

Redwood Art Quarterly

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INSIDE

- 3 Spring Exhibition
- 4 60th Anniversary Exhibition
- 7 People's Choice Award



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A Brief History Through the Generations

by Jake Williams

One thing stands out as the Redwood Arts Association marks its 60th anniversary. That is how far volunteers can carry an organization, which today has more than 300 members contributing time and resources that make it a success.

Floyd Bettiga, an icon on the arts scene in Humboldt County, said, "June Beal (a founding member) cornered him at an event and would not let me go until I had paid my dues." That was in 1958, two years after RAA was formed, and he has been a member for the longest time.

He values his long tenure in the organization because it involved him both in art organizations and the wider community, helping with art shows and a variety of fundraisers, including an art sale to help get KEET on the air. "RAA gave me the opportunity to work with other artists and organizations in the community at large," he said.

Bettiga, 83, of Bayside taught at the College of Redwoods art department from 1964 until retirement in 1993. He is a native of Humboldt County and graduated from Ferndale High where, he said, "I was interested in music until I discovered art in college." He has an MA in art from Humboldt State.

Photographer David Boston of Eureka likes that "RAA shows are open to members of all skill levels." He also enjoys helping out with spotting art works for shows, intake and other activities. "Everyone is part of the process," he notes.

"It is always fun to work with other artists and make friends, some of which I still have today," Boston said, who joined in 1978 after moving here from Oklahoma. He is a native of Wyoming.

He graduated from CR in 1984. He worked 33 years for Dr. Peter Burgess at his gardens, where the former Carson hunting lodge is located. Boston is a trained welder and a nurse, who specialized in pediatric home care from 1993 to 2000.



Floyd Bettiga with one of his paintings.

Generations continued on page 5

FROM THE PRESIDENT

Normally at this time of year, a financial report and other various data from the previous year are reported. This time there is so much news that those reports will be sent in another communication. Basically, be assured that all is fine financially. In fact, we met and exceeded our budget. Funds were set aside for “a rainy day.” Also, we qualified for a lower interest mortgage loan for our beautiful gallery. Therefore, we can pay off the debt within 15 years.

There are still improvements needed in the coming years. To afford these, we need some creative fundraising. One project is painting the outside of the building. We can couple that with a mural project. The mural will depict the RAA and Humboldt’s arts community in a way that will be an opportunity to find local funding. More to come.

As always, thanks to all who have given time and resources to our organization. We are all volunteers. The RAA is a business needing a lot of people to keep it running. We have had challenges in getting all bases covered. Gallery sitting and exhibition organization are the most important and the most difficult to cover. If you can help out, please let us know. We welcome anyone for any project. If you have a helpful idea, we welcome that also. Volunteering with is fun. Spending time together is so fulfilling. Everyone’s contribution makes it possible for the community and artists to thrive.

Celebrating our 60th Anniversary

Being six decades old is something to rejoice. Redwood Art Association is the largest and oldest arts organization in Humboldt County. As a non-profit it is a special milestone achieved through the volunteer efforts of our membership and the generosity of our community. We will be celebrating throughout the year, but are planning a party on June 25, at 4:30PM. Everyone is invited. Local community leaders, business people and other arts organizations will also be asked to attend.

The RAA is being recognized by many local civic organizations throughout the year, and will receive several Resolutions. These events will be posted on Facebook. Please follow our page for places and times.

Youth Exhibition

Following the Spring Judged Exhibition, RAA will partner with Humboldt County High Schools to host the first ever RAA Judged Youth Exhibition. The exhibition should be large and, therefore, take up the entire gallery.

Today, students have fewer artistic opportunities as in the past. Often, art programs are cut from the curriculum. Artists understand the importance of art in history, science, math and critical thinking. These kids need us. In addition, as our organization ages, we want to maintain our relevance and serve as creative mentors to the youth in our community. It will be from them that the RAA will have a presence for another 60 years.

The Exhibition received underwriting funds from Coast Central Credit Union and other private funding sources. Funds donated in the name of Dawn Lucchessi will be used for awards. Dawn’s daughter, Karen Berman, said her mother was interested in inspiring young artists and feels this is a beautiful way to honor the memory of her mother. To honor a loved one in this way, please contact us.

Linda Wise
President



The Redwood Art Association is a community dedicated to the creation of art as an important and indispensable part of life and the economy of Humboldt County.

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www.redwoodart.us

Send news to: news@redwoodart.us

Awards Announced

Redwood Art Association 58th Annual Spring Exhibition

The Redwood Art Association is pleased to announce the winners of the 58th Spring Exhibition. Of the 131 pieces entered, 16 won awards.

Tommi Drake, retired Art Department Chair of the Rogue River Community College, judged this exhibit. Drake is an artist and directed the college's galleries for 30+ years. She works in Grants Pass to develop community through the arts with various committee and community projects. Currently, she is on the board of the JoCo Cultural Coalition and Rogue Gateway Rotary.

