YOUR naac BOARD:

All **naac** work is performed by volunteers—including the Board Members. All Board Members either chair a committee and/or work on another committee.

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ArtBEAT is partially funded by a grant from the Illinois Arts Council.

ADVERTISING IN ARTBEAT

OPTION A: 4" high x 3" wide ad -\$50 for **naac** Business Members \$100 for non-members

OPTION B: 2" high x 3" wide ad -\$25 for **naac** Business Members \$50 for non-members

Ad should be digital or camera ready. **naac** Member Businesses are entitled to one free OPTION A ad each year as part of their Member Benefits – SO JOIN TO-DAY! Visit www.naac4art.org for more details.



A Northwest Area Arts Council Publication

Spring Issue, 2009

April Art Train Ready to Roll

The second outing on the Art Train is almost here. On Saturday April 18th several area arts groups, galleries, schools, and centers will be cooperating to bring you works of art by

over 150 artists in the last three towns on the Metra Northwest Train Line.

This time, the events start in Crystal Lake in the morning at the Lakeside Legacy Arts Park, move to Woodstock in the afternoon and end in Harvard for the evening. A new lineup of artists, artwork and activities has been planned.



For this A-Train, riders

need only purchase their Metra Northwest \$5 Weekend Pass to participate, though a donation of \$10 will gain you discounts at many participating stores, galleries and restaurants in all three towns. There is no requirement for advanced purchase of your ticket, though if you will be starting the day by taking the train to downtown Crystal Lake, please let us know so we can arrange transportation from the train station to the Lakeside Legacy for you. (Contact info can be found on the back cover of ArtBEAT.)

Like the first A-Train, riders can join in at any time of the day. Some activities have definite times associated with them, and they are noted but riders are free to choose which events they'd like to see. A schedule of confirmed events is located on the next page, though events are still being added and a complete, up-to-date list will be available on the 18th at the locations listed on the schedule.

Art Train Schedule: -cont. on page 2-

Art Train Schedule for April 18th:

Arriving in Crystal Lake:

- Outbound #703 Train from Chicago arrives at 9:51am
- Inbound #710 Train arrives at Crystal Lake at 9:00am

Crystal Lake: Lakeside Legacy Arts Park (~9am-11:30)

- Freshly made coffee and pastries
- An exhibition by artists from the Oil Painters of America in celebration of Tom & Betty Schmidt's 50th wedding anniversary (see story on page 12).
- Tour of the historic and newly restored Dole Mansion
- Open House at the Creative Artistry Fine Arts School
- Open Studios by select Legacy Resident Artists

11:51am: Travel to Woodstock on the #705 Train

Woodstock:

- Lunch: Riders are responsible for their own lunch;
 Discounts at some restaurants will be available as part of the discount package.
- Women's Works 2009 exhibition, a reception and art sale at the Old Court House Arts Center
- Plenair painting on the square with members of the Northland Area Art League and other artists
- A ceramics sale by the Clayworkers' Guild of Illinois
- Open Studio at Trausch Fine Arts Studio
- Shopping at the stores in downtown Woodstock, many of which will be offering discounts

5:01pm: Travel to Harvard on the #713 Train

Harvard: Events at the Starline

- An art display by S!XX
- Select Open Studios by Resident Artists
- Reception and music starting at 7pm

Leaving Harvard: Riders can depart on the #724 Train (departs 7:35pm) or the #725 Train (departs 9:35pm)

Questions? Visit www.naac4art.org or email ATrain09@naac4art.org

Local Arts Organizations

Northland Area Art League: Spring Art Show

The 2009 Northland Area Art League's May Fine Art Show will take place May 5th through June 1st, 2009 in the Community Room located in the Historic Woodstock Opera House. The show will include oil, watercolor, pastel, photographic art and more.

There will be a Members Show Reception on Saturday May 9th from 12:00 p.m. until 3:00 p.m. with judging of the art to begin at 12:30p.m. This year's show promises to be another super show. Please call 815-337-2027 with any questions or email spirtart61@aol.com for additional info.



