

Friday Footprints

"Every man must leave a track and it might as well be a good one."

-Thomas Gilcrease

May 7, 2021

President's Post

Dear Gillies,

There is no need to declare this past year as "strange," but as your Gillies President it has been the *strangest of times*, indeed. As with all other humans on our home planet, I could never have imagined guiding the membership through such unnerving days, weeks, months, and into a new year, but that is what happened.

As an organization, the social distancing and isolation created by the pandemic made us feel disconnected, but connected we were through email, Zoom meetings, telephone conversations, and Friday Footprints. This wouldn't have been our first choice – but it was our only choice and we survived. Our connection to the Gillies organization is no different than that to our families and loved ones – for many months we couldn't hug them or see them in person, but we stayed in contact knowing that circumstances would change.

Speaking of change, I wish I could tell you more about the museum changes that lie ahead, but as yet, there is no "real news." It may be June before we know more or it may be next week, but rest assured, Susan will inform us when she is able. I have no information on the July 6 Farewell Fete, the schematics for the building, the interpretive plan, nor where we will store our Gillies library, equipment, and other materials, but I know the answers are coming soon. Hopefully, by June, your new President, Carol Stookey, will have lots to share with you then.

I would like to thank the wonderful people who got me through this year: The Executive Committee members: Carol Stookey, Ron Young, Dale Brown, Nancy Hammond, and Kathe Crapster – your guidance through this dark tunnel was necessary and spot on. I also want to thank the Board of Directors, many of whom had no real "jobs" this year but stayed loyal to the BOD and faithfully appeared at every Zoom meeting, ready to engage. This level of commitment is inspiring. In conclusion, I would like to thank all of the members I haven't named for their ever-ready generosity with their institutional knowledge of the museum and the Gillies organization. Each of you made my ability to function as your president infinitely easier. Thank you all for giving me the opportunity to serve as your president.

The Gillies will remain as strong as ever - if we remain together. We will be back in the new museum.

- Alana Trisler

This is a new Gillies year. We will continue to keep track of Gillies' participation and service to the museum so: Don't forget to Log Your Hours in Volgistics!!!

Important Upcoming Gillies Events:

Gillies/Docent Meeting: Friday, May 14 at 10:00 – 11:30am: Join us as Sharon Patch presents Part II of her OLLI presentation: "Women Artists of Gilcrease." Part I was dynamite – I can't wait for Part II.

Gillies General Membership Meeting (in lieu of luncheon): Friday, May 21 at 12:30pm: We will have a brief meeting to introduce the 2021-2022 Gillies Executive Committee and Board of Directors and take care of end of year business. Please try to attend the Membership Meeting if you plan to attend the 1:00pm Forum.

Gillies Third 2021-2021 Forum: Friday, May 21 at 1:00pm: May 21 should be our May luncheon and Graduation. For obvious reasons we are not having a luncheon and had no class of Gillies to graduate. We will instead hold a third Gillies Forum *via Zoom*. Our speaker will be Bob Blackburn, recently retired Director of the Oklahoma Historical Society. Mr. Blackburn spoke to the Gillies several years ago and we are excited to have a return performance! This year is the centennial of the Tulsa Race Massacre. To honor *all* victims and their descendants of this tragic event, our Forums for 2020-2021 have focused on some aspect of the 1921 Tulsa Race Massacre. At the May 21 Forum Mr. Blackburn's presentation, titled "*Setting the Stage for Disaster: Oklahoma Historical Trends Preceding the Tulsa Race Massacre*," will address the social fabric of our state and city at the time. Get ready for a most enlightening afternoon.

Still no update on details for the July 6th Gillies Farewell Fete but be sure to keep it on your calendar!



MAJOR ARTISTS OF THE GILCREASE MUSEUM COURSE GETS RAVE REVIEWS

by Kathe Crapster

The reviews are in for the Gillies Spring 2021 OLLI course: Major Artists of the Gilcrease Museum are in. Over 50 students from Bartlesville, Stillwater, OKC, and Tulsa participated in the online Zoom course.

The Zoom format seemed to be a big hit. Of those who responded to the survey sent out by OLLI/OSU, 20 responded that they Strongly Agreed or Agreed that the Zoom format was an adequate alternative to in-person classes and rated their experience as Excellent. 15 indicated they would definitely attend another OLLI Zoom course with 4 saying they probably would, and one saying that it depended on the topic.

The best part of their reviews were the responses to the question: What did you like most about the class?

Learning about an Oklahoma treasure in the Gilcrease museum.

History about the artist and the artwork.

We were able to continue lifelong learning in spite of the Pandemic. And we could even wear our pajamas and avoid Mother Nature weather issues.

The variety!

Each presenter brought individual expertise to every presentation. I appreciate the timely beginning and ending of classes. The information was presented in a positive and creative way.

Lots of artists. I loved being able to see and learn from home.

Learned a lot about the artists themselves, their style, and stories behind the artwork.

Learning about artists I didn't think I liked. Now I've changed my mind.

When asked if they wished to make any comments about the course or speakers, they responded:

I will definitely spread the word about OLLI classes. I feel it is an unknown resource for Oklahoma citizens and beyond if that is possible.

The Gilcrease presenters were very good.

All were excellent. Gilcrease is a treasure.

Wonderful.

Remember to let viewers know the medium each artist is using. (We added that information after we heard from this student.)

