



F^{FOOT}TPRINTS



November 2024

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



Mak-Hos-Kah, (White Cloud)

Chief of the Goways
By Charles Bird King
1825, oil on wood



Rent-Che-Was-Ne

(Female Flying Pigeon)
By Charles Bird King
1825, oil on wood

Charles Bird King was born September 26, 1785, in Newport, RI, the only child of a Revolutionary War officer. In 1790, like many veterans of his day, King, Sr. went west to Ohio to claim his 300-acre Revolutionary War Bounty. He died soon after his arrival. Charles remained in Newport with his mother until 1800 when he went to New York. After studying there and in London, he worked in Philadelphia, Baltimore, and Richmond before finally settling in Washington, DC, where he spent the remainder of his life. King died March 18, 1862.

His most notable work consists of Indian portraits which represented the first instance of the United States government's patronage of the arts. These portraits were commissioned by the Superintendent of Indian Affairs and were of members of delegations of Indian leaders chosen for visits to the president. Although the government collection, housed in the Smithsonian, was destroyed by fire in 1865, King painted duplicates of many of the works which are in museums and private collections.

From The Gillies Manual 2017

Read more about these two individuals on the next page.

Rent-Che-Was-Ne (Female Flying Pigeon) was Mak-Hos-Kah's wife. She secretly followed her husband as he traveled to Washington, DC to meet the President. She was not discovered until they had gone too far to send her home. Rent-Che-Was-Ne's portrait was not commissioned. King painted it on his own.

-From: Herman J. Viola, *The Indian Legacy of Charles Bird King* (Washington, DC: Smithsonian Institution press and Doubleday and Company, co-publishers, 1976), pp. 15, 17, 23, 32, 49-50, 62, 118, 123.

While King's works are widely applauded, they have also been criticized for contributing to the stereotype of the "noble savage." Take a moment to look at more of his works in the sites listed below.



Terre Kitauahu

Charles Bird King

1825

Oil on wood

23 5/8" x 20 3/8"

Read more about Charles Bird King on these sites.

https://collections.gilcrease.org/search/site/charles%20bird%20king?f%5B0%5D=bundle%3Amuseum_object&f%5B1%5D=bundle%3Acollection&f%5B3%5D=bundle%3Aarticle

<https://www.si.edu/spotlight/king-indian-portraits>

<https://www.nga.gov/collection/artist-info.10261.html#works>

<https://thejohnsoncollection.org/charles-king/>

Enjoy this informative video from VIS ART on YouTube about King.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=nYGEAHN4peM>

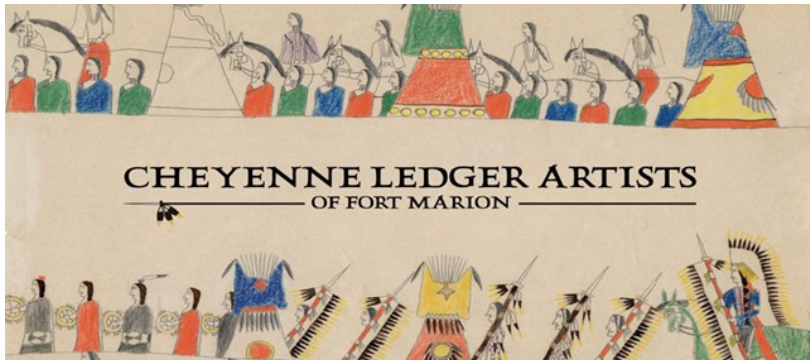
Places To Go

Two Exhibits on View at the National Cowboy & Western Heritage Museum



Cheyenne Ledger Artists of Fort Marion

Until January 5, 2025



Following the Civil War, and with the introduction of the railroad, westward expansion increased significantly. So did the competition for resources. This created tension between Native Americans and European immigrants, which culminated with the Red River War in 1874. At the end of the war, the United States government ordered the

arrest of 72 Cheyenne, Kiowa, Comanche, Caddo, and Arapaho warriors. Of these, 15 were Cheyenne. Taken from their families, these warriors were loaded onto trains and sent east. Nearly four weeks later, they arrived at Ft. Marion, Florida, their home for the next three years.

