



EMPIRE RANCH FOUNDATION NEWS

P.O. Box 842 • Sonoita, Arizona 85637-0842 • (888) 364-2829

www.empireranchfoundation.org

Welcome and Thank You!

Once again our Members have come through for us with an outstanding response to our year end appeal. We have received responses from more than 150 members. Spectacular!!!

The Board of the Empire Ranch Foundation is proud to announce the election of our newest Board member, David Yubeta. In 1998, David was presented with the National Park Service's top award for cultural preservation; only one of David's many honors. David's expertise and that of BLM's historic preservationist, Chris Schrager, will prove invaluable as we begin to refurbish the "Huachuca House" located directly west of the main Ranch House. This building will become our Welcome Center showcasing historic facts, photos, displays, educational information for our youth programs, books, and other Empire Ranch items. We anticipate completion of this project by our next Roundup in November.

Through your support and the enthusiastic support of our grant partners and BLM we have wonderful educational and outreach events planned. Our continuing and new member's support is our inspiration as we continue toward the completion of our mission.

There are many ways for you to join the fun while supporting the Foundation. Come out to one of our Volunteer Days, participate in an event like our upcoming Trail Ride on April 16, and/or donate any items or stories from your family for future display. We have spectacular members, volunteers and youth participants.

The Empire Ranch is not a Western movie set about a cattle ranch... *It's the "Real Deal."*

With Appreciation,

Carla Kerekes-Martin,
President



Featured artist Bill Moomey accepts People's Choice Award (left); Crowds packed the Opening Reception. (Photos by Marion Vendituoli and Gary Auerbach)

Empire 100 Western Art Show Draws Record Crowds & Sales

The 2011 Empire 100 Western Art Show Opening Reception on January 13 was marked by a remarkable showcase of Western art, brisk sales, and a beautiful evening that brought out record crowds. Nearly 400 guests meandered throughout the Northern Trust gallery space, enjoying wine, Western music, hors d'oeuvres, and most importantly, the opportunity to view an outstanding collection of Western art.

A testament to the quality of the show was the small crowd in the lobby of Northern Trust anxiously awaiting the opening of the doors at 4:30pm when sales commenced. Within minutes of opening, ten pieces were sold! Sales continued throughout the evening and by the close, 25 pieces of art sold at a total value of just under \$30,000.

The featured artist was the highly acclaimed artist and sculptor, Bill Moomey. His captivating painting of a pair of bobcats, "Vantage Point," was the winner of the People's Choice Award. Santos Barbosa's

"Lowin' Cattle & Dust" won *Best of the Empire*, an award voted by Northern Trust staff for the best work inspired by the Empire Ranch. The remarkable steel sculpture, "Vaquero," by Pat Frederick, won *Honorable Mention*.

"This year's art show was one of the most competitive ever," said Ginger Hambly, chair of the art show. "With more than 500 images submitted, the jury had the demanding task of selecting just 100 pieces for the show."

Ginger thanked Northern Trust for their sponsorship, and Northern Trust staff who put on the elegant reception. Guests continued to converse and gaze at art till the 7pm close. Many guests were clearly delighted to speak to the more than 60 artists who attended the reception. Award-winning singer/songwriter Kip Calahan Young and her husband Dale Young, making up the duet "Forever Young," serenaded throughout the evening.

A portion of each sale benefits the Empire Ranch Foundation's efforts to preserve the Empire Ranch Headquarters, a 22-room 1880s homestead nestled amidst 42,000 acres of the Las Cienegas National

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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.



Pat Frederick's "Vaquero" was a show-stopper. (Photo by Marion Vendituoli)

Empire 100 (cont'd from page 1)

Conservation Area in Sonoita, AZ. The Ranch House is listed on the National Register of Historic Places as one of America's Western treasures.

The Empire 100 Western Art Show & Sale continues through March 10. Viewing and purchasing hours are 8:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m., Monday through Friday at Northern Trust, 3450 E. Sunrise Drive, in Tucson. Images of all artworks and their availability are listed on the Empire Ranch Foundation's website: www.empireranchfoundation.org.

2011 Preservation Priorities

In 2011 both the Empire Ranch Foundation and the Bureau of Land Management will focus on two major preservation projects. The BLM has made the rehabilitation of the Adobe Hay Barn its top Empire Ranch priority for available deferred maintenance funds. To ensure that this project meets all Federal guidelines for transparency and competitive bidding, the agency will issue a request for "design-and-build" proposals within the next month. The proposals will include detailed plans to complete structural repairs, so that the Barn will be safe for interpretation and use for a variety of functions. The Adobe Hay Barn was identified as the top priority in the 2009 *Seismic and Structural Evaluation* completed by Statistical Research, Inc.

