



SMOKE SIGNALS

June - July, 2020

WAITING IN THE WINGS

“Waiting in the wings” is a theatrical term. The “wings” are the areas just offstage in a theatre. The actors who are not as yet on stage get ready to enter and play their part – they are waiting their turn to shine, so to speak - a situation that I’m sure all Gillies can certainly relate to at this time. “Waiting in the wings” is what we Gillies are doing right now. Covid-19 and the planned closing of the museum for the new construction make our future unclear and on hold, but without a doubt, we Gillies will be going forward into the future and will remain as integral to the museum as ever. While in this state of limbo, think of Gilcrease as your stage and the wings as your own home. Granted, they may be miles apart, but there are ways we can stay connected and ever ready to resume our roles. Our roles may look quite different for a while longer, but we can continue to contribute. What can you as a Gillie do to maintain your Gillie identity and stay connected when we are all so far removed from our “stage?”

For starters, stay a member of the Gillies family by remaining an active/associate member and make sure your Gillies’ and museum dues are paid to date. Gillies dues are due June 1. With the reduction in museum staff let’s not count on them to remind us when to renew our museum membership. Check your files, bank statement, etc. and renew when needed. Financial support for any organization is critical.

Continue distance learning. Through Friday Footprints, Kathe Crapster has pushed out many great links to sites that will add to your knowledge of American history and art. Also, if you have sites that you think other Gillies would enjoy, please send those links to me. We do ask that anything you send or that you watch be at least 30 minutes in length in order to record an hour of service time on Volgistics - after having watched the link’s content.

Reach out to other Gillies via phone, text, email, or social media – to say hello and to check on your Gillies friends. We are a family of sorts and families keep watch over each other. I know I have certainly been the recipient of such attention and it has been much appreciated.

Gillies are a talented lot. Let us know what you have been doing to occupy yourself beyond your time in the wings. We have a great many academics, artists, gardeners, knitters, quilters, mask makers, community helpers – the list is endless - in our midst. Many of you have been quite productive during our isolation and social distancing time. Take photos of your endeavors and email them to me. We would love to share your passions, and they may be inspiration to others!

Yes, we are waiting in the wings, but we are doing so with fond thoughts of our beloved museum and with anticipation for what comes next. One thing I do know, the Gillies will be ready to “shine” when we step into the limelight once again.

In service to Gilcrease,

Alana Trisler

THE GILLIES 2020-2021

Executive Committee Meetings: 10:00 a.m. in the Gillies Library

Education Committee Meetings: 1:00 p.m. in the Board Room

Annual Membership Party
All Gillies! 5-8 p.m.

Board of Directors Meetings
9:30 a.m. – Board Room

Docent Luncheons 11 – 1:00

Intern Training: TBD



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Gillies Art Show

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Docent Meetings
All Gillies Always Welcome to Attend!
10:00 a.m. – 11:30 a.m.

May Luncheon and Graduation for
Class of 2021 – All Gillies!

General Membership Meeting &
Forum

LOOKING BACK WHILE LOOKING FORWARD

Alana Trisler

Christopher Bullock (1716) is credited with the following: "'Tis impossible to be sure of anything but death and taxes." Indeed, our world, culture, and daily lives are ever evolving. The corona virus and the new museum project are evolving events and we certainly look forward to the day we can say goodbye to the former and hello to the latter. As Gillies, we are excited and anxious to know more about what the future holds – what our new Gilcrease will look like and what fantastic programs we will be a part of. With some sadness and regret, we will leave behind the beloved Gilcrease we know in order to embrace new spaces and new museum concepts. I, for one, am excited about the possibilities that a state-of-the-art space affords. More of the museum's collection will be on display and we will have access to ever more exciting traveling exhibitions.

While I am anxious to see all of the planning, design, and construction come to fruition – to see this evolving forward movement - I also feel that we Gillies have an opportunity look into our organization's history and never forget that we stand on the shoulders of unique individuals who shaped the very organization we serve. We have much history locked away in a multitude of scrapbooks that have been housed in the Gillies library. To ensure that the past is not forgotten, I have asked a small group of veteran Gillies to begin working on an historical compilation of the Gillies organization that will begin at its inception and will include documentation through the demolition and rebuild. It is important to keep our history intact as we begin our service to the new museum. Eventually, we will have the Gillies history as digital documents accessible on the Gillies website. The ultimate goal is to remember our past as we face an exciting new future.

