

ART NEWS

December
2007
Vol. 5 No. 4

Board of Directors 2007 - 2008

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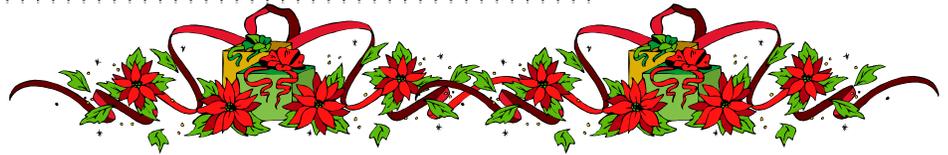
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Central Massachusetts Chapter/Women's Caucus for Art
www.centralmasswca.org

Fall CMWCA exhibition, "Faces," hosted by FATV station

CMWCA's Fall invitational exhibition titled "FACES" opened on November 14 and will continue through January 8, 2008 at Fitchburg Access Television, 175 Kimball Street, Fitchburg. The station is an independent, non-profit organization that operates the public access channels on Fitchburg's cable television system. Its white-walled corridors offer extensive display space.

This is the second year that the chapter's exhibit has been held in this venue. Once again, repeating last year's event, artists from the exhibition were featured on the *Inside Fitchburg* program live cablecast during the show's opening reception, which was held on Wednesday, November 14th. A delicious array of food and drink was provided for visitors to the show. Even the refreshments were artful.



C. M. Judge, Catherine Rogers, Alicia Gellenberg-Drakiotes, Cathy Rogers and Cindy Walter were interviewed by the program host and hostess. Each of the women described the value she receives from her membership in our chapter of the Women's Caucus for Art. C. M. Judge related the history of the organization and its activities. During the rest of the hour-long live show several other artists were interviewed on camera beside their art work.



***Membership Renewal Time is
Here!
(form on page 4)***



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

This is more a message *about* the president, rather than *from* the president.

Linda Widstrand resigned the presidency earlier this month, as she needed more time to attend to her family and her many artistic pursuits.

Cathy Rogers, our vice president, has graciously offered to take on the job, pending action by the Board. And here is an introduction to our new president – elect:

Cathy's job history reads like a travel log. After earning a B.A. degree in Fine Arts from Bethel College in Minnesota, she went to work in Los Angeles. From there she moved to Finland, and then to Belgium, finding time to attend art workshops along the way. Basket making attracted her interest, and she employed materials from the many places in which she lived.

Now, relocated to the Boston area, Cathy says she believes she has finally achieved a better work/life balance. Painting, art quilts, basketry, and felt making are all the mediums that keep her busy and fulfilled.

AS

WANTED - Volunteer to fill the office of Vice President of CMWCA. Duties include program planning. Fun job, low pay. Call Cathy Rogers or Donna Conroy.

EDITOR'S NOTES

When you send in information for the newsletter, it would be most helpful if you use Microsoft Word. Material sent in by the deadline is greatly appreciated.

Let's hear about your art adventures.

Alice Avery Struthers

Potluck Dinner Review

By Cathy Rogers, CMWCA Vice President

It was a small, but fun, group that braved the icy roads and frigid temperatures to join in the potluck dinner and Board of Directors meeting on December 10th.

In addition to good conversation and laughs, we enjoyed homemade lentil soup, spinach quiche, fresh mixed garden salad with apples and walnuts and homemade tangy dressing, shrimp cocktails, smoked salmon dip with crackers, and French white wine.

Time flew by, and the guys at FATV finally had to ask us politely to leave when they closed the studio. We missed all of you that were unable to attend. However, don't worry, we'll schedule more fun potlucks in the future!

New Hampshire Chapter WCA

6X6 Show at Alexander Lake Design

284 Central Avenue, Dover NH 03820 603 750-7227

Submitted by Donna Conroy

This show, which will run from December 4th to January 2nd, 2008, is a great way to get your holiday shopping started! There are over 35 women artists from all over the state, plus some from Massachusetts, represented in this exhibition. All of the artwork is 6" x 6" and priced to \$66.00 – come early – they sell out quickly!



Kathy Freeburn
"Musical 6X6s"



Donna Conroy
"Once Upon A Time" 6X6s

About ART...from your Editor

In the course of downloading a charming Mary Cassatt image of a young girl and her cat, (in the public domain), I gained some insight into her career.

Mary Stevenson Cassatt (1844-1926), an American painter and printmaker, lived much of her adult life in France, where she first befriended Edgar Degas and later exhibited among the Impressionists. Her pictures often portrayed the intimate bond between mother and child.

Her family did not approve of her intention to become a professional artist. Nevertheless she went to art school in Philadelphia, was dissatisfied with the "patronizing attitude of the male students and teachers," and moved to Paris.

When she returned home to escape the Franco-Prussian War, her father "continued to resist her chosen vocation, and paid for her basic needs, but not her art supplies." She went back to Europe and pursued her career against the objections of her family. Yes, the rest is history. As of 2005 her paintings had sold for as much as \$2.87 million.

(Information source:Wikipedia)

MEMBER PROFILES

Getting to know...

Cyndi Lavin

Alice asked me to tell you all a bit about my studio set-up and business. I know that each of us in the Central Mass chapter of WCA has a different way of structuring our art lives. I feel very fortunate to be, at least in part, making a living doing the things that I love. I am also blessed to have a home studio, as well as space for my glass torch and kiln with which I make glass beads. These beads become one of the elements in my mixed media jewelry and other art.

