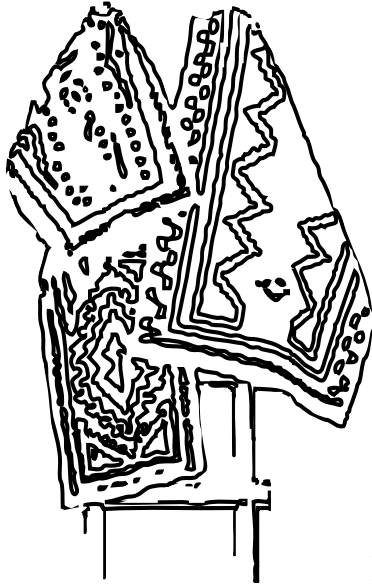




talking sun

Newsletter of the Smoki Museum of American Indian Art and Culture • June-July, 2007 • Volume 10 No. 4



9th Annual Navajo Rug & Indian Art Auction July 27-28

The premiere event of the Prescott summer season is just around the corner—the 9th Annual Summer Navajo Rug & Indian Art Auction on July 27-28th in the Smoki Pueblo. Two days of auctions, mouth-watering Navajo tacos and frybread, plus complementary beverages add up to the summer's most exciting event.

We are fortunate to again have the help and support of two outstanding companies. Jeff Ogg of Ogg's Hogan in Prescott will take consignments for the auction at his shop at 111 N. Cortez from July 9 – 21, 1:00 – 5:00 p.m. Mondays through Saturdays. Jeff is the person who initiated the annual auctions for the Museum seven years ago. Takesome time to stop by Ogg's Hogan and browse Jeff's excellent selection of rugs and Indian art. His decades of experience in the trade is invaluable to both experienced and novice collectors of authentic Indian art.

The R.B. Burnham Trading Co. will once again be running the auction for us. The Burnhams have five generations of experience backing their trading business and currently conduct auctions all over the Southwest. On a recent trip to the Four Corners area my husband and I, along with Smoki Museum Trading Post Manager Janet Shaw and her husband, stopped to visit the Burnham Trading Co. in tiny Sanders, AZ. The Burnham Trading Co. is located in a non-descript building just off I-40. Most casual travelers would probably pass right by the store not knowing what they had missed. Inside, the store looks like most rural convenience stores offering the usual assortment of canned goods, candy, and soda. But walk to the back of the store and into another world. Here the walls of a small room are covered with hanging skeins of wool in the soft, rich colors of the Arizona landscape. Beyond the wool supply room we found Bruce and Virginia Burnham in their Gallery where they sell rugs, baskets, jewelry, pottery, and more. As I browsed the selection I overheard Bruce and a teenaged Navajo girl collaborating on the design for a new rug, and as he gently encouraged her to apply for a scholarship. I had the feeling that had I walked into the trading company fifty years ago I would have likely heard the same conversation as I heard this day.

Friday, July 27

Preview from

noon – 4:00 p.m.

**Auction of Indian Art
& Cowboy Collectibles
starting at 5:00 p.m.**

Saturday, July 28

Preview from

9:00 a.m. – noon

**Auction of Navajo Rugs
starting at 1:00 p.m.**

Consignments taken

Mondays through

Saturdays

July 9–21, 1:00 –5:00 p.m.

Ogg's Hogan, 111 N.

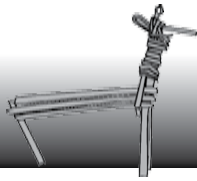
Cortez, Prescott

For more information call

928.445.1230

The Friday night auction of Indian Art and Cowboy Collectibles starts at 5:00 p.m. with the preview open from noon to 4:00. On Saturday the Navajo Rug Auction starts at 1:00 p.m. following the preview from 9:00 a.m. to noon. Navajo tacos and frybread are available both days for your enjoyment.

continued on page 5



director's corner

Nancy Cannon, Interim Director

Many of you have no doubt heard the often told story of how frogs react to hot water. For the benefit of those of you who haven't sat through as many management seminars as I have, I will share this tale. If you drop a frog into a pot of hot water, he will jump out immediately. But if you put the frog into a pot of room temperature water and slowly heat it to boiling, the frog will stay in the water, continuing to adjust to the rising temperatures until he boils to death. I haven't tried this, of course, and I don't encourage anyone to do so! But, I can appreciate the moral of the story. Sudden change may be painful, but it's much better than the alternative. I have had occasion to think of that moral lately as we learned that the Museum Director, John Tannous "JT", was leaving the Museum and moving to Flagstaff. For many of us JT was the only Director we had known at the Museum, and he was definitely a part of our Museum "family". JT's leaving was a sudden and painful experience, but it was our wake-up call to jump out of our comfort zone and continue forward with our vision for the Museum.

