

Newsletter



August/September 2019

Hanover Area Arts Guild

Dates to Note:

Aug 2-3: Members can remove \$99 & Under work and deliver new work for August display

Aug 6: Gallery committee meets, 9am

Aug 6-30: *Motivators* exhibit of work by teachers from schools in annual School Student Show

Aug 12: Board meeting, 7pm

Aug 30: *Motivators* exhibit ends

Aug 30-31: Deliver *Trash to Treasure* and *New Art with Old Vinyl Records* entries

Sep 3: Gallery committee meets, 9am

Sep 9: Board meeting, 7pm

Sep 19: **Member dinner** at Bay City Restaurant, 5:30pm

Sep 27-28: Pick up September exhibit work; deliver *Plein Air Painters Group* or member art for October display

Oct 1: Gallery committee meets 9am

Gallery Hours:

Tue-Thu: 10am-5pm

Fri: 10am-7pm

Sat: 10am-3pm

Closed Sun & Mon

Website:

www.hanoverareaarts.com

Contact us:

717-632-2521, or by email:

info@hanoverareaarts.com

Hanover Area Arts Guild is a 501(c)3 non-profit organization

2019 All-Member Meeting

The 22 members and guests who attended the annual All-Member Meeting in June enjoyed an informative and interesting evening. **Keira Phillips**, a recent graduate of South Western High School, received the 2019 \$1000 scholarship from scholarship chairman **Eric Miller**. Attendees learned from treasurer Carla Long about the financial picture of the organization, which is undergoing transformation with the introduction of a new finance system, and heard a review of the unexpected expenses, and what is being done about them. **Eric Miller** distributed copies of the 2020 gallery schedule; cards with the schedule will be printed and available at the gallery soon. **Julie Miller** reviewed the results of the member survey (see related article). **Sharon Benner** led the election of board members, including **Doug West** who was elected to his first 3-year term. **Carla Long**, **Julie Miller**, **Andrew Smith** and **Jane West** were re-elected to 3-year terms.



Following the business meeting, the crowd was treated to a presentation by scholarship winner **Keira Phillips** about her project from the SWHS Drawing & Painting 4 class that was exhibited in the gallery in January. SWHS art teacher **Julie Gelsinger** explained how the school's art program has evolved to arrive at the partnership with the Arts Guild on the exhibit of the Drawing & Painting 4 projects.

August Highlights Art by "Motivators"

For the past 38 years, art by students in area schools has been displayed in our galleries in March. This perennially astonishing showcase of the talents of young people happens as a result of the hard work, inspiration and motivation of the teachers in those schools. In addition to being educators, many of those teachers are practicing artists themselves. We're delighted to feature examples of art by some of these "motivators" in the Bittinger gallery in August. The eight teachers showing their own art include **Kim Robinson** (Bermudian Springs High School), **Lisa Fry** (Hanover Middle School), **Julie Smith** and **Marie Smith** (Hanover High School), **Melanie Caler** and **Jacqueline McElhany** (E.H. Markle Intermediate School), and **Julie Gelsinger** and **Bob Glover** (South Western High School).

Member work will be displayed in the west gallery throughout the month. If you have work you would like to deliver to refresh your inventory, please drop it off Friday or Saturday, August 2 or 3, during regular gallery hours.

Membership Renewals Coming by Mail

In response to multiple comments received on our recent member survey as well as throughout the year, this year we will be mailing membership renewal reminders and forms to all members. This should make it easier for all members to renew their annual memberships, which are due September 1. Membership fees have not increased!

Note: In the same mailing will be your invitation to a member dinner on September 19.

Artist of the Month: August



Photographer **Ron Jenkins**, our August Artist of the Month, has an impressive “life list” of birds from all over the world, including some very rare species. With wife Ellen (our May Artist of the Month!), Ron has traveled the world, visiting all seven continents. His Artist of the Month exhibit will feature a select few of the colorful, unusual, and strange birds that he took on a photo safari of flora and fauna of Southern Africa. He added more than 150 birds to his list on that trip! His wildlife images from that trip have been widely shown in



exhibits and viewed in a variety of programs for clubs and schools.

Ron works tirelessly to perfect his craft, both through learning by multiple means, and by simply going out and using his camera to capture whatever appeals to his eye. He enjoys finding an aspect in an image that is not at first noticed by the human eye.

