

The Informer

American Canyon Arts Foundation Newsletter, **January 2015**

Another Winterfest Success!

We closed out another year with our annual Winterfest Crafts Show and Open House, held Friday, December 5 at the Gallery.

An estimated 75 members and guests were on hand to enjoy the refreshments and festivities, including music by members of the New Hot Ice Band. They also played at a New Year's Eve Party at the Gallery.

The Open House also served as a "Thank You" event for our 2014 sponsors (see attached photo). This year, thanks to Brenda Knight, we raised over \$2000 in sponsorships!

We also announced two Lifetime Memberships.

First was Bonnie Waxman, one of the founding members

American Canyon Arts Foundation
ARTS • CULTURE • CREATIVITY

Winterfest OPEN HOUSE

A special thanks to our sponsors:

- Recology
- UMPUQUA BANK
- David R. York, CFA MST Premium Income Tax Services
- ORCHARD PARTNERS
- KEITH CALDWELL Napa County 5th District Supervisor
- Greenstreet Companies
- The LODGE DATA SOLUTIONS
- Holiday Inn Express
- LAKE STREET VINEYARDS
- Go Vines REALTY
- American Canyon Tourism Improvement Board
- RH HESS DEVELOPMENT
- FAIRFIELD VINEYARDS Marriott
- JAMIESON RANCH
- FASTSIGNS
- Jennifer Lockette
- Walmart
- Brenda Knight events

of the Foundation. She has also been historian, Secretary, Newsletter Editor and champion of the Open Studios program.

Second was Brenda Knight who has partnered with the Foundation to put on "Music in the Park," not to mention her latest sponsorship drive!

Although we did not have our photo shoot with Santa and Mrs. Claus (they are busy this time of year, you know!), we did have over a dozen decorated trees on sale and all but one was sold, or donated to the Season of Giving program, put on by the Kiwanis.

And we hosted over 75 people who enjoyed the City's decorated home tours, with hot chocolate and treats!

Now, on to a prosperous 2015!



ANNUAL MEETING

JANUARY 11

Our annual Membership Dinner Meeting will be held at LaStrada's Restaurant on Sunday, January 11.

We start with no-host cocktails at 5:30, followed by buffet dinner at 6:00 and the meeting thereafter.

The Agenda includes electing new Board Members, receiving the Annual Report, and the unveiling of our new Logo! Still only \$30/person. RSVP by Tuesday, 1/6/15.

Faye Gonsalves

Last month, Saturday, December 6, we lost another long-term member, Faye Gonsalves.

Faye was very giving to the Foundation—you could always count on her to decorate a tree for Winterfest, or donate time and money.

She was also a Board member until last year.

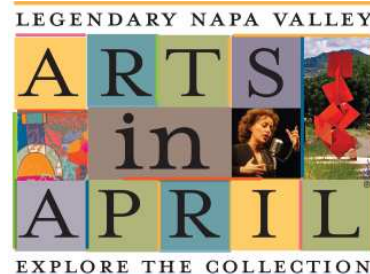
We will miss her.



Art Extravaganza 2015 Preview!

We are working on next year's Art Extravaganza, which is our major fund raiser and part of the annual Napa Valley Arts in April program.

This year, we have a very exciting program set up. First, the juried art show will be held at Jamieson Ranch Vineyards, with incredible views and grounds.



The show will be held from Wednesday, April 1 through Thursday, April 9. The Call For Artists will be out later

views and grounds.

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The Never-Ending Gallery Story!

There's an old line about when something is over—and based on that, we haven't heard any singing at the Gallery!

Back in October, a number of issues converged to justify shutting down the Gallery at the end of 2014. First, there was a change in ownership and the new owner had different plans for the building. Then we recognized that a Gallery and Boutique didn't make economic sense, although classes might (and we didn't need all the space for classes).

After the Board decided to close the Gallery, a number of events developed. First, we started looking for a number of other locations, smaller in size and with an affordable price tag. We looked at several, and each one fell through—either the building was going to be put up for sale, or it was too expensive, or it

wasn't available for exclusive use.

Then, we heard from one person who was interested in renting some of the Gallery space. The new owner was willing to work with us; even some of our members were willing to help out financially for a few months.



Meanwhile, we needed to empty the building to make way for a New Year's Eve party, and because we told the

owner we'd be out in early January!

So now we're at another crossroads: do we rent out the two offices at both ends and keep the large gallery area for a ceramics program and a fine arts class and meeting room, recognizing that we will continue to lose money until we build up a strong class following. Or do we move on, and focus on fund raising that has proven successful in the past and use those proceeds to further our mission of supporting artists and the community?

At the upcoming Membership Meeting, we will have a general discussion on this topic. We need to hear from our members—yes, the Board makes the final decision, but something like this needs input from all.

Make sure you RSVP for the dinner to be held on January 11 at LaStrada's!

Membership News

We're getting a lot of renewals for 2015—and we hope for a lot more! Here's the list so far (*and if we missed you, please let us know!*):

- Bufalini, Lee
- Chiodo, Mario (**New**)
- Crowell, Marge
- DeAsis, Chris
- Dennis, Snookie
- Fouts, Gloria
- Harris, Jan
- Johnson, Rosalind Simmons
- Joseph, Mark & Cheryl
- LaBaw, Roberta
- Lockette, Jennifer

- Nabrynski, Joe & Nancy (**New**)
- Neumeier, Shanda (**New**)
- Nischal, Arvind (**New**)
- Phillips, Margaret
- Shields, Joyce (**New**)
- Shigley, Dana & Paul
- Sowonde, Askari (**New**)
- Tyler, Sylvia

There's still time to renew at the 2014 rates. Just RSVP for the Annual Membership meeting (January 11 at LaStrada's) and pay for the meal *and* the membership at the door!

This year we plan on sending out Membership ID Cards as well as working on adding value for your membership.

Our New Logo

Last month, we told you the Board was going to decide on a new logo for the Foundation. Want to know which logo was approved? No problem—we'll be unveiling it at the Annual Membership Meeting, January 11 at LaStrada's.

Or you can wait until the February edition of **The Informer**—we'll show it off officially at that time.

The new logo is part of a County Grant we received last year to enhance our marketing efforts and materials, from brochures to postcards, from letterhead to envelopes.

Upcoming Board Retreat

Instead of a regular board meeting in January, we will hold our annual Board Retreat, tentatively scheduled for Sunday, January 25.

The Retreat serves a number of purposes. First, for new board members, it is a chance to learn more about the Foundation and its various internal policies. Second, it gives the new Board a chance to select its officers and review key policies, such as our Mission, Vision and Values.

And of course, it is the time when we develop our two-year work plan, that sets our goals for the upcoming year.

This year, we will take input from our members from our annual membership meeting to help us set a course that may or may not include a Gallery.

Our new mailing address, as of January 1, 2015:

**101 W. American Canyon Rd #508
PMB #163
American Canyon CA 94503**

Art Show Preview *(Continued from page 1)*

There, we will partner not only with the winery, but with nationally acclaimed sculptor, **Mario Chiodo**. He will be our featured speaker, and also display numerous works of art, including models from his "Remember Them" monument in Oakland. His talk, "From Monsters to Monuments" will be at the winery on Wednesday, April 8, starting at 5:30 p.m.

There's more in the works, from Popup Art Shows to Guided Tours, but that's for next month's edition!