

# *HIGH DESERT VOICES*

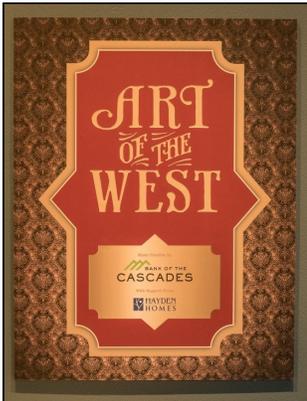
August 2016

*News and Information published by and for Volunteers*



## **Art of the West Exhibit**

*by Adair Sullivan, Newsletter Writer*



A free event, the opening reception for *Art of the West*, was held Thursday, July 21 from 6:00 to 8:00 pm. This event is always a great way to spend time socializing with friends and family while viewing amazing images of Central Oregon and the west. This year's reception was no exception and marked the 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary of this event.

Light appetizers and drinks were served and people enjoyed eating together while listening to lively music performed by Alicia Viani and Mark Karwan. Guests had an opportunity to meet some of the artists and to watch painting demonstrations. Local artists, Sharon Engel and Norma Holmes, kindly demonstrated their painting techniques for curious onlookers, using the Cascade Mountains as inspiration.

Artworks displayed in the exhibition have all been created within the past three years. Media used in creating the paintings and sculptures include: oil, watercolor, acrylic, gouache, pastel, pen & ink, charcoal, etching, woodcut/block, stone lithograph, serigraph, photography, fiber/textile arts, basketry, beadwork, and glass. The sculptures are made of bronze/metal, ceramics, wood, and stone.

Artists from all over North America are represented in the annual High Desert Museum's *Art of the West* exhibit. Artists in the exhibition include: John Banovich, Heather Beary, Betsy Bland, Cindy Briggs, JM Brodrick, Pamela Clafin, Dave Dewey, Janice Druian, Sharon Engel, Pat Courtney Gold, Charley Griswold, Linda Hanson, Susan Luckey Higdon, Norma Holmes, Travis Humphreys, Meg Kahnle, Fran Kievet, David Marty, David Mayer, James Moore, Chris Nelson, Julie Oriet, Edward Pabor, Kim Randleas, Daniel Rick, Dan Rickards, Kenneth Roth, Dave Sellers, Barbara Slater, Holly Smithey, Marty Stewart, Janet Sullivan, Katherine Taylor, Volar, Esther Watson, Valerie Winterholler, Kathy Wipfler, Suze Woolf, and Craig Zuger.





Visitors are enthralled with stunning photographs and paintings of landscapes: Antelope Canyon, Smith Rock, Copper Canyon, Three Sisters, prairie, marsh, mountains, and mesas; flora: lavender, sunflowers, iris, and aspens; and fauna: goats, sheep, ravens, sheep, llama, horses, buffalo, wolves, hummingbirds, ibis, salmon, owls, and trout. Subject matter is as diverse and wonderful as the flora and fauna of the West. Pieces are extremely varied with some reminiscent of Impressionist paintings and others of more contemporary and modern design. Intricate pine needle art, chipped and polished obsidian, and mixed media sculptures add three dimensional interest to

the gallery space and draw visitors closer. If you haven't gone yet, spend some time on a visual scavenger hunt and see if you can find them all!

At the opening reception, attendees could place silent bids on art they were interested in owning, or could simply buy pieces outright. The public is invited to visit the High Desert Museum and view the amazing artwork as well as to bid on individual pieces any time before the *High Desert Rendezvous* event which will occur on August 20. Minimum bids for the art range from \$250 to \$5,280, with proceeds helping support the Museum's educational programs. This auction provides the winning bidder with a gorgeous souvenir and helps support artists and the museum.



Photos by Adair Sullivan, Siobhan Sullivan, & John Williams

## Save the Date for the Annual Volunteer Recognition event!

Volunteers will be recognized for hours served and valuable contributions to the Museum. Nominations will be solicited in August. Stay tuned...

The celebration will take place on September 12 at 5:30—7:30 PM.