I loved the format of all presentations. Background information, detailed information about the artist or artists.

Presentation of artist's work. All relevant and interesting.

I'll miss Gilcrease during these renovo years. I'm so glad I took this course because the speakers were all so informative

I cannot imagine a more perfect class. The presenters were knowledgeable, interesting and well prepared. The technical aspects (Zoom and PowerPoints) worked flawlessly. It was amazing to see the art up close. I loved it all!!!!

When asked what courses or activities they would like to see OLLI offer in the future:

More artists programs and simply more courses.

More Gilcrease and/or classes of art appreciation in general.

Metal artists?

A big salute to the presenters: **Kathy Horne, Oliver Sundby, Robert Taylor, Rod Schneider, Dick Clark, Carol Stookey, Sharon Patch, and Bill Hellen.** You made us all proud to be Gillies!

You can see each of the presentations on The Gillies website and don't forget to log your hours!!!

Happenings at Gilcrease:

Reminder: [Mother's Day Brunch](#)

SUNDAY, MAY 9 | Brunch

*****Both brunch seatings are sold out. If you submitted a reservation request, you will be contacted this week about seating availability. *****

Reminder: [Music on the Porch featuring Bossa](#): **Thursday, May 13 at 6-8pm**: Join Gilcrease for their Thursday night concert series! Bring a picnic blanket or chairs and grab a spot on the lawn to enjoy live music on May 13 with Bossa. This event includes lawn games, beer and wine cash bar, food for purchase and gallery access. This program is sponsored by the VISION Arts Creative & Cultural Economic Recovery Program and The Albert and Hete Barthelmes Foundation, Inc.

Reminder: [Monthly Art Activity Kits](#): Each month, you can register for an art kit with all the materials needed to create your own piece of art inspired by some of our favorite pieces in our collection. These free take-home art supply kits will be available for pickup at Gilcrease Museum each month during museum hours. Supplies are limited, reserve your free kit today! [May: Mini Floral Landscapes](#), [Learn More](#)

New! [May Garden Tours](#): **Saturdays in May at 11am**: Free public tours of the Gilcrease Gardens are offered every Saturday in May by our own *Garden Gillies*! Learn about the history, design, and plantings of each garden, find out about artworks on the grounds and enjoy the beauty of nature. Reservations are not required for these free tours. Guests should meet their Garden Docent at the main entrance of the museum at 11 a.m. Tours last 30-45 minutes.

[May 8, 2021, 11:00AM, Tour the Gilcrease Gardens, Learn More](#)

[May 15, 2021, 11:00AM, Tour the Gilcrease Gardens, Learn More](#)

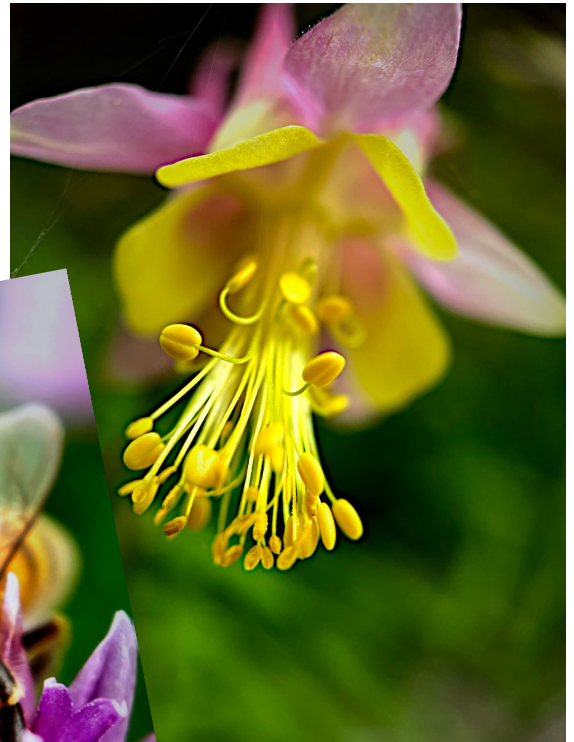
[May 22, 2021, 11:00AM, Tour the Gilcrease Gardens, Learn More](#)

[May 29, 2021, 11:00AM, Tour the Gilcrease Gardens, Learn more](#)



The poet A.R. Ammons wrote, "Anything looked at closely becomes wonderful."

Tom Duncan and his trained eye found wonder and awe on a recent trip through the Gilcrease Gardens.
Enjoy his stunning photos.



Distance Learning Opportunities:

Frederic Church in the Maine Wilderness

In the mid-19th century, Thomas Cole's pupil Frederic Church (1826–1900) was America's most famous artist. Church's Mt. Katahdin from 1853 resulted from a trip deep into the wilds of Maine, which he took after he read Henry David Thoreau's writings. The views that Church actually saw on his travels differed from what he chose to paint, and this lecture explores how and why he altered the appearance of the actual landscape. Generously sponsored by the Martin A. Ryerson Lectureship Fund. In each lecture in this series, John Walsh selects an American painting in the Gallery's collection and examines the similarities and differences between depiction and reality, returning to the painter's original vantage point in an attempt to work out just what happened when he returned to the studio. Note: This lecture is the second in the series American Views, Viewpoints, and Manipulations.

[1:01:02]

Thought this was an appropriate giggle!



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