The BLM is also moving ahead with development of specifications for a similar contract for the historic Ranch House. As the scope of stabilization work on the structure is much greater, this preliminary step is needed to ensure that the contract for structural work includes all the right elements. But it also means that the process for completing some of the long-awaited

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2011 "Empire 100" Western Art Show & Sale

Northern Trust
3450 East Sunrise Drive, Tucson

January 10 - March 10, 2011

Participating Artists

Roger Alderman • Kurt Anderson
Mark T Anderson • Carole Andreen Harris
Jennifer Arno-Coleman • Santos Barbosa
Bernita Barfield • Stephanie Birdsall
Terry Bowman • Palmer Butler
Natalie Caproni Carey • Bonnie Casey
Cindy Clayberg • Barbara Conaway
Cat Corcilus • Don Crowley
Hope Cunningham • Charles Dalrymple
Don Dane • Mick Davidson
Marsha Davis • Nancy Denzler
Robert Deurloo • Linda Dobkin
Tom Dorr • Michael Ewing
Deborah Fellows • Bernie Fierro
Brent Flory • Judy Flynn
Pat Frederick • Bonnie Gasior
Gloria Fraser Giffords • Robert Goldman
Jim Gruzalski • Leigh Gusterson
Fred Hambly • Carlyne Hawley
Ron Himler • Rock Jackson
Dinah Jasensky • John Jeffries
Keri Jelks • Carol Johansen
Frank Lalumia • Susan Libby
James Lindsay • Jeff Love
Diana Madaras • Ken Mayernick
Karen McClain • Garret McFann
Paul Miller • Nancy Monsman
Bill Moomey • Sherri Morris
Terry Moseley Benson • Roseann Munger
Tom Murray • NanLuWiza
Baylee Nealon • Joyce Nelson
Doug Oliver • Mac Pakula
Magda Palega • Pokey Park
Pat Parkinson • Brenda Peo
Sarah Phippen • Nancy Prevo
Hank Richter • Pauline Roche
Owen Rose • Monika Rossa
Sheila Savannah • Mary L Schaefer
Brenda Semanick • Jeffrey P. Skelly
Eric G. Slayton • Nathan Solano
John Solie • Joe Staheli
Teri Sweeney • Carol Swinney
Faye Taylor • Charles Thomas
Susan Volk Stanley • Jack Wahl
Sarah J. Webber • Don Weller
Larry D. Wollam • Wendy Zachau



(Photos by Gary Auerbach)

Spring Trail Ride

Saddle Up! for the 2011 Spring Trail Ride at the Empire Ranch in Sonoita on Saturday, April 16. You'll ride through the spectacular scenery of the Las Cienegas National Conservation Area and return to the historic Empire Ranch House for a late afternoon "Dinner at the Ranch." Join us for the ride only, ride and dinner, or just dinner.

There are two rides to choose from (a two or three hour option), each offering an escape into the lush Las Cienegas you won't soon forget! For those that prefer, we'll also offer scenic wagon rides. All rides will arrive back at the Empire Ranch for an old-fashioned, delicious Western steak dinner with all the trimmings. Come dine with us and enjoy Western music, storytellers, and more!

In addition to the many activities of the day, at dinner we will honor Gerald Korte, a founder of the Empire Ranch Foundation, as well as a former working Empire Ranch cowboy.

Bring your own horse, or make advance horse rental reservations with us (see enclosed flier). For more information, call the Empire Ranch Foundation at 888-364-2829, or go to www.empireranchfoundation.org. Hope to see you on April 16!





(Photo by Netzin Steklis)

WATG! Spring & Summer Camps Announced

Wild About the Grasslands! (WATG!), the Empire Ranch Foundation's highly acclaimed experiential ecology and western heritage education program, provides a variety of outdoor adventures and explorations for youth.

Cowboy Campout, scheduled for **March 15-16** is for teens ages 12-17 who want to experience camping under the stars at Empire Ranch. The Campout will provide a unique opportunity to learn basic camping, Dutch oven cooking, and navigation skills. Activities include a fun-filled evening of cowboy music, wildlife spotting, silly skits & storytelling, and observing the night sky. The next morning after breaking camp, the "wranglers" will hit the trail on a guided nature hike to many scenic and interesting places using their senses, compass, and topographic map. The registration fee per child is \$150 (includes a t-shirt and 3 meals); the optional registration fee for parents is \$75/person.

