



Footprints

"Every man must leave tracks and they might as well be good ones." - Thomas Gilcrease

October 2025

President's Message

"I can't believe it's almost October. This year has gone so fast." Almost every conversation I've had lately has included these words. And now it's here. There is so much that's special about October: The weather is cooler (usually), and we're getting out our sweatshirts and sweaters. The trees are beautiful in their autumn colors. So much is going on: from pumpkin patches to crafts festivals to celebrations of German and Indigenous cultures. For Gilcrease Museum staff and Gillies it's special this year for a very exciting reason: Scrollathon and its accompanying Family Festival, the first events in our new museum, will take place October 6-11.



Here are some fun facts about Scrollathon:

- The Scrollathon project is led by artist brothers Steven and William Ladd.
- The artists guide participants to make two fabric scrolls—one inscribed with a personal story, and one to be part of a larger artwork. The scrolls from the whole community are brought together into a wooden frame and affixed into place. The participants' portraits are later incorporated into a photo mural and a souvenir brochure.
- 250,000 Americans from all 50 states and territories will participate in the Scrollathon project. The 56 artworks they create will be part of an exhibition on the Kennedy Center campus in Washington, DC, in celebration of the nation's semi quincentennial in the summer of 2026.
- Gilcrease was chosen to represent Oklahoma in the Scrollathon project. The Gilcrease artwork will be created from fabric in the colors of the Osage flag: blue, yellow, red, and black.
- In total, 500 Tulsans will participate in the Scrollathon project over the week of October 6-10, including 25 Gillies that will participate in the very first session of the week. Gilcrease's finished artwork will be displayed at the Family Festival on October 11.
- Read more details about the Scrollathon process [here](#).
- View Executive Director Brian Lee Whisenhunt's invitation to the Family Festival [here](#).

As is always true this time of year, much is going on in the Tulsa area to celebrate autumn. See "Places to Go" for some fun ideas for things to do this month! Meet with fellow Gillies at Liggett Studio, 314 S. Kenosha, on Thursday, October 2, at 5:00 pm for the exhibition, Book Arts. RSVP to cindy.strasheim@gmail.com for dinner afterwards at Bohemian Pizza, 818 E. 3rd (in the studio neighborhood).

See pages 3-5 for photos from the September 19 membership meeting, Forum, and luncheon at Oklahoma Joe's. We had a great turnout. Rhys Martin, president of the Oklahoma Route 66 Association, was our very knowledgeable, informative, and engaging speaker.

Becky Hatchett
Gillies President

Art and Artists



Blue Dancer By Woodrow Wilson Crumbo

**“Woody Crumbo is remembered not only for his artistic achievements but also for his influence on the careers of fellow artists and his role in the history of Gilcrease Museum.”
--Thomas Gilcrease**

For information about the life, career, and influence of Woodrow Wilson “Woody” Crumbo, see this [essay](#) by Dr. Duane King on the Gilcrease website. It is Crumbo’s influence on the Gilcrease collection that is the focus in this month’s *Footprints*. As Dr. King says in his essay:

“In the three years immediately following the second World War, Crumbo frequently traveled with Gilcrease on buying excursions. Tom trusted Woody’s judgment and heeded his advice in the building of a 20th-century Native American art collection. Gilcrease was unconstrained by time or money. If there was a collection worth investigating, they went to see it, most often by automobile...

Woody Crumbo, in particular, enhanced the collector’s appreciation of Native art. As a result, the scope of collecting for the museum was broadened and the Thomas Gilcrease Institute of American History and Art became the first major museum to actively collect and display contemporary American Indian art. In turn, Native artists such as Crumbo were able to leave an indelible mark on the public consciousness and the art world of the 20th century.”

From *Treasures of Gilcrease*: “Crumbo was well versed in Native American art and non-Indian art of the American West. Gilcrease often sought Crumbo’s advice on acquiring significant works by both native and non-native artists for the museum’s collections...As director of the Bacone College art department in Muskogee, Oklahoma, during the late 1930s [Crumbo] enthusiastically encouraged his students to promote their art. He also used his influence with important patrons such as Thomas Gilcrease to further the careers of students such as Willard Stone.”

