Shiloh Scrapbook

SHILOH MUSEUM OF OZARK HISTORY NEWSLETTER

Vol. 36, No. 3 • December 2017

His Legacy is Our Future

Allyn Lord Director

Short of stature, quick-witted, and charming, he was elfin in appearance. But make no mistake, Ray Toler had the heart of a giant. He was proud of his hometown of Searcy (White County), his family, and his church. He served his country in the Philippines during World War II and worked as an electrical engineer for Arkansas Power and Light Company for four decades. Born just eighteen months after my own mother, like her, he typified the Greatest Generation with his perseverance, faith, and sense of responsibility.

Talented and knowledgeable, Ray could just as easily be found forging a tool with his blacksmithing equipment as discussing area railroads or natural history, never with a hint of boastfulness, but always with a twinkle in his eye and a joke to boot. He recognized every staff member at the Shiloh Museum during the past three decades with handcrafted, wood-burned nameplates for our desks. He volunteered at Springdale's First United Methodist Church soup kitchen, helped scores of people by fixing their appliances, and was a loyal Mason. At the museum he was a board member for many years.

Ray relished history, but wasn't content to let it linger in a box of old photos or in yellowing newspapers. The stories of his life flowed onto paper and into articles which were shared with his family, his church, and his friends, and with the historical societies and museums he supported. Our long-time secretary, Betty Bowling, was often the recipient and keeper of his latest musings, which bore titles such as "Chicken Salad at Headlee's Wasn't" (Ray was a "soda jerk" at Searcy's Headlee's Drug Store in the 1930s and the "chicken salad" was actually tuna fish with the oil scalded off!). Ten years ago, after Ray's wife, Juanita, passed, he gathered many of his stories in a book, *The Searcy I Remember, 1922–42*, and donated the proceeds to the White County Historical Society.

If you missed the good fortune of knowing Ray—he died October 8, 2016, at age 94—you must understand by now that he was happiest when he was giving and serving. He



Ray Toler demonstrates his blacksmithing skills as part of the Shiloh Museum's twenty-fifth anniversary celebration in 1993.

did so not just for duty's sake, but because it was simply his way. He knew what was important in his life and was determined to share his good fortune and gifts with others.

Perhaps it's not surprising, then, to learn that his estate benefitted the many organizations and groups he had come to love throughout his life, including the Shiloh Museum. This summer's receipt of his bequest, however, "Civic engagement" is a concept that's increasingly being discussed in the museum field. From participatory activities and shared authority for content to rethinking audiences in times of demographic change, the field is looking critically at the roles museums play in the 21st century.

While in the 19th century we were "cabinets of curiosities," places to visit to simply gaze at collections, in the 20th century we became places of education, where collections and exhibits were interpreted, where museums offered labels and programs and technology to help audiences learn. Today we increasingly turn outward. We partner and collaborate to share knowledge, history, and culture. We listen and learn ourselves and strive to become a communitycentered place where dialog and discussion, brainstorming and bartering, are key activities. We know that every day holds its own history, that stories aren't static, and that today's news is the nexus between our history and our future.

There are many reasons I'm proud of the work we do at the museum. In the

DIRECTOR'S COLUMN



Allyn Lord

19th-century tradition, we save and preserve artifacts that represent our Ozark world. Our collections are broad, distinctive, and, in some cases, such as our photo collection, regionally or nationally known. In the best 20th-century tradition, we use exhibits, programs, buildings, and technology to offer interpretations of our history. We pride ourselves on our strong, accurate research and our educational opportunities for all. We tell stories, we invite inquiry, we encourage imagination—we even occasionally let you touch.

But today, as both a part and a reflection of the 21st-century

Ozarks, we understand that we live on a web, a network that includes millions of segments populated with Ozark history and culture, as well as those segments which are still forming. Today we provide a place for discussions about and interaction with DREAMers. We help foster dialog between communities of color and law enforcement. We envision imaginative projects, hand-in-hand with the Marshallese community. We provide English AND Spanish labels for our core exhibits, perhaps the only Arkansas museum doing so. We share a focus on our environment with Master Gardeners, Monarchs for Springdale, Master Naturalists, and others. We collaborate with our dynamic downtown Springdale partners in creating vibrant spaces and activities that look to tomorrow but have their grounding in our history.

