



SMOKE SIGNALS

May 2016

A Superb Time to Be a Gilcrease Volunteer

**By Dana Simon
Gillies President**

In the final column for this Gillies fiscal year, I would be remiss if I didn't mention the great, tremendous, wonderful work all the Gillies put in to help get the *Vision Tulsa* package passed. Without a doubt, this will lead to an enhanced future for Gilcrease Museum.

Job Well Done.

It truly is satisfying to know that once in a while hard work really does pay off.

As volunteers, we already know the rewards we receive when we share the incredible Gilcrease collection with children and adults ... when we work behind the scenes to keep the artifacts, paintings, sculptures and documents in good repair ... when we digitize, photograph and catalog the collection to prepare items for future research ... when we greet the public with a smile as they enter the museum ... when we help the museum communicate by simply stuffing envelopes and sending out notices to members ... and when we continue to keep up the high standards expected of us when we represent the museum in our daily lives.

What is the old axiom? Tis better to give than receive.

Looking Ahead

There is no end of the creativity of our museum staff to continue to bring in exciting, interesting, educational exhibitions.

Right now, we can enjoy the master wood sculptures of Cherokee artist Willard Stone. We can compare the draftsmanship of William R. Leigh with his finished paintings. We will say farewell to the colorful, creative works of Rick Bartow.

In June, we will venture into the world of old West Mexico to explore the rituals and identity of the foreign culture from 300 BC to 500 AD that will be represented in more than 500 ceramic figures and vessels.

This July, we will gain insight into the fascinating, if not bizarre, life of Mexican artist Frida Kahlo through the lens of Hungarian photographer Nickolas Muray.

Summertime Fun

In June and July, the Gillies' *Summer Tour Program* for children will playfully explore the role of many animals through *A Celebration of Native American Cultures*.

We welcome our new Executive Officers and Board of Directors, who will charge into the 2016-2017 Gillies year on June 1.

Gillies, Keep Sharing Your Knowledge

Reminder: Gillies General Membership Meeting & Luncheon on May 20

Don't forget that the Gillies General Membership Coffee, Meeting and Luncheon will be on Friday, May 20, at The Club at Indian Springs at 16006 E. 131st St., Broken Arrow. Events start at 10:00 a.m.

Active Gillies, Associates and Interns are encouraged to attend. Interns will be inducted and new Executive Officers will be installed. The new 2016-2017 Board of Directors also will be announced.

Gillies with 100 or more museum service hours will receive a star to put on their badge.

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

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

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 Garden Azaleas in Bloom

Enjoying the brilliant red spring azaleas surrounding the Gillies Garden are Robin Hoefling, Gilcrease Museum Store Sales Associate, left, and Gillies Docent Ann Sitz. The eye-dazzling azaleas in the Gilcrease Gardens have been especially lush this year.

Photo by Dana Simon

Gillies Membership Dues Are Due on June 1

Gillies dues for 2016-2017 are due now for all Active members and Associate members.

Active Members -- \$30.00

Associate Members -- \$35.00

Please 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 Gilcrease Museum membership fees. Those fees are separate from the Gillies dues. Museum staff will contact members when those fees are due. As you know, all Gillies are required to be members of the museum.

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

New Intern/Docent Training Dates for Fall Announced

By Rod Schneider

The Gillies are now recruiting prospective and current Gillies for the new combined Intern/Docent Training class.

This new Gillies Docent Program has two parts: Part 1 and Part 2.

New Prospectives will need to complete 10 weeks of training this fall before entering into the Mentor program to become Gilcrease Museum Docents.

Any Gillie from the past two year's classes who did not take Docent Training, and now may wish to become a Docent, will be allowed to take the second five-week training session, which is Part 2.

There also is the option for any current member of the Gillies to re-take Part 1 of the training, as well as Part 2 of the Docent training. This will be a wonderful refresher course.

The 2016 Gillies Docent Program Training dates are:

Part 1: Monday, September 12, through Wednesday, November 16. Training will be given on Mondays and Wednesdays from 9:30 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.

Part 2: Monday, October 17 through Wednesday, November 16. Training will be given on Mondays and Wednesdays from 9:30 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.

