

Friday Footprints

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

-Thomas Gilcrease

June 30, 2023



Any Summer Afternoon - Charles Banks Wilson

Excerpt from "The Barefoot Boy" by John Greenleaf Whittier

Blessings on thee, little man,
Barefoot boy, with cheek of tan!
With thy turned-up pantaloons,
And thy merry whistled tunes;
With thy red lip, redder still

Kissed by strawberries on the hill;
With the sunshine on thy face,
Through thy torn brim's jaunty grace;
From my heart I give thee joy,—
I was once a barefoot boy!

PRESIDENT'S LETTER

My greatest pleasure nowadays is watching my 20-month-old grandson run around my backyard. I appreciate the smallest things as I see them through his eyes. He is fascinated by a flower bud, a roly-poly, a flying bird, a rock, his shadow. I found myself remembering the first lines of a poem my grandmother used to recite, "Blessings on thee, little man / Barefoot boy with cheeks of tan." As I reread the entire poem, I found that its message was exactly what I had been feeling. It's about how we lose the simple pleasures of nature as we grow up to become working men and women. The silver lining is that many of us are now past that working phase of our lives and can again have time to enjoy life's simple pleasures. Maybe it's time to take up the joys of our barefoot days. So--I wish for you a summer of those simple pleasures: feeling the shade of a tree or the sun on your shoulders, tasting a tangy-sweet strawberry or a home-grown tomato, watching the flight of birds or butterflies, smelling a fragrant flower, hearing the soothing sounds of running water. Maybe not, however, while hanging from a rope swing!

I wrote down these thoughts in praise of nature before the big storm hit Tulsa and surrounding areas the weekend of June 17-18. My hope is that this newsletter finds you safe and sound with your electricity back on. I know the experience has made me aware of the many not-so-simple pleasures that I sometimes take for granted. Enjoy the month of July under your air conditioning! Hope to see you at the Gillies/Docent meeting on August 4th.

....Becky Hatchett

The Docent Corner

Greetings to all Gillies,

This is just a reminder that we have no Gillies/Docents meeting in July but will reconvene in HCAR on August 4th at 10:00 a.m. for our monthly meeting. After 9:30 a.m. refreshments will be available and provided by our Hospitality Committee. Tentatively, Jenny Keller, Indigenous Collections Assistant Curator, will speak on Early Cities. I say tentatively, because as you know, the indigenous curatorial team's primary focus is on determining the content and placement of exhibits in the new space while also working with tribal elders to determine what and how to appropriately display cultural pieces. They are stretched rather thin and we appreciate the programming they can bring to us, whenever that is. I will inform you if there is a program change.

...Alana Trisler, Docent Chair

MESSAGES

Get Well Card sent:

Bruce and Janelle Swearingen

Change in Membership Status:

Anna Turner - Resigned from the Gillies

Sympathy Card sent:

Marilyn Hartman on the death of her husband,
John Hartman (Gillies class of 2015)
He passed away May 7, 2023

Please send changes in contact information (address, phone, and email) as well as news about a Gillie who is ill to the Gillies Secretary Lynn Cyert at cyert@nsuok.edu.

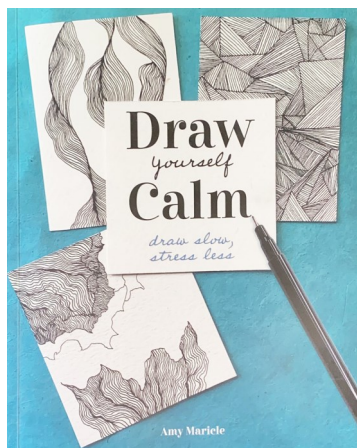
....MORE SUMMER READING....

Two books on Charles Banks Wilson:

Cagle, Charles. ***An Oklahoma Portrait*** (Conversations with the Artist). Gilcrease Museum, 1989.

Ramer, Randy, et. al. ***Charles Banks Wilson***. Gilcrease Museum, 2007. "It is a must read as we have many of his works and the Gilcrease staff with Wilson's help wrote the book." --Janelle Swearingen

Draw Yourself Calm is a great read if you might be interested in developing or renewing a creative art practice. I discovered Amy Maricle and her blog - Mindful Art Studio - <https://mindfulartstudio.com> on Facebook during the pandemic shutdown. Almost every Wednesday at noon she hosts a free live slow drawing session (you can watch replays until Friday of that week). It didn't take long and I was hooked. This is perfect for me because you don't need fancy supplies, a dedicated "studio space", and it doesn't require much storage or wall space either! I had everything needed languishing in the back of a drawer. My "studio" has become a small portable lap desk. I can be in a comfy chair in front of the TV, on the patio in the early morning listening to the humming birds visiting the feeder, or nestled into my reading chair by the window. I ordered her book and certainly haven't regretted the purchase. I give it 5 *****.
—Carol Stookey





**Mark your
Calendar**

Saturday, July 15, 10:00-12:00. Gilcrease Members Only Event.
See more information about the event in the article below:

Friday, August 4 - Gillies/Docent Meeting at HCAR.
Refreshments available at 9:30am; meeting begins at 10:00am.