While our roots are firmly planted in Arkansas Ozark history, our collective arms are open wide to the history that's being made all around us today.

BOARD OF TRUSTEES

April Rusch, president; Jason House, vice president; Kathryn Birkhead, secretary; David Beauchamp, treasurer; Clifton Ruddick, vice-treasurer. Jovi Champaphanith, Dr. Jami Forrester, Zessna Garcia Rios, Dr. Marian Hendrickson, Melisa Laelan, Jim Meinecke, Leo Orpin, Hank Taylor, Judy Van Hoose

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Dr. C. S. Applegate, Dr. Dwight Heathman, Martha Lankford, Maudine Sanders, Stephen Taylor *(all deceased)*

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Mary Ann Bardwell, Ethna Billings, Kathryn Birkhead, Noah Calhoun, Ginger Candrilli, Trinity Castro, Karen Cordell, Kyla Cross, Fiona Davis, Tom Duggan, Astre Dunn, Cheryl Fears, Henry Freeman, Debbie Gilmore, Molly Hutchins, Donald Hendrix, Ann Kabanuck, Cheryl Larson, Craig Larson, Jayne Laster, Mira Leister, Linda MacLean, Mary McCully, Pat Mills, NWA Handweavers Guild, Jan Partain, Sharon Perry, Lynn Phillips, Pam Redfern, Laura Redford, Lyle Sparkman, Martha Sparkman, Mariette Spidel, Truman Stamps, Julia Stilwell, Janet Tackett, Mary Vaughan, Paula Whitaker, Richard Whitaker, Terry Whitaker, Thomas Whitaker, Wool and Wheel Handspinners Guild

STAFF

Allyn Lord, director; Judy Costello, education manager; Marie Demeroukas, photo archivist/research librarian; Kimberly Hosey, education specialist/weekend manager; Kris Johnson, photographer; Aaron Loehndorf, collections/education specialist; Curtis Morris, exhibits manager; Kathy Plume, receptionist/store manager; Marty Powers, maintenance; Carolyn Reno, assistant director/collections manager; Rachel Whitaker, research specialist; Susan Young, outreach coordinator

SHILOH MUSEUM OF OZARK HISTORY

118 W. Johnson Avenue • Springdale, AR 72764 • 479-750-8165 shilohmuseum.org • shiloh@springdalear.gov Open Monday-Saturday, 10 a.m.–5 p.m. • Free Admission

Volunteer Spotlight

Judy Costello Education Manager

Education is one way that we fulfill our mission here at the Shiloh Museum. We serve many young students, so volunteers are very helpful as they add an extra hand when students try out artifacts and they make it possible to have multiple stations when staff are pulled away for other duties. One education volunteer is Molly Hutchins. She has helped out with education programs and summer camps for several years now. Molly always has a smile on her face and is willing to step in wherever she is needed. The schoolchildren relate to her well because she is close to their age and friendly. Molly is able to inspire them to be interested in history. They see that history isn't just something that older people like or that they are required to learn in school.

Molly has presented various programs and served as a guide for Sheep to Shawl and Civil War Days, a program presented in collaboration with the Washington County Historical Society. She is responsible for keeping up with her own schedule, often reminding her busy mother that she will need a ride to the museum. This year Molly has really stepped up to help with education programs. We put out a call for volunteers to help us with programs for more than 100 school groups, which Molly answered.



Molly is responsible in learning a script and sticking to it while at the same time being flexible with her delivery, so the education staff is confident that she will share appropriate information. The education staff is also confident that Molly can make adjustments as needed, such as when schools show up late and the program must be shortened. Molly is responsible in her dealings with the students and with the adult teachers and chaperones. She is careful to keep an eye on the children and appropriately reprimands them to protect both the students and museum property as needed.

By being willing to step in wherever she is needed and doing a good job whatever she is doing, Molly can be counted on to lend a hand and to learn what she needs to in order to do a good job at the task she is given.

