

From The Red Earth



THE MUSELETTER OF THE PLAINS INDIANS & PIONEERS MUSEUM

Because so much of our future lies in preserving our past.

The Plains Indians & Pioneers Museum

Winter 2023/2024

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Inside This Issue

- The Robinson Report
- Curator's Corner
- Custer and the Winter Campaign of 1868
- Ask the Archeologist
- Membership Renewals

"White Thunder, Cheyenne Holy Man" presentation set for April

Mark your calendars for Saturday, April 6th when the Plains Indians & Pioneers Museum will host noted author and historian, Mr. Dee Cordry, as he presents "White Thunder, Cheyenne Holy Man."

Mr. Cordry is a retired law enforcement special agent of the Oklahoma State Bureau of Investigation. He is a published author, public speaker, research consultant, and has been interviewed in documentaries.

He will discuss his latest book, "The Children of White Thunder," a biography of an extended Cheyenne family; the descendants of White Thunder who was a Cheyenne holy man and Keeper of the Sacred Medicine Arrows. In the 1830s White Thunder was the spiritual leader of the Cheyenne and possessed the special knowledge of the rituals involving the Arrows. White Thunder's grandchildren were witnesses and participants in many of the most significant events in the American West, including the Sand Creek Massacre. Their firsthand tribal knowledge was critical in preserving Cheyenne history and culture.



Photo: Cheyenne & Arapaho
Tribal Tribune

The Robinson Report



*Mikel Robinson
Voted Most Elfin Director*

This past year has been quite a ride. Over the last quarter alone we've been very busy in the Muse. I'm very excited to welcome new members to our board of directors. I feel we have a very supportive board with a wide variety of experience and talents. I'm looking forward to serving with them over the coming year.

As you're reading this, PIPM is awaiting decisions on three grants for which we have applied. If we're selected for these awards it will bring something just under \$40K into the Muse for a number of

projects including the hiring of a part-time creative consultant and electrical upgrades in the Roberson Gallery and the Agriculture Exhibit. Another grant will continue our work on the digitization of the Muse's McDonald Collection.

The annual Paul Laune High School Art Competition is right around the corner with the entry deadline set for January 27th, 2024. Tuesday, January 30th is the date for this year's judging by local artist Susan Frech Sims. We will then have the students' artwork on display from February 2nd through February 28th, 2024 with an awards ceremony and lunch for artists on February 29th. As someone very much into the arts, I am excited to see all the entries that these awesome students create in this part of the world.

After Paul Laune we welcome Dr. Lee Bement for our annual "Ask The Archaeologist" workshop on March 2nd. We look forward to having him back in the Muse and invite you to bring your natural history finds for him to comment on.

In April, we'll welcome Dee Cordry to the Muse to discuss his latest book, "The Children of White Thunder" which provides insights into Cheyenne history and events. Mr. Cordry's presentation has been very well received across Oklahoma and we're very excited to have him here. The presentation is free and you'll have an opportunity to purchase the book while you're here.

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POST-WASHITA: CUSTER AND THE WINTER CAMPAIGN OF 1868

Custer's late-November attack on the village of Black Kettle along the Washita was not the end of the Winter Campaign of 1868. After returning his 53 captives to Camp Supply, Custer and the Seventh rested, resupplied, and prepared to deploy to the field again.

On December 7, three hundred wagons and about sixteen hundred men (including members of the 19th Kansas Volunteer Cavalry) departed Camp Supply, bound for southwestern Indian Territory. Although Sheridan accompanied the expedition, Custer was in command of the task force.

The first stop was the site of the fight along the Washita River. There the bodies of Major Elliott and his troopers were recovered and the abandoned Indian villages upriver were inspected. An encampment of Kiowa was found on December 17, but the intercession of General William B. Hazen (Fort Cobb) prevented an attack. In late December after much discussion and coercion of Kiowa leadership (primarily Satanta and Lone Wolf) the Kiowa joined the Comanche at Fort Cobb. The following month the Kiowa, Kiowa-Apache, and Comanche moved to their reservation near the newly established Camp Wichita (later, Fort Sill).

Custer was then ordered to move against the Cheyenne. Sheridan sent Custer and the combined forces of the Seventh Cavalry and the Nineteenth Kansas to the mouth of Salt Creek on the North Fork of Red River where Sheridan proposed to establish a new supply depot. In order to arrange with Camp Supply to provision the new field depot, Sheridan returned to Camp Supply.

Sheridan intended to meet Custer on the Red River with the supplies, but a message summoning him to Washington from President-elect Ulysses S. Grant changed those plans. Sheridan left Camp Supply on March 3, bound for Washington via Fort Dodge.

Memberships—New & Renewals

October-December 2023

Individual— Terry Ridenour, Rachael Van Horn, George Dombrowski, Earlene Alley, Gary Bouse, Vi Thomas, Peggy Kitchens, Veronica Hohweiler, Debbie Miller, Mary Aitson.