Take Care, -continued from page 13-

The petition hasn't caught the attention of the pundits so we don't know who is in the position of being considered for the Secretary of Arts. The art community is correct, if the petition grows legs, to dread the night the secretary appointee, he or she of art, finance and political experience, is caricatured in television satire.

President Obama ran, and won office promising positive change. As the still young United States of America has never had a cabinet level office of art and or culture, such a position would be a change, but the administration, one month old at this writing, is announcing changes weekly. It is unlikely a Secretary of the Arts is on the agenda, but perhaps an (under) secretary for one of the cabinet positions *is* and your signature to the petition will mean change for the common good.

Lynn Carlson is a former **naac** board member, Art appraiser and continuing contributor to ArtBEAT.

naac news

Women's Works 2009

The 22nd Annual Women's Works fine art exhibition is now on display at the Old Court House Arts Center, lo-



cated on the historic downtown Woodstock Square. This year, almost 400 works from across the country were submitted for consideration and over 120

chosen for display. Alongside Women's Works is the Little Women's Works show, highlighting the work of 60 talented local girls. Both exhibits will be on display until April 25th. The Little Women's Works artist reception will be held on Saturday April 18th, from 2-4pm as part of the second Art Train.

Cecil O Johnson Award

naac is taking applications for the Cecil O. Johnson performing arts award. This year, **naac** will award two \$250 scholarships to McHenry County residents to be used to further their pursuit of the performing arts. The award can be used for any educational expense related to the performing arts. The deadline for the award is July 1, 2009; The awards will be announced August 1, 2009. Awards are based on both the quality of the performing artist, but financial need is a consideration. For an application and guidelines, please visit www.naac4art.org or email john@naac4art.org. Applications should include a sample of the performing arts practices by the applicant.

Fiber & Textile Arts Award

The 2009 Fiber & Textile Arts Award is now accepting applicants as well. The FTAA is open to anyone who is currently enrolled in a fiber arts degree-seeking program at a college or university. Selection is based upon the quality of the artwork. The deadline for applying for the award is June 10, 2009. The winners will be announced at the 2009 Midwest Fiber & Folk Art Fair held on July 17-19, 2009. Two \$2000 awards will be made directly to the university program to help offset tuition and other educational costs. For more information and to download an application, visit www.fiberandfolk.com or www.naac4art.org, or email john@naac4art.org.

Letter from the Board:

We've heard from a number of you that you'd like to see **naac** add some additional member activities that are smaller and more personal. The board would also like to add more opportunities for our member artists to sell their artwork in these difficult economic times.

With this in mind, **naac** is planning two new activities. The first is a series of smaller themed shows (such as landscapes or still lives) that would involve half a dozen artists, 10-20 works of art and hang for a month at a time. The locations would be participating galleries, coffee houses, public buildings and libraries and so forth. We're looking for input from our members on themes and locations. We will be announcing some organizational meetings and you can email ideas to john@naac4art.org.

The second activity are regular member meetings with topics of discussion decided by the members. Our first meeting is scheduled for May 1st at 7pm (see page 15 for details) and will be held at Creative Artistry Fine Arts School on the grounds of the Lakeside Legacy Arts Park in Crystal Lake. The topic for the first meeting will be the evolving jurying and judging process, with this and past year's Women's Works as examples.

To help with these new efforts, we're in the process of expanding the board. We like to welcome two new members to the **naac** board in this issue of ArtBEAT: Patricia Lynn of Crystal Lake and Pete Lewis of McHenry. Pat is the owner of Patricia Lynn Designs, and is a maker of artisanal jewelry. Patricia brings to the board extensive knowledge of art sales and fairs, being a successful vendor at many local area events. We are hoping that Pat will help **naac** with its efforts in this area, to provide local artists with additional opportunities to sell their works. Pete is a tireless supporter of his wife Donna's artistic endeavors, as well as bringing a wealth of business knowledge to the board; we hope he will also assist **naac** with the new smaller shows.

