

MARCH NEWSLETTER

www.PinoleArtisans.org

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GENERAL MONTHLY MEETING FRIDAY, MARCH 6TH, 7:00PM

Please join us for our **General Meeting** (held the first Fridays of the month) **Friday, March 6th, 2009** to be held at the Pinole United Methodist Church (our usual meeting place, located at 2000 San Pablo Avenue, in Pinole...just past the Bus Stop Mural) at 7:00PM.

This month we will be welcoming Thomas R. Brichta to come and speak to us about his Fine Art Photography. He is a local artist who started as a successful wedding and portraiture photographer, and later fell in love with landscape photography. Check out some of his work at www.ThomasBrichta.com.

We also encourage you to bring artwork to share— at least one piece to enter for peer awards. Bring new pieces to show us what you have been working on, or old favorites. Ribbons that you win from peer awards can be hung next to artwork entered into Art Center Gallery Shows.



Photo by Alan Vaughn

FOUNDATION EVENTS & INFORMATION

Our February General Meeting was our annual official meeting of Pinole Artisans Foundation, where we elected several new Board Members and re-elected several incumbents. With six open positions (two recently added Board seats, one vacant seat, and three up for re-election) and only 6 names on the ballot (three individuals nominated from the floor respectfully declined), the membership decided to vote by acclamation and accept the 6 names on the ballot. We welcome to the Board of Directors Cheryl Johnson, Melinda Wasilchin, and Joyce Yamada, as well as re-elected members Penny

Bledsoe, Jean Fisk, and Vickie Resso.

At the March meeting of the Board of Directors (which will take place as you are receiving your newsletters), the Board will elect Officers from within and Joan will hand over her role as President of the Foundation. We sincerely thank her for all of her work to bring art to the community, and to maintain such a welcoming feeling in the organization.

I would also like to remind you that memberships were up for renewal as of January 1st, 2009...if you have not yet renewed, now is the time to do so. Along with an increase in membership dues to \$35 in

2009, the Board of Directors has voted to increase show hanging fees to \$10, and to increase the percentage commission on sales to 15%. This change will take place starting this month and will apply to the Gallery Shows, Library Shows, and the Farmers' Market. This is one of the ways in which we are looking to plan and secure for our financial future as an organization.

Additionally, we are also looking for fund-raising ideas. If you have any ideas of fund-raising events, local grants, or companies willing to make donations, let one of the Board members know.

THE PINOLE ART CENTER

The Pinole Artisans Foundation
Gallery and Classes
2221 Pear Street
Pinole, CA 94564
(510) 724-2008
Gallery Hours
Tuesday—Saturday
10:30—4:30

LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT'S DESK

This will be my last letter from the President's Desk. My role in Pinole Artisans Foundation will, however, remain a strong one. I will assist our new President during the transformation, and will remain as the Manager of the Art Center Activities.

Our new Board is an active and enthusiastic group. Everyone has good ideas for helping us to achieve our goals (a network for support, art education opportunities for our community, and a variety of opportunities for artists to show their work).

On March 10 we will be taking in art for "Special Moments," our next Art Center Show. **The Grand Opening for this show will be Saturday, March 14th, from 1-4:30PM.** If you wish to be a part of

this Spring Event, call me right away.

I am currently working with Alan Vaughn on updating our web sites. Alan is willing to create personal picture pages for member artists on the PinoleArtisans.com site. He needs an updated statement from those who wish to do this, and permission to publish this on the site, as well as a CD with 8-10 (or fewer) images of your work. There will be an indication of individual artists work to click to get to this area on the web site. This is a great opportunity!

Thanks to Joyce Yamada, we have a treat for you at the March meeting. A young man named Thomas R. Brichta will present a slideshow of his unique photographs. He is a Richmond artists, and photographs landscapes. You don't want to miss this meeting! (www.ThomasBrichta.com)

Again, I want to than you for the honor of being your President for the last two years. You've been wonderful to work with and, as always, I'm impressed and humbled by the way art has enriched all our individual lives and made us a persistent force for good in the community.

-Joan Landis
President
Pinole Artisans Foundation



POET'S CORNER

PARLOR BASEBALL, WITH COLOR (at Pinole Senior Center)

© Claire J. Baker

In this off-white Crafts Room
we gray (not grave) elders
one by one
stand behind a yellow-tape line
& throw
smudged beige bean-bags
twenty feet toward a large
slanted wooden contraption
with five-inch holes:
1,2,3,HR, FOUL, OUT.

