

Friday Footprints

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

-Thomas Gilcrease

March 31, 2023



From the Gilcrease Collection:

The Zuni Olla Girls

Velino Shije Herrera, Zia Pueblo

(Herrera gave permission to the state of New Mexico to adapt the design of the Zia sun symbol for use as the state logo. The red design on a yellow field can be seen on the state flag, seal, and license plates. Source: Smithsonian American Art Museum and Renwick Gallery website.)

"The past is never dead. It's not even past."

From Requiem for a Nun by William Faulkner

The repercussions of past events still reverberate today as evidenced by the exhibits in the First Americans Museum. Director James Pepper Henry quoted Faulkner during our visit with him to emphasize the mission of the museum. Read the article by Janet Hayes to learn about our trip to the museum on March 22nd. Another example of the past not even being past is the poem written twenty-seven years ago by Gillie Janice Daniel. Alana Trisler provided the information below regarding the poem and pointed out its relevance today.

The following poem is reproduced as it was delivered to us by Beverly Wilcox, Past President, 1990-1991. We thought it best to leave it in its original form and with the author's signature.

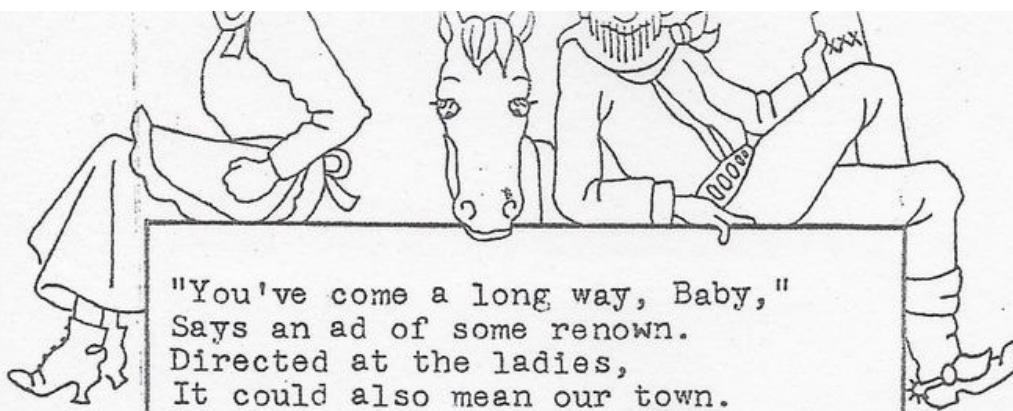
Here's the story: Janice (Juh-neese, not Jan-iss) Daniel was a founding member of the Gillies organization and was President for two terms, 1969-1971. At the time of the organization's beginning, she and her husband, Litt, had made an earlier trip to Scotland and upon returning, Janice suggested that the newly formed group name themselves after the traditional Scottish fishing guides, "Ghillies," and the rest as they say, is history!

Janice was an active Gillie for many years and as you can tell by the poem's date, 1997, she remained passionate about the museum's needs and future. Besides displaying her legendary sense of humor, the poem ends with subject matter that is relevant even today.

Thank you to Beverly Wilcox for sharing Janice's humorous and timely piece of Gillies history. Enjoy!

Nannette Tresner—President

Poem is on page 2....



"You've come a long way, Baby,"
Says an ad of some renown.
Directed at the ladies,
It could also mean our town.
For, from the days of cowboys
And of brawling in saloons,
Of fast-draw bounty hunters
Taking aim at brass spittoons;

Of cattle rustlers' lynchings
From the nearest hick'ry limb
After questionable justice
At the hanging judge's whim;
From this our infant Tulsa
Has matured, until today
It's a town of art and culture.
We have come a long long way!

At Gilcrease, for example,
Western history is shown
In documents and pictures,
In artifacts and stone.
It's a grandiose collection
That has been assembled there,
And it draws the praise of critics
And art lovers everywhere.

But its space is very limited,
Its budget is too small.
There are treasures in the basement
No one ever sees at all.
We've really only started
To improve and stretch and grow.
Though we've come a long way, Baby,
We've a long, long way to go!!!

3/1/97

Vincent Price

"IN AMERICA, strangely enough, there are very few museums dedicated to indigenous American art. This one is away up there, the big one."

Vincent Price

IN HIS CONTACTS with people around the globe, Vincent Price has been telling those who are interested that "Tulsa has one of the most exciting collections in the world."



CONGRATULATIONS
TO THE
2023-2024 EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

President: Becky Hatchett
President-elect: Kathe Crapster
Vice-president: Robin Leech
Treasurer: Tom Duncan
Secretary: Lynn Cyert

Officers were elected at the General Membership Meeting on March 17th.

