

EMPIRE RANCH FOUNDATION NEWS

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

www.empireranchfoundation.org

Thanks for your Support!

I'm proud and excited to be elected president of the Empire Ranch Foundation and look forward to a great year of progress at the Empire Ranch. I want to personally thank Carla Martin for her vision and accomplishments during her three-year service as president, and look forward to her continued participation as Vice President and Community Outreach chair.

Thanks so much for your support and renewal of your membership this year. Your contributions have made possible improvements to the Visitor Contact Station, as well as other preservation projects and educational outreach programs at the Empire Ranch. If you've not yet sent in your membership for the 2012-2013 year, it is not too late to do so. Please use the mail-in form on page 4 or make a membership donation online at www.empireranchfoundation.org/donation.htm

We are actively pursuing funding opportunities for other important initiatives, and your volunteer efforts are always a very important component of our requests (see the article on page 3). We're delighted that the Fred W. Stang Foundation recently awarded funds for educational audiovisual equipment for the Visitor Contact Station, which will support our youth and docent education programs.

Thank you again for all you do to sustain the Empire Ranch and for assisting us in preserving this historic treasure.

Sincerely,

Ron Martin, President



Empire 100 Art Show Starts Big!

Yee-haw! While galleries across the country have had a tough time in recent years, the 2013 Empire 100 Western Art Show & Sale at Northern Trust got off to a fast gallop, selling 20 paintings valued at over \$31,000 during its opening week.

The January 17 Opening Reception was preceded by a steady stream of viewers during the four days of previews as interested buyers eyed their favorites before sales began. Fifteen minutes before the doors opened, buyers lined up to get a number allowing them an orderly but excited procession to the sales desk.

Much of the success of the show is attributed to the strength of the artists represented. Featured Artist John Solie's masterful life-size works of art drew great praise, and his painting "Envy" (photo on page 2) won the Best of Show Award. The Best of Empire Ranch inspired art award went to Sarah Kennedy's "Chocolate Drop."

"All in all, this year's show was a big success," says Empire 100 Chair Laura Davis. "It was a great opening night for both crowds and sales." Laura warmly thanked Henry Boice, President, and Francie Merryman, Vice President, for
(continued on p. 2)

From top: purchasers queuing for buyer numbers; former Art Chair Ginger Hambly and Miro Tymosiak view art up close; artist Debbie Meyer and ERF Board Member Tim Vail before her painting; Northern Trust's Event Coordinator Carol Goddard (l) and Vice President Francie Merryman (r), with ERF's President Ron Martin and Art Chair Laura Davis (center) (photos: Gary Auerbach)

Empire 100 (cont'd from p. 1)

Northern Trust's longtime sponsorship of the Empire 100 show.

The Empire 100 show features such a wide variety of Western art. So while there are traditional landscapes depicting romanticized western settings of horses and cattle, there are quirky and fun paintings like Debbie Meyer's "Ms. Cholula," depicting a larger than life bottle of hot sauce (see photo on page 1), and Carolyne Hawley's "Hanging Out," two cute pigs definitely in need of a home! The show also features about a dozen beautiful bronze sculptures.



2013 Empire 100 Western Art Show & Sale

Northern Trust
6444 E Tanque Verde Rd, Tucson
Monday-Friday, 9am-3pm

January 14 - February 28, 2013

Featured Artist John Solie
Chair, Laura Davis

Participating Artists

Geri Acosta • Susan Adler
Chuck Albanese • Roger Alderman
Carole Andreen-Harris
Christopher Andrews • Skip Bailey
Santos Barbosa • Bernita Barfield
Joan Bartlett • Michael Bell
Joseph Birdsong • Terry Bowman
Palmer Butler • Grace Calterone

Despite the fact that the show started so strong, there's "still lots of incredible art for sale and to see," Davis notes. Nearing the close of the opening reception, Davis announced Carol Swinney as the Featured Artist for 2014.

The Empire 100 Western Art Show & Sale will hang through February 28 at Northern Trust, located at 6444 E. Tanque Verde, in Tucson. For more information about the art, call the Empire Ranch Foundation at 888-364-2829, or to view images of all of the art please visit the Foundation's website, www.empireranchfoundation.org.

The names of the artists participating in this outstanding show are shown below.

Stephanie Campos
Natalie Caproni-Carey
Bonnie Casey • Judy Choate
Cindy Clayberg • Barbara Conaway
Karen Cooper • Don Crowley
Millard Davidson • Marsha Davis
Mia DeLode • Nancy Denzler
Robert Deurloo • Linda Dobkin
Tom Dorr • Ron Emig
Bernard Fierro • Judy Flynn
Bonnie Gasior • Johan Gericke
Al Glann • Leigh Gusterson
Jerry W. Harris • Carolyne Hawley
Ron Himler • Rock Jackson
John T. Jefferies • Keri Jelks
Debra Jones • Sarah Kennedy
Sue Krzyston • C.J. Latta
Susan E. Libby • Jon Lightfoot
Allan Mardon • Ken Mayernik
Lisa McLoughlin • Debbie Meyer
Paul Miller • Judy Montalto
Bill Moomey
Judy DeVincentis Morgan
Baylee Nealon • Kathleen Newby
Doug Oliver • Mac Pakula
Pat Parkinson • Brenda Peo
Walter Porter • Hank Richter
Kathy Robbins • Owen Rose
Barry Sapp • Clement Scott
Brenda Semanick • Marla Smith
John Solie • J.M. & Tod Steele
Shirley Stewart
Sherry Blanchard Stuart
Carol Swinney • Peggy Truders
Sandra VanderWall • Burneta Venosdel
Fred Wackerle • Jack S. Wahl
Lynn Waltke • Sarah Webber
Laurie Williams • Kathryn Willis
Larry D. Wollam • Wendy Zachau