In addition to the Arts Guild, Ron has exhibited in many venues and belongs to several camera clubs. To him, photography is an opportunity for both technical and artistic learning, and is a motivation to be aware of the beauty and curiosities of the world around him.



Artist of the Month: September



Mary Moores, September's Artist of the Month, sees paintings everywhere she goes. She says, “I paint local, everyday life to raise awareness of the overlooked beauty that every age can connect to and find accessible.” Her interest in art began early, and was encouraged by her mother, who enabled Mary to take summer art camps and enrichment classes, as well as attend a Visual and Performing Art program operated by Mary Aylor in Frederick County for her last two years of high school.

At West Virginia University she concentrated on functional pottery because it combined usefulness and beauty. The marks left behind by an artist became important. “These inspire me,” Mary says. In museums, she looks for how a piece displays an artist's individual hand in the line quality of their chosen media or even a fingerprint. Part of her college experience included traveling Europe and studying in Lacoste, France at an art colony established by Bernard Pfriem. After graduation Mary spent several stints teaching, drawing portraits and running a successful functional pottery business until her creative efforts were invested in staying home to raise a family. As her children become more independent, she is renewing her efforts to make art.



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Out & About and Opportunities

- ➔ Congratulations to **Kirby Heltebridle** for winning first place in the painting category at the Lancaster County Art Association for his large acrylic landscape titled Sunlit Field.
- ➔ Our miniatures exhibit in May was popular with both our member artists and gallery visitors. If you're one of the artists who creates miniatures, consider entering the Chambersburg Council for the Arts' 35th Annual Exhibition of Miniature Art. The deadline for entries is September 27. Find the prospectus and be sure to check the registration details – which are different from the Arts Guild's – at the Council for the Arts website: www.councilforthearts.net/opportunities/.

Display Tip!

Work that hangs in our gallery is always labeled with a gallery tag attached at the bottom right edge of the frame.

To avoid damage to backing paper, put a strip of packing tape at the spot where the tag will be attached. The blue tape used by the gallery will stick to the packing tape and pull off without damage.

September: Trash to Treasure *plus* New Art with Old Vinyl Records

Reuse, recycle, re-purpose – no matter which term you prefer, it's the basis of the Trash to Treasure concept for the September show. Using materials that might otherwise be discarded, we're looking for our artists to create works of art that give fresh purpose and new life to those objects.

An additional feature in September is the New Art with Old Vinyl Records mini-show, our first ever! Creations will incorporate vinyl records in whatever way the artist chooses. Time is running out for you to put the finishing touches on your creation. If you've already disposed of your old collection of vinyl, there are some old records available at the gallery, or stop in Whirled Records next door, where owner **Jay Rhine** can fix you up. Jay will help judge the New Art with Old Vinyl Records entries.

Not inspired to work with cast-off items or old records? No worries – member work not part of the themed exhibit will be shown in the west gallery in September.

Deliver work for display in September on Friday or Saturday, August 30 or 31 during regular gallery hours.

Board People and News

At its annual re-organization meeting in July, the board of directors re-elected the existing officers to one-year terms. Serving in 2019-20 are **Margaret Bria**, president; **Andrew Smith**, vice president; **Carla Long**, treasurer; and **Julie Miller**, secretary. The re-organization includes reviewing committee makeup and assignments, and the board is seeking anyone interested and willing to serve on committees. Two committees in particular, membership and ways & means, will have different tasks this year. The membership committee will focus on both membership renewals and member benefits, including such events as demos or member-only programs. The ways and means committee will be responsible for securing corporate sponsorships and pursuing additional potential funding sources.

We have ongoing need for members on all committees, including especially building and grounds. Contact any board member or the front desk if you have an interest or willingness to serve in any way. Getting involved in your Arts Guild is a great way to learn more about the organization and what it can offer you, as well as a chance to meet and work with interesting and art-focused people.

Budget planning for the 2019-2020 fiscal year is nearing completion, with the board scheduled to vote on the budget at the August meeting. We continue to have challenges balancing projected income from memberships, sales, rental units, classes, etc., with some of the positive changes the board wants to make to keep the organization strong, as well as the needs of our aging building and infrastructure. Our recently implemented new accounting system will help to better track our finances. We'll keep you posted on any significant changes once the budget is finalized and the budget year is underway.

