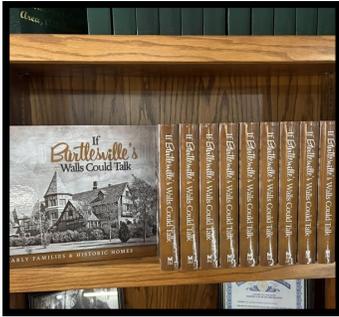


The Washington Countian

BARTLESVILLE AREA HISTORY MUSEUM

PROTECT. COLLECT. PRESERVE. SHARE.

Friends of BAHM Gift Shop news!



After the much anticipated, over-a-year-wait, our most popular book, “If Bartlesville Walls Could Talk,” is back in stock! Bartlesville has been extremely fortunate to have fostered many historians over the past 100 years who have documented memorable events and activities of early history. “If Bartlesville Walls Could Talk,” written by Debbie Neece, Barbara Garrison, and Vicki Stewart, is one of those resources! Get your copy today in the BAHM gift shop for \$49.95!

Museum staff have been diligently working on a variety of projects. One of those projects is updating the inventory in the Friends of the Bartlesville Area History Museum Gift Shop with hand crafted items and more modern gift ideas! New equipment like a vinyl cutter, and a sublimation printer has given us the ability to turn our new logo and other designs into shirts, hats, stickers, and hand wash only glassware!

We are excited to keep this project moving forward and can't wait to share our next designs!



House made vinyl stickers \$4.00 each



House made shot glasses with the Bartlesville Area Museum logo, \$4.00 each



House made Pyrex inspired mason jar drinking glass and glass tumblers \$6.99 each!

COLLECTIONS CORNER

Casey Sullivan, Collections Manager

It's hard to believe that a year has already passed since I began as Collections Manager at the Bartlesville Area History Museum. It has been an experience to see the operations of the museum, but it's been a pleasure to work with the small but dedicated staff. For my piece in this issue, I wanted to acknowledge and thank the enthusiastic and talented staff who work so hard to make available the history of Bartlesville for our patrons.



Kasey Werts has been in every facet of the word, dependable. She is the veteran of the staff, having worked as registrar at the museum for 6 years now. She immediately gets to work on all of the projects we have, day in and day out which is what the museum needs on a daily basis to attempt to subdue the mass overflow of donation backlog. As a person, Kasey is always pleasant and helpful in a team setting.

Shayla Cummins is a do-it-all without being a know-it-all. She is a Swiss-army knife and an absolute invaluable part of the museum team for performing so many roles. Quick-witted and determined is a great combination for someone coordinating events, exhibits, and social media, and usually all at the same time. Shayla has improved very much that I've seen in the last year and has navigated many difficult tasks, including maybe the most stressful reorder of the popular "If Bartlesville's Walls Could Talk" book. Thanks to her, we are now well stocked with, dare I say, THE pinnacle of Bartlesville coffee table books. She even took the tall task of throwing our director a beautiful baby shower adorned and decorated with themes from classic children's books and related snacks.



Denise Nowlin like myself was very new when I started, having been the newly hired Education Coordinator for only about 3 months. She has shown so much improvement in the last 3 months as she has become more comfortable. Her presentations and community outreach has been especially encouraging as she now partakes in preparing PowerPoints to take to eldercare facilities, schools, and other civic organizations. These presentations directly correlate with our temporary exhibits that rotate every 3 months. Denise also works hard to develop free children's camps in the summer months. These camps also usually follow the overall theme of the temporary exhibits, constantly changing and keeping curriculum from becoming stale.

Tamra Rogers is our part time grant facilitator with a kind heart and photographic memory with the latter quality being a major help in the project she is currently working on. We have a large and overwhelming collection of Bob Heil photographs that was donated to us in 2016. Thousands of these photos have been catalogued in our system with thousands more waiting to be. Tamra has the tedious task of sorting, accessioning, and sleeving these photos. Unfortunately, most pictures are not labeled but Tamra's sharp memory labels many faces with their appropriate names. I appreciate her ability to always ask questions when she is unsure and her positive attitude in any team situation.