Education takes a special kind of individual who has patience and understanding to deal with children. Molly is just such an individual. Her ability to go with the flow and adapt makes her an invaluable education volunteer. As her family continues to expand with foster and adopted children, her willingness to help us with programs is inspiring.

We could not do what we do here at Shiloh Museum without volunteers, and Molly is up there with the best of them. Thank you is not enough for all she does, but it is a start. THANK YOU, MISS MOLLY!



Our annual Cabin Fever Reliever open house featuring displays by local collectors is set for **Saturday, January 13, from 10:00 a.m.–2:00 p.m.** Last year, typewriter collector Danny Baskin brought in some fascinating hand-powered machines from days gone by.

Which prompts us to inquire:

What TYPE of collection do you have to share?

If you'd like to participate, email shiloh@springdalear.gov or call 750-8165. It's a lot of fun!

ENDOWMENT FUND DONORS May 2014–October 2017

Memorials

William Douglas Ashmore Sally Walker

Howard Baird Stanley Brown

Peggy Bennett Dolores & Truman Stamps

Sandy Boone Mr. & Mrs. Carl George James & Sandye Graham Patsy Graham Hartzell & Marsha Jones Wilma Samuel Mr. & Mrs. Harvey Smith Jr. Ron & Cherl Snyder Springdale Kiwanis Truman & Dolores Stamps Mr. & Mrs. Sam Weathers Ann Webb

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Shiloh Meeting Hall Renovation

4-H House Alumni John Michael Andrews Anonymous donor Arvest Bank Carolyn Bayley David Beauchamp Bella Vista Fly Tyers Martha Benson Benton Family Trust Bob & Patty Besom Kathryn Birkhead Forest & Carolyn Bowen Rhonda Brown Jack & Anne Butt Fund Butterfield Trails Questers Jackson G. & Ella Frances Byrd Charitable Remainder Annuity Trust CAR, Arkansas State Society Michael Carney

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Steele Family Trust Phillip W. Steele Memorial Fund Wesley & Jacqueline Stites Gerald & Wilma Stockton Town & Country Quilters UA School of Environmental Science Jerre & Judy Van Hoose Sally Walker Walton Family Foundation Ann Webb JoAnna Williams Willowbrook Elementary School (Bentonville) first grade classes Yocum Elementary School (El Dorado) fourth grade teachers Mr. & Mrs. Sonny Zachary



Collections/education specialist Aaron Loehndorf explains the workings of a loom to students in Springdale's Helen Tyson Middle School eSTEAM program during a recent visit to the school. eSTEAM is an educational approach to learning that uses science, technology, engineering, the arts, and mathematics to guide learning activities.

WISH LIST

For Shiloh Meeting Hall

- donations toward purchase and installation of audio-visual equipment, \$545
- donations toward purchase of (3) entrance mats, \$120 each
- Dyson V6 Slim cordless vacuum, \$250

For exhibits

- clamps, any size
- clean cotton T-shirts for use as rags
- SKIL 7-amp ¹/₂-inch corded hammer drill, \$70

For collections

- donations toward purchase of archival hat boxes, \$125
- donations toward purchase of archival record storage boxes, \$95

For education programs

- Knit Your Bit: A World War I Story, \$15
- donations toward purchase of World War I era items: dog tag, canteen, recipe book, trench whistle, \$10-\$20 each
- donations toward purchase of a table loom (\$700) and manual bobbin winder (\$100)
- Wal-Mart or Harps gift cards, any amount

For research library

- back issues of the *Newton County Homestead* annual publication (vols 29-32), \$52 total
- used Windows-based laptop (no more than five years old), with at least 4GB memory, a dual core processor, a good graphics card, and a USB port

For the grounds

- Stihl Farm Boss MS 271 chainsaw, \$400
- Kobalt 80-volt 10-inch cordless electric pole saw, \$280
- (4) wheeled recycling bins, \$90 each
- donations toward purchase of sink and faucet for the Steele General Store bathroom, \$250

Thank you for these "for-use" items (September–October 2017)

Marie Demeroukas: blank DVDs

Ferguson Enterprises: sink finial

Debbie Gilmore: rakes, hoe, shovel, and hedge trimmers

Springdale Public Library: file cabinets

Mary Vaughan: Benton County: A Pictorial Look at Our Past; The Battle of Prairie Grove

Board Member Brief: JASON HOUSE



Family: Wife Shawn; daughters Harmony, Emma, and Violet

Pets: two dogs, Betty and Trixie; one chicken, Lucky; about two dozen tropical fish; one snail

Job: assistant principal at Sonora Middle School in Springdale

Favorite TV show: How to choose? *Game of Thrones, Band of Brothers, Ozark, House of Cards, The Simpsons.*

Hobbies: Camping, traveling, hiking, hunting, bicycling, and working on household projects.

