

Docent Doings

April 2014

President's Message

The OCMA Board of Trustees, represented by President Craig Wells, Treasurer Steven Roush, and Education Committee Chair Darrel Anderson, spent time with staff and volunteer representatives (including me), to answer concerns regarding the state of the museum.

This is what I've learned:

The OCMA Board is actively in the process of filling the widening leadership void. They have completed the first round of interviews, and hope to select a new executive director in the next few months. The new director should be in place this summer. In the meantime, the board will be backing up the staff and providing support in all departments, including financial operations and human resources. Concurrently, the building committee is pursuing options that move us closer to funding our move to South Coast Plaza. While the Board continues to strategize and work towards the future, the education department remains committed to meeting the goals of community engagement and art education.

The Orange County Museum of Art, OCMA, is definitely in transition.

Times of change are almost never easy. The museum has been through many transitions and survived and evolved into its next incarnation. I don't think it's a coincidence that the term transition is used to describe the most intense, difficult, yet shortest phase of labor in the process of childbirth. During transition, the need for support and encouragement is at its highest. We are in the middle of this transition and it's normal to feel anxious, but we must be calm and patient as the process unfolds.

Please feel free to contact me and I will be glad to talk.

Bonita Stern
President

Important Dates to Remember

4.7.14/10:00am

Docent Council Board Meeting

4.7.14/11:30am

Docent Book Club Meeting & Lunch

4.8.14/Time TBD

March Movie Madness Extended

Screening of *Finding Vivian Maier* at South Coast Village Regency Theater

Email Jenni at jstenson@ocma.net if you plan to attend.

4.11.14/12:00pm

Walkthrough Sarkisian & Sarkisian

Join Chief Curator Dan Cameron for the afternoon walkthrough of the upcoming exhibition. Please RSVP to tours@ocma.net to attend.

4.12.14/8:00pm

Opening Reception Sarkisian & Sarkisian

4.13.14

Sarkisian & Sarkisian opens

4.13.14/11:00am

**Free Second Sunday | Opening Day
Celebration**

11:00am - 3:00pm Food truck onsite: Grilled
Cheese

11:00am - 4:00pm Hands-on art making

11:00am - 5:00pm Free exhibition admission.

STAY TUNED FOR INFORMATION ABOUT
HOW TO CONNECT WITH THE ARTISTS
ON OPENING DAY!

4.16.14/7:00pm

PM Walkthrough Sarkisian & Sarkisian

Join Chief Curator Dan Cameron for the
evening walkthrough of the upcoming
exhibition. Please RSVP to tours@ocma.net to
attend.

4.17.14/10:00am-12:30pm

**General Docent Council Meeting +
Continuing Education**

Please join us for a docent council meeting
followed by brainstorming and activities
surrounding touring *Sarkisian & Sarkisian*.

Stay from 12:00-12:30pm for a preview of the
studio process.

4.17.14/7:00pm

Third Thursdays | Featured program

5:30 - 7:00pm Food truck onsite: Soho taco

6:00pm Gallery tour

7:00pm Featured program

4.22.14/12:00pm

Thursday & Friday Docents will have a
brainstorming session in the Pavilion. A light
lunch will be provided. Docents from Tuesday
& Wednesday are welcome to attend.

4.27.14/11:00am

**Studio Sundays | Surreal Stories led by Davi
Loren**

11:00am - 12:30pm Featured program

Learn the power of magical realism in your own
short story, based on the surreal works of father
and son in *Sarkisian & Sarkisian*.

Save the date!

Docent end of year celebrations:

New Board/Old Board Luncheon: June 2

Spring Luncheon: June 9

Education Department

Docent Kudos

Humongous thanks go to Barbara DeGroot,
Valerie Greeley, Pat Jorgensen, Joaline
Stedman, Bonita Stern, and Lynda Wilson for
aiding in the facilitation of the Orange County
Docent League event. Big thanks to Mary
Blacker and Joaline Stedman for their open
engagement skills at the N-MUSD Arts
Commission meeting. Kudos to Lynda Wilson
for leading an engaging discussion of *Museum
Hours* for our March Movie Madness series.
[part of the program], helping tie everything
together. I especially like how the docents allow
the students to explore the room a bit before
bringing them together to discuss the art.
Kudos!" - Silverado High School teacher

Education Department

Docent - to - Docent

Book bunch plans lunch on April 7

After a March hiatus, the Docent Book Club is reconvening on Monday, April 7, at 11:30 am, following the board meeting. To kick off a new round of book selections, a pot-luck salad lunch is planned. Bring a salad ingredient to share with the group; greens, beverage and dessert will be provided.

