

THE FINE ARTS FORUM



A Newsletter of the Fine Arts Club of Fargo

601 4th Street South, Fargo ND 58103

President's Message



**The Fine Arts Club
is off to a
running start!**

If the Fall Membership Brunch is a standard by which to measure, it should be a spectacular year! Thanks to LeeAnn Townsend, with help from Jeanne Powers, for a wonderful morning. The feedback has been so positive! The food was delicious, the tables were lovely, the prizes and gifts were nice, the style show was excellent -- and raised to extraordinary with the grace and aplomb of Isabelle Weaver and Ada Drache. I was enlightened through the privilege of observing the post breast cancer lingerie. I join everyone in thanking them. Thanks, too, to Nancy Anderson, Breast Cancer Case Manager at MeritCare, for her introductory remarks on breast cancer awareness. Nancy is the daughter of FAC member Rose Gallagher. The free will donation that morning totaled \$575; it will go toward cancer care here in North Dakota. What a generous response!

The Fine Arts Club continues to grow! After an informal poll of the section chairpersons, it appears that ten or twelve new members joined as of the brunch. Additionally, some sections have new members who joined independently of the brunch. Included in the poll I inquired about the philanthropic activities of the sections. Most sections have already begun with their giving, in planning if not in actual gifts.

Creative Living and Sports have giving projects currently underway. All other sections have specific projects in the pipeline to be accomplished as the year progresses.

Art Section reports that they have a program lined up for the December 3 General Meeting. Pizzazz from South High School will perform. Do plan to attend; make it your kick-off to the activities that celebrate Christmas!

The Projects Committee, Rose Gallagher and Barb Johnson, have good ideas for some fun events coming up, with the upside of raising some money to support the Fine Arts Club. (Have I mentioned before the talented women that comprise the membership?)

Best wishes to each of you as we watch autumn phase out, and anticipate the beauty that winter (yeah! North Dakota! yeah! Minnesota!) brings.

Joanne Drenkow, President

OFFICERS 2008-2009

- President Joanne Drenkow
- 1st VP Wini Christensen
- 2nd VP Rose Gallagher, Barb Johnson
- 3rd VP Betty Fiemann, Jan Jackson
- 4th VP Cleo Anderson, Gerry Kennedy
- Secretary Joann Horn
- Treasurer Joni Bertel
- Membership Leann McGinnis Townsend
- Newsletter Jan Ulferts Stewart
- Publicity Rose Dunn
- Historian Pat Chinquist

RESIDENT MANAGER

Paivi Young 235-6264

Fine Arts Club 97th Year

SPECIAL RECOGNITION

Grounds chairman Cleo Anderson had a hard-working group of members clean the grounds at the Clubhouse on Wednesday, Oct. 29th. Generously giving of their time were Liz Slen, Ruth Morton, Pat Chinquist, Clare Degerness, Stacey Griggs, Carroll Berntson, Nora Koenig, and Cleo Anderson. On behalf of all the members, we send a very sincere thank you.

COOKBOOK UPDATE

This is nearly it, the end is near! There are only 43 cookbooks remaining. You can purchase one at the Clubhouse or at the Hjemkomst Center Gift Shop.

CLUBHOUSE NEWS

By Jan Jackson

Members are proud of their beautiful Clubhouse, and rightly so. It's an historic home with lovely, interesting and valuable furnishings inside. Many items have come as gifts. The club has a form for donations that should be filled out at the time a gift is given. This allows us to keep records so that we can share name of the donor and the significance of the item. The Gift Form is kept in the Club mailbox area on the first floor.

Through these forms, we can identify that Julie Oehlert gave the collection of Toby Mugs to us in 1997. An appraisal was attached in addition to a description of each mug. The pair of bisque statues in the cupboard in the main floor meeting room was given to us June 1996 by Deborah C. Hanson. As we approach our Centennial year, we become more aware of the history of the wonderful clubhouse and the interesting and valuable things within...and the responsibility we have to keep records that acknowledge this. So my message is simply to let you know we have a form so your generous donations will always be valued, recorded and remembered.