Family— Rick Evans, Dr. John and Mary Ann Hawkins, Dave and Paula Hughes, Derrick and Ashley Roberts, Rhonda Owens, Dr. Curtis & Juanita Bohlman, Karen Dewitt, Paul McCord.

Pioneer— Robin Hohweiler, Andra Smith, Clair & Stephanie Craighead, Dr. Sharon Solloway, Joy Goin.

Heritage— John & Diane Logan, Bart & Angie Bouse, Figley-Salz Insurance.

Thanks to all members for their continued support!

(Continued from Page 3)

Custer cornered the Cheyenne on March 15, 1869, recovered two white women captives, and obtained from Little Robe a renewal of his promise to go to the reservation at Camp Supply.

Custer's troopers returned to Camp Supply on March 28, 1869 and remained there only until March 30, at which point the Seventh proceeded to Fort Hays by way of Fort Dodge with three Cheyenne who had been taken prisoner at the March 15 meeting. Thus, the Winter Campaign of 1868 ended on April 1, 1869 when Custer and his men crossed from Indian Territory into Kansas.

Derived from Fort Supply: Indian Territory by Carriker

Ask the Archeologist: Dr. Leland Bement set for Saturday, March 2

Join us on Saturday, March 2nd, from 2-5PM when Dr. Leland Bement will be at PIPM for his annual "Ask the Archeologist" program. Everyone is invited to bring their natural history finds for Dr. Bement to view and discuss. He invites all relics but his primary interests are in the development of New World hunting technologies. He specializes in animal bone archaeology, particularly as represented in Plains bison kill sites of all ages.

Lee Bement, Ph.D. is a research faculty member at the Oklahoma Archeological Survey at OU. He has been at the Survey for more than 20 years. He is an Adjunct Associate Professor in the Dept. of Anthropology as well as a member of the Graduate Faculty. He is also an Adjunct Full Professor in the Dept. of Plant and Soil Sciences at Oklahoma State University, where he is also a member of the Graduate Faculty.

We look forward to seeing you there!



We had 14 Christmas Trees this year decorated throughout the Museum in December by local elementary school classes. We do this annually and it is fun for the kids as well as fun for our visitors to see. Schools that participated this year include: **Horace Mann, Woodward Christian Academy, Highland Park, Cedar Heights, Vici, Ft. Supply, Mooreland, Fargo-Gage, Vici 4-H.**



The Curator's Corner

Woodward County's Buildings and Sites on the National Register of Historic Places

Although there are only five on the register so far, they are certainly valuable to the historical and architectural history of Northwest Oklahoma.

The Stine-Bradbury House at 1001 10th Street, currently a private residence.

Woodward Crystal Beach Park – notable features are the Crystal Beach Bandshell and Bath House.

Woodward Federal Courthouse & Post Office at 1023 10th St., currently known as the Woodward School Administration Building.

The Woodward Arts Theater, 818 Main, Woodward.

Fort Supply Historic District, Western State Hospital grounds.

Fort Supply Historic Site was the first property to be added to the register in June 1971. The most current property added was the Woodward Arts Theater in December 2008.

Why would you want a property or site to be listed on the Register?

The main reason is to provide recognition of a property's significance – historical, cultural, and architectural contributions – so that it lives on for future generations to remember and learn from.

The community is an integral part of the survival and preservation of historic property. When people realize and know the importance of a property, it can increase the property's value to the community. People strive to preserve or keep things they value.

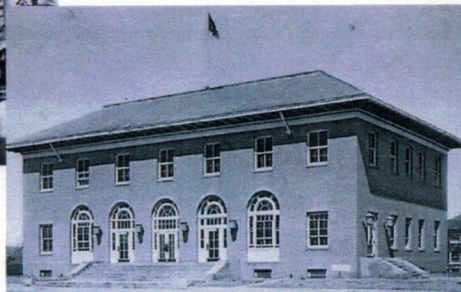
The nomination process also ensures that high-quality documentation about a property is collected and will always be available for use by researchers and the public, even if circumstances prevent a property's preservation in place.

Under what circumstances is a property considered eligible for the National Register?

"Properties that meet at least one of the four National Register Criteria retain their overall historic integrity (character), and are, in most cases, at least 50 years old, are eligible for listing in the National Register." Resource: State Historic Preservation Office, Oklahoma City, Oklahoma.



2001.001.012 – Stine-Bradbury Home, 1951



P.82.1838 – Federal Building & Post Office, 1921



1972.012.008 – Crystal Beach Band Shell, 1936-1937

UPCOMING EVENTS

FEBRUARY 2-29, 2024—PAUL LAUNE HIGH SCHOOL ART EXHIBITION (ROBERSON GALLERY)

MARCH 2, 2024 - ASK THE ARCHEOLOGIST: DR. LELAND BEMENT FROM 1-4PM, FOSTER ROOM

APRIL 6, 2024 - PRESENTATION BY DEE CORDRY, "WHITE THUNDER, CHEYENNE HOLY MAN", 2PM, FOSTER ROOM

The
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2009 Williams Avenue
Woodward, Oklahoma 73801