

Logan County Historical Society Membership Newsletter

Volume I, Issue I

Spring, 2014

Moving Forward

Greetings LCHS members and future members,

It is time for a new chapter in the life of the Logan County Historical Society. This newsletter is our first public effort at reshaping the identity of the LCHS.

As many of you might know the LCHS operates First Capital Trolley and operated the State Capital Publishing Museum from 2010-2012. LCHS has also helped stabilize and restore the exterior of the Water Works building in conjunction with the City of Guthrie in 2012, restored historical markers downtown, and is known for the Foucart Awards for historic building preservation.

After much discussion over what project to do next, a new two year strategic plan was formed geared at exploring new possibilities for the LCHS. The plan includes redefining the purpose of the society, reinvigoration of the board, and increasing the society's activities and visibility in our county. To facilitate this process, Amy Loch was hired as the part-time Executive Director/Coordinator for the LCHS (separate from the Director of FCT).

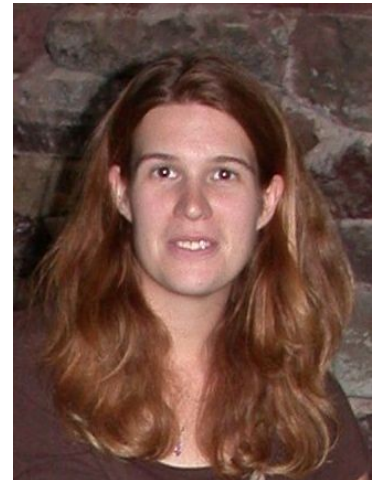
Two of the most immediate projects include the creation of new trolley tours, including a new family friendly tour "A Day in My Life, 1903" and "Life, Death and Cemetery" tour coming soon. The second project involves meeting with museums and organizations throughout the county to start encouraging and discussing collaborative solutions to our needs. The meetings that have occurred so far have resulted in the content of this newsletter and the creation of new text labels and player guides for the Basketball Exhibit at the Territorial Capital Sports Museum.

We hope this is just the beginning. If you like what you see, please consider becoming a member. Have any other ideas for the LCHS? Please let us know; contact Amy Loch at (405) 282-6000 ext. 4 or at amy.lchsok@yahoo.com .



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Meet the new Face of the
Logan County
Historical Society
Amy Loch, Coordinator

The mission of the Logan County Historical Society is to conduct its activities in a manner which shall serve to preserve and perpetuate the history of Logan county and its people.

New Trolley Tours

When was the last time you took a trolley tour? If you are like most people you will either say when family or friends visited, years ago, or maybe never. Well, it is time to rediscover Guthrie's historical trolley tours. Coming this summer, First Capital Trolley and Logan County Historical Society will be premiering a new family friendly tour designed for both children and adults. The new tour titled "A Day in My Life, 1903" will take visitors on a half an hour tour of Guthrie told from the perspective of a boy in 1903. Come take a step back in time and re-imagine what Guthrie felt like in 1903.

Tours leave from the State Capital Publishing building on the corner of 2nd and Harrison at *times* Monday-Saturday. To book a trolley for a group or for more information please call (405) 282-6000.

Special thanks to the Pollard Theater for providing our child narrator, Colton and Aaron Ryburn of the City of Guthrie for helping to record and edit our tour. Stay tuned for details of the "Life, Death, and Cemetery" tour premiering this fall.



Trolley News: Did You Know?

- First Capital Trolley, which is a part of the LCHS, has 56 employees
- FCT serves Logan, Lincoln, and Payne Counties & provides limited service to Edmond, OKC, and Tulsa
- The Trolley provided 11,583 rides this May.

Have You Seen?

- The Joseph Foucart bust currently on display at the Territorial Museum
- The Hubert "Geese" Ausbie Harlem Globetrotters Exhibit at the Frontier Museum in Crescent
- The Featured Artists Works of Mary Ann Moore and Jerome Johnson at Owens Art Place Museum

Territorial Capital Sports Museum

In 1993, the dreams of Richard Hendricks, Ferguson Jenkins, and Hubert "Geese" Ausbie came true when the Oklahoma Sports Museum Association opened the Oklahoma Sports Museum in Guthrie. In 2013, the museum was almost closed; resulting in a split from the Oklahoma Sports Hall of Fame. In the process the museum name was changed to the Territorial Capital Sports Museum. The museum is once again an independent 501(c)(3) non-profit operated by the Oklahoma Sports Museum Association. Richard Hendricks, Director, put it best, "It is up to the community. For the museum to succeed, the community will have to support it; if they don't it will go away." In recent months, donations have helped to keep the museum going, but the museum has on-going needs to keep the doors open. They are also continuing to add to their collections and are working to add interpretive labels to their exhibits.