While at the fort, government agents tried to assimilate the imprisoned Cheyenne. Their once long hair was cut short, and their clothing replaced by military uniforms. The Cheyenne were in an environment they barely understood. For nearly 100 years, this narrative was told and retold by historians and government agents. However, the Cheyenne have their own story to tell. A story highlighting the journey east, as well as the life they left behind. A story told in art.

The Western Trail

The Greatest Cattle Trail of Them All at 150

Until November 17, 2024



In March 1874, cattleman and drover John T. Lytle drove a herd of 3,500 Texas cattle from Medina County, Texas, to Red Cloud Agency (now Fort Robinson), Nebraska, on a new cattle trail he blazed across four states. Called the Western Trail, this trail superseded the Chisholm Trail system and lasted longer, carried more cattle, and covered a greater distance than any other cattle trail. The trail from Texas, across Kansas and on to Ogallala lasted from 1874-1884. The trail extension or detour around Kansas through Colorado and on to Wyoming, Montana and Canada was from 1885 to 1897. The trail traversed nine states (Texas, Oklahoma, Kansas, Nebraska, Colorado, Wyoming, South Dakota, North Dakota, and Montana) and entered western Canada and included northern Mexico, and was thus, international. An estimated six million cattle were trailed over the Western Cattle Trail system, more than all the other trail systems combined. The Western gave rise to famous sites such as Doan's Crossing, Dodge City, Ogallala, Belle Fourche, Miles City, and Fort MacLeod. Most of the Western Trail cattle were stocker cattle used to create today's historic ranches on the northern Great Plains. Many cattle on the Western Trail were trailed north to supply beef to reservations on the northern Great Plains. The Red River War of 1874-75 on the Southern Plains helped open the Western to relatively conflict-free drives.

-From the National Cowboy website

More Places to Go in OKC

Oklahoma HISTORY Center

Into the Mirror features works by 20 Native American artists from the museum's permanent collection.



Fight Between, 1879, by Buffalo Meat (Cheyenne). Colored pencil, crayon, watercolor, and graphite on ledger paper (01042.001, Oklahoma Historical Society Collection).

Ranging from 1878 to the present, these pieces were chosen because they are works by Native Americans depicting Native Americans. Since the beginning of colonization, representations of Indigenous peoples have been controversial, ranging from overly romantic and idealized to racist caricatures. This exhibit holds the spotlight on how Indigenous people represent themselves.

The earliest work in the exhibit was created by artist Buffalo Meat (Cheyenne), 1847–1917, who was a prisoner at Fort Marion at the time of his creations. Contemporary artists include Brent Learned (Cheyenne-Arapaho) and Sharon Ahtone-Harjo (Kiowa). The exhibit also includes works by Woodrow Wilson “Woody” Crumbo (Citizen Potawatomi), 1912–89; Enoch Kelly Haney (Seminole/Mvskoke), 1940–2022; Woodrow Wilson “Woody” Big Bow (Kiowa), 1914–88, and Archie Blackowl (Cheyenne), 1911–92. A variety of media are represented including oil, acrylic, watercolor, casein, pencil sketches, lithographs, and bronze sculpture.



Oklahoma Historical Society

Oklahoma History Center
800 Nazih Zuhdi Drive
Oklahoma City, OK 73105
405-522-0765

***Speaking of Gilcrease* Venue Residents** **Celebrate Presenter's Birthday**

Submitted by Alan Jarvis (SOG presenter)

Alan made his SOG presentation to the residents of Trinity Woods in October. There were 16 residents who attended. When he got home, he sent the following email to SOG Chair, Marion Richardson. With his permission we are reproducing it below.

