



EMPIRE RANCH FOUNDATION NEWS

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Howdy and Happy 2014

The Foundation is looking forward to an exciting 2014. We were honored in January to be part of a group receiving an Interior Department Partners in Conservation Award (article on p. 4). With your help we will move forward with numerous preservation projects (article on p. 3), and are excited that Adobe Haybarn stabilization work has begun! We will definitely have a "Grand Opening" and perhaps an ol' fashioned barn dance to celebrate completion.

We will participate in the exciting raffle sponsored by Jim Click Automotive to win a 2014 Jeep Cherokee! Every dollar raised from ERF's raffle ticket sales goes to supporting the Foundation's projects. Tickets are \$25 each or five for \$100; the drawing is November 13, 2014. Call ERF at 888-364-2829 to buy your winning ticket!

We will also host a fantastic Spring Trail Ride on April 5th, our Western movie event on August 7th, and our annual Roundup & Open House on November 1st.

Volunteers are integral to keeping the Empire Ranch alive! We need you for bi-monthly Volunteer Days, for special events, and to help staff our Visitor Contact Station and have it open more often. To offer help, please contact us at 888-364-2829 or admin@empireranchfoundation.org.

Personal thanks to those of you that responded to our year-end appeal or have renewed your membership. I encourage all our supporters to renew or become new members to help preserve and protect the Empire Ranch. We can't do it without your support.

Thanks and happy trails,
Ron Martin, President



Empire 100 show draws lively crowd as guests eye and discuss their favorite offerings; bell rings (bottom right) signifying another sale! (photos: G. Auerbach)

"Empire 100" Art Show & Sale Welcomes Art Lovers at Inviting New Venue

The Foundation's 14th Annual "Empire 100" Western Art Show & Sale has opened to wide acclaim, in a spacious new location in midtown Tucson. At the show's February 5 Opening Reception for members and guests, more than 300 excited viewers enjoyed the arresting selection of original oils, watercolors, and sculptures created by dozens of nationally known and emerging artists from throughout Arizona and the Southwest.

The show's new location at the Tucson Jewish Community Center provides ready opportunity to get up close and personal to examine and savor the 100 works of art the jury selected from more than 300

entries. This year's unique selections are receiving a hearty thumbs up from art lovers. At the reception's close, more than \$10,000 in art sales was recorded with high expectations for active sales during the run of the show through Sunday, March 9.

Winning "Best of Show" was Featured Artist Carol Swinney's stunning oil painting, *The Grand View*; and winning "Best of Empire-Inspired Art" was Roger Alderman's colorful interpretation of Ranch House buildings in *Back in the Day*. Empire 100 Chair Laura Davis announced the Featured Artist for next year—Doug Oliver of Prescott, known for his captivating land-

(continued on p. 2)

Published by the Empire Ranch Foundation, a not-for-profit organization, in cooperation with the Bureau of Land Management. The purpose of the Foundation is to protect, restore, and sustain the Empire Ranch historical buildings and landscape as an outstanding western heritage and education center. Donations to the Foundation may be sent to: P.O. Box 842, Sonoita, AZ 85637-0842.