

artiFACTS

THE GRACE MUSEUM • ABILENE, TEXAS

The Heart of The Grace



Volunteers of the year (l to r, front row) Lou Streeter, Janice Harkins, Ann Hawkins, Ann White, Robert Martin, (back row) James Streeter, Marianne Wood, Grace Enlow, Ruth King, Buster Ghoslon and Judge Lee Hamilton. Not pictured: Dr. Charles and Betty Nelson, Eleanore Horton.

We are celebrating our *VOLUNTEERS* in this issue. We at The Grace are firm believers in the *value* and *power* of *volunteerism*. Volunteers are vital to all

aspects of this museum. Without them we could never open the doors! They are the heart of this organization, and have a direct and positive impact on

the way The Grace is perceived by all whom we serve.

- Members of the Board of Trustees are volunteers whose contributions focus on responsible fiscal stewardship, governance, and the big picture.
- Our front-line volunteers in the Historic Lobby give our visitors their first, and often lasting, impression of The Grace Museum by creating a welcoming environment.
- Docents work with our school students, engaging and enlightening them in meaningful encounters with art, Texas and Abilene history, and natural history, both in the Museum and in the classroom, greatly extending the educational mission of this institution.
- Kid-friendly volunteers work weekly in our Children's Museum to guide little ones in fun learning.
- Teachers and eager, bright students volunteer their expertise and

valuable time to help create exhibits and programs of the highest quality.

- Volunteers fill a multitude of needs in other areas, from planning and working at gala fundraisers and receptions and working in the office, to handling the constant mailings and preparing and serving delicious food to sustain us all through a myriad of meetings.
 - Volunteers graciously allow The Grace to honor them annually as Fall Benefit Honorees so that a great party can take place to raise essential operating funds for the Museum.
- Volunteers, you are sent a heartfelt *Thank You* for sharing your enthusiasm, good will, infectious good cheer and spirited devotion with us. You have our undying respect for allowing the staff of The Grace the enjoyment of working with you. Daily you make such a positive difference in our lives and the lives of so many others. ☺



Daniel Ortiz, Bank of America/Abilene, presents a check from Bank of America Foundation to Grace staff members Judy Godfrey and Kim Snyder.

This past school year The Grace Museum began a new program to provide art education to the seven Title I elementary schools in Abilene. The program began last August with a two-day teacher workshop led by Dr. Bill McCarter to train 3rd-5th grade teachers in art integrated curriculum. Twenty-one teachers learned how to add art to their

Title I Project Brings Art to Elementary Students

lessons in science, history and math. The main impetus of the project, however, has been to bring hands-on art experiences into fifth-grade classrooms.

Since September, a combination of professional artists and trained outreach docents have given art lessons to over 450 fifth graders every month. New Mexico artists Diana Bryer and Sylvia Martinez Johnson taught the students how to draw faces, and local artist Donovan Sparhawk followed up with an in-depth lesson on drawing eyes and origami. In March, local artist Linda Murray taught the students how to paint

using acrylics, and in May, local artist Emily Jennings Ivey, who now lives in New York, will lead the students in a clay project inspired by her recent travels to Mexico. Grace Museum outreach docents visited the students twice in October and February where they introduced students to sculpting and painting as they studied works from the Texas Heritage Print Set.

The program also brings the fifth grade classes to The Grace for two tours. In December, each Title I school brought their fifth graders to the Museum for an "Introduction to Art" tour where the students put their art training to good use interpreting art in the galleries. The students returned to The Grace in April for a "Behind the Scenes" tour

where they peaked into the inner workings of the Museum.

Response to this program has been overwhelmingly positive. Teachers report that their students eagerly look forward to our monthly visits and their artistic abilities are growing by leaps and bounds. Erika Garcia, a fifth grader from Fannin Elementary, recently wrote the museum to say thank you for the December tour. "I loved everything and it was like a present . . . you guys were great!" Local sponsors of the program, **Community Foundation of Abilene, Bank of America, and Abilene Teachers Federal Credit Union**, deserve an equally heartfelt thank you. We hope to keep this program going next year! ☺

Fall Benefit 2005 to Honor Sam Reeves



Sam Reeves

Reeves is well-respected throughout West Texas as a sharp, decisive businessman with sound financial sense. He calls it like he sees it, and that vision is pretty crystal-clear. His business acumen has led to leadership roles in banking, private business, and on numerous boards such as the West Texas Rehabilitation Center, Community Foundation of Abilene, YWCA, Texas State Technical College, The Grace Museum, and, most notably, Sears Methodist Retirement System, Inc.

His list of honors includes a most

prestigious award presented by the American Association of Homes and Services for the Aging. Reeves was recognized as the 2004 National Trustee of the Year at the association's convention in Nashville, Tenn. Previously, Sam was selected as the 2004 Trustee of the Year for the state of Texas, nominated by the board and staff of Sears Methodist Retirement System.

The Grace Museum has also greatly benefited from Sam's pragmatic business approach. As a Trustee, Reeves brought solid leadership, financial guidance, and fundraising savvy to the Museum's Executive Committee. He and his lovely wife, Susan, also made possible an extraordinary exhibition of paintings created by Texas artist Mondel Rogers.

