

EMPIRE RANCH FOUNDATION NEWS

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www.empireranchfoundation.org

Hollywood Makes History at Empire Ranch

What a great day we had on October 1, when nearly 2,500 visitors came to share the spirit of *Hollywood on the Empire* at the 2005 Roundup. The scenery and weather for the drive, as well at the ranch, made it abundantly clear why Empire Ranch territory has been a movie studio favorite for conveying the beauty and spirit of ranching in the old west.

The new star introduced at this open house was the now stabilized adobe haybarn, in its public use debut as movie theater. Audiences sat, transfixed, watching *Red River*, starring John Wayne. They sat on hay bales in the darkened haybarn, just a stone's throw away from the very places where 60 years before the stars they watched filmed the very scenes they saw.

What a fine public christening for this great old building that's now been made safe, but whose hand cast adobe walls tell stories of over 120 years of hard use and rearrangements.

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(above) People flocked inside the Adobe Haybarn for screenings of "Red River". They passed by full-size images of movie stars on the way in. (foreground)



(top right) Visitors on the east side of the Empire Ranch House, intrigued by photo stills taken from "Red River" (such as on right), filmed 60 years prior on the spot where they now stand.



Free Lunch at The Ranch

Well almost free...bring your family's favorite dish, and enjoy the delights of fifty others at the annual Membership Pot Luck Buffet, for you and the kids or friends:

Saturday, November 19, 2005 -- Noon to 2:30pm

At the Ranch Headquarters --**Guided Tours Available**

Dine in the casual elegance of the Victorian Wing while chatting with other members and directors of the Foundation.

SPECIAL TREAT! "Western Swing & Fiddle Classics" performance by award winning fiddler David Kaemmer and friends.

Look for your personal invitation & RSVP card in the mail by November 12.

Your Year-End Financial Support

Member financial and volunteer support brought an outstanding year of progress and growth during 2005, and in 2006 we expect to do even more. But we need your help! ...

(continued on page 4, together with FY04/05 Financial Report)

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.

Roundup (cont'd from p. 1)

Western music accompanied the entire day, varying as one wandered the ranch house grounds. Authentic tunes by live fiddlers and singers filled the air on the east side of the house, where visitors walked or wagoned past exhibits to register, enjoyed the stone corral's shade while viewing western crafts demonstrations, or watched kids absorbed in special crafts activities.

Favorite recorded western songs serenaded visitors touring and discovering rooms and additional exhibits inside the old ranch house itself. And west of the ranch house, rousing themes from western films kept toes tapping as folks visited more exhibits, feasted on barbecue, watched demonstrations by mounted shooters and trick ropers, and entered the dazzling art exhibition in the Victorian Addition (see separate article, p. 3).

Many, many first-time visitors came as well as old friends. They saw and toured the ranch headquarters displayed and interpreted as a historic preservation work-in-progress and also a working ranch. "Make it safe, but keep it real," they said. "Please don't spiff it up too much." We couldn't agree more. Thank you for coming to share our vision and help us see it develop. Please join the effort and please come again next year!

Our sincere thanks go to the hundreds of volunteers, exhibitors, demonstrators, and artists who made this memorable community event possible, and who assured that it functioned smoothly and safely. Special gratitude is due to Sarah Miller, Billie Donaldson, Christin Peterson, and Bruce Lehmann who led the planning and coordination.

We thank BLM, our partner, for sustained help and support in this event and in the Empire Ranch effort overall. And we would also like to recognize and thank the following major supporters who helped make this rich day affordable:

Stockmen's Bank - Jack & Aline Goodman
Rio Nuevo Publishing - Click Automotive Group of Green Valley - Kristen Keller - J. Jeffrey Matthews - Buffalo Gals at Sonoita Hardware - Sonoran Institute - Christian Reaney - Schouten, Klein & Sullivan, P.C. - Arbuckles' Ariosa Coffee - Old Tucson Studios - Desert DJs.



Selected Roundup moments, October 1, 2006.



North view of South Barn now scheduled for repairs this Fall. (photo: G. Ingram)

Year's End Brings Good News from BLM

We are delighted to announce that the BLM Tucson Field Office (TFO), Gila District, recently received \$20,000 in competitively awarded funds to be used for major roof and structural repairs to the large barn south of the Empire Ranch House. The Foundation's partnership with the BLM, and its past and promised cost sharing, was a major factor in winning the award.

The BLM funds will cover costs for performing the work using BLM construction and maintenance staff. The Foundation will fund purchase of materials. Work should be completed this fall, before winter weather can do further damage.

