



SMOKE SIGNALS

April 2016

Onward to the Vision Finish Line

**By Dana Simon
Gillies President**

We're rounding the corner to the Vision finish line. Continue to tell your friends, relatives and neighbors that Tulsa voters need to grasp the great opportunity we now have to approve the complete Vision plan on April 5.

As a Tulsa native, I have seen this city grow exponentially. Tulsa is often noted as having a quality lifestyle – a fine place to live, raise a family, work and play. Embraced are hard work and entrepreneurship. Music, culture and the fine arts flourish.

The first Vision plan approved in 2003 paid off well in all these areas. We should realize that this well-designed new Vision plan will make Tulsa an even greater place to live, work and play.

Vision will make the city safer, create jobs, and improve transportation, street maintenance and traffic operations. Economic development, school safety, healthcare and sports will be enhanced – all without raising our taxes.

Rich benefits for Tulsa will be reaped for future generations through this new Vision.

Of course, we Gillies have an important vested interest in passage of the Vision package. We stand to be able to expand our museum to the world-class facility the collection deserves.

Let's hope Tulsa voters do the right thing and pass this critical step toward enriching our community.

Keep Sharing Your Knowledge



Backing the Vision

Gillies hold a *Vision Tulsa* sign in support of the City of Tulsa package proposed to residents who will vote on April 5. The tax extension bid will benefit Gilcrease Museum's expansion and help move forward many other progressive projects for Tulsa. Gillies are: Pat Davidson, left, Rick Paschal, Linda Harkey and Jim Lee.

Photo by Dana Simon

Plan Now to Attend The Gillies General Membership Meeting on May 20

Mark your calendars now for the Gillies General Membership Coffee, Meeting and Luncheon on Friday, May 20, at The Club at Indian Springs at 16006 E. 131st St. in Broken Arrow.

The event will begin at 10:00 a.m.

Active Gillies, Associates and Interns are expected to attend. Interns will be inducted, and new Executive Committee officers will be installed.

Banquet Manager Brett Griffiths and Executive Chef Tiffany Woodrell have a wonderful buffet planned for us.

If you didn't get your photograph in the last *2015-2016 Gillies Handbook/Directory*, you will have an opportunity to have your picture taken to be published in the *2016-2017 Gillies Handbook/Directory*.

Your check is your RSVP. Mail your check for \$15.00 made out to "The Gillies" to:

**Treasurer Marsha McElroy
5206 S. Harvard Ave. #331
Tulsa, OK 74135**

Deadline for your check is Friday, May 13.

Gillies Membership Dues Are Due on June 1

Dues for the year 2016-2017 are due now for all Gillies.

Active Members -- \$30.00

Associate Members -- \$35.00

Make your check payable to "The Gillies." Mail to:

**Marsha McElroy
5206 S. Harvard Ave. Unit 331
Tulsa, OK 74135**

Reminder: The Gillies membership dues are not the same as the Gilcrease Museum membership fees.

Those fees are separate from the Gillies dues.

Museum staff will contact members when those fees are due. All Gillies are required to be members of the museum.

If you have any questions, please call Marsha McElroy at (918) 857-9621. Thank you.

Please Take Note

~~ Kathy Horne, Secretary

Death:

Bob Banks – March 15, 2016

Change in membership status:

Russell Diehl – to Associate

Change of phone number:

Denise Rock – (918) 952-5703

Sympathy cards sent to:

Betty Apker – death of husband

Helen Tate- death of husband

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*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*

## **Summer Tour Program for Children**

### ***Dance, Play and Create***

**By Silvia Furgason**

**Education/Public Programs Chair**

Those lazy, hazy, crazy days of summer are just around the corner. With summer comes the Summer Tour Program for children.

This summer's program is *A Celebration of Native American Cultures*. Docents are invited to come, dance, play, and create with the children on Tuesday and Thursday mornings June 7 through July 28 from 10:30 a.m. to 11:45 a.m.