Please join the Museum in honoring Sam. Sponsorships sales will begin in May. Contact Kim Snyder at The Grace for additional event details. ☺

GraceFacts

- Museum volunteers donate more than 5,500 hours of service each year.
- In addition to permanent offerings, more than 20 changing exhibitions a year are showcased in this facility.
- Grace Museum artists-in-residence, museum educators and outreach volunteers present more than 400 educational programs a year.
- Annually, more than 10,000 school children participate in educational programs provided by the Museum.
- On average, approximately 70,000 people visit The Grace each year. In 2003, *Dinosaurs of Texas* helped the Museum achieve its highest annual attendance to date – 81,291 visitors.
- More than 900 individuals and families participate as members of The Grace.
- It costs \$442 an hour to operate this facility and offer exhibits and educational programs to our visitors.

Current and Upcoming Exhibitions

You gotta have HeART! "HeARTS for the ARTS!"



Make your commitment for a bank authorization or simply mail your check today! Abilene Cultural Affairs Council (ACAC) Grants fund 30 plus cultural arts groups yearly. The Tax Increment Finance District (TIF), the City of Abilene and Taylor County have generously provided these funds. The TIF will sunset soon cutting a third from the grants available.

We need YOUR help to replace this lost grant money. Last year, The Grace received \$24,150 in three ACAC grants - a third of this amount could be cut, as well as for all other funded agencies. Please don't let this happen!

With your participation ACAC Grants will continue to be fully funded.

The plan is simple and inexpensive. A bank draft withdrawal of \$1, \$2.50 or \$5 monthly (more at your discretion) OR an annual check will keep the entire grants program without lowering membership or donation campaigns for your favorite arts group.

To donate, please visit our website! www.abilenecac.org. It will take your donation combined with many other supporters to make "HeARTS for the ARTS!" a success. A success for this program is a success for everyone.

Thanks to The Grace for its support and the opportunity to provide you information in this wonderful newsletter!

Sincerely, Gail Russey, Chairman
"HeARTS for the ARTS!"

Grant Awards

The Grace has recently received prestigious grants from several national, state and local funding agencies and foundations. The **Texas Commission on the Arts** awarded the Museum two grants, one providing support for the many programs provided through our Educational Programs, and the other for Core Support. Locally, the **Abilene Cultural Affairs Council** awarded The Grace three grants to support school tours, art education programs, and exhibitions. The **Shelton Family Foundation** also provided grant funds to help the Museum with general operating expenses.

Community Foundation of Abilene, Abilene Teachers Federal Credit Union, and Bank of America Foundation have generously provided grant and sponsorship funds for the 2004-2005 Arts Outreach Program, providing monthly hands-on



Pam Harman, Education Programs Coordinator at The Grace, and Tommy Bearden, Distance Learning Consultant from the Region XIV Education Service Center, accept a grant check from Randy Teakell, SBC Area Manager - External Affairs.

activities and artist-in-residence visits to the seven local Title I designated elementary schools.

SBC Foundation awarded The Grace Museum and its distance learning collaborative partner, Region XIV Education Service Center, with an Excelsior Grant for *Enhancing Curriculum through Virtual Field Trips*.

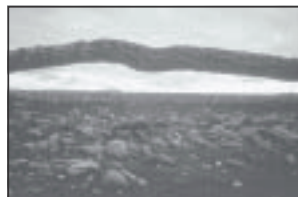
Sam Abell: The Photographic Life

April 23 - June 18, 2005

Sam Abell is among the top photographers in the world with 30 years as a National Geographic staff photographer. His signature photograph—the quiet, yet head-turning composition—has helped establish the Geographic "look" since 1970.

Sam Abell's career has been dedicated to achieving artistic expression through documentary photography. He has pursued his goals primarily through his lengthy, in-depth coverage for National Geographic and other magazines and books. At the same time, he has maintained a career as an artist, teacher, and author. "I enjoy action and enterprise," says the world-famous photographer. "I prefer learning on the run." The raw material of Abell's photography comes from close contact with the world, especially austere, remote regions. To affirm and, in fact, emphasize his commitment to what actually exists, he has chosen to work in color and in a strict documentary tradition. "My goal is to put the viewer into the picture," Abell says. And heart into everything he does.

This exhibition of 77 photographs, organized by the University of Virginia Art Museum, presents Abell's finest work. *The exhibit is made possible in Abilene by Alice and Bill Wright, First Financial Bank, N.A., Sindy and David Durham, Abilene Area-Wide Phone Book, Western Marketing, and Batjer and Associates.*



Sam Abell
Fallen Tree, Noatak River, Alaska, 1976.
© Sam Abell and National Geographic Society

Sculpture by Joe Barrington

Through April 23, 2005

A master of cutting, welding and forming steel, Joe Barrington brings images to life through sculpture. This courtyard sculpture exhibit features a lit praying mantis, fish, trucks and more. Barrington creates his sculptures in his local Throckmorton studio and brings a lifetime of rural Texas living into focus through his steel creations. *Sponsored by State National Bank.*



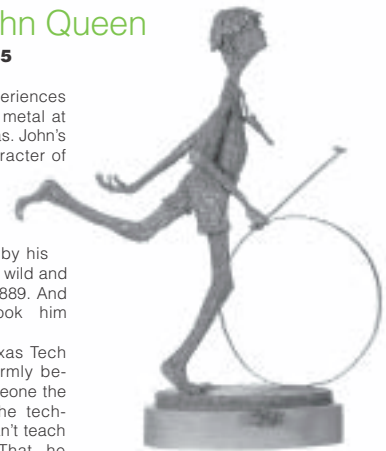
Joe Barrington,
Been Fishin' Steel, Found Objects/ Life-size truck

Sculpture by John Queen

April 16 - August 13, 2005

John Queen translates his experiences and feelings for the West into metal at his small shop in Coleman, Texas. John's figures vividly portray the character of what is "The West". But he didn't get his impression of the West from books or vacations. His childhood memories include listening to stories told by his grandfather, who had run in the wild and wooly Oklahoma land rush of 1889. And John's own experiences took him through the West.

