



SMOKE SIGNALS

April 2015

Comments from our President

- Sally Tucker

Bridges and Transitions

Bridges and transitions refer to certain touring techniques used by the docents, but the terms are also pertinent to the whole Gillies organization. No one can doubt that we help to bridge the past to the present as we work in every service area.

That's exactly what Thomas Gilcrease had in mind as he amassed his vast collection. He knew what in the past would be important in the future.

Sir Isaac Newton said, "It's better to build bridges than walls." The thematically curated *On Common Ground* speaks loudly about that very thing.

It was my great pleasure to accept, on behalf of the Gillies, the Bluestem Award, an award that honors those who have profoundly shaped Gilcrease Museum through friendship and generous support. At the award presentation, many glowing compliments were bestowed on the Gillies, with the accomplishments of several service areas acknowledged.

However, this was not an award for just this year, but for 48 years of service to the museum. We owe such a huge gratitude to all those who came before us. The award itself is a beautiful bridge from our past to now.

Currently, many chairs and officers are making plans for events and programs that will be handed off to a different leader to complete. Transitions also will come soon as officers are elected, and as members of the Board of Directors are named. I know that, as Gillies have done for years, all of us will support our leaders as they work hard in helping us achieve Gillie and Museum goals.

Susan Neal, Interim Chief Operating Officer, who has made such a positive impact on Gilcrease Museum for the past 10 months, will be handing over her museum responsibilities to our new Executive Director, James Pepper Henry, on March 30. We look forward to working with Mr. Pepper Henry as we transition to new leadership at Gilcrease.

Gillies May 15 Meeting & Luncheon At Indian Springs

The next Gillies General Membership Meeting and Luncheon will be on May 15 at The Club at Indian Springs, 16006 E. 131st St. South in Broken Arrow.

A reception will be held at 10:00 a.m., to be followed by the General Membership Meeting at 11:00 a.m. Interns will receive their graduation certificates.

Our special guests at the noon luncheon will be Gilcrease Museum's new Executive Director James Pepper Henry and Interim Chief Operating Officer Susan Neal.

Send your lunch, checks made out to "*The Gillies*" for **\$15.00** to our treasurer:

Marsha McElroy

5206 S. Harvard Ave. #331

Tulsa, OK 74135

Deadline for checks is May 11.

Watch for driving instruction details to Indian Springs in the May issue of the *Smoke Signals*.



Gillies President Sally Tucker holds the blown-glass sculpture of Gilcrease Museum's 2015 Bluestem Award, as Director of Volunteer Services Mark Dolph stands by. The gala, held on February 24, was to honor The Gillies organization for 48 years of volunteer service to the museum and Dale McNamara, longtime supporter of the museum and community leader.

Photo by Erik Campos

DOCENT CORNER

- Charley Wyatt, Docent Chair

We write these articles in the middle of the month prior to publication – that's why we comment on upcoming events or history rather than current events.

So, I'm hoping the weather in late March was like that of Pi Day weekend, March 15 and 16. After the snow of February, it was a real treat to see spring return.

Strangely enough, snowy days and Spring Break days brought about similar situations at Gilcrease: Days without children's tours. I hope you were able to use those times to restore your energy levels for the April/May push to the end of the school year.

It should be a really fun time!

The March Docent meeting was special due to wonderful talks by Dr. Duane King and our own Dan Bruensbach.

The April 3 meeting will be special as well since Brian Hosmer of the University of Tulsa will be speaking at our first meeting within the walls of the Helmerich Center for American Research. Please come to hear a terrific talk in this very special venue.

Remember to mark your calendars for Monday, May 4 – that's the date for our Docent Spring Luncheon. Yes, it's a different date, but it will still be a very special time for us to celebrate what's been a special Docent Year.

See you at Gilcrease!

You Still Can Be A Hero! **Recruit a Gillie**

By Sharon Patch
Gillies Vice President

Join the group of seven Heroes who have already submitted names of potential Gillie Interns for this fall's class.

Planning is underway, so please contact Sharon Patch at (918) 451-0310 or email:

spatchba@gmail.com with the name, address, email, and telephone number of your candidate.

Gillies to Make Day Trip **To Arkansas on May 13**

The Gillies Travel Committee has planned a day trip to Bentonville, Arkansas, on Wednesday, May 13.

Leaving Gilcrease Museum at 8:00 a.m., the first stop will be at the Museum of Native American History. This small, privately owned anthropology museum has a superb collection of American Indian artifacts. A newly acquired highlight of the collection is the Jim and Nancy Blair *Meso-American Collection*. The collection showcases the 14,000-year story of Native American history.

