

PALM SPRINGS ART MUSEUM MOURNS PASSING OF FRANK BOGERT

Former President of the Board of Trustees Was Major Western Art Enthusiast



Frank Bogert celebrating his 98th Birthday, organized by museum's Western Art Council



March 23, 2009 (Palm Springs, CA) – The Palm Springs Art Museum expressed its mourning over the passing of Frank Bogert, a former President of the Board of Trustees at the museum from 1946 to 1947. Bogert was a long-time supporter of the museum and helped it grow its substantial permanent collection of Western Art and develop programs to serve local residents. His dedication spanned many decades, and Bogert was directly involved with the founding and development of the museum.

In February of 2008, the museum's Western Art Council paid tribute to Bogert's long involvement with the museum and the council with a unique celebration of his 98th birthday at the Smoke Tree Ranch. The celebration included a screening of *Vaqueros del Desierto, 1938*, a film narrated by Bogert, a demonstration of Charro rope artistry by Tomas Garcilazo, and music by the Sons of the Pioneers. Guests sang "Happy Birthday" to Bogert and saluted his many accomplishments.

"We are very saddened by the loss of Frank Bogert," said Harold J. Meyerman, Chairman of the Board of Trustees of the Palm Springs Art Museum. "He was a great inspiration to the community to the museum and to me. He was enamored with Western Art. One of the most appealing aspects of Frank was that he had no compunction in telling anyone what he thought about a matter – he was direct, insightful and full of straightforward wisdom. His passing is a major loss to Palm Springs and to the museum. Our deepest sympathies extend to his wife Negie and the rest of his family for this great loss."

Executive Director Steven Nash recalled that in a recent video interview conducted by the museum, Bogert reminisced that when the current museum building opened in 1976, "...it seemed like we would never have enough art to fill the place. Now we are bursting at the seams. We are really becoming one of the best museums in California." Nash commented that Bogert "was always one of our most enthusiastic – and colorful – supporters. His passing severs a major historical link to our past. He will be deeply missed."

#