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**Special Visitors Drop by Hitchcock Post Office's First Day Stamp Reception**

**January 11, 2007**—Post offices all over the state held special receptions for Oklahoma's First Day stamp, but the town of Hitchcock had two very special visitors—Theodore Roosevelt and his daughter Alice Roosevelt Longworth.

Jean Kennedy, Hitchcock's Postmistress, set up a display of historic photos and articles about Hitchcock and the post office, as well as excerpts from President Roosevelt's State of the Union messages which included mention of the post office. In addition, several 1907 gowns created by local historical seamstress Marna Jean Davis adorned the display.

Refreshments of cookies and hot cider were also provided by Mrs. Kennedy and served by "Mrs. Longworth", who was played by Marna Jean. Doug Davis, Marna Jean's husband and business partner, dressed as "Theodore" and wore his Rough Rider uniform in honor of Oklahoman Frank Frantz, a member of the 1st U.S. Volunteers of the Spanish American War. Mr. Frantz was a personal friend of President Roosevelt and was appointed the final "territorial governor" before the "Twin Territories" became a state.

Under President Roosevelt, rural free delivery service which had up until then been considered an "experiment" was strengthened and free Rural Parcel delivery was instigated. In 1901 during his state of the union message, President Roosevelt stated, "Among recent postal advances the success of rural free delivery wherever established has been so marked, and actual experience has made its benefits so plain, that the demand for its extension is general and urgent. It is just that the great agricultural population should share in the improvement of the service."

**ABOUT SHOOTING STAR ENTERPRISES** - Shooting Star Enterprises Historical Clothing and Living History is located one mile east of Hitchcock on Highway 8. For more information about Shooting Star Enterprises, visit their web-site at <http://www.shootingstarhistory.com>.

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