



The Gaston County Art Guild serves the area's working artist, Art students, hobbyists, and art patrons

January
2009

PO BOX 452 Gastonia, NC 28053

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Meeting:

TUESDAY
Jan. 13th
7:00 p.m. at:
Unity Place

FYI: Meetings usually are held on the second Tuesday of each month in the Guild Meeting Room on the 1st floor of Unity Place located at 201 W. Franklin Blvd in Downtown Gastonia.



Happy New Year, and welcome back to another exciting year of fun and fellowship in the Arts. Our January meeting will be held on Tuesday, January 13th at 7:00 PM at Unity Place, please come and join us. We always have lots to talk about as we plan out all of the up and coming events for the year. Since this is our first meeting of a new year our program will be announced on the night of the meeting,

A New Years Message from Dennis

As another year starts, I suppose most of us reflect on the events of the past year. I was recently reading the portfolio of a friend and was struck by the fact that she had been painting for 20 years. Only then did I realize that I am approaching that number myself. I then starting thinking about my body of work during the time that I had been painting. Although much of the time that passed involved practice, I am dissatisfied with how little I have produced.

In that vein, I welcome each of you to share methods or philosophies on how to eliminate the clutter from our lives and free ourselves to go to that place where creativity takes over and time is irrelevant. Over the years I have accumulated a number of books. I often read before I go to bed and then I am stimulated to go paint. However, it is too late and it doesn't get done. One of the books that I treasure is "Wildbahn Impressionen" by Bjoern-Verlag. The book is also available in English. The book is about the life of Manfred Schatz, who recently passed away. Schatz is an oil painter who is an absolute master at capturing the impression of movement and atmosphere in his paintings. I am fascinated that Schatz overcame extreme hardship in order to use his extraordinary skills while confined in a German concentration camp. He used scraps of charcoal and any paper he could find. He would draw images which were traded to the guards for food and any materials that they would provide to him. An additional benefit was sanity.

This sort of puts things in perspective. What excuse can I give then, with the abundance that I have. Coinciding with Scott's message, I am determined to utilize my time and skills better in the upcoming year and I believe that I will feel more fulfilled and useful. Whether it be teaching children or adults, hanging pictures on my refrigerator, or filling my closets to the brim, creating art brings joy to me. I wish for joy and fulfillment for each of you this year. Dennis

New Year's Resolutions By Scott Boyle

Have you thought about making a New Year's Art Resolution for 2009? What about visiting the Main Branch of the Gaston County Public Library to check out an art book once a month? Our own county library has a wealth of fabulous art books available. It should come as no surprise that we should have so many good art books available to us since Gaston County has for a long time had a wealth of talented artists living within her borders. I personally have gained much knowledge, inspiration, and insight over the years frequenting the art aisles at the Main Branch of our county library. My most recent delight has been a little book by Sir Winston Churchill, titled "Painting as a Pastime". Beware when you locate the art section at the Library they are contained on two separate aisles and don't forget the oversized book section.

2008- 2009 Officers

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Gaston County Art Guild
ARTS UPDATE

Up and Coming Events.....

A Natural View 2009

"A Natural View" 2009 Prospectus - is available online at www.gastoncountyartguild.com homepage
All members with a current address will receive a prospectus in the mail by mid January.
We have about 7 weeks until take up which will be Saturday February 28th and Sunday March 1st.

Our juror this year will be Dee Beard Dean of Davidson, NC. Dee studied art at Kendall College of Art and Design in Grand Rapids, MI as well as the New York Academy of Art. Dee is recognized for her painterly landscapes and her expertise in many media including watercolor, oils, and pastel. She is founder of Plein Air Painters of the Southeast PAP-SE, a professional organization of plein air artists living and working in the southeastern United States. Dee teaches art workshops around the US and Internationally.

Hearts and Flowers 2009

The 2009 Hearts and Flowers opening reception will be Thursday, January 15th from 5:00 PM-7:00 PM, at the Downtown Development Corporation, 162 S. South St. in Downtown Gastonia. For more information contact Missy Turney at 704-865-5044

2009 Gaston Arts Council Meeting

On January 25th 2009 we will have a meeting with the Gaston County Arts Council. The purpose of the meeting will be for the Art Guilds presentation of our plans for receiving funding assistance from the Arts Council. Last year we missed out on the opportunity of their assistance due to not developing a clear plan for a community service or an outreach program. We need suggestions for proposal from you, please call or email Dennis Shook (dwshook@live.com 704-678-3810) or Scott Boyle (sboyle1@carolina.rr.com 704-860-3803) with any ideas.

Run For The Money \$\$\$\$

We need a chair for our annual fund raiser "Run for the Money", this Spring . This is our largest annual funding project, the money raised is vital for the guilds survival. If your interested please call or email Dennis Shook (dwshook@live.com 704-678-3810) or Scott Boyle (sboyle1@carolina.rr.com 704-860-3803).

A Call for News and Events...

Got any Art News or know of any Events that you would like to pass on to all of the Art Guild Members. Please send the news to our Web Master Scott Boyle for publication on the Art Guild Web Page. You can contact Scott at sboyle1@carolina.rr.com or call Scott at 704-860-3803 or Lori Lytle at llytle@carolina.rr.com or call at 704-908-4416.

Visit our Website at www.gastoncountyartguild.com for more guild information and a gallery of fellow guild member's work.