Nature Heritage Discovery Days, scheduled for **June 6-7** is designed for ages 9-14 years. Through guided hikes and explorations these "grasslanders" will discover the Cienega Creek. They will learn about the importance of this precious water source to support a diversity of plants, wildlife, and its significance to the people who depend on it. These youngsters will engage in hands-on activities such as plant and wildlife identification, nature journaling, rope making, building a model of the Cienega Watershed, and using directions and compass to find hidden treasures. The registration fee

per child is \$75 (2-day camp) or \$45 (1-day camp), including a free t-shirt.

Summer Adventure Campout, scheduled for **June 10-11** is designed for ages 12-17 years. Through guided expeditions and field study led by local experts these "grasslanders" will discover the forces that shape the landscape of the Las Cienegas NCA. They will explore rare habitats, learn camping and ranching skills, and participate in a service learning project. Campers will engage in activities such as nature journaling, wildlife tracking, macro invertebrate study, adobe brick making, creating nature inspired art, and using Global Positioning System (GPS) devices for both science and treasure hunting. The registration fee per child is \$150. (includes a t-shirt and 3 meals); the optional registration fee for parents is \$75/person.

To register, call the Empire Ranch Foundation (888) 364-2829, or email admin@empireranchfoundation.org.

2011 Officers and Board Members Elected

The ERF Board of Directors unanimously elected the following officers and members of the Board of Directors at the November 20, 2010 Board meeting:

President—Carla Kerekes Martin of Tucson was elected to a second term as President and a second term on the Board of Directors. She joined the Board in 2007 and served as ERF Treasurer from 2007-2009. She is an executive assistant and office manager for an accounting firm in Tucson, and is especially interested in the restoration of the Empire Ranch House and ERF's educational programs.

First Vice President—John Komrada, of Tucson, was elected as First Vice President. He joined the ERF Board in 2006 and served as Vice President from 2009-2010. His years of experience in the entertainment industry and expertise in special events and have greatly enhanced ERF events such as the Roundup.

Second Vice President—Ron Martin of Tucson was elected as Second Vice President. A principal manufacturing engineer with Raytheon Missile Systems Company, his interests include historic preservation/restoration and horses.

Secretary—Kristi Keller of Tucson will serve a fourth term as Secretary. She has served on the Board of Directors since 2006. Her enthusiasm for nature and

historic preservation blend with her love for exploration on horseback and birding.

Treasurer—Tom Rogos of Sonoita, who joined the ERF Board in 2006, was elected to a second term as Treasurer. A retired banker, Tom and his wife Cheryl own and operate La Hacienda de Sonoita, a Cowboy/Western themed B&B.

David Yubeta is a native Arizonan and recently retired from the National Park Service. His expertise is in historic preservation of earthen resources. David feels it is an honor to be of service to Empire Ranch Foundation and looks forward to assisting the board in meeting future preservation challenges for the Empire Ranch property. David currently resides with his wife Kim, an accomplished jewelry designer, in Tubac.

Board members Emil Franzi and J. Jeffrey Matthews were elected to second terms. Faith Boice, Steve Boice, Bill Schock, Peggy Theibert, Tim Vail, and Judith Williams will be continuing on the board. We are most grateful for the time and expertise that these dedicated volunteers will contribute to the Foundation in the coming year.

Priorities... (continued from page 2)

structural repairs is underway!

BLM's implementation and funding of these projects allows the Foundation to redirect its own preservation efforts to other buildings and projects. The Board has approved moving forward with work on the Huachuca House. This building, most recently used for housing the BLM Ranger, will be rehabilitated as a Visitor Welcome Center, while also providing the Foundation with storage/office areas. The plan reflects the benefits of "adaptive re-use," a preservation approach that promotes retention of historic look and feel, while making buildings usable for the public, BLM, and our partners.

If your interest extends to hands-on participation, be sure to join us on Saturday morning February 19 for the first Volunteer Day of 2011! We start at 8 a.m. and work until noon, when we break for lunch provided by ERF. It's a great opportunity to meet your fellow Foundation members and be part of the preservation of this unique historic treasure!

FIRST VOLUNTEER DAY OF 2011!!