2013 Foundation Leaders

The following officers and members of the Board of Directors were elected at the November 17, 2012, and January 19, 2013 board meetings:

President-Ron Martin of Tucson joined the board in 2008, was elected to a second board term in 2011, and served as Second Vice President from 2009-2011. A principal manufacturing engineer with Raytheon Missile Systems Company, Ron has provided significant leadership to ERF preservation efforts as chair of the Preservation Committee and during ERF volunteer days.

Vice President-Carla Kerekes Martin of Tucson joined the Board in 2007, served as ERF Treasurer from 2007-2009, and recently completed a three year term as ERF President (2009-2012). Carla 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.

Secretary-Peggy Theibert of Tucson will serve a second term as Secretary. She has served on the Board of Directors since 2010. A retired attorney, Peggy is especially interested in ERF's education and history and archives programs.

Treasurer-Faith Boice of Vail, who joined the ERF Board in 2009, was elected Treasurer and to a second term on the Board. A great granddaughter of Frank S. Boice she is the accounting coordinator of Classic Tents, and sole proprietor of JFB Financial Services.

Karen Kamp of Tucson was elected to the Board of Directors. She is a technical writer for Xerox Midas+, a medical information systems company. Karen served 7 years in US Army as a trainer and training developer. Originally from Chicago, Karen moved to the area in the late 1970s. She loves the natural beauty of the region and learning about its history. She enthusiastically supports ERF's mission and hopes to do so even more as a board member.

E.M. "Ed" Foster, Jr. of Tucson was elected to the Board of Directors. Ed is a graduate of the Southern Arizona School for Boys and holds a BS degree from Florida International University School of

(continued on p. 4)

Family Fun Days!

The "Olde Time Winter Holiday Celebration" on December 8, 2012 was a great success. This Family Fun Day! event is the first of many to be offered by ERF's *Wild About the Grasslands!* youth education program.

Walter Vail (Van Fowers) and Margaret Vail (Gail Corkill) welcomed visitors to the Empire Ranch House and invited them to "Tea and Cookies" with their daughters Mary Eliza (Rachel Ward) and Maggie (Jana Mardocco). Festivities included docent-led tours, Christmas tree decorating, and holiday crafts and cookie making for the kids. Western singer and songwriter Janice Deardorff led the sing-along featuring favorite cowboy tunes and Christmas carols. The living history performances and engaging activities delighted everyone.

The first Family Fun Day! event of 2013 was held at Colossal Cave Mountain Park on January 5th. Karen Simms and Gail Corkill represented BLM and ERF at **BEYOND 2013** which featured outdoor activities sponsored by local non-profit agencies to commemorate those who died or were injured at the tragic shooting in Tucson on 8 Jan 2010. **BEYOND 2013** celebrates our communities, and commits us all to a better future.



Vail family reenactors greeted visitors for Christmas tea, cookies, and singing (top); cookie-making and crafts made great fun for kids (photos: C. Auerbach)

The Value of Volunteering

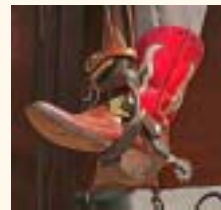
As Ron Martin noted in his President's message, volunteer contributions are integral to the success of ERF's mission. Volunteer hours have another important value, which directly contributes to grant dollars we can raise for ERF projects and programs.

For example, the BLM has been able to provide funds for preservation and education programs when the dollars awarded are matched by ERF. The match can consist of either cash funds, or equivalent volunteer hour contributions. Each year BLM determines a dollar value for a volunteer hour; in the last fiscal year the value was \$22/hour. As detailed in the table below, from July 1, 2011 to June 30, 2012 ERF documented a total of 8,519 contributed volunteer hours, which BLM valued at \$187,418.

Activity (July 2011-June 2012)	Hours	Value
Outreach Events (e.g. Roundup)	3762	\$ 82,764
Docents & Interpretation	1267	\$ 7,874
Preservation (e.g. Volunteer Days)	1676	\$ 36,872
Administration (Board & Committees)	1462	\$ 32,164
Education (WATG! & Legacy Day)	352	\$ 7,744
Total	8519	\$ 187,418

Many granting agencies count volunteer hours to match funding awarded. The past track record of our volunteers allows us to confidently include volunteers' in-kind contributions in grant applications. Thanks volunteers, for all you contribute to ERF!

