



SMOKE SIGNALS

October 2015

Good Things Happen

By Dana Simon

Gillies President

Being a volunteer is a good thing. It is good to help the museum and the staff, and to interact with the public – adults and children alike.

Just look around and see the many areas where Gillies serve – on the museum floor giving tours, greeting guests, working in the store, facilitating in the Kravis Discovery Center, and behind the scenes in Anthropology, the Archives and the Development offices. Gillies are going to schools, senior centers and civic organizations in out-reach programs, taking the museum to remote locations.

Many Gillies proudly stepped up to the plate recently by writing to their City Council representatives, encouraging inclusion of Gilcrease for Vision 2025 funds. From feedback, it appears most Council members are in favor of chiseling out a piece of the pie for the museum.

Gillies are selflessly sharing their knowledge by participating as instructors in Intern Training sessions for our 33 new Interns – teaching them about the museum collection and the artists. Training will continue through October 12. Many of those Interns will go on to take Provisional Docent Training which will continue through November 18. Then, they will be paired with a Mentor who will work with them for months in an effort to give them the skills to hone their talents. It's hard work all the way around – for those learning and for those teaching. But, great are the rewards.

Exciting educational treats are in store for the Gillies when two new exhibits will be installed – *Painted Journeys: The Art of John Mix Stanley* on October 4, and *Native American Bolo Ties: Vintage & Contemporary Artistry* on October 18. On November 13 more opportunities for learning will be available at *The Art and Artistry of Plains Indian Communities Symposium* in the Helmerich Center for American Research. On November 22, a beautiful new exhibit will open called *Birds in Art*.

It's thrilling to be involved in the process of life-long learning in such a professional atmosphere as Gilcrease.

Keep Sharing Your Knowledge

Annual Membership Party Set for November 8

Mark your calendars now! All Gillies are invited to the annual Membership Party, featuring free entertainment and dinner, on Sunday, November 8, in the Vista Room from 5:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.

This is the time to reward ourselves for all the hard work we've done over the year and to honor and welcome our new Interns. All Gillies are invited – Active members, Associates and Interns. Everyone is welcome to bring their spouse or one guest.

Please contact Alan Jarvis at ajarvis4@cox.net or (918) 298-0997 to make your reservation. The deadline is Monday, October 26.

Gillies Museum Membership Clarified

By Mark Dolph

Director of Volunteer Services

As Gillies you are not only members of the Gillies, but Gilcrease Museum members as well. This dual membership requirement has at times produced confusion, with questions about the rates for the different memberships and when memberships need to be renewed.

I recently became aware of the problems caused by this confusion when informed that there currently are 26 Gillies with lapsed museum memberships.

Your Gillies' dues are \$30/year, with renewal typically at the beginning of each new Gillie year, (June 1.) Gillies also are required to be Gilcrease Museum members, with a special discounted rate of \$30/year for Gillie Individual membership, and \$45/year for a Gillie Family membership. You are welcome to select higher levels of membership, and those additional gifts are appreciated.

The museum's membership office mails the first renewal notice 60 days prior to the expiration of your museum membership. Members will receive an additional two letters, an email, and finally a phone call encouraging renewal. At 90 days past the membership expiration date lapsed members will be dropped from museum membership, thus threatening your standing as a Gillie.

Please don't let that happen to you! Try to renew at the time you receive your first renewal letter. This way you not only maintain your membership, but will continue to receive the member magazine, *Gilcrease Journal*, invitations to members-only events, and other benefits exclusive to museum membership.

Thank you for your consideration and attention to this important matter. Should you have any questions regarding your membership, please contact Karen Darling, Membership Coordinator, at 918-596-2780 or karen-darling@utulsa.edu.



