

Footprints

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

- Thomas Gilcrease

August 2026



Ball Game Between the Buffalo and Fish Clan

By Woodrow Wilson Crumbo

Mid-20th century

GOAL !!!!!!!

That's about all we've heard on TV for the last month with the playing of the FIFA World Cup in North America. I will have to admit that I have never been much of a soccer fan, but with 48 teams from around the world playing in the premier stadiums all over Mexico, Canada and the US, I got interested in cheering on the young Americans. They sometimes seemed outmatched but were seldom out played. Teamwork and caring and enjoyment of the game were their strengths.

Cherokee stickball, known as *a-ne-jo* (or "the little brother of war"), is a traditional full-contact sport played with wooden sticks and a leather ball. Historically used to resolve tribal disputes and avoid warfare, the game is an integral part of Cherokee, Choctaw, Chickasaw and Muscogee culture and is also the origin of the game of lacrosse. Again, teamwork, knowledge of the game and enthusiasm are all characteristics of the teams that play them.

The Gillies are also a team that has a long heritage of service to Gilcrease. A team with former teachers, community leaders, business professionals and concerned citizens that love the Gilcrease Museum for what it provides for our community and the rest of the World. Our job is to share the collection with others in partnership with the museum staff using our teamwork, knowledge, and passion.

So, GO TEAM!!!! - Dan Lowrance, President

Keepsake From 2022 Groundbreaking Ceremony Given to Gillies

By Alana Trisler, Docent Chair



Picture this: May 3, 2022. The scene is Gilcrease museum grounds. Susan Neal, Museum Director, Tulsa Mayor, G. T. Bynum, Geoffrey Standing Bear, Principal Chief of the Osage Nation, other dignitaries, staff, Gillies, and interested visitors gathered for the groundbreaking ceremony for the new museum. The land was blessed, a choir sang, and poetry read. It was an auspicious day. Among the dignitaries was Mike Bartel, a board member of the Tandy Corporation.

Fast forward to present day: On Friday, July 17, the Tulsa Downtown Lions Club met at their usual gathering place, Baxter's Interurban Restaurant. At the request of fellow Gillie, Bob McCullough, a Past President of the Tulsa Downtown Lions Club, Gillies Kathe Crapster and Alana Trisler arrived to give a PowerPoint

presentation about the new museum. Before the meeting began, the lovely man you see in the photos below with Bob, Kathe, and Alana approached us – it was none other than Mike Bartel, one of the dignitaries at the 2022 Gilcrease Museum groundbreaking. He had in his hands the commemorative stone he was gifted at the groundbreaking. He wasn't there to show it off, but rather to present it to the Gillies. Such a generous gesture! This piece is incredibly special because it is literally a piece of the museum – sandstone from the original carriage house, the home of the first Gilcrease Museum – and thus a piece of Gilcrease history to be cherished. We don't have a home for it, yet, but we will find one. It was such an honor to be gifted this important memento and we thank you, Mike Bartel.



Greetings from Taos, New Mexico!

By Kathy Horne



For the last several years, I have been a volunteer during the summer months at the Couse-Sharp Historic Site in Taos. The 2+ acre campus includes the home and studio of E. I. Couse and the two studios of Joseph Henry Sharp. Sharp's former home is now the Lunder Research Center – the only museum/research institution dedicated to the study of the early Taos art colony and the Taos Society of Artists.

To support this work, staff and volunteers host a biennial art show and auction – La Luz de Taos. This year's event was held on June 5th and 6th. Among the 300 plus guests was our former Senior Curator, Laura Fry! Laura is now Vice President for Curatorial Affairs and Collections at the Eiteljorg Museum in Indianapolis, Indiana.

We had a great time catching up, but we both especially enjoyed taking in the many special features of Sharp's studio and admiring his paintings. Laura sends warm greetings to all Gillies.

To learn more about the Couse-Sharp Historic Site, please click on this link:

www.couse-sharp.org

You will quickly see the site is hosting a special exhibition this summer featuring TSA artists:

Image Makers for America: In Pursuit of a National Identity

<http://couse-sharp.org/exhibitions/detail/100028>

This exhibition is on view until October 17.

If you come to Taos for a visit, and I'm in town, I will be happy to give you a tour!!





Gillies Cook!

Lowrance Ranch Chili - Dan Lowrance

Ingredients:

2 to 3 pounds beef chili meat or hamburger. (On the ranch we would use whatever kind of meat we had at the time - venison, lamb, pork, etc. or a combination of them. If you don't have ground meat you can always cut it into ½ in cubes for this recipe. I guess you could use a Bighorn Sheep loin for this recipe - if you could get it in the pan.)

