

Mint Hill Arts met August 26, 2008.

Laura opened the meeting with reminders about nametags, door prize tickets, and set up and takedown of chairs.

Saga announced that our **September gallery show** celebrates our one-year anniversary and therefore will be titled, "ONE." We want each MHA member to submit one work, your best or favorite work of art. The show runs from September 12 through October 3. Take in will be Friday, September 5, 10-1 and September 6, 12-2. Pick-up will be October 3, 12-2. Pick-up for the August show is Sept 5, 10-1. Emails will be forthcoming with reminders of take-in and pick-up times.

Laura said September is a busy month for MHA. Everyone should check out the classes that are offered and pass out the information to friends. Classes and workshops are a source of income for MHA and we need the funds since we are now paying rent for our space.

September events are:

- The **portrait draw** on the first Tuesday, September 2, 7-9 p.m.
- **Figure drawing** on the third Tuesday, September 16, 7-9 p.m.
- Our **monthly meeting** on the fourth Tuesday, September 23, 7 p.m. **Phyllis Knight** will be our presenter, doing a mixed media demo. (Laura thanked Carole Sikula for taking the program committee chairmanship.)
- Friday, September 19, our **appreciation luncheon for GRACE INNOVATIONS**. (Emails will be forthcoming with details.)
- The **Cultural Free-for-All** on September 20. A group of Mint Hill Organizations—the Children's Museum, the Scottish Society, the Mint Hill Historical Society and Mint Hill Arts—is establishing a small cultural district and hopes to get designated as an art district. We will have a day, September 20, set aside in conjunction with the Cultural Free-for-All and be open from 9-9. We will have a make-it-and-take-it craft. We need gallery sitters for that day.
- **Mint Hill Madness** on September 25-28. We need volunteers to man the tent.

Laura then gave special recognition to **Ginny Edelen** for her role in establishing Mint Hill Arts and presented her with a lifetime professional membership in Mint Hill Arts.



Kate announced that she will have training **for gallery sitters** on September 8 at 11 a.m. The gallery is open from Tuesday through Saturday from 10 -3. Kate has the calendar for sitter sign-ups. We need more people to volunteer.

Laura then introduced our featured speaker, Bruce Chandler who has won numerous awards locally, nationally and internationally. Bruce gave a very informational, interesting, and encouraging presentation on preparing for and entering shows that was a good follow up on Bonnie Brown's presentation last month.

She offered options and ideas for framing that save money and suggested some helpful companies such as JFM and American Frame. She said American Frame offers fund raising opportunities for arts groups. You may email Bruce for more information (watercolor29440@aol.com). She also suggested shopping Goodwill and consignment stores for bargains on frames.

She then discussed the value of art magazines and the value of getting on mailing lists for shows, but the need to be careful of new shows. She suggested checking out the art magazines carefully and subscribing to the best, but the best often changes as editorial staff changes. Last year she was particularly pleased with *The Pastel Journal*. She said you can read these magazines in the library and get the list of shows from the ads. It may be more helpful to read books such as *Splash* or *The Best of Oil Painting* to study excellent works and then to compare your work with those.

She shared a few quotes from Robert Genn's latest *Painter's Keys* * letter that compared entering shows to the Olympics. "In today's art world," she said, "concept is first." Viewers want to see your connection to the painting, to see life in the work. Therefore, you should paint what you know and connect with.

She then showed some samples of her award winning work and explained what drew the judges to them. She gave a helpful critique of another piece of art and some tips on doing your own photography.

Laura reminded us that Bruce has two upcoming workshops and a show in our gallery on October 2 of her own and some of her students' work.

Terry had given out door prize tickets and Bruce was asked to draw the winning ticket, won by Vicky Crossman, who received a gift card from Binder's.

We adjourned and had a time of social interaction.

Respectfully submitted,
Martha Faires
Secretary, MHA

**Painters Keys* is an informative online resource by Canadian artist Robert Genn. You can subscribe at <http://www.painterskeys.com/subscribe/#top>.