The **Territorial Museum** will be hosting a ***Riders on the Orphan Train*** program on **July 15th at 7:00 pm**. The program tells the story of the 250,000 orphans and unwanted children who were put on trains in New York between 1854 and 1929 and sent all over the United States to be given away. This multi-media presentation has been presented in over 300 museums, libraries and schools. You don't want to miss it.

The **Frontier Country Historical Museum** has been showcasing local artists in their rotating exhibit gallery for ten years. They are currently featuring paintings by Crescent artist **Shirley Tubbs**, on exhibit for **May/June 2014**. The museum is seeking new local artists and exhibit ideas to display in their gallery. To find out more call 969-3660.

Oklahoma History Day

History Day is a national program designed to promote and encourage 6-12 grades to explore history. Students choose historical topics related to a theme and conduct primary and secondary research through libraries, archives, museums, oral histories and historic sites. Their research is then analyzed and presented as a final project which is judged in regional, state, and national competitions. Know a student with an interest in history? Encourage them to find out more, the program begins each fall.



Nathan Turner, Director of the Territorial Museum and LCHS board member judging the state History Day competition.

In the Apothecary Garden

Lemon balm is a common plant found in traditional Apothecary gardens. Lemon balm has been used for centuries as a calming agent to help reduce stress and anxiety. It is also known to repel mosquitoes better than the popular mosquito plant. The modern Apothecary garden remains a source of healing plants and herbs, tracing its roots to the Benedictine Monasteries of the middle ages. Stop by the Drug Store Museum for other gardening ideas. Have a green thumb? Garden volunteers are needed.

Educational Programming

The **Territorial Museum** had over 400 3-5th graders as the school year came to an end. Most of these students had the opportunity to experience the museum for free, thanks to the Friends of the Territorial Museum. Every purchase at the gift shop helps to fund the Friends projects. The Friends group pays for the Historic Trolleys to transport any Logan County school group and the Territorial Museum comps the admission fees. In addition, **First Capital Trolley** transported school students for field trips throughout Logan County and provided historic trolley tours to approximately 800 students. On April 25, the **Frontier Country Historical Society** teamed up with Crescent Elementary to host a **Pioneer Day**. 65 third graders had the opportunity to participate in this all day event featuring a land run, school house activities, entertainment and historic craft demonstrations and activities.

Pioneer Day at the Frontier Country Historical Society, Crescent.



Following the Cornices

Have you ever really looked at the detail on top of the commercial buildings in historic downtowns? Most of us, including myself until four years ago, haven't. For seven years I was the Curator of the Old Cowtown Museum in Wichita, Kansas. Cowtown was not your typical museum, instead of a central building with exhibit cases we had 70 wooden structures with period exhibits. For years I kept looking at a number of unusual metal machines in the back of the Depot building. They were labeled tin machines, except they didn't look like typical tin shop machines. Eventually curiosity got the best of me and I started trying to research the machines. At first my research led nowhere, as I looked up tin machines and contacted museums with tin shop exhibits. No one could say with any certainty what we had. Eventually I discovered a similar picture in an historic catalog, in the sheet metal section. From there I started researching the sheet metal industry and machinery, which led to my discovery of the Cornice Works Industry.

Once I had a name and purpose I became more determined to understand. What exactly did these machines do? How did they work? I learned that metal cornices became popular between 1880-1910 because they were cheaper than stone decoration, came in many styles, were easy to ship and install, and could be painted to look like more expensive stone. However, the Cornice Works industry was short lived and sometimes existed as sub-industries of larger sheet metal manufacturing businesses, making it difficult to research. I also discovered that the machines in front of me came from Buckley Industries which evolved from the Eagle Cornice Works Shop founded in 1885, in Wichita, KS. The company, specialized in galvanized window cornices, window caps, dormer windows, tin, iron, and slate roofing. Their cornices were shipped to towns in Kansas, Oklahoma, Texas, and Colorado.

About this point I started wondering how many metal cornices still exist? In Wichita, most of the downtown buildings have stone details, but the metal detail produced by the Eagle Cornice Works remained on the Sedgwick County Court House, Friends University, and Wichita State University. So my patient and equally curious husband, Mark and I started driving. It turns out that many smaller towns still have many of their original metal cornices intact. So far we have photographed cornices in Kansas, Oklahoma, and Missouri. Some of the cornices are plain while others are very ornamental. Some have been freshly painted, some are in disrepair, while others are gone entirely leaving an empty slightly sloped brick edge where a cornice was once attached.