He taught sculpture at Texas Tech University for 31 years and firmly believes that "you can teach someone the use of sculpting tools and the techniques of sculpting, but you can't teach someone to be a sculptor." That, he says, comes from within. Since his retirement from Tech, John continues to produce work using the welding torch of his early years. He has created a new technique of welding the steel frame then casting in aluminum. John also teaches classes for local universities by special request and takes budding sculptors under his wing.



John Queen
Welded Iron 1940

The sculpture of John Queen is sponsored by Burchell, Denson & Morrison, P.C.

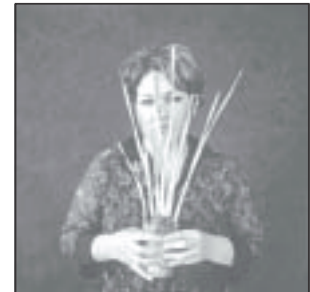
Fine Line: Mental Health/Mental Illness

A documentary of voices, stories and portraits by Michael Nye

June 30 - August 25, 2005

Michael Nye's *Fine Line* combines black and white photographic portraits and audio stories to create an insightful look at the world of mental health. Through the voices and images of individuals experiencing mental illness, Nye approaches this complicated topic respectfully exploring the issues of feelings, alienation, pain, abuse, treatment and healing associated with this disease. The exhibit explores a variety of mental illnesses including schizophrenia, bipolar disorder, depression and agoraphobia.

Through the 60 portraits and spoken narratives in the exhibit, Nye hopes to dispel the stereotypes and misconceptions associated with mental illness, leaving viewers with a clarity and compassionate understanding of an often misunderstood disease.



Michael Nye
Anna Photograph 2003

Fine Line: Mental Health/Mental Illness is sponsored by the Dian Graves Owen Foundation, Abilene Diagnostic Clinic, and the Edward E. and Orabeth K. Woods Foundation.

People's Lives: The Photography of Bill Wright

April 9 - July 16, 2005

Abilene photographer Bill Wright has traveled the world with the focus of learning about and photographing other cultures. His exhibit, *People's Lives*, is a celebration of the human spirit, captured through his travels. The collection features people from more than fifty countries around the world in all situations: at work, in their homes, and at play. Wright chooses to focus his photography on the strength, joy, love, courage and determination in each of his subjects and it is this focus that brings his photography to vivid life.



Bill Wright
Vendor, Hardware Souk Abu Dhabi, UAE 1984
Gelatin Silver Print
Edition 11/25



Education

Grace Summer Academy 2005!

Come to The Grace Academy for Summer in the City FUN! The Grace is offering three fun summer camps this year with one sure to fit your creative side! Pre-registration for The Grace Academy is required. Please contact Pam Harman at 325.673.4587 to enroll today!

Watercolor Workshops with Emily Arnot

Students discover new creativity as they explore drawing and painting fundamentals with this experienced art educator.

WHEN

Monday, July 18 – Friday, July 22
Monday, July 25 – Friday, July 29 (repeat session)

TIME

10:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. and
1:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m.

AGE

Morning students are those entering 1st – 3rd grades. Afternoon students are those entering 4th – 6th grades. Maximum 15 students per session.

FEE

\$85 members / \$100 non-members, registration with fee required. Tuition includes supplies and T-shirt.

Around the World through Art with Sharon Baird and Jana Bailey

Young artists will become world travelers as they experience the food, dress, and cultures of countries around the globe while creating art projects from foreign lands.

WHEN

Monday, June 20 – Friday, June 24

Monday, July 11 – Friday, July 15 (repeat session)

TIME

9:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.

AGE

Entering kindergarten – 2nd grade, maximum number of students is 15 per session. Entering 3rd – 5th grade, maximum number of students is 15 per session.

FEE

\$75 members / \$90 non-members, registration with fee required. Tuition includes supplies, T-shirt, and snacks.

Texas Heritage Cowkid Camp

Campers at The Grace will become cowboys and cowgirls-in-training as they try their hands at the skills of the west with lassoing, branding, learning

to mount and dismount real horses with real cowboys, experiencing drama of the old west, and creating wild west art. Campers will also get a peek at being a Cowkid in early Abilene!

WHEN

Monday, July 18 – Friday, July 22

TIME

9:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.

AGE

Entering 3rd – 5th grades
Maximum number of students is 30 per session.

FEE

\$75 members / \$90 non-members, registration with fee required. Tuition includes supplies, T-shirt, and snacks.



English Art Historian Fascinates Audiences

Nigel McGilchrist, an English art historian who lives in Italy, visited Abilene in February for the third time in four years. This scholar of early Italian Renaissance paintings captivated audiences with his extraordinary presentations on the history of paintings and the stories great paintings can tell. Who wouldn't be fascinated when hearing about a painting in its underclothes or *Art? Magic? Science? How Great Paintings were made 500 Years Ago*.

Nigel spoke to over 350 people in three days, visiting three schools and presenting to four different groups in the Museum. His subjects were three master paintings generously on loan from the Sarah Campbell Blaffer Foundation in Houston. Over 12,000 visitors



Cooper High School teachers Sherry Griffith, Marsha Morgan, Larry Millar and students Reba Pitts and Justin Marre, enjoyed Nigel McGilchrist's presentation.

viewed the paintings in a two-month period.