FINE ARTS ON EXHIBIT

Fine Arts Club will be featured at the Heritage Hjemkomst Center in Moorhead in an upcoming exhibit entitled "Club Culture: a Visual Exploration into Fargo Moorhead." Pictures of Fine Arts Club members participating in various club sections will be displayed along with photos from three additional clubs including the Sons of Norway, Women United, FM Derby. A reception and preview will be held from 4 to 7 pm on December 17th and the exhibition will be at the Hjemkomst for one month. Please join us.

WEBSITE NEWS

Find the latest news and information at
thefineartsclub.com



A CLOSER LOOK

Any portrait of Anne Koski must include two things that clearly are priorities in her life; family ... and sports. A mother of four and grandma of seven, she joined Sports Section in 1974 at the urging of Arlene Gran & Libby Bushell. At that time there was a waiting list to join Fine Arts bowling teams! Experience and love of the game has led Anne to nationals many times, and with a personal best of 257 (a perfect game is 300) she is in the FM Bowling Hall of Fame and recipient of the Marion Armeey Award, a state of North Dakota honor in recognition of her years of service. Teaching new bowlers and running the city's youth leagues keep her at the lanes. It seems natural that she serves as statistician secretary for both bowling and scrabble for Fine Arts because of her love of sports. A serious Bison fan and Teammaker, Anne will be found at most NDSU football and basketball games. Her schedule includes daily trips to the Y for water aerobics. In north Fargo she is still recognized as the favorite swimming mom since the whole Koski clan were accomplished Fargo North Spartans.

Those children who seemed to rule the pool in Fargo? They are all grown-up and are parents including: Shelley is a counselor in a prison in Appleton MN, Mark is with Phipps Center for the Arts in Hudson WI, Connie is with Bremer Trust in St Cloud, and Deborah is a new mom of twin daughters and a manager at Atomic Learning Co. in Little Falls. Anne reserves special time to care for her mother who will be 90 this month.

This clan gathers as often as they can but the summer family camping trip is not to be missed. This year they met at Sibley State Park. Traveling abroad has special family memories like the nearly priceless turkey she bought in France to celebrate Thanksgiving or crossing the line and therefore angering the guards at Lenin's Mausoleum in Russia.

Anne is strong in her faith and very active in her church, she loves reading, and she brings her energy and smile everywhere she goes. She is a member of Fine Arts Sports, Book and Drama Sections.



BLING BLING SHOWCASE!

It's a new fund raiser. We'll serve coffee and a muffin or dessert, so stop by the Clubhouse on December 6th to see the sparkle and shine of local jewelry and accessory designers. The \$5 entrance fee will keep our membership dues low and support the Fine Arts Club budget

Section News

ART

By Gail Giovannini

Meeting at the Clubhouse on the first and third Tuesdays provides members of the Art Section a wide range of experience. For example, next month we have a workshop to learn about and make Tamari balls. From modest beginnings a thousand years ago in China and Japan as simple toy balls, it is today an elegant and simple gift of art. Historically, the balls were made from the remnants of old kimonos. They continue to be covered with stitching but have more decorative, intricate embroidery. Members will be making this folk art and are asked to bring these items: 1 skein of yarn (can be collection of odds and ends), 3 spools of sewing thread, men's silk ties, and 100% Bucilla silk ribbon (can be found at Michaels, Hobby Lobby or Nordic Needle.) The class will be lead by member **Sandra Miles**.

BOOK

By multiple members

Book Section members join for a variety of motivations. And yet, they seem to agree on a few key reasons for the value of these monthly meetings, as evidenced in a recent survey of members. Responding to the question, "what is your favorite thing about Book Section?" the consensus is:

- exposure to books I may not otherwise know
- learning more about a book's historical or geographical setting
- background info and discussion of the author

Certainly an added bonus is making new friends and getting to know our members better by hearing their opinions, observations, and experiences. Having strong leaders who seem to leave no stone unturned in their research on the topics, books, and authors is a primary reason for the success of each meeting. One problem was noted in the survey, however. There aren't enough meeting dates to discuss all the books we'd like!

Welcome to new members **Helen Hagen** and **Ginny McLarnan**.