An additional great step forward has also occurred. The TFO FY06 budget allocations were recently approved, permitting BLM to use deferred maintenance funds to undertake the first phase of a planned ten-phase project over the next six years to make the long-term structural repairs and facilities upgrades necessary for the adaptive reuse of the Empire Ranch Headquarters, pursuant to the Adaptive Reuse Plan created and approved over the past five years.

This first phase, to be performed in the coming 12 months, is for planning and design of public restrooms and disabled persons parking at the headquarters.

We congratulated our partners at BLM for obtaining this funding approval in a time of tight budgets. In turn, they credited the Foundation's past partnership support as a major factor strengthening their funding requests.

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Razzle, Dazzle at Roundup Art Show

While visitors to the Roundup enjoyed the Hollywood theme by watching John Wayne in *Red River* shown in the newly restored hay barn, art patrons were making real time razzle, dazzle in the Empire Ranch House. Excited viewers streamed through the main house all day in a frenzy to claim their favorite art. Red dots sparkled with profusion as the show sold a third of the collection in six hours.

Of the 53 exhibiting artists, 30 were new to the show and 19 attended the spring photo shoot at the ranch last April. A wide array of subjects and styles were enjoyed, but the unmistakable star was the Empire Ranch featured in twenty paintings. The buildings, scenery, and people of the ranch were dotted everywhere.

Four generous donations sent the proceeds over the top for the Empire. Charles Thomas offered his magnificent portrait entitled, *Rancher's Daughter*, for silent auction. Also donated were two Michael Ewing pieces from an earlier era, and Mick Davidson's painting, *Leaving the Zaguán*. All donors are nominated for academy awards.

The Roundup Art Show had pieces ranging in price from \$150 to \$12,000. Thirty-four pieces sold, the average price being \$750. It was clear that the crowd felt that the quality of the show was consistently excellent, well priced, and very beautifully displayed. Without a doubt, this was the premier art event at the ranch since the shows began there six years ago. There is already talk of a sequel next year.

Although the art eclipsed all other excitement at the art show, the people attending were also fun to watch in tastefully flashy western wear of big buckles, denim, silver conchos, boots, leather and all manner of wide brimmed hats. One Empire celebrity, not to be named, received honorable mention for donning a T-shirt that had a transfer of an original oil painting by Rockwell Jackson on the front of it.

The talented director of the show, Christin Peterson, and her supporting cast—Keri Jelks, Marion Hyland, Sally Whitney, Zeke Browning, and a horde of brave extras and stunt men and women—are widely acclaimed for providing a truly memorable experience.



"Bye, Bye Mama" by Hank Richter (14"x17" watercolor) earned the People's Choice Award for the show.



Each art show room held surprises. Above, on the screened porch (newly repaired and painted by volunteers); below in the living room. (photos: S.Hughes)

Attention now turns to the Empire Ranch 100 show that will open in Tucson on January 23, 2006. (See announcement on right.)

Artists please note: Information about participating in the show will be available on www.empireranchfoundation.org after October 30. Participation materials may be duplicated from the website. A mailing to past artists participants will go out in November. All artists are welcome!

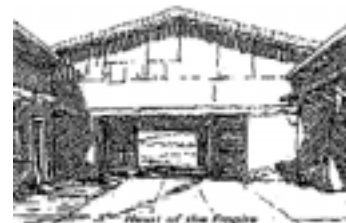


The beautifully suggestive oil "Sunset with Cows" was another favorite, created by Tom Black, a new artist to the Roundup show

Coming Next!

THE EMPIRE 100 WESTERN ART SHOW AND SALE

Benefiting the
EMPIRE RANCH FOUNDATION



Sponsored by Northern Trust Bank and the Arizona Historical Society

January 23-February 24, 2006

At Northern Trust Bank

3450 E. Sunrise Drive,

Tucson, Arizona

8:30 A.M. - 4:00 P.M.

Monday through Friday

A juried exhibition of one hundred exceptional original works in oil, water color and bronze by nationally known painters and sculptors.

A Private Viewing and Reception for Foundation Members Only will be held the evening of **January 23, 2006.**

Members, please save the date and watch for your invitation in the mail.

For a list of participating artists (available after December 16), please visit:

www.empireranchfoundation.org

Year-End (cont'd from p. 1)

The good news from BLM concerning funds for repairs to the South Barn (see article p. 2), is accompanied by our cost-share commitments to purchase materials for repairs. Your year-end donations help meet those costs, and costs of other repair and improvement projects such as planned fences replacement and further ranch house fixup work. And they help us qualify for additional cost-share grants from BLM and other organizations.

