

Milton Artist's Guild Monthly Meeting,
April 21, 2016, 6-8PM
Milton Community Room

Attendance:

Gisela Alpert, Christine Lesperance, Elisabeth Finstad, Dave Lesperance, Lorraine Manley, Doris Bergeron, Michael Purcell, Amy Cook, Lori McLaughlin, Sue Hoffer (new), Colleen Bunnell, Linda Stech, Frank & Sue Mason, Cheryl Alwine, Jane Morgan, Claudette Eaton (new), Rochelle Allen (new), and Barry Genzlinger.

No edits to the March minutes were needed, after being proposed to the membership that we do so if anyone felt it necessary.

Bank Balance:

Around \$6000.00. Our treasurer was ill so we did not have the exact figure.

Letter of Appeal has gone out, please donate and encourage your friends and family to donate. It is tax deductible and helps us to fund our mission!

Agenda

Group Email List

Out of concern that some people may grow tired of receiving multiple email notifications when a group message is sent out and responded to, Gisela has proposed a solution. As we don't want to lose anyone to this, Gisela will create and manage a smaller group email list that only sends out quarterly newsletters, and have the minutes from that quarter's meetings attached along with any other necessary info.

Gisela is also going to change how we welcome new members by including their personal email addresses in the body of the welcome message. Instead of replying to her original welcome email, members will have the option to email the new member directly to welcome them to the group.

Update on the Art Donation Project

It has been decided that the 'poster project' will now be referred to as the 'Art Donation Project'. These pieces are not floppy paper posters as their title implied, but art printed on sturdy MDF board that will last for years to come. In order to avoid confusion it would be better to refer to them differently.

These art pieces have been very well received! NMC in St Albans was so happy with theirs that they sent an invitation to a banquet to thank everyone who had recently donated art. Alice Charbonneau went and instead of hanging her piece in the hallway they decided to give it a home in their executive meeting room!

Kym Duchesneau of the Milton Rec Dept. saw the one hanging at Leunig's and noted that it sparked conversation among the diners.

Frank Mason visited Snap Fitness in Milton where his is hanging and said everyone is really happy to have it.

The more posters we order at a time the cheaper it is for us. For the next "Art Assault" we want to focus efforts on matching poster content with potential venues. Gisela has found that even when someone really likes a certain image that they may choose a different one based on how it fits in their establishment (i.e. color, content, etc.). The list of venues will most likely be available for consideration before images are collected.

Fundraising will determine the number of posters we can do. Approaching businesses around Christmas time seems to improve receptiveness. We agreed to continue this discussion later in the year.

Website Appeal

Tina Lesperance is working on reaching out to non-active (but paid up) members to have them send her digital images of their work to add to our website's front page slideshow. If you would like yours included please contact her or Gisela. There are several photographers in the Guild who can be hired to photograph your work in a quality, high resolution format.

Workshops

Possible upcoming workshops sponsored by MAG include:

Stone Carving with Kathy Stockman at Shelburne Pond Studios. Saturday classes available.

Kent Scrivner would like to do a repeat of his workshop about Giclee prints and product photography.

Gisela would like to get a workshop going about running your own business, possibly led by one of the owners of the Blue Paddle Bistro.

Come As You Art

Short discussion cementing some details:

It is scheduled for September 17 at the Bear Trap Nursery (owned by Colleen Bunnell). Anyone can participate and it is open to the public. Nicole Vance is the chair of this committee, and needs some solid volunteers. There are several non-official volunteers. Cheryl and Colleen both offered to be on the committee.

Exhibits

The theme for the big multimedia show at the State Attorney's Office in Burlington will be "Local Inspirations". One piece per artist is allowed, and the showing will be from September 2016 through February 2017. If you have 3D art to contribute it MUST be able to hang on the wall. Linda is checking with the Shelburne Museum to see if they would like to have it on display for March 2017!

New Venues:

VFCU in Milton on Center Drive is interested in displaying. Kevin Parrish is the contact person.

The new Respite House in Colchester is open to an art exhibit. (Frank Mason)

The Vermont Butcher Block in Williston is setting up a gallery space for 3D crafts. They are located in Boyer Circle in the old Sears Parts building. Barry said that he has been there and it is extremely dusty due to the space being located at the front of a wood manufacturing plant. It is not a huge space, and is off the beaten path, but they have a large following from their Church Street days and people do walk in.

Northwestern Medical Center has an art wall managed by K. Winchester. It is a 2 month rotation and they have a hanging system with 6-7 poles and 18 hooks. November/December are open. An artist statement and pricing sheet is allowed, and they take no commission. The wall is located in the lobby by the elevators.

Open Locations:

The Community Gallery at the Town Offices is open for July and August

LCATV is open for July/August and September/October

Build a Bagel in St Albans is open at any time for a new exhibit. Contact Linda Stech if interested.

Biotek is booked through March 2017. They are building an addition to their manufacturing building and they would like to have a second art installation there. It would be the same two month rotation, \$100 paid to the artist.

New Group Exhibit Idea

Gisela explained to the group that Biotek makes high tech medical instruments, namely microscopes. She brought along calendars with images of cells and other microscopic things taken using Biotek's instruments. The idea would be to have each artist pick an image (there are more than just in the calendar) and create a piece of art inspired by the contents. This would be the opening showing for their new building in March 2017 with a reception to celebrate. The pieces can be any size, any medium. Gisela will update with more details and access to images to use for inspiration.

All present at the meeting are very interested in this show!

Upcoming Meetings

June is approaching and the Annual Meeting for 2016 will be here before we know it! It will be held on the 16th from 6-8pm at the Genzlingers' house. The meeting will be a Potluck, and alcohol is allowed. This meeting is when we hold our new elections for the upcoming year for the Board and all officers. Being a part of the Board can be very rewarding, please put your name in if you are interested!

Amy and Tina are on the nominations committee. Email will be sent out in early May, with info about the deadline for nominations. Nominees will be checked with to ensure that they want to participate. Absentee ballots are ok, but all others who want to vote must attend the meeting and vote in person. No email voting.

The August Meet & Greet will be held at the Community Room. This will also be a potluck, no alcohol allowed. Bring a few pieces of your art to share. Friends and family are welcome!

Show and Tell

Cheryl Alwine: She brought an adorable piggy bank she made of pottery and also brought her finished Bundt cake pan which she had successfully baked a cake in (but she didn't bring the cake!)

Lorraine Manley: A colorful landscape in acrylic with purple trees on a 10"x10" canvas.

Doris Bergeron: She attended the Plein Air Festival and took a workshop with Rob Chapla as an instructor. The class did an experiment where they put paint on 2 boards and then squished them together and created a painting from the result. She also brought a fall scene that she had painted.

Jane Morgan: Jane brought 2 pieces from a painting series she has been working on of figures. The first one she showed was an African American girl she called "The Skateboard Girl". The other was a reclining nude woman done in green and blue. She also shared she will be featured in Vermont Women Magazine.!

Betsy Finstad: She shared she would be teaching a class on wire wrapped suncatchers at the Fairfax Library on Saturday April 23, and brought one of her examples, a 4 season beaded wire tree.

Barry Genzlinger: His neighbors cut down their old Poplar tree, and he took a slice of it and made a bowl for them. The bowl is still drying, and he explained the process of first creating the bowl and then how to dry it slowly so it does not crack. He said that an abstract artist is going to decorate it when it finally dries and he will present it to his neighbor as a gift. He also brought in a top and demonstrated what he saw at a top throwing event he went to. Top throwing is more difficult than it looks!

Respectfully submitted by Betsy Finstad