The names of new prospective Gillies volunteers may be sent to Vice President Linda Harkey at lindaharkey@sbcglobal.net.

Current Gillies who are interested in taking Docent Training may contact Rod Schneider at rodfs@cox.net.

All prospective volunteers are invited to attend the Newcomers' Coffee on Wednesday, May 4, at 10:00 a.m. in the Gilcrease Museum Vista Room.

Let's make this a great Class!

Docent Corner

Talk About Awesome! Excellent Educational Programs

By Sondra Mullins

Docent Chair

It has been an **awesome** year working with the Docents, and I guess, all good things must come to an end.

Thanks Docents for the support you have given me this year. A special thanks to Day Captain Chair Erna Schneider and Day Captains – Carolyn Rumsey, Karen Jarvis, Wennette Pegues, Frances Whisman, and Dick Clark. They have done an outstanding job.

We have had great programs with educational opportunities due to the presentations given by Docents and staff. A big thanks to all of you who participated in these **awesome** presentations.

Thanks to the help from Erna Schneider, Rod Schneider and Charley Wyatt, and all the Mentors who trained the outstanding Provisional Docents this year. They will be introduced at the Docent Luncheon on Monday, May 2, in the Vista Room.

Thanks to Mark Dolph, Director of Museum Volunteer Services, for his dedication and support of the Docents.

We are all looking forward to an **awesome** year with our new Docent Chair, Rod Schneider.

Think Positive

Gillies Stars to Be Awarded

By Mindy Paschal

Service Hours Chair

Those Gillies and Interns who have earned 100 hours or more this fiscal year will be awarded a star to place on your name badge at the Gillies General Membership Meeting on May 20 at The Club at Indian Springs in Broken Arrow.

You may pick up your star at the table near the dining room. If you have lost a previous star from your badge, replacement stars will be available for \$1.50 each at the meeting.

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 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 or call (918) 298-1948.

Please Take Note

~ Kathy Horne, Secretary

Changes in membership status:

Barbara Boone to Associate (effective 06/01/16)
Marian Sexton to Associate

Change of phone number:

Ben Checotah – (918) 730-7730

Correction of phone number:

Denise Rock – (918) 852-5703

Get well card sent to:

Nancy Teasley

Sympathy cards sent to:

George Hill – death of aunt
Marjory Hooker – death of son
Phyllis Logsdon – death of niece
Cordi Mansfield – death of stepdaughter
Mindy Paschal – death of uncle

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



Marjory Hooker Celebrates Her Birthday

Marjory Hooker is surrounded by some past presidents of The Gillies at her festive 90th birthday party. From left are: Jacque Frye, Pat Davidson, Marjory's friend, Jim Curd of Bartlesville, Marjory, Del Schuler and Glenna Anderson. Marjory is an Active Gillie, who was in the Class of 1988. Her daughter, Ann Hanisch and her husband, Mike, threw the fun party on April 9.

Photo by Dana Simon



Serena Rothfus, Museum Store Sales Associate, left, and Joyce Wright, Intern and soon-to-be Gillie, stand at the store jewelry counter with some of the merchandise that will go on sale at the May 6 through 8 Mother's Day Jewelry Sale. In the background are some of the bronze sculptures that will be included in the June 17 through 19 Father's Day Sale.

Photo by Dana Simon

Museum Store Window

**Check Out Mother's Day Sale;
Wish Amanda Burns Farewell**

By Patti Kastl

Museum Store Chair

The Gilcrease Museum Store is filled with inventory of all sizes, shapes, colors and textures beautifully displayed and constantly refreshed.

New items also are beginning to arrive to accompany upcoming museum exhibitions.

Mark your calendar on May 6 through 8 for the annual Mother's Day 25% off Jewelry Sale from 10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

In addition, make plans for the annual Father's Day Bronze Sculpture Sale with discounts on July 17 through 19 from 10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

Take Note: Amanda Burns, Museum Store & Visitor Services Director, will be leaving the museum at the end of May. She plans to move her family to Houston where her husband will begin a new job.

Melanie Rosencutter, currently Museum Store Assistant Manager, will become Interim Manager.

Be sure to wish Amanda and her family well in their new location, and congratulate Melanie as she steps into her new role.

