President’s Message

Hello All,

It’s November and fall is wrapping up. There’s lots to look forward to with Thanksgiving and then the Christmas and Hanukkah holidays. We are so fortunate to live here in upstate New York and can enjoy the changing seasons. What a gorgeous fall it has been!

Fine Craft Show 2013 was last weekend, and it was a delightful show. The Preview Party was well attended; many Gallery Council members came to show support of this Council fund raiser, and, oh yes, to acquire gifts for themselves and others. There were many new artists this year. It seems the quality of the art work keeps going up. Thanks to Mary Clare Hamlin and her expert committee for all the work they did to make this FCS the best ever!!

I recommend a book I recently read called I Don’t Know: In Praise of Admitting Ignorance, by Leah Hager Cohen. The book was reviewed on NPR, and the topic was of interest to me. I don’t like saying “I don’t know.” Never have. Especially with my experience as President of the Gallery Council, I should always know, right? However, as life would have it, I find myself saying “I don’t know” rather often. Someone always has the unanswerable question. “Why don’t we have more vendors at the FCS?” “How much money do we have in the budget for flowers?” ($400, Carol). Just a couple of questions that have stymied me lately. In reading Ms. Cohen’s book, I found reasons that not knowing can be a good thing. She believes that not knowing opens us up to be more receptive of the world. It allows us a greater connectivity with others and a greater depth of self-knowledge, as well as being able to hear others and to learn from their questions. So now when I say “I don’t know,” I feel almost a sense of relief - as though I am absolved of any responsibility for knowing. Try it, see how the simple words “I don’t know” make you feel! Even though I may not know, I’ll try to find out.

Speaking of information that you would like to know, here is an estimate of the revenues for the 2013 Art and Treasures Sale and the 2013 Clothesline Festival. Art and Treasurers did well this year, especially with the new way of displaying the items for sale as well as expediting the checkout process. The total revenue of the show was a little over $38,000, which is almost as much as last year. Well done, Pamela Miller Ness and Linda Butwid, co-chairs of the organizing committee, and to all of you who volunteered! Clothesline Festival was a success for the Gallery Council this year. The organizing committee headed up by Judie VanBramer, Michael and Mary Lisa Sisson implemented some changes, the weather cooperated and the GC made approximately $18,000 – up significantly from the $10,000 from the year before. Congrats to all of you hard working volunteers!!

October 22, 2013, Sharon McNamee, our “new” Gallery Council Assistant reached her first anniversary of employment at the Memorial Art Gallery. In that short amount of time, it seems she has made an impact on all we do. She has developed new systems, binders, and lists for us all to follow. Every time I enter the office, she has a new plan devised to make life in the GC run more smoothly. For those of you who have had the pleasure of working with her, I’m sure you will agree: life has improved with Sharon. Next time you see her, congratulate her on her first year of work with us. She seems like Mary Poppins to me: she comes in and improves all she sees, but, unlike Mary Poppins, I hope Sharon will be with us for a long time – even after she has made the Gallery Council run perfectly!!

I’m looking forward to the holidays and all that takes place around the MAG. Do get to the Memory Theater exhibit. The Gallery Council sponsored it in part, and Marie Via and her staff have put together a wonderful exhibit. Truly a delight.

Happy Thanksgiving to all.

Mary Sue

One of the many benefits of membership in the Gallery Council is the availability of unique and stimulating programs. You must, however, sign up for these. And don’t forget our fun projects and trips! These allow us to support the Memorial Art Gallery in creative and fun ways. Check out the opportunities for involvement noted in this newsletter.
Looking Ahead:  
2013-2014 PROGRAM SCHEDULE

11:30 am Wassail Bowl, noon lunch

Thursday, February 6, 2014: “Clyde Morgan, Renaissance Man,” dancer, musician, painter and professor.  
3:30 pm coffee, 4:00 pm program

Tuesday, March 11, 2014: “Hands Across the Avenue” - Tri Council meeting at RMSC.  
10:00 am coffee, 10:30 am program, noon lunch

Wednesday, April 9, 2014: “Matisse as Print Maker”, Marlene Hamann-Whitmore, 10:30 am coffee, 11:00 am business meeting and program

2:00 pm followed by refreshments

10:30 am coffee, 11:00 am business meeting and program, 12:15 pm lunch

Holiday Lunch & Program

Talking with My Mouth Full - A Conversation with a Local Chocolatier
featuring Nathaniel Mich, Head Chocolatier at Hedonist Artisan Chocolates.

