

JANUARY 2013

# Caddo River Chatter

Newsletter

Caddo River Art Guild  
Arkadelphia, Arkansas

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## Studio Tour is Highlight of 2012



**Farrell Ford**

In the Fall of 2006, five ladies were returning from a trip to Mountain View, Arkansas, to attend Mountain View's Off The Beaten Path Studio Art Tour. What a fun event and great learning experience it was. "We can do that," it was decided.

The seed was planted and the process began that would lead to the organization of the Caddo River Art Guild and the Round About Artist Studio Tour. The first Arkadelphia and surrounding area art-studio tour

### President's Corner

was in October 2007. The rest is history and what a wonderful time it has been.

The October 2012 art tour numbered approximately 475 tourists from 30 cities and nine states. Each year brings new persons to the tour which is now known statewide. Our local community and our visitors anxiously wait to get a new guide-book to help them chart their course.

With 25 artists on the tour, it is difficult to visit all in one day. Most people take the entire 2-1/2 days to see each and every studio.

October 18, 19 and 20, 2013, will mark our 7th Annual Round About Artist Studio Tour. Mark your calendar.

Happy New Year to all. May this year bring much needed peace to our troubled world.

In celebration of the success of the 2012 Round About Artist Studio Tour, participating artists and their family and friends gathered at the Fish Net restaurant on Friday, October 26.

During the dinner, a slide show was on view showcasing the various studios and artwork for sale. CD's are now available for the artists who were on the tour. Contact Farrell to pick up your copy.



### What's On Exhibit at the Arts Center

#### **TREASURES:**

The "Treasures" part of the "Trees and Treasures" exhibit will continue to be displayed through Saturday, January 19th. If you have not seen this exhibit, please do so! There are many very unique and interesting "treasures" on display!

You may pick up your treasures any time between 10:00 am and 5:00 pm beginning Wednesday, January 23rd through Saturday, January 26th.

*Thank you to the members of the Clark County Arts and Humanities Arts groups for participating in the Arkadelphia Arts Center's holiday exhibit "Trees and Treasures". Your participation in the Arkadelphia Arts Center's efforts improves the quality of the events, which brings more awareness of the arts to the community and increases tourism in Clark County.*

Arkadelphia Arts Center,  
625 Main St., hours are 10 am to 5 pm, Wed. through Sat.  
For more information,  
call 870-245-7982.

## **DECEMBER PROGRAM — NEEDLE FELTING**

Fourteen members and one guest were present at the December meeting held on December 6, earlier than usual because of the holidays.

Sabrina Mecum demonstrated the basic steps in needle felting. She displayed the fibers used as well as finished products and the different type needles required for this art. Many of those present were inspired to try this new-to-them fiber-art medium.

This month's Door Prize was a felted bookmark donated by Sabrina and won by Aaron Calvert.



**Above photo showcases the basic materials needed to get started in needle felting. Below is a completed handbag.**



**Guest artist Sabrina Mecum exhibits her felted purse using the needle-felting process.**



### **October 2012 CRAG Meeting**

The October meeting was held one week earlier than usual on October 11 so not to interfere with the RAAST weekend. There were 10 members in attendance. The short program was a review of the tour, with road signs and guidebooks being passed out to members.

No November meeting was scheduled.



## Announcements and More...

*If you have an announcement or upcoming event you would like to share with the Guild members just email to Carol at oklatwister@hotmail.com.*

**We will have workshops and painting classes for anyone interested. We now have a "home" for our meetings at the Arkadelphia Arts Center on Main Street, Arkadelphia, AR.**

**One of our major projects for the year is our Round About Artist Studio Tour.**

**We have added another major Art Project, our Photography Contest, held each April.**

**The Caddo River Art Guild is open to anyone who would like to join us. You do not have to be an artist to be a member.**

**Our monthly meetings are normally the 3rd Thursday of each month. The meetings are held at the Arkadelphia Arts Center at 625 Main St. in Arkadelphia at 6:30 pm. Demonstrations on a variety of art or related subjects will be given.**

**Anyone interested in joining the Art Guild or being part of the Studio Tour can contact Farrell Ford, 870-246-8204, for more information.**

### January 17, 2013 CRAG Meeting

Dan Leamons will present a program January 17 on "Use of the Computer in the Transfer Process". Dan will explain gridding art for resizing images using the computer and how to transfer the work to your canvas.

Membership dues for 2013 will start being collected in January. Remember to bring your checkbook.

### Upcoming Programs

In February, Rita Earles will present a discussion of "Using the Color Red in Oil Painting".

The March program will be Show-N-Tell, always a popular event.

### HSU Call for Entries

Henderson State University has invited the CRAG membership to have an art display from January 24 thru February 25, at the Russell Fine Arts Gallery, 604 N. 12th Street. The Opening Reception will be held Thursday, January 24, from 2-4 pm. Gallery hours are Monday through Friday 9 am to 5 pm.

The Arkadelphia Arts Center will be the collection point for artists to bring their artwork. **These will be picked up on Tuesday, January 15** and delivered to HSU. Contact Farrell with questions.

The following info is requested to be attached to or accompany each piece:

Artist name  
Title of work  
Materials used  
For sale or not for sale?  
Price if for sale  
Contact number

**Wanda Huneycutt describes her "Blue Door" oil painting. Wanda has been painting since 2005 after moving to Arkadelphia following her retirement from the jewelry and watch repair business.**

Have you ever wished that there was a place where you could take your paints, weaving, drawing, or whatever artistic thing you are working on and be with others who are also working on their creations? Well we're going to try it!

