

Friday Footprints

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

-Thomas Gilcrease

November 17, 2023



"The Wild Turkey" by John James Audubon

"All in a Word" by Aileen Fisher

T for time to be together, turkey, talk and tangy weather
H for harvest stored away, home and hearth and holiday
A for Autumn's frosty art, and abundance in the heart
N for neighbors and November, nice things, new things to remember
K for kitchen, kettle's croon, kith and kin expected soon
S for sizzles, sights and sounds, and something special that abounds
That spells THANKS for joy in living
And a jolly good Thanksgiving.

PRESIDENT'S LETTER

When I was a middle school librarian, I sponsored a student book club. One of my favorite books that we read was *Okay for Now* by Gary D. Schmidt, about a boy named Doug trying to find his way in a new school and a new town. One of his safe places is the town library, where he discovers a book whose pages are being cut out and sold to fund town services—Audubon's *Birds of America*. Amid the uncertainties of Doug's life, he vows to make at least one thing right; he's going to find a way to get back the pages that have been sold.

Now this sounds like a far-fetched story, but stories for kids often are. Many things about the book ring true though—especially how important libraries and books are. It was only after I chose “The Wild Turkey” for this issue's artwork that I remembered *Okay for Now*. How fitting that its theme coincides with the recent talks we heard from Gilcrease Librarian Jana Gowan and Archivist Charles Hilton and the photos of our own Gillies Library in this issue of *Friday Footprints*. It's also gratifying to note that the first person to really get through to Doug is a volunteer at the library who teaches him to draw using one of Audubon's bird illustrations as a model.

I learned a lot myself about Audubon, his birds and his magnificent books while preparing for our book club meeting. I wish I had had the [video](#) on “The Wild Turkey” prepared for Smart History by Head Curator Laura Fry and Dr. Stephen Zucker to show to my students. Maybe you can watch it while you're eating your pumpkin pie. You might also enjoy seeing all 435 prints in *Birds of America* digitally [here](#).

Hope you have an enjoyable holiday with family and friends!

.....Becky Hatchett



No Gillies/Docents Meeting in December

No Executive Committee or Board of Directors Meetings in December

Meetings will resume in January.

Curations by Gilcrease

There is a virtual trunk show scheduled for the shop November 13-December 15. [Online](#) shopping only.

The 25% off Holiday Sale at Curations by Gilcrease, 1102 S. Lewis Ave., is December 8-10. Gillies have early access on December 6.

For those concerned about easy parking, Mother Road Market has restricted parking around Curations to be used only by customers of the corner shopping complex. Recent visitors to Curations have found ample parking in the lot directly adjoining the shop.

Docent Corner

Greetings, Gillies,

First, I want to thank everyone who attended the November 3rd meeting to celebrate Susan Neal's retirement. Her strong but gentle leadership will be missed but no one deserves a rest more than she!

This is just a reminder that there will be no Gillies/Docents meeting in December, but save the date – Friday, January 5, 2024 – for our next meeting. Laura Fry will join us to share information about some of the content in the new museum. She will focus on the "Place" Galleries. I'm sure you share my curiosity about how our museum pieces fit into this concept, so please join us.

Lastly, we are fortunate to live where we have an abundance of food and safe shelter, so please enjoy these luxuries and have a safe and peaceful holiday season.

Alana Trisler, Docent Chair

Officer Nominations

It's time to start thinking about officer nominations. Nominations for President Elect, Vice President, Secretary, and Treasurer will be accepted only during the month of January. Nominations should include information about the nominee, such as offices held, specific assignments, chairmanships, and other leadership roles. Kathe Crapster, our current President Elect, will assume the duties of President for 2024-25. Descriptions of the duties for each office can be found on the Gillies website [here](#). Remember to check with the person you are nominating to get their permission to proceed. Letters of nomination should be sent to Dale Brown, Chair of the Nominating Committee.

Submit letters of nomination by **mail** to:

Dale Brown
9406 S. 73rd E. Pl.
Tulsa, OK 74133

Submit letters of nomination by **email** to:

dale.Brown@gmail.com

Budget Committee

The Executive Committee has approved the following members of the 2023-24 Budget Committee:

Tom Duncan, Chair

Kathe Crapster

Janet Hayes

Dan Lowrance

Sharon Patch

Celebrating Susan Neal

At the Gillies/Docent meeting on November 3 we congratulated Gilcrease Executive Director Susan Neal who recently announced her intention to retire at the end of January 2024. We all know how hard she has worked to make the new Gilcrease Museum a reality, and we wish her a relaxing, joyful, much-deserved retirement!