Wright or Goff?

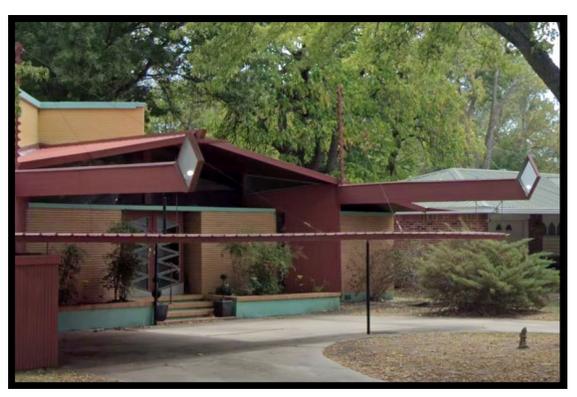
By Shayla Cummins, Museum Coordinator



As a biologist turned historian, I have had a lot to learn about the history of our area! One of the things I have learned is a love for vintage architecture and just how common it is here!

One evening, while on a family walk in Dewey, we “stumbled” upon a house we were unaware of and I was certain it was a Frank Lloyd Wright design. Boy was I wrong! Located on 1316 N. Creek St. sits the 1957 Comer home, designed by famed architect Bruce Goff!

Bruce Alonzo Goff (June 8, 1904 – August 4, 1982) was an American architect, distinguished by his organic, eclectic, and often flamboyant designs for houses and other buildings. Goff was a child prodigy whose family moved to Tulsa, Oklahoma in 1915. He was largely self-educated and displayed a great talent for drawing. His father apprenticed him at age twelve to the Tulsa architectural firm of Rush, Endacott, and Rush. Goff's employers were impressed with his talent; they soon gave him responsibility for designing houses and small commercial projects. One of his earliest designs that was actually built was a house at 1732 South Yorktown Avenue in Tulsa's Yorktown Historical District; another was the 1920 McGregor House, at 1401 South Quaker Street in what is now known as the Cherry Street District. This house was added to the National Register of Historic Places in 2014.



The C. A. Comer House, is a 2 bed, 1 bath house at just over 1400 sq ft. and is an important work by Bruce Goff! It was designed using the characteristics that defined his style and compositional pattern to display his architectural ideals! Features of the house include a clerestory window, cantilevered beams projecting from the front of the house, supported by cables coming from the roof also support the car port! The home was restored in 2015 using the original plans and photographs. That same year it was placed on the National Register of Historic Places.

Goff, left his mark on our city, with his designs sprinkled throughout Bartlesville, from Shin'en Kan (Price House), Redeemer Lutheran Church Educational Building, several houses, to the Sooner Park Play tower! The Comer Home will always be my personal favorite, especially when it is lit up at night!

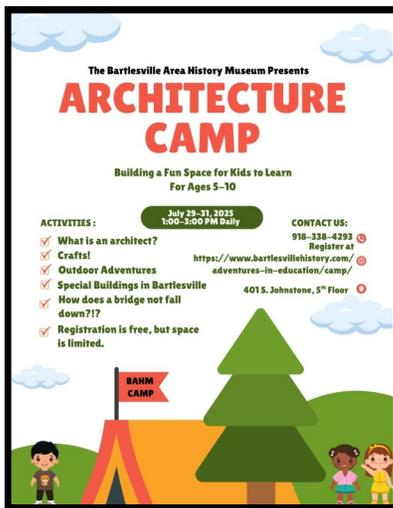
In the Know With Nowlin

Denise Nowlin, Education Coordinator

Summer is always my favorite time of the year. I enjoy the warm weather, gardening, and doing a little traveling. This summer, my husband took a huge bicycle ride across the entire state of Kansas. He started out on the western border near St. Francis, KS, and took the next 9 days riding his bicycle all the way to the Missouri River, where we picked him up in Ellwood, KS.

My kids and I tried to keep our schedules normal, when it came to piano lessons and going to bed on time, but with VBS and camp, my kids are on summer mode by now. I am pretty much the only one who has to get up early now.

