



## SHEERAR MUSEUM *of Stillwater History*

SHEERAR CULTURAL & HERITAGE CENTER

702 S. DUNCAN STREET

STILLWATER, OKLAHOMA 74074

PHONE 405-377-0359

### STILLWATER MUSEUM ASSOCIATION

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#### MUSEUM STAFF

Ammie Bryant  
*Director*

Brandon Neal Jones  
*Registrar*

January 2, 2016

Norman McNickle, Interim City Manager  
City of Stillwater  
P.O. Box 1449  
Stillwater, OK 74076

RE: Quarterly Report

Dear Mr. McNickle,

This letter is to serve as the January 2016 quarterly report.

The museum was open 27 days in October with 641 visitors; 26 days in November with 637 visitors; and 22 days in December with 914 visitors. The museum was open Tuesday through Friday 11 a.m. to 5 p.m., and Saturday and Sunday 1 p.m. to 4 p.m. each month. The Museum closed on Mondays and holidays during October, November, and December 2015. In 2015, the Sheerar Museum had 7,828 total visitors from 43 different Oklahoma communities (in addition to Stillwater), 34 states (in addition to Oklahoma), and 11 different countries (in addition to the U.S.) In addition to visitors to the museum, the visitor numbers include individuals who came to programs and/or events at the Sheerar Center Auditorium.

This past fall, the Sheerar Museum of Stillwater History opened a new exhibit highlighting the 30 year history of the sister-cities relationship between Stillwater, Oklahoma and Kyoto, Japan. The exhibit, entitled "Stories Unfolding: A 30<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration" opened on Sunday, October 25. The Sheerar Museum Board of Trustees hosted a special ceremony on Sunday, October 25, 2015 with honored guests from the city of Kameoka in Japan and City of Stillwater officials including Mayor Gina Noble. Members of the community loaned over 100 objects to the museum for this exhibit. The Sheerar Museum Board of Trustees and staff wish to thank these members of the Stillwater community for their generosity in sharing these objects for the exhibit: Larry and Kayo Jones, Sylvia Duncan, Cindy Petree, Becky and Steve Irby, Calvin Anthony, and Stephanie Kinder.

Furthermore, the Museum partnered with the Sister Cities Council, the School of International Studies at Oklahoma State University, the Oral History Research Project at Oklahoma State University, the City of Stillwater, Stillwater Middle School, and the Stillwater Community Center. With the support of these partnerships, we were able to create a community-wide exhibition that spotlighted this important multicultural and international endeavor towards the enrichment of Stillwater's history.



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During late October and November, Sheerar Museum Director Ammie Bryant also consulted with OSU Special Collections and University Archives Director David Peters to collect items that had been left as memorials for the OSU Homecoming Parade tragedy at the corner of Hall of Fame and Main. Director Bryant has been asked to continue working with OSU to determine what will happen with these collected memorials in the coming months.

During November the Sheerar Museum of Stillwater History Troupe d'Jour and Town & Gown Theatre presented the Stillwater Short Play Festival at the Sheerar Museum Auditorium. This event has been held in the Museum's auditorium for the past two years in support of a local non-profit, Judith Karman Hospice. In 2015, Troupe d'Jour selected the Sheerar Museum of Stillwater History as the beneficiary of proceeds from this event.

This spring, the Sheerar Museum will partner once again with the Stillwater Public Library and OSU Library to present the upcoming **Two Books, One Community: Stillwater Reads *The Great Gatsby* and *Fire in Beulah***. The Sheerar Museum will host book discussions, as well as present an exhibit on "**Life in 1920s Stillwater**" to coincide with the program. The Museum will also host two additional programs in the Sheerar Auditorium as part of this program.

Additionally, the Museum will once again present the award-winning free education program "How Oklahoma Began" to area Oklahoma History Students. During this program, students participate in interactive and hands-on activities to learn about the settlement of Oklahoma using Stillwater's history as case study.

The Sheerar Museum of Stillwater History is very appreciative to the City of Stillwater for its support through the years in helping us to maintain a safe and aesthetically appealing environment for our patrons. We are committed to continuing to preserve Stillwater's local history and sharing it with the community.

Sincerely,

Pat Jaynes, President  
Stillwater Museum Association

Enclosure: *Stillwater Muse* (2015 annual report newsletter)