

SECRETARY' S REPORT

Jan Jackson

The Fine Arts Club 2007-2008 year is winding down, and my term as Secretary ends with the May 2008 Board meeting. As Secretary I attend all monthly Board meetings and any Executive sessions that may be convened, take notes, record the motions, and write up as minutes the business of the Board to be submitted for approval at the following meeting. Over the course of my tenure I have made some observations I'd like to share with you.

This organization has no annual prize or award given for exemplary performance or significant contribution to the health and welfare of the Club. That is good. The task of selecting from the officers and chairs any one member who is more outstanding than another would be impossible! Having said that, let me share with you a few items among many, that I, whose job is to listen and take notes, find as noteworthy accomplishments of the Board I serve on: a fantastically successful cookbook project; major house improvements and updates; hiring a new resident manager; flourishing Sections; and renewed attention to the philanthropic mission of the Fine Arts Club; new audio-visual equipment; a website...this and more possible because of the leadership, organizational skills and hard work of our members. A totally awesome group of women!!

Just a word about how the minutes are written. I try to make very clear in the minutes what the motions say, because the motions are the official record of the Club and are relied on to carry out the direction of the Board. They are referred back to, sometimes many months later, and should be as precise as possible.

As Secretary, I write up the minutes, forward the draft to President Stadter for her review, and after she gives me the go-ahead, I send them to all Board members who have Internet.

In the minutes, I do not note the name of the person who seconds the motion because the *seconder* only wants the motion to be considered by the Board--she does not even have to agree with it--so it doesn't matter who it is.

The monthly reports of the Section chairs are

Secretary's report continued...

given verbally and as no action is needed--they contain information only-- they are merely recorded as being *received*. This is also true for the Treasurer's report. Her monthly report is also *received*; a yearly budget is *approved*; the yearly audit is *adopted*.

The minutes of the Board meetings are posted on the bulletin board. Please take time to read them for a glimpse into how the Fine Arts Club continues to be an exciting and successful community asset.



BARGAIN and BOOK SALE **April 25 & 26**

It's a Fine Arts annual tradition to donate your gently used items for the fundraiser. It's a sale of knickknacks, kitchen items, books, tools, and toys; everything except clothes.

Donations may be brought to the clubhouse anytime. Contact Rose at 293.9787 or Cathy at 232.4754

April 25-26 at the Clubhouse
Friday from 7am-6pm
Saturday from 8am to 2pm

ART

Gail Giovannini

The Art Scholarship was given to Tylor Schmidt, a Concordia College student. Under the leadership of **Pat Gjevre** and with the help of other members, we made a lovely decorated Christmas tree for the Festival of Wreaths.

Our programs have consisted of monuments of the area and a church in Russia and an interesting presentation of Bovine Bonnets designed for newborn calves' tender ears. Kay Hilde shared her works in acrylics, purses and suitcases. We also had a watercolor workshop for members.

BOOK

Jan Jackson & Clare Degerness

No one Book Section meeting is like another, and yet our members share a common interest in providing experiences that will enrich our discussions. **Odee Maier** demonstrated this when, as hostess, she paired food with the region of our book by serving gulabjamun and rossogolla (soft cheese balls in syrup), figs, and assorted dried fruits with our tea when we discussed Greg Mortenson's *Three Cups of Tea*. We read about the devastation of the Dust Bowl years in the book *Worst Hard Times* and **Norma Younggren** brought World War II coupon booklets to add to our understanding of "doing without". We listened to *Memorial*, composed by Concordia's Rene Clausen, which **Clare Degerness** brought to connect the musical theme of our book on the Triangle Waist Factory fire with the World Trade Center tragedy. **Sharon Kemp** is a recent new member; welcome Sharon.

A sneak preview of our titles for next year: *Death Comes for the Archbishop*, *The Good Earth*, *Inferno*, *Cane River*, *Out Stealing Horses*, *Tortilla Curtain*, *The Senator's Wife*, *The Redbreast*, and *Dakota*. Complete titles, authors and discussion dates will be printed in the yearbook. Thanks to **Doris Hertsgaard**, **Winnie Stadter**, and **Wanda Hummel** for serving on the Book Selection Committee.



