

April 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 Class Instructors Needed

We have artists scheduled to teach these two-hour classes for April, May, June, July, August, and September. We'd like to find artists willing to teach a class on the third Saturday of 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.

See page 4 for a list of Benson Award Winners who are also gallery members: "Benson Awards"

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!

Youth Art Classes

We have launched a new series of art classes for youth of middle school and high school age.

Saturday, April 18, at 1 pm will see Gilda Meyers teaching how to make Shaving Cream Cards. Please call the gallery at 479-394-3880 and register to attend. There is a \$2 fee to help defray the cost of materials.

Don't know what Shaving Cream Cards are? They're cool! And you'd be amazed at what you can create.

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.

April 2015						
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thur	Fri	Sat
			1 Available	2 Suzanne Manis	3 11 am-3 pm Yarns & Yarns (Fiber Art)	4 Available
5 Closed	6 Closed	7 Art Day 11 am-2 pm	8 10 am – 4 pm High School Check-in Pat Brown 5 pm Board Meeting	9 Kurt Bickerstaff	10 11 am-3 pm Yarns & Yarns (Fiber Art) 1-3 Writers	11 1-3 pm Reception 10 am Photo Club 1-3 pm Children's Class
12 Closed	13 Closed	14 Art Day 11 am-2 pm 5:30 pm	15 Available	16 Jane Brace	17 11 am-3 pm Yarns & Yarns (Fiber Art)	18 Cynthia Thanos-Wade 1-3 pm Young Artists' Class Gilda Meyers
19 Closed	20 Closed	21 Art Day 11 am-2 pm 5:30 pm Art Awareness – Susan Sebren, Paper	22 Available	23 Carolyn McCullough	24 1-3 Writers 11 am-3 pm Yarns & Yarns (Fiber Art)	25 Jim Brace
26 Closed	27 Closed	28 Art Day 11 am-2 pm	29 Available	30 Kurt Bickerstaff		

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 March was "Atmosphere." Kurt Bickerstaff's "The Valley" was the winner. Challenge for April is "Black and White."

Ouachita Writers' Guild

The Writers' Guild meets from 1 to 3 pm on the 2nd and 4th Fridays, with the next meeting on April 10. 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 April. 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, paper mâché 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 April will be Susan Sebren's presentation on paper mache .

Minutes of Board Meeting 03/11/15

Board Members Attending:

Rick Chrisman, Bridget Sigler, Lorraine Timmerman, Diane Warren, Joe Van Wolf, David Maddox, Sandra Thomas
Henry Moreno, Pat Brown, Jan Wennberg, Barbara Tobias

Also in attendance:

Julie Vande Zande

Rick Chrisman called the meeting to order at 5:05 p.m.

Minutes from the previous meeting were reviewed and were approved with corrections on motion by Henry Moreno and second by Jan Wennberg.

Financial reports for February were reviewed and approved as written on motion by Jan Wennberg and second by Diane Warren.

Rick Chrisman talked about the website redesign. A meeting was held with Mirage Net Web Hosting & Development and they suggested to do separate sites for the Mena Art Gallery and The Art of the Heartland Juried Show since we are gearing toward different audiences. Henry Moreno objected to doing the two sites and would like a separate page on the Mena Art Gallery site for the Juried Show. After some discussion it was decided the Website Committee would meet after the board meeting to make a decision as to which way to go.

Rick Chrisman will be addressing the City Council as well as the Mena/Polk County Chamber of Commerce Board regarding the streetscape construction and scheduled events for this year. He would like to have as many board members and business owners at these meetings as possible. The City Council meeting will be Tuesday, April 14th at 6 p.m. or 7 p.m. and the Chamber of Commerce meeting will be Wednesday, April 15th at 12 Noon.

COMMITTEES:

Fund Raising – Pat Brown reported that application for the \$1,500 grant has been turned in to the Mena Advertising and Promotion Commission. They have not voted on this yet.

