



Omaha Artists Inc. Newsletter

MARCH 2019

Omahaartistsinc.com

President's Message: Katie Johnson 402-310-0349 Ktj50love@gmail.com



Perspective in thoughts and art are similar – both involve drawing conclusions! As I sit at my desk watching it snow AGAIN, thoughts turn to our February Luncheon Meeting and I am soaking up the internal sunshine of that day. I realize now why my grandparents looked forward to their garden club; not only did they learn more about their passion and the value of friendships, but they were filling their bucket with joy!

Having attended, you may have been involved in conversations happening around you...some topics included the fascinating story of the theft of the Mona Lisa, a great movie to watch "Woman in Gold", the best place in the Old Market to sip wine and watch people, wild horses in Wyoming and did you know nowadays a facial includes hot wax for your hands and feet along with a massage? What an interesting and special group of people sharing a meal, a common passion and perhaps a laugh or two.

The business meeting was informative and several topics were covered with new ideas for the future of Omaha Artists Inc. Susan Stevens presented an impressive and helpful power point of our OAI Gallery Page. If you did not attend this enjoyable day, you missed out. I encourage you to consider joining this spectacular group for Fun Shops and Luncheon Meetings, learning more about art, making new friends and filling your buckets with joy!

Omaha Artists Inc...where friendships begin and last a lifetime! Now, that's my perspective!

Katie Johnson-President

"World Friendship Day is March 1; a world of friends can be a world of peace" – a recent press release.

Wednesday, March 27, Board Meeting 10:30 Luncheon/General Meeting 11:30

Program: Barbara Egr 402.686.0521 bschmidski@cox.net



LUNCHEON NEWS

Joslyn Art Museum, 2200 Dodge Street, Omaha 68102

10:30 am Board meeting in the Abbott Lecture Hall

11:30 am Lunch at The Café Durham Reserved seating for Omaha Artists, Inc

12:30 pm General meeting in the Abbott Lecture Hall

1:00 pm Tour of the current exhibition entitled "30 Americans"

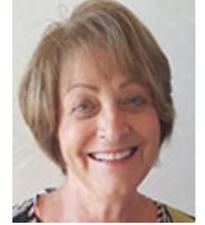
Museum entry is free. If you are a museum member there is no cost for the tour. If you are not a member there will be a \$5.00 charge. Normally the charge is \$10.00. However the Joslyn is giving us a special price. The museum wants us to pay all at one time so Pat Lontor will collect the \$5.00 from non-members either during lunch or during the general meeting. PLEASE, DO NOT pay at the desk as you come in.

The tour of *30 Americans* is the first major exhibition at Joslyn to survey the work of contemporary African Americans artists. Drawn from the Miami-based Rubell Family Collection, this exhibition features paintings, works on paper, sculptures, installations, and videos created over the past three decades. *30 Americans* was first staged in 2008 at the Rubell's warehouse in Miami and has traveled to museums throughout the United States!.

Thank you, Pat Lontor for planning this yearly and delightful experience for Omaha Artists Inc!

Fun Shop: Shirley Schmidt 402-592-4873 / Nancy Ralston 402-517-0263

Fun Shop: Gourdin' Around with Linda Bennett
Wednesday, March 20th, 9:00 a.m. until 2:00p.m.
Church of the Master, 2716 So. 114th Street
Members \$4.00/ Non-Members—\$5.00—Bring snacks to share!



Please join us for a fun-filled workshop with instructor and former OAI President Linda Bennett! Linda will share her techniques and expertise in embellishing gourds. We will all work the same project going step-by-step: each gourd will be unique. Linda will have dried, (mostly) cleaned gourds, cut into a pot/bowl and available to purchase; gourds are priced from \$3.00 to \$6.00 depending on the size and quality of the gourd. If you have your own dried gourds, please feel free to bring it/them. Linda will bring a lot of freebies such as "inspirational gourds," and embellishments and will share supplies. If anyone has any questions as to where to get gourds or alcohol inks (listed below in supply list), you may contact Linda and she will be happy to explain.

Supply List:

1 cured (dried) gourd - with the waxy skin scrubbed off

Black acrylic and a metallic acrylic paint (craft paint is fine)

1 Alcohol ink (Andirondack or Pinata brand) Red, Green or Blue:

If using Red or Green alcohol ink, bring Gold metallic paint; if using Blue, then bring Silver.