Saturday, February 19, 8am - Noon

Let us know you'll be there,

call 888-364-2829, or

admin@empireranchfoundation.org

Stang Grant to Fund Docent Training Program

We are delighted to announce that the Fred. W. Stang Foundation has awarded a \$3,000 grant to ERF for a pilot program to develop a docent training program for Empire Ranch tours. The primary goal of the program is to recruit and train volunteer docents to give monthly tours at the Empire Ranch. Several types of tours are planned including a general introduction to the history of the Empire Ranch, its buildings and its people, and expanded tours which conclude with hands-on demonstrations that provide different learning opportunities such as adobe making or cowboy cooking.

We anticipate that docent training will begin in late spring or early summer. If you're interested in participating as a docent or providing demonstrations please let us know: call (888) 364-2829, or email admin@empireranchfoundation.org.

A New Look for a New Year

Recently the Empire Ranch Foundation's long-term printer, U.S. Press & Graphics, merged with a larger company, AlphaGraphics CPS. One benefit of this change is that we are now able to print the *Empire Ranch Foundation News* in full color at no increase in price. "Vantage Point" by Bill Moomey looks even better in full color. The painting won the coveted People's Choice Award at the Empire 100.



Gifts in Remembrance

The Empire Ranch Foundation deeply appreciates donations recently received:

In Memory of:

Richard Dawson • John Donaldson
Earl F. Glenn, Jr. • Carey Ingram
Laura (Dusty) Vail Ingram
Grace Jones • Patti Kelly
Lucy O. Ross • Julia S. Ruch
Marie Kathleen Schorr
John & Goldie Stark • Laura Perry Vail
Austin Wood

Santa Cruz Cachers

One of the goals of a grant ERF received from the Sulphur Springs Valley Electric Cooperative was achieved by establishing geocaching club for teens in eastern Santa Cruz County to encourage enjoyment of the outdoors, teach navigation skills using maps, compass, and GPS devices, and foster stewardship projects. The Santa Cruz Cachers, established in 2010, meets the second Sunday of every month, 1:00 pm – 4:00 pm, to explore the exciting hobbies of geocaching and letterboxing, and high tech and low tech treasure hunt games. Membership is free and teens and adults alike are welcome to participate in the monthly hikes. To learn more, call the Empire Ranch Foundation (888) 364-2829, or email admin@empireranchfoundation.org.

Working Calendar

[Location: Empire Ranch Headquarters, unless otherwise noted. To volunteer, or for more information, call (888) 364-2829]

February

Ongoing Empire 100 Western Art Show & Sale, Open to the public, 8:30am to 4pm, Monday-Friday, *Northern Trust, 3450 East Sunrise Drive, Tucson*

19 Volunteer Work Day, 8am to Noon

March

Through March 10: Empire 100 Western Art Show & Sale, Open to the public, 8:30am to 4pm, Monday-Friday, *Northern Trust, 3450 East Sunrise Drive, Tucson*

14 Wild About the Grasslands! "Teen Leadership Initiative", 9am to 5pm, Ages 12-17

15 & 16 Wild About the Grasslands! "Cowboy Camp Out", Ages 12-17

19 ERF Board Meeting, 9am to noon, Empire Ranch

19 Tour of the Empire Ranch (Arizona Archeology Month), 1pm, Public Invited

April

9 Volunteer Work Day, 8am to noon (note new date)

16 Spring Trail Ride & Western Barbecue Dinner

Save the Date!

The 2011 Roundup & Open House is Saturday, Nov. 5

2010/2011 Membership Reply

Yes, I want to help save the Empire Ranch for future generations!

Name: _____
(Please enter name(s) in your preferred format for acknowledgments.)

Street/P.O. Address: _____

City, State, ZIP : _____

Phone: (____) _____ Email: _____

☐ Check enclosed Charge to: ☐ MC ☐ Visa ☐ Discover ☐ This is a new address

Credit Card Number

Exp. Date. Signature

☐ This donation is also in ___memory/___appreciation of _____

☐ This is a gift membership from: _____

EMPIRE RANCH FOUNDATION

- ☐ \$35 Homesteader
- ☐ \$50 Total Wreck Miner
- ☐ \$100 Wrangler
- ☐ \$250 Vaquero
- ☐ \$500 Jefe
- ☐ \$1,000 Patron
- ☐ \$2,500 Majordomo
- ☐ \$5,000 Cattle Baron
- ☐ \$10,000 Territorial Governor
- ☐ \$_____ Year-end Gift
- ☐ \$_____ Other

Please Mail To: Empire Ranch Foundation, P.O. Box 842, Sonoita, AZ 85637

The Empire Ranch Foundation has an IRS 501(c)(3) non-profit classification; donations are tax-deductible as allowed by law.

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