Here at the museum, we have had many visitors, some from out of town, and other local friends. During the last full weeks of both May and June, we hosted Cooking Camp for kids, ages 5-10. We learned about kitchen safety and how to use knives properly. We also made some very yummy treats that the campers were able to sample. Although we did not cook our food exactly the same way that the pioneers would have, we did try some recipes that pioneers in Indian Territory might have fixed 150 years ago. We made apple butter, baked beans, and homemade butter. All of this great food was enjoyed with some biscuits on our final days of camp.



As I was looking for recipes for cooking camp, I kept finding ones that called for cooks to open up a can of pork and beans, and dump them into a pot. While I think that those kinds of recipes are easy to cook, and can come out pretty tasty, I wanted the kids to see the process of actually cooking the beans, and see what happens to the food as it gets heated up. I kept thinking about how the pioneers must have fed themselves as they travelled across the rugged prairie. They may have carried a large sack full of dried pinto or navy beans, some onions, a few spices, and some pork to add a bit of flavor. They could have had a pot of beans soaking in the wagon all day, ready to be put on the fire when they set up camp in the evening. It doesn't take too long to cook up a pot of pre-soaked beans, and it's pretty hard to overcook them, as well. The best part of all is that you do not have to measure the ingredients that you put in the pot with the beans. Like I said, it is pretty hard to ruin a pot of baked beans. I think that our campers enjoyed this process as we learned about cooking during our camps.

July 29-31st, from 1:00-3:00 PM each day, we are planning to have another camp for our little friends. Our third camp will correlate with our newest exhibit on architecture. We will have some fun architecture-themed activities to enjoy, learning about how to make floor plans, discovering what architects do, and talking about some of Bartlesville's unique architecture. If you have a child between the age of 5-10, and you would like to sign them up for camp, please visit <https://www.bartlesvillehistory.com/adventures-in-education/camp/> to register.

I want to give a big thank you to my husband and daughters, Faith and Hope, as well as Guilietta and Ilaria Napolitan, and Emi Chenault, who have all come up to the museum to help me with our camps this summer. I could not have done it without you.

If you need a speaker to present at a group event, I am still available to visit. I have several different presentations available, including a new one that talks about Washington County's culinary history. This presentation correlates with our most recent exhibit, "Our Culinary Past", and features historical photographs of various restaurants that used to be here in Bartlesville. I am also working on a presentation about the history of the Hulah Dam that will be ready soon. In addition, I am doing research on one of Bartlesville's architects, Edward Buehler Delk, who worked on several projects here in town, including the original Hillcrest Country Club, the John H. Kane house, the Frank Phillips house, the Dahlgren house, and the La Quinta Mansion, built for H.V. Foster (on the current grounds of Oklahoma Wesleyan University.) I am looking forward to having that presentation ready very soon.

THERE'S ALWAYS SOMETHING EXCITING HAPPENING



April 12

The Easter bunny stopped by to lend a helping paw for our “Breakfast Charcuterie with the Easter Bunny,” event. Chicks and bunnies 10 years or younger enjoyed selfies with our favorite rabbit, an Easter-themed craft, and a chance to win a prize during a hopping sack race!



April 17

Education Coordinator, Denise Nowlin, gave a presentation on Bartlesville’s most notable historic



May 2

Osage Hill school groups were given lessons from schoolmarm, Denise Nowlin, followed by a guided tour through BAHM’s Pioneer and exhibit galleries from BAHM’s collection manager Casey Sullivan!



May 12

Wesleyan Christian School groups were given lessons from schoolmarm, Denise Nowlin, followed by a guided tour through BAHM’s Pioneer and exhibit galleries!

AT THE BARTLESVILLE AREA HISTORY MUSEUM!



May 15

Owner and CEO, of Red Dirt Rubs, Tyler Glenn, gave a discussion on his company! Red Dirt Rubs is a BBQ and a Steak seasoning company started in Bartlesville, Oklahoma On May 17th, 2018 and has made great strides towards becoming Northeast Oklahoma's Favorite Seasoning Company. Guests also learned of his annual event "Red Dirt Week," a week long BBQ party!