Foxes & Squirrels & Rabbits, & Turtles & Bears, Oh My!

Animals galore fill this year's *Summer Tour Program* for children.

Training for *A Celebration of Native American Cultures* will be on Monday, May 16, at 10:00 a.m. in Helmerich Hall.

Silvia Furgason, chair of Education & Public Programs, and her writing committee have created an experience this year filled with many, many animals – the white buffalo, turtles, beavers, grasshoppers, foxes, rabbits, squirrels porcupines, fawns and bears – to name just a few.

Children will love it, and Gillies Docents will too.

The fun program will be given on Tuesdays and Wednesdays from June 7 through July 28.

Sly Animal in Action Quietly Stirs Imagination

Perhaps one of the least noticed sculptures in the Gardens at Gilcrease is right under your nose.

Glance to the north in the short corridor connecting the *Enduring Spirit* galleries and Gallery 18.

A fox quietly goes about his business.

Fox Digging Mice by Kenneth R. Bunn was donated in 1992 by the Thomas Gilcrease Museum Association.

Bunn, born in 1935 in Denver, Colorado, was interested in anatomy since his early school days. He attended anatomy classes at the Medical School of the University of Utah and apprenticed at the National Museum of Natural History in Washington, D.C.

He worked for a taxidermist for a while, but decided to pursue a sculpture career as an artist, specializing in North American and African animals. He regularly visits Botswana, Zimbabwe and Kenya, making quick on-site models and sketches.

Fascinated by animal behavior, Bunn says, "I like to create the illusion of life – the spirit of the animal."

Bunn often is referred to as an impressionist because his pieces lack detail.

He insists the overall impact of the piece is more important than strict accuracy, saying, "Too much information may stymie that artist's imagination and creativity."

Bunn has won many awards, and his work is featured in many museums across the United States.

Gardens of Gilcrease To Celebrate Month of May With Tours, Mother's Day Agenda

**By Diana Myers Stephenson
Gilcrease Gardens Chair**

"The world's favorite season is spring. All things seem possible in May." – Edwin Way Teale

Spring finally is really here! Our Gilcrease Museum gardens are on glorious display.

We are celebrating this glory with additional 11:00 a.m. public Gilcrease Garden Tours.

Tours have been added on Mother's Day, Sunday, May 8, and on *Funday Sunday*, May 15.

In preparation, 12 Gillies attended the Garden Guide training held on April 12.

The Gilcrease Gardens Committee is geared up and ready to go! A tour of our gardens, lunch in the Gilcrease Restaurant, and a Special Mother's Day themed Gallery Tour agenda for a Perfect Day is as follows:

National Public Gardens Day, Friday, May 6 –

From My Point of View speaker F. Todd Lasseigne, Ph.D., director of the Tulsa Botanic Garden will discuss regional and public gardens in Gallery 18 at noon.

Friday, May 6, 1:00 p.m., – Gilcrease Gardens Tour

Friday, May 6, 3:00 p.m. Gilcrease Gardens Tour

Saturday, May 7, 11:00 a.m. Gilcrease Gardens tour.

Sunday, May 8, 11:00 a.m. Gilcrease Gardens tour.

Gilcrease Museum's *Art Blast* will be on Saturday, May 14, with an 11:00 a.m. Gilcrease Gardens Tour.

On *Funday Sunday*, May 15, there will be a Gilcrease Gardens Tour at 11:00 a.m.

Gilcrease Garden tours will continue throughout the spring.

***"Be like a flower and turn your face to the sun." –
Kahlil Gibran***



Fox Digging Mice

Photo by Rick Paschal

Learn More About Frida Kahlo Through the Lens of Nickolas Muray

For those infatuated by the eccentric lifestyle of Frida Kahlo, who was Mexico's most prolific and well-known female artist, the upcoming Gilcrease Museum exhibition, *Frida Kahlo: Through the Lens of Nickolas Muray*, will put into perspective why Kahlo has made her way into a variety of media and popular culture.

The photography of Muray is integral to the world's understanding of who Frida Kahlo was as the individual behind her artwork. The exhibition opens on July 10 and will run through September 11.