CREATIVE LIVING

By Georgia Resell

The Creative Living Section has enjoyed a variety of delightful programs this fall season. We started out with a potluck luncheon in September, and David Anderson spoke on "Downtown Community Partnership". A wonderful program was given in October by Katherine Ellis Lindstrom who played the part of Helga Estby, the main character woman in the book "Bold Spirit." Candis Sommerfeld showed a video of pictures she has taken of the prairie called "Postcard from the Prairie." We have enjoyed the

addition of these new members: **Betty Fiemann**, **Margie Weyland**, **Naomi Bartle**, **Eloise Haaland**, **Jeannie Johnson**, **Kathleen Otheim**, **Eunice Sitter**, **Mavis Ahlschwede**, **Lila Dahl** and **Kathy Stottler**.

DRAMA

By Patricia Hansen

New member **Katherine Murhpy** will present the program for the December 1st meeting. She attended the opening night of the performance "Shipwreck" at Lincoln Center's Vivian Beaumont Theater in New York. The play is the second in a trilogy by British playwright Tom Stoppard in his series "Utopia." Katherine will report on majestic staging of this historical account of wealthy Russian landowners who immigrated to European cities in the 1850's.

This fall, our programs included a look into the skills of television writer and producer Aaron Sorkin and Marty Jonason, a local filmwriter who has three films to his credit and another in progress.

GARDEN

By Nora Koenig

Fall is traditionally the end of gardening season, but we gathered once last time to say good-bye to 2008 with a potato and sweet potato potluck. Have you ever wondered how many dishes could be made with these staples? We sampled eleven! Did you know that the sweet potato's color ranges between red, purple, brown and white and that the flesh ranges from white through yellow, orange, and purple?

You will see and hear more from us in March. In the meantime, enjoy those seed catalogs.



Mark Your Calendar

- Dec 3 Holiday Meeting at 1:00
- Dec 6 Bling Bling Showcase
- Nov 25 Board Meeting
- April 24 & 25 Bargain & Book Sale
- In the year 2011 Fine Arts Club is 100

HISTORY

By Audrey Richmond

Do you know that the first house built in Fargo which now is on exhibit at Bonanzaville, has had a storied past? It was built as a log cabin but in the course of being moved to more than one site acquired more modern siding. It was eventually donated to Bonanzaville but before it could be included there it was stripped of that siding to reveal the original logs. Over the years it has been randomly filled with historical artifacts which diminished its authenticity. So said our September speaker, Bruce Whitmarsh, the new Executive Director of Bonanzaville who recently moved to Fargo from the east coast. He also described the exciting plans in the works to improve this historic site developed by the Cass County Historical Society, which he says is recognized as one of the best sites of its kind in the United States.

In a continuation of our study of "firsts" for Fargo and Moorhead we have heard from members about early infrastructure including railroads and the beginning of electrical service in this area. As a part of these presentations we were reacquainted with the book researched and published by Fine Arts History Section members in the mid-1970s in honor of the centennial celebration of the founding of Fargo and Moorhead. We are pleased to welcome new member, Edna Mae Lewis.

INVESTMENT

When the financial market brings bad news, we often think of the wise words of Benjamin Franklin, "An investment in knowledge always pays." Dreary trends of failing markets can be brightened when you realize, "goodness is the only investment that never fails," as Henry David Thoreau is quoted.

SPORTS

By Rhonda Hoge

Welcome to FIVE new members: **Arlene Kensok, Sue Shannon, Bekah Kruger, Mary Jane Davies and Laura Sivertson.** Laura bowled a 570 series her first day with the Fine Arts league and so starts with a 190 average - wow! On November 13th we collected \$83 at bowling for The Veterans Bowling Link for recreational supplies like magazines radios, puzzles and games for the Fargo VA Hospital. In December we will be collecting health and beauty products for the YWCA women's shelter. *If you would like to contribute, please bring any items to the Bowler on Thursday, Dec. 4 between 12:30 and 2:00 p.m.* Gift cards to Barnes & Noble, Target or West Acres, shaving gel, razors, lotion, perfume, manicure sets, polish, files, jewelry, stamps, phone cards, craft

items, pajamas, robes, slippers. Thank you!

