



October/November, 2011

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www.artofthelakes.org
Board Meeting * 1st Tuesday * 3:30 PM
Membership Meeting * 3rd Tuesday

Art of the Lakes – Autumn, 2011

As you all know, September marks not only the end of Art of the Lakes' very busy season, but it is also the month AOTL holds its annual meeting. This year the meeting was held on Tuesday, September 20, 2011. We hope the following report from that meeting will be informative and helpful as we look forward to our fall and winter activities and to planning the 2012 season.

About 20 people attended the annual meeting on September 20, 2011.

Roger Parks presented new and renewing Board members as follows:

Ruth Crandall and Roger Parks (one year), Sandy Thimgan (two years), and Sandy Barnhouse and Diana Fuder (three years).

Further action from the meeting included the decision by those in attendance to increase annual Art of the Lakes member dues from \$25 to \$35 per year.

AOTL Chair Annette Hochstein then gave a Power Point presentation of the Vision Meeting held in August reiterating AOTL's mission, history, and actions for the future. The three subcommittees that met subsequent to the Vision Meeting and suggested several courses of action. Several recommendations will be put into effect immediately. They include:

From the Policies & Procedures/Ongoing Education Committee:

1. AOTL newsletter will include pertinent sections of the Policies and Procedures Handbook and the AOTL by-laws periodically
2. AOTL newsletter will include relevant Board actions

From the Training Committee:

1. Adoption of an in-service training program to include not only gallery sitting guidelines but also organizational background and expectations of all members incorporating information from the Committee.

From Building a Sense of Community Committee:

1. Board meetings will be held in the gallery year round with evening meetings during the summer.
2. There will be a permanent 'work' table in the classroom area for things such as lunch, demos, and art activities for small groups or even small classes.
3. The Membership Committee will be expanded so that more initial outreach can be done for new members
4. Newsletter will include longer informational pieces about both new and longtime members.

Other recommendations from the committees will be implemented in the future.

The meeting adjourned about 2:30 and members enjoyed coffee, refreshments and conversation.

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The mission of Art of the Lakes is to develop, promote, and encourage an interest in the arts in the area through art exhibitions and art related educational activities for people of all ages.

Art of the Lakes is funded in part by a grant from the Lake Region Arts Council through an appropriation from the Minnesota State Legislature.

Member Happenings

Exhibits

Mickie Edmonds' exhibit at the Kaddatz in Fergus Falls continues through Nov. 18.

Marion Otnes work is on display at the Fergus Falls Hospital through December.

Members Emmy White and Calvin deRuyter will be participating in the 2011 Art-A-Whirl at their Studio 321 in the Northrup King Building in Minneapolis the first weekend in November. This year 200 artists will be showing their work during this annual event. Hours are Friday, Nov. 4 from 5 – 10, Saturday, Nov. 5 from noon 'til 8, and Sunday, Nov. 6 from noon 'til 5. You can get directions at www.NorthrupKingBuilding.com

New Web pages

Check out AOTL artist Sara Ronnevik's new web page at www.purplepalette.us

Upcoming Meetings:

November Member Meeting

November 15 at 1:00 P.M.
"Art Talks"

Do works of art ever evoke a story in your mind? Come hear art 'stories' at our November meeting.

Christmas Party

Tuesday, December 13
6:00 P.M.
Potluck Dinner

AOTL By-Laws

In keeping with the goal of including pertinent parts of our by-laws and Policies and procedures in our newsletters, we are beginning with the following by-law excerpts that may help members understand some organization basics.

Article IV includes this information:

The AOTL Board conducts the affairs of the Art of the Lakes Association, Inc. (AOTL) and shall consist of no less than five (5) members of AOTL.

Members of the Board are elected by the members of the Association attending the annual meeting.

A quorum shall be three-fifths (3/5) of the total Board membership.

Article V includes the following information:

The Board provides for input from members through

1. Personal contact with any Board member
2. Written communication submitted to the Board
3. Request to be placed on the agenda of a Board meeting
4. Introduction of a subject at a membership meeting for consideration or referral to the Board.

October AOTL Member Meeting

About 25 members gathered to hear speaker Michele Anderson tell us about the artists outreach organization called Springboard for the Arts. A Springboard for the Arts provides services connecting artists and resources.

The organization also offers a variety of classes, including "Career Planning for Artists", "Simple Business Plans for Artists", and many others.