Describe a perfect day. Camping with the family. Rainy, grey, and cool weather. I sleep in until late morning. Strong cup of coffee, biscuits and gravy, and comfy clothes. Warm campfire. Maybe a little hike around the woods. Read for a few hours. Play some backgammon with my girls. Toast some marshmallows and sleep under lots of warm blankets while the rain falls on our camper.

What is your favorite animal, and why? The snail (class Gastropoda). What's not to love? Everywhere they go, they take their house with them. Snails have learned that slow and steady wins the race. They have adapted to life in nearly every terrestrial and aquatic environment on earth. The spiral of their shell is a symbol of the natural cycles of life. They have a cool rasping tongue like a cat. And gastropod torsion has to be one of the weirdest and coolest physiological mechanisms in the animal kingdom.

What three people, living or dead, would you invite to dinner? Steve Wozniak, Douglas Adams, Sir Isaac Newton. All are innovators, creators, and thinkers. I want to learn how to be like them.





Shiloh Museum Store Holiday Shopping!



- Old-fashioned toys for the kiddos
- Handmade lap harps & door harps
- Gibson white-oak baskets
- Walking sticks & museum medallions
- Country, folk, & Christmas music CDs

- History-themed jigsaw puzzles
- Ozark-shaped cookie cutters
- Stuffed animals of the Ozarks
- Books about Ozark history
- Ozark handmade pottery

Debit and credit cards accepted Proceeds from all sales support the Shiloh Museum Shop Springdale!

Making Way for Beaver Lake



While working on *Modern Times*, our new permanent exhibit exploring Northwest Arkansas from 1950 to the present, some dandy photos related to the construction of Beaver Lake were loaned to us for copying by the Beaver Lake Project Office of the U. S. Army Corps of Engineers and by Richard Bland, whose Benton County roots go back for generations.

Left: Graves are removed from the old Bland Cemetery, one of fortythree cemeteries relocated due to the construction of Beaver Lake, circa 1961. *Elsie Allred, photographer/Richard Bland Collection*

Below: Land is cleared that will soon be covered by the waters of Beaver Lake, January 8, 1963. *Beaver Lake Corps of Engineers Collection*





Shiloh Museum board of trustees, 1990. Ray Toler is on the front row, far right.

was extraordinary for its generosity and left me weeping for a man who had given so much and continued to give. Most of his gift has been placed in our endowment, meaning that only the interest on it can be used, while the principal will never be touched, thus assuring continued growth and a brighter future for the museum.

Ray Toler's life made a difference. What he left the Shiloh Museum was not his money but his legacy. He led a fulfilled life, and his bequest will now leave a lasting impact on the museum and on the other organizations he held most dear. His legacy is our future.

If you believe in what the museum does and support us, a bequest or end-of-life gift to the museum creates a living legacy such as Ray's that will help continue our quest to provide our community with the resources for finding meaning, enjoyment, and inspiration in the exploration of the Arkansas Ozarks. With a bequest or end-of-life gift, you can:

- Reduce estate taxes.
- Direct the museum to use your gift to meet our current operations, for a specific program, or to add to our endowment.
- Spare family members the burden of paying both estate and income taxes by leaving retirement-plan assets to charity.
- Help the museum's ongoing mission. Bequests are not just for the wealthy. Even a small portion of a typical estate can be a very meaningful gift.

An attorney can help you make a bequest that fits into your overall estate plan. Staff at the Arkansas Community Foundation (888-220-2723) can work with you and your advisor. An example of bequest language is: "I give and bequeath to the Shiloh Museum endowment fund at the Arkansas Community Foundation the sum of \$xx (or xx% of the net estate)."

