



---

## RINGLING MUSEUMS NEWSLETTER

---

### RICHARD S. CARROLL NAMED MUSEUMS DIRECTOR

Richard S. Carroll was appointed director of the Ringling Museums by the board of trustees on March 12 and officially assumed his duties on May 14.

He has been director of the Galleries, Lowe Art Center, Syracuse University, New York since 1970 and chairman of the Department of Museology at the College of Visual and Performing Arts there. Prior to that, he was assistant director and curator of education at the Norfolk (Va.) Museum of Arts and Sciences (1966-1970).

Mr. Carroll received the B.F.A. (1953) and the M.F.A. (1955) from Yale University and did further graduate work at New York University. From 1959-1966, he was assistant director and supervisor of education at the Columbia (S.C.) Museum of Arts and Sciences.

A native of Greenwich, Conn., Mr. Carroll, 44, is married to the former Mary Lou Bush of Greenwich and they have three children; Jan, 21 years old; Suzanne, 17; and Ann, 16.

Trustees Chairman James C. Clark stated: "The Ringling Museums are very fortunate to attract a man of Mr. Carroll's experience and vision. We are confident that, under his leadership, the Ringling Museums will fulfill its state-wide mission of serving the cultural needs of the citizens of Florida."

Mr. Carroll is the fourth director in the Museums' history. The former directors and dates of tenure are: A. Everett Austin, 1946-1958; Kenneth Donahue, 1958-1964; and Curtis Coley, 1965-1972.

### MEMBERS COUNCIL ANNUAL REPORT, 1972-73

Mrs. Irving G. Snyder was elected president of the Ringling Museum Members Council at the annual meeting held May 17 in the new wing galleries of the Museum of Art.

Other officers for the coming year



*Richard S. Carroll*

are: 1st vice president, Donald S. Mackintosh; 2nd vice president, Milton Rindler; recording secretary, Mrs. Gerald E. Klein; corresponding secretary, Mrs. Francis Lamar Hearn; and treasurer, George H. Stanwood.

Outgoing President Mark V. Burlingame paid tribute to the various committee chairpersons for their work in support of Museums activities during the past year. He then presented the annual report of the Members Council for the year May 1, 1972 through April 30, 1973, as follows:

At the Museum of the Circus, the Council provided \$2000 for the restoration of a cage wagon in the Back Yard and for bally curtains for the banner line wagons. Volunteers have worked on restoration of calliope wagons, sculpture and the cook house tent and have indexed circus reference material and identified photographs in the archives. Seven tour escorts gave tours for 30,584 visitors.

The 40-member docent corps furnished an office and a study room in the Education Department where they now schedule all Art Museum tours. The training of tour escorts for the Art Museum was done by docents and 14 escorts assisted in educational work and conducted tourist groups through the Museum. Other new programs included a

"Roving Docent" in the galleries, a daily rather than weekly afternoon tour for the public, a color portfolio workshop which goes to schools and summer bible tours for church groups.

Profits from the 1972 Art Carnival were given to the Education Department and were used for scholarships to art classes, an African sculpture exhibition, printing of brochures, equipment for children's workshops and circulating exhibitions.

One Life membership was used to match funds from the National Endowment for the Arts received through the Fine Arts Council of Florida to initiate an Art Caravan which visited schools throughout the state. When Sarasota County schools had no funds to transport children to the Museum, we received a grant from the Woman's Exchange to continue this service and the workshops which the docents conducted every Wednesday and Friday.

Council volunteers worked at the Woman's Exchange to enable the Museum to qualify for grants.

Sixty-four qualified hostesses and two hosts served at the Ringling Residence, covering every day of the week to provide general information to visitors or to conduct tours for school or sightseeing groups. They served 319 groups, totalling 7800 people, as well as two Circus Celebrity evenings. Plants, roses and flower arrangements were placed in the Residence by other volunteers who also provided outstanding Christmas decorations.

The Membership Committee arranged a Christmas party for children of members and held a dinner before the black tie reception in December. Prospective members were invited to the October coffee hour and the November reception, and membership tables were serviced at all events. Five Life memberships were received during the year and the total membership is now 1822.





Members Council officers, from left: Mrs. Irving G. Snyder, Donald S. Mackintosh, Mrs. Gerald E. Klein, Mrs. Francis Lamar Hearn and George H. Stanwood. Missing from photo, Milton Rindler.