## Summer Brewfest Fundraiser

by Siobhan Sullivan, Newsletter Editor



Many people decided to quench their thirst on a warm Saturday afternoon at the fifth *Annual Summer Brewfest*. There were 22 booths set up at Whole Foods in east Bend. Visitors paid for tastings of the many beers and ciders at the event. All of the proceeds collected went to the High Desert Museum. There were also several raffle items available to bid on. Local bands provided a happy backbeat to the festivities.

The High Desert Museum had a booth set up near the entrance. Tank the tortoise was there for a while and he drew a lot of attention from the crowds. Staff was there to answer questions about the Museum and enroll people into memberships. A steady stream of visitors stopped by the booth and everyone seemed to be having a great time.



Photos by Abbott Schindler & Siobhan Sullivan

## Kudos Korner

by Siobhan Sullivan, Newsletter Editor

Several staff and volunteers were thanked for their work in July. **Brian Hoover** was thanked for doing an excellent job filling in on the Spirit of the West tour. Volunteers working in Collections were thanked for all of the work they have been doing themselves while waiting for the hiring of a new Collections Manager. Staff were thanked for taking quick action in assisting a visitor who was suffering from heatstroke. Members of the Photography Team were thanked for being out and about on the Museum grounds taking candid shots. They are not easy to take. Kudos to all of you!

## The Painted Hills

by Siobhan Sullivan, Newsletter Editor



It is easy to see why the Painted Hills are designated as one of Oregon's Seven Wonders. The Painted Hills Unit of the John Day Fossil Beds National Monument is 3,132 acres in size and it is located nine miles northwest of Mitchell, Oregon. If you visit the Painted Hills after rainstorms move through the area, the colors are more intense from the recent moisture. The colors are striking no matter what season it is. It is like looking at a parfait of luscious layers spread out before you. The deep crimson and black layers at the base of the hills contrast with the sandy browns and golds of upper layers.

The colors of the hills in this area are due to volcanic eruptions and changes in climate. Over 35 million years ago this area was part of a river flood plain covered by thick forests of semitropical plants. Abundant ash fall and lava floods helped to shape most of the formations. Erosion started about five million years ago. The area was later subjected to immense forces that tilted the layers downward to the east. Basalt floods hardened and protected softer layers underneath from erosion. Over time the layers of ash and vegetation-rich soil became exposed.

The strata in the John Day formations include Big Basin (28-39 million years ago), Turtle Cove (22-28 million years ago), Picture Gorge Ignimbrite (28 million years ago), Haystack Valley (20-22 million years ago), and Picture Gorge Basalts (16 million years ago).

The red color bands formed when weather conditions were warmer and wetter. Rainfall during that time period ranged between 31 – 53 inches per year. Ponds and lakes were common in the area.

The yellow and tan color bands indicate drier weather conditions. Rainfall was between 23 – 47 inches per year. Today the average rainfall here is 12 inches per year.

The black spots indicate manganese concentrations. Plants that fixed the manganese in the soil likely grew in these areas.

For more information, click here [Painted Hills](#). There is a link to a map that gives information on several trails in the area ranging from ¼ mile to 1.6 miles in length.

Services are limited in the area so make sure you have plenty of gas, water, and food. The Painted Hills are extremely photo-worthy so don't forget a good camera, phone, or other device. You will want to bring back some memories of this surreal landscape.



## High Desert Museum Area Updates from July 2016

by Siobhan Sullivan, Newsletter Editor

**By Hand Through Memory** - There have been lots of foreign visitors looking at the exhibits. Many visitors are fascinated by the fact that baskets were used for cooking. Pat Courtney Gold, Native American fiber artist and basket weaver, will be hosting a workshop on how to make Sally baskets on November 5.

**Naturalists** - There are a couple volunteers that are now working on Saturdays. Some recent walks have been very well attended - including one that had 28 visitors. They talked about the need for flexibility in accommodating groups of varying size and interests.

**Collections** - There are problems with visitors touching items in certain areas of the Museum - even if they are wired in place. Team members continue to place photographs, magazines, newspapers, and other items in Mylar sleeves. New ascension numbers have been assigned to some items in the collection. They are updating the digital documentation for each item.