Nigel's visit was sponsored by Jackie and Bart Cox, Nita and Doug Drawe, Judy and Larry Godfrey, Mishi and Sandip Mathur, Angela Nicolini, and Jolene and Richard Sullivan.

Dames of The Grace

On February 3, 2005, Jo Ann Jones and Susan Reeves introduced a new concept for The Grace Museum. These two ladies, who are long-time supporters and volunteers for The Museum, recognized special needs for The Museum that were going unmet. So they launched an organization called *Dames of The Grace* to help meet those needs.

Jo Ann Jones explains, "The board, staff and Los Aficionados do a remarkable job of raising funds for operations, programs and exhibits. They must raise more than \$600,000 a year, and they do that. But Susan and I have seen, time and again, how difficult it is to find funds for the "extras" that are needed to keep this historical, pristine building functioning and looking its best."

The purpose of *Dames* is to provide financial assistance to the Museum so that those items not easily funded by grants and sponsorships can be purchased or replaced – things like chairs, tables, carpet, etc. *Dames* members assist the Museum with an annual gift of



Dames of The Grace were treated to a discussion of Italian Renaissance Art provided by art historian Nigel McGilchrist. Pictured are Jo Ann Jones, Susan Reeves, Kim Snyder, Dian Stai and McGilchrist.

\$250, \$500, or \$1,000.

The group will meet only once or twice a year to decide what needs they would like to help meet and to have fun. No volunteer hours are required, since members of Los Aficionados and other Grace Volunteers so aptly meet those needs of the Museum.

If you would like more information about becoming a Charter Member of *Dames of The Grace*, call Kim Snyder, Grace Development Director, at 673-4587.

New Staff at The Grace

The Grace has several new faces—take some time to get to know our new staff members!

Diana McLamore, Membership Coordinator, B.A. English/Technical Writing, Texas A&M University, College Station, TX. Diana is married to Dr. Richard V. McLamore, a tenured professor of American Literature at McMurry University. Before moving to Abilene in 2000, Diana lived and worked in Austin, Texas. She has two children; her 10-year-old stepson, Quin, and her 18-month-old baby boy, Sean. She also has four Cardigan Welsh Corgi dogs; Sparx, Clover, Lily and Django. Diana has been hired as a part-time staff member to help maintain and increase our membership.

Preston Gardner, Children's Museum Manager, BFA Art, Southwest Texas State University. Preston and his family moved to Abilene in 1980 and have called it home ever since. After graduating from Abilene Christian High School he went on to eventually earn two degrees in art from Southwest Texas State. In 1999 he met and married his lovely wife, Chastity, and soon started teaching



Diana McLamore, Preston Gardner, Laura Barnett

at the elementary level. As the new manager of the Children's Museum, Preston will oversee children's tours as well as design and implement new activities for existing exhibits, in this section of The Museum.

Laura Barnett, graduate intern from Texas Tech's Museum Science program. Originally from Indiana, Laura attended Ball State University and Universite Laval, earning degrees in Anthropology and French. Before returning to complete her Master's she worked as a museum educator at the Evansville Museum of Arts, History and Science, the Science Spectrum and the Lubbock Lake Landmark.

New Gifts for the Permanent Collection

Long-time advocates for the arts, photographers Alice and Bill Wright have played a pivotal role in the development of the now rich cultural canvas of Abilene. They have promoted Abilene's cultural offerings across the state and the world as they've traveled to all corners of the globe. And, they've brought many a well-known artist, photographer or art collector to West Texas to see for themselves just what's going on in this community. In their continuing efforts to make our city's visual arts offerings outstanding, Alice and Bill have now committed to building a respectable collection of photographs by Texas photographers as part of The Grace Museum permanent collection.

To launch this endeavor Bill has generously donated a set of 69 duotones from his book, *People's Lives*. These spectacular photographs, taken around the world, are a celebration of the human spirit, depicting individuals at work, at home and at play. A selection from this collection will be on exhibit at The Grace April 9 – July 16. In addition, Bill has gifted to the Museum four of his photos shown in Oman as part of the Art in Embassies program as well as four prints by Texas photographers from the Texas Photographic Society.



Bill and Alice Wright

A commercial portrait photographer for many years, Alice has more recently developed an avid interest in documentary style photography. Her series of 33 photographs, *BHUTAN: Land of Shangri-La*, recently gifted to The Grace, beautifully expresses her fascination with the caring, friendly people from this region of the world that seems almost untouched by time. This exquisite exhibition will be on display August 27 – November 12, 2005, and then will be available to travel to other museums.

Thank you, Alice and Bill, for your continued support of the arts and your generosity to The Grace.



Emily Amot, Martha Kiel and Austin artist Fidencio Duran with his painting *The Waterboy – “Logas”* at a Coffee and Art Talk Thursday evening lecture sponsored by Starbucks.



Donna Grant, Lou and James Streeter, and Virginia DeBerry visit following a lecture at The Grace. Grant and DeBerry are authors from New York and were in town as the guest speakers for the MLK Banquet.



Dee Utasi and Marianne Fincher enjoyed the adult watercolor workshop by Marci Boone.



Sponsor Condley & Company sent volunteers John Sudderth and Jody Dunlap to join Santa welcoming the hundreds of visitors for City Sidewalks.