GILLIES - TO THE RESCUE!

Carol Stookey

For many years Gillies have been actively supporting Gilcrease publications (American Scene, Gilcrease Magazine, Gilcrease Journal) by indexing and scanning them. They are accessible through the Gillies Website. A special "shout out" goes to those Gillies who have made this possible! (That's you — Glenda Kilmer, Janelle Swearingen, Rick and Angela Hock Brewer, Larry Lancaster, and Tom King - hopefully I'm not leaving anyone out.) A few days after the Museum and HCAR closed due to the Pandemic and the staff were sent to work from home, a research request came to the Archives for a copy of an article in the Gilcrease Journal. Not being able to get into the building....guess who could actually access that exact article requested? The Gillies of course! Anna Turner, one of our web gurus, was able to provide a digital copy and it was sent off to the scholar doing research on Kiowa Beadwork. The librarians and scholars of the world appreciate your foresight and hard work! Thank You! Thank You!

PEOPLE TO MEET

Gillies Executive Committee, 2020-21

Since the end of the Gillies year went out with a fizzle rather than its traditional “bang” at the General Membership Meeting and Luncheon, we thought we should take this space to introduce you to the Gillies Executive Committee for our 2020 – 2021 year.

Past President – Kathe Crapster – grew up walking her goat in the hills near Muir Woods overlooking the San Francisco skyline. A tall Texan convinced her to move to Dallas. Thirty-five years later they had a good reason to move to Tulsa in 2008. The relocation meant that her husband and one of their two sons could practice law together and the family ranch in southeastern Oklahoma would be miles closer. She built her own career as a counselor and now walks her dog near their home in the Osage hills overlooking the Tulsa skyline.



Treasurer – Dale Brown - is not a Native Tulsan but has lived here since kindergarten and always felt that he could not have grown up in a better time or place. He first visited Gilcrease on a 4th or 5th grade school tour and was fascinated by what he saw. He knew that when he retired, he wanted to do something worthwhile and for it to be a learning experience as well. In Dale’s own words, “Becoming a Gillie worked out perfectly. Love this place, love the people, love the view from the Vista Room, and love the fact that this unique collection is right here in our own backyard.” In addition to being passionate about Gilcrease, Dale

enjoys reading non-fiction, especially biographies - music, from classical to ‘that old time rock & roll’ - good food and wine, and Oklahoma sunsets.”

Secretary – Nancy Hammond – grew up in Michigan, graduated from Albion College and earned her Ph.D. in genetics from the University of Michigan. She was a faculty member at Tulsa University and spent her last ten years before retirement as a director of the Center for Genetics at Saint Francis Health System. Their son was adopted as a Korean infant and subsequently, the family has traveled to Korea several times. Nancy enjoys music, especially opera and symphony. She and her husband were quite fortunate to combine their occupations with travel when they were both working in The Netherlands in the mid-80s.



PEOPLE TO MEET, CON'T.



Vice President - Ron Young - Born and raised in Glasgow, Scotland, Ron is a retired metallurgical engineer having spent his career in the manufacture of pressure vessels for power plants. What does he enjoy most at the Gilcrease? "Interacting with our museum guests particularly when they hear my Scottish accent as a Greeter in our museum of the Americas. I do get some puzzled responses."

President Elect – Carol Stookey - After having received her B.S. in Education (OSU) and Masters of Library Science (OU), Carol began her career in education in Broken Arrow as a teacher, then media specialist. Since state funding for libraries was never enough, she began writing and receiving small grants to supplement library programs which led to her being accepted as a participant in the National Endowment for the Humanities Institute: "The Constitution, Its Roots and Significance" at Oklahoma State University. Subsequently, the unit of instruction she wrote on constitutional concepts was read at the National Association of Social Studies Teachers Conference. She also participated in National History Day/National Endowment for the Humanities Institute for a month-long study of "The Columbian Voyage and Its Legacy" at the University of New Mexico. The second half of her working career was at Principia College (Elsah, IL) where she retired as the Director of the Marshall Brooks Library. Knitting, devouring audiobooks, and sketching are hobbies she enjoys along with her dog, cat, and four chickens. She loves gardening and being outside but misses Gilcrease and the Gillies and looks forward to discovering the new normal as a Gillie continuing to serve and support Gilcrease.