Two additional board members will be joining the board in June (we'll tell you about them in the next issue) and we are still looking for two additional members.

As we welcome these new board members, we are also saying farewell and thank you to one of our current members: Sue Stelford, who has served two terms on the board for the last four years. Sue is leaving to pursue several writing projects she's put off while serving on **naac**'s board. We hope you'll join us in wishing Sue the best.

2009 Illinois Summer Art Fairs

Now is the time for artists to apply to the numerous 2009 art fairs. Illinois art fairs offer local artists a great way to connect directly with potential purchasers of their work. In a January 5th, 2009 press release for the latest Illinois Art Fair Directory, the Illinois Arts Council stated: "More than 3.4 million people attend art fairs in Illinois annually, building community and providing opportunity for nearly 20.000 artists."

Many **naac** member artists sell through art fairs each year and to help support them, **naac** has applied for funding from the McHenry County Community Grant to offer a series of breakfast seminars around sales training for artists. The three part series would cover creating attractive booth displays, conducting sales with potential buyers, and creating a memorable brand so that buyers will seek the artists out for additional sales. The proposed series would be offered in conjunction with the Midwest Fiber & Folk Art Fair during the third weekend of July. Recipients of the McHenry County Community Foundation grants will be notified in May, and if we are awarded funds, we will notify **naac**'s member artists.

Regardless of the results of the grant application, **naac** encourages artists to consider selling their work at art fairs. For those artists who have never entered an art fair, **naac** can put you in touch with other local area artists who have sold at fairs for many years. **naac** is also piloting an internship program for artists and students interested in learning how to sell at fairs, again in cooperation with the Midwest Fiber & Folk Art Fair. Artists will be paired with returning, successful vendors at this year's Fair in July at MCC, where they will help artists from setup to take-down. Additional talks beforehand by local vendors and fair organizers are being scheduled. Interested artists should email john@naac4art.org for more information or to sign up for the program.

Each year at this time, **naac** receives many invitations from fairs across the state and we are happy to print a summary of those we have received to date:

Palatine, IL: An Art Affair Around the Square. The Palatine Inverness Arts Council invites interested artists to apply for its annual juried fine art fair in downtown Palatine's Towne Square. The Fair will be held on September 12-13, 2009. Deadline: April 15, 2009. For an application, visit www.palatineinvernessarts.org.

Secretary of the Arts

By Lynn Carlson

You are no doubt aware of the petition online at www.petitiononline.com/esnyc/petition.html, asking President Obama to appoint a Secretary of the Arts. Many artists and supporters of the arts are speaking out in favor of the establishment of this position and believe its grassroots nature will catch the president's eye. That President Obama has inspired thousands to believe they can bring about such a change, and that it is for the arts, has this writer's attention.

My inbox holds messages, saying "We in the arts need this." and "(It) is a truly great idea!" Some posts to the petition site say 'now is not the time for such an addition to the federal budget' and 'do you really think that a *politician* is going to endow *art*?'

The President's cabinet includes the Vice President, the Attorney General and the heads of departments that guide the president and therefore the country in guarding and nurturing our resources. Is the petition driven by the perception that the executive departments are occupied by under-appreciators of the arts? Even the new Obama administration? Can we give the President and his cabinet the benefit of the doubt on this and offer room for compromise? Is everyone aware of the fact that the Secretary for Science works under the Department of Energy? Perhaps an under secretary for the arts below the Secretary of Education *is* under consideration. The Secretary of Education will, after all, oversee a \$5 billion grant program designed to "encourage innovation".

The Secretary of the Arts petition is curiously succinct. Do you worry it will be disrespected because of its lack of detail? Isn't a call for additional art a cry for more and diverse information, curiosity, thoughtfulness, creativity, observation, history, order, inclusion, sensitivity and high level problem solving? Could these attributes, vital to our future, be lost as the call for the position is discussed? Won't we see a senator on the nightly news diminishing the value of the arts as he or she blasts the new position as an earmark that won't benefit the common good?

