

Böne creek

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BART WALKER: /olume, Issue I\ NOVEMBER 12, 2022 - MARCH 12, 2023 **EMBER** 

Bonecreek. org EIN 50-8479913



NEMZFELLEB Agrarian Art





ake a tour of the West with oil painter Bart Walker. He is a master of all seasons. The collection he has assembled for this exhibition includes the lime green new growth of spring and the cool blues of snow against the backdrop of a grey grain elevator. Walker backpacks throughout his hometown region of Teton Valley, Idaho documenting with oil sketches on site and using those in the studio to recapture the liveliness of the moment on a larger canvas. He also travels to Northern California, Utah, and other places throughout the West on painting expeditions.

He says that he chooses scenes that seem to stop him in his tracks. It might be a pleasing composition, a unique and beautiful design as shadows come together to form their own pattern, or it might be a combination of colors as nature displays an array of hues.

Many of these barns and hills are very familiar to Walker. He knows the change of seasons, the landmarks, and some of the property owners. Some of the vistas he returns to regularly, capturing a new angle or detail each time. A scene he might know intimately sometimes catches him off guard with a fresh detail he hadn't seen before.

Though he grew up in a home of artists, he came to art himself later in life after a career of building lodge pole furniture. He considers his style modeled after the great California impressionists of the 20th century. Western contemporaries have been his teachers including Scott Christensen, world-renowned painter and fellow resident of the Teton Valley, T. Allen Lawson and Robert Moore. Each of these artists is known for painting on location and using vivid colors and high contrasts of light.

#### **IMAGES**

(cover) Bart Walker, "Last Cut", oil on canvas, 10x12" 1. Bart Walker, "Moving Pipe", oil on canvas, 11x14" 2. Bart Walker, "A Different Era", oil on canvas, 11x14" Walker says he has never thought of his work as agrarian. He just paints what appeals to him.

The subjects that he chooses however reveal more of the process of men and women at work on the land than simply an expansive vista with breathtaking views. Examples like "Moving Pipe" and "Last Cut" include beautiful scenery but at their focal point is the work being done to grow, harvest, and ultimately care for the land, and from it make





#### CALENDAR - of - EVENTS

Opened Sept 21, 2022

Closed for Installation Nov. 9-11, 2022

NOV

Nov. 12, 2022- Mar. 12, 2023

Bart Walker: Tour the West

Christmas on the Bricks Dec. 4, 2022, 12-4pm

Volunteer Christmas Party Dec. 6, 2022, 2-4pm

#### **CURRENT** Museum Hours

10AM-4PM

10AM-6PM

1PM-4PM

Appointments and tours available

FREE admission

402.367.4488 www.bonecreek.org

#### BPNE CREEK MUSEUM OF AGRARIAN ART 575 E St, David City, NE 68632

### NEWS EVENTS

#### **REGIONAL MUSEUM AWARD**

one Creek Museum is very excited to receive another award from the Mountain-Plains Museums Association, which encompasses a ten-state region. The museum's 2022 Membership Brochure received the award of excellence in the category "Invitation, Development of a Promotional Package." Founding members Allen Covault and Anna Nolan (Covault) accepted the award at this year's conference in Tulsa, Oklahoma.



#### CAMPAIGN UPDATE



ord is getting out! Plans for restoring the 1917 Ford Building in David City as a new home for the Bone Creek Museum are well underway. They include a dedicated Dale Nichols gallery, three other large galleries as well as an "emerging artists"

showspace, a classroom for hands-on art exploration, a gift shop, art library, large and secure climate-controlled vault, solar panels on the roof and an EV charging station out front.

We've raised over \$4.1M towards this project, but we need your help to make this dream a reality. We are so thankful for all who have donated cash, securities or grain to the campaign. If you have not, would you consider making a campaign donation in addition to your usual annual membership? (Your membership goes toward annual operating support, not the building campaign. And we thank you for it!)



new exhibition of artwork from the museum's permanent collection focuses on elements of weather and exposure to the outdoors. Men and women who work the land don't have the luxury of reserving all jobs for pleasant weather. Cattle are brought hay in the snow in "Horses and Haywagon" by Loren Entz, and farmers try to finish their harvest before the lightning storm in "Let's Make this the Last Load," by Jim Cantrell. Three pieces depict fire, another natural weather event or controlled burn that leaves its mark on the landscape. You can also imagine the humidity and heat in Dale Nichols' "Sunday" as the small town strip is nearly deserted of bystanders. Regardless of what brings us outdoors, it is wonderful to experience the power and beauty of being "out in the elements."



# BONE CREEK

#### **BECOME A MEMBER**

It is time once again to renew your annual membership with Bone Creek Museum for 2023. Your tax-deductible donation allows us to keep admission free and enhances visitor experiences by supporting research, educational programming, and entertainment opportunities. Look for our latest membership brochure in the mail or renew online at: bonecreek.org/join/membership/

Beginning next year, we will publish the newsletter in conjunction with the opening of new exhibitions. Look for your newsletter in the mail 3 times per year, in March, July and November.

#### **SHOP**

DALE NICHOLS

CORNER

Dale Nichols very effectively marketed

his images during the holiday season.

The warm emotions of family coming

home to the farm for Christmas held

images like "John Comes Home for

Christmas" in popular appeal. Nichols

capitalized on the broad attraction by

marketing his image on postcards,

puzzles, stamps, trays, and playing cards.

Many of these vintage items can be

found in antique stores and on eBay.

We have a few modern versions available

in the Bone Creek gift shop of a Christ-

mas ornament, blank greeting cards, and

a new item, a fine art quality reproduc-

tion print of "Morning Chore" in the

museum's collection, available in page

sizes of 11x14" and 16x20", for \$45 and

\$60 respectively.



"Morning Chore" Print 11x14" page size bonecreek.org

#### **FARM ISLAND** ANTHOLOGY

The fifth of seven poems by Penny Niemi is published below. The poetry is inspiration for a juried group exhibition next year, in collaboration with the Tubac Art Center. All of the poems and application details are posted under Upcoming Exhibitions at bonecreek.org.

Deadline to apply is January 19, 2023.

#### ISLAND WOMAN

"Come on in!" echoes warmly as her sunshine smile swells to a toothy hug that reaches from beyond the porch screen door. Fresh coffee and the kindliness of this kitchen mingle with bread's just-baked sweetness and the chocolaty aroma of gooey brownies cooling at the open window.

mistress and co-captain of this island

this kitchen space is her space. An animated, vibrant space

defined by authenticity. Free from discontent of dreams undone,

this space has birthed her joy.

childcare, cooking, cleaning, canning personify her creativity. No sameness marks her days.

Island Mother,

whose healing fingers soothe hot, aching foreheads.

coaches daily homework, then labors at her own

chops firewood, then Iullabies wee ones to sleep.

lines up and fills her canning jars, cuts patterns for

and at her table hears confession, feeds her flock,

Island Woman,

cocooning her family in a waterfall of patience, harmony, and love unconditional. And with a heart that lights the way, she steers them through the choppy tides of change.



and celebrates each day.



## Out in the Elements