I have to tell you about it. When I arrived about 15 minutes before my presentation, I noticed a table sitting directly in front of the video screen. I walked to the front of the room, and the table, and noticed there was a birthday cake on the table. OK, somebody's birthday, but the table is in front of the screen, I'll work with it. Then a couple of the folks said, "Happy Birthday Alan." One of the ladies brought up a gift bag and set it next to the cake. They had set up a surprise birthday party for me. My birthday is October 15. I couldn't believe it. Then Irene (Activities Director) came in and said, "Don't leave when you are through, I have more in my office." I still had several minutes, and more folks were coming in so I grabbed my phone and went out of the room to call Karen. Guys, I was so emotional I had a hard time even telling Karen what was going on. I quickly got my act together and did my presentation. When it was over, we all had birthday cake. The gift bag contained a book that one of the residents had written and had published plus a hand crocheted bookmark that one of the ladies had made. Also, a card with many signatures. Then, Irene brought in another very large gift bag with 2 dozen cupcakes for me to take home. I asked how they even knew it was my birthday but got no response. I guess it was a secret. I've been giving presentations to the folks there for at least 10 years, except during Covid. Wow, what a day and what an honor for them to do that for me. Such a small gesture but what an impact.

We leave tomorrow (Friday) for Italy for 10 days. We'll celebrate both mine and Karen's birthdays plus one of our good friends traveling with us during the trip. That, plus my dear friends at Trinity Woods will make this the best birthday ever. Am I blessed or what? *(Alan and Karen are now back from Italy.)*

Happy Belated Birthday Alan and thank you for your 10+ years of service to the residents of Trinity Woods!

YOU ARE A BLESSING, ALAN!

Gillies Trip to Crystal Bridges

By Cindy Strasheim, Travel Chairperson



October 23rd was such a great day! Meeting and seeing the work by artist Troy Anderson was wonderful and Gaylen Ellis and Regina Calvert at Legacy Jewelry did NOT disappoint. We appreciated their hospitality and for hosting us at their store.

Judy Baggett reported that they took a side trip to see the Museum of Native American History while in Bentonville. They have a very nice collection and Judy appreciated that many of the labels show where the object was collected.

Many were from Arkansas.

Seeing *Knowing the West* was a nice reminder of what great art exists in the place we love, Gilcrease Museum. Nancy, our tour guide, was very knowledgeable and engaging and must have been nervous having so many experts in our group. Enjoy the photos taken by Teresa Pena!



Gillies traveling were Judy Baggett, Sylvia Furgason, Nancy Laughrey, Marsha McElroy, Teresa Pena, Deanna Storm, Cindy Strasheim, Norma Wallace, and Frances Whisman. Guests were Paul Storm and Carolyn Dye.

NOTE to Gillies: The Board of Trustees requires the Gillies President to submit a monthly report, but Gillies never see this report. So, beginning this month, it will be included in Footprints. Below is the report for October/November:



Gillies Report

October/November 2024

Service Area	Hours
Anthropology	56
Archives	112
Board of Directors	25
Conservation	64
Docent Meeting	64
Digitization	15
Executive Committee	25
Footprints Newsletter	10
GiYN	12
Membership Meeting	134
Hospitality	6
Public Programs	2
SOG	40
Travel Committee	10
Total	589

During the months of September and October 2024, Gillies volunteered 589 hours. According to the University of Maryland's Do Good Institute, the value of a volunteer hour is \$33.49. Therefore, in October and November, the total dollar value contributed by the Gillies to the Gilcrease Museum was \$19,725. The adjacent table identifies each area of service.

On October 23, fourteen Gillies drove to Crystal Bridges for a private docent-led tour of the *Knowing the West* exhibit. On the way, they stopped for a special visit with Cherokee artist Troy Anderson at Legacy Jewelry in Siloam Springs. On display were nine of his original sculptures. Gaylene, owner of Legacy Jewelry, remodeled their store in preparation for the Gillies arrival. She said it was "a real honor for us to have docents from Gilcrease come to view our local artists."

In early October, Gillies were delighted to assist the Digitization Department with two articles about Charles Marion Russell from the Gilcrease Journals and Magazines. Visitors to the Gilcrease Online Collection are now able to access



these articles in addition to other works by the renowned artist. Click on the link below to read one of the articles:

"CM Russell's Rawhide Rawlings Story: Hands Up!" <https://collections.gilcrease.org/articles/cm-russells-rawhide-rawlings-story-hands>.