Pat Brown attended the Arkansas Arts Council review of the application submitted for a \$3,500 grant. She stated they liked the OAC event and their comments were very favorable.

The Photo Committee met and they are having a camera raffle for the photography show.

Art Awareness – Since March Art Awareness was canceled due to the Chamber Banquet, Susan Sebren will do her presentation on paper mâché in April and Lorraine Timmerman will do a presentation in May.

Membership - Julie Vande Zande reported that we have 80 members who have renewed membership for 2015. She continues to contact members.

Exhibits – All set for 2015.

Building & Maintenance – Rick Chrisman reported that a power flush toilet was put in. It is working for now but will not solve the problem of the old plumbing. A contractor looked at our options and suggested to move the bathroom closer to clean out. This would also allow the office to move up front. Motion was made by David Maddox that we need to move forward on this, second by Henry Moreno. Three bids will be obtained for the next board meeting.

Finance – Rick Chrisman will schedule a meeting for the Finance Committee to work on a small business loan for the building project.

Marketing & Promotion – Working on the Juried Show. Henry Moreno asked if it would be alright to put Tyron Lewis' name under the photo in the advertising. All agreed it would be good. Rick Chrisman questioned the SWA logo being used. It was decided to remove the logo from advertising until the discussion of a new logo was brought before the board.

Pat Brown moved to adjourn at 6:28 p.m., second by Diane Warren.

Julie Vande Zande, Secretary

Benson Award Winners at OLT Who Are Also Gallery Members

Rudi Timmerman, Best Director of a Musical Play; **Ann Glenn**, Best Supporting Actress in a Drama; **Ladonna Van Wolf**, Best Supporting Actress in a Comedy; **Rudi Timmerman**, Best Set in a Musical; **Marvin Glenn** and **Suzanne Snow**, Best Lighting and Sound in a Comedy.

Congratulations!

Director's Report for March 2015

Thank you Fiber Group for a fantastic Fiber Show this year!!

Sales - \$468.29

Workshops - \$313

Entry Fees - \$108

Raffle - \$97

Gallery Sign-In (Visitors) as of March 28, 2015 - 64.

Volunteer Hours for March – Sit Gallery 10 of 10 – 30 hours

Check-In Children's Show – 6 hours

Check-In 3D Show – 19 hours

Memberships January – March 28, 2015 – 85

Photography Winner for March 2015



Left: Kurt Bickerstaffs' Challenge
Winner: *The Valley*

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.

Mena Art Gallery is owned and operated by SouthWest Artists, Inc., a non-profit corporation, and support is provided, in part, by the **Arkansas Arts Council**, an agency of the Department of Arkansas Heritage and the National Endowment for the Arts, and several local businesses and individuals. Donations are tax deductible and help ensure the continuing work of bringing art to the community of Mena.

If you prefer to have your name removed from our mailing list, please send an email to: email@MenaArtGallery.org or call 479-394-3880.

Membership in Mena Art Gallery is available at several levels:

Student: \$10:00 Individual: \$20.00 Family: 35.00

Membership forms are available at the Gallery or on the website www.MenaArtGallery.org

We encourage you to become a member in this progressive artistic community and hope you will remember Mena Art Gallery in your Estate Planning by Leaving a Legacy for the Arts within the community for future generations

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Rick Chrisman, Chair (2016) David Maddox (2016) Diane Warren (2017)

Henry Moreno (2015) Joe Van Wolf (2017) Bridget Sigler (2017)

Philip Hensley (2016) Patricia Brown (2017) Barbara Tobias (2017)

Jan Wennberg (2015) Lorraine Timmerman (2015) Sandra Thomas (2015)

Kevin Burch (2017)

The Executive Director of the Gallery is Julie Vande Zande. She is available at 479-394-3880 during regular business hours to answer your questions and assist with your artistic endeavors.

Mena Art Gallery
P. O. Box 871
Mena, AR 71953