

Milton Artists Guild Meeting

July 20, 2017

MAG Art Center

10 – 12:30PM

Attending: Gisela Alpert, Ann Bissonnette, Colleen Blatchly, Bill Boccio, Claudette Eaton, Barry Genzlinger, Annette Hansen, Dean Moran, Linda Moran, Cathy LaClair, Christina Lesperance, David Lesperance, Lorraine Manley, Ray McClure, Marta Merrick, Bonnie Palmer, Claire Payne, Michael Purcell, Sharon Radtke, Stephanie Romero, Linda Stech, Doris Weeks, Trine Wilson, Ellen Young

Art Center Updates – since April 1, the first quarter, the sales have been good. We've been averaging about \$2000 per month in gallery sales. It's been slow but steady, and the community is warmly receptive; membership has increased by ten since the annual meeting.

- A member who is renting one of the six 10' x 10' studio spaces is looking for another artist to share the space and split the monthly \$100 cost. Please email Ann Bissonnette, anniepaints@gmail.com, for more information.
- Trine, gallery scheduling manager, expressed her appreciation for everyone's efforts to make sure the shifts are covered. She asks that members volunteer for a shift at least once every six weeks, and it can be done with a partner. Using the time to work on your art is encouraged. She offers orientations on Thursdays, or by prior arrangement. There is a calendar near the front desk to sign up (just let her know by email what day(s) are chosen) or signing up online through the google spreadsheet (also accessible through the members' forum): <https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1tuFM6rwcMTtu9txDQ3940RKpl65Ur4w8cmWDxu5n6y4/edit?usp=sharing>
- Ray McClure donated a printer to the Art Center, and a laptop computer was jointly donated by Cathy LaClair and an anonymous donor. Thank you!
- Claudette has been working with a gentleman from BioTek to test the feasibility of using barcode labels for art, which may replace the labor intensive 'sticker system' that we currently use. She showed a scanner which has been loaned to the MAG. If changing to this method is decided, a scanner could be purchased through BioTek at a discounted price. They have also offered assistance with generating the barcodes. It will be a big project and volunteers will be needed for a 'barcode party'.
- Electricity bill – with the heater ~~is~~ currently turned off for the summer season, our electrical monthly bills are high. To save money, we could change out lights to move to LED fixtures; Efficiency Vermont suggested that changing light fixtures could reduce our bill by 50%. Marta Merrick volunteered her husband to evaluate. The back door and front door will be weatherized this week.
- Gallery exhibitors – contact Lorraine, jmaf36@comcast.net, if you would like to change out your art.

Exhibit updates – We still need a volunteer to chair the exhibit committee so we can continue to offer exhibit opportunities outside the gallery. Unless someone steps up, we may have to discontinue venues. The time commitment is only about an hour or two each month. Many venues are rotated only once every two months. The chairperson finds artists to show their work at venues, and offers support to the volunteers who help hang the art. It's an easy volunteer position. Please contact Linda, lstech@comcast.net, for more information.

- Linda stated that we have a great deal of outside venues available to our artists, but we also need the volunteers to help the exhibiting artists hang their work. We will be asking that for new venues, the host pays a stipend in exchange. MAG puts on a professional display.
- Submission to the Frog Hollow Exhibit is closed. Frank Alwine is asking for two non-participating MAG volunteers to help jury the submissions. Please contact Linda Stech if you are interested.
- The Rumble exhibit, for car enthusiasts, has been postponed until August 2018. A 'Rumble Exhibit Committee' will be formed this fall. We hope to bring non-artists into the art center. The local area is saturated with other car-themed events this year.
- Long Trail Physical Therapy in Milton, would like to participate in an art rotation program. Please contact them directly if you would like your art exhibited there.
- Peoples Bank, Milton branch, has provided a table in the lobby for artists to display a sample of their work on a rotating monthly basis. Please contact Gisela to participate.
- The Cyto Expression exhibit take-down is on August 1st at 9 am.

Blue Paddle Fundraiser – Mandy and Phoebe will again be hosting a fundraising event for the Vermont Children's Hospital Oncology Wing. The event is on August 27th from 2 – 7 pm. A large tent has been provided. There is no cost to exhibit, however artists have been asked to donate 10% of their sales to the charity. A food and wine voucher will be given to each exhibitor. Tammy Fletcher will be performing. Please contact Gisela, vtsnowgise@gmail.com, to sign up.

