



desoto arts council

artbeat →

July 2016

### ART MATTERS

By: Edith Herring, DAC President

### SUMMER SOLSTICE “ARTISTS IN ACTION”

The DAC welcomed summer on Saturday, June 25 with a very special “ARTISTS IN ACTION” event. DAC Gallery Artists were out on the street and inside the Gallery demonstrating how they create their art. Participating artists were: **Mark Poole, Jeb Lord, Joe Hartley and students Melanie Glenn & Barb Thompson, Wanda Prothro and Wayne Roberts.** Visitors had the opportunity to watch, ask questions and enjoy the artists as they work. There were refreshments and free art activities for adults and children. Immediately following the event, the participating artists were treated to a catered lunch from Village Cuisine as appreciation for their braving the heat and doing such a good job of showing how they create their art. DAC Volunteers were: **Linda Brown, Carol Paga, Bobbie Cunningham, Gloria Peters, Edith Herring, Becky Lawson and Bobbie Roberts.**

### CHURCHES OF DESOTO EXHIBIT MOVES TO LOGANSPOUR

**Cindy Williams** will be moving the traveling DeSoto Arts Council exhibit, “Churches of DeSoto” to the Logansport Library for the month of July. Folks in that area are invited to visit their library for a special showing of many of their churches. Each showing is accompanied by a book of information on many of the churches in the exhibit. Next stop will be Stonewall for the month of August. DAC members working on this special project are: **Cindy Williams, Rowena Anderson and Linda Brown.**



### CHANGES IN CULTURAL DISTRICT TAX

The State of Louisiana has notified DAC that beginning on July 1, 2016, there will be a 3% state sales tax charged on all original art under the “Cultural District” program. This increase is, of course, due to the state budget shortfalls.

### DAC ART CLASSES:



**DAC Gallery artist, Vicky Williamson** has scheduled a 3-day Water Color Class on July 14, 15 & 16. from 10:30 am – 2 pm (30 min. lunch break, brown bag) Fee is \$80 and does not include supplies. Vicky Williamson has been a watercolorist for over 35 years, is a Signature Member of the Watercolor Art Society of Houston. Her paintings have been accepted into the International Watercolor Show and she has won various awards for her paintings. If you are interested in this class, please call 318-663-3080 or email [desotoartscouncil@gmail.com](mailto:desotoartscouncil@gmail.com) for details.

### DAC GALLERY VOLUNTEERS

DAC Gallery Volunteers will be honored at their Annual Appreciation event on Thursday, June 14 at 6 pm in the DAC Gallery in Grand Cane, LA. **Bobbie Cunningham**, Volunteer Coordinator will lead a short recap of procedures, after which there will be fellowship activities and refreshments. Volunteers are asked to RSVP to Bobbie at 318-461-1280 or [cunnibh@gmail.com](mailto:cunnibh@gmail.com).



### DAC Displays Unique Uncle Sams

Nationally recognized woodcarver, Joe Hartley, expresses his creativity in a number of ways and a few years ago, he created two very unique Uncle Sam figures out of PVC pipe. And currently, the DeSoto Arts Council displays them in their annual DAC Gallery patriotic front display window.

Visitors are invited to stop by and see the display and visit the DAC Gallery in Grand Cane, LA during regular business hours: Thurs-Sat 10 am – 1:30 pm. The DAC Gallery is filled with original art forms, including: paintings, wood carvings, pottery, jewelry, cards, prints, and unique art gift items in the Room for ALL Seasons gift shop. Call 318-663-3080 for more information. The DAC Gallery is maintained completely by volunteers and they are always willing to share their love and understanding of our artists and their art.

Joe Hartley is currently offering classes in beginning woodcarving. Contact him at 318-218-6446.

## 'Art is the Answer....What was the Question'

*Exploring the positive influence of art on child development.*

Sarah Glenn Duncan, B.A. M.S. LPC

Not long ago I happened upon and was greatly inspired by, of all things, a GatorAde commercial. It's summertime in DeSoto Parish so replenishment of fluids and electrolytes is always a germane topic, but this ad was different in the most astounding of ways. Featured was Louisiana son Peyton Manning, but he was not passing or rushing or even breaking a sweat; he was writing thank you notes. In a most touching and beautiful montage, the notes were read by the recipients. Coaches, teammates, fans, friends, family, recounted a moment in time when a man revered for his sporting abilities took a moment to put pen to paper and write simple but genuine letters of thanks, condolence, congratulations, reminiscence, shared sadnesses and joys. It was tempting to sit right down and write a letter! But instead I will settle for writing to you all about it. Inspiration can come from the most unexpected quarters....and so can some artistically rendered original stationery!

Art can be drawn directly onto or cut and mounted upon a blank card, doodles perhaps left in the margins of a long letter, the endless supply of kid art can get a stamp on it and brighten the days of far flung relatives or the walls of homebound friends. SpeedBall has some wonderful block printing products that make more accessible the traditional linoleum printing technique, and a monogram stamp or personalized mark can be inked or stamped for effects ranging from classical to whimsical.

Granted, the humble legal pad and the fabled cocktail napkin have carried some of the most amazing sentiments, and boxes of fancy embossed cotton rag lie sadly blank and thirsting for a drop of ink...but if a bit of encouragement in the form of some fabulously unique stationery will inspire a letter? It may not warrant your own commercial, but it just may be tucked away as an invaluable treasure by someone touched beyond measure that you took the time to.....make art!

### **DAC SETS ANNUAL MEETING**

The DeSoto Arts Council will hold its Annual Meeting on Tuesday, July 19, 2016 at the DAC Gallery in Grand Cane, LA at 6 pm. All DAC members and interested visitors are welcome to attend. Among items on the short business agenda will be the election of DAC Board Members.



The DAC is excited to announce that Neil Johnson will be the Featured Guest Speaker. Johnson is a nationally known professional photographer, who works and lives in Shreveport, LA. In addition to his studio, he writes an art based column for the Shreveport Times. Armed with a degree in communications from Washington & Lee University and photography as a hobby, Johnson has built an impressive photography career in two directions: shooting for magazines and commercial clients and magazine work, which evolved into non-fiction books for young readers and then coffee table photo books.

Johnson states, "My work is very much about interpreting an intoxicatingly visual world into this wonderfully versatile medium. I relish the challenge of translating the three dimensions of a subject into the two dimensions of a photograph. Like architecture. Or a dancer. Or a studio still life. Or a drilling rig. Or a portrait. Or a cityscape. Or a detail in nature...My life is all about color and light and exploration and art and travel and love and music and drama and stories. What are the connecting threads that run through all this and hold it all together? Photography, of course, curiosity, a strong belief that life is a gift and a deep faith in a loving God."

Mark your calendars and plan to join us for our Annual Meeting – you won't want to miss this informative and entertaining program. Call 318-663-3080 for more information.



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