



SMOKE SIGNALS

June/July 2015

Sharing Our Knowledge

By Dana Simon
Gillies President

Anyone who has had the opportunity to meet our new executive director, James Pepper Henry, walks away with a strong, positive feeling about the future of our Gilcrease Museum.

Jim, as he prefers to be called in person, is an open, friendly and engaging man with a track record of great things he has accomplished for other museums, including the Anchorage (Alaska) Museum at Rasmuson Center, The National Museum of the American Indian in Washington, D.C., which is part of the Smithsonian Institution, and more recently, the Heard Museum in Phoenix, Arizona.

Mr. Pepper Henry has been on the job at Gilcrease for only two months, and already he has high ideas. He says he wants to take Gilcrease "to the next level and provide a foundation for its prosperity for years to come."

In June, the museum will be conducting a series of workshops with the input of staff and museum stakeholders to create and implement an attainable plan, "building on the excellent foundation established by the Gilcrease Museum National Board's Strategic Planning Steering Committee and the Visions that have been developed for the museum." Mr. Pepper Henry has enlisted the help of nationally known museum planner James W. Volkert of Conway, Arkansas. The two men have worked together successfully in the past.

Workshop participants will seek ways to enhance the museum visitor's experience, address logistical issues, energize programming, develop a master plan for the facility and grounds, and establish long-term stability for the institution. Mr. Pepper Henry said he is aware that strategic plans that are "too long-term" often fail. He is looking at a three-to four-year initial plan to start the path that will direct the museum through changes that are inevitable.

As we Gillies do our volunteer work to serve the museum, whether it is every day, once a week or once a month, let us keep happy thoughts knowing that wonderful things are ahead.

Let us continue to "Share Our Knowledge" with each other and with the public – the knowledge that we constantly strive to increase concerning the fascinating history and art embodied in Gilcrease Museum's rich collection.



Gilcrease Museum's new executive director, James Pepper Henry, announces some of his ideas and goals for the museum as he speaks to prospective new Interns at the Newcomers' Coffee on May 6 at the reception held in the Vista Room. See more photos on Page 5.

Photo by Erik Campos

New Intern Class Forming

By Linda Harkey, Vice President

The Newcomers' Coffee on May 6 was a great success! There were 28 prospective Interns in attendance. Appointments for interviews were made for 25 of the 28 newcomers. Since that time, six more people have made appointments, bringing the total to 31. Gillies are urged to continue to send names and contact information of possible new Interns to: lindaharkey@sbcglobal.net.

At the General Membership Meeting on May 15 there were 24 Interns present and seven absent. Those present received diplomas and official Gillies badges. They presented books of appreciation to Vice President Sharon Patch, Intern Chair Glenna Anderson and Intern Adjunct Bonnie Lytle.

Gillies Handbook Photos Needed

We need all Gillies to have their photo taken for the 2015-2016 Gillies Handbook. Copies of the Gillies Photo Release Form are in the Sign-In room. Please attach them to Linda Harkey's Service Hours sheet. Rod Schneider will take Gillies photos on Monday, June 22, from 10:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m. in the Vista Room. RSVP to the email address above or call Linda's home phone: (918) 266-7287.

Send In Your Cell Phone Numbers

Any Gillie who wishes to have his or her cell phone listed in this year's new directory should send that information to Linda as soon as possible.

Intern Coffee Planned

There will be an Intern Coffee on August 20 at 10:00 a.m. for all Intern candidates who have been approved to take Intern Training. The Coffee will be held in the Helmerich Center for American Research.

2015-2016 Gillies Board of Directors

Below are Executive Officers and Board members for the Gillies year 2015-2016. Gillies are encouraged to contact Board Chairs to secure a position on their committees.