3 tablespoons vegetable oil
2 medium-large onions, chopped
¼ cup flour (I use masa harina if I have it)
2 to 4 cloves of garlic, finely chopped
½ of a 6 oz. can of tomato paste
3 cups of crushed tomatoes, or the equivalent in whole canned tomatoes chopped
5 cups of beef broth (I like to use beef consommé instead)
6 tablespoons of powdered red chilis (adjust to your taste for heat)

If you need a source for good chili go online to: <https://potrerotradingpost.com/>

Their Hot chili is REALLY Hot

2 teaspoons ground cumin
1 teaspoon oregano
½ teaspoon black pepper
2 teaspoons salt
3 tablespoons cider vinegar
1 or 2 chopped chipotles (Optional)

Heat the oil in a large Dutch oven and brown the meat in batches and transfer to another container. Using the same oil, add the chopped onions and cover to sweat them for about 5 minutes. Remove the lid and raise the heat to medium and sauté the onions until lightly browned. I then add the garlic and sauté briefly. Next add the flour or masa and stir for a minute to incorporate and cook the mixture through. Transfer the browned meat back to the pot and mix it well with the onion mixture.



Meat's Not Meat 'Till it's in the Pan; Hunter's Luck
by Charles Marion Russell, 1915

Add all the remaining ingredients and over medium heat stir thoroughly to combine. Bring to a simmer and cook gently, covered for about 1 ½ hours. Stir occasionally to be sure nothing sticks to the bottom of the pot.

We like to serve with your choice of cheese and chopped green onions or red onions.

This recipe is adapted from: “Chili Con Carne” in the *Feast of Santa Fe* cookbook by Huntley Dent.

Docents' Corner

August 2026

By Alana Trisler, Docent Chair

Dear Gillies and Docents,

Our next Gillies/Docents meeting will be Friday, August 7th. Joseph Carriger, Database Administrator & Manager and Zachary Qualls, Content and Metadata Manager for Digital Curation will join us to talk about all things Digi. They will share two recently added sections to the online collection, give us tips on navigating online resources, and solve the mystery of why you may search and not find items that you know we have. Please join us on:

Friday, August 7th

PACCAR in the Helmerich Center

Refreshments: 9:30 Meeting: 10:00

And remember:

There will be no September Gillies/Docent meeting.

Why?

Because each September we have a General Membership meeting with a Forum speaker as our educational component.

See you August 7th!

SEARCH ONLINE COLLECTIONS

Enter keyword, title, creator, or museum number



Uncover History

View art and culture side by side.



[Scroll Down](#)

Gillies General Membership Meeting and Forum

Friday, September 18, 2026

Oklahoma Joe's BBQ

6175 East 61st Street, Tulsa

(Enter the banquet room through the back door)

9:30 a.m.	Meet and Greet
10:00 a.m.	Call to order; Sondra Mullins will serve as Parliamentarian Approval of the minutes of the General Membership Meeting, May 15 Secretary's Membership Report – Marsha McElroy Treasurer's Report – Charley Wyatt Auditor's Report – Marsha McElroy ????
10:40 a.m.	Forum Speaker – Dr. Kristen Oertel
12:00 noon	Lunch

Buffet Menu

Chopped Brisket
Salad
Fried Okra
BBQ Barbecue Beans
Bread
Water, Iced Tea, Coffee

Price: \$22.50 (includes tax and gratuity)

If a soft drink is wanted, it will have to be purchased by the individual.

RSVP by September 14 to channonclark@prodigy.net



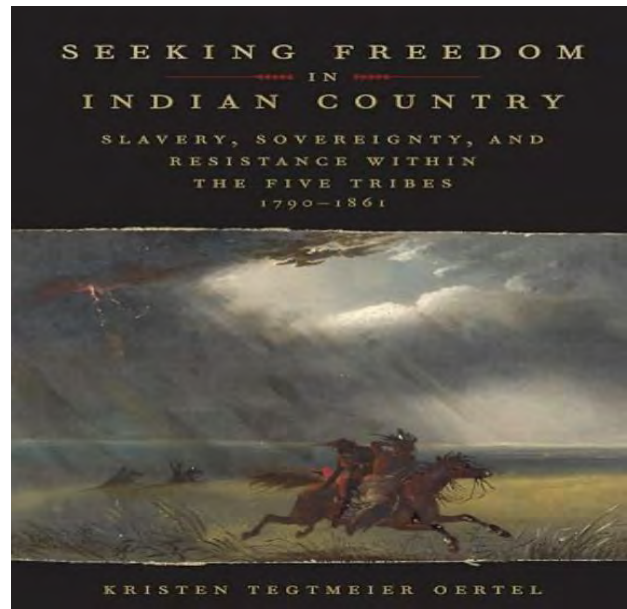
THE FORUM

September 18, 2026



Dr. Kristen Oertel

Dr. Oertel will be speaking about her newly released book: *Seeking Freedom in Indian Country: Slavery, Sovereignty, and Resistance Within the Five Tribes 1790-1861*



