

OLAF WIEGHORST

MUSEUM FOUNDATION WESTERN HERITAGE CENTER

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www.wieghorst.org

August 2017

President's Message:



As we enjoy the long, warm (sometimes hot) days of summer, some may wonder what's going on at the Olaf Wieghorst Art Museum. Well, I'll let you know.

First of all, I would like to thank all of you who were able to attend and/or contribute to this year's annual Round-Up fundraising event held at the Steele Canyon Golf Club. With an attendance of just over 100 people we were able to raise over \$38,600 to help keep the Museum running and fund a few of the current Museum's needs. One in particular was the raising of just under \$15,000 for the care and restoration of our newly acquired collection of Wieghorst Art from Roy and Barbara Wieghorst. Once we received this wonderful collection, we realized the need to create a fund to care for and maintain all of these original pieces. We are very excited about our new responsibility as this is what Museums do and we are now engaged in that process.

In June and July, we held a juried exhibit, "Masters of the Moments" by the East County Art Association. This exhibit displayed a superb collection of art from many of our local artists. The walls in the front lobby were covered three layers high with a myriad of pieces offering a spectacular presentation. The arrangement of art up the walls sparked the idea to do the same with the Wieghorst Art in the back gallery. With the help of Carlos Castregjon, we more than doubled the original Olaf art presented on the walls. So now, when you visit the Museum you will be able to see more Olaf originals than ever before.

We just opened a new exhibit in the front gallery by the Siberian born artist, Valeriy Kagounkin. Depicting subject matter from his early years growing up in Siberia to his "pursuit of interest" in America's southwest, with Olaf as one of his mentors, Valeriy has painted and presented an exceptional exhibit of incredible canvasses. With a subject of horses and man in a southwest theme in

conjunction with the detail of his work, I highly recommend visiting the Museum to see this exhibit—all items are for sale. The exhibit will be until August 31st.

For those of you who have visited the Museum grounds recently, you are not surprised of all the great work Mike Bostwick has done in the cactus garden. Not only has he more than quadrupled the number of plants in the garden and improved the presentation of our larger specimens, he has now researched and prepared over 120 name plates to aid in the identification of most of the plants in our collection. Now, you can not only enjoy a stroll through the garden, but you will end your visit feeling to some degree more knowledgeable. All strictly for your enjoyment and education—and, no, there will not be a test on names when you leave.

Not only are new things happening at the Museum, but the new Courtyard by Marriott being built across the street and is scheduled to open at the end of September. We are not only looking forward the completion of the construction, but anticipating many new future visitors to the Museum in addition to developing a symbiotic relationship with the hotel management and staff.

As far as what's on our agenda, please refer the "Upcoming Calendar of Events" and join us for some fun and festivities when possible. And as always, if you are interested in volunteering or getting involved with the Museum, please contact our Museum Director, Earlene, at the Museum office. Thank you for your interest in and support for The Olaf Wieghorst Museum and Western Heritage Foundation.

Keep your palette fresh, colors true and ride high in the saddle.

John R. Stauffer, President
Board of Directors

COLLECTIONS MANAGEMENT

(What Do We Know and Where Is It?)

In my humble opinion, the most important thing to ever happen to the *Olaf Wieghorst Museum*, besides its founding, has been our receiving the gift of the Wieghorst Family Collection of original art by *Olaf Wieghorst*. That gift has profoundly changed every aspect of this Museum and with that gift, comes an awesome responsibility to provide the best level of stewardship for all of our collections. To that end, the Board has raised the funds to provide a significant upgrade to our storage area (coming soon) and to provide any conservation of individual paintings and artifacts should that be needed in the future.

We are forming a Collections and Conservation Committee whose responsibility will be to provide a collections policy for the management of these objects entrusted to us; to provide a suitable and sustainable environment for the “health” of our differing types of objects included in our collections; to maintain an up-to-date inventory system that encompasses information, preservation, movement, documentation, exhibitions and access and to provide remediation when necessary. So, it becomes very important that we know what we have and where it is. The Museum has been improving steadily in our ability to record and track our objects and we continue to have that as a priority. We should soon be addressing an assessment of the condition of our artifacts and art pieces. That is very time consuming, will take a while, and we will seek professional counsel as needed.

Museums and cultural collections operate within an environment of national and international ethical standards. Adherence to these best practices is voluntary, but it is essential for good faith and a good reputation. The life blood of funding depends upon what the public, including donors and friends, think about how you do business. The Committee will be charged to develop a “best practices” policy that will define our stewardship endeavors.

A Collections Committee is also tasked with making decisions about acquisitions. It is important to grow a collection, but it is equally important to be discerning about what is accepted. If you take it and accession it, you get the care of it in perpetuity. To deaccession is much more difficult and costly, on several fronts; better to not accept an item in the first place, and also to consider if the offered item fits into the Museum’s mission. The Collections Committee will be creating new acquisition, loan and access policies beginning this year.