Once we "jumped out of the pot" our first task was to find someone to take on the complex and multi-faceted job of leading this Museum until a new Director is hired. We were very fortunate to find Nancy Cannon. Nancy has over two decades of work experience with volunteer programs in Flagstaff such as VISTA, Red Cross, and Elderhostel. She also worked on the Navajo Reservation directing a program for disabled children. After moving to Prescott five years ago she turned her attention to volunteering her talents at Sharlot Hall Museum, the Prescott Symphony Guild, Philanthropic Educational Organization, Prescott Community Cupboard, and church to name a few. In her spare time she likes to quilt and reads voraciously. Wow! If you haven't met Nancy yet I urge you to stop by the Museum to get to know her, and offer her a hand, too. I know she will appreciate it.

Our Mission

The mission of the Smoki Museum is to instill an understanding and respect for indigenous cultures of the Southwest.

Contact

www.smokimuseum.org
 info@smokimuseum.org (928) 445-1230
 147 North Arizona St., Prescott, AZ 86301
 Regular hours: 10:00a.m.-4:00p.m. Mon-Sat
 1:00p.m.-4:00p.m. Sunday (Open Year Round)

Board of Trustees

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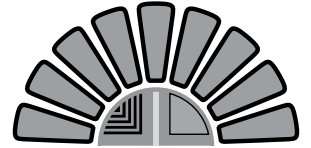
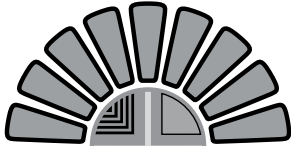
Native American Advisory Council

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Memberships

Student \$20
 Individual \$25
 Family \$35
 More membership levels and additional information available by calling the Museum during regular hours or going to the website: www.smokimuseum.org

Smoki Museum Calendar Highlights June—July, 2007



The **Ryan Huna Smith Exhibit "Flipped Traditional"**
continues through August 26, 2007.

Visit **And Then They Danced: Cross Cultural Reflections on the Smoki People** any day during Museum hours.

Sunday, June 24	1:00 p.m.	Sundays at the Smoki Lecture Series presents "Authority and Artistry of Casa Grande's Painted Pottery" by Barbara Moulard
Tuesday, June 26	9:00 a.m.	Volunteers Meeting: Interested in meeting new friends, giving your time and talents to the Museum, and learning about Indian cultures? Join us every 4 th Tuesday for coffee and doughnuts. Call (928) 445-1230 for more information.
Tuesday, July 10	6:00 p.m.	Board of Trustees Meeting, All museum members welcome
Tuesday, July 24	9:00 a.m.	Volunteers Meeting
Friday, July 27	Preview: Noon–4:00 p.m. Auction: 5:00 p.m.	9th Annual Navajo Rug & Indian Art Auction Hundreds of Indian Art and Cowboy Collectibles will be auctioned. See article page 1.
Saturday, July 28	Preview: 9:00 a.m. Auction: 12:00–Noon	9th Annual Navajo Rug & Indian Art Auction Over 300 Navajo rugs will be auctioned. See article page 1.

Edward S. Curtis Photogravures Exhibit, September 1—December 30, 2007

Sundays at the Smoki Lecture Series and Indian Guest Artists continues in August.

Mark your calendar for these great events!

More events and info at www.smokimuseum.org

Be sure to sign up for our email notification list too!

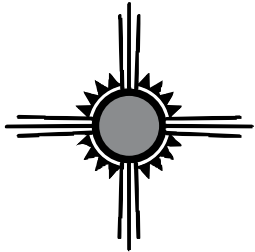
Email us at info@smokimuseum.org today to add your email to the list!



*Ryan Huna Smith Exhibit
"Flipped Traditional" until August 26*



*Edward S. Curtis Photogravures
Opens September 1, 2007*



Curators Corner

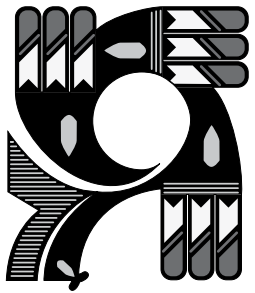
Hello All.

As summer approaches, we are busy preparing for a full round of training courses for the Exhibits and Collections committee. There has been considerable interest among the volunteers in raising the awareness of museum practices in relation to a number of areas, including object handling, conservation, record keeping, storage and exhibition planning. In response to this we are putting together a series of hands-on programs that will go step-by-step through these topics and many more. One of

the advantages of completing the courses will be a certification allowing the volunteer to take part in all museum exhibition and collections activities. Volunteers who are not currently members of the Exhibits or Collections committees are welcome to attend and become part of the action. Feel free to contact either myself or Exhibit Committee chair Charlie Krauskopf. The training sessions are expected to begin in mid June.