Executive Committee

President – Dana Simon
President-elect – Alan Jarvis
Vice President – Linda Harkey
Secretary – Kathy Horne
Treasurer – Marsha McElroy
Past President – Sally Tucker

Museum Service Areas

Anthropology – Nancy Setter
Art – Barbara Boone
Development – Judy Baggett
Digitization – Rod Schneider
Docents – Sondra Mullins
Education/Public Programs – Silvia Furgason
Gardens – Chuck Gibson
Gilcrease Goes to School – Ken Fike
Greeters – Joyce Essley
Kravis Discovery Center – Dolores Frenier
Museum Store – Patti Kastl
Archives – Deanna Storm

Speaking of Gilcrease – Frances Whisman

Student Art Shows – Doug Kisling

Administrative Committees

TU Audit Program – Joe Tipton
Gilcrease Forum – Teresa Adwan
Gillies Library – Robert W. Sears
Hospitality – Dick Clark
Information Technology – Larry Lancaster
Intern Education – Sharon Patch
Smoke Signals Newsletter – Rick Paschal
Service Hours – Mindy Paschal
Standards – Charley Wyatt
Travel – Marietta Seibert

Special Assignments

Auditor – Jim Walker
Gillies Art Show – Maxine Mackey
Parliamentarian – Jacque Frye

2015-2016 Nominating Committee

Chair – Jim Walker
Gertrud Schmidt
Beverly Wilcox
Sondra Mullins
Lyon Morehead
1st Alternate: Nancy Kingery
2nd Alternate: to be determined



Members of the 2015–2016 Gillies Executive Committee stand together at the General Membership Meeting held at The Club at Indian Springs in Broken Arrow on May 15. They are: President-elect Alan Jarvis, left, Vice President Linda Harkey, Treasurer Marsha McElroy, Secretary Kathy Horne, Past-President Sally Tucker, and President Dana Simon.

Photo by Rick Paschal

DOCENT CORNER

By Sondra Mullins

Docent Chair

Congratulations Docents! From May 1, 2014, to April 30, 2015, you gave 1,214 presentations which included museum tours, garden tours, *Gilcrease Goes to School* and *Speaking of Gilcrease* presentations and Kravis Discovery Center Labs to 25,375 students and adults. What an amazing group of Docents!

We started out the Docent year with 79 Docents and finished this year with 84 Docents. This is the result of having outstanding Provisional Docents each year and the continuing dedication of all Docents.

This is the second year for the Tulsa Public Schools' *Any Given Child Program* emphasis on *First Visit*. Thanks to the *First Visit* writing committee for a great tour again this year. It is so rewarding to look in the faces of the 1st graders when giving this tour, and just think, "We are shaping them for the future."

Starting in June, we will have a Day Captain Chair, Erna Schneider, who I know will be a great help to the Docent Program.

This Year's Day Captains:

Tuesday: Carolyn Rumsey

Wednesday: Karen Jarvis

Thursday: Wennette Pegues

Friday: Frances Whisman

Weekend: Dick Clark

I appreciate all the Day Captains for committing to such an important job. We have great Docents and I am looking forward to an Awesome Year!

Have a Great Summer. Think Positive.



Gilcrease Museum's newest Gillies celebrate at the General Membership Meeting at The Club at Indian Springs in Broken Arrow on May 15. Back row: John Hartman, left, Faye Finley, Bill Hellen, Judy Howard, Angela Hock-Brewer, Kathe Crapster, Karen Brakey and John Goodenow; Middle row: Nancy Haswell, Anne Gaffney, Susan Lorton, Barbara Lee Bush, Nannette Tresner, Helen Tate, Sandy Montgomery, Diana Myers Stephenson, and Nancy Hammond; Front row: Alana Trisler, left, Nancy Laughrey, Christy Morrow, Tom King, and Monica Macklin. Not pictured are: Rick Brewer, Lynn Fitzgibbons, Andrea Lyons, Cordi Mansfield, Pat Nye, Denise Rock, Christy Thomas, Carolyn Wilcott, and Nancy Wilcox.

Photo by Rod Schneider



Taking a break in the restaurant at Crystal Bridges Museum while on the Gillies Trip to Bentonville, Arkansas, on May 13 are: Travel Chair Beverly Wilcox, left, prospective Intern Glenda Kilmer (who plans to renew her former Gillies membership), Marietta Seibert, and Pat Davidson. Marietta will be the new Gillies Travel Committee Chair for 2015-2016. There were 41 participants on the spring bus trip that also included visits to the Museum of American Indian History and the Peel Mansion & Historical Gardens.

