



Sacandaga Valley Arts Network

PO Box 660 Northville, NY 12134

KEEPING IN TOUCH December 2007

The **SVAN BOARD OF DIRECTORS** wishes each and every one of you a very **Merry Christmas** and **a healthy and prosperous 2008**. As we are finishing a year that seemed to fly by as fast as it came in we are anxiously looking forward to all the great things we have planned for 2008. The committees have been busy, the grant application process is completed and we are looking to develop the budget as soon as the grant numbers come in. Our quilting team has completed the 2008 Quilt and our fundraiser **"ADIRONDACK AQUATICS"** debut's in January.



FJ Casler

So what's new?

A New Membership Directory- Within our mission of promoting the Arts throughout the Sacandaga Region is the charge to assist and support our members. A new project has emerged and is led by board member Darla J. Oathout. Darla will be developing a new membership directory during the first half of 2008. The directory will provide a way for SVAN members to share interests and network with other members. You will receive a form to submit the information you wish included in the directory. Many decisions regarding the directory are still in the workshop area. If you have any input we are all ears. Thanks go out to Darla for her motivation and desire to take on this challenge. Watch for more information to come!

Sacandaga Valley Arts Center? – One of our dreams for years has been to have a place where we could meet, have classes, artistic events and an art gallery and shop. Such a place is available (and the location is right) but how do we fund it? With quick pencil and paper I find that if each and every member pledged \$250 to \$300 to our building fund for 2008 we would be able to purchase the building.

Any gifts to this fund are 100% tax deductible. (We are a tax exempt 501c3 organization) I am well aware that no organization would ever be lucky enough to have every member pledge this amount or more, however, it serves as a place to start and it never hurts to ask.

These opportunities will come up now and then and if we don't get this one there will likely be another. If you have the means and would like to make a tax deductible donation to our building fund you can do so by sending a check to **SVAN** at the address above and noting on the check **"Building Fund"**. We would also be able to take other forms of donations. Another idea would be a gift of highly appreciated stock. A donor could give us a stock that has high capital gains. The donor would receive a tax deduction related to the value of the stock and we could sell the stock without the tax issues. There are many ways to make this dream happen. If you are excited to help create this **Sacandaga Valley Art Center** we need to hear from you. A pledge form is located later in this letter or if you wish you can speak to someone in person. Just go to the website at www.svanarts.org and use the contact form. An executive committee member will contact you promptly. **A \$300 pledge amounts to just \$25 per month.** Wouldn't it be fantastic to have our local arts center before we see 2010? I think so!

Our new 2008 Quilt, "ADIRONDACK AQUATICS"- Board member Barbara Sherwood tells me the quilt is done and will make its first appearance at the first Coffeehouse Concert in January. Barbara serves on our board of directors and is a quilter as well. She serves as the committee chair for the quilters. The quilt this year should appeal to the masculine side as it takes on more of a wildlife look. You be the judge! Come to the concert Sunday, January 13. Hear Grey Larson and Cindy Kallet on Irish Flute, tin whistle, fiddle and vocals done right in front of our beautiful quilt. These concerts are a great inexpensive night out. There is always some light supper fare for sale at low prices and you can have an evening concert and dinner for around 15 bucks. **Where can you beat it!**

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***** NOW HEAR THIS! THIS IS BIG NEWS! SPREAD THE WORD! *****

ADVANCE NOTICE: The music committee would like to share with all our members that we have signed **Jay Ungar and Molly Mason** to open our summer 2008 park series on **July 13 at 5 PM**. That seems like a long way off right now but you will want to be sure to clear your calendar for an unprecedented event provided by Sacandaga Valley Arts Network! For those of you who may be unfamiliar with Jay and Molly, their music was the back drop for the Ken Burns' Civil War documentary on public television. This work earned them many accolades and awards. Watch upcoming newsletters for more information.

Art In Mayfield- The artist of the Month is **Constance Dodge**. The work of Edinburg artist Constance Dodge will continue to be shown through the end of the month of December. Please stop by the **Mayfield Community Library** to view the art exhibit.