To find out more about how Springboard for the Arts might be able to help you, take a look at their website www.springboardforthearts.org

AOTL'S Facebook Page

New Board member Sandy Thimgan will be doing some work on AOTL's Facebook page. The goal is to create a greater awareness of Art of the Lakes and gallery activities. She hopes to post weekly, probably on Thursdays at this time of the year, with some photos of work from the gallery, gallery hours, and encouragement to 'get out and shop the gallery for the holidays' type blitz. If there is anyone who does NOT want his/her art pictured on Facebook, please let her know by email as soon as possible. The photos will most likely be of 'groups' of pieces to show the variety of items available at the gallery. Contact her at thimgan@digitaljam.com

Gallery Coordinator Update – Reba Gilliland

Summer season is over and visitors to the gallery have slowed, but there is still plenty going on at Art of the Lakes. Yesterday, we purchased a tree, which will go up soon. Artists can place ornaments for the tree in the box located in the kitchen. Advertising inviting visitors into the gallery over the holidays will begin soon. Letters to members are in the works: every AOTL member will receive a letter with highlights from the year and an updated membership address list. The AOTL Policies & Procedures manual was updated in response to the vision meeting in August. The updated version will be on the website soon. Meanwhile, we're looking for grants to fund or partially fund the Gallery Coordinator position, and we have filed third quarter taxes. Let me know if you have questions. During the winter I work 10 hours per week.

Member Happenings Awards

On October 27th AOTL member **John House** was awarded the DNR Walleye Stamp, his fifth and final stamp win. Read more about John on this page.

Grace Haverty had her painting "The Blue Vase" accepted into the 43rd Annual Watercolor West Exhibition. The exhibit will be held at the Brea Civic Center Gallery in Brea, California from October 15th through December 18th. Her painting "Snow Geese" won 'Best of Show' at the Arizona Watercolor Association Fall Exhibition as well as the Jurors Choice Award. The exhibit was held at the Fountain Hills Community Center in Fountain Hills, AZ through October 31.

November Board Actions:

1. New, easier to use, and better looking gift certificates will be coming soon.
2. AOTL Board voted to abolish 'out on approval' sales transactions.

"There is one thing one has to have: either a soul that is cheerful by nature, or a soul made cheerful by work, love, art, and knowledge."
Friedrich Nietzsche

"A good painting to me has always been like a friend. It keeps me company, comforts, and inspires."
Hedy Lamarr

Artist in the Spotlight

The November issue of the AOTL Newsletter will have a new feature called "Artist in the Spotlight". Sometimes this artist will be new to the organization and sometimes a member of long standing. We hope these articles will help you become more familiar with your fellow members,

The artist for this issue is **John House**. John has been a member of Art of the Lakes for about one year, but has been in the AOTL area for 33 years, moving into the town of Melby (by Ashby) in 1978. He began as a decorative decoy carver, carving and selling over 500 decoys, winning many blue ribbons in national contests. But the painting bug had its grip on him and so he switched to flat art in the mid-80's, struggling at first, but, as John says, eventually swinging a pretty good brush.

He is best known for his State DNR Stamp Contest wins and on October 27th of this year was awarded the DNR Walleye Stamp, his fifth and final stamp win, making him the only artist to ever win all 5 stamps - Duck ('99), Pheasant ('04), Trout ('06), Turkey ('08) and now the Walleye ('12).

John has been interested in drawing and painting since he was about 10 years old when his parents gave him his first art materials - charcoal and sketchpad, oil paints and canvas boards. He still has some of that early work at home!

His favorite painting medium is oil paint as he likes the buttery consistency and long working time - he can push and pull and 'putz' with it. His favorite drawing medium is charcoal as it is so very versatile, allowing soft, faint marks to bold, dark marks and everything in-between. His favorite subject matter is still waterfowl, as he has painted for Midwest duck hunters for years, but he is rapidly adding portraits, both dog and human, as well as landscapes and florals.

John has painted commissions for Ducks Unlimited, Delta Waterfowl and Minnesota Waterfowl, has illustrated 3 books, has done numerous logos, and many commissions, in addition to his Stamp wins.

John and his wife Barbara live near Evansville and John rents a studio space in Evansville. He doesn't mind helping struggling artists, as he remembers those days! He can be reached at (home) 218 - 948 - 2891, or (cell) 218 - 405 - 0468. Website: www.johnhouseart.com

Calling all AOTL Artists!

AOTL invites all artists to make ornaments (for sale) for our FIRST EVER gallery tree! We will be advertising the 'ornament tree' and encouraging holiday shoppers to visit the gallery. Don't miss this unique opportunity to share your art form on the gallery tree. And be sure to put price and i.d. on sales tags provided. The tree will be going up before Thanksgiving with beautiful lights to enhance your ornaments and draw in customers!

You may drop the ornaments in the box in the kitchen at the gallery, or hang the tagged ornaments right on the tree, if it is already up!

Let's make this an event shoppers will remember!

All you Facebook users, be sure to go to Art of the Lakes on Facebook and 'LIKE' the new entries and share them with all your friends!