- Continued on page 15 -

LYNN CARLSON ART APPRAISER

POST OFFICE BOX 61 CRYSTAL LAKE, IL 60039-0061 PHONE 815-459-9151 E-MAIL lcarlson@workmail.com

April marks the 50th wedding anniversary for local Crystal Lake residents and artists Tom and Betty Schmidt. Both are active members of several art groups, including **naac** and the Northland Area Art League, while Betty has also served as the President of the Oil Painters of America, a national organization with over 3000 members dedicated to the preservation of representational art.



Works by Betty Schmidt

Headquartered in Crystal Lake since just after its founding, the organization encourages an appreciation of fine drawing, color, composition and light.

The Schmidts have decided to celebrate their anniversary by creating an exhibition of works by fellow Oil Painters of America artists. The exhibit will include artists from the Chicago metropolitan area including current and past OPA board

members. The exhibit also includes works by local artists Bill Schneider of Lakewood, Tom Trausch of Woodstock, Suzanne Poursine of Hampshire and, of course, works by Betty herself and photographs by Tom.

The exhibit will be on display from April 1st through April 21st, 2009 in the Sage Gallery of the Lakeside Legacy Arts Park in Crystal Lake. A reception open to the public will be held on Friday April 3rd from 5-7pm. In addition, the Schmidts have graciously invited the Art Train arts tour to begin with a morning viewing of the Sage Gallery exhibition on April 18th. We hope you will help celebrate the Schmidt's golden anniversary by stopping by to view this fantastic exhibition.

The Lakeside Legacy Arts Park is located at 401 Country Club Road in Crystal Lake; for directions or to learn more, please visit www.lakesidelegacy.org or call 814 455 8000. The Sage Gallery is open to the public from 10am-6pm every day. To learn more about Betty Schmidt and view more of her work, please www.bettyschmidt.com. To learn more about the Oil Painters ofAmerica, please visitwww.oilpaintersofamerica.com.

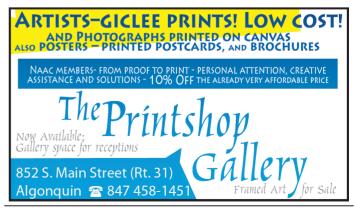
Libertyville, IL: 29th Annual Festival of the Arts. The David Adler Music and Arts Center invites interested artists to apply for the 2009 fair to be held August 1-2 2009 in historic downtown Libertyville, IL. For more information, visit www.adlercenter.org or call 847 367 0707.

Skokie IL: Skokie Art Guild's 48th Annual Art Fair. The Skokie Art Guild invites interested artists to apply for the 2009 art fair to be held July 11-12 2009 on the Village Green in downtown Skokie. For more information, call 847 677 8163 or email skokieart@aol.com.

Champaign, IL: 6th Annual Downtown Festival of the Arts. The Champaign Park District invites interested artists to apply for its 2009 art fair to be held August 15th. Deadline: April 24 2009. For an application, visit www.champaignparkdistrict.com, call 217 398 2550, or email Katie.flint@cparkdistrict.com.

Decatur, IL: 47th Annual Arts in Central Park Art Fair. The Decatur Area Arts Council invites you to apply to their 2009 art fair to be held Sept 19-20, 2009. All media welcome. Application Deadline: May 1, 2009. For more information on applying, call 217 423 3189 or visit www.decaturarts.org.

For additional information on this summer's art fairs you can request a copy of the Illinois' Arts Council's 2009 Art Fair directory by calling 800 237 6994, emailing iac.info@Illinois.gov, or writing the IAC at their downtown Chicago office, located at 100 W Randolph St., Suite 10-500, Chicago, IL 60601. An web version of the art fair directory is also maintained by the Chicago Artists' Coalition, at www.CACOnLine.org/IllinoisArtFairs. Whether you are considering vending, buying or simply looking at a great collection of art and artists, we encourage you to get out and see some of this summer's fairs.



