

Forest



Third Quarter 2021
Volume 24, No. 2

Sustainable Forestry Message is Priority for New Museum Director

The Forest Heritage Center Museum was established in 1976 by a group of community leaders who recognized the urgency of educating the public about sustainable forestry. These visionaries had a plan for a forest center that “would become a major attraction in the state of Oklahoma, with an impact that soon would reach beyond state borders.” In 1981 a three-way partnership was formed between the Forest Heritage Center Museum’s Board of Directors, Oklahoma Forestry Services, and Oklahoma Tourism and Recreation Department. The partnership led to a stable, vital community anchor that serves as a center for education, events, and community gatherings. With each passing year additional programs, exhibits and events have been added to the offerings of the museum. Today, about 125,000 visitors come to the museum every year to learn about the history and sustainability of forestry.

As the Forest Heritage Center Museum moves forward under the leadership of a new director, telling the story of sustainable forestry will continue to be the priority. “Each of the past museum directors has contributed something special to the Forest Heritage Center. We will build upon that solid foundation and work hard to add new and exciting elements that further the mission. We want to make sure every guest comes away with a better understanding of the positive impact and sustainability of forestry,” says museum director Calista Stephens. “The beautiful work in the courtyard and in the museum’s entrance has created positive momentum. We are continuing with that momentum by developing an identity plan that will unify the way we represent the museum with signage and printed materials, and we will be developing an interpretation plan to make sure the message of sustainable forestry is told consistently and effectively.”

Stephens was named manager of the Forest Heritage Center after working for the museum for six years. “We are fortunate to have someone with Calista’s experience and knowledge of the Forest Heritage Center Museum to step into the manager position,” said State Forester and Director of Oklahoma Forestry services, Mark Goeller. “She has been involved in every aspect of the museum operations, exhibits and events and is able to make a seamless transition.” Stephens is completing her Masters degree in Museum Studies with the University of Oklahoma. She has served on the Oklahoma State Volunteer Board and is currently a member of the Friends of Beavers Bend State Park, Friends of the Fort Towson Historic Site, Oklahoma Museum Association, and is on the board of directors for the McCurtain County Historical Society.



FHC Museum Director
Calista Stephens

Kiamichi Owa-Chito Festival of the Forest

The Kiamichi Owa-Chito Festival of the Forest is scheduled for September 24 and 25 in Beavers Bend State Park. The event will kick off with a forestry banquet at the Museum of the Red River in Idabel at 6:00 pm on Thursday, September 23. Awards will be given to recognize leaders whose hard work and dedication promotes the forest industry's positive image and message of sustainable forestry. The forestry luncheon is a partnership of the Oklahoma Forestry Association, Owa-Chito Festival of the Forest, and Forest Heritage Center. Tickets may be purchased in advance or at the door. Proceeds will benefit the Children's Miracle Network.

On both days from 10 am until 4 pm the Forest Heritage Center will host wood art demonstrations with multiple disciplines in the outdoor spaces surrounding the museum and in the courtyard. Demonstrations will include chair caning, woodturning, wood carving, chip carving, tool making, chainsaw carving, segmented turning, laminating, embellishing, and more! The museum's gallery will feature the works of wood artist Darrell Whisenhunt.

On Friday at 5:30 at the amphitheater local gospel artists and Jordy Henson will entertain guests, and on Saturday entertainment will start at 6:00 pm with headliner Casey Donahew taking the stage at 8:30. The Kiamichi Owa-Chito Festival of the Forest is free to the public. Parking for both days will be provided by Choctaw Casinos of Idabel and Broken Bow.