Docent training for the Summer Tour Program is Monday, May 16, in Helmerich Hall at 10:00 a.m.

Don't miss this opportunity to provide a fun, learning experience for children.

Looking forward to seeing you on May 16!

### **Access Smoke Signals on Gillies Website**

You can read the current issue and past issues of *Smoke Signals* newsletters on-line. Here's how. Go to: [www.thegillies.org](http://www.thegillies.org) Log-in: **thegillies** (all lower case, run together.) The password is: **Gilcrease2014** (capital G, all run together.)

If you have website questions, contact Gillies Information Technology Chair Larry Lancaster at: [llancas@sbcglobal.net](mailto:llancas@sbcglobal.net) or call (918) 298-1948.

## ***Docent Corner***

**Next Docent Meeting on April 1**

**With *Lost in Landscapes,*  
& *Gilcrease on Wheels***

**By Sondra Mullins**

**Docent Chair**

We had a great attendance at the March Docent Meeting. The meeting was special due to the **awesome** presentations by Dr. Duane King on *John Mix Stanley's Journey to Cherokee Nation 1843-1844*, and guest curator Holbrook Lawson giving us a walk-through of the William R. Leigh sketches.

Our next Docent Meeting will be at 10:00 a.m. on Friday, April 1, in Gallery 18. Sharon Benjamin and Gary Borchert will present *Lost in Landscapes*. Also, Andy Couch will present *Gilcrease on Wheels*.

The Docent Spring Luncheon is scheduled for Monday, May 2, in the Vista Room. A cash wine bar will be available at 11:30 a.m., followed by a luncheon at noon. Current and former Docents are invited.

Price of the luncheon is \$15.00. Your check is your reservation. Make out your check to Sondra Mullins, and mail to: 6618 E. 114<sup>th</sup> St., Bixby, OK 74008.

See you at the next Docent Meeting. All Gillies are welcome.

***Think Positive***

### **May 2 Docent Luncheon Buffet Menu**

Traditional Caesar Salad

Beef Tips in Red Wine & Mushroom Sauce

Egg Noodles

Vegetable Medley

Dinner Rolls

Apple Cobbler

Tea, Coffee & Water

***RSVP: Send check to Sondra by April 25.***

***Your check is your reservation.***

## **10-Week Training for New Volunteers**

**To Start on September 12**

**By Linda Harkey**

**Gillies Vice President**

We are excited about our upcoming 2016-2017 volunteer year. We will be preparing our prospective volunteers to be Docents.

The continuous 10-week training will be on Mondays and Wednesdays from 9:30 a.m. 3:00 p.m.

Classes will start on Monday, September 12, and end on Wednesday, November 16.

We will have basic Intern training the first five weeks with the more in-depth Docent training during the last five weeks.

Please send the names, addresses, and email contacts of those individuals who might be interested in our Docent-only program this year to: Linda Harkey, [lindaharkey@sbcglobal.net](mailto:lindaharkey@sbcglobal.net).

## Lasso Your Seat for Trip To Woolaroc on April 27

Yippee! Hitch up your jeans and hop on the fun Gillies day trip to Woolaroc on Wednesday, April 27.

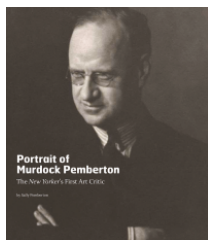
Woolaroc has completely reinstalled its collections, so there will be an opportunity to view new exhibits. We will enjoy a barbeque lunch while at Woolaroc, and visit oil tycoon Frank Phillips' ranch house.

Gillies will visit the Tom Mix Museum in Dewey, Oklahoma, to see artifacts and learn more about the early Western film star. We also will tour the famous Dewey Hotel. Then, on to the Frank Phillips home outside of Bartlesville.

The trip is open to all Gillies and Interns, as well as spouses and friends. Park in the Brannin Lot. The bus boards at 8:30 a.m. and leaves promptly at 9:00 a.m. We'll be back in Tulsa around 5:30 p.m.