President – Alana Trisler – Hailing from Barnsdall, OK, Alana grew up in the very Osage hills that surround Gilcrease Museum but has spent her adult life in Tulsa. She was an educator for 43 years, having served as a speech pathologist, classroom teacher, psychometrist, learning specialist, and librarian. She enriched her teaching experience through travel. One summer she taught English to teachers in Beihai, China and another year she toured literacy programs in New Zealand. While in New Zealand, she bungee jumped 280 feet from a bridge over the Shotover River to try to overcome her fear of heights. It worked – sort of. Scuba diving adventures took her to Belize, Mexico, Florida, and the British Virgin Islands.

Now days she is content reading about such adventures but still enjoys travel—anywhere, anytime—or at least before Covid-19. She looks forward to serving the museum and misses her Gillies family.

A JOB WELL DONE

In spite of the abrupt end to our Gillies year of service to Gilcrease Museum, many of you reached that magic number of service hours – 100 – with which to earn a star for your Gillies badge. We have not yet determined the safest and most efficient way to distribute stars but will discuss such plans at our June Executive Committee meeting. In the meantime:

Congratulations to the following Gillies reaching the milestone of 100 hours of service to the museum!

Adams, Reita
Adwan, Teresa
Arnold, Bruce W.
Baggett, Judy
Bowers, Keith
Brakey, Karen
Brown, Dale
Bush, Barbara Lee
Campbell, Stephen
Castro, Mary
Clark, Lana
Clark, Marcia
Clark, Richard
Crapster, Kathe
Crowell, Robin
Cyert, Lynn
Duncan, Tom
Ekenstam, Carolyn
Elder, Jim
Faulkner, Elaine
Fike, Ken
Frenier, Dolores
Frenier, Wayne
Furgason, Silvia
Gentz, Julie
Glass, Debbie
Goin, JoAnne
Gough, Paula
Hammond, Nancy
Hatchett, Becky
Hayes, Janet
Hellen, Bill
Henshaw, Janice
Hicks, Larry

Hill, Jr., George A.
Hock,-Brewer Angela
Horne, Kathy
Hovis, Roberta
Howard, Judy
Hughes, Buryl
Hughes, Martha
Jarvis, Alan
Jarvis, Karen
Kilmer, Glenda
King, Tom
Kisling, Doug
Laughrey, Nancy
Leech, Robin
Lorton, Susan
Lowrance, Dan
Macklin, Monica
Madlock, John
Mahu, Adrena
Mason, Lois
McFall, Barbara
Morehead, Lyon
Morris, Karen
Morrow, Christy
Mullins, Sondra
O'Connor, Janet
Paschal, Mindy
Patch, Sharon
Peacock, E. Dian
Pegues, Wennette
Pena, Teresa
Pendergraft, Tom
Reiners, Judy
Richardson, Marion
Rock, Denise
Schiller, Kenneth
Schneider, Erna

Schneider, Rod
Setter, Nancy
Shirey, Barbara
Simon, Dana
Steele, David
Stookey, Carol
Storm, Deanna
Strasheim, Cindy
Sundby, Oliver
Supernaw, Kathleen
Tate, Helen
Taylor, Robert
Teasley, Nancy
Thomas, Christy
Thomas, Susan
Thomason, Nancy Haswell
Todd, Kay
Tresner, Nannette
Trisler, Alana
Tucker, Sally
Turner, Anna
Ungerman, Judith
Vance, Mike
Wallis, Allen
Watson, Jane
Westbrook, Paul
Whisman, Frances,
Wyatt, Charles
Young, Ronald



THE GILCREASE GARDENS ARE STILL READY TO GREET YOU!