New Mexican artist Diana Bryer was artist-in-residence in AISD's Title I schools during her exhibition *Celebration of Life: Paintings by Diana Bryer*.



Teen Science Night: *Solving Crimes with Science* had Security Director Earl Quast being questioned by teen detectives.



Jayne Middleton and Carl Trusler, collectors of Diana Bryer's work, entertained her in their home during her visit to Abilene.



Celebrating the *Duval Collection* opening and the partnership with Hardin-Simmons University are Craig Turner, Jacque Holland, Annette Turner and Scotty Holland.



Gail and Howard Tobin accept a framed print by Diana Bryer from Judy Godfrey as sponsors of the Diana Bryer exhibition. Ruth and Jack Bargainer were also sponsors.



Thursday night activities for *The Duval Collection* were planned and conducted by Wylie Middle School students, including Mitchell Comforth, Jase Sutton, teacher Kim Cheek and Alex Marr.



Nigel McGilchrist, art historian from Italy, applies gold leaf to Justin Marre's nose at a workshop at Cooper High School.



Suanne and Bernie Holtman from the Anson Cowboy Christmas Ball Association with Maxine Perini's *Cowboy Christmas Ball* from the Texas Heritage Print Set.



Larry Dooley, the Mad Science Guy from Dallas, at *Celebrate Science Saturday: Weird Science* sponsored by the Junior League of Abilene and Family Vision Associates.



George Woodward, Fall Benefit Honoree Billye Proctor Shaw and Sam Reeves at the Gala.



Duval Collection sponsors Scotty Holland and Richard Bloomer with Judy Godfrey at the gala opening reception.



Allyson Solymosy, Junior League coordinator, helps a student prepare *Slime* during *Celebrate Science Saturday*.



Billye Proctor Shaw with the *Gala Girls* from Collections II Teen Board at Fall Benefit.



Robert McDaniel, B.J. Naranjo-Smith, Raymond McDaniel and Kathryn Keathly at the Coca-Cola opening.



Good friends Billye Proctor Shaw, Dian Stai, Lois Peck and Lynda Calcote during Fall Benefit.



Billye with her children: Brent Proctor, Ava Muñoz, Chris Proctor Cleveland and Lance Proctor.



Enjoying the Fall Benefit were Patty Taliaferro and Judy Matthews.



Ironing Fall Benefit tablecloths are Patricia Ditmore, Pat Combs and Pat Wicker.



Fall Benefit Committee at the Wrap-Up luncheon: Judy Godfrey, Micki Wright, Dixie Bassett, Burgess Thomas, Lynda Calcote, Vicki Reynolds, Tim McClosky and Dian Stai.



Members of the new Collectors' Circle at the Dallas home of Sonny Burn and Bob Butler: Charia and Vance McCracken, Linda and John Wood, Patti Jo Mendenhall, Judy Godfrey, Karen Turner, Bob Butler, Patty McMahan, Sonny Burn, Kim Snyder and Mike McMahan.



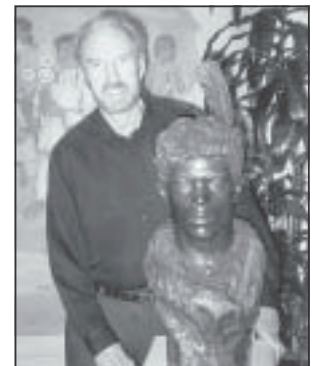
Central Texas Gem and Mineral Society displayed rocks for Rock Hound Adventure participants to inspect.



Rock Hound Adventure featured Don Fite from Busch Jewelers with his daughter, Aubrey, one of the Wylie Middle School students who planned the day.



A Wylie Middle School student explains magnetism during Rock Hound Adventure.



El Paso/Mexico City sculptor John Houser by his bust of Estebanico the Black during a recent Coffee and Art Talk Lecture sponsored by Starbucks.



Grace staff de-stress with monthly activities planned by volunteer Director of Fun Roz Love.



Students participating in Teen Science Night: Solving Crimes with Science trying to solve a robbery.



Distance Learning Team with Journey to the Past program; Pam Harman, Kathryn Best, Preston Gardner and James Yasko.



Pat and Harold Wicker, Michael and Wanda Locke at the Coca-Cola Santas opening.



Nona and Richard Barrett of Dallas gave a Gallery Talk at The Grace on the Barrett Collection donation from the Museum of Fine Arts, Houston.



John Philpot, Santa, and Raymond McDaniel at the opening of the Coca-Cola Santas exhibition.



Dr. Mark Ouimette from Hardin-Simmons University with Girl Scouts on a Thursday evening in the Duval Collection of Gems and Minerals.



Italian Renaissance Paintings were showcased during Nigel McGilchrist's visit. Pictured with Nigel are Angela Nicolini, a sponsor, and Judy Godfrey.

Chair's Message



Mark J. Phelan

The Chair's View

Hopefully the new year has been a good one for our members and readers. So far, it has certainly been a busy year at The Grace! Personally, I continue to enjoy the fantastic variety of exhibits. My children never seem to tire of the Children's Museum. I have been able to expose them to amazing art

right here in Abilene. And, we have all learned a lot about Abilene's history in the History Museum.

It is an honor to serve on the board of this wonderful Abilene treasure. I have had the opportunity to observe and work with the people that make this museum so successful. The staff and volunteers of The Grace seem to work tirelessly to keep The Museum running. The generosity of our many sponsors allows The Grace to continue to have high quality exhibits. Countless individuals support The Grace through memberships and by supporting organizations that support The Grace. I would like to thank all of you, and I look forward to working with you in the future.