For the October 14th edition of The National Gallery of Art's game of Artle, Charles Russell's watercolor, *Hooverizing*, was featured.

Four Gillies are going to Atlanta on November 14th to give a presentation about our success with the *Gilcrease in Your Neighborhood* program. The National Docent Symposium convention is held every two years with attendance of over 400 docents and museum representatives from the United States and Canada. The Gillies were honored to be selected to make this presentation. Gillies will share what they learned in Atlanta at the Docent Meeting on January 3, 2025.

Before Thanksgiving, Gillies will support museum staff as they host a symbolic ribbon-cutting of the new museum by Mayor Bynum. Gillies will serve as guides and greeters and couldn't be more thrilled to get their feet in the new building!

Respectfully submitted,

Kathe Crapster

Gillies President 2024-25

Gillies on Facebook



“We come for the art and the education, and we stay for the people.”

Meet our 'Anthro Babes!' 🌞 Did you know many of our volunteers have been with us for over 30 years? Find out how they're making a difference at Gilcrease, even while we're under construction! Join us in celebrating their contributions as we work together to create a vibrant future! *-From Facebook*

The Gillies who volunteer in Anthropology on Wednesdays are known as The Anthro Babes. Nancy Setter has been a Gillie since 1982. Sunni Wager, joined in 1989 and has worked in Anthropology for 35 years. Mary Elliott has volunteered at the Gilcrease Museum since 1989. Not pictured from the Wednesday group are Diane Cox who started in 1997 and Carli Amersek who joined in 1999. All were docents until 2012 and have served on the Board of Directors at least once.

The Thursday group consists of Nannette Tresner, Monica Macklin, John Madlock, and Doug Kisling.



Take a moment to click on the link below to see the entire video.

<https://www.facebook.com/reel/1133550604830005>



NATIONAL DOCENT SYMPOSIUM • ATLANTA 2024



Five Gillies Are Atlanta Bound



Because the proposal to make a presentation about the *Gilcrease in Your Neighborhood* program was accepted, Gillies Becky Hatchett, Julie Gentz, Sharon Patch, Deanna Storm, and Kathe Crapster will be heading to Atlanta, Georgia, to the National Docent Symposium Conference. Over 400 docents and museum representatives from across the United States and Canada will be in attendance. It is an honor to have been selected! This will be a wonderful opportunity to share about our new museum and its vast holdings to an international audience.

They will share what they have learned at the January Docent Meeting.



Docent Corner

By Alana Trisler, Docent Chairperson

Attention Gillies!!!

The Friday, November 1st Docent Meeting has been CANCELLED due to scheduling issues but will be presented on December 6th.

Dr. William (Billy) Smith, Ph.D., Director of the Helmerich Center for American Research, will present, **'Alas! And Did My Savior Bleed?': Cherokee Hymn Books and the Protean Legacy of Isaac Watts**. Dr. Smith will discuss the Hymn Book from its first appearance in 1829 through more recent iterations in the 20th century as well as examining the legacy of its creator, Isaac Watts.

We will be meeting on December 6th in HCAR.

9:30 a.m. – Refreshments

10:00 a.m. – Meeting begins



Mark Your Calendar

NOVEMBER

November Docent Meeting is cancelled.

(See Docent Corner article above for speaker information.)

November 8 – Executive Committee Meeting @ 9:00 a.m. via Zoom

November 8 – Board of Directors Meeting @ 10:00 a.m. via Zoom

DECEMBER

NEW! December 6 – Docent Meeting @ 9:30 a.m. in HCAR

No Executive Committee Meeting in December

No BOD meeting in December

JANUARY

January 3 – Executive Committee meeting in HCAR @ 8:30 a.m.

January 3 – Docent Meeting @ 9:30 a.m. in HCAR

January 10 – Board of Directors Meeting via Zoom @ 10 a.m.



Editor: Kathe Crapster
Gillies President
Publisher: Rod Schneider