

# Forest Heritage



Fourth Quarter 2023  
Volume 27, No. 3

## Beavers Bend Folk Festival and Craft Show 2023



Fort Towson Historic Site staff demonstrating a cannon firing.



Assistant Park Manager Haley Harris' daughter dipping a candle.



Woodturning Artist Chris Wood demonstrating his skill for visitors.

The Annual Beavers Bend Folk Festival and Craft Show was a roaring success! Vendors and guests traveled from far and wide to take part in this year's event and the park set a record for festival visitation, over 18,000!

The Folk Festival planning committee was proud to bring in a dozen new vendors as well as a young and upcoming folk musician.



Upon arrival, festival goers were greeted with brightly painted trollies and comfy vans that would take them to the festival entrance. On the way, guests would marvel at seeing deer along the roads and hear the echoes of primitive musical instruments and old Folk songs.

Once they had entered the festival, guests were overcome with the smell of homemade BBQ, gourmet grilled cheese, Indian tacos, Greek Gyros, hot kettle corn, and mouth-watering burgers. There was homemade root beer floats as well as artisan chocolates and fresh cinnamon rolls to satisfy the sweet tooth.

Inside the museum, visitors could purchase official Folk Festival merchandise from Hochatime Hideaway and take photos at the selfie station. Then, guests could wander halls, seeing art, pottery, bookbinding, herbal medicine, and wood art. They would also have opportunities to sample local craft beers and wine from an Oklahoma vineyard.



'Cypress Santa' by Judy Carlisle. Ms. Carlisle is a master at her craft and a founding Folk Fest member.



Choctaw Beadwork Artist and Tourism Staff Member Kimberly Peters took part in the festival for the first time!

In the courtyard, there were homemade soaps and animals to pet, as well as an expert broom maker. Fort Towson Historic Site led living history demonstrations, and the Oklahoma Historical Society got in on the fun with crafts and games. The blacksmith hammered away at iron, the rope maker twisted his fibers, and the crosscut saw sliced timbers until the setting sun on Sunday evening...





## Tours

The FHC and Department of Tourism was honored with a visit from the Wolf PAC.

Those attending included: Rep. Nick Archer, Rep. Trey Caldwell, Rep. Eddy Dempsey, Rep. John George, Rep. Jim Grego, Rep. David Hardin, Rep. Neil Hayes, Rep. Chris Kannady, Rep. Mark Lawson, Rep. Dick Lowe, Rep. Ken Luttrell, Rep. Stan May, Rep. Daniel Pae, and Rep. Josh West. The tour was facilitated by lobbyist, Don Armes.



## Museum Improvements

Museum educator Brianna was thankful to have help from National Forest Archeological Tech, Sylvia Corey, in her collections management efforts.

Miss. Corey and Brianna worked diligently every Friday for a three-month period, and by the end of October, both were incredibly proud of the accomplishments made.



## Museum Improvements Continued...



Prior to the Folk Festival, staff at the FHC were blessed to have the Oklahoma Tourism and Recreation Department come in and completely remodel the outdated workshop. Tad Harrison spearheaded the project, and along with his park maintenance team, they were able to gut the room, repaint, and install all new countertops and plumbing. The workshop is now a useable space perfect for event prepping!

## Museum Happenings

Educator Brianna took part in some community outreach by visiting her hometown of Durant for an annual Christmas event at historic Fort Washita. She brought with her loblolly seedlings that had been graciously donated by the OSU Research Station in Idabel.



She successfully handed out 200 seedlings as well as Tree Bear posters and led children in an archeology themed activity, courtesy of the Chickasaw Nation. The event saw over 700 attendees.



## Museum Happenings Continued...



A feline resident of the administrative building became a mother and was relocated to the FHC until her kittens found homes with park staff and momma cat was adopted by a family from Fort Worth. Her new name is Yuki.



The FHC is delighted to have a photo booth area in our entryway. Museum educator Brianna and Assistant Park Manager Haley Harris repainted an old backdrop and added fall foliage and pumpkins to give it a holiday theme. Guests have been steadily taking photos there and Brianna would like to redecorate for every major holiday.





# Folk Festival Word Search



R R W N M E L E K Z E X W K H J C V W K  
N E C S J C F Q Q A S F R E B R J X Y E  
N U D Y L J A O P O V O S L P R Y N C S  
K T G W W A L N W Z W I A N G B D R F I  
G Q Y H O H J G D D Z C V E K X Y W S L  
N S V P Y P P Z A L K G T S C L O W D V  
I T S J Y T N E X S E G D C X T J U S E  
N B P L C V B U M B X D I J V L T C D R  
N T J I J P T I G W G N I K A M P A O S  
I P K D Q R T H M A A X K P T H L P Z M  
P D T G Z H V F O A V R M J P N O R E I  
S J G N I D N I B K O O B N S I I V D T  
B H S N X M X P Y D A D K V D F N C J H  
K G G D S L Z Q B H Z G J B U A Y G Y I  
J X L E L F K G K G P K Z J L R O Z R N  
I M Y X I M N G N P R Q F N V V O H L G  
P E Y F R O P M D V M L N P Z U O Z Q G  
Q X O L A G R R H C V O A O H X A N S N  
J H X I H D X E J I L Q L O B V A Z Z E  
M H F I Q P L D H H E P O T T E R Y X A

Beadwork

Candle Dipping

Silversmithing

Blacksmithing

Gunpowder

Soapmaking

Bookbinding

Pottery

Spinning



# Forest Heritage Center Membership and Giving Form

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 designed to generate and ensure a stable financial future for the Museum.

## 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: (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

### Mail To:

*Forest Heritage Center  
P.O. Box 157  
Broken Bow, OK 74728  
(580) 494-6497*

*okfhcmuseum@outlook.com*

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

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



# Forest Heritage Center Museum

## Oklahoma's Only Forestry Museum



2815TH CO. CCC CAMP 9-20-00 M. CURTAIN CO. STATE PARK BROKEN BOW OKLA.  
MEMBERS, CAPT. INF'IES, COMMANDING FIELD PROJECT SUPERINTENDENT  
L. L. WOODS, CHIEF OF CAMP, BROKEN BOW, OKLA. 1900  
J. W. WOODS, CHIEF OF CAMP, BROKEN BOW, OKLA. 1900  
J. W. WOODS, CHIEF OF CAMP, BROKEN BOW, OKLA. 1900  
J. W. WOODS, CHIEF OF CAMP, BROKEN BOW, OKLA. 1900  
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J. W. WOODS, CHIEF OF CAMP, BROKEN BOW, OKLA. 1900



**Located Inside Beautiful Beavers Bend State Park**

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Christmas trees originally came from Germany and were made popular by Queen Victoria and Prince Albert.

Christmas trees are usually evergreen conifers, such as spruce, fir and pines.

In 16th century Germany, nuts, berries, apples and candles were used to decorate small evergreens.