President Becky Hatchett presenting Susan with flowers from the Gillies



Gilcrease Executive Director Susan Neal with Interim Director Jen Bennett

Send notes of congratulations to Susan Neal at:

1003 E. 30th Place, Tulsa, OK 74114

Staff Spotlight: Archivist Charles Hilton

Archivist Charles Hilton was in our Staff Spotlight at the November Gillies/Docent meeting. Charles is a graduate of Drake University in Des Moines, Iowa, and has had a varied experience as an archivist—from the Museum of the North in Fairbanks, Alaska, to organizing the historic records of Congregation B’nai Emunah in Tulsa.

Charles said the two words he keeps in mind as an Archivist are “preservation” and “access.” He remarked that he was so thankful for the Gillies that have created an itemized list of archival resources, something that not many museums have. He has already undertaken a project to preserve the historical President’s notebooks of the Gillies in the Gilcrease archives. They are now located next to the Gillies Library in HCAR.



Welcome to the Library!

The presenter at our November monthly meeting was Jana Gowan, Research and Outreach Librarian at the Helmerich Center for American Research. She spoke about the results of the recent survey sent to Gillies and staff, the inventory of the library accomplished with the help of Gillies, collection development, and access to the library's research collection and the Gillies Library, now housed at HCAR.

She thanked Pat Davidson, Elaine Faulkner, Julie Gentz, Kathy Horne, Joe Meeks, Karen Morris, Janet O'Connor, Carol Stookey, Beverly Wilcox, and Charley Wyatt for their help with the inventory, and Deanna Storm with her help on another project. The inventory was an important undertaking to help determine what is needed to fill gaps in the collection.

Jana stressed the "Outreach" part of her title and welcomed Gillies to visit the library after communicating with her about when we are coming. All materials (both the research library and the Gillies library) are in closed stacks and must be retrieved by staff. To find books that you want to request from the research library, see the Gilcrease collection in the University of Tulsa's McFarlin Library [catalog](#). The card catalog for the Gillies Library is available in the reading room. Jana is available to help you find the books you need!



Gillies Library at HCAR



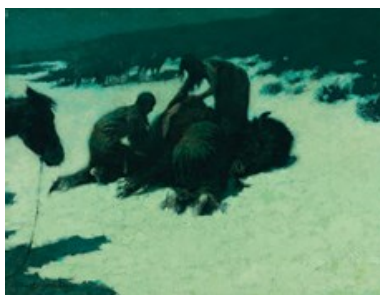
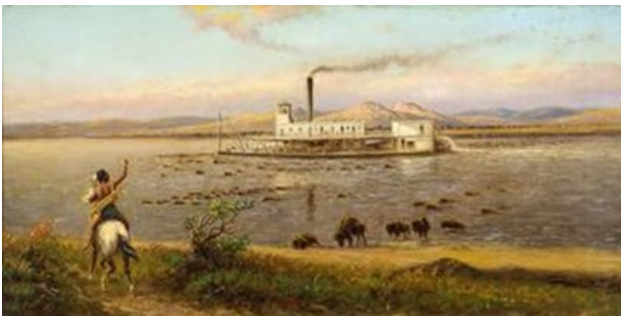
Gilcrease Will Travel

You may have seen artwork from the Gilcrease collection in some extraordinary places lately.

Garrett Gibson, who oversees Rights and Reproductions at Gilcrease, made physical reproductions of six artworks in the Gilcrease collection for the movie, “Killers of the Flower Moon.” Click the link below to see the images. He was told that they were for the home of William Hale, played by Robert De Niro.

[Gilcrease Museum on Instagram](#)

Gillies who watched Ken Burns’ series, “The American Buffalo,” reported seeing paintings from the Gilcrease collection, including “The Hungry Moon” by Frederic Remington. Privileges were given to “The American Buffalo” production for 14 images from the Gilcrease collection, including both paintings and photographs. (Thanks to Alison Rossi who forwarded the request for information to Garrett and to Garrett for his quick reply!) Here are some of the artworks from the Gilcrease collection that appeared in “The American Buffalo.”