91% Isopropyl Alcohol

Felt pad or foam brush

1/2 inch long-handle scruffy brush - don't bring your best

Water container

Latex gloves

Baby wipes or paper towels

White glue such as Elmers, E6000, Super Glue or comparable

Sandpaper

Pad of newspaper

Optional: Any embellishments, such as gold leaf, found items, paper, beads, shells, feathers, leather, wire, etc.

Shirley Schmidt-Fun Shop Chair, Nancy Ralston- Fun Shop Co-Chair, Neva Cozine - Fun Shop Co-Chair

Courtesy: Barbara Mathewson 402-339-7785 mspiggy0219@aol.com

New members

Claire Caswell

Joyce Hildenbrandt

Jenny Waltmoth

Passed away

Tom Reardon's wife

Our dog model from Fun Shop Animal portraits "Prince"
owned by Linda Jones.

Illness

Marlene Dobney battling 4 weeks of a viral infection

NEW ARRIVAL

Sok Chan Ng gave birth to a baby girl



Art Bridge: Linda Bennett 712.566.2322 gourdartstudios@aol.com



Our lesson in February was hearts. We had 25 ESL students who made lovely pieces. Coming up in March we will be doing collage containers. The date is March 6 due to spring break for OPS during our normal second Wednesday of the month.

Art Show /Art Shows: Sharon Clawson 402.572.8486 bsclaw001@hotmail.com



Juror's notes: **(Hal Holoun's critique of our show at the Jewish Community Center)**

In this exhibition, I enjoyed the diverse approaches in the artists' works, including the various art mediums as well as the many different approaches and statements in their art.

In judging an exhibition, I do my best to be objective (though this is probably not humanly possible) and try not to seek out works or mediums that I "like," or styles of art that I prefer to view. This exhibit was "open" in that it didn't break down the entries into distinct categories. I think this was a good idea since, as one views the exhibit, there are works that blur the line between distinct categories. This also encourages artists to "think outside the box" and perhaps experiment with new approaches that might lead to new discoveries of self-expression.

That said, in judging I attempt to approach each work on its innate qualities, not thinking about whether it was a "painting," a "photograph," a mixed-media work, etc. I walked through the exhibit several times before beginning to sort out those works that I felt continued to hold their presence---this also allowed me to then see very "quiet" works that didn't catch my attention early on.

This is perhaps the most difficult part of judging an exhibition---attempting to equate the powerful whisper of a subtle work which is mounted near a strong expressive piece. This is why it's so important to take the time in judging to let each work, no matter how soft or so strong, have its own "voice" be heard/seen.

Then, perhaps the second-most difficult part in judging comes in sorting out those works that couldda/shouldda been included in the awards. There were several pieces that filled that description in this exhibition. I gave two "juror's" awards to two pieces and decided to leave it there. I have no doubt that if your group had enlisted a different juror, some awards would have been given to other works.

At the same time, I stand by my choices for the first four awards. Each in their own way carried a strong sense of message, and mastery of the medium in which they were executed. The honorable-mention works were often strong as well, but suffered in minor areas that didn't allow them to reach a higher award level. I think I mentioned in my notes to those artists, in most of those cases, the reasons why I didn't rank their works to the next level.

My next point, with regard to all the entries, involves "presentation." Or, one could call it "framing." Many of the entries in this exhibit were overwhelmed by their framing. I know, I know, framing tastes change over time, but so many works in this exhibit, especially smaller ones, were smothered by their mats/framing. I can relate to this---some years ago, a gallery in Tucson, AZ carried my oil paintings and it was a good relationship over time. But then the owner had to retire and close the gallery due to health issues. Before this, she'd asked that I frame my paintings in deep silver and gilt frames, as that was the fashion in the Southwest. OK---I did that. Then, when she closed, she returned 7-8 paintings back to me with silver and gold frames. I exhibited those works here in the Midwest and I had clients saying, "Well, I like the painting but you can keep the frame." Eventually, I ended up giving my excess frames to a past student whose works could accommodate these frames.

I think it would be good for your club members to visit galleries in order to get a sense of the changing tastes of the "presentation" of a work of art. Just now, there's a trend for minimal black framing for many oil paintings. I don't especially like that, but at the same time it does allow the painting to call attention to itself, and not to the frame. I've used "floater frames" for years on my paintings because they "surround" the painting and don't attach to it directly.