Kristen Tegtmeier Oertel's *Seeking Freedom in Indian Country* is the first comprehensive study of African chattel slavery within the Five Tribes: the Cherokee, Chickasaw, Choctaw, Muscogee (Creek), and Seminole Nations. Oertel examines how chattel slavery functioned among all Five Tribes before and during the removal process, how the tribes reconstituted slavery post-removal in Indian Territory, and how enslaved Black people promoted freedom-seeking strategies at each stage. Furthermore, her work considers how the conflict over slavery in Indian Territory contributed to the larger national debate over slavery's fate on the eve of the Civil War.

Historians have examined how the practice of African enslavement emerged within one or two tribes, how forced migration affected slavery within particular nations, and how the debate over slavery divided multiple Indigenous nations. Oertel, however, is the first to examine Indian Territory as a whole, its significance to the sectional debates, and its role as an incubator of emancipation policies in the United States. Knitting together these individual tribal narratives and supplementing them with extensive primary research on how slavery functioned across Indian Territory, she integrates Indian country into the antebellum march toward the Civil War.

Seeking Freedom in Indian Country joins a rising chorus of studies that integrate southern and western history, which, by default, also pulls together the history of the so-called Indian Wars with the Civil War. Oertel suggests that we cannot fully understand the causes of the Civil War without also considering the changes brought about by the forced removal of Indians. She argues that settler colonialism and the expansion of African chattel slavery together set the stage for sectional conflict to explode in the West. Ironically, both Indigenous resistance to settler colonialism and Black resistance to slavery challenged white supremacy in ways that foretold the end of slavery but also furthered the settler colonial project.

Places to Go

By Travel Chair, Cindy Strasheim

As reported by KOCO News 5 in OKC on July 3, 2026, The National Native American Hall of Fame has found a new home in Oklahoma City's historic Sundial Mansion, located near North Kelley Avenue and Northeast 42nd Street. The Sundial Mansion, built in 1915 and added to the National Register of Historic Places in 1979, was previously the home of John Sinopoulo, a Greek immigrant and entertainment pioneer in OKC. James Parker Shield, founder and CEO of the National Native American Hall of Fame said that the building's character was essential in selecting it as the Hall of Fame's new headquarters.

The Hall of Fame was previously located in Great Falls, Montana, but Shield said Oklahoma City was a more suitable location. "It's geographic centrality in the United States and secondly, its high population of Native Americans, you know, home to 39 tribes, made it obvious," Shield said.

Currently, the Hall of Fame is open by appointment only, but there are plans to expand access to the public. They are currently working on acquiring additional land for parking to accommodate school buses and tour groups.

For more information on the Hall of Fame, click [here](#).

New Home for the National Native American Hall of Fame



Secretary's Report

By Marsha McElroy, Secretary

Updated Membership Information

Removed the following members: Joe Meeks and Christy Thomas

Change of Address

Nancy Thomason's new address is 3800 West 71st St, Apt 3313, Tulsa, OK 74132

Sent Thinking of You card to Ken Schiller

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

August 7	Executive Committee Meeting	8:30 a.m.	Jackson Classroom
August 7	Docent Meeting	9:30 (refreshments)	PACCAR classroom
		10:00 meeting begins	PACCAR classroom
August 13	Board of Directors Meeting	3:00 p.m.	Via Zoom
Sept. 4	Executive Committee Meeting	10:00 a.m.	Via Zoom
Sept. 10	Board of Directors Meeting	3:00 p.m.	Via Zoom
Sept. 18	General Membership Meeting	9:30 (refreshments)	Oklahoma Joe's
		10:00 meeting begins	
	The Forum	10:30 (approximately)	

Volunteer Service Hours by Gillies for July 2026

Gillies Service Areas	Hours
Anthropology	30
Archives	58
Board of Directors	0
Conservation	27
Continuing Education	5
Digitization	24
Docent Meeting/Study/Training	9
Museum Docent Tour	96
Executive Committee	8
Footprints	18
Hospitality	0
Public Programs	79
Intern Training Prep	27
Speaking of Gilcrease	8*
Technology	11
Travel Committee	4
Total Hours for July 2026	404
*Not all Service Hours in these areas had been recorded before this chart was submitted.	