In addition to Gilcrease works that are temporarily at home at the National Cowboy & Western Heritage Museum in Oklahoma City and Crystal Bridges in Bentonville, Arkansas, a traveling exhibition of art and artifacts from the Gilcrease collection will be visiting the Memorial Art Gallery of the University of Rochester in New York; the Ackland Art Museum in Chapel Hill, North Carolina; and The Society of the Four Arts in Palm Beach, Florida. Under the auspices of the American Federation of Art, the exhibit, “Past Forward: Indigenous Art from the Gilcrease Museum,” was co-curated by Dr. Chelsea Herr, Jack and Maxine Zarrow Curator for Indigenous Art and Culture.

GILLIES TRAVEL



Trip to Okmulgee Planned for January

The trip to Okmulgee previously planned for November has been rescheduled for January 23. If you signed up for the November trip, you should have received an email from Kathe Crapster about the new date and itinerary.

Participants should arrive at the Council House, 100 W. 6th St., Okmulgee, by 9:50 a.m. so that the tour can begin by 10:00 a.m. Time permitting after the tour of the Council house, the group may visit the Red Stick Gallery across the street before going to lunch. Dick and Lana Clark are looking into the possibility of having a special lunch at the OSU culinary school.



After lunch the group will tour the Muscogee Nation Mound Building, 2507 Lvmhvlke, where the Supreme Court and District Court of the Muscogee Nation meet. The District Court predates Oklahoma statehood. The Supreme Court consists of seven justices who serve 6-year terms after nomination by the Principal Chief and confirmation by the National Council. [Download](#) the travel guide, “Memory Makers,” from the Muscogee tourism website for more information about the Nation, its history, language, important places and events.



39 Tribes

November is Native American Heritage Month. Below is a list of the 39 federally recognized tribes in Oklahoma with their websites. Save for reference, or better yet, visit some of these sites for a contemporary view of the tribes, and to learn about their languages, histories, museums, events, and services to their citizens.

Absentee Shawnee Tribe of Oklahoma	https://www.astribe.com/
Alabama Quassarte Tribal Town	http://alabama-quassarte.org/
Apache Tribe of Oklahoma	https://apachetribe.org/
Caddo Nation	https://mycaddonation.com/
Cherokee Nation	https://mycaddonation.com/
Cheyenne and Arapaho Nation	https://www.cheyenneandrapaho-nsn.gov/
Chickasaw	https://www.chickasaw.net/
Choctaw Nation	https://www.choctawnation.com/
Citizen Potawatomi Nation	https://www.potawatomi.org/
Comanche Nation of Oklahoma	https://comanchenation.com/
Delaware Nation	https://www.delawarenation-nsn.gov/
Delaware Tribe of Indians	https://delawaretribe.org/
Eastern Shawnee Tribe of Oklahoma	https://estoo-nsn.gov/
Euchee (Yuchi) Tribe of Indians	https://www.facebook.com/profile.php?id=100068804066909
Fort Sill Apache Tribe	https://fortsillapache-nsn.gov/
Iowa Tribe of Oklahoma	https://www.bahkhoje.com/
Kaw Nation	https://www.kawnation.gov/
Kialegee Tribal Town	https://kialegeetribal.yourwebsitespace.com/
Kickapoo Tribe of Oklahoma	https://www.kickapootribeofoklahoma.com/
Kiowa Tribe of Oklahoma	https://www.kiowatribe.org/
Miami Tribe of Oklahoma	https://www.miamination.com/
Modoc Tribe of Oklahoma	https://modocnation.com/
Muscogee (Creek) Nation	https://www.muscogeenation.com/
Osage Nation of Oklahoma	https://www.osagenation-nsn.gov/
Otoe-Missouria Tribe of Indians	https://www.omtribe.org/
Ottawa Tribe of Oklahoma	https://www.ottawatribe.org/
Pawnee Nation of Oklahoma	https://pawneenation.org/
Peoria Tribe of Indians of Oklahoma	https://peoriatribe.com/
Ponca Tribe of Oklahoma	https://www.ponca-nsn.gov/
Quapaw Tribe of Oklahoma	https://www.quapawtribe.com/
Sac & Fox Nation of Oklahoma	https://www.sacandfoxnation-nsn.gov/
Seminole Nation of Oklahoma	https://www.sno-nsn.gov/
Seneca-Cayuga Tribe of Oklahoma	https://sctribe.com/
Shawnee Tribe of Oklahoma	https://shawnee-nsn.gov/
Thlopthlocco Tribal Town	https://tttown.org/
Tonkawa Tribe of Oklahoma	https://tonkawatribe.com/
United Keetoowah Band of the Cherokees	https://www.keetoowahcherokee.org/
Wichita and Affiliated Tribes	https://wichitatribe.com/
Wyandotte Nation	https://www.wyandotte-nation.org/



Gillie Craig Bryant Takes Home the "Hit It out of the Ballpark" Oscar Award for "Killers of the Flower Moon"

by Molly Tovar

Witness Craig's stellar performance in "Killers of the Flower Moon" as he receives the prestigious Oscar for his groundbreaking role. Blink, and you might miss his appearances as a juror in a climactic scene toward the end and as a community member strolling the streets. Craig's debut as an actor was nothing short of captivating and focused, proving that even first-time extras can steal the spotlight.