I hope to see you soon at The Grace! 🍀

Mark

The Grace Museum is a multidisciplinary cultural and educational institution that promote an understanding of art and history through exhibitions, collections, educational programs, and discovery-based learning experiences. The Museum encourages and inspires lifelong learning for people of all ages and diverse backgrounds in Abilene and the surrounding West Texas area.

The members of Los Aficionados wrapped up an exciting and busy year April 6 with a grand trip to Dallas, where everyone got to experience the Dallas Museum of Art, the Crow Collection of Asian Art, and the Nasher Sculpture Center. The group also had the privilege of being invited guests at the home of Richard and Nona Barrett, renowned collectors of Texas and Swiss art. The final LA luncheon for 2004-2005, a membership lunch and gala fashion show, is Tuesday, May 3 at 11:30 a.m.



Richard and Nona Barrett, Karen Turner and Lynn Boyd.

All current and prospective members of LA are encouraged to attend!

Board Profiles

Lupita Cuadros



Lupita Cuadros was born in Mexico City as the youngest of 13 and moved to San Antonio, Texas. She has been enriched with the opportunity to experience two cultures, as she attended high school in Mexico City before returning to San Antonio to complete two years at UTSA. Lupita has an extensive background in accounting and business. She moved to Abilene as co-owner of Peerless Cleaners for 11 years and is now ready to launch her new career as Sales Associate/Marketing Coordinator with State Farm Agent Risha Sanders. Lupita has served on the Abilene Small Business Council Board and is currently serving on boards for The Grace Museum, Goodwill Industries of West Texas, and KACU.

Lupita is a proud mother of 3 boys, Fernando 18, Ricardo 14, and Eric 8. For fun, she enjoys her sons' sports events, reading, walking, music, and socializing. Lupita would like to be known for living life to its fullest and for making a difference in people's lives.

Angela Hamil-Willis



Angela Hamil-Willis is a native Abilenian. She is a graduate of McMurry University (B.A. Social Science, 1989) and Hardin-Simmons University (M.Ed. Counseling and Human Development, 1999). She taught United States History and Government at Cooper High School before she and her husband Rick adopted their son Parker. At that time she chose to become a stay-at-home mom and concentrate on her family and civic endeavors.

In 2001, Angela accepted the position of Development Director at St. John's Episcopal School. While she enjoyed that position, she figured out that she really did miss the classroom. Angela is "getting her feet wet" again in the classroom as a substitute teacher at St. John's. During the past ten years Angela has served on numerous boards including The Grace Museum, St. John's Episcopal School, the Episcopal Church Women at the Church of the Heavenly Rest, and the Western Heritage Classic. Her hobbies include tennis, piano, writing and spending time with her family.

President's Message



Judy Godfrey

Uncovering the Past

Your Grace Museum staff has been working diligently behind-the-scenes for the past year researching, reading, looking for artifacts, reviewing video and audio oral histories, and listening to people all over Abilene. Yet, we have so much more to accomplish for the new History Museum redesign. *Abilene, The Urban Experience, 1880-1980* will document the businesses, quality of life issues and civic pride that helped Abilene grow. Our goals for this extensive permanent exhibition are for it to be more culturally inclusive, be more artifact-driven, and have interpretive hands-on activities.

The project consists of two phases. The first will open March 15, 2006, Abilene's 125th Anniversary, with two different projects. We will premiere our new Orientation Theater (old Museum Store location) complete with a twelve-minute video production on the history of Abilene and the role the Hotel Grace had in this city's historic downtown. The space will include theatre seats, blackout shades and the latest projection system and be available free for all visitors to experience.

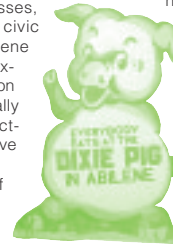
The second project opening next March will be an outdoor historic sign exhibit on the west side of the building featuring large restored lighted advertising signs. Some of these signs include the Dixie Pig, Metro Theater, WTU, KWKC, and Fred Boyd. Additionally, we will have the historic signs on the east side of The Grace Parking Garage repainted according to preserva-

tion guidelines.

The second phase, opening approximately a year later, will be new exhibits and artifacts in the present static area of the Historical Museum with some changes made to the existing period rooms. The year-old Mallouf Boot Shop will remain as is.

Adventure is one way to describe our research thus far: staff has taken a trek through old Minter's Department Store dark, musty storerooms with Bill Minter in the lead with a weak flashlight. The bounty was worth the dust and cobwebs as we walked away with 1940s ledgers, 1950s props for window displays, and rolls of 1960s packaging paper. Other visits have found us looking for old, abandoned store signs in need of facelifts and a permanent home.

Dr. Fane Downs, professor emeritus from McMurry University, is the historian for the project. Dr. Tracy Shilcutt, history professor at Abilene Christian University, is an advisor. Dr. Robert Pace has his McMurry students conducting research this semester for the project. We will work with a professional museum exhibit designer to design, build and install interesting exhibit components. Kathryn Best, Curator of Education, is Project Manager for The Grace.