Member Survey Results

Thanks to all 63 members who responded to our survey! That was a 34% response rate, which is not bad for a survey. Some of the key results follow:

- A strong majority, 83%, likes the mix of shows and exhibits; 54% like the Open Exhibit
- Members are interested in the Arts Guild offering more than just display space and classes. There was strong interest (>50%) in free demos and bus trips, and lively interest in open studio time, social events, hands-on sessions and programs on the business aspects of art.
- The newsletter and email are the most relied upon sources of information for members; interestingly, only 13% of respondents noted Facebook as an important source, and several people commented negatively about Facebook as a communication method. A third suggested more frequent email updates.
- Most members – 57% - have taken a class or workshop, 68% are likely to in the future.

Additional comments covered a broad array of topics. The survey results will be shared with the several committees responsible for the range of data covered.

The complete report of the results of the survey is available at the front desk, or can be emailed as a pdf file if any member would like a copy. The length of the report (13 pages) makes providing hard copies too costly.

New Members:

Active/Adult:

Ann Cavanaugh
Neil Clifford
Sara Lamison
Moises Martinez
Allan Potter
Patricia Potter
Marie Betlyon Smith
Pam Wenger

Student:

Mikenna Bowers
Brook Griffin
Alexander Taylor
Isabelle Taylor
Chloe Wu
Hester Wu

Welcome!

2018-2019 Board of Directors:

Officers:

Margaret Bria – President
Andrew Smith – Vice Pres.
Carla Long – Treasurer
Julie Miller – Secretary

Members:

Teresa Aumen
Sharon Benner
Barbara Geesey
John Jurasic
Eric Miller
Rebecca Yates Shorb
Marie Betlyon Smith
Sue Stonesifer
Justin Wantz
Doug West
Jane West

The board meets at the gallery on the second Monday of each month, at 7pm. Any member who wishes to address the board should notify the president in advance of the meeting to be added to the agenda.

Interested in serving on the board, or a committee? Please let any board officer or member know!

Join Us for Dinner at Bay City on September 19



Invitations for members and their guests to gather at Bay City Restaurant on September 19 will be going out soon by mail, *in the same mailing as the membership renewals*. This dinner is an opportunity to get together with fellow members for an evening of socializing, dinner, and sharing thoughts and ideas. It's NOT a fundraiser, rather it's a social event, similar to the one that 75 of us enjoyed last April in celebration of our 50th anniversary.

There will be social time from 5:30 to 6, followed by a plated dinner (not buffet). A cash bar will be available. After dinner, we hope you'll share your ideas and suggestions for the Arts Guild as we move forward, sparked by feedback we received through the member survey. Please be sure to RSVP by September 10! We would love to exceed last year's number of members participating.

Fall Classes, etc.

The schedule for fall classes, workshops and studio time is now available. Check our website for an electronic copy of the schedule, or stop in the gallery for a printed copy. If you aren't interested in a formal class, consider coming (bring a friend!) to the open studio time scheduled for Thursday afternoons from 2-4 at the gallery beginning September 5. **Cathy Mitzel** hosts. Free for members – a donation requested for non-members!

Plein Air Painters Meet Weekly, Exhibit in October

Our Arts Guild's Plein Air Painters Group has painted together every Thursday morning in places like Caledonia and Codorus State Parks, Gettysburg, and Westminster, Maryland and all around Hanover. **Felicity Sidwell, Mary Moores, Sherry Withers, Jerry Gadd, Judy Boyle, Sue Greenfield, Rebecca Shorb** and **Sharon Benner** make up the group. Any Arts Guild member who would like to join the group can contact sharonbennersart@yahoo.com.

An exhibit of this year's paintings will hang in October in the Bittinger Gallery.

Did you recently contact Sharon about joining the Plein Air group? Please get back in touch with her - she is unable to locate your contact information. Thanks!



Our membership year
is September 1 to
August 31.

Watch for your
membership renewal
letter in the mail!

Thank you for
responding promptly
with your renewal.

Your Arts Guild in the Community!

In our continuing effort to promote our gallery, membership, and presence in downtown Hanover, we're always looking for new ways to get noticed. For example, our membership in Destination Gettysburg is bringing new visitors to the gallery, and participating in family-oriented events such as having a booth at the Utz Summer Bash this year (for the first time) and offering demonstrations for visitors during Dutch Days are some of the ways we reach out to a broader potential visitor base. Have ideas for other ways to do that? Let us know!

"Volunteering is the ultimate exercise in democracy. You vote in elections once a year, but when you volunteer, you vote every day about the kind of community you want to live in."
- Author Unknown

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