From *Woody Crumbo* (published by Gilcrease Museum, 2013): “Crumbo introduced Mr. Gilcrease to such notables as Joseph Henry Sharp, Oscar Berninghaus and Ernest Blumenschein and frequently traveled to Taos to view and purchase art on behalf of the museum.”

Another resource about Crumbo’s life and influence with a personal touch is the interview with his daughter, Minisa Crumbo Halsey, in *Voices of Oklahoma*. She is a celebrated artist in her own right and was inducted into the Tulsa Hall of Fame this year. The transcript and oral interview, that also includes her insights into her father’s relationship with Thomas Gilcrease, can be seen/heard [here](#).

Membership Meeting and Forum

September 19, 2025



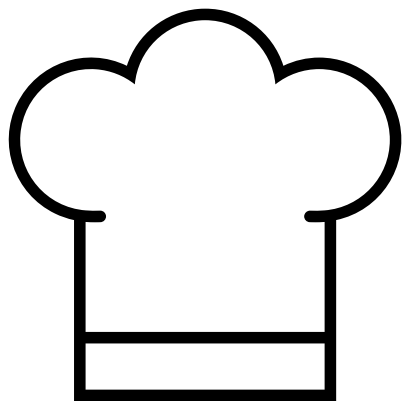


Rhys Martin

**President, Oklahoma
Route 66 Association**







Gillies Cook!

CORNBREAD DRESSING SALAD

Nancy Teasley, former Gillie
Submitted by Lana Clark

3 or 4 Roma Tomatoes, diced 1 cucumber, peeled and diced
1 handful of frozen green peas 1 can of shoe peg corn (drained)
1 bunch green onions, diced including green tops
2 dashes of cider vinegar, I use a cap full
1 box stovetop dressing mix, cornbread flavor
Use the stovetop dressing mix right out of box, do not prepare
½ cup miracle whip or mayonnaise, more as needed.
Mix all ingredients in large bowl.
Season to taste. I add 1 T. of garlic powder
Refrigerate



October 2025

Docents' Corner

Alana Trisler, Docent Chair

Dear Gillies and Docents,

I am pleased to announce Brian Lee Whisenhunt has confirmed that SmithGroups's Jame Anderson will headline our October 3 Gillies/Docents' Meeting with an informative presentation on the new museum's design. Museum staff members have been invited to join us. This is our opportunity to become familiar with the significance of the building and gain valuable information to share with museum patrons.

Further down the road:

November 7 Gillies/Docents' Meeting: Executive Director Brian Lee Whisenhunt will be our guest speaker.

December: No Docents' meeting.

Reminder: As you know, for this 2025-2026 Gillies year, we are easing into required hours for both Gillies and Docents:

Non-Docent Gillies are required to earn 10 hours of service for the 2025-2026 year in any service capacity.

Docents are also required to earn 10 hours of service with at least 8 of those hours coming from attending 4 Gillies/Docents' meetings (2 hours for each meeting). The remaining 2 hours may come from additional Gillies/Docents' meetings or other service areas.



Ducks in Flight by Woodrow Wilson Crumbo
Ink and Tempera on Wood
mid 20th century

For all Gillies/Docents Meetings:

Refreshments at 9:30
Meeting begins at 10:00
PACCAR Classroom in HCAR

"Art enables us to find ourselves and lose ourselves
at the same time."
— Thomas Merton.

PLACES TO GO

Click on the word *here* for information about each event.



Now

Beyond the Sash: Reflections on Oklahoma Pageants

Oklahoma History Center, 800 Nazih Zuhdi Drive,
Oklahoma City, OK 73105

Featured objects include gowns, crowns, sashes, trophies, and accessories from statewide pageants and cultural competitions, including personal items from Jane Jayroe, Miss America 1967.

Click [here](#) for info

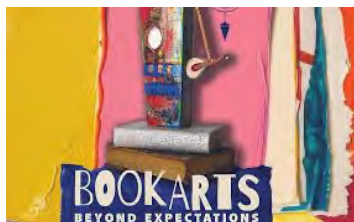


Through October 30

Autumn in the Botanic Garden

Tulsa Botanic Garden, 3900 Tulsa Botanic Drive

Pumpkin patch, hay maze, and scarecrows created by Tulsa students, families, and groups; Bands and Blooms (music and food) on Thursday nights through October 30. Click [here](#) for info.