May Camp

Our first series of Summer Camps kicked off in May with a bang! Camp goers became little chefs and learned how early pioneers made dinner for their families! During this hands on camp, young History Heroes made butter, apple butter, biscuits and homestyle baked beans!



May 20

City Staff took a break to celebrate, Director Kiley Roberson, and her future reader with a story book themed baby shower!



June Camp

Our second series of Summer Camps finished off in June with a bang! Camp goers became little chefs and learned how early pioneers made dinner for their families! During this hands on camp, young History Heroes made butter, apple butter, biscuits and homestyle baked beans!



CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Opening of the BAHM new exhibit from July 7 through September 30, 2025
“Legacy of Structures and Architectural Heritage”

The exhibit explores Washington County’s most famous Structures

July 17, 2025—E. Sean Standing Bear 12:00 p.m. to 1:00 p.m. Join us as we discover the oral histories of E. Sean Standing Bear’s clan

July 29-31– CHILDRENS ARCHITECTURE CAMP 1:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m. Sign up required.

*For more information on events visit www.bartlesvillehistory.com
or follow us Facebook!*



During the course of the day on June 8, 1974, Oklahoma City was struck by five different tornadoes. Between 1890 and 2011, the city, which is located near the heart of “tornado alley,” was hit by a total of 147 tornadoes.

DAY IN THE REGISTRAR’S LIFE

BY KASEY WERTS, BAHM REGISTRAR

At the age of 12, Bob Cunningham went fly fishing for the first time. This was the beginning of a lifelong passion. In 1968 Bob, Mickey, Don Hall, and Dave Whitelock started the Green Country Fly Fishers based in Bartlesville, the Oklahoma chapter of what is now the Fly Fishers International.

Bob has been featured in numerous Bartlesville newspaper articles for his work in fly fishing, tying flies, education, and conservation. He was awarded many awards in his lifetime for his dedication. One of the many is the 1982 FFI Fly Fishers of the Year award.

In 2006, while Bob was fishing a camera crew from Oklahoma Tourism drove by. After seeing Bob, they stopped and asked if he would be interested in being filmed for a local tourism ad. For the next several years a clip of him fishing was seen in local tourism ads on TV. This photo of Bob is a capture from that video.



WHAT’S IN YOUR ATTIC?

Want to donate a family heirloom, antique find,
photos or other materials?

Please contact Kasey Werts at (918) 338-4290
or kawerts@cityofbartlesville.org

Thank you to Bob’s granddaughter, Suzanne Miller for donating Bob’s fly-fishing memorabilia along with some great stories! We appreciate it.

MUSEUM STAFF

Director, Kiley Roberson
Assistant Director, Cindy Yell
Collections Manager, Casey Sullivan
Museum Coordinator, Shayla Cummins
Registrar, Kasey Werts
Education Coordinator, Denise Nowlin
Museum Clerk/Temp, Tamra Rogers

VISITATION STATS

Visitors for 2025 to date: 772

States: AR, AZ, CA, CO, CT, IA, ID, IL, GA, KS, MO, NC, NH, NW, NV, OK, OR, PA, RI, SC, TN, TX, VA, WI

Countries: .Indonesia, USA, United Kingdom.

Bartlesville Area History Museum

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Web: www.bartlesvillehistory.com

Email: history@cityofbartlesville.org

Past Perfect online database:

bartlesvillehistory.pastperfectonline.com



@bartlesville_area_history



BartlesvilleAreaHistoryMuseum

MUSEUM HOURS

Monday - Friday: 8:00-4:00

Closed Saturday, Sunday, and Holidays



The BAHM newsletter is virtual! Join our mailing list to stay up to date on what's happening at the Museum. Scan the QR code with your cell phone camera to be taken to a form to sign up for the E-Newsletter. You'll get reminders about special events, guest speakers, and much more!



AASLH

American Association
for State and Local History

Bartlesville Area History Museum
401 S. Johnstone Ave. - 5th Floor
Bartlesville, OK 74003

