

Holiday Cookie and White Elephant Gift Exchange

by Heather Duchow, Newsletter Writer (as told to Siobhan Sullivan)



The holiday lunch was lots of fun. The café prepared three types of soup and several types of wraps. The food from the café and the cookies volunteers brought in to share were all quite tasty.

Erica Pelley was the ever-engaging emcee for the event. She mentioned that it's her "favorite hour of the year." She knows quite a bit about everyone at the Museum, and she used her knowledge to encourage people to open new gifts or steal already-opened gifts from someone else.



Some items were stolen more than others. An inflatable antler ring toss game was stolen once, stolen back by the person who opened it, and then stolen again by another person. Some participants even tried to hide precious gifts, such as a ceramic giraffe plant stand, on the floor where no one would see them. They were still stolen.



Other volunteers seemed to have almost everything they opened stolen from them. After all the stealing, they ended up with something ridiculous. One volunteer ended up with a pair of fancy shoes that actually fit! Those weren't the only shoes in the gift exchange. Another volunteer opened a pair of fancy men's shoes and was stuck with them. Should we look for the fancy men's shoes to return next year?

Other gifts were not quite what they seemed to be. For example, the bottle of wine with a wine cozy in the shape of a busty woman was actually a wine opener kit shaped like a wine bottle. A used three-in-one vacuum debuted as a mess-maker instead of a mess-remover. It

was full of confetti so when it was opened it created a small mess.

Resourceful volunteers started making plans to share the wealth of gifts with others. At one point, a couple had both the antler ring toss game and a drinking game, so everyone decided that the party should be at their house. Erica offered to rent out the DVD of *Duck Dynasty Christmas*, then suggested that it and *Butch Cassidy and the Sundance Kid* and *World War Z* be put into a lending library. When she suggested also creating a lending library for the two pairs of "fancy shoes", everyone had a good laugh.

The event was an excellent combination of good food, good company, and good fun.



Cookie Exchange - continued



Photos by Heather Duchow & Abbott Schindler

Father Christmas Visits the High Desert Museum



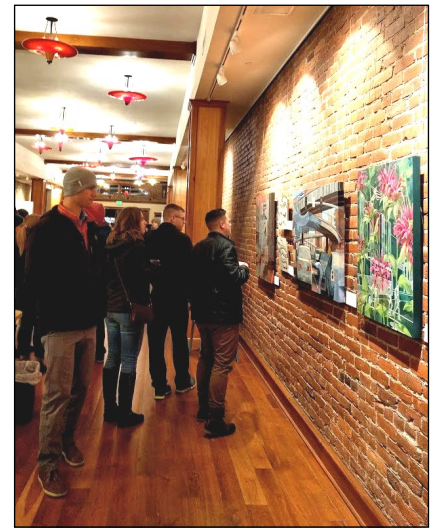
Photos by Todd Cary

Land, Light, and Life: Nature through the Eyes of Artists - A Collaborative Exhibition

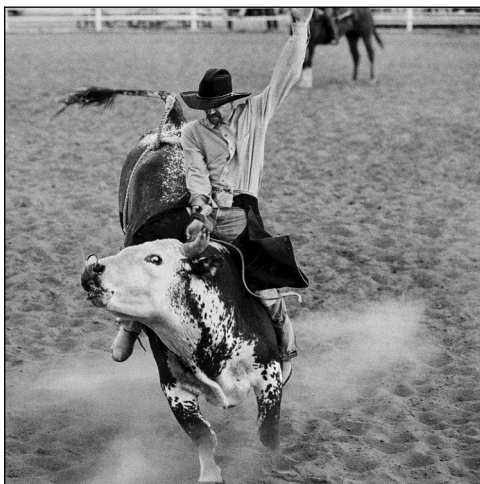
by Siobhan Sullivan, Newsletter Editor



A collaborative exhibition between the High Desert Museum and At Liberty is currently featuring the artwork of six contemporary artists. The artists used a variety of media to express their interpretations of nature. The works of Andrew Myers, Michael Boonstra, Nancy Watterson Scharf, Monica Helms, Kendra Larson and Craig Goodworth are featured in the historic Liberty Theater gallery space in downtown Bend. The artwork features images ranging from close ups of bees to aerial shots of desert landscapes. There were big crowds for the exhibit opening on December 1 since it coincided with the First Friday Art Walk and the Downtown Bend Christmas Tree Lighting event. The exhibition may be viewed in the gallery through December 30 on Wednesdays through Saturdays, 11:00 am to 6:00 pm.



Photos by Siobhan Sullivan



Blake Little, **Bull Riding, Oklahoma City, Oklahoma**, 1989; archival pigment printed on Epson exhibition fiber paper, 12 x 12 inches; Loan courtesy of Blake Little.

