

Milton Artists' Guild

August 17, 2017

Art Center/Gardener's Supply

5:30 – 8 pm

Attending: Gisela Alpert, Cheryl Alwine, Frank Alwine, Melanie Bishop, Bill Boccio, Claudette Eaton, Caleb Foster, John Gifford, Cathy LaClair, David Lesperance, Christina Lesperance, Ray McClure, Dean Moran, Linda Moran, Michael Purcell, Sharon Radtke, Sarah C. Rutherford, Linda Stech, Gary Walz, Trine Wilson, Pilar Paulsen

Gisela announced a surprise; the meeting would be short so that the group could go to Gardener's Supply to view the mural. Some drama occurred just prior to and during the meeting; Sarah Rutherford had been stuck on a non-functioning lift (30' in the air) for a half hour. There was no one to help her, and the rental business was closed for the day. Gisela contacted Don Turner, the fire chief, for help.

Gallery - Sales at the art center have been steady and strong. Sales are averaging between \$2400 and \$2500 per month, and are expected to increase. The studio spaces are rented, and there is now a waiting list. Today's sales of Cheryl's pots and Gisela's painting netted \$900 profit to MAG.

Art supply sale - We netted \$380 to fund event supplies. The next sale will be in the spring. Thank you to all who donated (and made purchases!).

Art Library – The cabinet over the utility sink contains art books that can be signed out.

Artwalk – One of August's featured artists, Julie Duquette, had considered leaving the guild due to personal time limitations remaining. As a result of the Burlington Free Press article, someone saw her art and bought an original piece.

Press at the Artwalk: Milton Independent, channel 22. Featured artists are selected at random from exhibiting artists. If a selected member chooses not to participate in a given month, their names are put back into the hat.

A thank you to Ray McClure for his generous donation of \$400 which provided for the purchase of 10 floor easels, and 10 tabletop easels for the art center.

In the 4 1/2 months since the art center opened, we have gained 65 new members. We have 75 exhibiting members. We must stress that we need artists to volunteer for at least one 4 hour shift every 6 weeks. There is a calendar sign up in the gallery area, or it can be done online.

Discussion points:

- It was the consensus that members exhibiting in the gallery have a shared responsibility to cover shifts.
- At this point we have not made it mandatory to volunteer, but there are several shifts each month that need coverage.
- The possibility of non-member volunteers was discussed.
- The 'rewards of service' benefit that volunteering was mentioned. Visitors are very impressed when they see the art center, and enjoy talking with artists.
- Some members may not be comfortable with the retail setting; it's strongly encouraged to pair up with another person (member or non-member).
- It was suggested that exhibiting members who do not volunteer would pay a higher commission than the 25% currently enjoyed. Many galleries charge 40%, some even 50%.
- The discussion will continue on the website members' forum, and will be voted on next evening meeting on October 21st.

Social Sundays – Trine’s upcoming news – to be discussed next meeting

Blue Paddle Children’s Oncology fundraiser (scheduled August 27) must be postponed due unforeseen circumstances. The event will be rescheduled to late September or in October.

The trash bins behind the building that belong to MAG will be clearly marked with laminated signs.

Exhibit Committee – Carolyn Beaulieu has volunteered to chair the committee. Linda will stay on to ensure a smooth transition. We are booking exhibit sites beyond October. Please email any special interest to Carolyn at keelersbay3@yahoo.com. The exhibit opportunities may be put onto our members’ forum in the future.

Frog Hollow exhibit – the show has been juried and the artists selected will be notified. The reception is scheduled for October 6th with a cash bar.

Art Fest – We are doing a two-day show in the art center. There is space for 24 booths, 7’ wide x 8’ deep. The cost is \$50 for the two days, on a first come basis, by postmark. To participate, please send a check to the MAG at P.O. Box 369, Milton, 05468. Booths may be shared. Musicians have volunteer to play for guests.

Come as You Art – This second annual event will be held on September 16th, 9AM-12PM, coinciding with the town event ‘Touch a Truck’. The pavilion in Bombardier Park has been reserved for the guild members demonstrating their art to engage and educate the public. To participate, please send an email to Sharon Radtke.

Barnes and Noble Fundraiser – will be held on Saturday, November 18th. Volunteers are needed to for the following tasks: demonstrate art, gift wrap, wear costumes (if desired), and hand out vouchers for use at checkout (if requested). A portion of the proceeds comes back to MAG to support us. The voucher number can be used in person at the store or online. Last year we earned \$2500. Sharon Radtke volunteered to Chair the event.

Workshops – Please tell family and friends about the guild workshops. Reservations can be made online on our website. The current offerings are a three part oil painting series taught by Mary Reed, an acrylic intensive course taught by Robert Brunelle, Jr., a weaving class taught by Janice DeCooman, a marbling class taught by Linda and Dean Moran, and a four part series of Life Drawing, taught by Kim Anetsberger. The life drawing classes will be held on Tuesday nights when the art center is usually closed to protect the modesty of the model. A two part watercolor series by Lynn Cummings will soon be posted to the website.

Trine asked that posters announcing the workshops be made for the sandwich board.

Show & Tell -

- Linda and Dean Moran brought a marbled tapestry and samples of marbled pieces showing the intricacy of the patterns that can be made.
- John Gifford brought two of his wooden stool designs.

Mural Project - The meeting was closed and re-convened at the Gardener’s Supply site. Sarah C. Rutherford gave a talk on her method of design and execution of her murals.

Respectfully submitted by Christina Lesperance