Forestry Banquet

Thursday, September 23, 2021

6:00 pm

Museum of the Red River, Idabel, OK

Tickets \$25



Please make checks payable to OFA. Remit to: Oklahoma Forestry Association, 4878 E. St Hwy 3, Idabel, OK 74745

For more information please contact:

Pete @ herronoffice@att.net or Glenda @ oklahomaforestryassociation@hotmail.com

Cancelled

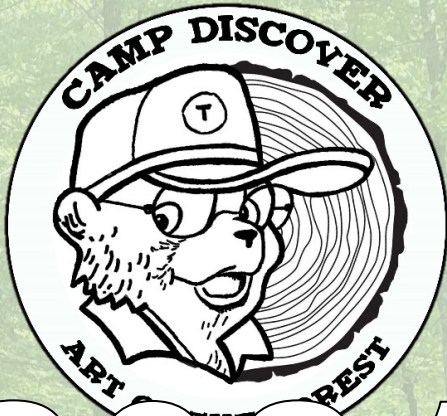
2021 Beavers Bend Folk Festival & Craft Show

The 2021 Beavers Bend Folk Festival & Craft Show scheduled for November 12-14, 2021 has been cancelled. While we were looking forward to seeing friends and enjoying Folk Festival, the steady rise in COVID cases made cancelling this year's show necessary to protect the health and safety of our vendors, visitors, and staff. If you have questions call the Forest Heritage Center at 580-494-6497, or to make lodging changes call the Beavers Bend State Park reservation desk at 580-494-6300.

We look forward to seeing our Folk Festival Family and friends again for the 2022 show, scheduled for November 11-13, 2022.

Camp Discover: Art of the Forest

July 6-8, 2021



2021

The “Wood, Water, and Worms” theme came together in a project that allowed students to craft their own visual narrative with a dreamcatcher.



The Oklahoma Home and Community Education (OHCE) organization volunteered their time and talents for this fun project.



Outdoor adventures are like panning for gems at Beaver Creek and getting an up-close look at nature on the Tree Trail were highlights of Camp Discover.



Using a crosscut saw with Oklahoma Forestry Services firefighters is a camp tradition.



Camp Discover 2021 photo courtesy Jacob Nicholson




Forest Heritage Center Museum

Oklahoma's Only Forestry Museum

Located Inside Beautiful Beavers Bend State Park

fhc@beaversbend.com

 @forestheritagecenter

580-494-6497



PO Box 157
Broken Bow, OK 74728

75 Years of Forestry at Oklahoma State University

2021 is the 75th anniversary of the forestry department at Oklahoma State University! The department is commemorating their founding in 1946 with special lapel pins and embroidered patches while looking toward the future as part of the Department of Natural Resource Ecology & Management. According to Forestry Professor Dr. Thomas Kuzmic, "Forestry certainly remains a visible, viable, and vital entity on our campus and in Oklahoma. We maintain a steady enrollment of 35-40 enthusiastic and top-notch undergrads, and our curriculum continues to uphold the accreditation by the Society of American Foresters...and OSU Foresters are engaged in great professional forestry work across our state, our country, and the world."



Forest Heritage Center

Membership

The success of the Forest Heritage Center is due in large part to the memberships and contributions of those who support our mission of "sustaining our forest heritage through history, education and wood art." We know you are familiar with memberships and donations but are you aware of our third option of giving? An endowment with the McCurtain Community Fund, an affiliate of the Tulsa Community Foundation has been established for the FHC. The FHC endowment fund is managed to generate and ensure a stable financial future for the Museum.

Forest Heritage Center Giving Form

YES, I want to help sustain our forest heritage through history, education and wood art!

Three ways to help secure the future of the Forest Heritage Center

Annual Project

Annual gift _____

One time gift _____

\$ _____

Membership

Forest Friend \$25 & up

Forest Patron \$100 & up

Forest Benefactor \$500 & up

Endowment

Annual gift _____

One time gift _____

\$ _____

Total Gift Enclosed: \$ _____

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Phone: (____) _____ Cell: _____

E-mail: _____

Mail To:

*Forest Heritage Center
P.O. Box 157*

Broken Bow, OK 74728

(580) 494-6497

FHC@beaversbend.com

For tax purposes your gift is deductible to the full extent allowed by the Internal Revenue Code

Thank you for being a part of the Forest Heritage Center family!

If you are ready to leave your legacy, make a donation to the Museum or to our endowment in your will or trust, use the giving form in the newsletter or give us a call at 580-494-6497. Donations are always appreciated and are tax-deductible to the full extent allowed by law.