Cost is \$60.00 all inclusive. Make your check payable to "Gillies Travel." Send it to Travel Chair Marietta Seibert, 3413 W. Oakland St., Broken Arrow, OK 74012. Check deadline is Friday, April 8.

For more details, call Marietta Seibert at (918) 994-7850 or (918) 625-1721. Or call Beverly Wilcox at (918) 492-3123.



## Attend the FMPOV for Insights Into 1920s Moderns of Art World

*Murdock Pemberton & the Moderns* will be the topic at the *From My Point of View* presentation at noon on April 1 in Gallery 18.

Author Sally Pemberton will provide an insider's view of when the Moderns were contemporary. It's the modern world of the early 20<sup>th</sup> century through the words of her grandfather, Murdock Pemberton, the New Yorker's first art critic. The magazine has been published for nearly a century, and is still popular today.

Her book, *Portrait of Murdock Pemberton*, is a firsthand account of early Modernism in America. Hear personal accounts of the artists, dealers, collectors and museums, with commentary on social, economic and political forces at play in the 1920s and '30s art world.

A book signing will follow the lecture at the Gilcrease Museum Store.



## Newly Elected Gillies Executive Committee

The new Executive Committee members for 2016-2017 were elected at the General Membership Meeting held on March 18. The officers will assume their duties on June 1. They are: President-elect Sharon Patch, left, Treasurer Frances Whisman, President Alan Jarvis; Secretary Wennette Pegues, Vice President Marsha McElroy, and Past President Dana Simon.

*Photo by Rick Paschal*

## Library Roundup

### New Acquisition Is Bartow Catalogue

Robert W. Sears

Gillies Library Chair

*Rick Bartow: Things You Know  
But Cannot Explain*

By Jill Hartz and Daniel M Knapp,  
Curators Jordan Schnitzer Museum of Art, 2014

The featured title this month is the catalogue which accompanies the current Gilcrease Museum exhibition, *Rick Bartow: Things You Know But Cannot Explain*.

Considered as one of Oregon's most important contemporary artists, this retrospective exhibit covers four decades of his creative expression.

Bartow's art is influenced by his Native American heritage (Wiyot tribe), as well as such life events as service in Vietnam, and several major health issues.

The co-curators have included essays on the prevalent themes in Bartow's work: gesture, self, dialogue, tradition, and transformation.

Each thematic section is highlighted with full-color photographs from the exhibit. The Bartow exhibit is on display in the Getty Gallery until April 24. Don't miss it!

***Remember: Check Out Your Library!***



#### Hospitality With a Smile

A few of Hospitality Chair Dick Clark's committee members happily great guests at the Coffee prior to the Gillies General Membership Meeting on March 18. They are: Lana Clark, left, Frances Whisman, Janice Henshaw, Susan Lorton, Beryl Hughes, Martha Hughes and Pat Nye.

*Photo by Dana Simon*

#### Museum Store Window

### Tons of Jewelry to Ponder

By Patti Kastl

#### Museum Store Chair

Take a few moments to stop by the store next time you are in the museum to see the "tons of jewelry" in the glass cabinet. Market purchases have been inventoried, tagged and displayed, plus a variety of additional items continue to arrive.

Stroll through the books, bronzes, baskets, clothing, folk art, children's section, posters and fun gifts to reacquaint yourself with the inventory. It changes daily!

Have a passion for purple? Feast your eyes on the jewelry that contains sugilite, sodalite and spiny oyster shell. Curious as to what these minerals or sea creatures are? Find them in the store then look up their interesting history before they were transformed to fine jewelry.

Do you have a book recommendation that you would like to make known to other museum dwellers? Melanie Rosencutter, Museum Store Assistant Manager, would like to know. It doesn't have to be a book that the store currently carries. Jot down a brief statement as to why you like it and let Patti Kastl know.

## West Mexico Exhibit Will Unearth Fascinating Aspects of the Past

Gillies recently have been attending a series of four informative lectures in preparation for the upcoming exhibition, *West Mexico: Ritual and Identity*.

