

General Meeting Minutes

March 20, 2026, at Oklahoma Joe's

The meeting was called to order at 10:05 a.m. There were 55 members present.

The minutes from the last meeting were approved as distributed.

President Becky Hatchett called for a Treasurer's report which was given by Nannette Tresner as follows:

Beginning Balance Sept 19, 2025	\$15,836.33
Total Receipts	6.57
Total Disbursements	624.36
Total Assets as of March 20, 2026	\$15,218.54

Then the proposed 2026-27 budget was discussed. The Budget Committee members were Tom Duncan, Sondra Mullins, Teresa Pena, Sharon Partch and Nannette Tresner. The proposed budget was printed in the March Footprints and was also sent out via email to the membership. It was approved by the board of directors. The membership then approved it unanimously by a voice vote.

Marsha McElroy was introduced as the auditor.

Judy Howard, chair of the Nominating Committee, then gave her report. Members of the Committee are Kathe Crapster, Dian Peacock, Carol Stookey, Cindy Strasheim, and Mary Castro. The new officer nominees are:

President-elect: Dan Lowrance; Vice President: Tom Duncan; Secretary: Marsha McElroy; Treasurer: Charlie Wyatt, and President: Teresa Peña. The nominations were then declared closed and the above were all elected. They will take office on June 1st.

The new nominating committee will be: Chair: Cindy Strasheim; Members: Deanna Storm, Deb Glass, Becky Hatchett, Nancy Laughrey and John Pondelik. Alternates are Bob McCullough and Karen Morris.

Then the Director of Community Learning and Engagement, Laurel Benson-Wrench, gave a report. She noted that her department is hiring several new staff members including: Manager of Fellowships, an IT Specialist, a Manager of School Programs and others. She also mentioned that staff is close to hiring a new curator of Latin American Art.

Laurel also reported that the recent Uncrease was attended by 156 people. The next Uncrease will be Thursday evening, March 26. She also talked about the new exhibit for America 250 and

said there will be docent training in May. A preview will be available to all Gillies on the day of the opening.

JJ Cody-Fox reported that there will be a member event on June 11, prior to the America 250 opening.

Becky thanked the Hospitality Committee and the current officers and board for their help this year.

Cindy Strasheim presented some travel opportunities to choose from:

Locally: Sally Garner, Fiber Sculptor, can talk to a group of Gillies at the Phillips Seminary. She will be displaying a community weaving as a major part of a one-person exhibition at 108 Contemporary this fall. Available dates: March 30, 31, April 1 and 2. A viewing of the murals at Council Oaks Hospital is also possible later that day.

Traveling North: The Wichita Art Museum is available to host a guided tour, and the Stephen Towns exhibit will be on display. Available dates are May 6, 7 and 8.

Tonkawa's museum director is happy to host the Gillies, and there are other opportunities in town, including the Tonkawa Tribal Museum. Available dates are May 6, 7, 8. If members are interested in any of these trips, they can contact Cindy at cindy.strasheim@gmail.com.

Becky then reminded everyone of the End of the Year Meeting at Indian Springs on Friday, May 15.

Kathe Crapster gave a quick report on new Intern training. There will be 10 sessions, beginning this fall.

The Business portion of the meeting concluded at 10:33 a.m.

JoAnne Goin introduced the Forum Speakers.