We all owe the Wieghorst Family our utmost gratitude for the gift that they have so graciously entrusted to us! We owe a myriad of thanks to those members and friends who have so generously contributed their funds over the last few months to improve and care for our treasures – which they truly are. We also owe those who came before us and took on the job of building this Museum from scratch, for they have left us a foundation from which we can now build a state-of-the-art Museum filled with a one-of-a-kind collection that celebrates the life and talent of Olaf Wieghorst as well as so many artifacts of the Old West that he so loved.

Caring for collections is both a delight and a privilege! We welcome this new level of responsibility and anyone who is sincerely interested in being part of this endeavor and willing to roll up your sleeves a bit, please contact Earlene Hollmichel, 619-300-2671 or Pam Bruder, pambruder@hotmail.com.



East County Art Association Summer Show 2017

Calendar of Events August 2017 – December 2017

July 22, 2017 – August 31, 2017

Serbian Artist Valeriy Kagounkin Art Exhibit

September 4, 2017 – September 29, 2017

Benefit Art Exhibition, Jack Jordan

Friday, September 15, 2017 – 5 p.m. – 10

p.m. “Alley Cat Art & Wine Walk”

September 30- 2017 – November 14, 2017

Coko Brown

“Under the Western Skies” Art Exhibit

Saturday, October 21, 2017 – Mini-Round-Up

(watch for details)

Thursday, November 30, 2017

“Welcome the Holidays” 11-2 Museum



Valeriy Kagounkin and Tamara Magdalina

Valeriy Kagounkin

Siberian Artist

Through August 31, 2017



(Left to right) Olaf Wieghorst Museum and Western Heritage Center Executive Director Earlene Hollmichel, Siberian artist Valeriy Kagounkin and East County artist Gloria Chadwick at the opening reception of Kagounkin’s Siberian and Western art exhibit now on display and for sale through Aug. 31. (Photo courtesy of *The East County Californian*)

Middle School Art Workshop

The Wieghorst Museum, with funding from the *Friends of East County Arts*, will hold some Saturday art workshop for seventh and eighth graders from the Cajon Valley School District.

The students will spend part of a Saturday with artist Gloria Chadwick developing art appreciation skills. This is the first year the Museum has offered something like this to middle school students. In the spring, we offer an intense two-day workshop for high school's students to spend 12 hours with artist Chris Mummert. Hopefully getting the middle school students involved with art will encourage them to participate when they reach high school.



From left: Roy Wieghorst, Barbara Wieghorst, Jo Ann Knutson, Valeriy Kagounkin, Tamara Magdaline (Valeriy's wife)

Kagounkin started painting as a child. After studying at an art school for children, he studied at Krasnoyarsk Art Junior College. Kagounkin learned the basics of realistic painting there. He graduated from junior college with honors and in 1982 entered Moscow Art College of V. Surikov. Kagounkin studied European styles and techniques for six years.

Part of his education was copying masterpieces of Russian and European art in teaching him still life, portrait and landscape techniques. After graduating from college Kagounkin was an art instructor and worked as an assistant to Professor A. Znak Krasnoyarsk Art College.

In the U.S., Kagounkin has won the Phippen Family Award from the Phippen Museum, 2015, The Art of the West Award at the Phippen Museum Show, 2015, Best Acrylic at the Old West Museum Show in Cheyenne, WY, 2015, and People's Choice Award, Cattlemen's Art Show 2016. "Rider, Pony Express" sold at The Russell Event Auction 2016. Today, Kagounkin's paintings concentrate on his people, the indigenous natives of Russia and Siberia and their North American counterpart, the Native American, as well as others who built the American West.

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Jack Jordan

Please join the Wieghorst Museum in Honoring Artist Jack Jordan with a benefit showing of his fine art.

All proceeds to benefit Jack

September 9, 2017 – September 28, 2017

Opening Reception:

Saturday, September 9, 2017

5:30 p.m. – 7:00 p.m.

Wieghorst Museum

131 Rea Street, El Cajon, CA

619.590.3431

Olaf's Corner Gift Shop

Stop by and visit *Olaf's Corner* Gift Shop and see our new original jewelry, books on Cactus, and our original recycled shopping bags. We also feature wine glasses, shot glasses, coffee mugs, and stylus pens.

We have prints by Joe Garcia, photo art by Joseph Payson, and various Olaf prints for sale. We also have beautiful original gourds by Black Horse Gourds, Mary Moreau.

Stop by and visit and see all the magnificent original Olaf Art.

Parking Apology

I would like to apologize on behalf of the Olaf Wieghorst Museum on the parking problems created by the building of the new Courtyard Marriott across the street from the Museum. They assure me the inconvenience will be worth it once construction is complete. I believe the projected opening is now at October 1, 2017.

In the meantime, parking behind the Museum along the Cactus Garden fence is encouraged.

Earlene Hollmichel, Executive Director