

Friday Footprints

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

-Thomas Gilcrease

October 27, 2023

"October Brilliance" by Ila Mae McAfee



"October's Bright Blue Weather" by Helen Hunt Jackson

Suns and skies and clouds of June,
And flowers of June together,
Ye cannot rival for one hour
October's bright blue weather.

When loud the bumble-bee makes haste,
Belated, thriftless vagrant,
And Golden-Rod is dying fast,
And lanes with grapes are fragrant;

When Gentians roll their fringes tight
To save them for the morning,
And chestnuts fall from satin burrs
Without a sound of warning;

When on the ground red apples lie
In piles like jewels shining,
And redder still on old stone walls
Are leaves of woodbine twining;

When all the lovely wayside things
Their white-winged seeds are sowing,
And in the fields, still green and fair,
Late aftermaths are growing;

When springs run low, and on the brooks,
In idle golden freighting,
Bright leaves sink noiselessly in the hush
Of woods, for winter waiting;

When comrades seek sweet country haunts,
By twos and twos together,
And count like misers, hour by hour,
October's bright blue weather.

O suns and skies and flowers of June,
Count all your boasts together,
Love loveth best of all the year
October's bright blue weather.

PRESIDENT'S LETTER

A quote that you could expect to hear from my grandmother every year at about this time was "October's bright blue weather." There were and are always days that fit that description. I'm not sure that I had ever read the entire poem until I looked it up for this issue of *Friday Footprints*. I was surprised to find out that along with the beautiful descriptions of nature in autumn, the poem is also about romantic love and enjoying beautiful October days with a special someone.

The thing about October is that it is simultaneously a time to slow down and enjoy the outdoors for maybe the last time until spring, and it's also an incredibly busy time—for trips to see fall foliage, finding the perfect pumpkin (or pumpkin spice flavored treat), outdoor arts and crafts shows, and trick or treating. Gillies have been incredibly busy this fall—planning and taking tours, volunteering in their usual places and in some new places for Gillies, starting a new project of revising SOG programs, and hopefully, enjoying October events with friends or a special someone!

Just as this issue of *Friday Footprints* was going to press, we learned about the impending retirement of Gilcrease Executive Director Susan Neal. We thank Susan for her many years of service to Gilcrease and for her friendship and support of the Gillies organization. Our warmest wishes go to her as she wraps up her last few months of leadership at Gilcrease and begins a new exciting stage of her life.

.....Becky Hatchett



**Mark your
Calendar**

Friday, November 3 - Gillies/Docents Meeting, refreshments available at 9:30 a.m., meeting begins at 10:00 a.m. Speaker: Jana Gowan, Gilcrease Reference and Outreach Librarian; Staff Spotlight: Charles Hilton, Archivist.

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

Thursday, November 9 - 9:00 a.m. Executive Committee Meeting by Zoom; 10:00 a.m. Board of Directors Meeting by Zoom,

MESSAGES

Death of a Gillie's Husband: Linda Harkey's husband Michael passed away in Santa Fe, NM. Linda was in the class of 2001

Death of a Former Gillie: Barbara Wolf (Class of 1990) passed away on September 29, 2023. Services will take place on Friday, November 3, at All Souls Unitarian Church.

Get Well Card sent to: Jim Walker

Docent Corner

Greetings, Gillies,

I hope you have been able to venture out and enjoy these beautiful cool mornings! Can you believe we are experiencing a legit autumn in Oklahoma – for more than 2-3 days? (Partly in jest, but mostly true.)

Please mark your calendar for the Friday, November 3rd Gillies/Docent meeting at HCAR. Dick and Lana and their crew will be there at 9:30 a.m. with refreshments. (As always, a big THANK YOU, Hospitality!) The meeting will begin promptly at 10:00 a.m. In this meeting we will become better acquainted with the HCAR Library.

Jana Gowan will be our presenter. Jana's official title is Research and Outreach Librarian for Gilcrease Museum/University of Tulsa, but we know her as "the HCAR Librarian." All Gillies who work with Jana know her to be kind, learned, helpful, and enthusiastic – a cheerleader for knowledge dissemination. Jana will offer:

- A brief overview of the research library, including a description of the inventory work that the Gillies completed over the past year

- A brief overview of the results from the library user survey

- A demonstration on how to search the library catalog and make appointments in the Reading Room

- A reminder that the Gillies Library is now located at HCAR and how to access that as well

From time to time, Gillies have asked questions pertaining to some of the above points, so be ready to become informed!

Under her ongoing theme of introducing Gillies to behind-the-scenes Museum staff, Becky Hatchett has invited Charles Hilton to introduce himself and share his role as the HCAR Archivist.

Many Gillies engage in scholarly pursuits that the HCAR Library can support. We are excited to present this program that supports such learning. We hope to see you there!

Note: There will be no Gillies/Docent meeting in December.

