



SMOKE SIGNALS

April, 2020

President's Message Gillies Embrace Challenges

This year, you've risen to the challenge of using Volgistics to log hours and tour information. While we are still getting all of the 'bugs' worked out and learning how to use it to its fullest potential, it was a big first step.

Just last month, we learned that instead of remodeling and reconfiguring the current Gilcrease Museum, that the museum would be razed. This is an emotional challenge. While we are overwhelmingly excited about the new museum, it's difficult to imagine that the galleries and hallways we have shared over these many years will disappear. We will savor the time we have left with this 'old friend' and like expectant mothers and fathers, await the arrival of the newest member of the Gillies family – our new museum.

Then came another challenge: COVID 19. Your Executive Committee met on March 12th and concluded that since many of our members were in the most at-risk group, Gillies would step-back from volunteering at the museum. Keeping Gillies safe was first and foremost. The news of our decision was shared with Susan Neal immediately. She understood completely. Soon thereafter, the Gilcrease Museum, the Philbrook Museum, and other public facilities closed. Many events were cancelled, including our March 20th Membership meeting when we would have voted for our new leadership team. The only way we could vote for our officers was online and it worked very well. Let's extend a virtual, yet hearty, congratulations to the new Gillies leadership for 2020-2021:

President – Alana Trisler

President Elect – Carol Stookey

Vice President – Ron Young

Secretary – Nancy Hammond

Treasurer – Dale Brown

Past President – Kathe Crapster

Thank you to our Nominating Committee led by Ken Fike and to the many Gillies who participated in the nomination and recommendation process. And, most importantly, thank you to Alana, Carol, Ron, Nancy, and Dale for agreeing to serve when asked. The Gillies are in very capable and caring hands for 2020-2021.

Gillies embrace challenges. We don't run from them. We've been doing it for 50+ years! Challenges are opportunities for growth. Because Gillies have grown and changed over these many years, we will continue to thrive and be relevant. - Kathe

If, and When . . .

Yes, our daily lives have changed drastically,

But we still plan for the future, so . . .

If we are gathering in groups by May 15,

**The May 15th General Membership Meeting
will be held in the Auditorium,
the Luncheon will be held
in The Vista Room at The Gilcrease!**

***Lunch will be provided by the Gilcrease Museum at
no charge in appreciation for all the Gillies do for
the Museum!***

Friday, May 15th, 10:00am – 1:00pm

Vista Room

We will honor the 2020 Class.

Please watch for an RSVP request via email.

Docents' Corner

Docent Chair, Sharon Patch



The last Docent Meeting was held on March 6. The Program was all about Visual Literacy and there were 59 attendees. It began with questions about everyday items such as: The FedEx logo, the back of a dollar bill, and the image of Lincoln on the penny. These items you probably see almost every day, but DO YOU SEE WHAT YOU SEE?

We divided into 5 groups to visit the artworks of the *Masterworks* galleries to find answers to some questions like these: Is the work of a female artist displayed in Gallery 1? Is the horse represented in each of the artworks in Gallery 4?

It was an exercise of Visual Literacy that Professor Stilgoe from Harvard teaches in his classes. The question remains: DO YOU SEE WHAT YOU SEE? Did you learn anything about the works of art in *Masterworks* even though you have looked at them many, many times? As Dr. Stilgoe suggests, slow down, look around, and See What You See.

TWO reminders:

- #1. The April 3 Docent Meeting has been cancelled.
- #2. The Docent Spring Luncheon, if held, will be on MONDAY, May 4, in the Great Hall of the Helmerich Center of American Research. Stay tuned.

P.S. Do you see the mistake made in this article? Not counting punctuation.

Preparing for Enduring Spirit Tours

By Barbara Bush, Class of 2015

Docents, If you didn't think you were prepared to give tours in Enduring Spirit, take heart. Help is on the way! Thanks to the dedicated and hard-working team of Barbara Bush, Robert Taylor, Kathy Horne, Cindi Strasheim, Judy Howard and Sharon Patch, an in-depth tour is nearly complete. The tour will provide Docents with discussion topics, themes, options, transitions, and bridges. In addition, a comprehensive background document gives additional detail for Docents to customize their tours to meet unique requests. All Docents will soon be given the opportunity to attend a tour led by the committee members. Booklets will be provided at that time.

