

Calendar of Events:

Curator's Note:

"JOHN ROUSH: Meditations from Missouri"
Extended thru March 21, 2010

2nd Anniversary Party
Music by Mistyn Kozisek and Carol Fuxa
March 19, 7pm, Music at 8pm

"COWGIRLS: Contemporary Portraits of the American West"
March 31- May 20, 2010

"Wear Your Western" Cowgirl Reception
Cowgirl discussion panel
April 18, 2-4 pm, Discussion at 2:30

Coffee with the Curators
April 21, 10:30 am

Museum Hours:
Wed- Sat 10am-4pm, Sunday 1pm-4pm
Appointments and tours available
Free Admission, Open to the Public

575 E Street, David City, Nebraska 68632
402.367.4488, www.bonecreek.org



Dale Nichols, *When Day is Done*, 1951, Gold Seal Puzzle, Private Collection Loan.

I'd like to take this opportunity to urge you to please provide financial support for our most important project to date, the major exhibition and book, *Dale Nichols, Transcending Regionalism*. While much of the funding is in place, the balance of funding is urgently needed now to (a) obtain loans from collectors, (b) print the book, and (c) contract to travel the exhibition to two other national venues. Bone Creek Museum of Agrarian Art will show for the first time, that Nichols was much more than a 'Regionalist' painter. Our scholarly work has made other art museums aware that Dale Nichols is a far more important figure in American Art than was previously thought. Because of this, other museums are interested in doing our project. It is therefore imperative that we complete our funding now.



On behalf of the Board, thank you for supporting the museum in 2009. Our 2010 Annual Funding Campaign is right now. The Nichols project is so critical to the reputation and development of Bone Creek; that all funds raised during this campaign are going directly to the project. As the center for Nichols studies, the museum's informal 2008 Nichols exhibit brought visitors from 26 states and 6 foreign countries. Since then, Project Director, Associate Curator Amanda Mobley, has been presenting new discoveries in the 'Dale Nichols Corner' of this newsletter. Now we need your help. Together, we can present the best Nichols paintings from around the country, and unveil the untold Nichols story to the world! Please review highlights of the Dale Nichols project in this newsletter, and use the forms provided herein to donate now.

We'll report on the Nichols project in March at the museum's second anniversary party. Please celebrate with us at this event on the last weekend of the **John Roush** exhibition, "Meditations from Missouri" (see calendar). Special guests will play music by Neil Diamond, Paul Simon, and the Beatles, among others.

Expect an update on the Nichols funding campaign at our April event, where you can listen to a panel of area cowgirls discussing the new feature exhibition, "COWGIRLS, Contemporary Portraits of the American West". Experience the stunning photographs by New York City artist, **Ronnie Farley**, along with remarks by these hard working women. We'll add photos of 4-H cowgirls and offer educational tours during the exhibit. Please wear Western attire to the gala April event (see calendar).

Don't miss a fresh look in our Collection Gallery. Previously stored artwork, such as work by **Winslow Homer**, will be on display. Loans of paintings by **Harvey Dunn** and **Grant Wood** are in the works. Please let me know what you think about new displays and educational programs at Bone Creek, especially concerning the forthcoming **Dale Nichols** retrospective exhibition. I'll see you at the museum.

Mark L. Moseman, Curator
moseman@bonecreek.org

Board of Directors:

- Anna Nolan Covault
- Mark L. Moseman
- Allen Covault
- Michael L. Moravec
- Brian M. Zimmer
- Samantha Kosch
- Carol Moseman
- Ryan Cameron

Our Mission is to be the National Center for preserving, viewing, and learning about exceptional agrarian art.

Agrarian— pertaining to lands, fields, or their tenure

As a non-profit museum, achieving the mission is possible due to generous donors listed at www.bonecreek.org. Thank You from the Board.

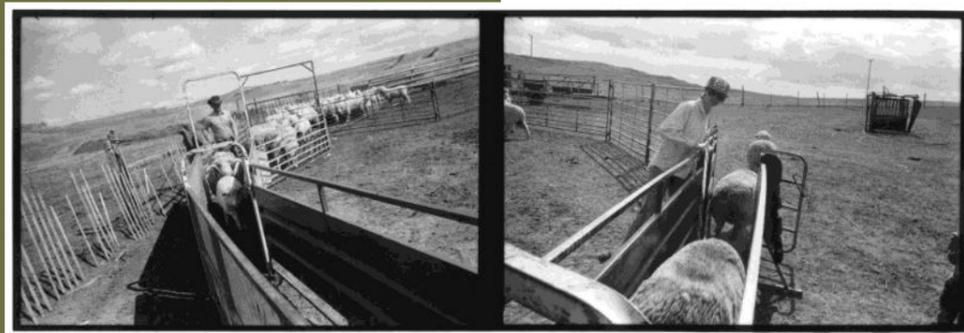
575 E' Street
David City, NE 68632
Telephone 402.367.4488
www.bonecreek.org
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BONE CREEK
MUSEUM OF AGRARIAN ART

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Cowgirls

Contemporary Portraits
of the American West



Ronnie Farley, a New York City artist, is an author, painter and photographer. She's shown nationally and been published in *USA Today* and *The Village Voice*. Her cowgirl exhibit is toured by Exhibits USA, a national program of Mid-America Arts Alliance. Farley expresses the complex, unglamorous - yet often inspiring - reality of women cowpunchers in the modern west.