Next will be a visit to Crystal Bridges Museum for lunch, followed by a self-guided tour of the special exhibit *Van Gogh to Rothko*. This exhibit features 76 masterpieces from the Albright-Knox Gallery in Buffalo, New York. Included are works by Van Gogh, Picasso, O'Keeffe, Pollack, Kahlo, Warhol, Rothko, and others. We will be at Crystal Bridges long enough for touring some of its permanent collection and for a visit to the museum's superb shop.

Last stop for the day will be the restored Victorian Peel Mansion & Heritage Gardens. Built in 1875, the mansion was the center of a large farm near the small village of Bentonville. The mansion, surrounding outbuildings, and gardens have been restored to the way they might have looked when new. We will have a guided tour of the mansion and gardens.

We will arrive back in Tulsa around 6:00 p.m.

Price for the all-day trip is \$60. This includes transportation, morning snacks, evening wine and snack, admission to *Van Gogh to Rothko*, the Peel Mansion, and all driver tips. Lunch at *Eleven*, the Crystal Bridges restaurant, will be on your own and the price is not included in the trip.

Make your checks payable to "*Gillies Travel*" and send to: **Marietta Seibert, 3413 W. Oakland St., Broken Arrow, OK 74012**. Phone: (918) 994-7850.

Deadline is April 24. After that, spouses and friends may join. A waiting list of non-Gillies will be kept.

PLEASE TAKE NOTE

~Kathy Horne, Secretary

Change in membership status:

Ryan Brandt – resignation

Get well cards sent to:

Glenna Anderson
Barbara Boone
Carolyn Wilcott

Sympathy cards sent to:

Glenna Anderson – death of brother and death
of sister
Anne Gaffney – death of mother

Thinking of you card sent to:

Becky Hale

*Please send changes in contact information
(address, phone, and email), as well as news about
a Gillie who is ill to Gillies Secretary Kathy Horne
~ 918-747-4716 or kchorne49@gmail.com
[@gmail.com](mailto:kchorne49@gmail.com)*

Volunteer Appreciation Luncheon **Will Be Held on April 13**

The week of April 12 through 18 is National Volunteer Appreciation Week, and to show the museum's appreciation for the tireless service of the Gillies this past year, Gilcrease Museum is hosting a luncheon in honor of the Gillies on Monday, April 13.

Wine will be served in the Vista Room beginning at 11:00 a.m., with lunch at approximately 11:45 a.m.

Please RSVP to Director of Volunteer Services
Mark Dolph no later than Friday, April 3,

STORE CHATTER

**Frances Whisman,
Gilcrease Museum Store Chair**

Due to a national change, the retail shop at Gilcrease Museum now will be called the Gilcrease Museum Store.

This is at the request of Museum Store Director Amanda Burns. This started at the national level a couple of years ago and many museums have already changed. There is an area at Gilcrease Museum that prepares items for shipping and is known as the shop area.

Amanda held her first monthly training session in March for her employees, and several Gillies attended. Several types of reproductions are available in the store. Offset Litho Prints are the ones in the baskets and are inexpensive, usually around \$1.00 each. Canvas Transfers are used by most museums, including Gilcrease.

A print or poster is transferred to canvas, stretched and returned to the museum ready for framing. It usually takes six to eight weeks to complete. We are now able to do Archival Reproductions in the museum store.

The storage area in the store is being rearranged to bring the large printer upstairs from the shop. The image can be printed on canvas or paper. Delivery will still be six to eight weeks for the customer, due to the fact that the reproduction has to be researched for availability.

Costs will vary depending on size, material for the reproduction, etc. By this summer, the plan is to have a scrolling screen/image gallery for customers to be able to touch the screen to see what is available for purchase.

New items still continue to arrive and items get moved. Books are still on sale in front of the store, and items change often. May and June will bring sales for Mother's Day and Father's Day.

Openings continue in the store schedule, if anyone needs hours. To volunteer, feel free to contact me at: frances.whisman@cox.net or 918-759-1131 (cell) or 918-224-8325 (home.)

Gillies Library Roundup

Robert W. Sears
- Chair Gillies Library

New Acquisition: "Your Friend, C.M. Russell: The C.M. Russell Collection of Illustrated Letters," by Anne Morand. The C.M. Russell Museum, Great Falls, Montana, 2008.

What a thrill it must have been to be a recipient of an illustrated letter from Charlie Russell.

Artists often add art work to their letters when corresponding with friends and professional contacts. Many other renowned Gilcrease artists – Robert Henri, Olaf Seltzer, Jerome Tiger – used illustrations to further enhance their correspondence.