New Class of Interns in Training

The 33 members of the Gillies Intern Class of 2015-2016 are: (top row left to right) Bruce Arnold, D'Ann Bartley, Dale Brown, Annie Checotah, Benjamin Checotah, Carole G. Ellis, Belinda Eubanks, Susan Evans, Margaret Foster, Marsha Gulick, Susanne Hinkle, Marilyn Hinshaw, Melissa Hoffman Noble, Buryl Hughes, Martha Hughes, Vee Jorgensen, Barbara Paradise Kelley, Glenna Kilmer, Ellen Lewis, Cathy Luccock, Judy Mayhugh, Jeannie Maytag, Miki Nixon, Teresa Pena, Tom Pendergraft, Bob Ritz, Nancy Rosen, Ann Sartain, Carol Stookey, Joyce Taylor, Cheryl Waldeck, Steve Walls, and Tara Wright. Intern Training classes will continue through October 12 under the guidance of Intern Education Chair Sharon Patch and her adjuncts, Judy Howard and Nancy Haswell.

Photos by Rod Schneider

Fall Brings First Visit Tours

By Sondra Mullins

Docent Chair

Fall is just around the corner. School has started and we have started the *First Visit* tours for the 4,000 first-graders we expect this year.

Forty-four Docents attended the meeting on August 28. Thanks to Associate Curator for Family & Youth Programs Sarah Wright for giving us an overview of the *Interactive Art Sense* tour, using an Art Cart. Several Docents signed up to take the training.

Small Talk tour training will be on Monday, October 19, at 3:00 p.m. Thanks to Kathy Horne, Silvia Furgason and Sharon Patch for their expertise in writing this tour.

At the Docent Meeting at 10:00 a.m. on Friday, October 2, in Gallery 18, Mindy Besaw, co-curator of the *Painted Journeys: The Art of John Mix Stanley* exhibit, will walk Docents through the exhibit. She also is scheduled to give a presentation at *From My Point of View* at noon.

Please remember to ask for your Review as soon as possible. The new Intern class may generate a large Provisional Docent group. They will be scheduling their Reviews in March and April.

Thanks again for all you do and always

Think Positive.

Celebrate Plains Indians Artistry At Symposium in HCAR

The Art and Artistry of Plains Indian Communities Symposium will be held on Friday, November 13, from 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. in the Helmerich Center for American Research.

Art and artistry of the 19th century Plains Indian communities not only reflect the unparalleled talent of certain individuals, but also tell the story of how colonization, trade, firearms, horses and war altered Plains Indian life. This symposium will celebrate the exhibition, *The Art and Artistry of Plains Indian Communities*, set to open in 2017.

Scholars will trace the historical forces that shaped Plains Indian life from the antebellum period through the Progressive Era. Opening remarks will be made by W. Richard West, president and CEO of the Autry National Center, Los Angeles. Speakers will include:

Emma Hansen, M.S., Curator Emerita and Senior Scholar, Plains Indian Museum, Buffalo Bill Center of the West, Cody, Wyoming. Title: *Preserving History in the Southern Plains: Arapaho and Cheyenne Ledger Drawings from Fort Reno*.

Duane King, Ph.D., University of Tulsa Vice President for Museum Affairs & Executive Director of HCAR at Gilcrease Museum. Title: *White Swan's Pictographic War Records from the Battle of Little Big Horn*.

Jennifer McKinney, M.A., Doctoral Candidate, Oklahoma State University Department of History, Stillwater. Title: *Plains Indian Photography in Retrospect: How Visual Culture Influenced Perspectives of Dakota Indians*.

David Penney, Ph.D., Associate Director for Museum Scholarship, National Museum of the American Indian, Washington, D.C. Title *Sayosapa: Yu'wipi Doctor and Visionary Artist of Fort Peck*.

Gaylord Torrence, Senior Curator of American Indian Art, Nelson-Atkins Museum of Art, Kansas City. Title: *Plains Indian Tobacco Bags: Containers for the Sacred*.

Tickets: \$20.00 for museum members (Gillies), \$35.00 for not-yet-members. Lunch is optional at \$20.00. To register, visit gilcrease.utulsa.edu/plains. Deadline is November 1. Seating is limited.

For more information, contact Karol Ellington at (918) 631-6412 or karol-ellington@utulsa.edu



I'm Back...And Thank You!