The program will include a chocolate tasting and chocolates will be available for purchase.

We are excited to announce these details:
Thursday, December 12 at Locust Hill Country Club
Arrive at 11:30 for wassail bowl
Lunch served at noon
$25 per person (guests welcome)

See page 7 for sign-up information

Take Part – Support Art!
The Gallery Council: Connect, Support, Celebrate MAG
WANTED: NEW MEMBERS

MAG members interested in unique art education, travel opportunities, special fundraising projects, and social events should consider applying for membership in the Gallery Council. All MAG members are eligible to apply. Our hugely successful Art & Treasures Sale, Fine Craft Show, and Clothesline Exhibit are all projects of the Gallery Council. Other Gallery Council endeavors are underwriting for MAG Exhibits, scholarships to the Creative Workshop, funding for the MAG newsletter, the ARTiculate, purchasing art for the MAG, and supporting the docent program. New projects, now in the planning stages, promise to be equally exciting!

Programs throughout the year open with coffee hour and the opportunity to meet other Gallery Council members, followed by interesting and informative programs and lectures. Participation in the Gallery Council’s many social and volunteer events are fun, inspirational, and provide the satisfaction of knowing that you have helped in the growth and promotion of the MAG and art in our community.

For an application form call the Gallery Council office at 585-276-8910 or email gallerycouncil@mag.rochester.edu or contact the Membership Co-Chairs below:

Joanna Grosodonia or Pat Rahn
244-4594 or mgrosod1@rochester.rr.com or 285-0632 or wrahn@rochester.rr.com

Docent News

The docents will meet November 5th and November 19th. On November 5th half the docent group attending the meeting had an outside tour of the Centennial Sculpture Park. The other half broke up into four groups and toured the Gallery’s Storage areas. Gallery curators escorted the docents into painting storage, print storage, sculpture storage and temporary storage.

On November 19th, there will be a similar program. At that time, docents who toured outdoors on the 5th will tour the storage areas. The docents who toured storage areas on the 5th will tour the Centennial Sculpture Park.

NOMINATING COMMITTEE IS SEEKING COUNCIL LEADERS

Did you ever wonder how the Gallery Council is governed or how a member becomes an officer? The Nominating Committee will swing into action in January to begin looking for candidates to fill vacancies on the board. The approved slate is voted on by the full membership at the annual meeting in May. Each board member serves a two-year term and can be re-elected for a second consecutive two-year term.

The nominating process is straightforward but the job of finding Council leaders is not. This is not the time to be bashful….if you are interested in leadership positions, or if you would like to help govern the Council, then the Nominating Committee needs to hear from you. We want to build a pool of future leaders for the Council Board, subcommittees and projects. We are open to assigning mentors to help new officers learn their jobs and/or nominate co-chairs so the work can be shared. You do not have to be a long time Council member to be considered. New members bring new ideas and experience that can help the Council grow.

Board positions to be filled this year are: President, First Vice-President, Recording Secretary, Administrative Treasurer, Membership Chairs, Program Committee Chairs, Communications Chair. To learn more about these positions or Council leadership in general, please contact Pam Foye, Nominating Chair, at 381-4235 or pfoye@gmail.com.
ART TOURS

We Are Going Back to Cuba! Join Us for The Fun of It! Just a Few Spots Left!

January 5 -13, 2014: Come join the Gallery Council Art Tours committee as we once again explore Cuba's varied landscapes in urban Havana, rural Vinales and historic Trinidad. Travel legally to Cuba via the MAG's People to People license. We'll spend time with local photographers and painters creating our own art as well as have discussions with local artists and those connected to the Cuban art world, tour local sites, visit artist studios and their private homes, and shop in local markets. For information, go to http://mag.rochester.edu/gallerycouncilarea/2013/07/17/art-tour-cuba/ or contact Michelle Turner, mt1@rochester.rr.com or (585) 352-3046.

Save the Date: March 4 - 5, 2014
ARTiculture at the Philadelphia Flower Show

Join us to find out how the Philadelphia Flower Show interprets this year's theme of ARTiculture. The trip includes transportation by comfortable coach; a ticket to the flower show to enjoy at your own pace until it closes at 9pm; downtown hotel three blocks from the flower show; museum entrance, snacks enroute and a box dinner.

Save the Date: April 9 - 12, 2014
Arts in America’s Heartland!