Julie Gentz—Garden Chair



I think it's safe to say, the Gilcrease gardens have been spectacular this spring. I can't wait for all the summer blooms, butterflies and hummingbirds. The Gilcrease staff has been doing a great job keeping the gardens beautiful, as well as visible on social media. Although the garden tours have been temporarily postponed, we will keep our fingers crossed for this fall. If you are already a docent and interested in becoming a garden docent, send me a quick note at julie.gentz55@gmail.com and I'll put you on the list for an upcoming training session. Remember, you don't have to be an expert gardener to be a garden docent — all you need is an enthusiastic appreciation for our Gilcrease gardens.



GILLIES DUES FOR 2020-2021

Dale Brown, Treasurer

Active Gillies/Interns - \$30

Associate Gillies - \$35

Please make check payable to "The Gillies"

mail to:

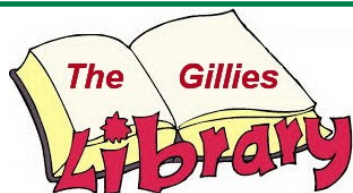
The Gillies

Gilcrease Museum

1400 Gilcrease Museum Road

Tulsa, OK 74127

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

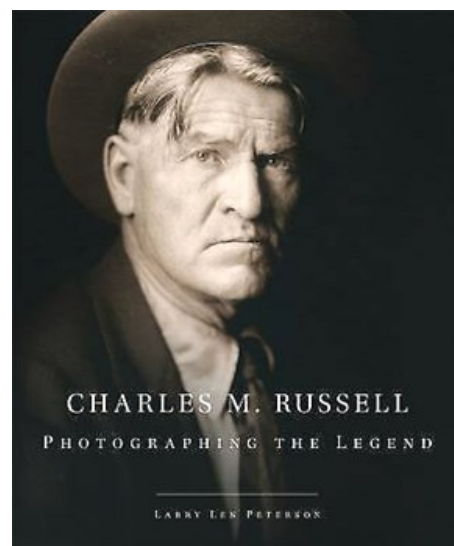


CHECK IT OUT!

By Glenda Kilmer, Gillies Library Chair

A most interesting book in the library is ***Charles M. Russell: Photographing the Legend*** by Larry Len Peterson. This biography makes use of hundreds of images of Russell to explore the role of photography in shaping the making and selling of his art. Peterson traces Russell's image and his career from his first adventures to his final days. Along the way we meet some of the most interesting photographers of the era, as Russell posed for Edward S. Curtis, Roland Reed, and Dorothea Lange, among others. Because Nancy Russell used photographs to promote her artist husband's career and artistic identity, we also see the medium's early application as a marketing tool.

The author admits his own infatuation with Russell's image: *"It is a bad business to fall in love with dead people, yet biographers often do that. Charlie and Nancy understood that photography had the uncanny ability to jar the memory and bring places and people back to life – just what Charlie achieved in his art. Photographs remember little things about Charlie's life long after they have been snapped and his life has passed."* Check it out!



CERTAINTIES IN UNCERTAIN TIMES

It is extremely difficult to plan for a future we cannot see, but we know two things for sure. First, at some future date the Gilcrease Museum will be open again. That's pretty much a certainty. Second, and most important, your leadership team wants you to know that ***no Gillie will be asked to interact with the public until it is safe for us and not until we feel comfortable doing so.*** Rest assured, the health and safety of each and every Gillie will be our number one priority in any endeavor as we move forward. That is a certainty.

Messages

Change of Status - Gertrud Schmidt from Active to Associate

Get Well card sent to - Silvia Furgason

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 918-749-5938, e-mail: nancy@hammondo.org.

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

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

Robin Leech, *Smoke Signals* Chair

The Gillies
Thomas Gilcrease Institute of
American History and Art
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Tulsa, OK 74127

MARK YOUR CALENDAR

All events and dates are subject to change.

June

11	Executive Committee Meeting	Zoom Conference
11	Education Committee Meeting	Postponed-communication via email
12	Board of Directors Meeting	Postponed-communication via email

July

7-20	Gillies Art Show	Postponed
15	Smoke Signals deadline for August	

August

6	Executive Committee Meeting	Zoom Conference
6	Education Committee Meeting	Postponed-communication via email
7	Board of Directors Meeting	Postponed-communication via email
15	Smoke Signals deadline for September	