The Speakers Bureau assisted in securing memberships and made slide presentations to increase attendance and as a public service to shut-ins. Eleven volunteers and two staff members spoke to 23 organizations reaching about 1250 people.

The Ways and Means Committee conducted two benefit functions in the Asolo Theater: a concert in October featuring the Florida West Coast Chamber Orchestra followed by a buffet in the courtyard, and a piano recital by William Dawson of the Yale School of Music in January. Over 10,300 color brochures were sold and funds are now available for the first reprinting next year.

The Art Rental-Sales Gallery has developed into a successful operation and last year rented 30 paintings and sold 107. The Gallery is open seven days a week with either the manager or some of the 29 volunteer hostesses on duty.

The Hospitality Committee served at seven Know Your Museum coffee hours, eight exhibition receptions, seven other special events and a reception for college art students. One hundred and fifty members gave their time and talents and donated food and other necessary items.

The coordinator's records show 375 volunteers active during the year with a total of 21,734 hours recorded. A volunteer handbook was prepared to aid in training, special training programs were conducted in the various departments and a general orientation session was held in the fall.

#### ART CARNIVAL 1973

The 9th annual Art Carnival, held this year on May 12, was the most successful to date with some \$2000 profit realized, according to Chairman Mrs. John M. Miller, Jr. Twenty-eight different booths offering creative arts activities were staffed by Council members. \$529 was donated for underprivileged children to attend and arrangements were made with churches, clubs and organizations that could provide transportation and chaperones. Many donations of necessary materials were made by merchants, motels, members, individuals and clubs. Members of the Shrine organization manned the cold drink and food booths. The Museum's Buildings Department contributed greatly to the smooth functioning of the event, Mrs. Miller said, and also expressed the Council's appreciation to artist Suzanne Larsen who designed the Carnival poster and to Florida Graphic Arts who printed it.

Proceeds from the Carnival will be used for scholarships to art classes, the Art Caravan, travelling exhibitions, slide-tape lectures and other art curriculum aids to Florida schools, as well as guided tours for school groups and a variety of educational art workshops and in-school demonstrations.

Mrs. David Jones will be the chairman of next year's Carnival with Mrs. LeRoy Sieve co-chairman and Mrs. Miller serving in an advisory capacity.

The Carnival Committee has is-

sued a request to members to begin saving needed items for the 1974 Carnival, as follows: heavy knitting wool, regular and rug yarn, artificial flowers, buttons, squeeze bottles, felt, sequins, plastic tops of spray cans, mushroom baskets, new socks, ribbons, lace, braid, beads and fringe.

#### DOCENT ACTIVITIES

This summer, from June 15 to August 24, on weekdays, the docent corps will conduct special religious tours for church groups and vacation Bible schools in the galleries of the Museum of Art. The tours, which last one hour, or longer if desired, include: *Heroes of the Bible*, *The Life of Christ*, *Bible Stories on Canvas*, *Women of the Bible* and *Religion in Art*. Religious subject matter as well as basic elements of art in the Ringling collection are stressed. Mrs. Garrett Kempers is in charge of the program.

This highly successful project was inaugurated last summer when some 2250 children and adults from 25 churches participated in the tours.

Anyone interested in scheduling a tour should call the Education Department, 355-5101, ext. 20, between 9:30 a.m. and 3:30 p.m. on weekdays. If possible, requests should be made two weeks in advance of the desired date. Weekend tours can be scheduled by special arrangement.

Regular docent tours will continue through the summer and may also be scheduled by calling the Education Department. Tours for the general public are given by docents weekdays from 2-3 p.m.

The Docent Training Course, given every two years by the Museum staff, will be offered this fall from October through April. Thirty-four volunteers have already applied and others will be interviewed this summer. Those interested in this course, which includes a thorough introduction to art history and the permanent Ringling collection, should contact the Education Department.

Docent officers for the forthcoming year are: Mrs. Garrett Kempers, chairman; Mrs. David Palmer, assistant chairman; Mrs. Harry Schall, coordinator; Mrs. Royall Smith, assistant coordinator; Mrs. John Wood, secretary and Mrs. Donald Roe, treasurer.