All Gillies are invited to the monthly Gillies/Docents meeting.

GILCREASE MEMBERS ONLY EVENT

As a Gilcrease Museum member, you should have received an invitation to a members-only event celebrating the third installment of Gilcrease in Your Neighborhood, “*Gathering Corn*” by Choctaw/Chickasaw artist, Norma Howard. The event will take place at Arts@302, 302 S. Main St., Broken Arrow, on July 15 from 10 a.m. to 12 p.m. Audrey Jacob, Director of Arts and Artist Registry for the Choctaw Nation, will introduce the artwork. Valet parking and light refreshments will be available. You should RSVP by July 5th to 918-596-2780 or gilcrease-rsvp@utulsa.edu.

University of Tulsa Audit Classes

Courses available for audit for the Fall 2023 semester have been posted on the University of Tulsa website under Life Long Learning: <https://artsandsciences.utulsa.edu/life-long-learning/life-long-learning-courses/>. A form to return to University of Tulsa contact, Stephanie Boulden (stephanie-boulden@utulsa.edu), will be available soon. On the form check “Gilcrease docent” in order to be able to audit the class. Some courses of interest to Gillies include: Patterns in Culture, Survey of Art History I, Latin America (history), and Latin American Literature. Contact Becky Hatchett (bhatchett5183@sbcglobal.net) if you need help or more information.

GILLIES TRAVEL

The Travel Committee is gathering ideas for 2023-24 and would love to know what destinations you would like to visit. We can also use one or two additional members — especially someone interested in planning an out-of-state trip.

Contact chair Karen Morris by email karentmorris33@gmail.com with your suggestions.

Did You Know:

Works by Charles Banks Wilson are in the collections of the Metropolitan Museum of Art in New York City, the Library of Congress and the Smithsonian in Washington, D.C., and the Oklahoma State Capitol. Gilcrease Museum owns the largest collection of Wilson's work. Which is your favorite Charles Banks Wilson painting in the Gilcrease collection? One of these below, or do you have another favorite?



Thomas Gilcrease



Oklahoma Melody



Jim Thorpe (Study)



Ribbon Bets



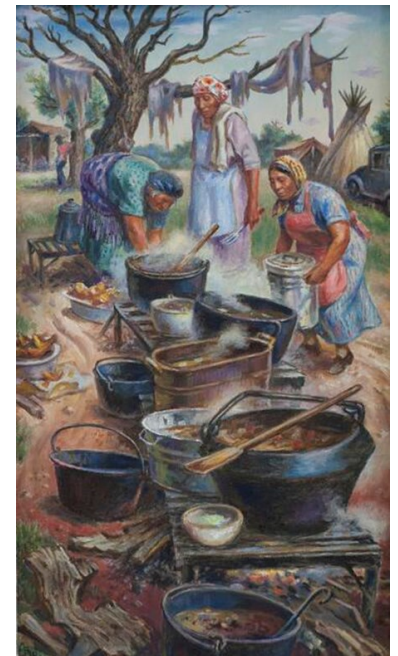
Joe Streeter's Claremore Auction



Pow Wow Afternoon



White Hats



Pow Wow Cooks



Clearly Indigenous: Native Visions Reimagined in Glass

This exhibit at the Wichita Art Museum in Wichita, Kansas features 115 works of art by 29 Native American artists and four Pacific Rim artists.

The pliable, translucent material of glass is ideal for native artists looking to re-interpret traditional stories and express contemporary issues affecting tribal societies. The artworks on view include totems, animal sculptures, ceremonial regalia, baskets, and masks, all of which honor past artistic traditions while exploring contemporary concerns. Vessels and baskets traditionally made of grass or clay are now rendered in glass.

While at the museum don't miss their permanent collection which features American art. Among the artists in the collection are Dale Chihuly, Edward Hopper, Andrew Wyeth, Mary Cassatt, and Thomas Eakins.

The exhibit runs from June 11th through September 10th.

Historical Marker Dedication

The Broken Arrow Chapter, NSDAR, dedicated a historical marker at the Thomas Gilcrease House on June 22, 2023. The dedication was part of their America 250! Celebration. Executive Director Susan Neal gave a brief history of Thomas Gilcrease and the museum. Members of the Tulsa Sons of the American Revolution Color Guard led the flag ceremony.



Wording of the sign:

The Thomas Gilcrease House

Built in 1913, this house was the home of Gilcrease museum founder Thomas Gilcrease (1900-1962), who amassed an extraordinary collection of art, culture and history of the Americas, enabling successive generations of Tulsans to learn the value of history and its lessons.

Marked by
Broken Arrow Creek Chapter, NSDAR
2023



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>



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