Historic photographs often show the cornices in their original glory, but what can be done today if a piece is missing? At some point I stumbled upon a modern online cornice catalog for the W. F. Norman Company in Nevada, Missouri. They are still in business today using the original cornice machinery from the 1890s. They have kept every mold of every cornice they have ever produced making them the source for replacement cornice parts. They even do tours of the facility by appointment, so of course Mark and I went on another road trip. We could have stayed all day, watching the processes in action. Many of the employees have been there forever and are still learning. They do punched metal, metal rolling and cutting, and metal spinning. They will make custom replacement parts through trial and error till the result is perfect.

After all of this there is still a machine that remains unidentified. Maybe it's missing a piece, maybe one day it will be identified; maybe it won't. I opened the Eagle Cornice Works exhibit at Cowtown in Spring of 2012. The same year Mark got a new position as Director of the Museum Studies Program at UCO. When we selected a new community to move to, the cornices helped lead the way to Guthrie.

Amy Loch, Coordinator LCHS



202 W Harrison Ave, Guthrie



624 E. Oklahoma, Guthrie



101 W. Oklahoma, Guthrie



Mulhall

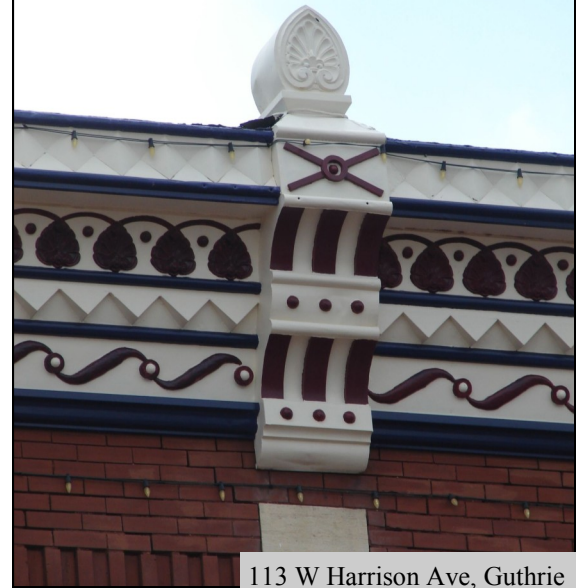
Cornices in Logan County



116-118 W. Oklahoma Guthrie



Coyle



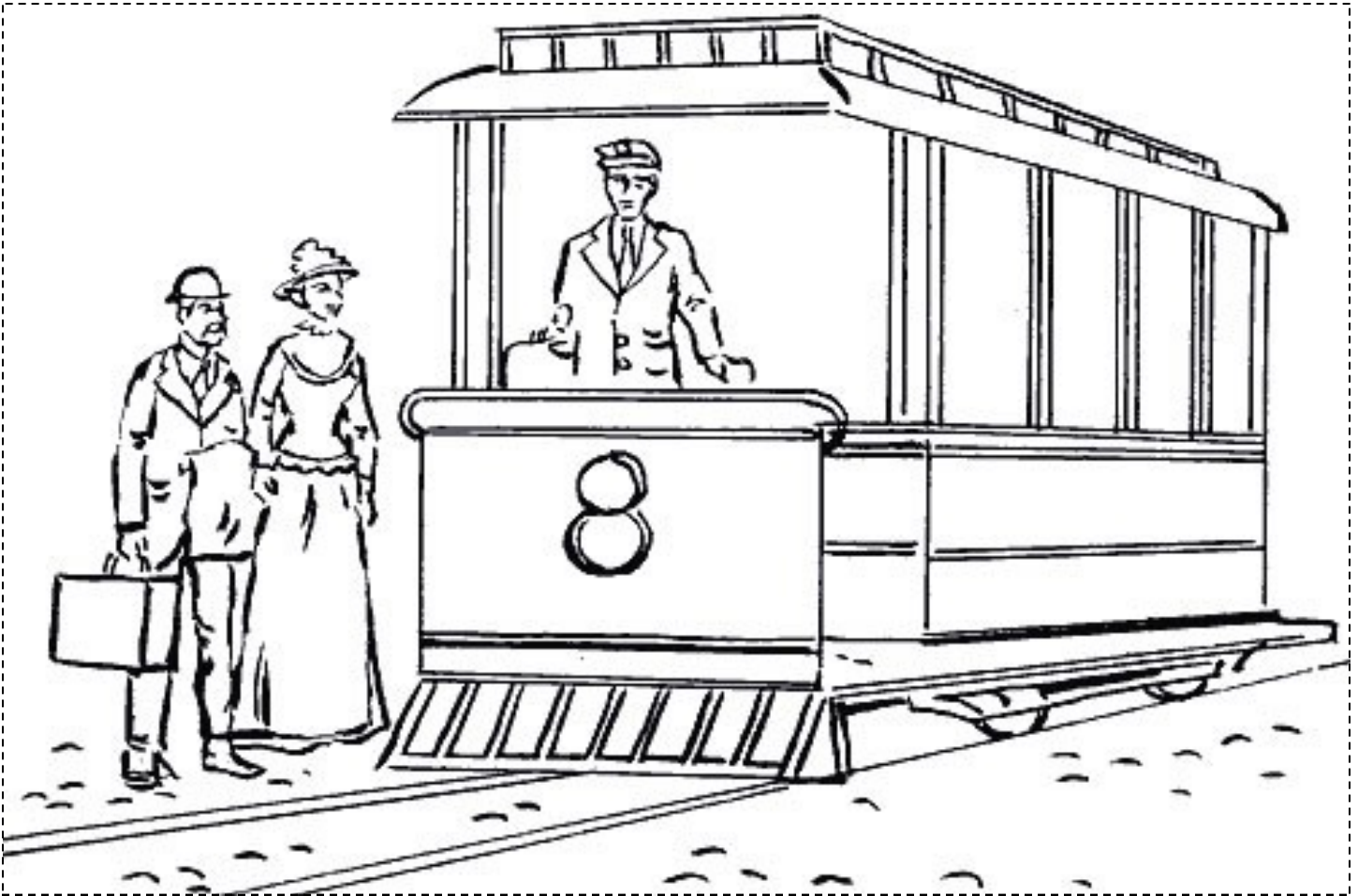
113 W Harrison Ave, Guthrie



116 S. 2nd St. Guthrie



109 W Oklahoma Ave, Guthrie



Coloring Contest

- Color & cut out the trolley
- Write child's name, age, and phone number on the back
- Turn in to the Guthrie or **Crescent** Public Library by July 31
- Winners will win free trolley passes for the new "A Day in My Life, 1903" children's tour

Make Your Own Bricks

- Mix red clay dirt and water to make thick mud
- Place the mud in a mold (you can use ice cube trays, muffin pans, paper cups, etc.)