SADDLE UP!



Ride the scenic Las Cienegas National Conservation Area!

2013 Spring Trail Ride & Steak Dinner

Saturday, April 6, 2013, at the Historic Empire Ranch

Horse and wagon rides, music, barbeque, tours & activities

Bring your own horse or rent from us!

See enclosed flier for registration details. Rides and rentals are limited, so don't delay. For more information, call 888-364-2829

WATG! 2013

An expanded *Wild About the Grasslands!* youth program will be launched in 2013-2014. A variety of WATG! field classroom days for elementary school age students, Family Fun Day! events, and teen conservation camps will be offered to local area schools and after school programs. Program goals include increasing options to reach more children and families, strengthening partnerships with Patagonia and Elgin school districts, the Vail Preservation Society of Vail, AZ, the Cienega Watershed Partnership, and enlisting new partners.

ERF is collaborating with Vail Preservation Society to design a "Crossroads Through Time" project. A "museum without walls" will connect schools, families, and area visitors to the natural and cultural landscape of the Cienega Valley, and link the Vail and Empire Ranch history to regional history. Several "time capsule" geocaches and letterboxes containing interpretive educational materials will be placed at points of interest along a mapped route from Vail to the Empire Ranch.

Watch for future announcements for more fun educational opportunities for youngsters and their families at Empire Ranch this year.

ERF Leaders *(cont'd from p. 2)*

Hotel Administration. His career in hotel management included leadership positions with many premier hotel properties and corporations. Returning to Tucson in 2003 he built the new Desert Diamond Hotel and Casino, volunteered with the Tucson Rodeo Committee, and is an active Board Member of Pima Community College Foundation.

Board members Bill Schock and Judith Williams were elected to second terms. Steve Boice, Bunker De France, Emil Franzi, Lucinda Iverson, J. Jeffrey Matthews, David Steele, Tim Vail, and David Yubeta will be continuing on the board. We greatly appreciate the contributions of time and expertise of these dedicated volunteers.

We are grateful for the outstanding contributions of John Komrada and Tom Rogos, who served on the board from 2006-2012, and outgoing President Carla Martin. John brought a new level of professionalism to ERF events and media relations. Tom served three years as ERF Treasurer and with his wife Cheryl cooked up delicious Dutch oven cobbler at ERF events. Both John and Tom have pledged to continue their involvement with ERF activities including event planning and entertainment.

Accomplishments during Carla's term as President include the renovation and opening of the Visitor Contact Station, reinstating the Trail Ride, and launching the "Movies at the Loft" fundraisers. Carla expanded collaboration with other local non-profit groups, and promoted a cooperative team approach with BLM staff and ERF members.

Gifts in Remembrance

The Empire Ranch Foundation gratefully acknowledges gifts recently received

In Memory of:

Patti Kelly, Barbara Donaldson,
John Donaldson, Jan Vail
Earl F. Glenn, Jr.

In Honor of:

Dick Schorr

Arizona Memory Project Includes Empire Ranch Oral Histories

Since 2010 the Empire Ranch Foundation has been an active member of the Cienega Watershed Partnership Oral History Work Group. With grant funding provided by BLM, the work group has converted to digital format oral histories originally recorded on analog audiocassettes; transcribed many oral histories; and organized several training sessions.

Recently records of oral histories from several member organizations, including fifteen from the ERF, have been added to the Arizona Memory Project (AMP) database as part of the Voices of the Cienega Watershed collection. Each ERF oral history record includes a description of the oral history content, a three-five minute digital excerpt of the recording, and in most cases a photograph of the interviewee. To view the Voices of the Cienega Watershed collection visit the AMP website at: <http://azmemory.azlibrary.gov/cdm/search/collection/cienoral>.

Working Calendar

Location: Meet at Visitor Contact Center, Empire Ranch Headquarters, unless otherwise noted. To volunteer, or for more information, call (888) 364-2829.

February

1-28 Empire 100 Western Art Show & Sale - Open to the public, 9am to 3pm, M-F, Northern Trust, 6444 E Tanque Verde Rd., Tucson. Please note new location!

9 Docent-led tours of Empire Ranch House, 11am, 1pm, free, open to all.

16 Volunteer Work Day, 8am-Noon. All welcome! RSVP 888-364-2829.

28 Empire 100 Western Art Show & Sale - Last Day, 9am to 3pm, Northern Trust, 6444 E Tanque Verde Rd., Tucson.

March

9 Docent-led tours of Empire Ranch House, 11am, 1pm, free, open to all.

16 ERF Board Meeting, 9am-Noon.

April

6 Spring Trail Ride & Western Barbecue Dinner, horseback and wagon rides followed by steak dinner, see page 3. Open to the public.

13 Docent-led tours of Empire Ranch House, 11am, 1pm, free, open to all.

21 Volunteer Appreciation Celebration Lunch, La Hacienda de Sonoita Bed & Breakfast, Sonoita.

Save the Date!

The 2013 Roundup & Open House will be held **Saturday, November 2, 2013**. Please mark your calendar and plan to be there!

2012/2013 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.

[f13]