Inspired by meeting a cowgirl, Farley took three years to photograph and interview women ranchers and rodeo contestants. From western ranches to the Professional Women's Rodeo circuit, Farley's photos capture the resolute strength of women who call these settings home. Farley's courage to see the project through years traveling the west is testimony to her artistic vision.

Ronnie Farley's photography is reminiscent of that of Dorothea Lange. Farley captures defining moments with her camera. Her portraits of these agrarian women are inspired and insightful. Selections of what to shoot and how to compose her photos, shows Farley's artistry as a painter coming through in her photography.

Farley's interviews add to our enlightenment. Gretchen Sammis says, "People of the inner cities need to come in contact with living things. They don't see the sky or feel the dirt. It makes a lot of difference. The farmers are only 1.5% of the population now. We have a lot of people in the suburbs and a lot of people who are weekend farmers, and we have a lot of people who live in the inner cities. We have to get to them all. It's education and sitting down and talking. We are supporting their lifestyle, their good food." All

of these cowgirls' own words are rich with similar commentary.

The project has received critical acclaim:

"If you thought rodeo was only a sport for men, Farley's pictures - all black and white - placed alongside the musings of the subjects - will set you straight." - *The Washington Post*

"Although the subtitle suggests this tribute is purely fictional, the accompanying narratives are as engaging as Ronnie Farley's stunning photographs; both rescue cowgirls from rhinestone-studded stereotypes and document the gritty realities of Western life." - *The New York Times*

Bone Creek Museum of Agrarian Art is supplementing the exhibit with photographs of area 4-H cowgirls. Call to participate in special educational programs and tours by the museum. For further enrichment, Bone Creek is providing a

lively panel discussion by our own ranch and rodeo women living near the museum (see calendar).

COWGIRLS, Contemporary Portraits of the American West is curated by Patricia O'Connor, a gallery professional working for New York State Council on the Arts and Tri-County Arts Council. This is a Program of Exhibits USA, a national division of Mid-America Arts Alliance with The Nebraska Arts Council, The National Endowment for the Arts and Richard P. Kimmel and Laurine Kimmel Charitable Foundation, Inc.

Images: Above: Ronnie Farley, *Bill and Mary Owens separate their sheep for shearing according to coarseness or fineness of wool*, ca. 1993, Photograph, 16 x 20, Courtesy the artist. Below: Ronnie Farley, *Tara working out with one of her cutting horses*, ca. 1993, Photograph, 16 x 20, Courtesy the artist.



NEWS from the field

Artist John Roush provided our 1st workshop This last December, Bone Creek hosted an enjoyable weekend of artists and art enthusiasts alike who came to meet award winning artist John Roush. The photo shows left to right: Curator Mark Moseman, John Roush, Associate Curator Amanda Mobley, and Stephanie Roush at the Roush reception. 'Meditations from Missouri' is on view through March 21, 2010. Bone Creek Museum plans to hold more artist workshops and hands-on events in the future. In part, Nebraska Arts Council, a state agency, has supported this arts event through its matching grants program funded through the Nebraska Legislature and the National Endowment for the Arts, a federal agency.



Christmas Concert draws big crowd Family and friends of the students of Cheryl Kozisek and Mistyn Kozisek flocked to the museum before Christmas for an informal recital of eager pianists and violinists. Pictured at left are three of the talented performers.

About the Newsletter The museum strives to continue to provide relevant programming and the finest quality exhibitions. Thank you for your compliments about our newsletter. To ensure receiving this quarterly newsletter by mail, please become a 'Gardener' at the \$10 annual donation level.

Collections In 2010, look for new artwork on loan in our Collections Gallery; from Grant Wood, Harvey Dunn, and Winslow Homer.



ANNUAL FUNDRAISING DRIVE

Thanks to all who generously supported us in 2009

Bone Creek needs your support in 2010. The Board of Directors finds that the success of "Dale Nichols: Transcending Regionalism" is so critical that all funds raised during the Annual Funding Campaign will go to this project.

This project includes:

- 1000 books
- 25 of the best paintings
- 3 museums
- 2 years of preparation
- 1 unforgettable show!

Discover the accomplishment, enjoy the beauty, enlighten the mind, examine the life of Dale Nichols like never before! Opening 2011.

Partner with Dale Nichols! Grow with Bone Creek!

Donation levels:

- \$10- Gardener, This donation level ensures that you will continue to receive our newsletter and event notifications by mail
- \$50- Sower
- \$100- Harvester
- \$250- Sodbuster
- \$500- Homesteader
- \$1000- Pioneer
- YES, recognize my donation at www.bonecreek.org

Every partner is important.

Name: _____

Address: _____

Email (optional): _____

By partnering with us, your contribution is always tax deductible.

Return this corner with your contribution today

addressed to Bone Creek Museum at 575 E St., David City, NE 68632

DALE NICHOLS CORNER



As research continues in preparation for a monumental exhibition for Dale Nichols (1904-1995), records reveal his love for education and self motivated learning. Although he did not earn a college degree, he enlightened his mind with intellectual adventures about the mysteries of life. These discoveries and impressions are reflected in his paintings. Nichols was particularly drawn to the sun. He became knowledgeable about current scientific understanding and philosophies about the health and wellness benefits of the sun to the spirit of man. Nichols also embraced personal theories about the importance of the sun, in both life and art. In all of his paintings there is a strong sense of light, as he utilizes deep shadows to point to the direction of the sun. Photo at right shows Dale Nichols while living in sunny Arizona.

