



NEWSLETTER

Blackstone Valley Art Association

Number Two

November 1, 1985

YOU ARE INVITED

The BVAA meets next on Monday evening, November 18 at the Northbridge Senior Center on Highland Street in Whitinsville (driving instructions follow). We have a very special guest speaker for the meeting that moves us semi-officially into a new home base. Jeanne Gould will bring us to order promptly at 7:30 p.m., and our guest will take the floor at 8 p.m. This could be a most important meeting (special speaker, new location, et. al.), and it is hoped we make the strongest effort to turn out a capacity audience.

ORPHANS NO LONGER

The Northbridge Senior Center, hopefully, will be a new permanent headquarters for the BVAA. And for those who are familiar with this facility, a finer choice may not exist. The location is central, parking abundant, and meetings areas ideal for an organization such as ours. There are kitchen facilities and other amenities, too, that make this setting, according to one member, "the most ideal site available." We say "hopefully" since we can't be certain beyond the balance of meetings for the 1985-86 year. But plans are being made at this moment to take advantage of the Center in years to come.

LOOK FOR THE BLUE AND WHITE

Because some members may not know the location of the Northbridge Senior Center, we here-with provide you with guidelines: Driving north on Route 122, take a left at Plummer's Corner in Whitinsville (driving south, take a right). Two-tenths of a mile up the hill, (Church Street) take a right onto Highland Street. You will see a blue and white sign on the corner of Highland and Church marked "Northbridge Senior Center." The Center, then, is located in a converted school building on your right. Traveling from Route 146, or Linwood Avenue in Whitinsville, follow Church Street out of Memorial Square (the main business street in Whitinsville), past Whitinsville Plaza (Friendly's), past Whitinsville Hospital and housing for the elderly. Take your second left going down the hill toward Plummer's Corner. Again, keep your eyes open for the blue and white sign on the corner of Highland and Church. Voila!

A TRULY DISTINGUISHED VISTOR

Mr. Jack Swedberg of Millbury is a fitting guest to help the BVAA christen its new meeting facility. He is a Senior Wildlife Photographer for the Massachusetts Division of Fisheries and Wildlife, a post he has held for 15 years. Over the past four years, he also has been director of "Eagle Project," a five year program that aims to reintroduce the Bald Eagle as a resident of this state. Mr. Swedberg will speak and show us two films, the first on "Eagle Project" and the second on wildlife in general, with helpful hints to the would-be wildlife photographer. He will follow his presentation with a question and answer period. Mr. Swedberg is a highly acclaimed member of his profession, who is frequently described as a "fascinating and interesting" speaker. He has appeared on Channel Two in Boston on numerous programs supporting "Eagle Project," as well as other wildlife documentaries. Moreover, he has built an international reputation as a wildlife photographer, and many of his films have been made available worldwide through the Audubon Society. This could be the presentation of the year and a speaker we should make every effort to meet.

SOMETHING MUST BE WORKING

The appeal made to BVAA members in the matter of dues was highly successful. At our first meeting, members stood in line to do just that...pay dues. Reports indicate that the number of members current after just one meeting is one of the highest on record. For this, our coffers are lined, we live to see another day, and extend to ourselves much gratitude. Alas, there were a few stragglers, though, and with this newsletter, they will get a second chance. In the future, they may face harsher, more diabolical alternatives.

AS PROMISED

As is the custom, BVAA members maintained a fast-paced schedule during the summer months. And beyond. Included among those brought to our attention were Rosalie Gagnon of Pascoag, R.I., who won a purchase award in June at the Rose Arts Festival, Conn., a ribbon at the Stratford Arts Festival, Conn. in July and two awards in August at the Burrillville Arts Festival, R.I. Norma Riegle of Hopedale was an award winner (The Gov. DiPrete Trophy) at the same event, as well as a ribbon at the Westboro Art Association exhibit in June. Carole Rafferty of Franklin opened an art gallery (The Oceanside Gallery) this spring in Narragansett, R.I., where she showed oils by Jaime Alfonso of Hopkinton, watercolors by Robert Pomfret of Cumberland, R.I. and Anne Wood of Franklin, and acrylics by Robert Wood of Bellingham (and her own watercolors, too). Margaret Kalousdian of Whitinsville and Linda Littleton of Milford had paintings in a special summerlong exhibit at the Premier Image Gallery of Ashland. Also at Premier Image, is a current two-woman show of watercolors, including Linda's work. It has been extended to November 22 and is a worthy attraction for BVAA members to visit. Raymond Andreotti of Hopedale joined Jaime Alfonso and Robert Wood in a new permanent exhibition installed this summer at the new headquarters of the South Middlesex Chamber of Commerce on Route 9 in Framingham. Marilyn Rocks of Hopedale took part in the Mansfield Women's Club open exhibition in June, winning a pair of ribbons in oils and one ribbon (first place) in watercolors. Janet Kornmuller of Medway, now in her sophomore year at the Massachusetts College of Art, credits Mary Curley of Bellingham for giving her the "initiative and ambition" to start her own art classes, primarily for young people. She also was in a one-person exhibit this September at the Unitarian Church of Northboro. The annual Hopedale "Arts in the Park" program was a success and BVAA members Norma Riegle, Raymond Andreotti, Marilyn Rocks and Cheryl Griffiths of Westboro were winners of major purchase awards. Paul Pizzarella of Worcester won Best of Show with his "Time For Me" at the annual All Arts Festival in Southbridge last June. William Heffernan of Blackstone had a one-man show of his oil paintings during October at the Milford Savings Bank, and was followed by Norma Riegle for the balance of November. Muriel Locklin of Bellingham, recently named chairman of the Bellingham Arts Council, took part in a summer workshop at Lake Placid, N.Y., conducted by the Parsons School of Arts. She describes her work in etching as "very intensive, but informal." She is hoping to return next summer, but would enjoy the company of an artist-companion. Inez Gornall of Uxbridge won the "Peggy Award," symbolic of Best of Show among professionals in the 1985 Granite State Ceramic Association and China Show. Our congratulations to all, and a special thanks to each for sharing this news with other BVAA members. Please keep the personal notes coming. More and more members have indicated a lively interest in learning what you are doing.

DAYS TO REMEMBER

Here are dates for you to keep in mind for planning purposes. Remainder of meetings for the BVAA year: January 20, 1986; March 17, 1986; and May 19, 1986. The annual Spring Festival takes place from April 13 to April 19, 1986.

LEST THEY FORGET

Next Meeting: Northbridge Senior Center, Highland St., Whitinsville November 18, at 7:30 p.m.
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