



2015

It has certainly been a full year for the WVAA. This newsletter will be a recap of our year.

We have had 7 exhibits this year. Two have been member shows. One was a one-man show of a member. One show was from a neighboring art group. One highlighted photography and one highlighted art other than canvas. And then there was the Regional Competition. This is the first one in over 30 years and was well received. This will become an annual event and we hope to make it even better. We also had a member show at Union City's Art Depot. It was a great exhibit and three paintings were sold through this event.

The Barn Quilt Tour and Quilt Show was well received. The tour itself was very interesting. If you haven't been on the tour, put that on your list of things to do. It's worth it!

The Traveling Show was a huge success with 8 paintings being sold from it. We have even been asked to set up in some new places.

There have been 11 Artzzy Parties bringing in over \$3500. WVAA General Account funded the beginning of the Artzzy Parties with Start Up Funds of \$1500. Artzzy Party has now paid those Start Up Funds back to the WVAA General Funds. All monies now raised are profit. Yay!!! AP has purchased 36 easels along with other painting supplies. These easels have served dual purposes for use by WVAA in exhibits and in the Art Auction last year. AP also recently purchased a PA System to be used in larger parties. It has also been used at the First Wednesday documentaries along with the computer and has made a world of difference in the sound. We co-sponsored 2 free children's parties with the Fayette County Library in which over 30 children participated. We hope to continue this outreach program and do at least two parties at the library per year. There was also an outreach party at Miller's Merry Manor which prompted a party for the residents. Four of these parties were fundraisers for Rushville's Victims Assistance. There was also a fundraiser for Kappa Kappa Sigma Sorority. We have hosted parties in Fayette, Franklin



and Rush counties and soon Union County. Beginning the 2nd Wednesday of January, we will be having an Artzzy Party at Norris's English Pub & Brewery in Liberty called Brushes & Brews. The public is invited to attend these. However reservations are required. These are great ideas for birthday parties, showers, and fundraisers. If you would like to book a party or want more information, contact Cindy Holland at 765-561-1173.

We had two wonderful professional workshops this year – Nancy Nordloh Neville's watercolor workshop "Interpret Spring" and Ray Hassard's acrylic/oils workshop "Getting a Strong Start in Painting". Also, Terry Hreno gave a basic acrylic class called "The Simple Truth About Acrylics". Brenda Kunkel is working on the schedule for next year. If you have any suggestions on who you would like to take a workshop from, please let Brenda know.

As you know, WVAA was gifted a building in downtown Connersville in April and since that time much effort has been put into making this our new gallery. We have received grants from Urban Enterprise Association, Whitewater Valley REMC, Henry County REMC, and Fayette Foundation. We received donations from Elizabeth Holmes, Julia Yake and Frontier for the project. Our mural project was a huge success with all of the squares adopted quickly. We even over adopted. The community was very supportive of our efforts. We even had a boot drive that brought in over \$300. Many of our members have come down to lend their support by helping take down the dropped ceilings and clean up. As there is no heat in the building, work has come to a standstill. The electric is being redone slowly but surely. The heating and air is being installed and then the plumbing will get done. Soon after that hopefully, the kitchenette will be installed. There are a couple of spots in the gallery area that have to be shored up. We are in the process of getting

Continued on back page

WINTERSCAPES

RECEPTION WILL BE ON **FRIDAY JANUARY 8 FROM 6 TIL 8 PM**

Open exhibit and sale from January 8, 2016 thru February 5, 2016. The theme of the exhibition is "Winterscapes" Drop off for this will be January 3rd from 3 - 6 and January 4th 5 - 7 at the 28th Street Gallery in Connersville, In. WVAA charges a 10% commission for all sales. Original art, photography, ceramics, sculpture and textiles are welcome. Pick up for anything not sold will be February 6th from 1 - 5.