DRAMA

Patricia Hansen

Drama Section has been a tradition of Fine Arts since its founding in 1911 and so we are especially proud to welcome two new members, **Pat Heide** and **Janet**

Martin. Through our programming we've seemed to circle the globe in learning about people and history through drama. **Nancy Thorndahl** presented the play "Touch the Names" about the stories of items collected at the Vietnam Memorial while **Katherine Murphy** presented "The Misanthrope" by Moliere. We were entertained and enlighten by **Betty Kern's** program on Gilbert and Sullivan and **Lou Richardson's** program on entrepreneurship. **Gale Chapman** hosted us at the NDSU Alumni Center. Guest speakers included MSUM Professor David Wheeler who read a Shakespeare sonnet, and Fargo Theatre's Prairie Rose who spoke of the drama and religion of the Native American Pow-wow.

CREATIVE LIVING

Lillian Cole

Luncheons, music, and nonprofit organizations have been highlighted on our agenda recently. We've been learning and entertained by programs as practical and diverse as writing an obituary to being serenaded by the songs and music of Dr. David Ferreira. We've also gained new respect for the important charitable work of three local agencies: HERO, Youthworks and the New Life Center. Healthcare Equipment Recycling Organization uses durable medical supplies and equipment and sends them where they are needed. Youthworks helps runaways, at-risk youth by providing supplies, counseling, mentoring and other opportunities. We learned that about 230 meals are served daily at the New Life Center and that it's the oldest provider for the homeless in our area as it recently celebrated its 100 year anniversary.

GARDENING

Nora Koenig & others

Gardeners are just coming out of hibernation now so it's a good time to join us for our fun-filled summer agenda. In addition to some planned field trips to area gardens, including the ever-so-amazing Bergeson Nursery, we're offering a make-your-own planter class on April 28. What do you get when you mix peat moss, perlite, cement and water? It's a hypertufa planter. To find out just what this is, think of merry ole England and their water-trough planters, and to make one for your own backyard, please join us. But first, give **Clare Degerness** a call at 287.2615 to register.

HI STORY

Audrey Richmond

The Fine Arts History Section continues its study of Africa. We have heard about Zimbabwe from a member who visited and still corresponds with friends she made there. We learned about the serious health problems in many African countries. In addition we heard about causes of the violence and genocide in the western Sudan area of Darfur.

In late February, Abendigo Thomas, a native Liberian, spoke to us. He is currently a student in the Skills and Development Project at the Skills and Technology Center in North Fargo. It was encouraging to hear his story of how his life improved following immigration to the United States after hearing so many presentations on the poverty and suffering in Africa.

Our group decided to help the Skills and Development Project by donating power and hand tools which are used for teaching purposes in the manufacture skills class. Mentors are also needed to work one-on-one with the students on their English and Math while they participate in the skills training. The project has served 380 individuals, each representing a local household with varying numbers of family members. Most of the new participants live in rental housing within the city of Fargo but their new higher paying jobs are setting them up for the time when they will find affordable homes of their own. Follow-up surveys show that six months after placement with businesses, graduates are still employed and some have already been promoted.

We learned a few feminist proverbs from around the world, including this one from Zimbabwe: "You need double strength if you quarrel with an independent woman."

CONDOLENCES

It's with heartfelt sympathies that we extend a note to the families of members who we've lost: Marilyn White, Helen Johnson, Mary Esther Schultz. These friends will be missed.

INVESTMENT

Donna Nelson

Today's financial markets may be on a roller coaster ride with sharp ups and downs, but our group continues to focus on strategic investments. We've been meeting for eight years and continue to have an investment approach that includes careful analysis and group discussion. Our philanthropy project for many years has been donating toys for the Toys for Tots program.

SPORTS

Rhonda Hoge

DC Storage represented by **Merilyn Fischer** and **Sandy Knoll** won the first half of the bowling season in a three-way roll-off against SP Specialty Products (**Donna Orr, Becky Bakke,** and **Diane Spolum**) and Personal Touch Embroidery (**Sue Tharaldson and Linda Wilkes**). Statistical Secretary **Anne Koski** said that in her twenty years of record-keeping she has never seen a three-way tie for first at 28.5 games and it probably won't happen again anytime soon. Great job ladies! Congratulations DC Storage!

The annual awards luncheon will be at the Country Club on April 17 at 11:30. Finally, we are proud to announce another donation in the amount of \$375 to the Susan G. Komen Breast Cancer Research.