Thursday, October 2, 5:00 pm – Gillies Gathering

BookArts: Beyond Expectations, closing night of the exhibition at Liggett Studio, 314 S. Kenosha Avenue

RSVP for dinner at Bohemian Pizza (in the studio neighborhood at 818 E. 3rd) to cindy.strasheim@gmail.com.

Click [here](#) for info.

Saturday, October 11, and Sunday, October 12

Brush Creek Bazaar

The 47th annual arts and crafts festival is located at 10900 S. Louisville. Enjoy art, crafts, music, and food in an outdoor setting! Click [here](#) for info.



Saturday, October 11, and Sunday, October 12

Cherokee Art Market

The 20th annual event will take place at the Hard Rock Casino, Tulsa. It will feature over 150 elite First American artists from 47 federally recognized tribes. Click [here](#) for info.





October 16-19

Zeeco Oktoberfest

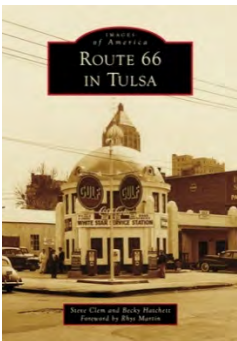
Zeeco Oktoberfest Tulsa celebrates authentic Bavarian culture in the heart of Oklahoma, in an incredible setting patterned after Oktoberfest Munich in Bavaria, Germany. Oktoberfest brings together international and local German bands, Bavarian delicacies and bier, arts, crafts, games, competitions and kids' activities for the entire family. Click [here](#) for info.



October 25

Oklahoma Folklife Festival

Held at the Oklahoma History Center at 800 Nazih Zuhdi Drive in Oklahoma City, the free festival aims to engage visitors by providing opportunities to experience diverse cultures and traditions. Click [here](#) for info.



Thursday, November 6

Book Launch and Signing

Authors Steve Clem and Becky Hatchett will talk about their new book, *Route 66 in Tulsa*, followed by a Q&A session and book signing opportunity. The event will take place at the Museum of Tulsa History (formerly the Tulsa Historical Society & Museum) at 2445 S. Peoria in the historic Travis Mansion.



Rainbow Horse by Woodrow Wilson Crumbo

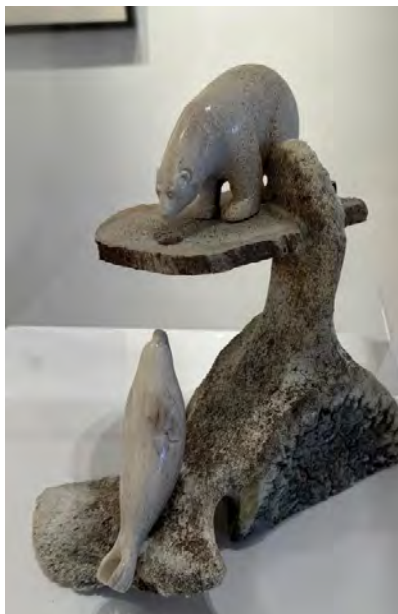
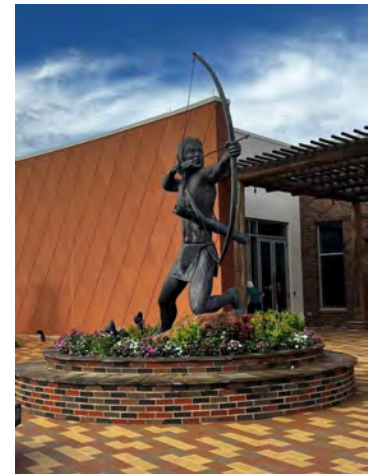
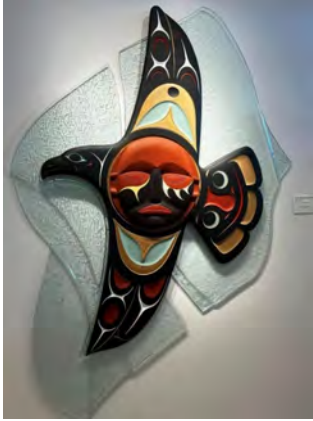
Gillies Travel to Choctaw Cultural Center