This morn is my first purple
trial at Parlor Baseball.
The little bean-bags cuddle
in pinkish creases of my hand,
cling to lotioned folds
of my lifeline, to anything but
leave my hand gracefully
& straight!

Fifty years of serious tennis left
no indigo imprint of coordination,
no silvery sophistication
under stress?!

My last throw nearly bopped
our volunteer scorekeeper who
flashed the whites of her eyes,
the puse of her blouse!

The team I hampered lost 20-6
in hilarious hues of scarlet
* magenta edged in black & blue --
"fun," the original orange balloon.

Commentary by Claire J. Baker

A fun poem full of color and hopefully energy. It is light and speaks for itself. If it works, it works. If not, it was fun anyway.

Claire J. Baker, Poet
Member Pinole Artisans

PINOLE ART CENTER CLASSES—MARCH 2009

Sponsored by the Pinole Artisans.

We are located at 2221 Pear St., Pinole Tel: (510) 724-2008

Classes listed in chronological order.

See the full class calendar with instructor contact information online at www.PinoleArtisans.org

Please call the instructor listed for information or to register.

Madden Watercolor with Lorena: In this beginning-intermediate class offered by Lorena Fink, Madden Certified Teacher, you will work on “Peonies.”

Peyote Beading with Casey: Learn to make unique peyote stitch earrings and jewelry in this freeform class, held 3 Wednesdays in March.

Art with Vickie: This class is designed for children ages 8-13. We will further our skills in acrylic painting by focusing on technique refinement. We will be painting a still life, using a favorite toy as a model. (Please note that this class may have a wait-list...please contact Vickie Resso for more information 510.758-3558).

Landscape Watercolor with Ira, 6 week class: In this intermediate-advanced landscape watercolor class, the emphasis will be on techniques and composition, so water works with and for you. This is a continuation of a series begun in February.

Precious Metal Clay– Dichroic Necklace Class: In this class we will be using PMC3 and dichroic glass to make a necklace. I will have stamps, molds, texture plates and more available for your use. Dichroic glass and CZ's will be available for you to purchase. I will take the pieces to my studio for firing, since the firing process for the glass is longer, and return them to the PAC for you to pick up.

Jewelry Finishing with Jill: For all skill levels, teen to adult.



**PMC Dichroic Necklace Class
-Lis Manken**



**“Peonies” Madden Watercolor Class
-Lorena Fink**

This class offers you the opportunity to make your own jewelry findings, look at samples of materials, make a pair of earrings, repair jewelry, make jewelry projects and receive a handy booklet of tips to take home.

Melinda’s Crop Night: Whether you’re an experienced scrap-booker, or a beginner, this night’s for you. Cost of \$10 includes food, but you are also welcome to bring your own drinks. Space is limited, but there are 3 evenings scheduled this month.

Fabric Painting and Printing with Grace: Learn to make original designs on fabric using a variety of techniques. Learn to use stencils, stamps, resist and faux finishing techniques. Design your own clothing, tote bags, quilts and more.

Madden Watercolor with Penny: In this beginning-intermediate class, offered by Madden Certified Teacher Penny Bledsoe, you will paint “Carmel Mission.”

Introduction to Airbrush with Joe Shaw: Classes by appointment. Hands on airbrush lessons. Students will learn what equipment to use and how to use it effectively, leaving with a booklet of information and a piece of artwork made by you.

For More Class Info... visit our website, where you can link to a calendar with all the dates, times, costs, and registration information. For further info, contact the Class

MARCH BULLETIN BOARD

Pro Arts East Bay Open Studios 2009

We have decided to once again participate in Pro Arts annual open studios event, to be held the first two weekends in June (**Saturday and Sunday, June 6th & 7th and Saturday and Sunday, June 13th & 14th, 2009**). The official EBOS hours are 11AM-6PM.

This year we will be at a location with more vehicle and foot traffic, in a retail space in the shopping center on Fitzgerald Drive, between Target and the old Mervyns, at **1360 Fitzgerald Drive**, Pinole, CA 94564. We will have keys so we can set-up and leave our displays during the week, and we will also have lights and restrooms.

