



OK COUNTY MONTHLY NEWS

Oklahoma Home & Community Education

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CALENDAR OF ACTIVITIES

- Sept. 21 Articles to Newsletter Editor
- Sept. 28 9:30am Educational lesson Training, 'Fire Prevention Safety' – Connie Wollenberg
- County Business Meeting 15 minutes following Educational Lesson.

Reminders:

- * Election of group officers for 2024
- * Appoint Group Committee Chairpersons for 2024
- * Begin working on Life Stories, Photography, Contest, and Report Books for 2024 awards

Monthly Group Volunteer Hours Forms Due

Thought for the day - "Another fall, another turned page: There was something of jubilee in that autumnal beginning, as if last year's mistakes have been wiped clean by summer".

- Wallace Stegner

DEADLINE FOR SEPTEMBER

NEWSLETTER

September 21, 2023

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PRESIDENT'S COLUMN

Wow, I can't believe summer is over and the County Fair is over, by the time you read this newsletter. But now is the time to think about next year! I'm getting excited about these next few months.

September is the month to re-new our dues. This is also a good time to ask that friend, neighbor, and family to join our organization. Each group will receive a packet with Membership forms, Group Officer, and Group Committee Chairman forms at the September 28th business meeting. You can also pick them up at the Extension Office now. Please submit all forms to Lisa no later than Oct. 26th. She has a November 1st deadline to report to the State office.

We are also looking for County Officers. We have several vacancies that need YOU, please step up and volunteer. I know we are to vote an officer in, but we have not gotten a slate of nominees these past few years. I'm proud of how we are all working together to fill some of the vacancies. MARK YOUR CALENDAR for September 28, we will once again have the Educational Lesson and Business meeting. Bring your ideas for new committee projects.

Touch of Orange Contest update:



As the winner of the statewide contest to make a professional blouse for OSU President Dr. Kasey Shrum, Lisa and I were invited to the OSU campus, to meet Dr. Shrum. We met in her private office with Gina Peek, Associate Dean of Extension, and Suzette Barta, Coordinator for Community Engagement & Extension, for a photo opportunity.

Dr Shrum was very personable, and easy to talk to. We spent close to an hour just chatting about the blouse, what we as Extension do in the and sewing

shared some of the new programs on campus that technology in the Apparel Design and Technology computer pattern making illustration, 3D designs, design, and garment construction are just a few today's designers.



communities, some of my history. She engage new school; a new technical new tools for

County OHCE President

Gayla Mosteller

CULTURAL ENRICHMENT

Jan Beattie, Co-Chair

Cooler weather will soon be on the horizon and the perfect time of year to see what Oklahoma has to offer. It has been said that every season offers a beautiful experience. Fall will swirl you into numerous fun events, such as the Oklahoma State Fair or the Poteau Balloon Fest. Here are some ideas for you to explore this month:

Oklahoma Fall Foliage - Go on a drive through Oklahoma's scenic mountains and valleys. The leaves will soon start to turn and offer a spectacular sight. Try the beautiful Talimena Drive or a drive through the mountains in Eastern Oklahoma. A trip to the Washita Mountains is also in order. Home to American bison, white-tailed deer, and Rocky Mountain elk, it's sure not to disappoint.

Oklahoma State Fair - September 14–24, 2023 The State Fair of Oklahoma is one of the largest fairs in North America with lots of traditional food, exhibits and entertainment.

Balloon Festivals – there are several festivals coming up in Poteau, Tulsa, Muskogee, and other locales across the state.

The Museum of Osteology in South OKC - This museum is home to complete skeletons of hundreds of animals and humans.

Oklahoma City Zoo and Botanical Garden - with cooler weather coming soon, this is the perfect time to visit the fantastic OKC Zoo.

Have fun and enjoy the great state of Oklahoma and all there is to offer.

In Memoriam 2023-2024

By Jan Beattie

All groups please remember to notify me of any deaths of group members throughout the year. They will be remembered at the annual Memorial Service next May at the spring Awards and Achievement Luncheon. To date, I have been notified of the deaths of **Sue Robinson** (Las Amigas/Will Rogers group) and **Goldie Jones** (Soldier Creek/New Beginnings group).