Travel with us to Kansas City and Bentonville, Arkansas to celebrate the genius of American art, architecture and landscape. Highlights include the magnificent Crystal Bridges Museum of Art, the venerated Nelson-Atkins Museum of art, and the Kansas City Sculpture Park. The trip includes round-trip flight on United Airlines, 3 night stay at 2 wonderful hotels and docent guided tours at all museums. Please join us for a very special tour! The registration form is located on page 8.

Save the Date: May 6 to 8th 2014
Off to NYC - Let’s Go for the RPO

Joining music and art, Gallery Council Art Tours has planned both for you in New York. In addition to a ticket to Carnegie Hall for the RPO performance, the trip includes a two night stay at the centrally located Hotel Warwick, two breakfasts and two dinners, and four museum entrances to the (MOMA, the Whitney, the Frick and the Museum of Art and Design. Watch for the registration flyer, coming very soon!
Spruce up your house for the holidays!

Donate to the 2014 Gallery Council Art & Treasures Sale (June 10 - 12, 2014)

Preparing for the holidays is a great time to remove clutter. The 2014 Art & Treasures Sale is ready to help. We're taking donations for the sale now for safe storage in our new year-round climate-controlled storage unit. To donate your gently used artwork, pottery, silver, antiques, jewelry, furniture, etc., please contact Mary Lisa Sisson at (585) 482-9144 or mssisson@howeandruslng.com

After the holidays is a good time to remove clutter too! Recycle and help the Art & Treasures Sale: Instead of throwing out tissue paper and holiday gift boxes and bags, please save them for the Art & Treasures Committee to use for wrapping the items people buy at the sale.

We need your help! To volunteer and work with a great group of people, please contact Diane Parrinello at (585) 271-7248 or dianeparrinello@frontiernet.net

The Historian/Archive Committee is looking for someone who has library and/or archival experience to assist in the effort to establish procedures for improving the archival process. Please contact Helena Spring, hspring@rochester.rr.com or Rose Swiskey, rswiskey@aol.com.

Holiday Decorating at the Gallery
Monday, December 2nd
at 9:30 a.m.

Your help is needed to decorate the Gallery for the holidays. Any time you can volunteer will be appreciated. It's a fun and very rewarding experience. If you can give us a hand, please contact Carol Spagnola at ospags@rochester.rr.com or call 723-1575.

Thank you to all of you volunteers, members of the Gallery Council. Hoping that your holidays are enjoyable and restful, you deserve both!

You are the BEST!
If you have news of a Gallery Council members, please contact Carmen Signorino at carmensignorino@yahoo.com
Submit newsletter items or comments about the News to Barbara O’Hare at bohare5281@aol.com

GALLERY COUNCIL 2013-14 BOARD OF DIRECTORS AND COMMITTEE CHAIRS
Pictured (left to right): Peg McNamara, Art Tours Co-chair; Joanna Grosodonia, Membership Co-chair; Pamela Miller Ness, Recording Secretary; Pam Foye, Nominating Chair; Carol Spagnola, Hospitality Co-chair; Freddie Amstey, Administrative Treasurer; Pat Rahn, Membership Co-chair; Mary Sue Jack, President; Bev Pickering, Co-Treasurer, Projects; Marilyn Merrigan, Program Co-chair; Lois Sumberg, 1st Vice President; Rose Swiskey, co-Historian; Nancy Curnutt, Program Co-chair; Helena Spring, co-Historian; Natalie Ciccone, Docent Liaison; Barbara O’Hare, Communications Chair.
Not pictured: Alyson Grossman, Hospitality Co-chair; Rody Krugh, 2nd Vice President; Carmen Signorino, Corresponding Secretary; Michelle Turner, Art Tours Co-chair; Bonnie Voll, Co-Treasurer, Projects.

PASSAGES
Members of the Gallery Council extend sincere sympathy to the family and friends of
Grace J. Hall
mother of Frankie Hall Greene
Anne Shannon
Mother of Kathy Schwingel

- picture courtesy Shirley Wersinger

Gallery Council contact:
Sharon McNamee, Gallery Council Assistant, (585)276-8910 or gallerycouncil@mag.rochester.edu
Office hours are Tuesday, Wednesday & Friday, 8:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.; Thursday, 1:30 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. Monday is reserved for undisturbed office work. Please do not visit the office on Monday
Gallery Council Holiday Luncheon
Thursday, December 12, 2013
Wassail Bowl 11:30 a.m. followed by Lunch and Program
Locust Hill Country Club, 2000 Jefferson Road, Pittsford, New York