The next fall Gillies Trip will be an "over-nighter" on October 22 and 23 to the Museum of the Red River in Idabel, Oklahoma, where there is a 110-million-year-old skeleton of a dinosaur that was discovered less than 20 miles from the museum. The fossil is nearly 30 feet long and 14 feet high. The museum is home of many other interesting ancient artifacts, as well as contemporary items. The Travel Committee has lots of exciting adventures in store for the Gillies who join the trip. Contact Marietta for more information.

Photo by Dana Simon

Please Take Note

~ Kathy Horne, Secretary

Changes in membership status:

Rebecca Dees – resignation
Don Pearson – resignation
Amanda Lawrence – to Associate

Death:

Joe Jahraus – May 1, 2015

Get well cards sent to:

Ursula Gould
Thea Lancaster
Joe Meeks
Robert Sears

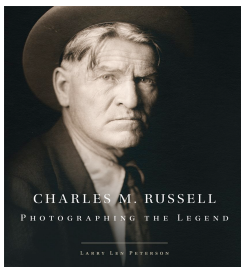
Sympathy cards sent to:

Carolyn Rumsey – death of husband
Family of Joe Jahraus

Thinking of you cards sent to:

Marjory Hooker
Joe and Sharon Jahraus
Denise Rock
Joan Stauffer
Nancy and Robert Teasley

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



In honor of President Sally Tucker's hard work and dedication during 2014–2015, she was presented with the book "Charles M. Russell: Photographing the Legend," by Larry Len Patterson, The University of Oklahoma Press. The photographs permit us to know the face that Charlie Russell presented to the world. His art is the window to his soul, but that man in the cowboy hat and boots with the sash around his waist truly embodied what his art portrayed. These photos document a remarkable life while also reflecting the evolution of photography and the depiction of the American West at the turn of the 20th century. The book also is available in the Gilcrease Museum Store.

Gillies Art Show Runs July 20 – August 16

By Maxine Mackey

Have you ever wondered what it would be like to have your art on the walls of Gilcrease Museum?

How wonderful it would be to share your work for all to see. Well, that opportunity is about to arrive.

Once a year, the Gillies volunteers who have given their time and love to this beautiful museum have a chance to display their art and present its image for all to view.

This year's *Gillies Art Show* is scheduled from Monday, July 20 through Sunday, August 16.

As the *Gillies Art Show* chair, I will have a sign-up sheet in the Gillies sign-In room for those interested. In addition, a copy of the rules and requirements will help clarify any questions. I will stay connected with you through emails and phone calls as we get closer to the show dates.

Many of you have displayed your art in previous shows. I am hoping to add a few more of you to the list. Any medium is welcomed and most subject matters are approved. Of course, our museum is family oriented, and therefore, subject matter must be appropriate.

Last year was the first time the *Gillies Art Show* had a "scheduled reception." It was a big hit and will be repeated again this year. How nice to add a new tradition.

So, finish up that piece you have been working on, gather those photos and dust off the art you would like to show. We are all artists in many forms. I say it's time to try your hand in a medium that touches your soul. Because ART IS

Gillies' Summer Tour Program Face-Time with Super Heroes Runs June 9 – July 30

This year's Gillies Summer Tour Program, called *Face-Time with Super Heroes*, is ready to roll.

Docent Training was held in May, and tours will begin on June 9 and run through July 30 on Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday mornings, and Wednesday afternoons.

The program is for children ages 4 through 10. They will learn about our nation's true heroes, including George Washington, Abraham Lincoln, and others. The children will make a craft and even put together a puzzle of the painting of Thomas Gilcrease by Charles Banks Wilson. For more information, contact Education & Public Programs Chair Silvia Furgason.

The Living Exhibit

**By Chuck Gibson
Gardens Chair**

The gardens were beautiful in mid-April when the azaleas were in full bloom. I hope all Gillies saw this spectacular artistic show. Now, we will watch new wonders appear.