I always present the members' obituary as well as any anecdotes or special memories of the member that anyone who knew her would like to share. I also appreciate photographs. I have enough photos and information for Sue. I don't have anything for Goldie so any information and pictures would be appreciated. Goldie was such a fixture for so many years. Please look and see if you can find some photos of her to send me. Thank you.

HISTORY COMMITTEE By Dee Dee Shepherd

I think the history of our county and groups belongs to all of us. Our stories, our projects, our people make up who we are. This is for all of us to contribute to as individuals and as groups. If you have something to share, please e-mail it to me Deeshep147@aol.com and I will do my best to put it in the newsletter.

Our history assignment for July was the story of how your group got started:

OKLAHOMA COUNTY GENEALOGY GROUP HISTORY (abbreviated)

OHCE Genealogy Group was formed January 19, 1994, as a special interest group with meetings held in a local office building on NW 63rd. St. The original concept for the group was a Lunch and Learn group meeting during the noon hour in hopes of drawing some of the office workers during their lunchtime. When this did not occur, the meeting time was adjusted to 10:00 am to 12:00 noon.

When the *Oklahoman* featured the new genealogy group in September 1994, the result was a sudden increase in membership of 16 new members.

For the first five years, the group continued to meet in the office building or in members' homes. In 1999, member Hilda Howell made arrangements to begin meeting at the OK Historical Society on N.E. 22nd and Lincoln. When construction began on the new building, meetings were moved to Northwest Baptist Church at NW 23rd and N Drexel. Upon completion of the new History Center in 2006, we were invited to return and held our monthly meetings on the 3rd Wednesday morning of each month in the 3rd floor Leroy H. Fisher Board Room. We met here until the COVID Pandemic of 2020. President Jan Beattie made arrangements to move to the OK Co. OSU Extension Center, 2500B NE 63rd St., for a meeting room with better social distancing and Zoom capabilities. It remains our current meeting place.

Over the years the programs have been decided by the members who often make the presentations themselves as well as having guest speakers on genealogical and historical topics. Field trips are also occasionally taken.

In 1998, the group embarked on the *Tombstone Transcription Project*. Genealogy Group voted to do this as a community service project and began what we now call "Cemetery Hopping" with the transcriptions and photographs of local cemeteries being submitted first to USGenWeb's internet site and now to FindAGrave. We now have our own website and make the information available there as well.

In 2006, when the new Oklahoma History Center Research Library opened, the group asked Research Division Deputy Director, Laura Martin, what was a ready resource that was needed. She remarked that she has daily requests from researchers needing to find the location of cemeteries across the state. Thus, the idea for *the Oklahoma Cemetery Index* for all 77 counties was born and spearheaded by member Freda Cunningham.

Our goal was to provide driving directions to all known cemeteries and single burials statewide. We included cemetery entrance photographs, history of the cemetery and any famous burials plus driving directions from a

fixed point. We asked OHCE members in each county to submit information as well as asking individuals and other organizations, funeral homes, or monument companies for their help. This resulted in many, many hours of research that turned into years. The result was a bound book for each of the 77 counties in Oklahoma. Through extensive fundraising efforts, we were able to donate a complete set of the books to the Oklahoma History Center Research Library during OHCE Week in 2006. We continued updating the volumes and these were replaced with the 2nd printing known as the *Centennial edition* in 2007.

Member Robert Smith became webmaster and perfected a digitized Oklahoma Department of Transportation (ODOT) map for each county manuscript pinpointing and naming where each of the approximate 4,600 cemeteries are located a very labor-intensive endeavor. He has also been successful in adding over 700 new cemeteries or corrections to the Geographic Names Information System (GNIS), the official Federal government locating source. Robert also undertook the monumental task of collating all the data and photographs for the publications.