**Mammals** - They are in need of additional Wildlife Interpreters. Several volunteers-in-training should start to work in the area by the end of September. They are hoping that water will soon be routed to the sink in the otter feeding area. The team requested that they be able to provide input on the planned fall schedule for Mammal talks prior to the next brochure being printed.

**Living History** - They do not need any additional volunteers at this time. Mustang Day was well attended on July 23. The next Mustang Day occurs on August 13. Fences were moved at the Miller Ranch so now there is more room. The rhubarb and herbs are doing well in the garden there. The next demon-

### Congratulations to the winner and finalists of the Waterston Desert Writing Prize!

Click [here](#) to read their writings.



Photo by John Williams  
August 2016

strations of the Lazinka Sawmill will occur on July 30 and August 27 from 11:00 am to 3:00 pm. There have been a lot of visitors on recent Spirit of the West tours. One tour had 35 visitors.

**High Desert Voices Newsletter** - They welcomed a new writer, Katie Campbell to the team. Writer Dave Gilbert is taking the summer off while he helps out at the High Desert Ranger Station exhibit.

**Photography** - They are sharing images online through the Dropbox website. The photographs will be organized for easier access through the Lightroom program.

**Silver Sage Trading Center** - The store started carrying a cute otter plush toy and it has been selling out. Other wildlife related items include a drinking glass with wildlife artwork, a small child's hat, a t-shirt with glow-in-the-dark images, and a neckerchief with owls printed on it. There are also handmade bonnets for little girls. There is a nice cookbook entitled *Log Cabin Cooking*. They are also selling a beautiful Crater Lake puzzle to recognize the National Park's 100 year anniversary.

**Admissions/Greeters** - They have been very busy with lots of visitors. They are in the process of integrating the membership with the membership sales through the Razor's Edge computer program. It will make it easier to determine if visitors are current members as they enter the Museum and when they purchase things at the store. Admissions and greeters are concerned about problems in communicating with visitors about whether or not walks and talks will take place due to an absent team member.

A suggestion was made to have visitors meet at the front desk for High Desert Ranger Station talks. A team member can walk them out to the Station or can direct them there if they are too busy to accommodate them.

### High Desert Voices

**Editor:** Siobhan Sullivan

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2016



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**Kitchen Patrol:** Wildlife/Ranger Station

August	September - Save the Date!
4 <b>Museum &amp; Me.</b> 5:00 -8:00 pm. RSVP.	3 <b>Thorn Hollow String Band.</b> 11:00 am - 2:00 pm.
6 <b>Thorn Hollow String Band.</b> 11:00 am - 2:00 pm.	12 <b>Annual Volunteer Recognition.</b> 5:30-7:30 pm.
6 <b>Cascade Carnivores.</b> 8:00 am - 12:00 pm. Members \$10, Non-members \$20. Registration and pre-payment required.	24 <b>Exhibit opens: Ray Troll's Buzz Saw Sharks of Long Ago.</b>
12 <b>Bat Walk.</b> 8:30 - 10:00 pm. Members \$5, Non-members \$10. Registration and pre-payment required.	
13 <b>University of Oregon presents: Oregon Folklife Network Artists.</b> 5:00 - 7:00 pm. Doors open at 4:30 pm. BBQ & drinks. RSVP at <a href="http://www.uoalumni.com/folklife">www.uoalumni.com/folklife</a> For more information, contact <a href="mailto:martie@uoregon.edu">martie@uoregon.edu</a> or 541-968-5284.	
13 <b>Mustang Day.</b> 11:00 am—3:00 pm.	
20 <b>High Desert Rendezvous.</b> 5:00 pm. <a href="#">Tickets.</a> Members \$150 individual, \$300 couple, \$150 additional guest; Non-members \$200 individual and \$350 couple; Table of 8 sponsorship \$2,000; Table of 10 sponsorship \$3,000.	
27 <b>Lazinka Sawmill Demonstration.</b> 11:00 am - 3:00 pm.	

To RSVP: [www.highdesertmuseum.org/rsvp](http://www.highdesertmuseum.org/rsvp) or 541-382-4754

To pre-register: [www.highdesertmuseum.org/program](http://www.highdesertmuseum.org/program)