Besides jewelry, I also do collage, small art quilts, and assemblage. Anything where the media can be mixed!

Part of my business is retailing, and part of it is writing. The retailing part is pretty straight-forward. I sell my jewelry and prints of my other work via three websites. This was the best move that I ever made, learning how to set up and maintain a website: when I wake up in the morning and there is an order waiting...well, it just doesn't get much better!

Sometimes I miss the interaction with customers that I used to have at shows and sales, but not too often! I certainly don't miss the setting up and breaking down involved in shows.

The internet is simply another form of communication and sales. I've been able to make connections with people all over the world this way, and some of my pieces now have homes in far-flung spots like France, Sweden, Australia, South Africa, the Philippines, Spain, and Brazil, as well as all over the United States. The internet is also a wonderful tool for meeting people to do collaborative work with. Online forums and discussion boards bring together like-minded artists in every possible medium.

The writing part of my business also initially developed from the internet. I was first asked to write some articles by a magazine publisher who saw the work on my website. I've always liked writing and had been posting tutorials for quite some time.

It was a natural progression to begin writing regularly for some magazines and for collaborative books that my online contacts were authoring. And then next came blogs! The fast-paced everyday nature of blogs also appealed to me, and very soon I was writing several blogs for large professional networks. If you enjoy writing, it is a wonderful way to get your name out to a wider audience, and to make a decent income as well. Since I'm a natural-born bossy person, writing how-to articles works well for me! So that's my story, and I'm stickin' to it...at least until the end of 2007!

Cyndi Lavin

From the "FACES" Member Show



"Pansy Face"
by
Susan Matusen



"Angels with Dirty Faces"
by
Deb McGonigal



"April Morning Stroll"
by
Alicia Geilenberg - Drakiotes

Photos by Alice Struthers

MEMBERS' CORNER

Donna M. Conroy
Membership

Welcome to New Members:

Jan Queijo of Hubbardston, MA

Deborah-Jean Mc Gonigal of
Gardner, MA

Both of our new members are showing pieces in the "FACES" exhibit and were on hand at the opening reception.

A reminder that the membership year ends on December 31st!

Please return your renewal letter and questionnaire as soon as possible along with your check for \$45.00 made payable to CMWCA.

Any questions let me know and I wish all a Happy and Safe Holiday Season.

donna_m_conroy@yahoo.com

Spring Classes

Pastel workshop

"Painting with Broken Color"

with artist Alicia K. Geilenberg -
Drakiotes

SPRING is a time of color change and vibrancy! Come paint pastel using the vibrancy of broken color technique.

The class will meet on Wednesdays from February 20 through March 26, 2008, (snow date April 2nd) 1:30 - 4 p.m. in the second floor classroom at the Jaffrey Civic Center, 40 Main St., Jaffrey, NH. Class fee is \$85.00

To register call Dion at Jaffrey Civic Center (603) 532- 6527.

See Cyndi's work on our own website
www.centralmasswca.org

*The
PEACE "Postcard Project"
Atlanta, GA*

CMWCA members Kathy Freeburn and Donna Conroy had postcards shown in this week- long display surrounding the International Day of Peace on September 21, 2007.

Kathy's postcard titled "Peace Missing" (below) was sold with proceeds going to the artist's choice of charities. Donna's postcard, titled "Peaceful Dreams" was also shown.



WOMEN'S CAUCUS FOR ART -- MEMBERSHIP 2008

(Memberships cannot be prorated)

MEMBER INFORMATION

NEW RENEWAL Change of name/address or other information

NAME _____

STREET _____

CITY _____ STATE _____

ZIP _____

PHONE _____ EMAIL _____

Professional Area: Artist CAA Member Art Educator

Art Admin. Other _____

CENTRAL MASS CHAPTER plus NATIONAL DUES ARE \$45.00

(You must pay WCA National Dues in order to belong to the Central Mass chapter)

Additional Chapter Memberships Available with CMWCA Membership

NH \$15.00 _____

Boston \$20.00 _____

National \$30.00 _____

Mail completed form along with your check for \$45.00 to:

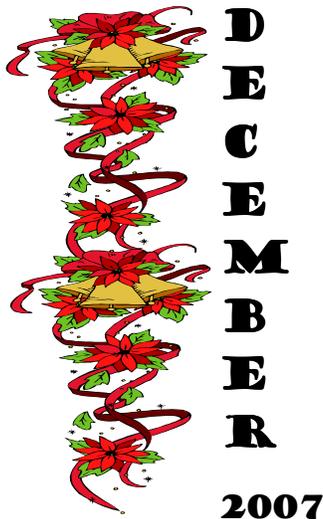
Donna M. Conroy Membership Director CMWCA

49 Fairmont Ave., Worcester, MA 01604-3013

Deadline for next newsletter is February 29, 2008.



www.centralmasswca.org



Happy Holidays!

COMING EVENTS

CMWCA Board Meeting - Jan. 8, 2008

6:30 - 8:30 p.m. FATV Studio

Concurrent with FACES art pickup

All are welcome to attend.

Art Quilt Workshop with Cindy Walters

Saturday, February 9, 2008 1 - 5 p.m.

R.S.V.P. to Cindy at cindyquilt@verizon.net

WCA National Conference

Feb. 22 - 25, 2008 Fort Worth, TX

Info: www.nationalwca.org

Felt Workshop with Cathy Rogers

Sunday, March 9, 2008 1 - 5 p.m.

R.S.V.P. to Cathy at

catherine_l_rogers@hotmail.com