



July 2015

Art for all ages in the heArt of the Ouachitas

Gallery Highlights...

Deadline Drawing Near for the Art of the Heartland Juried Painting Competition

Just a reminder that the deadline for the Art of the Heartland Juried Painting Competition is July 10, 2015. For more information and to enter go to www.TheArtoftheHeartland.com.

Young Artist Class

The Young Artist Class for this month will be Cynthia Thanos-Wade. She will be showing us Fun and Easy Watercolor Tricks on July 18 from 1 p.m. to 3 p.m. Youth & adult welcome!

Ouachita Little Theatre

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

Greg Disch Photography Class

Greg Disch will be conducting a landscape photography class on September 12, 2015. It will include techniques of "hyperfocal distance" and live view focusing as well as teaching you:

- How to get the most out of the sky
- Create sun starbursts in your photos
- Research locations
- Use composition to create stronger images
- Build panoramas
- Create natural HDR images

Class will run from 10 am to 4 pm; cost is \$75 per person. Please call the gallery at 479-394-3880 to reserve your seat in the class.

Check out Greg's website: www.gregdisch.com. We will also have an exhibit of his work in September.

P. O. Box 871
607 Mena Street, Mena, AR 71953 479-394-3880

email@MenaArtGallery.org

www.MenaArtGallery.org

Gallery Hours: CLOSED June 30 – August 4

Starting Gallery Remodel

Mena Art Gallery is embarking on a remodeling program to better display the art and make the gallery a more inviting place for you to visit. Here are some of the plans:

1. We are moving the office nearer the front of the gallery so that our Executive Director, Julie VandeZande, and our volunteers can more quickly greet you when you come in.
2. We are making the bathroom handicap-accessible and moving it toward the back of the gallery.
3. We'll repaint the walls and put down new carpet.
4. We have already rearranged the cabinets in the classroom (and removed some things no longer used) to make that space more useful.
5. We have already completed installing all LED lighting in the gallery proper—it makes a tremendous difference in how well the paintings and photographs look.

We'll be closing on June 30 and re-opening on August 4 just in time to accept all entries for the annual Ouachita Expressions competition. All of you who are artists, please get your entries ready and bring them to the gallery between 10 am and 4 pm on Wednesday, August 5. You can find full details and the entry form on our website: www.MenaArtGallery.org.

And both artists and those who appreciate it: plan to be here for the grand re-opening and reception for Ouachita Expressions on August 8.

We will not be needing volunteers for the month of July since we will be doing our remodeling. We will be needing volunteers for August. You can call 394-3880 or email at mail@menaartgallery.org to schedule a day in August. **All regularly scheduled meetings will meet at the Old Historic Armory on the corner of DeQueen and Maple Streets in July except for Art Day on July 14 and 28.**

July 2015						
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thur	Fri	Sat
			1	2	3	4
5 Closed	6 Closed	7 Art Day 11 am-2 pm	8 5:00 pm Board Meeting	9	10 1-3 Writers	11 10 am-12 pm Photo Club 1-3 pm Children's Class
12 Closed	13 Closed	14 Art Day 11 am-2 pm Meeting at Papa's Mexican Cafe	15	16	17	18 1-3 p.m. Young Artist Class – Cynthia Thanos-Wade – Fun and Easy Watercolor Tricks
19 Closed	20 Closed	21 Art Day 11 am-2 pm 5:30 pm Art Awareness Sam Tobias – Trip to Santa Fe	22	23	24 1-3 Writers	25
26 Closed	27 Closed	28 Art Day 11 am-2 pm Meeting at Papa's Mexican Cafe	29	30	31	

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.**

The gallery is looking for a volunteer to help in the office one or two days a week for help on some small projects. If you are interested call Julie at 479-394-3880.

Even though the gallery is closed we are still meeting for all the regularly scheduled meetings. We will be meeting at the Old Historic Armory on DeQueen and Maple Street at the regular times.

Photo Club

The Photo Club meets the 2nd Saturday of each month at 10 a.m. in the classroom at the gallery. The challenge topic for June was "People/Persons". The winner was Merribeth Christopher. The challenge for July will be "Architecture."

Ouachita Writers' Guild

The Writers' Guild meets from 1 p.m. to 3 p.m. on most 2nd and 4th Fridays, with the next meeting on July 10. For more information, contact Barbara Tobias at 479-234-3104; barbtobias09@gmail.com.

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 a.m. and 2 p.m. 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 July. 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 p.m., 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 or henryrmoreno@gmail.com.

Sam Tobias will present a video on their recent trip to Santa Fe at the Art Awareness program on Tuesday, July 21st.

Minutes of Board Meeting 06/10/15

Board Members Attending:

Rick Chrisman
Lorraine Timmerman
Barbara Tobias
Diane Warren
Phillip Hensley
Joe Van Wolf
Patricia Brown

Also in attendance:

Julie Vande Zande

Rick Chrisman called the meeting to order at 5:01 p.m.

Minutes from the previous meeting were reviewed and were approved on motion by Phillip Hensley and second by Barbara Tobias.

Financial reports for May were reviewed and approved as written on motion by Barbara Tobias and second by Joe Van Wolf.

Board Meeting Date and Time — Rick Chrisman asked the board members present if the time and dates of the board meeting were good or if we should change them. After some discussion it was decided to keep the time and dates the same — second Wednesday of each month at 5:00 p.m.