Blake Little: Photographs from the Gay Rodeo Exhibit

by Siobhan Sullivan, Newsletter Editor

This exhibit displays 41 stunning black-and-white photographs of the gay rodeo taken in the 1980's and 1990's by photographer Blake Little. Little spent several years as both a photographer and competitor in the International Gay Rodeo Association Circuit. His pictures capture the spirit and camaraderie of rodeo events and remind us that "real" cowboys and cowgirls come from diverse and varied backgrounds.

This is a big exhibit and the photographs can be viewed in the Collins Gallery, located in the hallway near the main entrance, and in the hallway near the Desertarium. Little's photographs will be displayed at the High Desert Museum through April 30, 2018.

A Glimpse of Aleutian Winters: An Emperor Goose Visits Bend

by Raven Tennyson, Newsletter Writer



Pictured on the top - Canada goose, on the left - greater white-fronted goose, and on the right - emperor goose.

Pulsing, pounding, pulsating winds drove waves at the Oregon coast to high crests. Waves of horizontal rain on the pass brought no snow but large amounts of water. In winter these storms bring out the birders. Good experienced birders know the stormy weather birder catches the rarities.

I didn't hear about it until a client picking up a wreath told me a rare Emperor Goose was in my neighborhood, on a street I knew very well. On the morning of the supermoon, we went in search of it. Quietly, slowly driving the streets searching for a pond with an island in it. We only saw mallards but the stellar immensity of the moon backdropped by Mt. Bachelor was a highlight. We continued searching streets next to the Tekampe basin for any geese action.

Fifteen minutes later, in a pond in Woodside Ranch, an agitated flock of geese rose off the ground for 10 seconds. We caught a glimpse of a white flash of the head of the Emperor goose. The goose is a small goose, smaller than Canada geese but similar in size to greater white-fronted geese. It is more closely related to snow geese than to the Canada geese. It has a regal appearance with a brilliant white head and white back of the neck that glistens and stands out in the sun.

With this sighting, my imagination stretched to the Aleutian archipelago in Alaska where this goose usually winters. It forages in brackish lagoons and mudflats for seaweeds, mussels, and other shellfish. In late April, it leaves the lands bordering the Bering Sea and heads to the Yukon-Kuskokwim delta where it breeds.

It has been sighted in the Willamette Valley, the Oregon coast, and the Columbia River before but is rarely seen east of the Cascades. As of this writing, it was again sighted in the Tekampe basin off of Knott Road in southeastern Bend. So if you want to be touched by this rare goose, check Central Oregon Birders Online ([COBOL](#)) to see the exact location for the day, as many birders are out to add this gem to their lifer list.

Photo by Abbott Schindler



Free Day
at the
High Desert Museum

January 27 &
February 24, 2018

10:00 am - 4:00 pm

**Happy
New Year!**

from the
High Desert Voices Newsletter Team

2017: The Year in Review



Volunteer Recognition Event



Volunteer Recognition Event



High Desert Rendezvous



Thorn Hollow String Band



Tales of Hallows Eve



HDM: After Hours



High Desert Rendezvous



High Desert Museum 35th Anniversary



High Desert Museum 35th Anniversary



Harvest Festival



Harvest Festival



Miller Ranch

High Desert Museum Area Updates from December 2017

by Siobhan Sullivan, Newsletter Editor

By Hand Through Memory – Some of their volunteers have been out sick. They are nearly fully staffed, but they desperately need someone for Sundays.

Naturalists – They are making progress on the display table and will get it finished when resources are available. The photos for the table have been selected and will be printed soon.

Collections – A new curator, Cindy Bradley, was recently hired. She worked at the Maritime Museum in North Carolina and will start here in mid-January. Cleaning of exhibit space and artifacts in the By Hand Through Memory and Spirit of the West areas will take place in the last week of February and the first week of March. One area will be closed for a week then the next area will follow.

Birds of Prey - They are fully staffed at this time. They are looking for one or two volunteers to do the *Raptors of the Desert Sky* programs next summer. Work on constructing the new mews to house the birds continues. They are currently working on a couple of the walls.

Desertarium - They are fully staffed at this time. The shelves they ordered are fully installed now. This has contributed to the happiness of both the staff and the animals. All of the animals are now in enclosures on the shelves.

Gallery Attendants - They continue to try to get more people involved working as attendants. There will be a team meeting in the last week of December.

Mammals - The team may need more volunteers for interpretive talks. They also need an “on call” person to fill in when needed. This month the enrichment for the animals has included a small Christmas tree with edible ornaments for the porcupines. They really liked it! Staff is working on acquiring new sturgeon and trout for the exhibit areas. The Museum’s 17-year old bobcat, Vivi, recently had an exam and was given a clean bill of health. Interpretive training will take place in late January.

Living History - It has been pretty quiet out at the ranch but it will be open over the winter break and then activity will pick up.