Carpet Mill Club leads the first half with Personal Touch Snowbirds close behind. In this month of November with Thanksgiving meals close at hand, we like to note all the turkeys (3 strikes in a row) and the hambones (4 strikes in a row). Turkeys: **Becky Bakke, Anne Koski, Deb Grant, Rhonda Hoge, LeeAnn Townsend, Sue Theraldson, Lisa Schwinden, Trish Kaul and Esther Cook.** Hambones: **Becky Bakke, Deb Grant and Anne Koski.** Congrats!

Our Christmas Brunch will be, Dec 18 at 9:30 a.m. at the Clubhouse with entertainment by The Divas of Improv. Guests are welcome to attend. The event is hosted by the bowling team Fine Arts Pals. For more information, call **Winnie Stadter 235-6022** or **Rhonda Hoge 239-9800.**



A CLOSER LOOK

Picture these things in your mind: flowers and watercolor. Hold that thought and you'll know who this Closer Look article is about: Fine Arts Club member and artist **Sandra Miles** She is a recently retired first grade teacher whose contribution to the art world in Fargo and Moorhead is without equal.

In 2005 she was recognized with the YMCA Women of the Year Award in Arts. Among her notable accomplishments are starting the Red River Water Color Society (RRWCS) and originator of the 8th Street Art Show which had 40 exhibitors displaying art this summer. Early in her art career she trained with national artists at workshops in Wisconsin. RRWCS was launched when she decided to bring those teachers to our community. The rest, as they say is history because in 2009 the RRWC Society will be celebrating their 20th year!

Watercolors and acrylic are her medium and earning her Signature Status as a watercolor artist was a highlight in her career. Her favorite painting is of holyhocks which still hangs in her house. More of her favorite things will be appearing in her newest series based upon collections of items found in her home. Upon discovering a grade school music book she created 22 paintings for her "Home on the Range" series featuring scenes from Iowa, North Dakota and Minnesota. There are plans to turn this into a book. She is also working a children book, "One Little Nutcracker" featuring ten unique watercolors.

She holds degrees in education and a masters in reading, is a member of North Plains Botanical Garden Society, a docent at Plains Art Museum and continues to teach watercolor at The Plains and community education. She lives in Fargo with her husband, Peter, where she has a home studio. Their family includes three grown daughters.

Bling Bling Showcase

Saturday, December 6, 2008

10am to 4pm

Fine Arts Club at 601 4th Street South

*Featuring unique jewelry and accessories
from area jewelry makers
and purse designers*

- Accessorize Me! - GaNe Skatvold and Diane Syverson Costume jewelry
- C. Lizzy - Elizabeth Walberg and Cari Luchau
- Designs by T - Tracy Heng
- Just for Women Boutique - designer-inspired purses and sunglasses
- Kari's Kreations - Kari Hanson with beaded and other style jewelry
- Razzle Dazzle Jewelry - Dianna Kragerud
- Silpada Jewelry - Connie Bermabecci and Michelle Peterick
- Sibelle-Chic Jewelry - Tara Argall and Karman Rheault with polished metal and bead jewelry
- Sharon Trieglaff Jons - beaded jewelry

OPEN TO ALL

Invite your daughters, sisters, mothers and girlfriends to enjoy a fun event at the house. Join us to discover unique jewelry, purses and other accessories.

\$5.00 entrance fee includes coffee and dessert



FINE ARTS CLUB OF FARGO
601 4th Street South
Fargo ND 58103

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Purpose & Historical Snapshot

Historical Snapshot

A look back at activities in 2003 for the following sections:

Art: Plains Art papermaking

Drama: Gail Chapman hosted the luncheon at the NDSU President's Home

Book: One of the books was "Price of Honor" by Jan Goodwin

Creative Living: Jean Berg discussed China

History: Grace Landin shared Native American artifacts from her collection

Sports: 16 people were registered to compete in the international bowling tournament



DECEMBER GENERAL MEETING

We are pleased to announce that Pizzaz from Fargo South High School will be the entertainment for the Fine Arts Club General Meeting on December 3rd at 1:00 pm at the Clubhouse. Art and Drama Sections are hosting the event. The house will be decorated for the holidays, and refreshments will be served. Please join us for a wonderful afternoon.