A Message from Mark Dolph

As many of you already know, I recently returned to the museum after a seven-week medical leave.

I want to thank all of you who sent me cards and cards and cards and emails and more cards, as well as keeping me in your thoughts and prayers.

How could I not return better than ever without all the positive energy sent my way by my Gillie family!!!

All your thoughtful communication helped me stay connected to the museum and definitely broke the monotony of sitting at home in a state of suspended animation for weeks on end.

Thanks again for all your kindness. I look forward to seeing you soon at Gilcrease!

Minisa Crumbo to Discuss Her New Book

Mark your calendar now and plan to attend artist and author Minisa Crumbo Halsey's introduction of her new book, "Spirit Talk – a Book of Days."

She will be the featured speaker at Gilcrease Museum's *From My Point of View* program in Gallery 18 at noon on Friday, November 6.

Minisa of Citizen Potawatomi/Muscogee heritage is the daughter of artist Woody Crumbo. She will discuss "Spirit Talk – a Book of Days," an observational guide for individuals about the calendar year and seasonal cycles based on ancient, earth-bound Medicine Wheel Teachings.

Minisa, who is a Gillie, will tell how each compass direction on the wheel offers lessons and gifts that can create a balanced individual. To exist at the center of the circle, one's personality equally incorporates physical, mental, emotional and spiritual character aspects. Let's support "one of our own" and hear about her newest literary work.

Join the Red River Valley Gillies Overnight Trip

The Gillies Travel Committee has planned an overnight trip to the Red River Valley with stops at historic sites, museums, and entertainment venues. Departure is Wednesday, October 21, and return on Thursday, October 22. Cost is \$185 per person. Single supplement is \$57 more. The price includes: transportation, all fees, one lunch, hotel, and all tips.

Leave Gilcrease at 8:00 a.m., October 21

Rest stop at the EZ Go in McAlester. Arrive in Idabel for lunch (included) and a tour at the historic Barnes Stephenson House. Built in 1911 by T.J. Barnes, a prominent lawyer and judge. Tour will include a seated lunch provided by the McCurtain County Historical Society.

Next will be one of the highlights of our trip – the Museum of the Red River! The museum is a privately owned facility that houses a large collection of artifacts and related materials dating from prehistoric to contemporary times. The Museum also is home to *Acrocanthosaurus atokensis*, the official State Dinosaur of Oklahoma. The most complete specimen of this 110 million year old fossil was recovered less than 20 miles away. Additional exhibits can be found in the Lifeways Gallery, Nathaniel & Lana Grey Gallery, Mary Bratton Curtis Gallery, Gregory Perino Archaeological Study Area, and Holland & Sallie Webb Learning Center.

The evening and night will be spent at the new Choctaw Casino in Grant. The casino offers two choices for dinner – a buffet and the grill. A variety of gaming is available or rest and relaxation with other Gillies in one of the lounges.

Thursday – October 22

First stop will be Mt. Olivet Cemetery in Hugo. Showmans' Rest is a unique area with a circus theme. It is part of the cemetery used by the various circuses that winter in Hugo.

Then a visit to the Frisco Depot Museum also in Hugo. The depot was a Harvey House Hotel and train station. Among its exhibits are two restored rooms used by the Harvey House girls and the restored matron's apartment. Other exhibits include a large model railroad, a miniature circus, a moonshine still, and other exhibits of local and regional interest. The museum currently is restoring the War Savings Stamps building which sold stamps and war bonds to help fund WWI.

Lunch at Rosanna's Italian restaurant in Krebs and a visit to Lovera's Italian grocery will be the final stops on the Red River Valley trip.

The deadline for this exciting trip is October 2. Send a check made to *Gillies Travel* to Marietta Seibert, 3413 W. Oakland, Broken Arrow, OK 74012. A dated list will be kept of guests. They are welcome to join the trip after October 2, based on space availability.