In 2008, counties were clustered together in 8 books plus an index and renamed *The Oklahoma Cemetery Directory*. A new set was again donated to the Oklahoma History Center. Several counties still needed additional updating or photographs and group members traveled across the state to get the needed items. We also wanted to provide GPS coordinates and include Columbarium's and Green Cemeteries in this version. Finally, in 2018, we were able to publish the final updated edition. Another new set was donated to the OHC Research Library as well as a set to the Library of Congress in Washington, D.C.

Jan Beattie began giving leadership toward completing the **Tombstone Transcribing project** again as OHCE Genealogy Group's community service project after the Oklahoma Cemetery Index book was completed. The idea is to set an example for the other counties to work toward transcribing all their cemeteries by having this as our goal in Oklahoma County. Every first Wednesday is set aside to go Cemetery Hopping subject to weather conditions. We are also taking pictures and placing our databases on our own website as well as at FindAGrave. Many of our members have participated including Jan Beattie, Libby Hays, Sandi Maness, Judith Irwin, Freda Cunningham, Luann Waters, BJ Vinson, Deborah Aldridge, Bill Davis, Liz Coddling, Sharon Fore, Andre' Head, Betty Geis, and several others as well as community volunteers. Unfortunately, we had to put the project on hold during COVID.

Both projects have been a labor of love for many of our members. Walt Stoyanoski located many of the cemeteries in OK county and did an outstanding job in bringing continuity to the driving directions to each one. Ruth Shoopman ferreted out historical facts about the cemeteries and was dependable in finding mistakes as a proofreader. Hilda Howell and Ila Calaway constructed the pages for the Oklahoma County book. Ever so many helped to get the pictures and found the addresses of libraries and funeral homes all over the state. Many, many members have participated in Cemetery Hopping and transcribing tombstones, taking photographs, and honing their grave dowsing skills to identify unmarked graves. This has been a superb, cooperative effort.

In 2013 the Genealogy Group received the Outstanding Group Award of Excellence for the first time and also received awards in Education, Membership and Community Service. We continue to thrive and have earned several more awards along the way.

Our September assignment is: To send a picture of your group at a meeting or event. (Please include names with the picture(s)).

NEWSLETTER EDITOR

Needs Your Group Meeting Information

The newsletter is for all of us to keep up with each other. We welcome the stories, events, and what your group is getting ready to do. We would love to publish your meeting dates, times, and location as this newsletter is published on the OSU Extension web site. What a great opportunity we have to share what we do and who we are with our community. Please send your pictures (with names or description) and I will do my best to get them into the newsletter.

AG IN THE CLASSROOM NEEDS VOLUNTEERS

The OSU Ag in the Classroom program is coming to Oklahoma County schools this fall! Many of you have volunteered over the years and the new coordinator, Parker Jackson, has reached out for help. For those who don't know, Ag in the Classroom is a statewide project that goes to elementary schools with a large, interactive exhibit (the size of a school gym) that explains where food comes from, and how it travels through our bodies. There are stations throughout where volunteers read a script and talk with the children as they move through the exhibit. This is a fun day, so please mark your calendar if you can help: September 19 at Esperanza Elementary, 3517 S. Linn Ave, or October 26th at Rollingwood Elementary, 6301 N. Ann Arbor Avenue, OKC. Contact Parker at 405-744-6699 or parker.jackson@okstate.edu.

DATE CHANGE – OCTOBER 23RD ANNUAL PLANNING MEETING AND LEADERSHIP TRAINING RSVP FOR LUNCH

Please take notice of the date and time change for the annual planning meeting and leadership training. This important meeting will be held on **Monday, October 23rd at 10:00am** at the OSU Extension Conference Center. As groups re-organize for the new year, please remember that if you are a committee chair for your group (healthy living, resource management, family issues, cultural enrichment, social, etc.) then you are a member of the county committee as well. All members are invited to this meeting, but it's especially important for group/county officers and committee chairs to attend. We will be planning activities and setting goals for each of these committees, so we need your input! Final recommendations will be published in the 2024 OHCE yearbook.

Lunch is provided, so please RSVP to Lisa no later than October 18th with the number attending from your group.

