



STILLWATER HISTORY MUSEUM AT THE SHEERAR

SHEERAR CULTURAL & HERITAGE CENTER

702 S. DUNCAN STREET

STILLWATER, OKLAHOMA 74074

PHONE 405-377-0359

**STILLWATER
MUSEUM
ASSOCIATION**

January 2, 2020

**BOARD OF TRUSTEES
OFFICERS**

Norman McNickle, City Manager
City of Stillwater

**Stephen Gose
President**

Dear Mr. McNickle,

**Vickie Sturgeon
Vice President**

This letter is to serve as the January 2020 quarterly report. The winter issue of the *Stillwater Muse* has been mailed to you, and I am also attaching a copy.

**Candace Robinson
Treasurer**

Fourth Quarter Visitation

**Velda Lorenz
Secretary**

The museum was open 23 days in October, and had 220 museum visitors and 670 auditorium users. In November, the museum was open for 19 days, and had 323 museum visitors and 655 auditorium users. In December, the museum was open 17 days, and had a total of 178 museum visitors and 1,150 auditorium users. In 2019 we have had a total of 2,873 museum visitors and 7,228 auditorium users, bringing the total center visitation to 10,701, which is about 1,200 less than 2018, but still more visitors than 2017.

**Bill Bryans
Member at Large**

BOARD MEMBERS

In 2019, the museum also utilized the talents of 39 individual volunteers and 3 groups, who logged over 1,500 hours of service to the museum. We are also pleased to welcome three new board members for 2020: Candace Robinson (through Leadership Stillwater), Laura Arata, and Annett Shamas.

Gladeen Allred

Laura Arata

Judi Baker

Dennis Cyr

Susan Matlock

David Peters

Judy Ringwall

Annett Shamas

**Wanda Cooke
Ex-Officio
Member at Large**

Looking Back

On October 27th the museum hosted a program with Quilts of Valor/Cimarron Valley Quilt Guild, and presented a quilt of valor to veteran Ron Scholar. "Angie Debos' Scholarly Legacy" was presented by Kurt Anderson, a Payne County Historical Society Board member on Sunday, November 17^h, and we held our Annual Holiday Open House with the Stillwater Community Singers on December 5th. Our 2nd Saturday and 3rd Thursday family activities continue to grow in popularity, bringing new visitors into the museum—several times single adults have come to take part! This quarter, we also hosted several groups from MPOWER, local churches, and retirement/senior homes. Debbie Williams participated in an event at the Family Resource Center in our continuing effort to increase our international traffic at the museum. The American Quilt Study Group traveling quilt show "Quilts of Solid Color" was installed along with 3 autograph quilts from the Museum's collection. The show will be on display until February 1st. We also added a new exhibit titled "Stillwater Collects." The first display featured items from "Christmas Past." Plans are to change this exhibit every month and feature diverse collections from a variety of community residents of all ages.

**MUSEUM STAFF
Amelia Chamberlain
Director**

**Debbie Williams
Programming**

In addition to programs, exhibits, and activities, Museum staff and a community service worker painted select museum walls, refreshed the inside entrance to the Museum, and redesigned the museum gift shop. Several colors were added to each of these areas to make the space more appealing to visitors.

Looking Ahead

Coming up in January a program about the history of the Payne County Historical Society will be presented on Sunday, January 26th, at 2:00 pm. On Thursday, the 30th, there will be a collecting oral hHistories training to recruit volunteers to assist the Museum with gathering Stillwater stories and memories.

In February, two new exhibits, “Preserving Your Family Heirlooms” focusing on how people can take care of their families’ keepsakes and “100th Anniversary of the League of Women Voters and Women’s Suffrage” will open, with a reception planned for February 13th. To supplement the League exhibit, a program will be offered on Sunday, February 29, at 2 p.m. Throughout the month of February, we will have historic photographs available for viewing so that some of the unidentified images in the collection might be recognized.

Then, in March, “Deep Roots: Oklahoma Authors Oral History Project” will be presented on Sunday, March 29, at 2 p.m.

The Sheerar Museum thanks the City of Stillwater for its support in helping Board and staff to maintain a safe and aesthetically appealing environment for our patrons. We are committed to continuing the preservation of Stillwater’s local history and sharing it with the community.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Amelia Chamberlain". The signature is written in a cursive style with a long horizontal flourish at the end.

Amelia E. Chamberlain, Director
Stillwater Museum Association, Inc.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Stephen Gose". The signature is written in a cursive style with a long horizontal flourish at the end.

Stephen Gose, President