The Barrington Roundup

Public Art in Barrington

There'll be horses of a different color on the streets of Barrington this summer. To celebrate its 50th anniversary, the Barrington Area United Way will launch the Barrington Roundup, a public art exhibition of hand-painted fi-



berglass horses that will be displayed throughout the Barrington area from June through September. Local businesses, agencies and individuals will sponsor the horses, which will be painted by volunteer artists.

The horses will range in size from a nine-foot-high rearing steed to a four-foot-high colt. Artists can participate in the event by completing an Artist Application and submitting their design. Local businesses and organizations who sponsor horses can choose among the submitted designs. The horses will then be displayed throughout the Barrington area for the entire summer, from early June to mid-September. A plaque will accompany each horse on display, listing the name of the horse, the name & studio of the artist, and the name of the sponsor.

The horses will be unveiled on Thursday, June 4 and will be on display until September 19, when they will be auctioned at a fundraising event that will benefit BAUW, its agencies and recipients. Members of the community will also be able to vote for their favorite horses throughout July, when there will be a midsummer event for the Roundup.

"The exhibit will be a great focal point, not just for downtown Barrington but for the whole Barrington area," says Barrington Village President Karen Darch. "The horses should remind residents and visitors of both Barrington's agricultural roots and its modern-day community spirit."

The Barrington Roundup committee is actively seeking talented and creative artists from the northwest suburban area. If you're an artist, amateur or professional, we want you to be part of this great event. Help us turn these horses into something everyone will remember. For more information on how to participate in The Barrington Roundup, contact the Barrington Area United Way at 847 382 8778 or visit its Web site at www.BarringtonUW.org.

Local Arts Resources

Positive Strokes Art School & Gallery

PosStroke@sbcglobal.net 8

847 705 7130

395 W Northwest Highway, Palatine, IL 60067

Located off of busy Northwest Highway in the heart of Palatine is an unassuming building with a side entrance that leads to a popular and dynamic haven for artists of all ages. Owned and operby local artist ated Marlene Wood. school offers classes and workshops to students of all ages and skill levels. And the skill levels of



Positive Strokes artists is impressive: this year, works by four artists who are part of the Positive Strokes' family were accepted into **naac**'s Women's Works show. And the artistry runs in the family: Chelsea Wood, Marlene's daughter, is not only an artist herself, but has shown her work in past Women's Works exhibits, as well as winning the show's First Prize for one of her entries.

Positive Strokes also displays work by local artists on a rotating schedule of a month at a time. The current show is called 'Cascading Colors' featuring the works of award – winning watercolorist Richard Helland and his students. An artists' reception will be held on Friday, April 3rd from 6:30-9:30pm.

The heart of the school is, of course, the classes and workshops offered. The classes offered include water-color, acrylics, drawing, oil and even ceramics and wheel throwing. The courses are for beginners as well as experts, and are offered as structured classes or a simple, 'open studios' approach. The school is even available for art parties of all kinds. Finally, there is even a planned Artist Retreat in San Carolos, Mexico overlooking the Sea of Cortez from April 15-24, 2009.

To learn more about Positive Strokes, it's gallery exhibits, courses and workshops, visit the website listed above or consider stopping by—Marlene Wood is there most days along with several artists and she is always happy to take time to talk and show guests around the school.

ArtBEAT Calendar

Art Teachers Wanted:

Creative Artistry Fine Arts School located at in Crystal Lake is looking for artists interested in teaching adult daytime classes. We are particularly interested in artists who can teach advanced jewelry making or cartooning. If interested, please contact Amber Larson via email at artart13@hotmail.com or calling 815 444 1233.

Conferences:

One State: Together in the Arts! June 1-2, 2009 in Peoria, IL. Connect with colleagues and learn from other Illinois based art groups. For more info call 312 855 3105 x15 or visit www.artsalliance.org/conference.