Visitors Find the Comfy Chairs

**By Patti Kastl
Museum Store Chair**

The store may serve as either an entry or exit point for museum visitors. Most visitors are open to a friendly greeting from the staff or Gillie volunteer. Some people sink into the comfy chairs while friends or family members check out the displays. Many a cat nap has been taken in those chairs (right guys?!). Where's the coffee?

The book corner is a magnet for browsers. Museum Store Assistant Manager Melanie Rosencutter's expertise is to select and order books for the store. How does she choose to fill the limited space allocated for books?

An obvious topic to begin with is history: North American, the American West, and art history. Other choices are more unique and not readily found in commercial book stores. These could be books about Oklahoma, Tulsa, books by local authors about Oklahoma, books specific to the Gilcrease Museum collection including books about historical figures and North American chiefs and tribes.

Route 66 books are popular. There are usually books relevant to special museum exhibits creatively displayed in the center aisle as well. These are just a few of the considerations that determine what fills the bookshelves. Melanie would like to hear from Gillies and staff members about their suggested book picks.

Shoppers alert! Amanda Burns, the store manager, went to market in Phoenix where she purchased on site and ordered native made jewelry, folk art and other one-of-a-kind pieces. Check the store periodically for new items to appear through the holidays.

A 30% off sculpture/bronze sale will be held November 20 through 22 (no additional discount allowed.) The member sale of 25% off everything not previously marked down will be held December 4 through 6. Gillies preview date for the member sale is December 3.

There are morning (10:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.) and afternoon (1:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m.) volunteer slots open in the store. Think about filling your Gillie hours in our colorful, educational and friendly store environment.

Please Take Note

~ Kathy Horne, Gillies Secretary

Changes in membership status:

No longer members – Betty Apker, Sue Parkinson, Patricia Wheeler

Get well card sent to:

Jo Carolyn Rushing

Thinking of you cards sent to:

Larry and Thea Lancaster
Joe Tipton

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 kchorne49@gmail.com

Isn't She Lovely

A Gilcrease Museum Garden sculpture that Gillies see often is the lovely *Crisita*.

Created in 1992 by sculptor Doug Hyde, *Crisita* is the epitome of grace and charm. At various times of the year water softly flows from her ladle into a pool at the base of the bronze artwork. She is caught in a beautiful moment of introspection. Her graceful posture shows a natural refinement. Hyde loves to portray women and children in his work.

Born in 1946, Hyde is of Assiniboine, Chippewa and Nez Perce heritage. When he was 3 years old, his parents moved from Oregon to the Nez Perce reservation in Lapwai, Idaho, where he attended a Jesuit boarding school and worked on the farm.

Later, he studied under Allan Houser at the Institute of American Indian Art in Santa Fe, New Mexico, then continued his studies at the San Francisco Institute of Art. Hyde left school to serve two tours of duty with the U.S. Army in Vietnam, and upon his return moved back to Santa Fe where he continued his work in sculpture and served as a faculty member at IAIA. Hyde, 69, continues to reside in Santa Fe.

Crisita was acquired by Gilcrease through the support of John and Donnie Brock and The Campbell Foundation – Joan and Bob Hunt.



Photo by Rick Paschal

The Living Exhibit

By Chuck Gibson

Gilcrease Gardens Chair

The Victorian Garden is one of my favorites because it represents a significant time in the history of the United States, 1837 to 1901.

Not only was the United States redefining itself, but gardening was being redefined as well. The middle class was growing due to the industrial revolution, so more people owned or rented homes. They had more leisure time to devote to gardening. Vegetables and herbs could be purchased, so they didn't have to grow their own. The increasing popularity of greenhouses and hot houses allowed people to use more and more plants from around the world.

The Victorian Gardens were in a formal setting, but the plantings were informal. Gardens were seen as living art rather than a source of food, herbs or medicine. Plants were chosen not to fulfill a purpose, but as fulfilling the role of objects of art. Gardeners became more concerned with applying the elements of art to the garden by using a palette of colors, textures, repetition and rhythm.

Victorian Gardens usually had a central focus point, such as a fountain. Urns, vases, sculptures and other items enhanced the beauty of the garden. Often the gardens were enclosed with wrought iron fences.