Auction 2016

This is our auction year so preparations are beginning. It's time to mail out donor letters and start our plan. If you would like to be on the auction committee, please let one of the board members know so we can put you on the list. This year's theme is "An Evening in Paris - Ooh La La!" Will definitely be a fun theme to expand on. There are already some pieces in the basement that are ready to be worked on. Please let us know if you would like to take a piece and get started.



2016 Calendars

If you haven't purchased your 2016 calendar, it's not too late. Please remember that this is a fundraiser and your participation is necessary to make it a success. Give them as gifts to your family and friends. See Cheryl Johnson or Doug Siebert.



In Memoriam

Sadly we lost two of our members this year - Jane Selke and Rick Smelser. Janie's smiling face will be missed. Rick's quiet demeanor and willingness to help will not go unnoticed. He helped at the Smith building on several occasions without complaint. We salute you - we are all better for having known you!

Note

Several of our members were accepted into the Richmond Art Museum's 117th Annual Exhibition of Area Artists. Also several of our members won awards at Art Associations in Indiana, Area 9 competition and Fayette County Free Fair. We have some talented folks! Congrats!

New Officers

The new officers for 2016 are as follows: President - Sharon McQueen, Vice President - Tracy Burns, Secretary - Cindy Holland, Treasurer - Delilah Rigsby.

Officers & Board Members

Contact Information

Sharon McQueen	President	[Redacted]	[Redacted]
Hector Perez	Vice President	[Redacted]	[Redacted]
Tracy Burns	Secretary	[Redacted]	[Redacted]
Delilah Rigsby	Treasurer	[Redacted]	[Redacted]
Lisa Gettinger	Board Member	[Redacted]	[Redacted]
Terry Hreno	Board Member	[Redacted]	[Redacted]
Gayle Siebert	Board Member	[Redacted]	[Redacted]
Patti Starr	Board Member	[Redacted]	[Redacted]

Continued from front page

estimates to fix that. We will also be submitting a grant proposal to replace the roof and gutters. Cross your fingers! There is also a grant application in the works by Patti Starr through Questers to replace the windows. Thanks Patti! We will soon be seeking a grant or donation for the lighting. Thanks go out to all those who have given their time and money to help us with the Smith Building. You are much appreciated!

Our ArtTalks have been very interesting and have taught us much about how to critique artwork. If you haven't been to one of these, please try it out. No artists are injured during the critique. LOL.

First Wednesdays are fun and educational and the popcorn is great. Thanks Marilyn and Dick Smith for supplying the popcorn. What would a movie be without it?!

WVAA once again set up an exhibit at the Connersville High School Messiah. This is our second year and we hope to continue our association with this wonderful event.

Two of our board members go off at the end of this year. Thanks goes out to Hector Perez and Terry Hreno for all their work and contributions during their time as board members. As these two leave, we welcome Cindy Holland and Debbi Lathrop as new board members. Welcome aboard!

This was our first year to participate in a community affair called Community Youth Day in July in the Courthouse Parking Lot. We did temporary tattoos and were going to do face painting but the wind didn't cooperate. We hope to participate again next July

Hector Perez and I gave a presentation of the WVAA & Artzzy Party to ADOU (A Dozen of Us) at one of their monthly meetings. They plan on having their March meeting at the gallery.

This was our first year (at least to my knowledge) that we became a Chamber of Commerce member. This has turned out to be a good thing for our organization. Not only do our events get sent out to Chamber members, but because of our membership, then Director Katrina Bailey, started the process for our entering America's Best Communities. Although we were not selected, because of this process, we were awarded a grant for \$20,000 for our Smith Building project by Urban Enterprise Association and \$5,000 from Frontier for our participation. Not bad for a \$95 investment. The board also voted to send the President to the Chamber's Annual Meeting and Awards banquet. It certainly is a way to keep the WVAA in the public's eye.

As you can see, it has been a very full and exciting year. I leave you with this quote before I go get started on 2016.

*Painting is by nature a luminous language.
- French artist Robert Delaunay*

Sharon