Framing in photography also tends to toward the minimal. Look at the 2d place winner in this exhibit---the framing is more protective than intending to make any statement. There was another photograph that I considered for an award, but it was weighted down by dense wood/mat framing---I eventually gave it an honorable mention.

Art Show /Art Shows: Sharon Clawson 402.572.8486 bsclaw001@hotmail.com

I'm sorry I won't be able to attend your opening reception---that said, if any of your members would wish to contact me with any questions/comments related to their works or of my judging, you can have them contact me at my email address: hholoun@cox.net.

Best regards,
Hal Holoun

Good News from the "Chillin' Winter" Art Show at the JCC- Nancy Ralston sold her scratchboard art piece called "Henry Doorly Zoo's Lizard King". Congratulations Nancy!!

Spring Art Show - "Childhood Summers"

Hot Shops Art Center
1301 Nicholas Street

Theme is "Childhood Summers". Along with your entry, you must also write a short explanation of your "Childhood Summer" art piece on a 3x5 card to hang beside your artwork.

Registration: Tuesday, April 30, 11 am - 1 pm

Reception: Sunday, May 5, 2 -4 pm

Take down: Tuesday, May 28, 11 am -1 pm

Entry fee is \$15 for up to 3 pieces, depending on the size of your art pieces

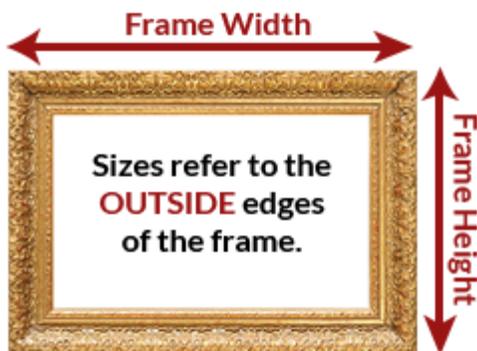


Image Size Guidelines

We will be enforcing size guidelines, in order to give the shows a better look, and to avoid overcrowding. These sizes refer to the outside edges of the frame.

- 3 pieces 11 x 14 or smaller.
- 2 pieces are allowed if both are 30 x 30 or smaller.

One piece if it's larger than 30 x 30, with maximum size of 40 x 40.

Sizes may be figured by adding two adjacent sides, so smallest no bigger than 25 (11+14), middle size 60 (30 + 30), and largest – when two sides are greater than 60 but not larger than 80 total.

Our Fall art show will be in October at La Casa. Dates will be determined soon.

Just a Thought...

A few thoughts about luck from your vice president...So...do you know who coined this quote? "The harder I work, the luckier I get!"

Do you believe this is true? Well, March is certainly the month I associate with luck and I would like to introduce you to an online artist named Miriam Schulman. She hosts a weekly podcast which I enjoy listening to as I create. If I can't get myself to draw, sketch, or paint I still listen to the podcasts as I tidy up my art area. Then, it seems like I get started!!! We artists are so fortunate to be able to be creative! Please allow yourself a little time to nurture your spirit and have fun making art!

By the way, film producer, Sam Goldwyn is said to be the creator of the quote: "The harder I work, the luckier I get!"

Signed, Barbara Egr-Vice President

Omaha Artists, Inc. Board Meeting Minutes: February 27, 2019 at Valentino's South, Omaha

Called to order by President, Katie Johnson-Treasurer's Report \$6,004.00, Treasurer JoAnne Nielsen. Minutes read and approved. Judy Freeland Absent. Barbara Egr took notes.

ANAC: dues were due February 27. 69 members. March 16th is planning meeting in Kearney. Conference is in Albion, NE. Selection Show is April 8 10-10:30 am at Lutheran Church of the Master.

ART SHOWS: JoAnne Nielsen made a motion, which carried, to give Sharon \$25 for a toolbox for art show needs ie wire, hangers, etc. Barbara Egr seconded the motion. Hot Shops "Childhood Summers" theme. Members were reminded to include 3x5 explanation card of their artwork. Registration 4.30, 11-1 pm. Reception Sunday, May 5 from 2-4 pm and take down May 28 11-1 pm. Fall art show at LaCasa date to be announced.

COMMUNITY ART BRIDGE: no report.

COMMUNITY ART REACH: Sara Wamsat/thank you to anonymous doner.

COURTESY: Barbara Matheson sent cards to Linda Jones (Prince passed), two new members, Tom Rear-don (wife passed away)

FUN SHOP: Katie Johnson asked for a motion to have "Christmas in July" painting of ornaments/free lunch and instead have Linda Bernett teach gourd painting in March. Ornament painting in March had previously been planned. Motion carried.