Drake selected Linda Mitchell's oil painting "Five Chickadees" for Best of Show (\$500 and a night at the Benbow Inn). Drake stated, "Ms. Mitchell has a well developed handling of light and dark in this piece creating depth and a sense of place. The abstract qualities of the background and more realistic handling of the figure create a dichotomy which is enhanced by her sense of color. The five chickadee babies can be missed but flutter above the woman. The basket of eggs create a question for the viewer. Mystery is there as well as the sense of wonder."

Best of Photography (\$400) was awarded to Mairead Dodd's sensitive and moving piece entitled "Lovers".

Other awards went to Jim McVicker, Dennis Rosser, William Pierson, Seana Burden, Jay Brown, Guy Clement Joy, Michael Stengl, David White, Donna Rosebaugh, Don Walker, Rosalina Brainard, David Howell, Linda Wise and Elizabeth Berrien.

Winners awards will be presented at the April 2nd Arts Alive! reception at the RAA Gallery on 603 F Street, Eureka between 5-6PM. The exhibition runs through April 23rd. The gallery is open Wednesday through Sunday between 12-5PM.

The Redwood Art Association is a community of artists and supporters who value art as an essential component of our culture. Exhibition and membership information is available at www.redwoodart.us or visit Redwood Art Association's Facebook page for events.



"Five Chickadees" by Linda Mitchell.

RAA 60th Anniversary Exhibition-Awards Announced

Kicking off the 60th Anniversary of the Redwood Art Association, the first exhibition of the year was judged by local artist and long-time RAA associate, Mimi LaPlant. There were 127 pieces entered by 87 artists.

LaPlant, who is also a professor of art at Humboldt State University, selected Jimmie Nord's ceramic sculpture called "Found Myself" as Best of Show (\$300). "It is a phenomenal and skillful representation of a mundane subject that commemorates recycled stuff. It is well done," stated LaPlant when asked why she selected the work.

Claudia Lima won First Place (\$150) for her painting "Lovin' It". LaPlant said, "I love Claudia's honesty in selecting her subjects to paint. She has a great command of paint and is courageous."

Second Place (\$100) went to Georgia Long for her abstract painting "Parallel". In addition, Seana Burden, Rachel Schlueter, Tom Bethune, Cronder Concepcion and George Ventura all won \$50 awards.

Honorable mentions were given to Arlene Broyles, Elsie Mendes, Vicki Barry, Linda Wise, David Boston, Janet Frost, Erika Brooks, Steven Flowers, Mariko Pratt, Patricia Sennott, Debra Dixon, Lorraine Miller-Wolf, Dan Franchon, Cheryl Rau, Bill Pierson, Elizabeth Berrien, and Madeline McMurray.



"Found Myself" by Jimmie Nord.



Gift Shop

Let's get the word out! Redwood Art Association has a gift shop inside our lovely gallery! The variety is wonderful. It showcases art forms unseen on the gallery walls or pedestals.

Check out the greeting cards, unframed prints (some of your favorite artists' work is more affordable), jewelry, wall and tiny art, even pillows and tee shirts. A team has been gathered to specifically keep the art in the gift shop rotated and interesting.

Pat Kanzler was part of the team and did a wonderful job getting the ball rolling. Many thanks to Pat for her work. Due to other commitments, she will be stepping down. In her place, Louise Bacon-Ogden has assumed the duties. Louise has retail experience of many years and is happy to create displays and keep things looking nice.

The other team members are Roy Grieshaber and Donna Rosebaugh who keep the checks flowing and manage the inventory.

If anyone would like to be involved in the gift shop, please contact the gallery at 268-0755 or call Louise at 445-8304 or e-mail waxwing@suddenlink.net.



Heartfelt Gratitude

Jennifer would have been thrilled to have been at the Freshwater Grange on 14 February. Jen would have been overcome by the love and memories shared with those who attended her commemoration.

Jen's favorite musicians, The Compost Mountain Boys, played the tunes she had enjoyed so much. The copious catered food, which, hopefully, everyone liked, would have been a bit heavy for Jen's tastes.

It was, though, as if a family had gathered consisting of Grange and Redwood Art Association members. A lucky Granger, Ron Honig, won Jen's artwork, "The Art of Zen".

On Jen's behalf, I thank you for being there. Your presence made her absence a bit more bearable.

Sincerely,
Dan Schulz



Jimmie Nord with 3 wooden assemblages in his garage studio.

Jimmie Nord, Best of Show winner in the RAA's 60th Anniversary Show, is a two-year member. He said joining RAA was a way to become part of the community after he moved here when he finished his MFA from Louisiana State University in 2015. He graduated with a BA from Humboldt State in 2007 and discovered art at College of the Redwoods. He came here from Willows.

"The RAA Gallery is a great place to show my work. Having to do your part is also important," Nord, 34, said of his volunteer activities. He has worked with kids at Zane Middle School. He has also been a gallery sitter and says it is important to volunteer in this all-volunteer organization.

He sculpts and draws. He works in metal, wood and ceramic. He says he studies the materials available to artists so he can give the best information to students, so they can create pieces in the medium they like.

All three of the artists strongly endorse having the Sixth Street Gallery as their permanent home, giving the RAA more stability than it had not had in the past.



David Boston holding a photo of the Burgess Gardens.



