

**HIGHLIGHTS**  
**THE WILSON HISTORICAL SOCIETY AND MUSEUM**  
by  
**Carole Gandy Pinches**

"To achieve all that is possible, we must attempt the impossible.  
To be as much as we can be, we must dream of being more"

Another successful year—accomplishing some of our dreams while still dreaming of more!

November 2016 Annual Celebration:

- Nita and Orval Segroves were recognized as "Friends of the Museum". Orval and Nita were founding members of the Society and lifetime members. For many years Orval served on the Museum Board and provided steady, insightful wisdom and expertise. Nita is always available to plan, cook for our events, decorate, and provide her able assistance with various projects, such as *The Centennial Cookbook: Honoring Wilson's Cooks From the Past*.

Grant from McCrory Foundation:

- The Society/Museum received a \$10,000 unsolicited grant from the McCrory Foundation in memory of Mary Strawn, a long-time Director of the Foundation.
- The money was added to our Endowment Fund to help ensure our financial future; the current value of the Endowment is about \$235,000.
- Our yearly operating expenses are funded through unrestricted donations, dues, sales from the Museum store and a distribution from our Endowment.

Korea-Vietnam Veterans Book Published:

- Mindy Taylor, who published *A Tribute to Wilson's WWII Veterans* in 2012, completed a second book entitled *A Tribute to Wilson's Korea-Vietnam Era Veterans*. Both of these books, and other items and memorabilia, are for sale through our Museum Store at [wilsonhistoricalmuseum.org](http://wilsonhistoricalmuseum.org).

Highway Signs Directing Visitors to the Museum:

- In August 2017 we received notice that the Oklahoma Department of Transportation accepted our application and will install "tourist oriented" highway signs on Highway 70 and 76.
- The signs will have a blue background with white lettering and are 6' x 1 ½' in size.
- Funding has been secured from Wilson's Chamber of Commerce, American Nation Bank and the Westheimer Family Foundation to pay for the signs.
- We hope the signs will have a positive impact on the Museum, and the entire City of Wilson.

Replace Lettering on the Outside of the Museum Building:

- This spring's hail storms caused the "Wilson Historical Museum" lettering on the outside south wall of the Museum to start "breaking up."
- We received a grant from the Westheimer Family Foundation to replace the lettering.

### Wonderful Volunteer Support:

- We have a very dedicated group of Museum docents who, when they are not helping visitors at the Museum, are working on various Museum projects. These wonderful volunteers are Denise Holt, Diana McMahan, Carole Gandy Pinches, Dottie Stearns, Mindy Taylor and Beth Tucker. George Pinches serves as a back-up.
- We also have another wonderful group of volunteers who provide direct assistance in numerous other ways. They are Carolyn Fox, Chris Hammett, Peggy Herrin, Juanette Miers, Susan Pinches, Debbie Polios and Nita Segroves.
- This is one of the best groups we have had. My thanks to each of them!

### History of Wilson Book Expected to be Published in 2018:

- I started work on this comprehensive history a number of years ago; it will cover Wilson's history from before it was founded in 1913 through 1939.
- The primary source of the information is from all Wilson and area newspapers available on microfilm. This was supplemented by additional information gathered from many other sources. The book will also include information on outlying communities such as Hewitt, Zaneis, Dillard, Rexroat, and Reck, to name a few.
- More information will be provided when we have an approximate publication date and cost.

### New Opportunity—Become a Sustaining Sponsor of the Wilson Historical Society/Museum:

- We encourage you—whether you are a business or an individual—to support our efforts by becoming a Sustaining Sponsor for 2018. For a donation of \$100, you will be listed as a 2018 Sustaining Sponsor on our website and also on our letterhead used for all correspondence.

My thanks to each of you who have supported us for these past nineteen years since the inception of the Society in November 1998. Without all of you contributing in so many ways, the Wilson Historical Museum would not exist as it does today. We hope when you visit the Museum that you will enjoy it as much as all of us enjoy making it a pleasant and exciting experience for you.

## ***Help Make a Difference***

***Take out or renew your membership***

***Donate your time, pictures or other memorabilia to the Museum***

***Make a donation to the Museum—either unrestricted or to the Endowment***

***Honor or memorialize loved ones by donations "in honor of" or "in memory of"***

***Or become a Yearly Sustaining Sponsor!***

***This is a NEW opportunity for individuals or businesses to make a yearly contribution to help sustain and strengthen the Wilson Historical Museum. For a \$100 donation you will be listed on our website and letterhead for 2018.***

***Help preserve Wilson's past and promote its future!***

***Wilson Historical Museum***

***1270 8th Street      Wilson, OK 73463      (580) 668-2505***

***Museum hours: Tuesday, Thursday, Friday and Saturday: 10 a.m.—4 p.m.  
visit us at [wilsonhistoricalmuseum.org](http://wilsonhistoricalmuseum.org)***