- Place in the sun until dry (about 1 hour)
- Or bake in 250 degree oven for 15 minutes
- Unmold and start building

Can You Find?

A place to tie a horse?

A building that was built before 1900?

Something owned by your great-grandparents?

Why Join the Logan County Historical Society?

- Show your support for Logan County historical activities
- Receive quarterly newsletters
- Name recognition on Membership Newsletter
- Invitation to premier actives and events
- Support community collaboration
- Support historic programming and local historical awards
- Individual Memberships are only \$25 a year.
- Business or Family Memberships are \$100 a year



Logan County Historical Society Membership Form

Name: _____ Business Name _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Phone: _____ Email: _____

Date: _____ Preferred Communication Method: Email _____ Mail _____

Membership Level: Individual (\$25) _____ Business/Family (\$100) _____

Payment: Make checks payable to Logan County Historical Society
PO Box 1512 Guthrie, OK 73044

LCHS Board Members

Chris Hirzel, President
 Jim Overton, Vice President
 Nathan Turner, Treasurer
 Mike Cheap
 Darrel Covington
 Mary Beth Craven
 Jeff Hizel
 Kay Wade
 Kathy Warner
 Ed Woods

Staff

Melissa Fesler, Director FCT
 Amy Loch, Coordinator LCHS

Wanted

New Board Members needed,
 contact: 405-282-6000 ex. 4
 or amy.lchsok@yahoo.com

Advertise with the Trolley

Have your message seen around Guthrie or around Logan, Payne, Lincoln and Oklahoma Counties. Advertising space is available in various sizes on several vehicle locations. Prices start at just \$25.00 a month. Contact Melissa.trolley@yahoo.com or 405-282-6000 for complete details.

The **Territorial Capital Sports Museum** is currently offering copies of a **Special Limited Edition Saturday Evening Post "Baseball In the Glory Days"** featuring dozens of rare baseball illustrations and articles. Free with a \$50, tax deductible donation to the museum.