Are My Dues Due?

This has always been a confusing question. **The Gillies are not collecting dues for 2023-2024.** Dues have been waived since the museum officially closed. Fortunately, we have had enough assets in our account to cover our expenses since the closure.

The budget for 2023-2024 that was just approved at the General Membership Meeting on March 17th did not include dues.

However, Article III, section 1 of our Bylaws states that "All Gillies must be members of the Museum." So **please remember to pay your Gilcrease Museum membership dues.** The museum sends out reminders when they are due.

Docent Corner

By Kathe Crapster, Docent Chair

All Gillies are welcome to attend the final docent meeting of the year. Come hear **Greg Bledsoe's** presentation, which is the last one of our three part series based on the prior exhibit "*Americans All*".

Hope to see everyone in HCAR at 10am on Friday, April 7th.

Remember, ALL Gillies are welcome to Docent meetings!

Please join us.

GILLIES TRIP TO FIRST AMERICANS MUSEUM

Fourteen Gillies and friends enjoyed an enlightening tour of the beautiful First Americans Museum in Oklahoma City where we were able to experience the collective histories of the 39 distinctive First American Nations in Oklahoma today. After an orientation session by one of the museum's docents, a member of the Chickasaw Nation, we were free to tour at our own pace for the remainder of the morning. A highlight of the day was the WINIKO exhibit on the Mezzanine Gallery floor, featuring over 100 cultural materials from the Smithsonian's National Museum of the American Indian (NMAI). The NMAI objects left Oklahoma in the 1900's when non-Native institutions were rapidly acquiring materials from the so-called "vanishing" tribal cultures. It is poignant that, 100 years later, an all-Native curatorial team has led the process of returning these objects to our state. Winiko is the Caddo word for everything on earth, in the universe, and beyond.



At noon, we gathered for a delicious lunch at the museum's ThirtyNine restaurant, which, as its website states, "features modern indigenous cuisine that strives to honor the traditional ingredients of the 39 First American Nations in the state and offers delicious adaptations using ingredients that have been grown, gathered, and hunted in this area for many generations". It was well worth the drive to OKC just to dine there!

After lunch, we enjoyed a docent led tour of the OKLA HOMMA exhibit on the first floor of the museum. Featuring works of art, interactive media, and film, this exhibit explores the diverse stories of the 39 tribes in Oklahoma today from ancestral origins to the present day told from the perspective of First Americans. During the tour, we had the added treat of being greeted by FAM's director, James Pepper Henry, who reminisced with us about his time at Gilcrease, as well as informing us of future plans for the First Americans Museum, and also sharing with us the inside story of many of the museum's exhibits and acquisitions. There was even talk of a future get together with Gillies and FAM docents!







Mark your Calendar

Friday, April 7th – Docent Meeting at 10am, HCAR

Friday, April 14th - Gillies Board of Directors Meeting at 10:00am, via Zoom

Change of Meeting Dates: The May General Membership Meeting has been rescheduled to May 19th at Oklahoma Joe's at 10:00am. The new date was announced at the March 17th General Meeting. This was done to allow the 2022-2023 and 2023-2024 Executive Committee and Board of Directors to have a joint meeting on May 12th.

All Gillies are invited to attend these meetings.

MESSAGES

Get Well Card sent:

Beverly Wilcox
Joyce Taylor
Kathe Crapster

Sympathy Card sent:

Robin Leech
Judy Baggett

Change in Contact Information:

Doug Kisling – delete landline; Add Cel # 918-381-0976

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



Deanna Storm admiring "The Reunion" by Virginia Stroud, now hanging in the HCAR Library! I also took two pictures from the vicinity of the circle drive where the Sacred Rain Arrow was located. One viewing the future Gilcrease rise and the other capturing the fabulous view of the Tulsa skyline peeking through the branches of the blooming saucer magnolia.

Carol Stookey



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>



Frances Howard
Duchess of Richmond and Lennox

By Cornelius Johnson
British 1635 oil on canvas

Did You Know:

This is the oldest painting in the Gilcrease collection.

What do you know about Frances Howard?

Why is she known as “The Double Duchess”?

(Her 3rd husband was the Duke of Richmond and Lennox. She is wearing a brooch with his portrait.)

What is her connection to Captain John Smith of Jamestown?

(She financed the publication of his book “Generall Historie of Virginia, New England and The Summer Isles”.)

Where are the Summer Isles?

(Bermuda)

More on Frances Howard next month.....



Editor: Nannette Tresner,
Gillies President
Publisher: Rod Schneider