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Dusty Richards' research book collection donated to Talbot Library and Museum

4/28/2021

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Talbot Library and Museum would like to extend a huge thank you to the family of the late Dusty Richards for the tremendous donation of Dusty's library collection. We are blessed to receive this magnificent collection thanks to the children of Dusty and Pat Richards, Anna Barnes and Rhonda Albrecht, and their families.

Dusty Richards, while being an award-winning author himself, owned an extensive collection of books including topics covering The Southwest, Ozarks, the Apaches, outlaws, fur traders/mountain men, "The West", and states including Arizona, Texas, Wyoming, Montana, Arkansas, Oklahoma, Kansas, and New Mexico (and many others).

This collection also includes many photographic books of the early West, Indian arts, US Presidents, early America, and more. The array of books include the works of Frederic Remington, Charles Russell, and Edward S. Curtis.

The collection is so great we literally spent many weeks/months perusing, organizing, and categorizing these books. Some books are new, some old, some collectible.

We are preserving a large portion of these books in the "Dusty Richards Research Book Collection" in a special area in our Research Library. These are such a great addition to our library and we are grateful for this generous donation.

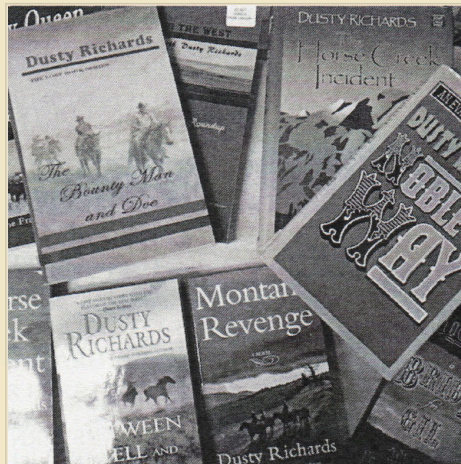
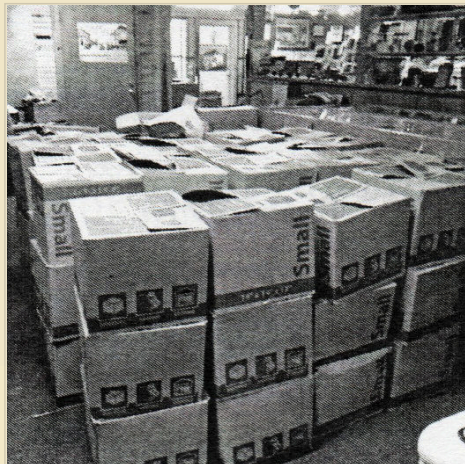
A portion of these books are being offered for sale through our [Talbot Library E-Bay Store](#)! All proceeds go to benefit the operations of the Talbot Library and Museum.

For more information on Dusty and Pat Richards and/or about this collection, please plan on visiting our library (post-pandemic) or by referring to the following publications:

TL&M Genealogy Magazine, Volume XXXVI, #1, 2018

TL&M Genealogy Magazine, Volume XXXVIII, #2, 2020

(For information on purchasing these back issues, please [click here](#))



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Talbot Library and Museum featured in Ozarks Farm & Neighbor Magazine

4/11/2021

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The Talbot Library and Museum (TL&M) was recently featured in *Ozarks Farm & Neighbor* Magazine. Our board secretary, Donna Clark, recently presented and spoke about the various parts of the library and museum to the story's author, Terry Ropp. Donna is a wonderful representative for TL&M and is featured in several of the photos in the article.



Talbot Library Post Office and Native American Artifacts.
Pictures from *Ozarks Farm and Neighbor*, April, 2021

An excerpt from the [featured story](#):

Local resident Virgil Talbot (1927-1998) believed in saving history. He belonged to several historical societies and though was adopted by Cherokees, was the first non-Native American to belong to the Cherokee National Historical Society. His dream was to establish a library and museum with emphasis on Cherokee and local history, including materials from Northeast Oklahoma and Northwest Arkansas. Beginning with his ever-growing personal collection at his home on Flint Creek in Delaware County, Virgil opened the Talbot Library and Museum in 1990 on a donated 2-acre property in Colcord. The main library/museum building was totally constructed by volunteer labor.

"Many visitors come from out-of-state, as well as locally, to use our Walkingstick Research Library because our library contains many rare materials on Cherokee and other local history and genealogy," Donna Clark, volunteer and secretary of the museum's Board of Trustees, said.

While Talbot's is a research library with no materials available for checkout, connecting people with the past, both personal and general, is one of their goals. Board member Teresa Allcorn remembers a few years ago, when a couple came in from out of state to research the wife's father, a policeman in the small town of Watts, Okla., in the 1920s. She hadn't known him as a child and was looking for any scrap of information that would connect her with him.

"We happened to have an obscure book written by A. D. Lester describing daily life of Watts in the early 20s," Teresa said. "As the woman looked through the book, she shrieked saying she had found him. Literally in tears, she read of her father and his job as the policeman. She left that day knowing more than she ever had about her father, and we were left knowing that our mission preserving bits of history is worth the effort."

The facility is rightfully proud of being totally self-supporting, which means with no federal, state or local funding. It is run by a 12-member board with members volunteering at the museum as well, taking care of the grounds, the exhibits and other organizational tasks. Donna has volunteered at the museum for 25 years, with her deep interest in genealogy and research as her initial motivation. The Talbot Bookstore, an important part of the museum's income, contains new and used books, covering Cherokee, Oklahoma, and Arkansas history and genealogy. These books are available for purchase on their website. Additionally, The Talbot Library and Museum has also published the T.L.&M Genealogy magazine since 1996 with two issues per year the current publication rate.

"Grace Puffinbarger has been our loyal office assistant for 18 years and our only paid employee," Donna explained. "We couldn't have done this without her."

We are so thankful for the feature on Talbot Library and Museum and want to say Thank You to *Ozarks Farm & Neighbor* for helping inform others of the facility, documents, items and research of which we are so proud.

[You can view the featured story here.](#)

(About *Ozarks Farm & Neighbor*: *Ozarks Farm & Neighbor* was first published on Sept. 1, 1998, and was originally mailed to livestock-tax payers in nine counties in Missouri. We have now more than quadrupled our coverage area and continue growing, reaching more than 61 counties across the Missouri, Arkansas and Oklahoma Ozarks. *Ozarks Farm & Neighbor* has

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Museum Hours:
Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday
8:00AM - 4:00PM
Friday
8:00AM-2:00PM
(or other days by appointment for research)
Phone: 918-326-4532

Email: talbotlibrary@earthlink.net

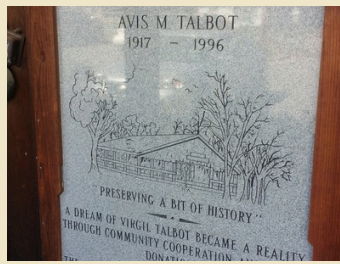


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- [Goingsnake District Heritage Association](#)
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