The show has been put together by anthropologist Dr. Bob Pickering of the University of Tulsa. It will run from June 26 through November 6 in the Getty Galleries.

Featured will be a spectacular selection of ceramic figures and vessels from the

Gilcrease Museum collection, augmented by items from public and private collections.

Better known today as a sunny vacation destination and the home of tequila, West Mexico's past is a fascinating story that dates back more than 2,000 years, around the time that Teotihuacan (near present day Mexico City) was emerging as the most important city in the Americas. Due to its sizable population, stature as a religious center and

apartment-style dwellings, this city was a cultural center in its day.

Meanwhile, another vibrant society, the

Teuchitlan (commonly known by social scientists as the "Shaft Tomb" culture) was developing between Guadalajara and the west coast of Mexico in what is now Nayarit and Jalisco. This land of mild climate offered abundant fresh water, rich soils, mineral wealth and access to the resources of the ocean and the mountains.

During the 1940s and '50s, Thomas Gilcrease amassed a collection of more than 500 ceramic figures and

vessels from West Mexico. The exhibit will feature some of the finest figures from the region showing brightly colored clothing, tattoos and body paint – similar to what is indicative today in our popular culture.

The exhibit also will examine and interpret the art and artifacts of the shaft tomb culture that flourished in West Mexico 300 BC to 500 AD, bringing together the most current research from the field, scientific laboratories and objects to re-create life, death and ritual.



Male figure, Ixtlan del Rio, Nayarit, Mexico, ceramic, slip/paint, GM 5445.4065



**Large Heron Pair**

*Photo by Rick Paschal*

## Herons at Peace

One of the spectacular sculptures in the Gardens at Gilcrease in Stuart Park is *Large Heron Pair*, a bronze donated in 2002 by the family of Presley S. Ford, Jr.

The graceful, stunning herons are reflected in the pond. They seem real and natural.

The sculptor, Walter T. Matia, was born in Cleveland, Ohio, in 1953, and now resides in Dickerson, Maryland.

He speaks about his art, "It is about the balance between the time I spend watching animals in the wild and the hours spent in the studio.

"It is about finding the balance between representing anatomical facts, and seeking out what is truly artistic and beautiful in those gestures and compositions. It is about balancing what I know by 'seeing' and what I can imagine in a sculptural rendering of that knowledge."

The graceful herons seem as if they could comfortably stay forever bonded to the setting.

Fortunately, they do reside in perpetual residence for our enjoyment.

Matia's works have been shown throughout the United States and his works are widely acclaimed.

Visit Stuart Park. Linger and take in the pleasant, serene setting.

## Garden Tour Docent Training Set

**By Diana Myers Stephenson  
Gilcrease Gardens Chair**

*"April hath put a spirit of youth in everything."* –  
**William Shakespeare**

Oklahoma is enjoying a beautiful (faux?) spring so far this year. Nowhere is this more beautifully on display than in the Gardens of Gilcrease Museum.

Star witness is the Star Magnolia near the main entrance. For once, it has escaped being bitten by a freeze and has achieved full bloom – perfect timing and the perfect season to become reacquainted with our gardens.

Garden Tour Docent Training is scheduled for Tuesday, April 12, at 10:00 a.m. in the Gillies Library. Please contact Diana Myers Stephenson at (918) 437-0607 or [dianamyersstephenson@cox.net](mailto:dianamyersstephenson@cox.net) if you are interested in becoming a Docent for garden tours.

Meanwhile, let's hope this early spring turns out to be REAL and not FAUX!

*"In the spring I have counted 136 different kinds of weather inside of four and twenty hours."* –

**Mark Twain.**



Thomas Gilcrease's home garden in spring's full bloom. The museum will celebrate National Public Gardens Day in May.