For more information on art events:

Chicago Gallery News (both an online and thrice yearly print publication listing galleries mostly in Chicago but includes surrounding regions). Visit www.chicagogallerynews.com

Illinois Arts Fair Directory (a collaboration of the Illinois Arts Council and Chicago Artists' Coalition). Visit: www.CACOnLine.org/IllinoisArtFairs.

McHenry County Festival and Events Listing (part of the McHenry County Convention and Visitor's Bureau). Visit: www.VisitMcHenryCounty.com

Chicago Artists' Coalition website for listings of art openings, events, lectures and Calls for Artists for upcoming shows. Visit: www.CACOnline.org

CALENDAR LISTINGS

Do you have art events/related dates you would like to have listed in the ArtBEAT's calendar? For a free listing, please send your information in the following format:

No more than 60 words-

- Date(s)
- event details
- time
- location
- contact information

Send your comments, questions or listings to: art-beat@naac4art.org

ArtBEAT Calendar

Call for Artists: Local Galleries & Shows

Lakeside Legacy Galleries: The Lakeside Legacy Arts Park is looking for artists interested in exhibiting in both the new Charles Dole Gallery as well as the Sage Gallery. Located at 401 Country Club Rd in Crystal Lake, IL. Call 815 455 8080 for more information.

5th Annual International Juried Photography Competition: The Northwest Cultural Council invites interested artists to apply to the 2009 exhibition to be held June 4—July 31 2009. Deadline: April 27, 2009. For more information, call 847 991 7966, email nwcc@northwestculturalcouncil.org or visit www.northwestculturalcouncil.org

3rd Annual Fine Fiber & Folk Art Show by the northwest area arts council. A juried exhibit of fiber-related and folk art, held in conjunction with the Midwest Fiber & Folk Art Fair. The exhibit will run July 5th—Aug 15, 2009 at McHenry County College. Deadline is June 1st, 2009. Applications will be taken online through www.callforentry.org. For more information, visit www.naac4art.org.

Postcard Art: A juried show of postcard-sized artwork. The Curt Teich Postcard Archives and the Lake County Discovery Museum invite interested artists to apply. All artwork must by 4" by 6" in size. The show will open in October 2009 at the Lake County Discovery Museum in Wauconda, IL; the winning artwork will travel throughout 2009-2010 to various galleries and cultural institutions. Deadline for entry July 13, 2009. For more information, email pace@lcfpd.org or call 847 968 3381.

Call for Artists: National Shows

Revealing Culture: An International Juried Exhibition by Artists with Disabilities, sponsored by VSA arts. The international festival will be held at the International Gallery of the Smithsonian Institution from June through September 2010. Deadline: April 30, 2009. For more information, visit www.vsarts.org/revealingculture or call 202 628 2800 ext 3885 or by email at JCWexler@vsarts.org. Application can also be completed online at CAFÉ, at www.callforentry.org.

12 X 12 X 122 Summer Show, at the BECA Gallery in New Orleans, LA. A non-juried, experimental group exhibit. The first 122 artists to enter the show will be accepted. All works must be on unframed canvas, 12" X 12" in size. Exhibit dates: June 6 —July 18, 2009. For more information, visit www.becagallery.com.

ArtBEAT Calendar

Exhibits:

Now thru April 5: "Stitches, Symbols and Stories", Fiber work by Bronwyn Elkuss at the Chicago Cultural Center's Renaissance Court Gallery located at 77 E Randolph St, Chicago, IL. For more information and times, visit www.chicagoculturalcenter.org

Now thru April 20: The photography of Andrew Rousey and Encaustic Paintings by Maeve Erickson are on display in the Lobby Gallery of the Raue Center for the Arts located at 26 N William St in Crystal Lake, IL. For info, call 815 356 9212 or visit www.rauecenter.org.

Now thru April 26: "22nd Annual Women's Works Exhibit", a fine art exhibit celebrating women's creativity. Also showing: "Little Women's Works", an exhibit of art by local area girls aged 6-17. At the Old Court House Arts Center in Woodstock, IL. Gallery hours Th-Sat 11am-5pm; Sun 1-5pm. For more info, visit www.naac4art.org.

