President’s Message
February 2011

This month my message will focus on volunteering. As you know from being members of the Gallery Council, the only way we can do our job, making money for the MAG, is to all work together and participate in the fundraisers. That is, we all need to volunteer some of our time to accomplish great things at the MAG. Many of you do volunteer. You sign up to help out for one or two of our fundraisers and we are most thankful for that. We couldn’t do it without you!!

As I have been culling the membership list, getting it ready for publication in the near future, I see that there are a good many active members whom I don’t know and haven’t met at any of our recent fund raising events. Where are you?? Please step up to the plate and come help us out. We so welcome any and all of you – even if for one shift at the Art & Treasurers Sale in June, or our newest fundraiser, Fanciful Fibers on May 12 & 13.

One area that seems to be the most difficult to find volunteers is for leadership roles for many of our events. For example, each event needs someone to guide every aspect such as hospitality, public relations, etc. This person is responsible for achieving the goals of that piece of the event, working with a committee of members. The time commitment may have something to do with the difficulty in filling these positions; plus some members don’t necessarily see themselves as ‘leaders’ so don’t want to flub.

However, I have found as I have taken on some leadership roles for the Council, that all people who are working on a particular event are extremely helpful. I have never felt out on a limb without a helpful hand reaching out. I have been blessed with excellent mentors in my time as a member of the Gallery Council. It makes me wonder - if we had a formal leader mentorship program would members be more willing to take on a leadership position…first with a mentor, and then on their own? It is something I have been thinking about and would be happy to entertain your reactions to this idea. And if any of you would like a mentor in a leadership role, I’ll gladly arrange that.

Soon the ‘call for volunteers’ for Fanciful Fibers and Art & Treasurers will be appearing. I hope to see many of you eagerly volunteering and helping out with these two big fundraisers of the Gallery Council. Meanwhile, stay warm and healthy!!

Mary Sue Jack
Gallery Council President