Thursday, January 10th, the Arkadelphia Arts Center will be open to all Caddo River Art Guild members to work on their art. The doors will open at 9:00 am. You may come and go as you like. The Center closes at 5:00 pm. The refrigerator is available so you may bring your lunch and drinks and store it there.

It is energizing to be with folks who are doing creative and educational work as well as sharing ideas and techniques.

If there is continued interest in ART DAY then we will have more! The dates will likely be the 2nd and 4th Thursday every month, but that will be decided later.

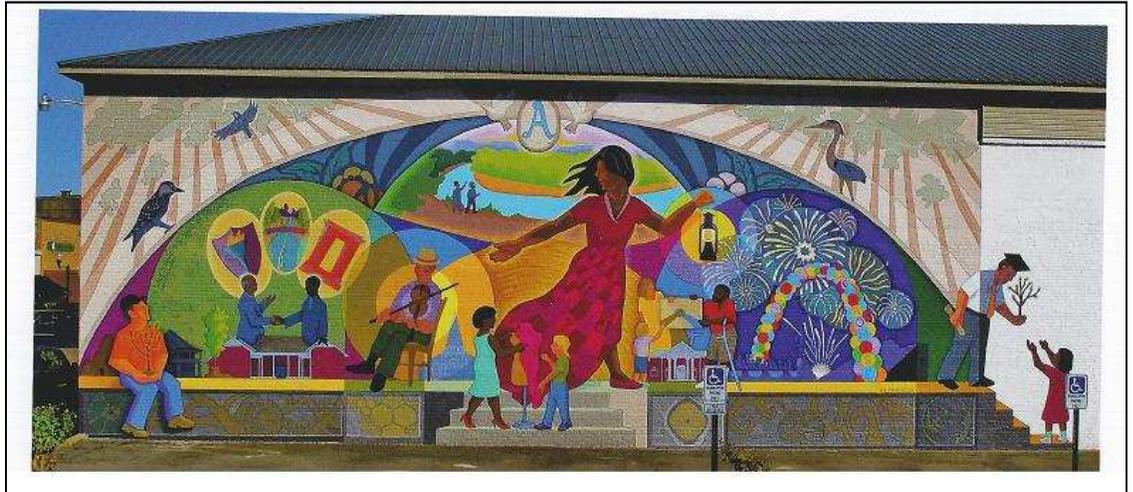
If you bring materials and work on art, please also bring a table covering to place under your supplies so that the Arts Center tables stay clean.

I'm sooo excited about this! Let's make the dreary days of January into a fun month to create art and enjoy each other's company! Thank you, Rita Earles.



## From A Dream to The Promise Mural Completed

Over 60 people gathered outside the Honeycomb Restaurant for the dedication ceremony of "From a Dream to The Promise", the Arkadelphia Mural Project. It was held on Sunday, October 7, 2012, at 705 Main Street, Arkadelphia, Arkansas. Farrell Ford, project manager, emceed the event which included speakers Mayor Charles Hollingshead, Group Living Executive Director Jane Lucas, Mariela and Natalie Crockett, as well as lead



artist Dave Loewenstein, mural assistant Ashley Jane Laird, and mural apprentice Jordan Karpe. The Cedar Grove Bluegrass Band provided music for the dedication and reception that followed.

Lead muralist Dave Loewenstein gave this description of the completed project:

"Known to many as the 'Athens of Arkansas', Arkadelphia's passionate and enduring support of education is the focus of this mural. Underneath a decorative archway of soaring pine trees, a young student holding a symbolic pine-tree sapling considers his future and potential. His journey unfolds amidst references to Arkadelphia's cultural history including Peake School, the Arkadelphia Promise, and the Hunter-Dunbar Expedition. All of these are centered around the majestic figure of a woman, symbolizing education and mentorship, who lights the way to the young man's future."

The mural was accomplished with over 200 community volunteers involved in the painting of it, taking 2-½ months for completion. The project was made possible by a \$27,100 grant from Mid-America Arts Alliance. Additional funds of \$4,086 were raised from the community making a total of \$31,186 for the project. Picture cards of the mural are available for those who helped paint the wall or served on the design committee. These may be picked up from Farrell. Visit the Mid-America Arts Alliance website to learn more about *From a Dream to The Promise* and its companion projects in Joplin, MO, Newton, KS, and Tonkawa, OK, [www.maaa.org/muralproject](http://www.maaa.org/muralproject).



Hank and Shawn Armstrong of J & S Framing.

## J & S Framing Celebrates 14th Anniversary

The day of Mom and Pop frame shops in small towns is long gone except in Arkadelphia, Arkansas. "Most frame shops are in the larger metropolitan areas," says Patrick Fuller, this area's sales representative for the premier frame molding company Larson Juhl. However, Shawn and Hank Armstrong, owners of J & S Framing on Main Street in Arkadelphia, continue to keep their small town business in operation. Not only have they stayed in business for 14 years but, according to Fuller, they are at the top of the list in volume by far of over 200 frame shops in his sales area.

Fuller supplies the Larson Juhl Moulding and other products to all of Arkansas, northern Mississippi, west Tennessee, and northern Alabama. "J & S Framing has maintained this record for a long time and it is quite an accomplishment," stated Fuller.

J & S Framing will act as a drop-off point for the 4th Annual CRAG Spring Photography Contest in April 2013.

Congratulations to Shawn and Hank who are also charter members of the Caddo River Art Guild.