DONATIONS TO THE **C**OLLECTIONS

July–October 2017

Anonymous: scrapbooks, letters, and photos from the George M. and Wilma Nettleship Basore estate, Fayetteville and Washington County, 1900s

Michael Bishop: telegrapher's handset, Frisco Depot, Springdale, 1920s

Ann Blackshire: Springdale High School Class of 1942 50th reunion booklet; photos of S & F grocery store and Fowler family group, Springdale, circa 1930

Jim Blackston: Shakespeare "Purdy Stik" fishing rod, ca. 1979; Shakespeare "1975" reel, 1973; Heddon "Lucky 13" lure, 1970s, Fayetteville

Deborah Brown: photos of Vantress Farms hatchery, Springdale, 1959

Abby Burnett: newspaper articles by Abby Burnett, 1990s-2000s

Elaine Farish: Eddie Farish's Army field pack, memorabilia, and photos from his service in Vietnam, 1969– 1971; Clinton-Gore 1993 presidential inauguration paperweight and miscellaneous news clippings

Merlee Harrison: Black August by William Harrison

Fay Marie Johnson: John P. Stafford's desk lamp; dress bodices; apron, account book; R. W. Mecklin book; papers and photos; all from the John and Lena Stafford family, Springdale, 1837–early 1900s

Tommy & Darlette Kendrick: photos from Cardwell, Graham, Phillips, and Kendrick families, Springdale, late 1800s–1930s

Pat Smathers Konstam: silverware, handmade rolling pin, and two photographs, all from the Boydston family, Madison County, late 1800s; transcript of 1978 interview with Loucile Boydston Smathers about Kingston and Berryville in the early 1900s

Jannie Layne: Jannie Reeves' Girl Scout memorabilia and photos, Springdale, 1960s; James "Bo" Swearingen's Cub Scout neckerchief and Vocational Industrial Clubs of America badges, Springdale, 1986 and 1994

Melissa Lee: Army gear and memorabilia from her service in Iraq and Afghanistan, 2008–2009

Lowell Historical Museum: C. O. Cardwell's tax records, Springdale, 1929-1941

Pam Redfern: basketball jersey and knee pads; sunglasses; 3D fold-out Valentine; all from West Fork, early 1900s–1970s

R. Jeffrey Reynerson: Springdale Noon Lions Club banner, vest, and papers, late 1980s–2000s

Ann Schumacher: Uncle Heavy's Hog Hat, 1977; University of Arkansas catalogs and telephone directories, Fayetteville, 1973–1978 *Tim Sholley: National Geographic* magazine featuring "Through Ozark Hills and Hollows," November 1970

Stephanie Vaughn: watch and box from Springdale jeweler Ward Ruggles, 1942–1946; Springdale plat book, 1987

Mary Vaughan: Coger Drugstore glassware, Springdale; brass candlesticks and teapot from Mozelle's Import Treasures of the World, Rogers; Bruce Vaughan's Springdale High School 50th anniversary booklet, 1989; Mary Vaughan's studio display photo album, Springdale; Harvey and Bernice Jones negatives, Springdale, 1900s

Photographs loaned for copying

William Falls: Paul family, Springdale, 1910s

Richard Harp: Harp family, Springdale, 1940s–1950s

Stephanie Vaughn: Bolinger family, Washington County, 1970s

To further explore our collections, visit our website's Artifact of the Month and Photo of the Month.

Connect with us

Subscribe to our monthly eNews. Read our blog, *The Backstay*. Listen to our podcast series on iTunes.



CALENDAR

CURRENT SPECIAL EXHIBITS Through December 9. *The Changing Face of Emma,* a photographic look at Springdale's first commercial district, from heyday to decline to present-day rejuvenation.

Through January 13, 2018. *Strange Scenes in the Ozarks: M. E. Oliver's Silk-Screened Art,* an exhibit featuring pages from Madison County native M. E. Oliver's 1955 book depicting the rural Ozarks he knew as a child.

Through February 17, 2018. *Marketing Magic,* an exhibit featuring historic advertising memorabilia.