Beginning in the late 1880s, Russell created more than 500 pieces of illustrated correspondence over the course of his lifetime. In "Your Friend, C.M. Russell," 59 illustrated items from the permanent collection of the C.M. Russell Museum are reproduced. Letters, Christmas cards, and New Year's greetings – both in pen-and-ink and watercolor – are included in this volume.

For those of you who are admirers of Russell's artwork, these letters will give an intimate look into the personality of the artist.

The late Anne Morand compiled this book when she was the chief executive officer of the Russell Museum.

We appreciate the generosity of Chris McWaters who donated the book.

"Remember: Check Out your Library"



Presenter Winnie Guess Perdue, who is a member of The Gillies, performs her Cherokee "Eagle Dance" on the Gilcrease Museum stage at the Gilcrease Forum on Friday, March 20. Winnie, an elder in the Cherokee Nation, gave a poignant talk titled "My Journey" to a packed audience. The lecture took the listeners through the Cherokee Tribe's tragic removal from their homelands in the Southeast to Indian Territory, where life was changed forever. Winnie, who is a descendant of Sequoyah, creator of the Cherokee syllabary – "Talking Leaves" – described how she has lived in two worlds, growing up with many well-known American Indian historians, artists and dancers, and at the same time adapting to modern non-Indian society.

Photo by Erik Campos



New Executive Officers for the Gillies fiscal year 2015-2016 pose in the Gilcrease Museum Vista Room after the election conducted at the General Membership Meeting on Friday, March 20. They are: current President Sally Tucker, left, who will serve as Past President; current President-elect Dana Simon, who will become President; Kathy Horne, who will retain her current position as Secretary; Marsha McElroy, who will retain her current position as Treasurer; Alan Jarvis, who will serve as President-elect; and Linda Harkey, who will serve as Vice President. The officers will assume their new responsibilities on June 1.

Photo by Erik Campos

Summer Tour Program Training on May 18

Silvia Furgason
- Chair Education/Public Programs

What do Power Rangers, the Avengers, and the Justice League have in common with Gilcrease Museum? SUPER HEROES!

This year's Summer Tour Program for children, titled *Face-Time With Super Heroes*, will introduce young people to real-life super heroes, such as Charles Carroll of Carrollton, Red Jacket, Frederic Remington, Charles Russell, the Double Duchess, and of course, Thomas Gilcrease.

The Summer Tour will begin on June 9 and continue through July 30. Training for *Face-Time With Super Heroes* will be at 10:00 a.m. on May 18, in Helmerich Hall.

The Gillies
 Thomas Gilcrease Institute of American History And Art
 1400 Gilcrease Museum Road
 Tulsa, OK 74127

MARK YOUR CALENDAR

April 2015

1 – Development Committee	Gillies Library	10:00 a.m.
3 – Docents Meeting	Gallery 18	9:30 a.m.
Speaker: Dr. Brian Hosmer, Associate Professor of Western American History, University of Tulsa		
3 – FMPOV	Gallery 18	noon
<i>Is Art Good for Us?</i> , Dr. Joli Jensen, Professor of Communications, University of Tulsa		
7 – Area Volunteer Coffee	Vista Room	10:00 a.m.
9 – Executive Committee	Gillies Library	10:00 a.m.
9 – Education Committee	Board Room	1:00 p.m.
10 – Board of Directors Mtg.	Board Room	9:30 a.m.
13 – Appreciation Luncheon	Vista Room	11:00 a.m.
17 – Rendezvous Exhibit & Art Sale		6:00 p.m.
19 – Funday Sunday	Museum	noon

May 2015

1 – FMPOV	Gallery 18	noon
<i>What You See is ... What?</i> , Cheryl Smallwood-Roberts, Gilcrease Museum Assistant Curator		
4 – Docents Luncheon	HCAR, Pacar Rm	11:00 a.m.
6 – Newcomers' Coffee	Vista Room	10:00 a.m.
6 – Development Comm.	Gillies Library	10:00 a.m.
7 – Joint Exec. Comm. Mtg.	Gillies Library	10:00 a.m.
7 – Joint Education Comm. Mtg.	Board Room	1:00 p.m.
8 – Joint Board of Directors Mtg.	HCAR	10:00 a.m.
15 – Gen. Membership Mtg.	Indian Springs	10:00 a.m.
15 – Gen. Membership Luncheon	Indian Springs	noon
17 – Funday Sunday	Museum	noon
18 – Summer Tour Training	Helmerich Hall	10:00 a.m.

Smoke Signals is published monthly except January and July for the Gillies, the volunteer service organization of the Thomas Gilcrease Institute of American History and Art.