

Mena Art Gallery

Art for all ages in the heArt of the Ouachitas

July 2016

Gallery Highlights...

Christmas Ornament Reminder

Just a reminder... We are asking members to make ornament size art that can hang on The Artist Tree during our Christmas Show. They will be for sale and each artist can make more than one if they would like. Please have all the ornaments at the gallery by October. If you have any questions call Julie at 479-394-3880.

JOLT Production – As You Wish It

This is the premiere of Logan Sweeten's original play at the Ouachita Little Theatre...As You Wish It. Production dates are July 8, 9, 10 & 15, 16, 17.

Children's Art Class

Children's Art Class will take place on June 11 from 1 to 3 p.m. Niki Dempsey is our art teacher. The cost is \$2 per child. Please call the gallery at 479-394-3880 to sign up.

Third Thursday Downtown

The Third Thursday Downtown will be on July 21. We will be open until 8 p.m. Stop by and see us.

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

Sam and Barbara Tobias Member Show

The July exhibit at Mena Art Gallery will be the work of Sam and Barbara Tobias.



Sam has been a photographer since a childhood gift from his father of a Brownie camera.

Barbara has drawn, carved, and painted most of her life.

The show will be up until Tuesday, August 2.

All of the work is for sale; all proceeds go to the gallery.

**The reception will be held on
Saturday, July 2 from 1 to 3 p.m.**



SAM TOBIAS

Photo Club Challenge

The Photo Club Challenge winners for June are Donna Atkinson and Sam Tobias. The challenge was night photos. Next month's challenge is groups of 3. Come join us at our next meeting on Saturday, July 9 from 10 a.m. to noon.



DONNA ATKINSON

You can sign up for coming 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 p.m. 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.

July 2016						
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thur	Fri	Sat
					1 Available Ouachita Readers' & Writers' Group 1:30 – 3:30 pm	2 Barbara/Sam Tobias Reception 1 pm - 3 pm
3 Closed	4 Closed	5 Art Day 11 am - 2 pm	6 Carolynne & Joe Sizemore Board Meeting 5:00 pm	7 Available	8 Available Ouachita Readers' & Writers' Group 1:30 – 3:30 pm	9 Available Photo Club 10 am - Noon Children's Art 1 pm - 3 pm
10 Closed	11 Closed	12 Art Day 11 am - 2 pm	13 Available	14 Available	15 Available Ouachita Readers' & Writers' Group 1:30 – 3:30 pm	16 Carolynne & Joe Sizemore
17 Closed	18 Closed	19 Art Day 11 am - 2 pm Members Meeting/Art Awareness 5:30 pm	20 Barbara Tobias	21 Jo Eldridge Third Thursday Downtown Open until 8 pm	22 Pat Brown Ouachita Readers' & Writers' Group 1:30 – 3:30 pm	23 Jane Brace
24/31 Closed	25 Closed	26 Art Day 11 am - 2 pm	27 Available	28 Available	29 Available Ouachita Readers' & Writers' Group 1:30 – 3:30 pm	30 Available

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 Julie. And thank you!

TRAHC's 28th Annual National Juried Exhibition

TRAHC in Texarkana is having their 28th Annual National Juried Exhibition. Selected work will be exhibited at their Regional Arts Center from July 8 – August 13, 2016. More details at www.TRAHC.org.

Photo Club

The Photo Club meets the 2nd Saturday of each month at 10 a.m. in the classroom at the gallery. The challenge for June was "Night Photos". There was a tie between Donna Atkinson and Sam Tobias. This month's challenge is "Groups of 3."

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.

Member Meeting/Art Awareness

Tuesday, July 19 at 5:30 p.m. the Mena Art Gallery will have the quarterly members meeting. There is not an Art Awareness presentation scheduled for this meeting. 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 henrymoreno@gmail.com.

The Art of the Heartland Competition

Entries are starting to come in for the Art of the Heartland Competition. Remember if you have already paid your membership fee for 2016, use the Discount Code of "2016 MB" for a discount on your entry fee of \$15.00. We are accepting entries NOW with a deadline of August 15 at www.callforentry.org. See more about the show on our website www.theartoftheheartland.com.

OUACHITA READERS' & WRITERS' GROUP

This new group (or resurrected old group) is meeting every Friday from 1:30 to 3.30 p.m. Nothing is written in stone. If the membership does not like the approach we will try something else. Let's aim for interesting presentations and lively discussions so that no one will be able to stay away! Book recommended for new writers is Brenda Ueland's If You Want to Write, first published in 1938 and still in print which testifies to its usefulness.

Minutes of Board Meeting 6/08/16

Board Members Attending

Rick Chrisman	Lorraine Timmerman	Patricia Brown	Barbara Tobias
Tiffany Lane	Barbara Lewis	Diane Warren	Jan Wennberg
David Maddox			

Also Attending

Julie Vande Zande	Patricia Trulock
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Rick Chrisman called the meeting to order at 5:08 p.m. Minutes of the May meeting were reviewed. Tiffany Lane moved the minutes be accepted. Barbara Tobias seconded. Minutes were approved.

The financial reports for May 2016 were reviewed. Barbara Tobias moved the financial reports be accepted. Diane Warren seconded. Reports were approved.

Julie gave a report on the status of the gallery. She reported that the gallery has a student helper for June from the Upward Bound Program at Rich Mountain Community College. The student, Katie O'Rear, will be working nine hours per week helping with the new rack card and the website. Julie also reported that the Shelia Johnson Member show which was up during May had sales of \$468 with \$117 of that donated to the gallery. With the \$100 entry fee, the show yielded \$217 to the gallery. She also stated that the annual Photography Show which went up on June 1st had 112 entries resulting in \$547 in entry fees. She added that the show received membership dues for a total of \$100 bringing the total income to date to \$647. Julie also reported that the new computer for the gallery will be installed on June 10th. She also expressed appreciation to the Exhibits Committee for setting the 2017 Exhibits Schedule.