Alana Trisler, Docent Chair

IT Items

- **Service Hours:** We can't stress enough the importance of posting your service hours. While it may not seem important during the museum closure when we are not requiring a minimum number hours per year, your hours during this time do have importance to both the museum and the Gillies organization. Reports are sent monthly to chairs of service areas, museum staff members, and the Gilcrease Board of Trustees. We want these reports to show the Gillies as a thriving organization, even during this unprecedented time. To help with this, we have updated and streamlined the list of assignments. The list can be accessed by a [link](#) on the Volgistics page of the Gillies web site: "Volgistics Assignments Descriptions for 2023-2024."
- **VicNet (Volgistics) App:** There's an app for that! You can now install an app on your phone that gives you access to VicNet and lets you record your hours on the go. The VicNet app can be downloaded from the App Store or on Google Play. Once you've installed it, open the app and enter your email address and your VicNet password. Instructions for accessing and navigating VicNet can be found on the Volgistics page of the Gillies website through this [link](#). Instructions for posting service hours can be found [here](#).
- **Hours Recorded for You: When you sign in at a meeting, such as the Gillies/Docents meeting or the General Membership meeting, your hours are recorded for you by our Vice President, Robin Leech.** You will not need to record your own hours for these meetings.
- **Gillies Website Password:** Just a heads-up that the Gillies website password will be changing as of **January 1**. For security reasons it's important that we change the password periodically. We will let you know what the new password is before the change takes place on January 1.

New Gilcrease Views Photos from the Hard Hat Tour

Recently a few Gillies had the opportunity to view the new museum construction—after suiting up in hard hats, safety vests, gloves, and goggles. Our tour was conducted by two FlintCo engineers and Frank Mulhern, Senior Director of Development at Gilcrease, who knew just what kind of information Gillies would want to know. We were impressed with the gallery space, thoughtful placement of offices, beautiful views from the terrace, the cut sandstone on the exterior walls, the unique design of the amphitheater, and the plans for everything from dining to spaces devoted to repatriation ceremonies.



Gillies hear about the new museum features from Frank Mulhern.

Tour Photos on Next Page,,,,,

Photos from the Hard Hat Tour



Views of the amphitheater from the terrace



OKPop Update by John Pondelik

In the Fall of 2022, I was excited to see that the OKPOP museum was going to have an open house to show the Gillies their new building across from the iconic Cain's Ballroom. How neat to have a new museum in Tulsa! Even better, they were looking for volunteers. Tom Duncan and I volunteered to help Emily McKenzie, the Collections Manager, with the materials and donations that were beginning to arrive at the museum. From the beginning of 2023, I have been working one afternoon a week, helping Emily with organizing materials in the storage vault, updating descriptions in the inventory database, and photographing donated items. Most recently I have been making storage files out of acid free card stock to hold documents and photos from the trove of recently acquired James Garner material. I have been a big fan of James Garner since the days of his TV show *Maverick*, and it was fascinating to go through these contracts, legal memos, and photos. His first contract with Warner Brothers Studios in 1955 paid him \$175 a week; four years later, when he quit the show *Maverick*, he was making \$1,750 a week. Also in the files was a copy of a check for \$1,000,000 from Universal Studios to his production company for a later movie of his. I love working at OKPOP and making discoveries like this. I look forward to the museum raising the money to be able to display all the recent history they have in storage which will delight the fans of Bob Wills, Ernie Fields, Leon Russell, The Tractors, Patti Page, and many other creative artists from Oklahoma.



Recent donations to the OKPop archive from Gigi Garner, daughter of James Garner

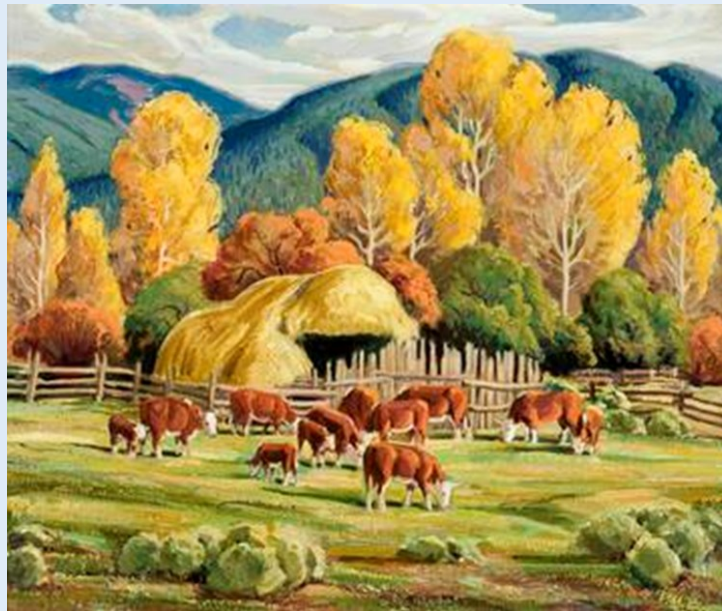
Following is the link to the live camera showing the construction site for the new Gilcrease Museum from the top of the HCAR building.

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



Did You Know?

- Ila Mae McAfee was born in October.
- She and her husband, painter Elmer Page Turner, spent their honeymoon in Taos in 1926 and moved there in 1928.
- During the Depression McAfee painted murals in post offices in Cordell and Edmond, Oklahoma, as well as in Colorado and Texas.
- Horses were her favorite subject. She said landscapes were “just something to put ‘em [horses] in.”
- Thirteen of her oil paintings and one lithograph are in the Gilcrease collection.
- Her painting, “*The Home Pasture*,” is another scene with an autumn setting.



Editor: Becky Hatchett,
Gillies President

Publisher: Rod Schneider