If you haven't joined the group before this is an ideal time to jump in. Bring your ideas for arts-related reading; fiction and non-fiction selections are welcome. Recent selections have included "The Flamethrowers" by Rachel Kushner and "Where the Heart Beats: John Cage, Zen Buddhism and the Inner Life of Artists."

There is still time to read the April selection: "The Lady in Gold," by Anne-Marie O'Connor. Subtitled "The Extraordinary Tale of Gustav Klimt's Masterpiece, Portrait of Adele Bloch-Bauer," the story begins in the glittering cultural mecca that was turn-of-the century Vienna. Who was that fascinating lady in Klimt's famous portrait? How did life change for the Bloch-Bauer family when Hitler rose to power?

What happened to Adele's famous portrait and other works by Klimt, as Jewish-owned property was seized and secreted away by Nazi partisans? How were those works restored to their rightful owners – or were they?

This book, like the movie "Monuments Men" exposes the cultural upheaval brought by war and foreign occupation. So come, expand your reading horizons and enjoy spirited discussion each month with the Docent Book Club.

RVSP for the book group to bdegroot@aol.com.

Barbara De Groot
Memorial Committee Chair

Why Would You "Fool the Eye?"

What's trompe l'oeil? something that literally "fools the eye." Is it a two-dimensional painting pretending via perspective to be in 3-D? Is it an illusion, such as a magic trick? A person (politician) or product (cosmetics--thanks for this idea, Lynda!) trying to portray something he/she/it actually is not? A cover up of various and sundry sorts and purposes? All of the above?

Our genius Education staff (Jenni and Kelsey, with Dorothy making a visit) put on a brainstorming session with interested docents, in anticipation of the upcoming Sarkisian & Sarkisian show. Ahead of time, we docents were asked to submit photos exemplifying trompe l'oeil, and they ran the gamut from literal--my own Dutch door, opening to become a window--to the figurative--hands bracketing the moon. Thanks to photographing docents for participating: Mary Blacker, Pat Gibson, Karen Evarts, Jeanne Johnson, Celia Niemerow, Bonita Stern, and Diane Cherniss.

Arriving on the appointed day, and by a new route--parking on the side of the museum, walking past the dumpsters, due to de-installation activities in the galleries, and then to seats in the patio--already, on reflection, there was a different OCMA perspective underway via this change of access. A fun hour with Magic Ian, showing us how simple distractions are used to mask a talented magician's tricks from view ... left us wondering how that queen of diamonds reliably shows up, just as predicted ahead of time! Magicians rock, and we all learn a thing or two in the process!

Then we spent an hour brainstorming activities to be used with touring students during this upcoming father-son show. There were question sequences, "What do illusions do?" and "Why do we need them?" There were complete-a-drawing exercises, where a shell or feather or dime were glued to a sheet of paper and we were to use them in a drawing. The illusion of distance, the use of a video camera and blue tape to create a scene, were some of the creative

activities that guided us to see the role of illusion in our lives.

Always thought-provoking, these studio sessions where we get to play student!

Karen Evarts
Docent

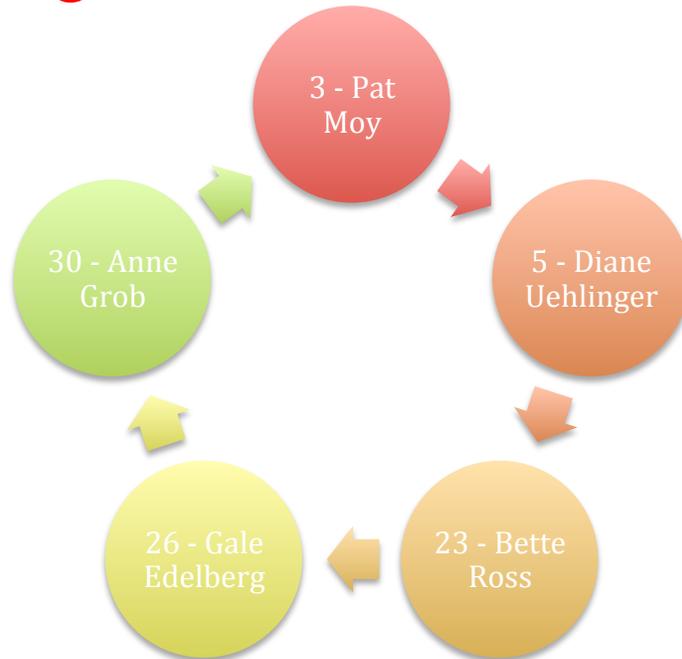
Deadline for next DOCENT DOINGS

April 28, 2014

Submit all copy in writing to:
connies7@verizon.net

Birthday Corner

June Birthdays



July Birthdays