COMMITTEES & SPECIAL EVENTS REPORTS:

Building & Maintenance — Rick Chrisman reported that Miles Construction will be doing the remodeling project. The gallery will be closed the month of July. Phillip Wilson is allowing us to use the old armory for meetings during the time that the gallery will be closed.

Thanks to a generous donor the gallery showroom now has new and brighter lighting.

Aleshire Electric has upgraded our electrical into the gallery and added a circuit for ceiling fans and track lighting. The cost to do this was \$720.

Carpeting for the gallery is being looked into. Pricing from the box stores (Lowe's, Home Depot, etc.) has varied quite a bit. Phillip Hensley is checking on a local vendor to see if we can get similar carpet at a good cost.

To help speed up the selection process for the back wall art competition the maintenance committee will select three of the submitted back wall art to present to the board in July.

Finance — Rick Chrisman reported that the bank change over to Union Bank is complete. The Union Bank is going to loan us the funds to pay for the building remodel. We are looking at a \$22,000 draw for approximately 8 years for a payback of \$250 to \$300 per month. The bank will take a mortgage on the building. Barbara Tobias moved to accept the \$22,000 draw with approximate \$300 repayment per month and Diane Warren second the motion.

Art Awareness — Barbara Tobias reported that Cynthia Thanos-Wade would be presenting watercolor techniques for the June Art Awareness on June 16. Sam Tobias will be presenting a video on their trip to Santa Fe for the July Art Awareness on July 21. We are still looking for artists that would do presentations for the rest of the year.

Art of the Heartland — Barbara Tobias reported that after talking with caFé and another sources she is relieved some about entries coming in slowly. According to these sources the entries come in at the last minute and they tend to wait until it gets closer to the deadline. There will be a workshop with Bill Garrison. Barbara is putting together a list of emails for non-profit and coop galleries out of state — Texas, Louisiana, Oklahoma, etc. Barbara is getting information from area Bed & Breakfasts to put on the website. Barbara is drafting articles for the newspapers both local and for major cities in Texas, Oklahoma and Louisiana and getting information to the Chamber of Commerce.

Ouachita Art Celebration — The OAC meeting was postponed to June 23 due to the Lum & Abner Festival and other scheduling conflicts. The OAC committee will update the board next month.

Fund Raising — Pat Brown reported that she is looking into several different types of fund raising events and will have more details at the next board meeting. One of the fundraisers is to do something similar to what is being done for Tommy Young's Arkansas Native Plant & Wildlife Center. A monthly payment would go directly from the donors bank account to the gallery bank account.

No new business.

Barbara Tobias moved to adjourn at 5:50 p.m., second by Diane Warren.

Director's Report for June 2015

We had a fantastic Photography Show with 100 entries. Thank you to Janis Shull and all the volunteers that help make this show a success!

Entry Fees - \$479

Sales - \$340

Gallery Sign-In (Visitors) as of June 26, 2015 were 58.

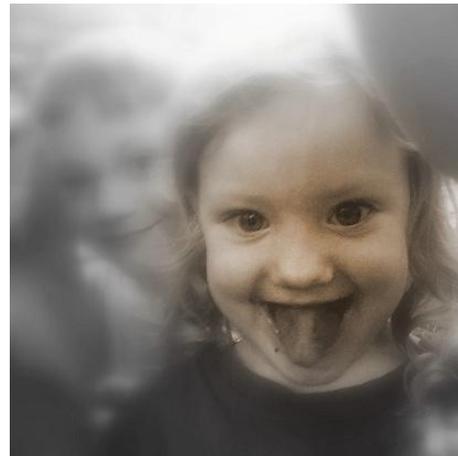
Volunteer Hours for June — Sit Gallery 16 of 16 days — 48 hours

Renewed Memberships January — June 26, 2015 — 112

Photography Winner for June 2015 – People/Persons

Merribeth Christopher

The Challenge for July will
be Architecture.



Mena Art Gallery 13th Annual Photography Show Winners

The Richard Shull Best of Show award went to Brittney Miller for her photograph, “Long Way Home.”

The Best in Floral was awarded to Sharon Prislipsky.

Vic Prislipsky took the Best Wildlife award.

Jo Eldridge received the R.L. Norris Memorial Award.

By vote of those attending the reception, the People’s Choice Award was given to Jennifer Millsaps.

Other awards by category were as follows - Landscapes Only: First Place, Jim Anderson; Second Place, Michael Leonard; Third Place, Betty Acheson; Honorable Mention, Vic Prislipsky.

Landscapes with Structures: First, Ben Campbell; Second, Jim Anderson; Third, Sharon Prislipsky; HM, Michael Leonard.

Animals: First, Ken Vonk; Second, Donna Atkinson; Third, Steve Mosley; HM, Susan Sebren, Leon Fink, Jo Eldridge.

Floral: First, Larry Millican; Second, Pat Brown; Third, Pat Brown; HM Larry Millican.

People and Portraits: First, Michael Leonard; Second, Sharon Prislipsky; Third, Joseph Corcoran; HM, Jennifer Milsaps.

General: First, Brittney Miller; Second, Sharon Prislipsky; Third, Donna Atkinson; HM, Kurt Bickerstaff.

Youth: First, Mercy Chiapparo; Second, Alexiza Lawrence; Third, Mercy Chiapparo; HM, Ka See Moua; Rising Star, Ka See Moua.

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.