High Desert Voices Newsletter - There have been some challenges but it’s going well overall.

Photography - Examples of the Museum’s new Adopt-an-Animal card were passed around. Volunteers from the Photography Team took the beautiful photos featured on the cards. There is also a video of the animals available for adoption playing in the gift store.

Admissions/Greeters – Recent attendance has been slightly lower. It may be due to fewer visitors to the area because of the lack of snow for winter sports. Some exhibits, such as the recent WW II exhibit, tend to draw in more visitors. Kids like the current exhibit related to the *Archaeopteryx*.



Kudos Korner

by Siobhan Sullivan, Newsletter Editor

Several staff and volunteers were thanked for their work in December. Volunteers are regularly recognized for the work at the Museum but we also wanted to thank Volunteer Coordinator Shannon Campbell for all she does. Everyone involved in putting together the Cookie and White Elephant Gift Exchange was thanked. It was fun for everyone. Kudos to all of you!

Shopping at the Silver Sage Gift Shop

Looking for a special gift for your loved ones or maybe even yourself? Be sure to check out the Silver Sage Gift Shop at the Museum. Here are pictures of just a few of the special items they offer.



High Desert Voices

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HIGH DESERT MUSEUM

BEND, OREGON

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Museum, Inc.
59800 S. Highway 97
Bend, OR 97702

2018

Happy
New Year!



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2018

January - Save the Date!		February - Save the Date!	
5	Museum & Me. 4:00-7:00 pm. Free. RSVP.	3	Museum Workshop: <i>Turning Trash into Treasure: Recycled Cardboard Sculpture.</i> 10:00 am - 2:00 pm. Members \$15, non-members \$20. Registration and pre-payment required.
6	Off-Site Field Trip: <i>Winter Raptors (weather permitting).</i> 8:00 am - 3:00 pm. Members \$40, non-members \$50. Registration and pre-payment required.	10	Museum Workshop: <i>Starting a Nature Sketchbook.</i> 10:00 am - 1:00 pm. Members \$15, non-members \$20. Registration and pre-payment required.
7	Exhibit Closing: <i>Capturing Time: Celebrating 35 years of the High Desert Museum.</i>	10	Thorn Hollow String Band. 11:00 am - 2:00 pm.
9	Natural History Pub: <i>Sage Grouse: Collaboration and Conservation..</i> 7:00 - 9:00 pm. Doors open at 5:30 pm. McMennamins, 700 NW Bond, Bend. Free. RSVP.	10	Off-Site Field Trip: <i>Winter Raptors (weather permitting).</i> 8:00 am - 3:00 pm. Members \$40, non-members \$50. Registration and pre-payment required.
13	Thorn Hollow String Band. 11:00 am - 2:00 pm.	13	Natural History Pub: <i>Safe Passage: Roads and Wildlife.</i> 7:00 - 9:00 pm. Doors open at 5:30 pm. McMennamins, 700 NW Bond, Bend. Free. RSVP.
13	Family Event: <i>Mining Day.</i> 11:00 am - 3:00 pm. Museum admission plus \$2 per miner.	21	Museum Event: <i>Malheur Reflections, Two Years Later.</i> 6:00 pm. Museum café will be open. Members \$5, non-members \$8. RSVP.
13	Museum Workshop: <i>Conservation Photography.</i> 10:00 am - 3:00 pm. Members \$100, non-members \$150. Registration and pre-payment required.	24	Museum Event: <i>Free Day.</i> 10:00 am - 4:00 pm.
16	VAC meeting. 2:00 pm in the Board Room. All volunteers are welcome!		
19-20	Museum Workshop: <i>Teacher Training: Our Changing Climate.</i> 9:00 am—4:00 pm. Free for 5th-8th grade teachers. Substitute funding for Friday available. RSVP.		
20	Museum Workshop: <i>Sketching Raptors.</i> 10:00 am - 1:00 pm. Members \$20, non-members \$25. Registration and pre-payment required.		
20	Museum Workshop: <i>Nest Box Building.</i> 10:30 am - 1:00 pm. Members \$40, non-members \$50. Registration and pre-payment required.		
25	Museum Event: <i>Reducing the Impacts of Wind Energy on Wildlife.</i> 6:00 pm. Museum café will be open. Members \$3, non-members \$7. RSVP.		
26	Museum Event: <i>Queens & Cowboys: A Straight Year on the Gay Rodeo.</i> Film presentation and Q & A with the director and one of the competitors in the film. 7:00 pm. Museum café will be open. Members \$7, non-members \$10. RSVP.		
27	Museum Event: <i>Free Day.</i> 10:00 am - 4:00 pm.		

To RSVP: www.highdesertmuseum.org/rsvp or call 541-382-4754. To pre-register: www.highdesertmuseum.org/program