**Kravis Discovery Center  
Needs Lab Volunteers  
Call: Dolores Frenier  
(918) 495-3953**

**The Gillies  
Thomas Gilcrease Institute of American History & Art  
1400 N. Gilcrease Museum Road  
Tulsa, OK 74127**

**MARK YOUR CALENDAR**

**April 2016**

|                                                                                                                                                     |                      |                |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------|----------------|
| 1 – Docent Meeting                                                                                                                                  | Gallery 18           | 10:00 a.m.     |
| <i>Lost in Landscapes</i> , presented by Sharon Benjamin; and <i>Gilcrease on Wheels</i> presented by Andy Couch                                    |                      |                |
| 1 – <i>From My Point of View</i>                                                                                                                    | Gallery 18           | noon           |
| Author Sally Pemberton speaks on her grandfather, <i>The New Yorker's</i> first art critic – <i>Portrait of Murdock Pemberton &amp; the Moderns</i> |                      |                |
| 3 – Tulsa Symphony Orchestra                                                                                                                        | Gilcrease Auditorium | 2:00 p.m.      |
| <i>Chamber Music Ensemble</i>                                                                                                                       |                      |                |
| 4 – <i>Rick Bartow: Things You Know But Cannot Explain</i> exhibition                                                                               | Getty Galleries      | Closes         |
| 5 – Area Volunteers' Coffee                                                                                                                         | Vista Room           | 10:00 a.m.     |
| 6 – Development Comm.                                                                                                                               | Gillies Library      | 10:00 a.m.     |
| 7 – Executive Comm. Mtg.                                                                                                                            | Gillies Library      | 10:00 a.m.     |
| 7 – Education Comm. Mtg.                                                                                                                            | Board Room           | 1:00 p.m.      |
| 8 – Board of Directors Mtg.                                                                                                                         | Board Room           | 9:30 a.m.      |
| 15 – <i>Smoke Signals</i> May 2016 deadline                                                                                                         |                      |                |
| 17 – <i>Funday Sunday</i>                                                                                                                           | Museum               | noon-4:00 p.m. |
| 18 – Gallery Talk                                                                                                                                   | Helmerich Hall       | 2:00 p.m.      |
| <i>Frederic Remington Re-imagined</i> – Speaker: Curator of Art Laura Fry                                                                           |                      |                |
| 22 – Helmerich Symposium                                                                                                                            | HCAR                 | 9:00 a.m.      |
| 24 – <i>Rick Bartow: Things You Know But Cannot Explain</i> exhibition                                                                              | Getty Galleries      | Closes         |
| 27 – Gillies Trip to Woolaroc                                                                                                                       | Brannin Parking Lot  | 8:30 a.m.      |

**May 2016**

|                                                                  |                                          |                      |
|------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------|----------------------|
| 1 – Peter & Will Anderson                                        | Gilcrease Auditorium                     | 2:00 p.m.            |
| <i>Virtuosos on Clarinet and Saxophone With Guitarist</i>        |                                          |                      |
| 9 – Docent Spring Luncheon                                       | Vista Room                               | 11:00 a.m.           |
| 4 – Newcomers' Coffee                                            | Vista Room                               | 10:00 a.m.           |
| 6 – <i>From My Point of View</i>                                 | Gallery 18                               | noon                 |
| National Public Gardens Day – Speaker from Tulsa Botanic Gardens |                                          |                      |
| 11 – Development Comm.                                           | Gillies Library                          | 10:00 a.m.           |
| 12 – Executive Comm. Mtg.                                        | Gillies Library                          | 10:00 a.m.           |
| 12 – Education Comm. Mtg.                                        | Board Room                               | 1:00 p.m.            |
| 13 – Board of Directors Mtg.                                     | Board Room                               | 9:30 a.m.            |
| 15 – <i>Smoke Signals</i> June/July 2016 deadline                |                                          |                      |
| 15 – <i>Funday Sunday</i>                                        | Museum                                   | noon-4:00 p.m.       |
| 20 – Gillies General Membership Meeting & Luncheon               | The Club at Indian Springs, Broken Arrow | 10:00 a.m.-1:00 p.m. |