

Friday Footprints

"Every man must leave a track and it might as well be a good one."
-Thomas Gilcrease

October 28, 2022

The real voyage of discovery consists not in seeking new landscapes,
but in having new eyes.

Marcel Proust

Join us at our next Docent Meeting as Kathe Crapster, Deanna Storm, Becky Hatchett, Alana Trisler and I share techniques for museum tours we learned at the National Docent Symposium. These techniques involve using "new eyes" to examine familiar works of art. Meanwhile, I hope you have looked at the updated Gillies website. There is a wealth of information on the site. Our IT committee continues to work hard to keep the information up-to-date. A big thank you to the committee members: Nancy Hammond, Anna Turner, Julie Gentz, Robin Leech, Becky Hatchett and Alana Trisler.



From the Gilcrease Collection:
Harvest Still Life; Indian Corn & Pumpkins
Oscar Edmund Berninghaus



Mark your Calendar

Friday, November 4th - Docent Meeting at 10:00am held at the Sand Springs Cultural & Historical Museum, 9 East Broadway Street, Sand Springs.

Friday, November 11th - Gillies Board of Directors Meeting at 10:00am, via Zoom.

Update by Susan Neal and Collection Connection by Mellon Scholar Roxanne Beason.

All Gillies are invited to attend these meetings.

THE SPIRIT OF SERVICE

The Gillies have been a dedicated volunteer force at Gilcrease for more than 50 years. In that time, they have helped welcome guests, rung up sales in the museum store, tour countless adults and children through the galleries, assist with digitization and conservation work and much, much more.

When the museum closed last summer, the Gillies had to adjust to life without the place that had served as a second home for many years. However strong the feeling of loss was, other doors began opening. The Gillies reputation as dedicated volunteers resulted in a number of inquiries from area organizations desperately seeking help.

Eager to maintain their commitment to service and continue to enjoy fellowship with one another, a number of Gillies have shared their talents with a variety of nonprofit organizations within the city, consequently taking a piece of Gilcrease with them. Cadres of Gillies have dedicated hours of service to organizations such as the Route 66 Historical Village, Tulsa Foundation for Architecture, and the Tulsa Historical Society, just to name a few.

(Article from the Fall 2022 Gilcrease Member Newsletter)

“Working at the Route 66 Village has allowed us to continue to serve as Ambassador’s for the City of Tulsa. We can guide travelers to local museums, Native American sites and restaurants, and answer questions about the progress on Gilcrease,” according to Paul Westbrook, who serves as a Gillie along with his wife, Lynn Cyert. The couple was recently recognized by the City Council with the Star Tulsan award given for service to the City of Tulsa.

Whether serving as greeters, way-finders, tour guides or collection assistants, the Gillies continue to assist and inspire guests, taking advantage of Tulsa’s arts and culture offerings. Now, as ambassadors throughout the city, the Gillies are having an even greater impact on Tulsans.

Gilcrease thanks the Gillies for their generous service to the museum and the greater Tulsa community!

It was wonderful to visit with the 25+ Gillies who attended the October Docent meeting held at the Sand Springs Cultural and Historical Museum. Alison Rossi shared information about the new Gilcrease in Your Neighborhood program that had it’s ‘grand opening’ on the 20th of October.

DOCENT MEETING

(ALL GILLIES ALWAYS WELCOME!)

November 4th

10:00 a.m. at the Sand Springs Cultural and Historical Museum

AGENDA

Alana Trisler– Introduction – 10 minutes

Overview of symposium, topics, etc.

Deanna Storm– About 10 minutes

Share her perspective on trends in docenting. She has been an officer on the National Docent Symposium Council for many years.

Kathe Crapster– About 10 minutes

Share highlights from one of the sessions she attended.

Nannette Tresner– About 10 minutes

Share highlights from one of the sessions she attended.

Becky Hatchett– About 10 minutes

Share highlights from one of the sessions she attended.

Alana Trisler– Wrap-up/Summary – 5 minutes

Explain future docent meetings that will give a more in-depth look at some of the techniques presented today.

Please RSVP to kathecrapster@gmail.com to let her know you will be coming. Thanks a bunch!

GILLIES TRAVEL - TRIP TO TAHLEQUAH



Join us on **Wednesday, November 16**, as we travel to Tahlequah, the heart of the Cherokee Nation. If you haven't been to Tahlequah in a while, you will be surprised to see what is new and improved, as well as what has been restored to its original condition (think color) in the Cherokee capital.

We will meet at the Cherokee National Research Center in Cherokee Springs Plaza (near the casino) at 10:00. The research center houses the Cherokee genealogy office and the Cherokee archives. In our guided tour into the new archives storage facility, expect to see everything from hunting bows to baskets to John Ross's dining room chairs.

Next, we will travel to the Northeastern State University campus to meet Peggy Glenn, Director of Development, at about 11:15 for a guided tour of the restored Seminary Hall. (She will reserve parking places for us directly in front of the Hall.) Included in the tour are the two WPA murals painted by the Kiowa Six artists, Steven Mopope and James Auchiah.