We will eventually have the Annual Directory of Artists as well as post cards to advertise the event. Below is a list of events related to this year's East Bay Open Studios-some open to the public, some to exhibiting artists only. See the Pro Arts website for more details (www.ProArtsGallery.org)

- Friday thru Sunday, May 1-3 (from 12-6PM) Participating artists to install artwork at the Pro Arts gallery in Oakland.
- Tuesday, May 5th at 12PM: East Bay Open Studios Preview Exhibition Opens to the Public (each artist gets an approximately 20"x20" square of wall space to essentially advertise their open studio...you can hang artwork for sale, photos, jewelry...)
- Saturday, May 9th from 1-2PM: Meet & Greet receptions for Artists by neighborhood...for Crockett, Pinole, Kensington, Richmond, El Sobrante, Albany and surrounding cities. It is a chance for us to meet one another and exchange postcards...perhaps guiding visitors from one open studio to the next along the map.
- Saturday, June 4th, 6-8PM: Preview Gala and VIP reception for EBOS, a formal and festive evening with live music and champagne (tickets and information available at www.ProArtsGallery.org)
- Friday, June 5th at 6PM: Brake for Art: Art Bus Preview Tour offers an exclusive preview of select artists studios, wine and hors d'oeuvres. Tickets \$75 each.
- Saturday and Sunday June 6-7, 13-14 EBOS weekends, 11-6 daily
- Sunday June 14th at 5PM the EBOS exhibition at the Pro Arts Gallery in Oakland closes to the public.
- Tuesday thru Sunday, June 16-21 (from 12-6PM) Artists must de-install artwork at the Pro Arts Gallery.

Requests from our Treasurer

If you have any checks written to you from the Pinole Artisans, please deposit them as soon as possible, especially if they were dated in 2008. This makes reconciling our bank account much easier.

Penny has also requested that teacher's turn in money from their classes as soon as possible following your class so that deposits and book-keeping entries can be made in the month the class was held. Please have money to Penny by the 25th of the month (unless your class is held after the 25th of the month); you can drop it off at the Gallery and Penny will pick it up.

Art Center Teachers, we also would like to remind you that it is important to clean up the room after every single class. That means vacuuming, cleaning table tops, emptying the coffee pot and filter, taking garbage home with you, etc.

SAVE THE DATE

Friday, May 1st, 2009 at 7:00PM

Pinole Artisans will sponsor another fund-raiser dinner. Delicious food, raffle prizes, and entertainment. But that's not all! Start thinking about what you will wear, because it's a costume party as well. That's right. Who better than a bunch of creative type folks to come up with some imaginative, stunning costumers to add to the fun. More details to follow. For now, mark your calendar and start to work on your costume. Also start to think about if you are available to assist with set-up and clean up on the day of the event, or if you have items you would like to donate for the raffle.

Library Show

The next show at the Pinole Library, "Florals and More," will be installed on Wednesday, April 1, 2009. Photography, paintings, sculpture, jewelry, collages, fabric art. What a great opportunity to share your art with the community. **Take in dates: March 28, 29, 30.** Please call Vickie (510.758.3558) for entry forms or more information. And please plan to attend the **reception on Wednesday evening, April 8th at 7:00.** Semion Mirkin's beautiful painting, "Bookman" will be donated to the library. Come and celebrate with us! The last reception was lots of fun. Vickie was making foam-topped coffee drinks, Bill Lake was enjoying the lemonade, we had a visiting five-year-old live wire providing entertainment. There was lots of laughter and good conversation. What more could anyone possibly need in life?

"It's All About Love!" The current Library Show will be taken down on April 1st, so make sure you stop by and check out all the love-inspired work before it leaves the walls.

MARCH BULLETIN BOARD

2009 Refreshments Volunteers Needed

The following is a message from Jean Fisk.

“Dear Fellow Artisans,

I forgot to bring a list to the December meeting so everyone could sign up to bring refreshments for the 2009 monthly meetings. It's simple to do: just bring goodies for about 40 people, make hot water and coffee (Joan has the supplies and also the plates and napkins), then clean up afterward. Also, it is great if you can help set up chairs if needed. Just e-mail me with whatever month is good for you. I need 2 people each month.

Thanks.

-Jean Fisk” (Elmerandjean@aol.com)

Gallery reminders

There are a lot of us rotating in and out of the Gallery on sitting duty, and when we're all not there frequently, it can be hard to remember some procedures. That's why I'm offering a few reminders. Procedures for opening and closing are always available for review in the binder on the desk. Basically, be sure to clean up (especially any food, drink, coffee), lock-up (all doors inside the building, as well as doors leading to the outside, and set the alarm) and review procedures for making sales.

It is fairly important that we are putting down the correct information on our sales slips. Make sure each sales slip has the name of the person making the sale, the item number, description, and name of the artist who created it, the payment method, and the customer's contact information. All of these pieces of information are important for several reasons: (1) for book keeping (2) in case of failed transaction (3) for marketing purposes, so we can mail likely return customers notification of

upcoming shows and sales. Please collect customer's name, address, and phone number. Address is not necessary if the customer refuses, but their name is. An e-mail address is always a plus because we can do e-mail marketing for free.