Your donations are critical to expanding our education and interpretation programs. A major goal for 2006 is the installation of significantly improved interpretive signage and photo exhibits throughout the headquarters and ranch house. This will require additional funds for exhibit construction as well as for resource photographs and content creation. We also want to enrich our collection of written and photographic research materials about the Empire Ranch, and to make these materials more accessible. Your donations will support these efforts.

With your support, we want to continue and expand upon our "Legacy Day" program bringing school youngsters out to learn about Arizona's history, and to undertake additional education initiatives.

And we will continue to use your support to maintain and expand education and outreach to new and past members of the Foundation. Membership is the core of our long term success, and not just financially. Our financial summaries don't include the thousands of community volunteer hours and gifts in kind that are donated and expended each year in support of the Foundation's mission of protecting, restoring and sustaining the Empire Ranch historical buildings and landscape as an outstanding western heritage and education center.

Please make a year-end contribution and help make 2006 an even greater success story than 2005. Thank you!

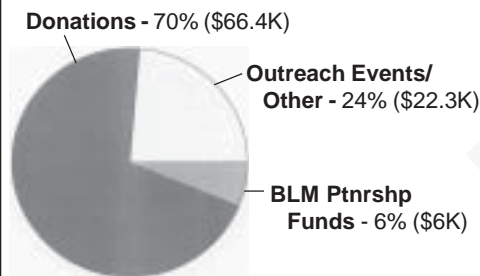
New: Index to Newsletters

The Foundation's website has recently added a topical index to the articles published in *Empire Ranch Foundation News*, June 2000 to present.

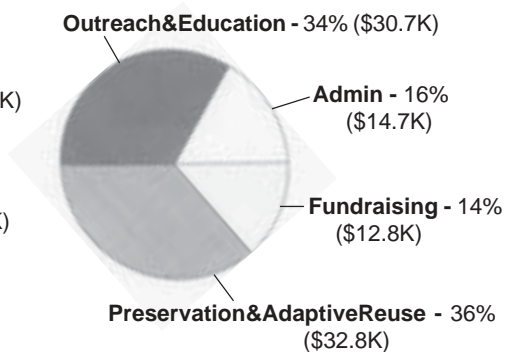
At www.empireranchfoundation.org click on "Site Map" and follow links to Index to Articles, newsletter full texts, and other downloadable information..

Empire Ranch Foundation Financial Summary FY04: July 2004 through June 2005

Income, by Source of Funds \$94,700 Total



Expenditures, by Use of Funds \$91,000 Total



Income during FY04 totalled \$94,700—70% from donations, 24% from outreach events/other, and 6% from a grant from our partner BLM.

Expenditures during FY04 totalled \$91,000—36% for preservation and adaptive reuse projects, 34% for outreach and education programs, 16% for general administration, and 14% for fundraising.

End-of-year assets totalled \$89.1K, comprising \$8K in BLM partnership funds (fully obligated); \$48.6K in Foundation preservation funds (\$15.4K obligated for contracted preservation work, \$18K for Emergency Repairs Reserve, \$2.3K for haybarn work contingency); \$1.5K in restricted 2005 Roundup sponsorship funds; \$0.2K prepaid insurance; and \$30.8K in unrestricted unobligated funds.

BLM News (cont'd from p. 2)

Planned phases and timing for the entire project will be summarized in a future article. Major construction and planning aspects will be contingent on availability of federal budget funds. However, the Empire Ranch Foundation's volunteer and cost-share support is key to maximizing those dollars and enhancing BLM funding priority.



Empire Ranch South Barn, 2004. (photo: G. Ingram)

Working Calendar

November

- 19 Board Meeting and Officer Elections
- 19 Members' Potluck Lunch

January

- 20 Board Meeting
- 23 Opening Day "Empire 100" Art Show & Sale, Tucson, AZ
- 23 Members Reception "Empire 100" Art Show & Sale, Tucson, AZ

February

- 24 Closing Day "Empire 100" Art Show & Sale, Tucson, AZ

Gifts in Remembrance

The Empire Ranch Foundation deeply appreciates recent donations sent in memory of:

Clorene Bidegain,
Mary Boland,
Earl F. Glenn,
H. G. Hedgcock,
Dusty Vail Ingram,
Ann K. Korte,
Rosalie Lehmann,
Ferne Kemp Lewis,
Audrey Wingfield