



Footprints

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

June 2026

President's Message

What a great time to be a Gillie! The new year is beginning and the engines are revving! Route 66 is turning 100 years old, America is celebrating 250 years as a nation, and Gilcrease Museum will open its doors to friends and visitors once again.

Our docent leaders have interviewed and will begin training a highly select group of future Gillies. We have already assisted with museum preparations and *Uncrease* events. Next, Gillies are moving forward at the June 5 docent training to prepare for the next exhibit -Indigenous Independence.

As Gillies we have overcome the closure, the demolition, and finally we will see the opening of a new highly anticipated, state of the art museum. Now, we will step into the future and be thankful for our strong foundation.

The print featured is an allegorical print created by Edward Savage in 1796 entitled *Liberty, in the form of the Goddess of Youth; Giving Support to the Bald Eagle*. I love this print because of the symbolism. Lady Liberty symbolizes a never-ending journey toward progress, enlightenment, newness, and a beacon of hope. As Gillies, this year, we are here to bring hope, share history, and create the fresh image of Gilcrease.



Liberty: In the Form of The Goddess of Youth; Giving Support to The Bald Eagle

by Edward Savage, 1796, engraving on paper

What a great time to be a Gillie!

-Teresa Peña
Gillies President

Docents' Corner

June 2026

By Alana Trisler, Docent Chair

Dear Gillies and Docents,

On Friday, May 29, I had Becky Hatchett send out an eblast with detailed information about the Friday, June 5 Gillies/Docents meeting. The meeting happens so early in June, and this is such an important meeting, I wanted you to have a little extra time to plan to attend.

This meeting will be the training for the Helmerich Center's exhibition, "*Indigenous Independence*". Dr. William (Billy) Smith, Director, Helmerich Center for American Research, will be our trainer and docent manuals will be provided.

This is a very important task that Dr. Billy has given us, and we need all hands on deck. Please try to attend this meeting as this will be the only training offered for this project.

Friday, June 5

PACCAR room in Helmerich Center

Refreshments: 9:30 Meeting: 10:00

Please check Becky Hatchett's May 29 email for more details.

There will be no Gillies/Docents meeting in July. The next meeting will be Friday, August 7, at which the Digitization team, Joseph Carriger and Zachary Qualls will share the world of the online collection and how to maneuver it.

I hope to see you all on Friday, June 5th!



Gillies Travel

Gillies visited the Wichita Museum of Art in May to view the exhibit of Stephen Towns entitled *Safe Waters: Picturing Black Recreation at Midcentury*. They viewed the exhibit and then enjoyed a lunch and fellowship. Thanks to our travel chair, Cindy Strasheim, for organizing another wonderful educational outing.



Photos from the May Luncheon at The Club at Indian Springs



Gillies Class of 2026-2027

By Kathe Crapster, Intern Training Chair

Interviews for prospective Gillies were conducted for six days during May. Dan Lowrance, Alana Trisler, Nannette Tresner, and Kathe Crapster served on the interview team. On Friday, May 29th, thirty-one excellent candidates were invited to join the first Gillies Intern Class in six years! They bring a wealth of skills and talents. Several speak fluent German, Spanish, and French. Two are children of former Gillies. The distinguished group includes students, artists, teachers, lawyers, nurses, and others with distinguished professional and business careers. One is a meteorologist, one was the editor of the Tulsa World, and one is a mayor. Many of the applicants said that they had been waiting for years for the opportunity to join the Gillies. Welcome!!!

Their Intern class will begin in October. We can't wait for you to meet them and for them to join the Gillies family.

Secretary's Report

Janet Hayes has resigned her membership.

Sympathy cards were sent to the families of Bob Quintana and Beverly Wilcox.

*Please send changes in contact information (address, phone and email) as well as news about a Gillie who is ill to Gillies Secretary **Marsha McElroy** at marsha.mcelroy@cox.net.*

Mark Your Calendar

June 5	Executive Committee Meeting	8:30 a.m.	Jackson Classroom
June 5	Docent Meeting	9:30 (refreshments) 10:00 meeting begins	PACCAR classroom PACCAR classroom
June 6	Gillies Trip to Crystal Bridges	contact Cindy Strasheim, Travel Chair at: 402-469-5357 or cindy.strasheim@gmail.com	