

March 2015



Art for all ages in the heArt of the Ouachitas

Gallery Highlights...

It's Membership Dues Time!

All memberships in the gallery expire in January. If you have not yet renewed, please do so—we need you! Renewed in November or December? Then you're good to go for all of 2015. And thank you!

We would appreciate it if you would fill out a membership form so that we can check to be sure we have all your information listed correctly in our records. You can find the form online at www.MenaArtGallery.org under "Membership" in the left-hand menu. Or come by the gallery to pick up one. That way you get to see what is up on the walls and say hello to Julie or the volunteer on duty that day.

Youth Art Classes

We are trying to put together monthly classes for older children as an extension of our current classes for the younger ones. We have artists scheduled to teach these two-hour classes for March, April, June, August, and September. We'd like to find artists willing to teach a class on the third Saturday of May, July, October, November, and December. **Can be in any media that can be handled in the classroom: fine arts or crafts. Whatever will be fun for you to teach and the kids to learn.** Please call Julie at 479-394-3880.

Ouachita Little Theatre

Right across the street from the gallery is the Ouachita Little Theatre. Check out their website: www.OuachitaLittleTheatre.org.

P. O. Box 871
607 Mena Street, Mena, AR 71953 479-394-3880
email@MenaArtGallery.org
www.MenaArtGallery.org
Gallery Hours: Tue. 11-2; Wed. – Sat. 10-3; or by appointment call
479-394-3880

Gallery Attendants Needed!

Please check out the calendar on page 2. We need volunteers to open the doors on the days marked "Available" and there are quite a few this month.

Volunteers are needed from 12 pm to 3 pm. It's an easy and fun job. Sometimes you get to talk to lots of visitors; sometimes you get to read a book or catch up on your email (wireless available).

If you are new at the job, Julie Vande Zande will take you through the things you need to know. Give her a call at 479-394-3880 during regular gallery hours and select the day that works best for you.

Thank you!

You can sign up for upcoming months on the calendar on the wall on the Volunteers' Board to get your choice of dates! If you can come in as Gallery Attendant on any day marked "available" below, please call the gallery at 479-394-3880. We only need volunteers for Wednesdays, Thursdays, and Saturdays; the "Art Day" and "Fiber Arts" attendees take care of Tuesdays and Fridays.

A special thanks to our gallery attendants: we couldn't operate the gallery without you!

Please note that your commitment as gallery attendant is for three hours: usually that is from noon to 3 pm on Wednesday through Saturday, but if mornings are more convenient for you, call Julie at the gallery, 479-394-3880, and see if she can switch hours with you.

<i>March 2014</i>						
<i>Sun</i>	<i>Mon</i>	<i>Tue</i>	<i>Wed</i>	<i>Thur</i>	<i>Fri</i>	<i>Sat</i>
1	2 Closed	3 Art Day 11 am-2 pm	4 Ann Glenn Check-in for Children's Show	5 Available	6 11 am-3 pm Yarns & Yarns (Fiber Art)	7 Available 1-3 pm Reception for Children's Show
8 Closed	9 Closed	10 Art Day 11 am-2 pm	11 Available 5 pm Board Meeting	12 Kurt Bickerstaff	13 1-3 Writers 11 am-3 pm Yarns & Yarns (Fiber Art)	14 Available 10 am Photo Club 1-3 pm Children's Class
15 Closed	16 Closed	17 Art Day 11 am-2 pm 5:30 pm Art Awareness – Susan Sebren Paper Mache	18 Becky Rogers 10 – 4 check in 3-D Show	19 Becky Rogers	20 11 am-3 pm Yarns & Yarns (Fiber Art)	21 Jane Brace 1-3 Reception, 3-D Show
22 Closed	23 Closed.	24 Art Day 11 am-2 pm	25 Carolyn McCullough	26 Kurt Bickerstaff	27 1-3 Writers 11 am-3 pm Yarns & Yarns (Fiber Art)	28 Available
29 Closed	30 Closed	31 Art Day 11 am-2 pm				

What's Going On?

Be sure to check page 3 of your newsletter each month for details and contacts to learn more about any of these groups. You are cordially invited to drop in on any of these activities: call the gallery at 479-394-3880 for more details, or contact the person listed under the activity you are interested in. **Don't see something you would like to be involved in? Call the gallery to find out how it can be started.**

Don't forget that we always need volunteers to staff the gallery, especially as we are only having quarterly members' meetings. Please check the calendar on page two. If you can work as gallery attendant (lots of perks here!) on any of the days marked "Available," please call and tell the Executive Director. And thank you!

Photo Club

The Photo Club meets the 2nd Saturday of each month at 10 am in the classroom at the gallery. The challenge topic for February was "Light." Chris Masters' "Curved Mirror" was the winner. Challenge for March is "Atmosphere."

Ouachita Writers' Guild

The Writers' Guild meets from 1 to 3 pm on the 2nd and 4th Fridays, with the next meeting on March 13. For more information, contact Barbara Tobias at 479-234-3104; barbtobias09@gmail.com.