Library Art

The Pinole Library is asking for help in putting together some classes for children in the summer of 2009. Anyone interested should contact :

Dori DeCommer

Youth Services Librarian

Pinole Library

2935 Pinole Valley Road

Pinole, CA 94564

(510) 758-2741 ext. 13

ddecomme@ccclib.org

Missing Stool at the PUMC

The following is a message from Jean Fisk.

“Greetings.

The organ scholars and I are missing an oak bar stool that was kept behind the organ. It was used to put the heater on when we practice the organ and also for me to sit on while I'm teaching the organ scholars. I have looked in all the rooms and storage spaces and haven't found it. It's been missing for two weeks now. It's Pastor Linda's stool. Let me know if you've seen it or know where it went.

-Jean” (Elmerandjean@aol.com)

FEBRUARY PEER AWARDS

FINE ART

1st Place: Roy Javellana for his carved wood walking stick “Owl on a Stick.”

2nd Place: Janie Chambers for a watercolor of her daughter entitled “Emily Reading.”

3rd Place: Sharon Chestang-Robinson for her photograph “Yosemite in January.”

JEWELRY

1st Place: Casey Storm-Norhtern for her “Free Form Peyote Bracelet.”

2nd Place: Lis Mahnken for her “Fine Silver Branches Pin.”

3rd Place: Janette Walters for her “Orange Checked Heart.”

Congrats to all of you who have received awards for your art. Doesn't it feel great to share your artwork and know that other people are connecting with it?! Don't forget that each month we encourage you to bring your art work to share at each general meeting, where we will do peer awards.

We also welcome you to hang your ribbons next to art that you enter in Gallery Shows.

IMPORTANT DATES TO REMEMBER

Tuesday, March 3rd, 2009 at 7:00PM: Board of Directors Meeting at the Art Center Classroom

(please note this is not our usual first Thursday of the month meeting date).

Friday, March 6th, 2009 at 7:00PM: Pinole Artisans General Mtg at the Pinole United Methodist Church.

Wednesday, February 11th, 2009: Reception for the Library Show from 7-8:30PM

Tuesday, March 10th, 2009: Take-In for the Gallery Show

Thursday, March 12th, 2009: Last Day of the Gallery Show “New Beginnings”

Installation of the new Gallery Show “Special Moments”

March: Starting in March, show hanging fees will increase to \$10 (currently at \$5) and the percent commission that the Pinole Artisans Foundation takes on sales will increase to 15%. This applies to Gallery Shows, Library Shows, and Farmers’ Market Sales.

March 28, 28, 30: Take-In artwork for the Library Show “Florals and More.”

Wednesday, April 1st, 2009: Last day of the current Library Show “It’s All About Love.”

Wednesday, April 8th, 2009 at 7:00PM: Reception for the new Library Show “Florals and More.”

Friday, May 1st, 2009: Pinole Artisans Spring Fund Raiser Dinner and Costume Party Meeting

Pro Arts East Bay Open Studios Events

Saturday and Sunday, June 6th & 7th, as well as

Saturday and Sunday, June 13th & 14th, 2009

WHO WE ARE

We believe that art enhances the quality of life of both individually and as a community. We are a group of artisans whose purpose in forming an organization is to:

- 1) Form a network for mutual learning and support
- 2) Provide art education, open to all levels of ability
- 3) Provide opportunities for artisans to show their works locally

The Pinole Artisans Foundation is a non-profit community organization whose purpose is to promote the arts, provide a forum for Pinole-area artists and artisans and to sponsor lectures, classes, and other

Contact Information: Board of Directors

President—Joan Landis (510) 758-2935, President@PinoleArtisans.org

Vice President—Ira Nelken (510) 222-9668, VicePresident@PinoleArtisans.org

Secretary—Amanda Bruun (510) 499-1283, Secretary@PinoleArtisans.org, PinoleArtisans@yahoo.com

Treasurer—Penny Bledsoe, Treasurer@PinoleArtisans.org

Founder and Board Member—Vickie Resso (510) 758-3558, Info@PinoleArtisans.org

Board Members: Roy Javellana, Jean Fisk, and Semion Mirkin

Webmaster—Alan Vaughn—Webmaster@PinoleArtisans.org

PublicRelations@PinoleArtisans.org—Ralph McCaskey

Classes@PinoleArtisans.org—Lorena Fink