellence in Mentoring Award by Harvard Medical School. Kistler currently is expanding his research for embolic strokes through the Warfarin Aspirin Recurrent Stroke Study; developing a plan to study the history and treatment of the four most common sites of extracranial and intracranial atherothrombotic diseases that lead to ischemic strokes; and developing algorithms for acute stroke care. Kistler has 77 original reports and articles which have been published in various scientific publications and has written 74 invited journal editorials, review articles, and chapters. He now lives in Belmont, Mass.

Tom J. McDaniel

McDaniel is president of Oklahoma City University, a position he has held since June 2001. The construction and dedication of the Meinders School of Business, the Wanda L. Bass Music Center, the Ann Lacy Visitors and Admissions Center and the Norick Art Center all occurred during his five-year tenure. Several other projects currently are in progress. The capital improvements were part of a successful \$100 million centennial development campaign which

doubled the university's endowment and allowed the creation of new academic programs in nursing, dance and film, as well as new athletic programs in rowing, wrestling and volleyball.

Prior to coming to Oklahoma City University, McDaniel served as president of Northwestern Oklahoma State University in Alva, becoming the first and only graduate of that school to serve as its president. McDaniel, who has a law degree from the University of Oklahoma College of Law, has served in the past as administrative director of state courts in Oklahoma and as vice chairman of Kerr-McGee, where he also was a member of the board of directors. He is a former state chairman of the Oklahoma Fellows of the American Bar Association and served as chairman of the board of trustees of Columbus Elementary Enterprise School, Oklahoma's first charter public school. He also has held numerous positions with Oklahoma community service organizations.

Lynn Schusterman

Schusterman, a life-long Oklahoman, is one of the most active Jewish philanthropists and influential leaders in the world. She and her late husband, Charles, established the Charles and Lynn Schusterman Family Foundation in 1987. In addition to supporting a broad array of education and social welfare programs in Oklahoma, the Foundation assists numerous organizations that spread the joy of Jewish living, giving and learning. Her philanthropic work is marked by a special focus on the victims of child abuse and helping students develop into leaders.

In 2000, Schusterman was inducted into the Tulsa Hall of Fame and she entered the Oklahoma Women's Hall of Fame in 2003. *Forward*, a leading Jewish weekly newspaper, has recognized Schusterman as one of the most prominent Jewish leaders in the United States. She is a member of the board of directors for the Oklahoma Conference of Community and Justice and is on advisory boards for Parent Child Center of Tulsa, the Foundation for Tulsa Schools and Family & Children's Services. She also is a leader in many national and international Jewish organizations including Hillel: The Foundation for Jewish Campus Life, STAR: Synagogue Transformation and Renewal, and the BBYO Inc., the largest Jewish teen organization in the world.

Woodrow Wilson "Woody" Guthrie

Guthrie, one of the most influential musicians of the Twentieth Century, is being inducted posthumously. Guthrie was born and grew up in Okemah. During World War II he served his country in the Merchant Marines and in the United States Army. Guthrie wrote more than 3,000 songs and poems, two autobiographical novels, and drew more than 500 illustrations. He reinvented the American folk ballads as a vehicle for social comment and protest with such songs as "This Land is Your Land," "Pastures of Plenty," and "So Long It's Been Good to Know You." His song, "Oklahoma Hills" has been declared the official state folk song by the State of Oklahoma.

Guthrie wrote and fought against poverty, greed, bigotry, prejudice, and individuals who perpetuate hard times and evil on other humans. He did not like songs that made people feel bad or sad; he wrote with humor and concern. He was a poet-philosopher of the people-the common person. Guthrie is a member of The Songwriters Hall of Fame, The Nashville Songwriters Hall of Fame and the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame and Museum. He has received numerous awards, including the United States Department of the Interior's Conversation Award, the Folk Alliance Lifetime Achievement Award and a Grammy from the National Academy of Recording Arts and Sciences. Guthrie died on Oct. 3, 1967 at age 55 from Huntington's Chorea.



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