Pila Maya,

Adam



Trading Post Report

"The role of the Smoki Museum Trading Post is to support the mission of the Smoki Museum: when possible, to support Southwest Indian artists: and to provide a fair and progressive market to strengthen the world of Indian art"

This is the mission statement of the Smoki Museum Trading Post. Once a month our Trading Post Team meets to discuss how we can support the educational events of the Museum with our Trading Post inventory. At these monthly meetings we present new inventory ideas. It might be something one of us has purchased from a Native American artist or from another museum gift shop while traveling. Often we get great suggestions from our members. We look at each new inventory possibility and discuss whether it would be a positive addition to the gift shop and its mission.

With our 9th Annual Navajo Rug and Indian Art Auction on the 27th and 28th of July, we have stocked our bookshelves with a great selection of resource books. We are offering our auction attendants an opportunity to learn more about what might be found at the auction. We can direct you to a book to help you identify an authentic Navajo rug or to identify a particular rug pattern. We also have books on Hopi silver, Navajo silver, Kachinas, Tohono O'Odham baskets, Navajo ceremonial baskets, Hopi pottery, Mata Ortiz pottery, and more.

One of our members suggested that we carry the book Wolfkiller, "A Collection of Wisdom from a 19th Century Navajo Shepherd", compiled by Harry Leake. It looks like interesting summer reading!

We have had requests from visiting families for decorative bows and arrows. We have found some attractive, yet affordable Navajo made bows and arrows that are perfect for decorating a young boy's room.

A few of our members asked for Santo Domingo inlay shell jewelry. We listened and they have turned into a big seller for us. While many Native American bracelets are cuff bracelets, a customer commented that she prefers the comfort of link bracelets. We now have link bracelets in stock.

The Trading Post Team works hard to follow the mission of the Trading Post and keep the Trading Post stocked with appropriate inventory. We do appreciate your feedback and requests. It is your shop and we like to keep our customers happy and coming back!

Janet Shaw
Trading Post Manager

9th Annual
Navajo Rug & Indian Art Auction
July 27-28

Navajo Rug Auction continued from front page.



I always volunteer to show rugs at the summer auction. By the end of the auction I am weary from holding heavy rugs up for hours, but the thrill I get from touching and seeing these works of art up close is worth every tired muscle. Last year as I stepped forward to pick up the next rug to be auctioned I was handed a chief's blanket to show. As I wrapped the handsome blanket around my shoulders I noticed the small sections of wear on both sides where the wearer had held the blanket together. Whose hands clutched this blanket to his chest? Whose hands spun the wool and expertly wove this beautiful garment? Was this blanket worn only on special occasions, or did it keep the owner warm on cold desert nights? How did it come to be on the auction block this day? I will never know the answers to the questions that flooded my mind that day, but I do know that I felt privileged to touch this piece of human history. I didn't have time to lose myself in reverie however, as the auctioneer shouted "Alright now watryagonnagimeforit?" Then he added, "The model doesn't go with it," to the relief of the bidders, no doubt. Very shortly a lucky bidder went home with that blanket. You too can buy a piece of history at the Smoki Rug & Indian Art Auction. Or a contemporary work of textile art whose history is yet to be created by your family. Or the ambitious work of a young Navajo girl who shows and sells her work at the auction to pay for college. Or the work of famous weavers, like Daisy Taugelchee, whose creations have become exquisite heirlooms. You can find them all, over 300 weavings in every color, style, and price at the auction. Plus, you will have your pick of Indian baskets, ceramics, kachinas, jewelry, cowboy collectibles and more at the Friday night auction. As always, enjoy delicious Navajo tacos, frybread, and complementary beverages while enjoying the action at the auction.



You can find them all, over 300 weavings in every color, style, and price at the auction.



If you are a novice auction bidder (like me!), never fear, the Burnhams will provide an overview of bidding procedures and rules at the start of each auction. Like every Smoki Museum sponsored event you will find friendly, knowledgeable people who genuinely want you to enjoy yourself at the auction. The people in Prescott pride themselves on their down home atmosphere, and the Smoki Museum volunteers are no exception. So, come for the previews, stay as long as you like, and bring your friends! For more information or to volunteer to help show rugs (come on, I need a break!), call the Museum at (928) 445-1230 or log on to www.smokimuseum.org. See you at the auction!

Linda Young, Guest Editor *(shown here at the last rug auction)*



Send form with check made out to **Smoki Museum**.
 Mail to: Smoki Museum, P.O. Box 10224, Prescott, AZ 86304-0224

- \$20 Student
- \$25 Individual
- \$35 Family
- \$60 Patayan
- \$125 Mogollon
- \$250 Hohokam
- \$500 Kokopelli!

Yes, I'm interested in volunteering at the Smoki Museum.
 Currently the Museum is looking for help with the following events or teams: Grants Team, Education Team, Marketing Team, Library, and Visitor Services. And many more opportunities exist! To inquire about these opportunities or others, please call (928) 445-1230.

Membership Levels
 (Benefits and more member levels, see: <http://smokimuseum.org>)

Name _____
 Address _____
 City _____ State _____ Zip _____
 Phone (____) _____ e-mail _____

Membership Application

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