Rick discussed the need to recruit volunteers to serve on the Finance Committee to help with budgeting and financial planning. He explained that volunteers to the committee did not have to be members of the gallery and the committee would not meet on an ongoing basis, so the time commitment would not be excessive. He asked for recommendations of persons who might be qualified and interested.

Rick also discussed the recommendation from the Arts Council consultant to create an endowment for the gallery. He explained that the recommended amount to start an endowment is three times the organization's operating budget, which for the gallery would be \$250,000. He added that the recommendations were not to touch the principal and use only a certain portion of the income, turning some of the income back into the endowment for growth. Rick stated that fundraising for this would need to be totally different from regular fundraising activities and contacts and it would need to be included in all gallery publications. He suggested that we consider setting up a special committee to research this topic and begin to develop plans.

Rick introduced the Signature Member status that has been suggested to identify members who have achieved recognition in the gallery's national and regional competitions. After a discussion, the board determined that this designation is not an additional membership, so a change to the by-laws would not be required. Barbara Tobias moved that the gallery make this status available to qualified artists. David Maddox seconded. Motion approved.

Rick asked Julie to present the job description for the Executive Director. There was a discussion of the duties with the suggestion that one way to help ease the demand on Julie's time was to recruit members to coordinate the shows and exhibits and help with the newsletter. Pat will develop a list of duties for the coordinators of the shows and she and Barbara will help with the newsletter, which will include information on ways to volunteer in addition to sitting the gallery.

Committees and Special Events

Finance—No meeting.

Building and Maintenance—Rick reported that he has an estimate from Quality Roofing for \$1400-1500 and has requested a quote from Mena Steel Buildings. That quote has not been received yet, but the representative who evaluated the situation pointed out that there are holes in the mortar that is causing some of the problems and will cause additional problems in the future if not fixed completely. He also noticed that there is hail damage and Julie has contacted the insurance company and they will need bids submitted before an adjuster will evaluate. Rick is in the process of getting those bids. As mentioned above, the new computer will be installed on Friday, June 10th.

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Minutes of Board Meeting 6/08/16 – Continued from Page 4

Exhibits—Jan Wennberg reported that the exhibits committee has completed the schedule of shows for 2017. Barbara Lewis pointed out that the Art of the Heartland would be shortened next year based on the proposed schedule. After a discussion, the board agreed to table the schedule until the Art of the Heartland committee and the Exhibits Committee could meet to address the issue.

Jan pointed out that the check-in day has been changed from Wednesday to Tuesday with the show going up on Wednesday. This was to allow for more time to complete the hanging and the labels.

Jan reported that the committee also created a schedule of when the shows will be available for viewing to go in publicity sent to the general public. She added that they also made a schedule of check-in and pick-up dates, explaining that this was done to prevent visitors from coming to view a show on a date when it is just going up or coming down.

Art Awareness—Rick reported that the art awareness presentation for June will be provided by Henry Moreno.

Art of the Heartland—Barbara Tobias reported there are no entries as yet but explained that that is to be expected as last year most of the entries came in the last few weeks before the deadline. She also reported a problem with the text in The Art Guide and is working with management at The Art Guide to get the formatting problem corrected.

Ouachita Arts Celebration—Rick reported that activities are on-going with current efforts directed at getting sponsors to increase funding.

Marketing and Promotion—Barbara Tobias reported that currently most marketing and promotion activities are related to the Art of the Heartland show.

Fund Raising—Pat Brown reported on a proposal developed by the fundraising committee. The proposal suggests a series of sponsorships which would condense all fundraising activities instead of having a variety of efforts at different times of the year for different shows. The suggestions include a Sustaining Member who would commit to \$5 (or more) per month, a Bronze Sponsorship of \$100 per year, a Silver Sponsorship of \$250 per year, and a Gold Sponsorship of \$500 per year. The proposal also suggests perks at each level that include a discount on purchases and listings on the gallery website. After a discussion, the board recommended that some changes be made to clarify the discount and the webmaster be contacted to determine if the listing would be feasible. The committee will refine the definition of the discount and Julie will contact the webmaster.

Rick reported on the Third Thursday event that is being coordinated through the Downtown Business Partners. The first event will be June 16th and the gallery will be open late that evening and will have presentations or demonstrations in front of the gallery to attract visitors. He added that the gallery had already planned a similar evening for Friday, June 17th before the Thursday event was known. The evening of the 17th will also include a chamber music quartet. Beginning in July the gallery will participate in the Third Thursday late hours.

Lorraine Timmerman moved that the meeting be adjourned. Barbara Tobias seconded. Meeting was adjourned at 6:47 pm.

Director's Report for June 2016

We had a great turnout for the Photography Show. Thank you Pat Brown for such a great job coordinating the show. Thank you Patricia Trulock for hanging the show. Thanks to all of the volunteers that helped check in and brought snacks for the reception.

Show Sales - \$75 Entry Fees - \$547

June Store Sales - \$38

Gallery Sign-In (Visitors) as of June 28, 2016 were 102

Volunteer Hours for May — Sit Gallery 13 of 18 days — 39 hours

Volunteer Hours – Photography Show - 24 hours

Memberships January thru June — 109

(2 New Member in June)

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 or would like to be removed from our email 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)
Joe Van Wolf (2017)	Patricia Brown (2017)	Barbara Tobias (2017)
Jan Wennberg (2018)	Lorraine Timmerman (2016)	Sandra Thomas (2018)
Tiffany Lane (2018)	Barbara Lewis (2018)	

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.