SAVE THE DATE MASTER SEWING VOLUNTEER STATE WORKSHOP APRIL 2-4, 2024

Are you interested in teaching sewing workshops for adults or youth? Becoming an Extension Master Sewing Volunteer will give you the tools to be a successful instructor. The statewide training will be held at the Cleveland County Extension Center, April 2-4, 2024. There are several steps to complete before attending the training, so let Lisa know asap if you want to start the application process.

MEMBER OF THE YEAR VOTING PROCESS IS CHANGING DECIDE AT COUNTY BUSINESS MEETING SEPT. 28TH

The process to decide Oklahoma County's OHCE Member of the Year, Rookie of the Year, and Heart of OHCE award needs to be updated. As the membership has changed over the years, a new system needs to be discussed and voted on at the next county business meeting on Thursday, September 28th after the leader lesson. Please make sure each group's voting delegates (group president and secretary) are at this meeting.

VETERANS' ITEMS TO COLLECT FOR SEPTEMBER

- Shampoo
- Conditioner
- Combs

SCISSOR TALES QUILT GUILD By Beverly Kirk

A beautiful Bears Paw Quilt is yet in the works as our annual charity item. Scissor Tales charity quilt blocks are being prepared for a quilt, but summer travel and family catering issues have hampered our efforts! Our Charity Quilt donation timeframe has been changed to December 2023!

The Scissor Tales Quilters are Oklahoma's newest quilt guild located in NE OKC! Monthly meetings are hosted at the Oklahoma County OSU Extension Center
2500 NE 63rd St.
Oklahoma City, OK 73111.

Plan and attend monthly meetings on every third Friday of each month (September 15, October 20, and November 17). Sewing times: 1pm to 4pm. Annual membership \$30.00—first time visitors are free! CONTACT: Guild President Beverly Kirk (405-414-3381) or bqiltin@gmail.com

Join us-Learn-Make Friends- Serve Others.

GENEALOGY GROUP

By Kathy Fetters

Our group met Wednesday, August 16th, at 10:00 a.m. at the Oklahoma History Center with 9 members and 2 visitors present. Our visitors were Loyce Edwards and Marqueta Bentley. Jan's Genealogy Quick Tip—August 2023 was "Top Websites for Finding Death Records and Obituaries". It was emailed to members and can be found on our website, ohcegenealogy.com. After a short business meeting, President Jan Beattie introduced Patricia Nunes, OHS Published Collections Manager. Patricia began by first demonstrating how to use the Research Center's website (okhistory.org) and gave us many tips on ways to use wild cards and different terms when doing a search in the catalog.

Librarians at History or Research libraries will use a system of cataloging that is based on the system used by the Library of Congress. It is not the same as the Dewey Decimal system you would find at your local library. We were then fortunate to be able to take a tour of some of the collection's storage areas, in particular the one for video or recorded items and then the room with maps of all sizes and various materials. Ms. Nunes pointed out that many items in the collection's storage areas are made of materials that will degrade or be lost as technology changes so there is urgency to prioritize items as they come in to the Research Center. Even the maps have backings that often contain glue and cloth that attract insects or mold.

After the tour, Patricia brought us back to the Learning Lab to see how to look at the newspaper collection on Gateway to Oklahoma History, which can be found under the research tab on okhistory.org. This is a large collection with the oldest newspaper dating back to the 1840's. Ms. Nunes encouraged us to bring all our questions to the library and the staff would love to help us in our research. It was a wonderful morning and everyone agreed that they had all learned something new.

Our next meeting will be September 20th, at 10:00 a.m., at the Extension Center, when member Emily Hedinger will take us to the Korean War in her talk, "Frozen Chosin". As always, our meetings and presentations are open to all OHCE members, and the public so please join us.



BITS AND BYTES COMPUTER CLUB

SAVE THE DATE!!!!!!

Cyber Security Presentation – October 2nd

October is Cyber-Security Awareness Month, and the OHCE Bits and Bytes Computer Club is proud to sponsor a special presentation on October 2, 2023, at 2:00 PM, Okla. Co. OSU Extension Center, 2500 NE 63rd Street, Oklahoma City 73111, Pistol Pete Conference Room.