September 24, 2025

On a beautiful fall day, 23 Gillies, spouses and friends boarded a luxury coach to Calera and Durant to be educated on the Choctaw Nation. This a “must see” destination for your continuing education on the *Native Wonders of Oklahoma*. Our young guide, Kaleb Standbridge, wowed us with the depth of history and current facts about his culture. He had answers to every question, and this group asks a lot of questions! Champuli Café captured everyone’s attention. What unexpected delights (!) and the staff who were so hospitable, we could have rested longer. However, we had to travel across the railroad tracks to Durant to peruse Magnolia Alley. Everyone was captivated by the range of subjects, bright colors, and messages through art on the brick walls of the alley. How could anyone fail to enjoy the unscheduled stop at that World’s Largest Peanut? This sculpture is a monument of thanks to peanut growers and has a history of its own. Semple Museum is a gem hidden in plain sight! The Semple family, who are Choctaw, have a magnificent collection of art and sculpture. Many people took pictures throughout the day. If you wish to see photos and have discussion about what you missed, see anyone in the group photo for more information. Join us on the next trip for fun, food, friendship, and art through the cultures of Native Oklahoma.

Cindy Strasheim
Travel Chair







ANTHRO PROJECT COMPLETED

by Nancy Setter



L to R (clockwise): Mary Elliott, Nancy Setter, Sunni Wager, Carli Amersek, Diane Cox



Do you ever wonder where some expressions come from? Here's one story:

Janet O'Connor (2020) is currently working in HCAR, transcribing the Ethan Allen Hitchcock diaries to a digital format. She recently came across this gem.

I met a man who had traveled with the Osages. He told me how to find a bee tree. On a sunny day, the bees come out. Take a piece of honeycomb and burn it. The smoke will be found and the bees will follow it to the place of burning - have some honey and water mixed for them. They load themselves and then rise and take a direct course to their tree. Follow the course and find the tree. So much for a Bee line.

EA Hitchcock Diary Vol. 24, p 170, Jan 4, 1842

September 11, 2025, was the end of an era, and of a project for the Anthropology Gillies who work on Thursdays. In January 2022 as COVID-19 lifted, our team's five Gillies were called back to resume work, off site. Our project: search the files filling six cabinets, collate the information on each object in the Anthropology collection, and add missing information to the object cards in the card file archives. Over almost four years we used tiny handwriting to add facts to cards, and discarded reams of now-superfluous papers into the recycle bin. Along the way, we sometimes recovered information concerning provenance such as the original price paid for an object, or maybe a precise location of discovery. We also copied long-outdated addresses of donors multiple times on many cards, and the scientific names of the very large collection of shells. On September 11, 2025, we transferred information from the last file onto the last card in the card file. The additional information we transferred will be added to the digitized files, which are the updated and now permanent record. Thursday Anthropology Gillies are Carli Amersek, Diane Cox, Mary Elliott, and Nancy Setter. Sunni Wager, who began working in Anthropology in 1990, died in January 2025.



Mark Your Calendar

Friday, October 3	Executive Committee meeting	8:30 a.m.
	Jackson Classroom at HCAR	
Friday, October 3	Refreshments/meet and greet	9:30 a.m.
	Gillies/Docent meeting	10:00 a.m.
	PACCAR Classroom at HCAR	
Monday, October 6—Friday, October 10	Scrollathon	9:30-3:30
	Four sessions each day (10-3)	
	Gilcrease Museum Building	
Saturday, October 11	Family Festival	9:30-2:30
	Member Hour 10-11 Public 11-2	
	Gilcrease Museum Building and Grounds	
Thursday, October 16	DATE CHANGE BOD meeting	10:00 a.m.
	By Zoom	

Secretary's Notes

No changes were made to the membership roster during September.
Get well cards were sent to Susan Lorton and JoAnne Goin.
A Congratulations note was sent to Judy Howard.

Please send changes in contact information (address, phone and email) as well as news about a Gillie who is ill to Gillies Secretary Julie Gentz at julie.gentz55@gmail.com.



Indian with Flute on Horse
By Woodrow Wilson Crumbo