

Edna Mae Holden

Edna Mae Holden is an attorney and writer whose family ranched in Jefferson County in Southern Oklahoma for 4 generations. As a member of the Cherokee Strip Booster Club, Inc. she assisted in the 1993 celebration of the Cherokee Strip Centennial in Northwest Oklahoma. She produced the Cherokee Strip Centennial album "Lettin' Er Rip For The Cherokee Strip" and worked closely with Dr. John Charles Ogle in the organization of the Chisholm Trail Cattle Drive, the Cherokee Strip Centennial Train Excursion and numerous other events celebrating the 100 year anniversary of the Cherokee Strip Land Run. Those events culminated in a visit to Enid from President George Herbert Walker Bush, the Dedication of the Cherokee Strip monument "Holding the Claim" and the first day issuance of the Cherokee Strip Centennial U. S. Postage stamp in 1993.

Edna Mae released an album of original cowboy music in 1994 entitled "These Canyon Walls" which was produced by Rich O'Brien. She won an Oklahoma Heritage Association award for a song from that album. She also hosted a radio show in Enid, on KNID Radio, "The Cowboy Hour" from 1991 to 1994.

She serves on the board of the Greater Enid Arts & Humanities Council and is President of the Board of the Northwest Oklahoma Osteopathic Foundation. She served on the Board of Directors of the Working Ranch Cowboy's Association for 9 years as media director. In September 2006 she was elected to the Board of the National Ranching Heritage Center in Lubbock, Texas.

In February 2004, she authored an article "Ranching in Osage Country" which was published in Western Horseman Magazine. She most recently wrote an Original Symphony project with Rich O'Brien and R. W. Hampton, for the 2007 Oklahoma State Centennial. "Oklahoma...Where the West Remains" which premiered in Enid, Oklahoma on September 16th, 2006. Her story entitled "From the Mercantile to the Movies" was just published in the new winter 2006 Issue of Persimmon Hill Magazine through the National Cowboy Museum and Western Heritage Center. The 2006 Winter Issue of Cowboy Magazine, which has just been published features a cover painting by her husband Harold T. Holden along with Edna Mae's story entitled "Bob Payne, Oklahoma Cowboy". Future projects include a book on Public Sculpture in Oklahoma.

She runs a small art gallery of her husband's work in Enid. A lifelong Oklahoman Edna Mae is married to Western Artist Harold T. Holden and lives near Kremlin, Oklahoma.

