

Attending: Donna Blatchly, Barbara Colgrove, Claudette Eaton, Sheila Franz, Cathy Hartley, Lorraine Manley, Anita Michele, Cathy LaClair, David Lesperance, Tina Lesperance, Mark Ozenich, Sharon Radtke, Linda Stech, Cheryl Summa, Jessie Swétel, Judy Taylor, Ron Turek, Gary Walz, Trine Wilson, Jim Yolda

- Jessie Swétel spoke about the Positively Vermont interview which will be aired this month on Public Access television, or can be seen online: <https://www.cctv.org/watch-tv/programs/milton-artists-guild>.
- We are getting a Wi-Fi phone for calls to and from the gallery. The phone number is yet to be announced, and will be published on the website.
- Jessie thanked the artists who donated to the Lake Champlain Chamber of Commerce charity auction. It was held at the Double Tree hotel and was well attended. It was good advertising for both the guild and the participating artists. She said that she will be needing volunteers for some upcoming events which will be announced.
- Linda Stech spoke about the importance of the members to be ambassadors for the guild. Please spread the word on Facebook by sharing posts, and inviting friends to join workshops that they may be interested in, and let them know that the gallery is a good place for gift shopping. She said that we have new brochures and encouraged anyone who had a show coming up to share them at their booth.
- Linda listed some of the support the guild has provided to community and members ; Come as You Art, the mural projects, Social Sundays, senior tea, the high school scholarship award, the homeschooling classes, children's art workshops, the art gallery, outside exhibits, professional development opportunities and art classes. As continue to grow and sustain the guild, the board has set a policy that the MAG will not be promoting other art groups' fundraising efforts as it's contrary to our own efforts to fundraise. We are going to be paying rent starting this month, and have employees, now. The guild will still promote individual member's projects. Members are encouraged to share each other's events on personal social media sites. Linda reassured us that our mailing list will never be shared or sold; your privacy is protected.
- Bathroom upgrade – seasonal murals will be done by Rebecca Chomyn, an artist who specialized in chalk art. The mural will be changed quarterly.
- Attorneys from Paul Frank & Collins will put on a workshop on Thursday, April 4th, from 6 – 8 pm. The workshop is free to members and \$5 for non-members. Please let Linda know if you wish to participate. Non-members can register online or at the gallery.
- For new members, we have an Ambassador-at-large, Deb Shell, who can provide information about guild membership, information packets, and provide direction for displaying art in the gallery. Her email is debshell_vt@yahoo.com.
- Volunteering – there are many opportunities to help out, contact either Gisela vtsnowgise@gmail.com or Jessie director@miltonartistsguild.org.

We need hosts Friday, March 28 and Friday, April 5 for the homeschool class, from 9:15 to 12:30. Each is for a 4 hour volunteer credit. Please contact Linda to help out, lstech@comcast.net.

- Open Studio Weekend – May 25th and 26th from 10 to 4 pm – the gallery is participating and will be on the promotional map of this statewide event. We are looking for volunteers to help organize the 2 days or demo their work. Please contact Linda lstech@comcast.net or Jessie director@miltonartistsguild.org to sign up for one or both days.
- Website update project – please submit 3 – 4 images, a short bio, your preferred method of contact, personal website, and Etsy business name to Gisela or Jessie.
- Exhibit committee – current exhibits are:

Library - Sharon Radtke (walls) and Ellis Mooney – glass case in library,
Matthew Little's office – Sharon Radtke

BioTek 2 - Bernhard Wunder, Linda and Dean Moran

BioTek 1 – Claire Payne

Open Heart Counselors – Doris Weeks

To sign up for outside venues, please contact Dot Grazier at grazierd@gmail.com. The MAG has been allocated exhibit space in both the northbound and southbound Welcome Centers on I-89. If you would like your work to be considered for displaying please send 1 – 2 images of the piece to Dot.

- Jessie announced that two high school classes visited the gallery for an art inspiration project. The students were to choose an artist, write about the inspiration, then create a piece of their own.
- Workshop committee – Cathy is looking for artists to teach summer and fall workshops. Please spread the word. Members who teach get both volunteer hours and a paycheck. Another volunteer opportunity is to be the MAG host of a workshop. This involves greeting all guests, helping the instructor as needed with set up, clean up and as needed. There are other volunteer opportunities related to workshops; (host can participate in the class free for just the materials cost). Please contact her to find out more cathy@cathyclairjewelry.com. Model Mondays are the 1st and 3rd Mondays, \$12 members, \$15 nonmembers. Some classes will be open to photographers.
- Donna Blatchly mentioned missing the old ‘welcome email’ chains for new members. She asked that new members be mentioned in the weekly newsletter.
- Trine Wilson manages the guild Instagram account. She asks other Instagram users to ‘like’ the Milton Artists’ Guild. She invited a Vermont blogger who does ‘Travel like a Local’ posts to visit our gallery.

Show & Tell

This month’s inspiration challenge word was ‘bitter’.

Linda Stech’s art piece was ‘bittersweet’, a coffee table created with skis and resin, for her son’s graduation

Anta Michele and Nicole Gadouas created bitter drink and food photos with a human face

Dave Lesperance showed a ‘bitter cold’ photograph

Cathy Hartley showed a ‘bitter cold’ drawing

Mark Ozenich (in a sling) shared an x-ray image of his rebuilt shoulder

Next month’s challenge work is ‘Ecology’

NOTE: The April meeting will be one week later than usual, on Thursday, April 25th, from 6 – 8 pm.

Respectfully submitted by Christina Lesperance