In his acceptance speech, Craig graciously thanked his wife Judy for being his biggest believer, Gillie's colleague Janet O'Connor for unwavering support, and his manager Molly Tovar for pushing him to audition. If you haven't caught this cinematic masterpiece yet, we strongly recommend you do – Craig's performance is the stuff of legends!

Read Craig's story on next page.....

My (Short) Career in the Movies

by Craig Bryant

Working on a movie set was not one of the items on my retirement bingo card. But when I learned that “Killers of the Flower Moon,” based on a book I greatly admired, would be filmed in Oklahoma by Oscar-winning director Martin Scorsese, I knew I had to apply for a part as an extra. After waiting several months, I got an email from the casting coordinator - I was to be a businessman in the background of scenes being filmed in Fairfax and Pawhuska.

I worked on set for a total of ten days. One thing that was immediately apparent to me - making a movie is hard work for everyone involved. Together with the other extras, I would arrive in the dressing area before 6:00 a.m. We lined up to take a daily COVID test before going further and were required to wear masks except when the cameras were rolling (this was when the Omicron variant was at its peak). After getting dressed in a dark black wool three-piece suit and touched up by the hair and make-up people, I was ready to go on set.

For the first few days I was part of a large group of background extras who were pedestrians in street scenes being filmed on Kihekah Avenue in Pawhuska, and on Main Street in Fairfax. As we walked up and down the street, other extras drove cars, rode horses, or drove horse-drawn wagons. While this everyday activity was going on outside, interior scenes were being filmed with Robert De Niro, Leo DiCaprio, and others in a pool hall or barber shop. Whenever I stepped onto the street where filming would take place, I was struck with a feeling I had entered a time warp and been transported back to 1920's Oklahoma – the streets were dirt, the extras wore clothing and hats and had hairstyles just like you see in black and white photos from that time, and cars that we consider classics passed back and forth kicking up dust.

I was then asked to be a member of the jury in the court scenes that take place toward the end of the movie. The filming took place inside the First Christian Church in Pawhuska, which had been converted into an Oklahoma courtroom for these scenes. The actors and crew shot take after take of these scenes over a period of several days. Extras served as jurors, guards, reporters, and spectators. This was the highlight of the experience for me, as I had the opportunity to see De Niro and DiCaprio working up close, together with John Lithgow, Brendan Fraser, and Jesse Plemons. Martin Scorsese would occasionally come onto the set, but for the most part he worked behind the scenes.

I waited two long years for the movie to come out, and it lived up to my high expectations. As I watched it, I particularly appreciated two choices that Martin Scorsese made: first, he placed the focus of the story on the crime perpetrated on the Osage, rather than on the FBI; second, he chose to film the movie in the very locations where the historical events took place and collaborated closely with the Osage nation and people throughout the process. I think the end result reflects the commitment of Scorsese and his colleagues to tell the story as truthfully as possible. I'm glad I had the opportunity to be part of the movie – it's an experience I won't forget.

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:

Get Well Card: Jane Watson

Sympathy Card: Glenda Kilmer on the death of her brother

Address Update for Karen Morris: 911 S. Springdale Dr., Stillwater, OK 74074

Email Address Change for Rod Schneider: rodschneider1@outlook.com

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.

Did You Know?

- The harvest feast celebrated by the Pilgrims and Wampanoag in 1621 did not focus on roast turkey. A written account of the event described a menu of duck, venison, seafood, and corn.
- The 435 watercolor paintings that make up the *Birds of America* are all life-size, making the 119 existing volumes **very** large books. Each page measures 39.5" tall by 28.5" wide.
- Audubon loved the wild turkey and his adopted country so much that he used an image of the turkey on his personal seal and visiting card.
- The Gilcrease collection also includes Audubon's oil painting, "Pair of Coopers Hawks." In *Birds of America* these birds are called "Stanley Hawks," another name for the same species.



Editor: Becky Hatchett,
Gillies President
Publisher: Rod Schneider