Come as You Art - Last year's event was very successful; we had demonstrations of chain saw carving, stone sculpture, weaving, wood turning, thrown pottery, painting, and jewelry; as well as activities for children. There was discussion as to whether the event could work at the art center, but due to the mess generated by some of the art demonstrations it was deemed impractical. The other limiting factor was the need for electrical access. There was a suggestion to contact the Milton Rec. department to see if we could entertain this at the Bombardier Park, in the area and under the Performance center in case of rain. We would benefit from all of the visitors from 'Touch a Truck' being right there and their event ends at 12PM. Should we not be able to have our event at Bombardier Park, we will be looking at the gracious offer from Colleen Bunnell and hold it at Bear Trap Nursery. It will be held on September 16th, to coordinate with 'Touch a Truck'. There will be a MAG table at the town event, to direct visitors to both art locations.

Artfest – This is our thirteenth year holding a holiday art show. We have enough room for twenty four, 8' deep x 7' wide booth spaces down through the center of the art center hall. The studio spaces and gallery wall space will be undisturbed. Tables and/or divider panels must be provided by the artists, and booths must have a professional appearance. The show weekend coincides with the Milton Pre-Christmas Craft show held at the high school. The ArtFest will be a two-day event, on Saturday, November 11, from 10 – 7, and on Sunday, November 12, from 11 – 7. The cost for a booth space is \$50. No commission is taken from exhibitors within their booth, however, items that have been inventoried in the gallery agreement will still be subject to commission as usual. Guidelines for the event will be sent to exhibitors. Please contact Tina, castlegarden_vt@yahoo.com, to participate. Booths may be shared, and are on a first come (and first paid for) basis.

Town Beautification Project – Jake Hemmerick is organizing an art outreach project to be on display at the art center. The art challenge is to portray 'what you love about' or 'favorite place' in Milton

presented via photo, painting, or drawing. Cash prizes will be awarded. The display will be shown at our Gallery at the end of September, dates to be announced.

Children's Trust Foundation - There are grants available in 2018 for children's related projects. We are looking for ideas for large projects (i.e. computers for art projects), or perhaps something that could be presented in a series, and art program that benefits different age groups. We will need volunteers to make this work. Please contact Gisela with your thoughts.

Volunteers Pizza Party – July 27th – If you have volunteered, or intend to volunteer, please join us on Thursday at 6 pm. Contact Sharon to RSVP (so we order plenty of pizza!).

Art Walk, August 10th – Please join us from 4:30 – 6:30 for next month's featured artists. The artists will give a brief presentation of their art, followed by refreshments. Sharon Radtke is looking for another volunteer for the events committee. Please contact her at sharon@sharonteventslc.com.

Art Supply Sale, August 12 – To generate funds for the event committee (paper plates, napkins, etc.). Please bring unused art supplies (in good condition) to the art center after August 5th.

August 17th meeting – A special presentation on copyright law will be presented by the law firm of Paul, Frank, & Collins. Mark your calendars for the date. The meeting runs from 6– 8 pm

Special Workshop – We will begin live drawing classes under the tutelage of Kim Anetsberger on 9/12, 9/19, 9/26, and 10/3. Please sign up for a very affordable four-part series which will feature a live nude model each week. The classes may be singly, as well. The model's privacy will be protected from sidewalk view by the black room dividers. Please bring your own art materials for these 2 hour classes. The first class is split between instruction and modeling, starting with quick poses, and in later classes, with longer poses. There will be either a male or female model. Either register online on the MAG website, or by sending a check made out to the MAG. For further information, please contact Tina or Linda.

Gallery Volunteer – Each time a member volunteers for the gallery, their name will be added to a monthly drawing for a small gift.

Tee Shirts – There are tee shirts samples in the back of the gallery available to try on for size. There are invoice sheets available to both order shirts and for communication with Claudette, who does the ordering.

Show & Tell –

- Annette Hansen has art displayed at the Georgia Library
- Linda Moran (possible new member) announced that for Earth Day 2019, Gruppe Gallery will host a travelling show featuring art related to climate change; the date TBD.

Respectfully submitted by Christina Lesperance