



# EMPIRE RANCH FOUNDATION NEWS

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

[www.empireranchfoundation.org](http://www.empireranchfoundation.org)

## The Beginning

of 2012 and we are off to an excellent start! Your member response to our year-end appeal has been stellar! We are so very grateful for your loyalty, your belief in our mission, and your willingness to support it. We always look forward to speaking with you at our events, answering your questions, and above all hearing your ideas.

With your generous support we are working on final touches for our Visitor Contact Station. The plans for the roof and window repairs will be completed soon, and interpretive signage is in production.

We also wish to thank the BLM staff at the Tucson Field Office for their continuing support and expertise.

Help us inform your schools, youth groups, and churches about our *Wild About The Grasslands!* educational programs, a fun and inspiring approach to learning about Las Cienegas NCA ecology, animals, grasslands, and endangered species. Youngsters develop high-tech GPS skills during geocaching quests, and learn about "real" life as a cowboy and what it was like to grow up on a working cattle ranch.

Plan to join the fun while supporting the Foundation. Help out at our Volunteer Days, participate in an event like our April Trail Ride, and/or donate period items for future display. *We have great members and we have fun!!!*

I know I have said this before; I believe that it is worth repeating...

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

With Appreciation,

Carla Kerekes Martin, President



## Empire 100 Show Opens to Record Crowds and Bustling Sales

Many were calling it the best artistic show ever as 120 works of western art created by 85 highly talented artists graced the walls at the Opening Reception of the 2012 Empire 100 Western Art Show at Northern Trust. More than 400 enjoyed the reception that is hosted by Northern Trust and its volunteers.

A crowd gathered in the lobby of Northern Trust anxiously waiting the 4:30pm opening of doors when sales would begin. A flurry of sales jammed the cashier's table and by the end of the evening 21 paintings sold, breaking the \$20,000 mark.

Noted Featured Artist Don Crowley had three stunning works of art in the show, and his breathtakingly detailed image of woman and child in *Lakota Mother* won Best of Show (photo, top left), while Santos Barbosa won Best of Empire for his *Empire Cow Camp* (photo, p. 2).

The art jury led by Laura Davis, serving her first year as art show chair, had the challenging task of making art selections from more than 430 images entered. The result is a truly stunning display of art, varying in style and price.

Nearing the close of the Opening Reception, Carla Kerekes Martin, ERF president (shown with Northern Trust Vice President Henry Boice in middle photo, left), acknowledged the longstanding sponsorship of the show by Northern Trust. She also bid Carol Goddard a grateful farewell (photo, bottom left) and best wishes in her

*(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.

## Empire 100 (cont'd from p. 1)

retirement from Northern Trust. Carol has coordinated the show during all the years the show has been at Northern Trust.

Laura Davis also acknowledged the artists for donating a portion of each sale to the Foundation. She then made the announcement to a round of applause that the 2013 Featured Artist will be nationally recognized western artist John Solie.

If you haven't yet seen the Empire 100 Western Art Show & Sale, please don't miss it! The show runs through Friday, March 9. Art collectors and enthusiasts are welcome to view and purchase art from 8:30am to 4:00pm, Monday through Friday (except bank holidays). Artwork can also be viewed on the ERF website, [www.empireranchfoundation.org](http://www.empireranchfoundation.org). For purchases or more information about the art, please call the Foundation, 888-364-2829.



Featured Artist Don Crowley (left) enjoys the limelight with fellow artist John Solie.



Art show founder Marion Hyland (seated) together with husband Bob (left) and ERF supporters Dave & Dorene Daiss. (photos: G. Auerbach)