We want and we need:

- Your stories
- Old things
- Smaller, old advertising items for the indoor exhibit
- Large old advertising signs for the outdoor exhibit
- Dixie Pig Sundae Bowl
- Home movies

Nothing is too small or insignificant if it helps tell our story. Please help us make this project one in which all of Abilene can take pride. 🍀

Judy

Jo Ann Jones



After fifteen years, Jo Ann retired in 2002 from Funeral Directors Life Insurance Company as Director of Public Relations. She quickly began looking into volunteer opportunities. Her daughter Becky Hill was active in The Grace so, naturally, that is where Jo Ann turned. That same year, Jo Ann was elected president of Los Aficionados. She is serving a third term on the Grace Board of Trustees, and is on the Executive Committee as membership chairman. Recently Jo Ann realized there are many items the Museum needs that cannot be squeezed into the already extended "operating budget" nor underwritten by grants. So Jo Ann and Susan Reeves kicked off *Dames of*

The Grace in February as the arm of The Grace instrumental in funding items such as chairs, tables, window shades and carpet.

Other community involvement for Jo Ann includes serving on the Taylor County Heart Board, as co-chair of Heartwalk 2002 and committee member of "Go Red for Women" luncheon. St. Paul United Methodist Church is the church home for Jo Ann and Richard, her husband, where she has served as Greeter Coordinator, on the Pastor Parish Relations Committee, co-chaired the July 4th Celebration and where both are officers of Beacon Sunday School Class.

Besides Becky, Richard and Jo Ann are parents of Chris Jones, a pharmaceutical representative in Houston and they have four grandchildren.

Jo Ann's hobbies include travel, golf, walking her Shetland sheepdog Lady, reading and digital photography. Merchant is a new name for Jo Ann since she set up shop for "What Women Want" an apparel and accessory boutique in Abilene and Stamford. 🍀

Graceful Volunteers

Volunteers

Isabel Anderson
 Roy Helen Ackers
 Millie Ates
 Leslie Awalt
 Fannie Baker
 Addie Barron
 Mary Bartee
 Harriett Bass
 Mary Bauerfeind
 Gay Beitscher
 Martha Boggs
 Joann Boyd
 Lynn Boyd
 Helen Cartee
 Gwen Charpentier
 Scott Clark
 Ann Cockerell
 Pat Combs
 Jennifer Conner
 Inez Craighead
 Ruth Cranor
 Jessica Cullers
 Vicky Doss
 Nita Drawe
 Grace Enlow
 Virginia Estes
 Marilyn Evans
 Betty Fenter
 Myrtle Fernandez
 Inez Floeck
 Rue Ford
 Marsha Foster
 Betty Fowler
 Randall Fowler
 Katie Freeman
 Cody Gann
 Pat Garren
 Elizabeth Garrett
 Peggy Garrett
 Jacinda Geis
 Buster Gholson
 Ann Giddens
 Mary Gill
 Barbara Gray
 Melissa Green
 Marilyn Gullett

Patsy Hamilton
 Janice Harkins
 Ann Hawkins
 Elsie Hays
 Jean Hays
 Donna Headstream
 Kimberly Helton
 Charles Hogsett
 Marvin Hogsett
 Eleanor Hoppe
 Ashley Horton
 Eleanore Horton
 Robbi Horton
 Juanita Jenkins
 Cody Jones
 Richard Jones
 Nancy Jones
 Gwen Kaiser
 Maria Karhan
 Kathryn Keathley
 Kay Kendrick
 Janeene Kerley
 Martha Kiel
 Jeanne Standard-Killough
 Beverly Kimbrough
 Hazyl Lindley
 J. W. Long
 Theo Long
 Roz Love
 Robert L. W. Martin
 Joyce Martin
 Ely Marvin
 Courtney Mihalik
 Larry Millar
 Linda G. Miller
 Luke Miller
 Lindsay Minter
 Carol Mitchell
 Mac Mitchell
 Earlene Mokry
 Glenda Montfort
 Portia Moore
 Norman Nail
 Betty Nelson
 Charles Nelson
 Sally Nelson
 Dina Patel

Carol Parker
 Sandy Perry
 Virginia Pingleton
 Judy Purrington
 Natalie Reppart
 Glenda Ravanelli
 Dewby Ray
 Nancy Reed
 Ellen Richards
 Susan Riesenberg
 Gilbert Rivera
 Angela Rosellini
 Joe Russey
 Gail Russey
 Bettye Shipp
 Ingeborg Speck
 George Stewart
 Katherine Stewart
 Jackie Stewartson
 Lou Streeter
 James Streeter
 Augustine Tennant
 Marty Terzian
 Seth Thomas
 Ellen Turner
 Bette Valentine
 Jamie Villegas
 Jerry Watson
 Ann White
 Erlene White
 Pat Wicker
 June Wideman
 Tom Wideman
 Judy Wilson
 Marianne Wood
 Mary Wofford
 Bev Wright
 Micki Wright
 Claire Zeigler

Retired

Amber Arrington
 Shirley Barber
 Jean Leeper
 Camille Parrish
 Julie Ruska



Jean Hays, Hazyl Lindley, Janeene Kerley



Karen Turner, Glenda Ravanelli, Fannie Baker, Millie Ates, Pat Wicker, Janeene Kerley, June Wideman, Mary Bauerfeind, Dee Utasi, JoAnn Jones



Juanita Jenkins



Ely Marvin



Outreach Docent volunteers: Lou Streeter, Marianne Wood, Beverly Kimbrough, Marilyn Gullett, Judy Wilson, and Ingeborg Speck



Dewby Ray



Millie Ates



Betty Nelson



Donna Headstream



Lupita Cuadros, "Gracie", Patti Mendenhall and H. Glenn McWilliams



Bob Martin



Joann Boyd



Chet Kwiecinski and Boyd Graham



Marty Terzian and James Streeter



Buster Gholson



Jackie Stewardson



Jeanne Standard-Killough



Dr. Charles Nelson



Barbara Gray



Susan Riesenberg and Grace Enlow



Charles and Marvin Hogsett with Pat Wicker



Mary Wofford



Carol Mitchell, Cynthia Evans



Jean Leeper

Call for Docents

Do you enjoy working with children and have a passion for art and history? The Grace Museum is recruiting docents to give tours of our exhibits to school groups.