Rum & Rummage Results

In January, we took advantage of closing for a few weeks for minor maintenance in the gallery. While closed, we held the 2nd Rum & Rummage Sale. It took a few days to set up, sell and clean. Participating volunteers and buyers had a blast. We did well bringing funds to the organization (\$2,320 sales and another \$900 in donations). New people visited the gallery. This event may be held annually as an outreach tool. Social media tools got the word out and we were packed. These tools will be used again to publicize other events at the RAA and give us more public exposure. Save your rummagables for next year! Looks like we'll do it again!

Giving to the RAA

The Redwood Art Association depends on membership dues, entry fees and donations to meet our financial obligations. We rely on volunteers. There are also services donated to our organization. RAA is thankful for Sarah Wright, a local CPA, who provides budgeting and financial analysis to our organization as a gift. If you have a skill to donate to the RAA, such as writing, plumbing, carpentry, or grant writing, it would be appreciated. Please call us!

There are other ways to give to the organization. We have an annual fundraising drive asking for tax deductible donations. Also, the Redwood Art Association has an endowment at the Humboldt Area Foundation. Last year, a local un-named donor placed \$20,000 in an endowment account for our benefit. The fund can be increased by anyone, for any amount. Every year, the RAA receives 4% to reinvest in the fund or use at the Board's discretion. The more the fund grows, the more self-sufficient RAA becomes. Having an endowment lends prestige and importance to our community. To find out more about the endowment or set up another fund for the RAA, you can contact the Humboldt Area Foundation.

• New and Renewing Members •

These RAA members renewed or joined between November 16, 2015 and March 19, 2016. Members whose dues payments were received before or after these dates are not listed here.

Friends of the Gallery

Hector
Tophier Reynolds
Don R Walker

Individual Members

Sunraealore
Yansviel
Lois Andersen
Timothy Baum
Lalanya Beck
Karen Berman
Elizabeth Berrien
Tom Boyer
Kathleen Bryson
Seana Burden
Barbara Caldwell
Marc Chaton
William Cody
Alfredo Corral
Paulette J Cortez
Gina Costa
Caryn Michele Couey
Tom Coyle
Carol Craig
Andrew Daniel
Tina DeKruise
Deborah Dixon

Mairead Dodd
Tracey Duke
Judy Evenson
Gregg Gephart
Edge Gerring
Tony L Gonsalves
Elaine Gray
Nancy Gregory
Henry Guariglia
Bill Helwer-Carlson
Colleen Hole
Jack Hopkins
Sandra Howard
David Howell
Shaunna Howell
Margaret Kellerman
Robert Kirkpatrick
Aldaron Laird
Jeff Lamoree
Carol Lauer
Claudia Lima
Edie M List
Angela F Lundeen
Samuel Lundeen
Claudia Marchini
Reuben Mayes
Marc McClendon
Lynnette McDaniels

Madeline McMurray
Linda Mitchell
Jack E Morris
Doug Mortenson
Vivyan "Pat" Murphy
Michelle Murphy-Ferguson
Susan Ornelas
Kirsten Petersen
Barbara J Pulliam
Brent Rasmussen
Camille Regli
Julia Rodriguez
Lee Roscoe-Bragg
Dennis Rosser
Janet Sanford
Rachel K Schlueter
Dan Schulz
Rebecca Stauffer
Marcy Stein
David Struthers
Day Tait
Reneé E Thompson
Susan Tissot
Rick Tolley
Katy Warner
Roberta 'Berti' Welty



Membership Meeting

RAA's Annual Membership Meeting was held late in January. The year's events were discussed as well as future plans. Food, fun, and socializing is always included.



Using Social Media as an Artist

Katy Warner and Alan Peterson, Presenters

There are many options when it comes to promoting your work (and making money) as an artist in the digital age. Katy and Alan will discuss the use of Facebook, Twitter, Linked-In, email campaigns, and blogs to promote your studio practice, exhibitions, and get more sales of your work. They will also cover the easiest ways to build a website and start a fundraising campaign via crowdfunding platforms like Indiegogo and Hatchfund.

**Sunday, April 10, 2016
2-4 p.m.**

Redwood Art Association Gallery



Alan Peterson grew up in Oakland, California, and studied film and animation at California College of the Arts. After moving to Humboldt County in 2010, he has worked in computer animation, wildlife videography and commercial video production. He is a founding member of Redwood Planet Media: a not-for-profit organization dedicated to producing educational media and providing media education.

Katy Warner was born in Roseburg, Oregon, and grew up in Sacramento. She received her BFA from the California College of the Arts and her MFA from Mills College in 2013. Her artistic practice explores the intersection of sound and sight through experimental film, digital prints and her ongoing social practice piece, the Universal Pictorial Language. She is the CFO and Media Relations manager of Redwood Planet Media. When not busy printing giant nautical charts in Blue Lake, she regularly volunteers with the Sanctuary Arcata and maintains the RAA Facebook page.



REDWOOD ART ASSOCIATION
603 F Street, Eureka
P O Box 1093
Eureka, CA 95502
707-268-0755 info@redwoodart.us



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603 F Street
EUREKA, CA 95501