A Golden Opportunity

Looking for something to do while you are self-isolating?

How about working on Gillie Recruitment?

We know our present predicament won't last forever.

We may be closed now, but the Museum will re-open and the Gillies will be back in business and in demand once again, so why not use some of this down time to think about your friends and acquaintances who might be interested in becoming a Gillie?

Making a phone call, texting, or emailing can all be done from the comfort of your home.

If you have friends/acquaintances who are interested, please have them contact:

Deb Glass

Dfglass550@yahoo.com

918-492-7383 or 918-798-2463

Reach Out and Recruit

Gillies Service Certificates 2019-2020

Awarded to the following Gillies reaching the indicated milestone years of service:

30 YEARS

Mary Elliott



Sunni Wager



25 YEARS



Jacque Frye



Gertrud Schmidt

20 YEARS



Carli Amersek



Deanna Storm

15 YEARS



Marcia Clark



Dolores Frenier



Wayne Frenier



Erna Schneider



Rod Schneider



Barbara Shirey



Dana Simon

10 YEARS - Jane Holt

5 YEARS

25 of the original 32 interns are still active Gillies.

*Karen Brakey
Angela Hock Brewer
Rick Brewer
Barbara Bush
Kathe Crapster
Faye Finley
John Goodenow
John Hartman
Nancy Hammond
Bill Hellen
Judy Howard
Tom King
Nancy Laughrey
Susan Lorton*



*Monica Macklin
Cordi Mansfield
Sandy Montgomery
Christy Morrow
Pat Nye
Denise Rock
Diana Stephenson
Helen Tate
Christy Thomas
Nancy Haswell Thom-
ason
Nannette Tresner
Alana Trisler*

GILLIES DUES FOR 2020-2021

Nannette Tresner, Treasurer

Active Gillies/Interns - \$30

Associate Gillies - \$35

Please make check payable to "The Gillies"

Checks can be deposited in the box in the Sign-In Room

or mailed to:

The Gillies

Gilcrease Museum

1400 Gilcrease Museum Road

Tulsa, OK 74127

Note: Gillie dues are not the same as Gilcrease Museum Membership Dues.

Osage Gardens

By Dian Peacock, Gardens Chair



While today the movies tell a tragic story of Osage history our gardens tell the survival of the Ancient Osage.



Our gardens are more than just a pretty face and it was an honor to tell the story of our theme gardens to the Tulsa Garden Club recently. They were very interested, and for good reason. These gardens tell the story of ancient ways, history, and gardening for survival.

Just last week I strolled down to the Pre-Columbian Garden and Pioneer Garden. Even though they have suffered over the last few years, they are still jewels.

Let us take a look at the Pre Columbian Gardens - The sign reads:

"Inspired by the settlements of the ancient Osage, the Pre-Columbian Gardens features plants that were either cultivated or gathered by tribal members for food and fiber or ceremonial or medicinal purposes in their ancient homelands. Prior to their westward expansion, the Osage occupied the area that is now Oklahoma, Kansas, Arkansas, and Missouri."

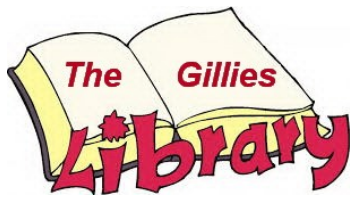
And, indeed, it does have signs marking the plants, bushes, and trees of the ancient Osage, some examples shown here are the Osage Orange, the Paw Paw, and Dotted Snake Root. The labels show not only the names of the plants in English and in the Osage language, they tell how they were used by the tribes.

What a treasure trove we have in these gardens.

Please go down to Stuart Park this spring. Checkout both of these distinct garden styles. It is a breath of fresh air to your spirit.

Flowers are blooming, trees are budding, birds are chirping, and turtles are sunning. These gardens are found nowhere else in Tulsa.

The Gardens of Gilcrease are much more than just another pretty garden face. As one of the five garden styles, the Pre-Columbian garden gives us a history lesson of survival using nature over the centuries by the Osage and other native tribes of Oklahoma.