At about 12:00 we will break for lunch. Several restaurants, including Vidalia's, Sam & Ella's, and The Branch, are within a couple of blocks of the NSU campus and our next stop, the Cherokee National History Museum.

After lunch we will self-tour the Cherokee National History Museum, restored and opened in 2019 in the original National Capitol building. This will conclude our planned field trip, but for those who want more museum experiences, the Cherokee National Prison Museum and the Cherokee National Supreme Court Museum are nearby. Hunter's Home, the only pre-Civil War plantation home in Oklahoma, is just south of Tahlequah and open until 4:30 pm.

See <https://visitcherokeeanation.com/attractions/> for previews of all our planned attractions and <https://www.okhistory.org/sites/huntershome> for more information about Hunter's Home.

Contact Becky Hatchett at bhatchett5183@sbcglobal.net or Karen Morris at karentmorris33@gmail.com if you would like to attend, and you will receive more detailed information about the trip.

Sequoyah

In front of Seminary Hall

NSU



Cherokee National

History Museum

Interior view



A LOOK AT THE NATIONAL DOCENT SYMPOSIUM COUNCIL -- by Deanna Storm

Gillies President Nannette Tresner asked that I write about my experience on the Board of Directors of the National Docent Symposium Council. Wow - what a challenge to condense all those eventful years into a few short paragraphs! ...but, I will try.

Let me begin by explaining what the National Docent Symposium Council (NDSC) is. The NDSC is a 501(c)3 non-profit organization that has been in existence for more than 40 years and whose mission is ***to promote continuous improvement in docent practice by facilitating communication and collaborative interaction among U.S. and Canadian volunteer docents/guides.*** This mission is accomplished through biennial symposia, sale of the Docent Handbooks, and through an interactive website and closed Facebook group. Recently webinars and virtual panel discussions have been added.

The organization has no paid staff and is run entirely by volunteer docents for the benefit of other docents. Council members pay their own expenses and receive no discounts on symposium registration or any related costs. Annual meetings are held to conduct council business at the site of a current or next future symposium. During each symposium-year meeting, new directors are elected to replace those whose terms have expired, and new officers are elected from current council members.

My involvement with NDSC began at NDS2011 in St. Louis when I was elected as a Regional Director for the ten-state Mountain Plains Region which includes Oklahoma. Regional Directors are asked to commit to serving through two additional symposia (or four years). Each region has two directors with overlapping terms, arranged so that only one term expires at each symposium. When my four-year term expired, the other Mountain Plains director, whose term had two years yet to go, left the council and I was asked to extend for two additional years in order to preserve the overlapping term arrangement. After serving six years as a Regional Director, I was elected to a two-year term as the NDSC Treasurer and hence became part of the executive committee. I was elected to a second two-year term as Treasurer with that term subsequently extended by one year due to Covid and the year-long delay of the Kansas City symposium from 2021 to 2022. The conclusion of NDS2022 in Kansas City in September marked my retirement from the NDSC after having served for a total of eleven years.

During my time on the council, I attended six symposia -- in St. Louis, San Francisco, Cincinnati, Montreal, Washington D.C. and Kansas City. It has been an incredible experience and given me the opportunity to meet some really amazing and talented docents from all across North America, whose commitment to service has been inspiring. It has been really great to hear from others, either on the council or those presenting workshops at the symposia, to share ideas for our common challenges, and to establish relationships with them and their institutions. I feel as if I could go to almost any museum in the country (and perhaps a couple in Canada) and find someone there that I know. We all have so much in common and by facing the future together with its shifting roles and methodologies, we can all find workable solutions that fit our own specific institutional situations.

I have been pleased to note, after attending numerous workshops and breakout sessions, that THE GILLIES ARE DOING A LOT OF THINGS RIGHT! I am proud of our organization and I know that because of my involvement with NDSC there is now much more awareness throughout the North American museum community about Tulsa, Oklahoma and its museums.

[For more information about the history and organization of NDSC and for links to other services see www.nationaldocents.org.]

Following is the link to the live camera showing the construction site for the new Gilcrease Museum from the top of the HCAR building.

<https://api.ibeamsystems.com/api/cameras/b6f50bc149/large/latest/?timestamped=true>



MESSAGES

Death of Former Gillie:

Emily Capehart

Sympathy Card sent to:

Family of Emily Capehart

Deanna Storm

Get Well Card sent to:

Mike Vance

Dan Lowrance

Please send changes in contact information (address, phone, and email) as well as news about a Gillie who is ill to the Gillies Secretary Janet Hayes at jrhayes1216@gmail.com

Did You Know?

Now that the Gilcrease Museum is undergoing a rebuild, let's see what we know about the previous versions of the Gilcrease...

How many times and when was the Gilcrease Museum remodeled and expanded? -



.....Four times: Mid-1950's; Mid-1960's; Mid-1970's and Mid-1980's.

Fifth time; 2020's.



Editor: Nannette Tresner,
Gillies President
Publisher: Rod Schneider