

Mena Art Gallery

May 2015

Art for all ages in the heArt of the Ouachitas

Gallery Highlights...

Art of the Heartland Juried Painting Competition

Everything is set up and running, and we are in the process of accepting entries for this show. Check it out at www.TheArtoftheHeartland.com. There are over \$12,000 in cash awards for the winners of this one!

Youth Art Class Instructors Needed

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

Jim Huckabay's Watercolors

This is our exhibit for May. Check out some samples of Jim's work on our website: www.MenaArtGallery.org.

And plan to attend the demonstration he will do at 3 pm on May 1. Fee is \$20; call 479-394-3880 for reservations.

Ouachita Little Theatre

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

Young Artist Class

The Young Artist Class for this month will be Jim Brace. Jim will be teaching the Art of Oil Painting on May 16 from 1 p.m. to 3 p.m. Youth & adult welcome!

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

Fiber Arts Taking Summer Break

Because so many members of the Fiber Arts group are busy raising animals for fiber (lambing, shearing, etc.), the group is suspending meeting at the gallery until late summer or fall.

And because they had been volunteering every Friday to keep the gallery open, volunteers are needed from 12 pm to 3 pm on Fridays during the summer. If you can't make it on a Friday, call Julie and see if she needs you another day. 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.

Ouachita Arts Celebration

See page 5 for an update on what will be happening on November 7.

Preview: Tommy Young will be flying some of his beautiful hawks during the celebration in addition to all the other things: some from last year; some new.

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, Fridays, and Saturdays; the "Art Day" attendees take care of Tuesdays.**

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>May 2015</i>						
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thur	Fri	Sat
					1 Available 3-5 pm Jim Huckabay's Watercolor Demo	2 1-3 pm Reception for Jim Huckabay's Watercolors
3 Closed	4 Closed	5 Art Day 11 am-2 pm	6 Available	7 Available	8 Diane Warren	9 Barbara Tobias 10 am-12 pm Photo Club 1-3 pm Children's Class
10 Closed	11 Closed	12 Art Day 11 am-2 pm	13 Jane Brace 5 pm Board Meeting	14 Kurt Bickerstaff	15 Pat Brown 11 am-3 pm Yarns & Yarns (Fiber Art)	16 Cynthia Thanos-Wade 1-3 p.m. Young Artist Class – Jim Brace – Oil Painting
17 Closed	18 Closed	19 Art Day 11 am-2 pm 5:30 pm Art Awareness Lorraine Timmerman, Watercolors - Arkansas Wildflowers	20 Becky Rogers	21 Becky Rogers	22 Carolyn McCullough 1-3 Writers	23 Available
24 Closed	25 Closed	26 Art Day 11 am-2 pm	27 Available	28 Kurt Bickerstaff	29 Available	30 Jim Brace
31 Closed						

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 April was "Black and White"; Donna Atkinson won with "Spider Art." The challenge for May will be "Clouds." Our next scheduled Photo Shoot was April 25 at Garvan Gardens.

Ouachita Writers' Guild

The Writers' Guild meets from 1 to 3 pm on most 2nd and 4th Fridays, with the next meeting on May 22. For more information, contact Barbara Tobias at 479-234-3104; barbtobias09@gmail.com. **Please note this group will NOT meet on May 8.**

Fiber Arts

Suspended for the summer.

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 May. If you are interested, please either call the gallery at 479-394-3880 or Vickie Dempsey at 479-438-3924 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.

Lorraine Timmerman will present the Art Awareness program for May demonstrating watercolors of Arkansas Wildflowers. She plans to cover how she became interested in painting wildflowers and how she goes about it.

Minutes of Board Meeting 04/08/15

Board Members Attending:

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

Also in attendance:

Julie Vande Zande

Rick Chrisman called the meeting to order at 5:03 p.m.

Minutes from the previous meeting were reviewed and were approved on motion by Jan Wennberg and second by David Maddox. Financial reports for February were reviewed and approved as written on motion by Philip Hensley and second by Barbara Tobias.

COMMITTEES:

Fund Raising – Pat Brown reported that we received the grant from the Mena Advertising and Promotion Commission for the \$1,500 for the OAC event and we will also receive approximately \$3,100 from Arkansas Arts Council grant. Rick talked about the OAC budget and that there is a significant improvement this year.

The Photo Show raffle and donations from businesses generated approx. \$1,331 so far. The drawing for the camera will be held on April 14 and the Mayor will be here to draw the ticket.

Art Awareness – Henry Moreno reported that Susan Sebren will do her presentation on paper mâché in April and Lorraine Timmerman will do a presentation in May. Looking for artists to do presentations for the remainder of the year.

Membership - Julie Vande Zande reported that we have 100 membership renewals and continuing to come in slowly.

Exhibits – Rick Chrisman updated the board on the OAC event. Talked about Tommy Young presenting the art of falconry; checking on a larger stage; going to have more children's activities; continuing the spontaneous pop up singing from the High School Choir. John Vacca is already working with the schools. Sent out requests to vendors.

Building & Maintenance – Rick Chrisman reported that Kurt Bickerstaff put in a new back porch and Janis Shull donated a new awning over the back porch. Remodel update - We received three bids that range from \$4,000 to \$31,000. These vary quite a bit and not sure which way to go with this. We need to make sure the plumbing is available in the area where we want to move the bathroom. Proceed to get L & M Plumbing back to run the camera through to verify the location of the plumbing. Rick Chrisman will report back to the board next month.

Finance – The Finance Committee met via email to discuss the building project funds. Union Bank has agreed to loan us the amount for this project. They will revisit when we know the actual cost of the project.

Marketing & Promotion – Working on the Juried Show. The website for the Juried Show is up now – theartoftheheartland.com. A workshop with Nancy Taylor is scheduled for October 12, 13 & 14. Barbara Tobias thanked the fundraising committee for all their hard work. Café is up and going. Sandra Thomas submitted the first magazine ad for May in the American Art Collector.

No new business.

Philip Hensley moved to adjourn at 5:39 p.m., second by Sandra Thomas.

Julie Vande Zande, Secretary

Director's Report for April 2015

3D Show Sales - \$26.28

The High School Show was fantastic with a total of 105 entries.

Gallery Sign-In (Visitors) as of April 29, 2015 were 94.

Volunteer Hours for March – Sit Gallery 12 of 16 – 48 hours

Check-In High School Show – 14 hours

Renewed Memberships January – April 30, 2015 – 101

Photography Winner for April 2015



Donna Atkinson's "Spider Art"

Ouachita Arts Celebration

Rick Chrisman reports that there are now ten businesses signed up to take part in this year's Ouachita Arts Celebration (OAC). It will take place on Saturday, November 7, from 10 am until around 4:00 pm with two full blocks of Mena Street blocked to traffic so we have plenty of room for vendors' booths and for visitors to wander safely from one to another.

We have received notification that we will have a total of \$4,600 in grants from the Arkansas Arts Council and our local Advertising and Promotion Committee, so plans are going ahead full tilt for an even bigger and better celebration than last year!

Vendors who would like to have a booth should apply as soon as possible. Go to www.Facebook.com/OuachitaArtsCelebration for an entry form!

Not a vendor? Then mark your calendar for November 7 and plan to have a great day.

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.