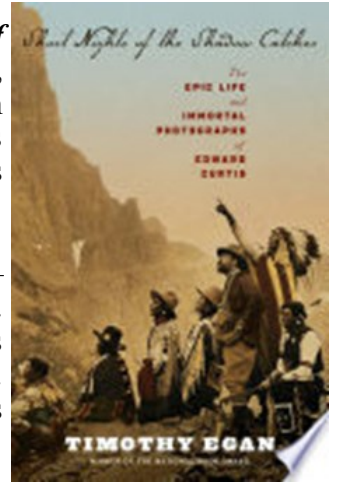


Check It Out!

By Glenda Kilmer, Gillies Library Chair

Short Nights of the Shadow Catcher: The Epic Life and Immortal Photographs of Edward Curtis by Timothy Egan is a biography of photographer Edward Curtis, who, after 1896, devoted his life to photographing members from all of the Native American tribes, much to the detriment of his portrait photography studio and his marriage. Curtis felt the native peoples were heading toward extinction and he wanted to capture images of them before that happened.

Encouraged by President Theodore Roosevelt, Curtis proposed a monumental project – to do the fieldwork and publish a 20-volume set of photographs of Native Americans. He received J.P. Morgan's financial support, but did not take any compensation for his time. Curtis spent thirty years living with the tribes he was studying and photographing. When the set of photographs was published, it found critical acclaim but left Curtis destitute.



Egan includes some of Curtis's photographs but this is primarily a biography. It is a very interesting read. In addition to this book, the Gillies library has several books that are mostly photographs: ***The Many Faces of Edward Sheriff Curtis*** by Steadman Upham and Nat Zappia, ***Edward Sheriff Curtis: visions of the first Americans*** and ***Edward S. Curtis: the life and times of a shadow catcher*** by Barbara Davis. Check them out!

Messages

Nancy Hammond, Secretary

Change in email address:

Jerry Blauer – bluedraggon60570@gmail.com

Get Well card sent to:

Carolyn Rumsey

Sympathy cards sent to:

Family of Donald Rogers

Family of Pia Peteculescu

Annie Checotah (death of husband)

Marsha Gulick (death of brother)

Thinking of You card sent to:

Sunni Wager

Thank You cards sent to:

Barbara Sanders (monetary gift)

P.E.O. Chapter CQ (monetary gift)

Deaths of former Gillies:

Ben Checotah (June, 2019)

Donald Rogers (February, 2020)

Pia Peteculescu (February, 2020)

If you do not want a notice to appear in the *Smoke Signals* newsletter that you received a get-well card, please contact the Gillies Secretary. Please send changes in contact information (address, phone, and email), as well as news about a Gillie who is ill, to the Gillies Secretary Nancy Hammond at [918-749-5938](tel:918-749-5938) / nancy@hammondo.org



Gillies Board of Directors meeting on March 13 was held in the Gilcrease Auditorium with a lot of separation.

MARK YOUR CALENDAR

April (All events are subject to change/cancellation)

09	Executive Committee Meeting	Gillies Library	10:00am
09	Education Committee Meeting	Board Room	1:00pm
10	Board of Directors Meeting	Board Room	9:30am
15	<i>Smoke Signals</i> deadline for May Issue		
19	Funday Sunday	Museum	Noon-4:00pm
24	Gilcrease After Hours	Museum	7-10:00pm

May (All events are subject to change/cancellation)

04	Docent Luncheon	HCAR	11:00am
07	Joint Executive Committee Meeting	Gillies Library	10:00am
07	Joint Education Committee Meeting	Board Room	1:00pm
08	Joint Board of Directors Meeting	Gallery 18	9:30am
15	Gillies General Membership Coffee	Vista Room	10:00am
15	Gillies General Membership Meeting	Auditorium	11:00am
15	Gillies Appreciation Luncheon Class of 2020 Graduation	Vista Room	Noon
15	<i>Smoke Signals</i> deadline for June/July Issue		
17	Funday Sunday	Museum	Noon-4:00pm
25	Gilcrease After Hours	Museum	7-10:00pm

The Gillies Website
www.thegillies.org
 Log-in: thegillies
 Password: Gilcrease2014