## 2012 Empire 100

### Western Art Show & Sale

Northern Trust

3250 East Sunrise Drive, Tucson

January 9 - March 9, 2012

Featured Artist Don Crowley  
Chair, Laura Davis

### Participating Artists

Roger Alderman • Jennifer Arno-Coleman  
Jack Atkins • Skip Bailey  
Santos B. Barbosa • Bernita Barfield  
Joan Bartlett • Jane S. Barton  
Lorrie Beck • Sandra Bellamy  
Terry Bowman • Palmer Butler  
Stephanie Campos • Bonnie Casey  
Cindy Clayberg • Karen Cooper  
Sheila Cottrell • Don Crowley  
Rossana E. Currie • Don Dane  
Marsha Davis • Mia DeLode  
Nancy Denzler • Robert Deurloo  
Jann Dials • Linda Dobkin  
Ron Emig • Deborah Fellows  
Fred Fellows • Brent Flory  
Lori Fowle • Pat Frederick  
Gloria Frasier Giffords • Robert Goldman  
Aline Goodman • Faye Gustafson  
Leigh Gusterson • Ginger Hambly  
Carolyne Hawley • Ron Himler  
Rock Jackson • John Jefferies  
Keri Jelks • Sue Krzyston  
C.J. Latta • Susan E. Libby  
Steven E. Lillegard • Jeff Love  
Christine Lytwynczuk • Karol Mack  
Diana Madaras • Allan Mardon  
Annie Margarita • Ken Mayernik  
Karen McLain  
Lisa Johnson McLoughlin  
Debbie Meyer • Paul Miller  
Bill Mittag • Nancy Monsman  
Judy Montalto • Bill Moomey  
Judy DeVincentis Morgan  
Sheri Morris  
Doug Oliver • Mac L. Pakula  
Hank Richter • Owen Rose  
Sherry Salari Sander • Barry Sapp  
Mary Schaefer • Clement Scott  
Brenda Semanick • G. Eric Slayton  
John Solie • J.M. Steele  
Shirley Stewart • Carol Swinney  
Debra Thompson • Sandra VanderWall  
Jack Wahl • Galen Wallum  
Larry D. Wollam • Wendy Zachau

## 2012 Officers and Board Members

The following officers and members of the Board of Directors were elected unanimously at the November 19, 2011, Board meeting:

**Carla Kerekes Martin** of Tucson was elected to a third term as President—the first ERF President to serve more than a two-year term. An executive assistant and office manager for an accounting firm in Tucson, Carla joined the Board in 2007 and was Treasurer from 2007-2009. Carla notes that her willingness to continue as President is due in large part to her love of the Empire Ranch and the superb support she receives from the ERF Board.

**John Komrada** of Tucson was re-elected as First Vice President. He joined the ERF Board in 2006 and has served as Vice President since 2009. His experience in the entertainment industry and coordinating special events has been especially helpful for events like the Roundup.

**Ron Martin** of Tucson was re-elected Second Vice President, and to a second term on the Board of Directors. A principal manufacturing engineer with Raytheon Missile Systems Company, his interests include historic preservation and restoration and horses.

**Peggy Theibert** of Tucson, who joined the board in 2010, was elected Secretary. A retired attorney, Peggy is especially interested in ERF's education and history and archives programs.

**Tom Rogos** of Sonoita, a board member since 2006, was elected to a third term as Treasurer. Tom and his wife Cheryl own and operate La Hacienda de Sonoita, a Cowboy/Western themed B&B.

Steve Boice and Tim Vail were elected to additional three-year terms on the board. Faith Boice, Emil Franzi, Lucinda Iverson, J. Jeffrey Matthews, Bill Schock, David Steele, David Yubeta, and Judith Williams will be continuing on the board.

The Board bid a grateful farewell to Kristi Keller who joined the board in 2006 and served four terms as ERF Secretary. A generous sponsor of the Roundup, Kristi will continue her involvement as an ERF advisory committee member.

We thank all our board member volunteers for their leadership and dedication.

## Save the Dates for WATG! Summer Camps

**June 4-6, 2012**

Nature Heritage Discovery Camp  
for students ages 9-12.

**June 7-8, 2012**

Summer Adventure Camp  
for students ages 13-16.

Make plans for young people you know to participate in our *Wild About the Grasslands!* summer camps—unique outdoor learning adventures at the historic Empire Ranch. For more information or to register, call (888) 364-2829 or visit the Foundation's website [www.empireranchfoundation.org](http://www.empireranchfoundation.org).

## Day of Discovery at Colossal Cave

The Foundation, in collaboration with the BLM, hosted a table on January 7, 2012 at the "Day of Discovery" at Colossal Cave Mountain Park as part of the "BEYOND" Tucson event. BEYOND is a special, community-wide event to commemorate and celebrate those injured and lost in the tragic Tucson shooting on January 8, 2011. Families and children were encouraged to make a nature journal which could later be used to discover the outdoors on one of the guided hikes at Colossal Cave. Children also made flags incorporating messages of hope for the future, and artwork representing how they personally connect with the outdoors. Additionally, children created strands of beads by selecting one bead of courage along with a personal note. The beads of courage strands will be presented to the families of the victims.



(photo: A. Markstein)



(photos: A. Bunting)

## New Wayside Signs Surround Ranch House

Three attractive and informative wayside signs designed by Larry Ormsby and Carole Thickestun were recently installed by BLM at strategic points around the Empire Ranch House. They tell the story of the development and uses of Empire Ranch Headquarters buildings.

One sign illustrates the growth of the Empire Ranch House from a four-room adobe house constructed circa 1874 to the twenty-two room Ranch House onsite today. Another sign describes the various uses of the Ranch House rooms over the years; while a third provides a birds-eye view of the rooms and their dates of construction. ERF is most grateful to our BLM partner for helping to enhance the information available to Empire Ranch visitors by funding the creation of these signs.