Public Gilcrease Garden tours are conducted each Saturday at 11:00 a.m. during April, May, June, September and October. Private garden tours are scheduled any time.

Several Gillies told me they are interested in giving Gilcrease Garden tours. We will have training soon on what makes our historical gardens different from the other wonderful gardens in Tulsa. If you are interested in participating, please let me know at (918) 814-2339 or email: cogir@cox.net.

Museum Store Chatter ...

By Frances Whisman

Changes continue to happen in the Gilcrease Museum store. The biggest change is that Patti Kastl will be the chair for the next year.

Patti has volunteered in the store since becoming a Gillie and she will be a wonderful coordinator in the position. She loves the museum store as much as I do, and will take over the coordination in June.

New merchandise keeps arriving along with bronze sculptures in preparation for the June Bronze Sale. There will be 25 % off the bronzes the weekend of June 19 through 22 for Father's Day. May 29 through 31 will be the Native American Treasures Trunk Show & Sale with pieces from Harold Finkelstein.

Openings continue in the store schedule. To volunteer, contact Patti Kastl or me as we make the transition in the next month.

Again, thanks to all Gillies who have volunteered in the past two years in the museum store. Each of you made it easy for me to be able to serve these past two years.



Docent Charley Wyatt talks about the works of Frederic Remington and Charlie Russell in the *Focus on Favorites* galleries as part of the reception for prospective new Interns on May 6.

Photo by Erik Campos



Sharon Patch leaves her Gillies vice president position to become the new 2015–2016 Intern Trainer. She welcomes prospective Interns at the Newcomers' Coffee that took on a Southwestern theme on May 6. Members of the Gillies Hospitality Committee provided refreshments at the reception held in the Vista Room. The event was attended by Gillies Board of Directors and 28 men and women interested in training to become a Gillie.

Photo by Erik Campos

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

MARK YOUR CALENDAR

June 2015

5 – FMPOV	Gallery 18	noon
<i>When Fiction Masquerades As Fact: A Novel Find in the Gilcrease Archives</i> , Dr. Laura M. Stevens, Associate Professor of English, University of Tulsa		
9, 10, 11, 16, 17, 18, 23, 24, 25, 30 – Summer Tour Program		
<i>Focus on Favorites & CLC</i>		10:30 a.m.
10, 17, 24 – Summer Tour Program		
<i>Focus on Favorites & CLC</i>		1:00 p.m.
11 – Exec. Comm. Mtg.	Gillies Library	10:00 a.m.
11 – Education Comm. Mtg.	Board Room	1:00 p.m.
12 – Board of Directors Mtg.	Board Room	9:30 p.m.
21 – Funday Sunday	Museum	noon
22 – Gillies Handbook Photos	Vista Room	10:00 a.m.

July 2015

1 – Development Comm.	Gillies Library	10:00 a.m.
1, 2, 7, 8, 9, 14, 15, 16, 21, 22, 23, 28, 29, 30 – Summer Tour Program		
& CLC	<i>Focus on Favorites</i>	10:30 a.m.
8, 15, 22, 29 – Summer Tour Program		
<i>Focus on Favorites & CLC</i>		1:00 p.m.
10 – <i>Smoke Signals</i> August 2015 newsletter deadline		
19 – Funday Sunday	Museum	noon
21 - August 16 – <i>Gillies Art Show</i>	CLC Hallway	10:00 a.m.

August 2015

5 – Development Comm.	Gillies Library	10:00 a.m.
7 – FMPOV	Gallery 18	noon
13 – Exec. Comm. Mtg.	Gillies Library	10:00 a.m.
13 – Education Comm. Mtg.	Board Room	1:00 p.m.
14 – Board of Directors Mtg.	Board Room	9:30 a.m.
14, 16 – Intern Training	Gallery 18	9:30 a.m.
15 – <i>Smoke Signals</i> September 2015 newsletter deadline		
16 – Funday Sunday	Museum	noon
20 – Intern Coffee	HCAR, Paccar Room	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 for American History & Art.**