Aside from the impact of greenhouses, the invention of lawnmowers affected the design and use of gardens. All Victorian Gardens had a trimmed lawn. This made the garden an appealing space for outdoor entertaining. This new role for gardens was further enhanced by adding benches, gazebos and other improvements. Unlike Colonial Gardens, the Victorian Garden is conveniently located next to the house.

The Gardens Committee will meet on October 6 at 10:00 a.m. in the Gillies Library. If you are interested in leading garden tours or learning more, email cogjr@cox.net or call (918) 814-2339.

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

MARK YOUR CALENDAR

October 2015

2 – Docents Meeting	Gallery 18	9:30 a.m.
2 – <i>From My Point of View</i>	Gallery 18	noon
<i>The “Doomed Indian” –John Mix Stanley & American Perception;</i>		
Speaker: Mindy Besaw, Crystal Bridges Museum curator		
4 – <i>Painted Journeys: The Art of John Mix Stanley</i> Exhibition	Getty Galleries	Opens
5 – Intern Training	Gallery 18	9:30 a.m.
6 – Garden Comm. Mtg.	Gillies Library	10:00 a.m.
7 – Intern Training	Gallery 18	9:30 a.m.
7 – Development Comm.	Gillies Library	10:00 a.m.
8 – Executive Comm. Mtg.	Gillies Library	10:00 a.m.
8 – Education Comm. Mtg.	Board Room	1:00 p.m.
9 – Board of Directors Mtg.	Board Room	9:30 a.m.
11 – <i>On 52nd Street: The Jazz Photography of William P. Gottlieb</i>	Gallery 4	Closes
12 – Intern Training / Luncheon	Gallery 18	9:30 a.m.
15 – <i>Smoke Signals</i> November 2015 deadline		
18 – <i>Native American Bolo Ties: Vintage & Contemporary Artistry</i>	Ancient Americas	Opens
18 – Funday Sunday	Museum	1:00 p.m.-4:00 p.m.
19 – Prov. Docent Training	Gallery 18	9:30 a.m.
19 – Docent <i>Small Talk</i> Training	On Common Ground	3:00 p.m.
21 – Prov. Docent Training	Gallery 18	9:30 a.m.
21, 22 – Gillies Trip to Red River Museum, Idabel		8:00 a.m.
25 – <i>2015 Collectors’ Reserve: American Art</i> Exhibition		Opens
26 – Deadline for Gillies Membership Party Reservations		
26, 28 – Prov. Docent Training	Gallery 18	9:30 a.m.

November 2015

2 – Prov. Docent Training	Gallery 18	9:30 a.m.
4 – Prov. Docent Training	Gallery 18	9:30 a.m.
4 – Development Comm.	Gillies Library	10:00 a.m.
6 – Docents Meeting	Gallery 18	10:00 a.m.
6 – <i>From My Point of View</i>	Gallery 18	noon
<i>Spirit Talk – A Book of Days; Speaker: Minisa Crumbo Halsey</i>		
of The Gillies, artist and author		
8 – <i>2015 Collectors’ Reserve: American Art</i> Exhibition		Closes
8 – Gillies General Membership Annual Party		
	Vista Room	5:00 p.m.-8:00 p.m.
9, 11 – Prov. Docent Training	Gallery 18	9:30 a.m.
12 – Executive Comm. Mtg.	Gillies Library	10:00 a.m.
12 – Education Comm. Mtg.	Board Room	1:00 p.m.
13 – <i>The Art and Artistry of Plains Indian Communities Symposium</i>	HCAR	9:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m.
	Museum	1:00 p.m.-4:00 p.m.
15 – Funday Sunday		
15 – <i>Smoke Signals</i> December 2015/January 2016 deadline		
16 – Board of Directors Mtg	Board Room	9:30 a.m.
16 – Prov. Docent Training	Gallery 18	9:30 a.m.
18 – Prov. Docent Luncheon	Gallery 18	9:30 a.m.
22 – <i>Birds in Art</i> exhibition	Gallery 4	Opens

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