Cybercriminals are after us

This presentation will be in person and via Zoom. If you wish to attend via Zoom, you must register using this link: <https://forms.gle/8bSy9pX2vHvQhwwj6>. Your access link will be emailed a day before the event.

ID theft, phishing, vishing, spoofing, fraud, and more target seniors. From the FBI: "In 2022, adults over 60 reported 88,262 complaints to the FBI's Internet Crime Complaint Center, with a total loss of \$3.1 billion. This represents an 84% increase in losses compared to losses reported in 2021." In the 2022 *Consumer Sentinel Report*, Oklahoma ranks 44th in fraud and 32nd in ID Theft. During this presentation, we look at many of the scams facing seniors and what we can do to prevent them.

Our presenter is Judy Taylour, a 35-year Santa Clarita Valley Computer Club member serving as President and Webmaster. She co-facilitated the Southern California Regional User Group Summit (SCRUGS), a group of computer clubs in Southern California that met quarterly for over 20 years to share ideas and present information, solve problems, etc. Information shared at the meetings helped two groups remain active. She is a member of the Los Angeles FBI Senior Scams Working Group.

Judy taught adult education technology classes for over 20 years through her local high school district. She firmly believes in life-long learning and enjoys giving presentations via APCUG's (an International Association of Technology and Computer User Groups) Speakers Bureau.

We are excited to have Judy do this presentation and invite all OHCE members to come and bring their friends. Remember you need to register in advance to get the ZOOM link.

EASTSIDE FARMERS MARKET

The OSU Extension Center is hosting the Eastside Farmer's Market again, after a successful first year in 2022. The market is open Tuesdays from 4:00-7:00pm, through October 24th. Vendors will be selling fresh produce, craft goods, prepared food, and more! Individuals receiving SNAP benefits may use them at the market, which will also offer the Double Up program. Please contact the market manager, Brandi Buys, at the Extension office for more information.

NEW BEGINNINGS
(3 E's and Soldier Creek)
By Dee Dee Shepherd

Our August meeting was so much fun. We worked together, pinned and cut stockings for the groups to pick up at the next leader lesson. We used the scraps to make the hooks for the end of the stocking (to hang by the chimney with care). We passed out the August leader lesson, had a potluck lunch, and sampled the cookies that were going into the cookie jar at the County Fair.

Our next meeting will be on September 11th, 10 am in the Pistol Pete room at the OSU Extension Center. We will be learning about flour. We welcome any visitors.



HEALTHY LIVING
Recipe of the Month for September
 Submitted by Linda Steele

RAMEN SLAW

Ingredients

- 3 Cups Chopped Cabbage
- 4 Scallions Sliced
- 1 pkg. Chicken Ramen Noodles (Crumbled dry, Reserve Seasoning)
- ¼ Cup Water
- 3 TBSP Sugar
- 2 tsp Sesame Seeds
- 1/3 Cup Slivered Almonds (Toasted)
- 2 TBSP Oil (Veg. or Canola)
- 1 TBSP Vinegar
- 1 Package Noodle Seasoning
- Salt and Pepper to taste

Nutrition Facts

6 servings per recipe
 Serving size
Calories (amount per serving) **150**
 % Daily Value

Total Fat
 Saturated Fat
 Trans Fat
Cholesterol 3mg
Sodium 179mg
Total Carbohydrate
 Dietary Fiber
 Total Sugars
 Includes Added Sugars
Protein
 Vitamin D
 Calcium
 Iron
 Potassium

* The % Daily Value (DV) tells you how much a nutrient in a serving of food contributes to a daily diet 2,000 calories a day is used for general nutrition advice.

Preparation

1. Toss cabbage, onion, sesame seeds, nuts, and dry noodles.
2. Mix water, oil, sugar, vinegar, and seasoning for dressing.
3. Toss. Pour dressing over cabbage mixture; toss.

HINT: Air dried noodles such as Campbell's Ramen Noodles are lower in fat... Preparation time 15 minutes.