Docents work as a vital part of our education team, teaching children and teenagers to appreciate and love art and history. The Grace Museum has a busy tour schedule, seeing an average of 8,000 students per year. Imagine how many lives you could touch by being a docent!

New docents go through a four-day training course designed to make you comfortable with basic art history, teaching and touring techniques. After graduating from this course, docents meet once a month for training in the museum's exhibits and to learn tour techniques for each gallery. Docents are then called upon to lead tours for local and area school groups. If you are interested in becoming a docent, please call Kathryn Best at 673-4587.

Docent Marianne Wood gives students a tour of Grace Picks: Staff Selections from The Grace Museum Permanent Collection



Calendar

APRIL 2005

- 14 **Artwalk**
5:30 p.m. – 8:00 p.m.
Poetry reading and book signing by poet Jenny Lind Cawood.
Make and Take It Activity: Rainbow Windssock.
Make and Take It is a free hands-on art activity for kids of all ages sponsored by West Texas Gas.
- 21 **Docent Training**
10:00 a.m.
Features special guest Sam Abell
- Dames of The Grace**
4:00 p.m.
Featuring photographer Sam Abell
- 22 **Members Opening Reception**
for Sam Abell: *A Photographic Life*
6:30 p.m.

MAY 2005

- 3 **Los Aficionados Luncheon**
11:30 a.m.
- 5 **Tot Spot Skins and Scales**
10:00 a.m.
Come learn about reptiles and make your favorite snake or lizard to take home. \$3 for members; \$5 non-members; reservations required.
- 5 **Gallery Talk**
7:00 p.m.
Sculptor John Queen discusses his exhibit at The Grace.

- 6 **Tot Spot Skins and Scales**
9:30 a.m. and 11:00 a.m.
\$3 for members; \$5 non-members; reservations required.
- 12 **Artwalk**
5:30 p.m. – 8:00 p.m.
Performances by Lincoln Middle School Music Group: Celtic Fusion
Make and Take It Activity: Coffee Filter Butterflies.
Make and Take It is a free hands-on art activity for kids of all ages sponsored by West Texas Gas.

JUNE 2005

- 2 **Tot Spot Soar with the Birds**
10:00 a.m.
Birds are all a flutter at The Grace Museum. Pick a favorite to make and fly home with you. \$3 for members; \$5 non-members; reservations required.
- 3 **Tot Spot Soar with the Birds**
9:30 a.m. and 11:00 a.m.
\$3 for members; \$5 non-members; reservations required.
- 8 **Grace Institute Teacher Workshop**
9:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.
Register with Region XIV ESC.
- 9 **Artwalk**
5:30 p.m. – 8:00 p.m.
Make and Take It Activity: Model Magic Aliens.
Make and Take It is a free hands-on art activity for kids of all ages sponsored by West Texas Gas.
- Grace Institute Teacher Workshop**
9:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.
Register with Region XIV ESC.

- 15 **Teacher Workshop: Historic Traveling Trunks**
1:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m.
Register with Region XIV ESC.
- 20-24 **Grace Academy**
9:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.
Around the World Through Art with Sharon Baird and Jana Bailey
- 22 **Teacher Workshop: Museum Magic**
9:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.
Register with Region XIV ESC.

JULY 2005

- 7 **Tot Spot**
10:00 a.m.
Work with your toddler on a special art project.
\$3 for members; \$5 non-members; reservations required.
- 8 **Tot Spot**
9:30 a.m. and 11:00 a.m.
\$3 for members; \$5 non-members; reservations required.
- 11-15 **Grace Academy**
9:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.
Around the World through Art with Sharon Baird and Jana Bailey (repeat session)
- 14 **Artwalk**
5:30 p.m. – 8:00 p.m.
Make and Take It Activity: Window Watcher Bugs.
Make and Take It is a free hands-on art activity for kids of all ages sponsored by West Texas Gas.
- 18-22 **Grace Academy**
9:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.
Texas Heritage Cowkid Camp

- 18-22 **Grace Academy**
10:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. and 1:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m.
Watercolor Workshops Emily Arnot
- 25-29 **Grace Academy**
10:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. and 1:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m.
Watercolor Workshops Emily Arnot (repeat session)

AUGUST 2005

- 4 **Tot Spot**
10:00 a.m.
Work with your toddler on a special art project.
\$3 for members; \$5 non-members; reservations required.
- 5 **Tot Spot**
9:30 a.m. and 11:00 a.m.
\$3 for members; \$5 non-members; reservations required.
- 11 **Artwalk**
5:30 p.m. – 8:30 p.m.
Make and Take It Activity: Fishing Hole.
Make and Take It is a free hands-on art activity for kids of all ages sponsored by West Texas Gas.
- 23 **New Docent Orientation**
9:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.
- 30 **New Docent Orientation**
9:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.



All events are free unless indicated. Programs are subject to change. Please call 673-4587 to confirm times and dates, or check our web site www.thegracemuseum.org.

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