



December 2, 2024

General Art Meeting Minutes

Welcome

Quotes:

"The best way to predict your future is to create it." Abraham Lincoln

"If everyone is moving forward together, then success takes care of itself."

Joe handed out checks from the show. He will mail the remaining ones unless you arrange to pick yours up from him. Please turn in your Expense Reports for the show - we need to close out the finances.

Things we did as a group last Year:

Riverside Dinner Theatre, Survey, Fareways shows, "Springtime" in Orange, members provided/created bios, Studio Tours, Creativity exercises, Newsletter, contributed to LGA auction/fundraiser and Garden Club Xmas Tree, Quilling class, Collage outing at winery, Paint Glassing, Mural Mosaic, Trivia game.

Artists in the spotlight: Elena - Pop Art, Marilyn Davis - calligraphy, Lisa Spencer-Ballard - finding inner child (paper airplanes), Lisa - Wyeth family presentation, Wally - presentation/demonstration of tool named Procreate.

News:

- Approved minutes from last meeting. Jill 1st, Peggy 2nd.
- By-Laws were approved pending some small punctuation edits. Gary 1st, Peggy 2nd
- Jen Heinz, Jill Iglehart, and Gaylen Smoak formed a nomination committee to get new candidates for the Board which are:
 - President - Karen O'Donnell
 - VP - Jim Funk
 - Secretary - Daria Bessom
 - Treasurer - Eve de Vito

- SEC chair - Jill Iglehart Co-chair - Dee Knapp
- Publicity Chair - Lisa Spencer Cochair - Toni Maltagliati
- Action approved by - Linda Kadar 1st, Elaine Freeland 2nd.
- Final financial report not yet complete - pending the receipt of all expenses from the members and show.
- Reminder: Next Fareways show dates: Submission end date 1/3/25, Dropoff/pickup 1/11, Reception 1/18
- www.CreativeGatheringsStudio.com is up and running and holding classes! Color Theory is coming up! Plus, drawing, perspective, and more!

Show Debrief:

Fun numbers:

Attendance (probably not 100% perfect, but close enough to judge)

Friday - 111

Saturday - 343

Sunday - 264

Sales

\$30,000 (+) in sales

Four of our exhibitors had over \$2,000 in sales

Daria sold the most items for one artist

Fun fact - we had almost as much \$\$ in sales in 2 hours on Friday night as we did all day on Sunday

Raffle/Silent Auction/Giving Tables

Sales from those three netted us the \$4,000 we were budgeted to donate to Orange County Schools' art programs. Those checks have been written and sent to the individual art teachers for their classrooms.

We had 53 exhibitors (more if you include each author, woodworker and photographer)

22 non-members exhibited (mostly authors and photographers)

All of Sigrid's art sold.

Your checks are in the mail. 😊 If you haven't yet received it, give it a few days ... it's holiday time.

Other stuff:

Layout - we felt like the new layout and additional rooms were a success and will continue that again next year. Special thanks to Andy Pittman for the drawing of the room which made it easy to move things around. Thank you, Peggy Schull, Pete Brown, and Jim Funk for being such an excellent layout team.

Kids/adults art project - again felt like a success and a nice way to give back to the community that supports us. You'll see that again in some form next year.

Volunteers - thanks for your time. It makes it possible to have a central cashier which keeps things simple for everyone.

Karen O'Donnell is looking for a couple co-chairs for the show next year.

The kids and parents thoroughly enjoyed the "Gems search" and the kid's mosaic projects. Linda Kadar painted and prepared 68 canvases, cut and tumbled 20+ pounds of glass, sorted buttons and glass by color for each canvas, and provided lots of extra embellishments. We saw a much younger crowd overall this year as a result.

Reception food was great, we went through a case of red and a case of white. The food was great and THANK YOU to all that provided food. Thank you Jane and Dee for coordinating and setting all of it up.

The raffle and silent auction were great this year.

Jen collected about 100 extra names to Patron's list.

The next Art Show will be a little earlier next year - October 24th (Friday reception) through October 26th — this is based on the availability of the Community.

Suggestions? Things we can improve for the show?

Please share your thoughts with Karen O'Donnell while they are still fresh in your mind. Some suggestions:

- Move auction items to front for Friday night.
- Reconsider selling raffle tickets at the same location on the same nights over 5 weeks. We have a lot of return guests and they get asked every week.

- If doing gems again, tell kids/parents to be respectful of the artist's space. Don't move things around or use their table as a desk.
- Remind people to be VERY careful with backpacks etc. or don't allow them in.

Suggestions? Things we can improve for the group or meetings?

There is always room for improvement and we are very open to your suggestions. Please share your thoughts with Karen O'Donnell while it is still fresh in your mind. Group suggested:

- Invite Guest Artists
- Learn pastels on Photos
- Get food at Fareways reception
- Music at Fareways can be loud or disruptive - maybe play music on speaker around the room instead (at no cost)
- Collage Art at a Winery (or other projects)
- Plein Air events: like Montpelier, Chatham Manor, parks in the spring, Lewis Ginter Gardens, Longwood gardens
- Zentagles event
- Studio Tour in April over 2 days so exhibitors can go around too and see at least some of them
- Quilling again - maybe with kits - maybe discounted or bought by the Club
- Creativity Exercises
- Field trips - Amtrak to Smithsonian or charter a bus (Charter Services in Culpeper) visit VFMA- pick a day when its free (Monday?) etc.
- Go visit the Mosaic Mural in Charlottesville and some galleries/exhibits
- Mary Washington - any art events?
- Orange show in Sept
- Van Gogh Immersion
- Art at the Mill visit