UPCOMING EVENTS AND EXHIBITS

December 9, 2:30 p.m. Holiday concert by students of the Will Bush Violin Studio in Springdale.

December 12–May 12, 2018. *Creatures Great and Small,* a photo exhibit featuring Ozark animals as companions, guides, food providers, laborers, athletes, wildlife, and modes of transportation.

January 13, 10:00 a.m.–2:00 p.m. Cabin Fever Reliever, the museum's annual open house featuring displays by local collectors.

January 17, noon. "Obviously, Nothing Here is Arbitrary," a program on pre-Civil War architecture in Northwest Arkansas, by historic preservationist Joan Gould of Preservation Matters.

February 5–January 12, 2019. *Fifty from Fifty,* an exhibit celebrating the Shiloh Museum's 50th anniversary, featuring an artifact donated each year from 1968 to 2018.

February 21, noon. "Who Was George Washington Carver?", a program by Curtis Gregory, park ranger at George Washington Carver National Monument.

March 21, noon. "A History of Jews in the Ozarks," a program by Mara W. Cohen Ioannides, professor of English at Missouri State University and co-director of "Telling Traditions," an oral history and documentary of Jewish women in the Ozarks. **April 16–April 13, 2018.** *Selected*, an exhibit of objects from the Shiloh Museum's fifty-year collection, selected by guest curators from the Northwest Arkansas community.

April 18, noon. "Northwest Arkansas Wildlife," a slide program by nature photographer Terry Stanfill.

May 15–December 15. *"Happy Birthday, Shiloh!"*, a photo exhibit celebrating the Shiloh Museum's first fifty years.

May 16, noon. A panel discussion on the Vietnam War by veterans who served in that conflict.

June 20, noon. "The Harmonial Vegetarian Society: The Real Story," a program on a pre-Civil War communal group in Benton County by local historian Nancy Feroe.

July 18, noon. "The Geology of Ozark Caves," a program by John McFarland, retired chief geologist with the Arkansas Geological Survey.

August 15, noon. "Ozark Fiddle Music," a program by Dr. Drew Beisswenger, musicologist and librarian at the University of Arkansas.

September 19, noon. "The Art and Craft of Prehistoric Indian Pottery," a program by Dr. Ann Early, state archeologist with the Arkansas Archeological Survey.

October 17, noon. "Odd Fellows in the Ozarks," a program on the history of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows organization in Northwest Arkansas, by Shiloh Museum outreach coordinator Susan Young.

Keep up with current events by checking our website calendar at shilohmuseum.org.

	Sept. 2017	Sept. 2007 10 years ago	Sept. 1987 30 years ago
Number of walk-in visitors	374	248	330
Number of program participants	1,433	1,230	210
Number of people in groups using facilities	231	90	25
Number of discovery box users	1,913	144	0
Total number of people served in month	6,385	2,119	540

Join the Shiloh Museum Association

- Satisfaction of knowing you are supporting an important cultural institution and helping preserve our Arkansas Ozark heritage, *and*
- 10% discount on Shiloh Store purchases
- Discount on photo reproduction fees
- Reduced fees for children's and adult workshops
- · Invitations to exhibit openings and special events

Consider a gift to the Shiloh Museum Endowment Fund

☐ Check here if you would like more information about the endowment fund.

Help us save money and trees

□ Check here if you would like to receive your newsletter by email instead of U. S. mail.

Email address

 Individual - \$15 School class - \$12.50 Family - \$20 Senior Individual (65+) - \$1 Senior Couple - \$15 	 Patron - \$50 Sponsor - \$100 Sustaining - \$250 Benefactor - \$500 Founding - \$1,000
Name	
Address	
City	
State	Zip
Please make check payable to:	Shiloh Museum 118 W. Johnson Avenue Springdale, AR 72764 479-750-8165

MISSION STATEMENT

The Shiloh Museum of Ozark History serves the public by preserving and providing resources for finding meaning, enjoyment, and inspiration in the exploration of the Arkansas Ozarks. Adopted by the Shiloh Museum Board of Trustees on February 11, 2016.

118 W. Johnson Avenue 48727 AA, Johnson Avenue 50764



Membership Levels