HOSTESSES: Patti Kounkel and Carol McCall reported 27 attended February Meeting. March luncheon will be at the Joslyn.

MEMBERSHIP: Susan Stevens and Jo Anne Nielsen reported 155 members.

NEWSLETTER: Linda Guynn asked articles be sent in this weekend.

WEBMASTER/Website: Susan Stevens discussed renewal of website/security.

PROGRAMS: Barbara Egr advised Susan Stevens presenting computer technology at February Meeting. March Program will be held at the Joslyn with a tour of showing "30 Americans".

NEW BUSINESS/UNFINISHED: Scholarship Committee-Barbara Egr, Patti Kounkel and Neva Cozine. Scholarships awarded at the March General Meeting. By-Law Committee: Dick Brown, Jo Anne Nielsen, Judi Cross, Sara Wamsat and Katie Johnson after the March 20 Fun Shop. Reaffirm: all OAI Events follow Omaha Public Schools Cancellation Policy due to inclement weather.

Motion to Adjourn: Jo Anne Nielsen 2nd: Sharon Clawson – Meeting Adjourned: Katie Johnson

Spotlight Member Section: featuring Marilyn Evelo Hanson



This Spotlight Member Section is meant to get to know each other.

Q: Tell us about you!

A: I was raised on a farm near Aberdeen, South Dakota – does that make me a “Farmer’s Daughter”? I am thankful for those wonderful memories of my childhood: going to the swimming pool, riding horses, spending my early schooling in a one-room schoolhouse with my mother my teacher! My dad did custom combining in the Southern States and my mom and I fed the combine crew and in a pinch drove a grain truck!

I graduated from Northern State University with a BS in Art Education. I painted photos for Photo Studios. Was an Architectural Delineator for an Architectural Firm. Worked for Hallmark Greeting Card Company in Kansas City, MO as their finished airbrush artist. While there I attended Kansas City Art Institute. Moved to San Diego and belonged to several art organizations. Showed my art at mall and outdoor shows. Had my own Photo Restoration business before moving to Omaha to marry my husband, Arlo. Between us we have 5 children and 10 grandchildren; all residing in Colorado, Missouri, California and Omaha!

Q: Tell us about your Omaha Artists Inc and ANAC experience!

A: I joined OAI in the early 90’s. I was Vice President 2 years for OAI. Served as hostess and helped hang our art shows in the 90’s. I enjoy the friendship and talent of all the members and have some very special friends in OAI. It certainly has been a happy and important happening in my life! I helped hang OAI art work at ANAC for several years and was on the ANAC Exhibit Board in 1999.

Q: Do you have experience with other organizations?

A: I was on the PTA Board when my children were in grade school. I was a member of the San Diego Art Institute and Spanish Village in Balboa Park. Presently, I am a member of the Flatwater Investment Club and Omaha Symphony and Music Circle

Q: What is the story of your art experience as a child and now today:

A: My mom and grandmother were consistently creating. I always had paper, scissors, oil pastels and later watercolors. I learned oils in High School and still love using oil paint. I do like to try new mediums to get the creative juices going! Lately I’ve been painting with Alcohol Inks and Encaustics, but I’ll probably be back to oils.

Q: Can you share little known information about yourself?

A: We raised Peacocks on the farm. I enjoy cooking but, my cooking doesn’t always turn out gourmet! If that isn’t enough information, Arlo and I went to the Junior Senior Prom when we were sweet sixteen!

Q: What are your hobbies or interests?

A: I love gardening, cooking, the farm and boating at Lake of the Ozarks. We have a garden with wandering paths full of trees, flowers and sometimes weeds! We drive to the farm to enjoy family, friends and country life. Then we pack up and head for the lake. Summer is just not long enough. Right now I have a 5 year old grandson that I get to spoil and enjoy!

Dates to Remember

Fun Shops- 3rd Wednesday

Lutheran Church of the Masters

March 20

April 17

May 15

June meeting with potluck— date TBA— Soaring Wings

Luncheons-4th Wednesday 12:00 noon

March 27

April 24

May 22

Hot Shops: Registration: 11-1, Tuesday, April 30,

Reception: Sunday, May 5, 2-4 pm

Take down: Tuesday, May 28, 11-1

Linda Guynn

P.O.Box 504

Plattsmouth,NE 68048