Fiber Arts

Fridays from around 11 am to around 3 pm finds the Fiber Artists at the gallery. There will be members spinning, weaving, knitting, crocheting, quilting, or anything else involving the creative use of fiber. For more information, contact Bridget Sigler at menabeada@aol.com, or call 786-239-9590, or just drop in, yarn in hand.

Art Day

This is open to anyone working in a media that is portable enough to bring to the classroom. Artists come and go between 11 am and 2 pm each Tuesday. Come and bring your current project or just come to watch and talk. For more information, contact Gilda Meyers at ladyhawke95@gmail.com or call her at 214-536-3658.

Plein Air Painting

Nothing scheduled for March. If you are interested, please either call the gallery at 479-394-3880 or Barbara Tobias at 479-234-3104 so we know if there are enough people interested to continue.

Art Awareness

Each month, on the third Tuesday at 5:30 pm, one of our members presents a short program (about 30 minutes) on art. Among the things we have enjoyed in the past are weaving, glass painting, watches, clay sculpture, and a lot more. If you would like to know more about something art related and can suggest someone to make the presentation, or if you would like to tell us a bit about your specialty, please contact Henry Moreno at 479 234 3413, henrymoreno@gmail.com.

The Art Awareness program for March will be Susan Sebren's presentation on paper mache .

Minutes of Board Meeting, 02/11/15

Board Members Attending:

Rick Chrisman	Kevin Burch
Lorraine Timmerman	Joe Van Wolf
Diane Warren	David Maddox
Henry Moreno	Sandra Thomas
Jan Wennberg	Philip Hensley
Bridget Sigler	Barbara Tobias

Also Attending:

Robert Manis
Julie Vande Zande

Rick Chrisman called the meeting to order at 5:00 pm.

The minutes of the January meeting were reviewed and tabled pending corrections proposed by Henry Moreno.

The financial reports for January were reviewed and approved as written on motion by Barbara Tobias and second by Jan Wennberg.

Bob Manis made a presentation about tax exempt donations and endowments. He covered the tax benefits to donations of property. Property maximum deduction would be 50% of the value of the property. This lowers taxable income. Henry Moreno said that we have a planned giving guide to assist potential donors in setting up their estate.

We briefly discussed the plans to get a new website for the gallery that would incorporate the Juried Show website also. We are waiting on additional information from the website designer as to cost and scheduling.

Committee Reports:

Fund Raising: Rick Chrisman reported on the pending grant application to the Arkansas Arts Council for funding for the Ouachita Arts Celebration. The Photography Show Committee is working on raising funds for the photography show.

Finance: We really don't have a committee now, but need to start getting people on board who can advise us on how to more profitably use the money we have on hand. Rick said he would be willing to serve on the committee. Philip and David said they would also serve. The committee will be charged with developing a budget and using the money on hand.

Nominating: Not meeting until late in 2015.

Art Awareness: Suzanne and Bob Manis will do the presentation for February. Henry announced that the committee will meet before the end of the month. Rick Chrisman announced that we will present an award to Jane Brace before the Art Awareness presentation for February.

Membership: We have not yet done a drive, but membership has been coming in fairly steadily. We have around 65 members now.

Marketing & Promotion: The Advertising & Promotion grant request for the show has been replaced by a grant for the Ouachita Art Celebration (awaiting decision by Arkansas Arts Council), and the Marketing and Promotion committee is no longer involved in fund raising. The Marketing & Promotion committee members are now working on a sub-committee led by Barbara Tobias to implement the National Juried competition for the Art of the Heartland show.

Exhibits: The committee is starting work on the 2016 schedule. Henry Moreno suggested that we make Ouachita Expressions a regional show in 2016.

Building & Maintenance: We got the plumbing repaired this week. The problem is under the building. L&M plumbing has a camera they can send through the piping to figure out what the problem is. David Maddox moved that we do this; Philip Hensley seconded; motion passed. We still have water accumulating in a dip on the roof. The roofer is in Hot Springs and will look at it the next time he is in Mena.

Meeting adjourned at 6:05 pm on motion by Henry Moreno and second by Diane Warren.

Barbara Tobias, Secretary

Director's Report for February 2015

Gallery Sign-In (Visitors) as of February 17 were 37

Volunteer Hours for January – Sit Gallery 12 of 12 Days – 36 hours

Renewed Memberships in January and February – 62

Memberships Renewed in January – 40

Photography Winners for January, 2015



Left: Chris Masters' Challenge
Winner: *Dock at Dusk*

Camera Raffle for Photography Show Awards

On Tuesday, April 14, one lucky individual will win a Cannon Rebel T5 DSLR Camera. This 18 megapixel camera package valued at \$450 includes an 18-55 zoom lens, battery and charger, 16 GB memory card, and USB connector.

Tickets can be purchased inside Walmart at Bear State Bank (formerly First National Bank) and at Mena Art Gallery. In addition, volunteers will be selling tickets in front of Walmart and Atwoods on Saturdays during the month of March and the first weekend in April. Tickets are \$2 for one or three for \$5.

Volunteers are needed to sit at a table with another person and sell tickets at Walmart and Atwoods. If you can help, let Julie know or call Janis Shull at 234-2032.

Proceeds from this event will support the annual photography competition to be held in June, 2015.