Now thru May 24: "Lost and Found" the art of making art after an extended interlude. David L. Pierce Center, 20 E Downer Place, Aurora, IL. Wed-Sun 12-4pm. For info, call 630 906 0654 or visit www.aurora-il.org.

Now thru May 25: "Aurora and the Grand Army of the Republic in the age of Lincoln." An exhibition of artifacts that document Lincoln's enormous influence on the lives of Aurora residents. David L. Pierce Center, 20 E Downer Place, Aurora, IL. Wed-Sun 12-4pm. For more info, call 630 906 0654 or visit www.aurora-il.org.

Now thru May 30: "(Inter)Action", an exhibition of artwork with an emphasis on action and participation. At the Orleans Street Gallery, located at 4051 E Main St, St. Charles, IL. Hours: Th 12-7pm, Fri & Sat: 12-8pm, Sun: 11-4pm. For info, call 630 524 5048 or visit www.orleansstreetgallery.com.

Now thru August 28: "Art at City Hall's Annual City of Aurora Employee Exhibit". David L. Pierce Center, 20 E Downer Place, Aurora, IL. Wed-Sun 12-4pm. For info, call 630 906 0654 or visit www.aurora-il.org.

April 3– June 31: The art of Jurgita Mekyte and Rainey Kellogg, will be on display at Caffe Luna located at 6232 Northwest Highway in Crystal Lake. Artists' reception April 18 1:30-3pm. Hours: Mon-Fri 6am-6pm, Sat 6am-5pm & Sun 7am-2pm. For info call 815 459 9151

April 21—May 29: "The Art of Jurgita Mekyte" at The Garlands Gallery, located at The Garlands at 1000 Garlands Lane in Barrington, IL. Hours for the gallery are 9am-4pm each day. Reception for the artist will be held on Friday May 1st from 5-6:30pm.

ArtBEAT Calendar

Exhibits, continued:

May 5—June 1: Northland Area Art League's annual Fine Art Show in the community room of the Woodstock Opera House in Woodstock, IL. A Reception will be on Sat May 9 from 12-3pm. For info, call 815 337 2027 or email spiritart62@aol.com.

May 17th: "Rural Images" by Lou Taylor featuring original watercolors depicting country scenes from in and around McHenry County. At the McHenry County Historical Society Museum located at 6422 Main St., Union, IL. Sunday, May 17, 1-4pm. For more information, call 815 923 2267 or visit www.mchsonline.org.

Workshops:

Donna Jill Witty Watercolor Workshop: Friday—Sunday (9am—4pm each day), May 1-3, 2009. At the Old Court House Arts Center in Woodstock, IL. The cost (which includes lunch each day) is \$185. For more information or to register, call 815 338 4525.

Ongoing Events:

Do It In Public an ever-changing group of artists, fiber artisans, poets and others who meet at 7pm on the 2nd & 4th Thur and 3rd Wed of each month to create ART in public and to have fun. To find out where the group will be meeting next, visit www.fiberandfolk.com.

Life Drawing at the Old Court House Arts Center, every Wednesday evening from 6:30—9:30pm, both clothed and nude live models. Sponsored by the Old Court House Figurative League. Non members welcome.

First Fridays at the Lakeside Legacy Arts Park. 401 Country Club Road in Crystal Lake. Showcasing the artwork of resident artists. Held on the First Friday of every month from 6:30-9:30 pm. For more information, call 815 455 8000 or visit www.LakesideLegacy.org.

Studio Space Available:

Old Court House Arts Center in downtown Woodstock has a single studio available for rent upstairs on the third floor. If interested, contact Beverly Ganschow at 815 338 4525 or email oldcourthouse@msn.com.

Lakeside Legacy Arts Park at 401 Country Club Road in Crystal Lake has a variety of studios of different sizes available. If interested, call 815 455 8000 or visit www.LakesideLegacy.org.