Program: “Talking With My Mouth Full”
A Conversation in Cultivating a Taste for Fine Chocolate with Nathaniel Mich, Hedonist Chocolates Chocolatier

Menu:

Chicken Marsala with Mushrooms, Chef’s Wild Rice Blend, Vegetable Medley
(OR)
Vegetable Wellington, Roasted Vegetables enclosed in Puff Pastry, Roasted Red Pepper Sauce, Chef’s Wild Rice Blend, Vegetable Medley

Dessert: Warm Blueberry Crisp with Vanilla Ice Cream

Cost $25

Gallery Council Holiday Luncheon
Reservations & payment for the luncheon must be received by Sharon McNamee no later than Friday, December 6

Name ___________________________________________ Guest(s) ___________________________________________
Number Attending _______ @ $25 per person Amount of Check (Payable to Gallery Council/MAG)
Meal Choice: _________Chicken Marsala _________Vegetable Wellington _________Gluten Free/Lactose Free

BELOW: CREDIT CARD USE ONLY

Please charge my Visa/ MC/ Discover Card (circle one) Amount Charged ________________________________
Credit Card # ________________________________ Security Code (last 3 digits on back of card): __________
Expiration Date ________________________________ Cardholder’s Name _______________________________
Credit Card billing address with zip _________________________________________________________________
Signature ______________________________________ Date ________________________________

Contact Sharon McNamee
gallerycouncil@mag.rochester.edu
585.276.8910

Memorial Art Gallery
500 University Avenue
Rochester, New York 1460
THE ARTS IN AMERICA’S HEARTLAND: CRYSTAL BRIDGES MUSEUM AND KANSAS CITY

A Special Four Day Three Night Tour April 9-12, 2014

Travel with us to Kansas City and Bentonville, Arkansas, to celebrate the genius of American art, architecture, and landscape design. Highlights include the Moshe Safdie-designed Crystal Bridges Museum of American Art and the venerated Nelson-Atkins Museum of Art with its magnificent wing designed by Stephen Holl. Planned for the comfortable temperatures and gorgeous gardens of early spring, this trip promises to be exceptional. Included in our visit will be:

• Round trip United Airlines flight to and from Kansas City;
• Docent tours of the spectacular galleries at Crystal Bridges Museum of American Art, including the architecture and gorgeous landscaped grounds;
• A special dining experience at Eleven restaurant overlooking the beautiful landscape of Crystal Bridges;
• The Nelson-Atkins Museum of Art with its extensive collection of American masterpieces including over 300 paintings and significant watercolors;
• The magnificent Kansas City Sculpture Park, which includes a large collection of monumental bronze works by Henry Moore;
• The Kemper Museum of Contemporary Art, whose strong permanent collection of modern as well as contemporary art is enhanced by excellently curated visiting exhibits.

Accommodations in Kansas City will be at the historic Raphael Hotel, located in the city center. In Bentonville, Arkansas, the 21C Museum Hotel is a boutique hotel with its own contemporary art museum within walking distance of Crystal Bridges Museum of Art.

The cost of the trip is $1,495.00 for Gallery members and $1,645.00 for non-members. This price includes airfare, museum entrances and tours, ground transportation, 3 nights of double occupancy accommodations, all breakfasts, 3 dinners, 2 lunches, and all taxes and gratuities. For single occupancy add $302.00. A portion of the cost is a tax deductible charitable contribution to the Gallery Council of the MAG based on fair market value of the benefits to the donor: $100 per person. There will be a great deal of walking on hard surfaces and some on uneven ground.

Make checks payable to the Gallery Council of the MAG and mail with the form below to:
Gallery Council, Memorial Art Gallery, 500 University Avenue, Rochester, NY 14607-1415.

For credit card payment, please call Sharon McNamee at 585-276-8910.

Reservation deadline is January 10, 2014. A deposit of $500 is required at the time of reservation, and final payment is due on January 24, 2014. Reservations are accepted by earliest payment received. For this tour the minimum number of travelers is 15, the maximum number 25. Cancellations must be received in writing by January 24, 2014 for a full refund. After that date refunds cannot be made as the airline tickets are not transferable.

Tour Leaders: Andie Adams 425-2625 and Susan Rice 461-9537

Please reserve space for the Arts in America’s Heartland Tour on April 9-12, 2014

Name(s) ____________________________

Phone ____________________________ Cell ____________________________ Email ____________________________

Address, City and Zip ____________________________

Amount enclosed ____________________________ Are you a MAG member? yes ________ no ________

I am planning to share a room with ____________________________