## Saddle Up! Spring Trail Ride & Steak Dinner!

Saddle Up! for the 2012 Spring Trail Ride at the Empire Ranch in Sonoita on Saturday, April 7. You'll ride through the rolling hills and spectacular scenery of Las Cienegas National Conservation Area. All riders will return to the historic Empire Ranch House to enjoy a "Steak Dinner at the Ranch." This year's honoree will be Dick Schorr, a past president of the Foundation, and founder of Legacy Day at the Empire Ranch.

Choose a two-hour or four-hour ride—each offering an escape into the lush Las Cienegas you won't soon forget! We'll also offer scenic wagon rides for those who want to experience the Empire Ranch from a different point of view.

All rides will arrive back in the early afternoon so that you and your trail ride buddies can chow down on a well-earned, sumptuous steak dinner, cooked to order with plenty of fixin's and a delicious cobbler to boot! The dinner is all inclusive of beer, wine and assorted beverages.

Join us for this annual family friendly, fun event, this year featuring tours, games, Western music, storytellers and more!

Bring your own horse, or make advance horse rental reservations with us (see enclosed flier). For more information, call the Foundation at 888-364-2829, or go to [www.empireranchfoundation.org](http://www.empireranchfoundation.org). See you at the 2012 Empire Ranch Spring Trail Ride on April 7!

## Enhanced Foundation Brochure Published

We are pleased to announce the publication of an enhanced Empire Ranch Foundation membership brochure. In addition to providing membership information the brochure now includes a brief description of the history of the Empire Ranch, the history and mission of the Foundation, and a listing of annual ERF events, youth education and other programs. The development and printing of the first edition of the brochure was funded through a grant from the Fred W. Stang Foundation. Copies of the brochure can be requested via email ([admin@empireranchfoundation.org](mailto:admin@empireranchfoundation.org)) or phone (888-364-2829).

## The Empire's Saddle Rack

One of the most memorable architectural features of the north corral area, on the east side of the Empire Ranch House, was the covered saddle rack that abutted Room 8 (the cook's or foreman's quarters). Empire Ranch family members and cowboys alike recall that the rack was where saddles and other tack were kept handy, as shown in the 1950s photo below.



In the early days of the Empire Ranch a short adobe wall in the same general location was used, as shown in the 1880s photo below.



Eventually, the Vails replaced the adobe wall with a wooden structure, to which they added the covering roof around 1920. This wooden roofed saddle rack remained in place through the Boice era (see additional photos on right, from 1924 and 1940).

The covered saddle rack was removed sometime in the 1970s. The Empire

## Gifts in Remembrance

The Empire Ranch Foundation deeply appreciates donations recently received  
In Memory of:

John Donaldson  
Earl F. Glenn, Jr.  
Laura (Dusty) Vail Ingram  
Patti Kelly  
Movie Stuntmen  
Ed Vail



Ranch's "Adaptive Reuse Plan" recommends that the saddle rack be reintroduced, but that it be reconstructed as a moveable rack to ensure maximum flexibility in the use of the space.

*(Photos courtesy of the Boice Family and Laura Vail Ingram.)*

## Working Calendar

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

### February

**1-29** *Empire 100 Western Art Show & Sale - Open to the Public, 8:30am-4pm, Mon-Fri, Northern Trust, 3450 E. Sunrise Dr., Tucson*

**11** *Monthly Docent-led tours of Empire Ranch House, 11am, 1pm, Free. Meet at Empire Ranch Visitor Contact Center*

**18** *Volunteer Work Day, 8am-Noon*

### March

**1-9** *Empire 100 Western Art Show & Sale - Open to the Public, 8:30am-4pm, Mon-Fri, Northern Trust, 3450 E. Sunrise Dr., Tucson*

**10** *Monthly Docent-led tours of Empire Ranch House, 11am, 1pm, Free. Meet at Empire Ranch Visitor Contact Center*

**17** *ERF Board Meeting, 9am-Noon*

### April

**7** *Spring Trail Ride & Western Barbecue Dinner*

**14** *Monthly Docent-led tours of Empire Ranch House, 11am, 1pm, Free. Meet at Empire Ranch Visitor Contact Center*

**21** *Volunteer Work Day, 8am-Noon*

### May

**12** *Monthly Docent-led tours of Empire Ranch House, 11am, 1pm, Free. Meet at Empire Ranch Visitor Contact Center*

**19** *ERF Board Meeting, 9am-Noon*

## 2011/2012 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.*

[f12]