In May 1931, Muray (1892-1965) traveled to Mexico on vacation where he met Frida Kahlo (1907-1954), a woman he would never forget. The two started a romance that continued on and off for the next 10 years and a friendship that lasted until her death in 1954.

Approximately 50 photographic portraits of Kahlo taken by Muray comprise the exhibition. The photographs, dating from 1937 to 1946, explore Muray's unique perspective.

In the 1930s and 1940s he was Kahlo's friend, lover and confidante. Muray's photographs bring to light her deep interest in her Mexican heritage, her life and the people with whom she shared close friendships.

Born in Hungary, Nickolas Muray became a successful New York fashion and commercial photographer known for his portraits of celebrities, politicians, socialites and artists. He found his most colorful model in Kahlo. Muray's archives contain more than 25,000 images. He photographed Kahlo more than any of his other subjects.

Kahlo, born on July 6, 1907, in Coyocoan, Mexico City, Mexico, began painting after she was severely injured in a bus accident. Kahlo later became politically active and married fellow communist artist Diego Rivera in 1929. She exhibited her paintings in Paris and Mexico before her death in 1954.

The exhibition was organized through the Nickolas Muray Archives.

On August 5, a *From My Point of View* lecture will be given at noon in Gallery 18 by guest curator Cynthia Graves of Santa Fe, New Mexico.



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

MARK YOUR CALENDAR

May 2016

1 – Peter & Will Anderson	Gilcrease Auditorium	2:00 p.m.
<i>Virtuosos on Clarinet and Saxophone with Guitarist</i>		
2 – 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: F. Todd Lasseigne, Ph.D., Tulsa Botanic Garden President & CEO		
6 – <i>Gardens at Gilcrease</i>	Docent Tours	1:00 p.m. & 3:00 p.m.
7 – <i>Gardens at Gilcrease</i>	Docent Tour	11:00 a.m.
7 & 8 – Mother's Day Jewelry Sale	Museum Store	10:00 a.m.- 5:00 p.m.
11 – Development Comm.	Gillies Library	10:00 a.m.
12 – Executive Comm. Joint Mtg.	Gillies Library	10:00 a.m.
12 – Education Comm. Joint Mtg.	Board Room	1:00 p.m.
13 – Board of Directors Joint Mtg.	HCAR/PACCAR	9:30 a.m.
15 – <i>Smoke Signals</i> June/July 2016 deadline		
15 – <i>Funday Sunday</i>	Museum	noon-4:00 p.m.
16 – Summer Tour Program Training – <i>A Celebration of Native American Cultures</i>		
	Helmerich Hall	10:00 a.m.
20 – Gillies General Membership Meeting & Luncheon		
	The Club at Indian Springs, Broken Arrow	10:00 a.m.-1:00 p.m.

June 2016

7& 9 – Summer Tour Program – <i>A Celebration of Native American Cultures</i>		
	Focus on Favorites	10:30 a.m.-11:45 a.m.
9 – Executive Comm. Mtg.	Gillies Library	10:00 a.m.
9 – Education Comm. Mtg.	Board Room	1:00 p.m.
10 – Board of Directors Mtg.	Board Room	9:30 a.m.
14& 16 – Summer Tour Program – <i>A Celebration of Native American Cultures</i>		
	Focus on Favorites	10:30 a.m.-11:45 a.m.
17, 18 & 19 Father's Day Bronze Sculpture Sale		
	Museum Store	10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.
19 – <i>Funday Sunday</i>	Museum	noon-4:00 p.m.
21& 23 – Summer Tour Program – <i>A Celebration of Native American Cultures</i>		
	Focus on Favorites	10:30 a.m.-11:45 a.m.
21 – Jazz Night with Shelby Eicher	Vista Room	5:30 p.m.-7:30 p.m.
26 – <i>Showing the Hand of the Artist: The Draftmanship of William R. Leigh</i> exhibition		
	Gallery 4	Closes
26 – <i>West Mexico: Ritual and Identity</i> exhibition		
	Getty Galleries	Opens
28 & 30 – Summer Tour Program – <i>A Celebration of Native American Cultures</i>		
	Focus on Favorites	10:30 a.m.-11:45 a.m.