IN THE NEWS

- **Deanna Marx's** (Book/Drama) company Marx Estate & Household Sales was featured in The Forum
 - Congrats to new grandma **Laura Carley** and great-grandma **Irene Diederich** (Sports)
 - **Stacey Griggs** (Sports) is Co-Chair of the FMAF Women's Fund
 - **Norma Younggren** celebrated her 90th birthday with Scrabble and Book Section friends
 - **Lou Richardson** (Drama) placed first in the Nat'l Federation of Press Women's Cookbook Division
 - **Ann Koski** is a grandmother of twins. Kudos!
 - Look for **Pat Chiquist** (Drama) who is appearing in the FMCT performance of *12 Angry Women*
 - Standing next to her food sculpture, Demeter, **Donna Miller** (Art) was photographed in the 3/14/08 Forum for her entry in the Food for Thought exhibit
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A CLOSER LOOK

This month we present A Closer Look at two Fine Arts Club members, our president, **Winnie Stadter** and new member **Betsy Jackson**.



If you've seen her picture in the Clubhouse, watched her conduct a board meeting, or if you've bowled with **Winnie Stadter** you know this is one woman with enthusiasm. Born and raised in Virginia, she and her husband, Richard, who passed away in 1994, have lived in Richmond, Baltimore, Denver and Charlotte before moving to Fargo in 1967. Winnie has a degree in Health Care Administration from NDSU & Concordia. Their son, John, & his wife, Carol, are also in Fargo.

Bowling has been a part of her life for forty years so as a newcomer to Fargo she was introduced to the Fine Arts by **Anne Koski** and quickly joined the Sports Section. The rest, as they say, is history! Winnie has been Secretary and Treasurer for Sports & Bowling, Vice President and Projects Chair on the board before serving as our current President. But that's not all! Counting her contributions may be difficult due to the breadth of her volunteerism, but we send congratulations on her recent nomination for the Golden DOVES award. A past president of the Fargo Public Library Board, she remains a devoted volunteer with their outreach, taking the library to the Trollwood Senior Living Center and to a number of individual homes. Her work with the Mental Health Association of the Red River Valley led to the Volunteer Woman of the Year award. Formerly an officer of Junior League, Winnie is also a past president of the FM Opera and was named Secretary of the Year for her volunteer work with the Women's Bowling Assn.

Her FAC presidential term is winding down, but her enthusiasm for Fine Arts and involvement in community shows no signs of slowing. Thanks, Winnie!



How do sports unite with an historical perspective of Fine Arts Club? Ask new member **Betsy Jackson** who recently started to bowl on Thursdays with the Sports Section at the urging of **LeeAnn McGinnis Townsend**. A true sportswoman, Betsy plays golf & tennis, loves camping trips is an active horsewoman. In addition, she holds a Masters in Commercial Recreation from the Univ. of Utah and worked at IBM in Fargo for 18 years. She & Mark, her husband of 20 years, try never to miss the sporting events of their daughters Annie and Molly, who are involved in golf, basketball, volleyball and softball at Shanley. While growing up in Fargo with three brothers, Betsy remembers how her mother, **Jane Nichols Heller**, a member of Fine Arts, revered Thursdays with her friends in FAC Bowling.

Betsy's mother, grandmother and great grandmother were all members of Fine Arts. In fact, she is the great-granddaughter of the Club's founder, **Elmadine Thompson** who served as President from 1911 to 1920. Her grandmother **Geradine Thompson Nichols** was also a member and served as President in 1941.

Four generations; it's a rare event! Elmadine's legacy for the Club has come full circle. Welcome, Betsy.



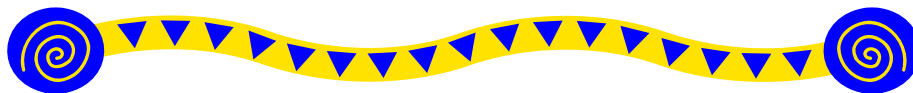
**MARK YOUR
CALENDAR**

- April 9 at 1 Annual Business Mtg
- April 25 & 26 Bargain & Book Sale
- April 29 at 10:30 Board Meeting
- July 16 at 10 Summer Coffee

FINE ARTS CLUB OF FARGO
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NEWSWORTHY



BARGAIN and BOOK SALE

New Dates & Time:
Friday & Saturday . . . April 25 & 26

That's right; we've moved the dates to include all day on Friday and a half day on Saturday.

Friday, April 25 from 7 to 6
Saturday, April 26, from 8 to 2

"Great donations along with great help will make this a fun project for everyone," says Rose Gallagher. Please sign up with your Section's Project Chair to work on Tuesday the 22 between 9 and 3 to help sort, mark and set up. Extra help will also be needed on the days of the sale, so please volunteer.