Dorothy Quick, a **watercolor artist** residing in Amsterdam will be featured from **January 2 -30**. Dorothy has traveled throughout Alaska, the Northwest, the coastal region and Adirondacks. She paints primarily beautiful and natural renderings of landscapes.

Kathy Oakes, **watercolor artist** will exhibit from **February 1 to 29**. Kathy chose the medium of watercolor because of its luminous qualities. She believes that by using various techniques to achieve the mood, it has allowed her to grow as an artist. Kathy is a Signature Member of The Central New York Watercolor Society and the owner of the Oakes Framing and Art Gallery. She has attended many workshops and studied with several accomplished painters.

We will feature **Stu Eichel** from **March 1 March 31**. Stu is no stranger to us at Sacandaga Valley Arts Network. If you missed his meet the artist night a few months ago you won't want to miss his upcoming show. **Stu Eichel, an oil painter from Saratoga Springs**, recently moved to Saratoga from Tennessee with his wife, Greta. He has a formal education in graphic design with a BFA from Pratt Institute and continued design courses at the School of Visual Arts in New York. At the age of 56, Eichel developed a "serious interest in fine art." He enrolled at the University of Tennessee where he discovered painting to be his true passion. Eichel paints local buildings, emphasizing their age and imperfections, choosing "old things that are surviving." He is driven by an interest to reveal the personality of a place so he will develop many canvases within one community. Eichel prefers to paint on-site, choosing old, sometimes dilapidated structures. He refers to these types of subjects as the "underbelly" of a town. Eichel believes it is within these old structures that the true essence of a town can emerge, adding to their potency as images. He has exhibited locally and throughout Washington County and Vermont, as well as Tennessee.

Meet the Artist- SVAN was proud to host many artists work at Meet the Artist nights at the Mayfield Community Library. Please note the Meet The Artist program has been combined with an Exhibit series for future programming. The Artist of the Month will have a Meet The Artist night and will also have their art exhibit for viewing throughout each month.

If you can get a chance to attend these events you definitely will not be disappointed! Watch for information coming on the 2008 Meet The Artist program to come out soon. This program is co-sponsored by SVAN and the Friends of the Mayfield Library, and is funded in part by a NYSCA Grant administered by the Tri-County Arts Council. **The Program is free. All are welcome.**

SVAN T-Shirts- are available for \$10.00. They are blue with our SVAN Logo on the front and on the back they say, "Let the Arts float your boat!" If you would like a T-shirt please call Frank at 321-3468 or get them at the Art Shows and Concerts.

Drawing Class- The drawing class taught by Connie was so enjoyed by it's students they have continued for a second series. Learn the fundamentals of drawing with Edinburg Artist, Constance Dodge. The focus is on drawing from life observations, experiences and imagination. This class is open to beginners as well as those who have drawing experience. Participants were introduced to line, shade/value, textural mark making and spatial relationships including perspective. Traditional materials will be used along with experimental media. Color was to be introduced toward the end of the first six-week class. The goal throughout will be to develop dramatic contrast in drawing. Classes meet at the Edinburg Community Center from 6:00 to 8:00 P.M. Tuition is \$45.00 for SVAN members, \$50.00 for nonmembers. Call Connie at 863- 2201 for further information.

The SVAN Film Club- There will be no film club meetings in December. The club will meet the first and third Thursday in January. There will be no meetings in February. Please call Mary Ann Evans at 863-7052 for more information.

SVAN COFFEEHOUSE CONCERT SERIES- Sacandaga Valley Arts Network presents our fourth season of Sunday Coffeehouse concerts starting on **January 13, 2008**, at the Fellowship Hall of the Northville United Methodist Church, Main St., Northville. Doors will open at 4:45 pm; with the concert beginning at 5:30 pm. Be sure to mark your calendar now!

On January 13th **Grey Larsen and Cindy Kallet** will bring their distinct talents of Original and Traditional Folk Music to Northville. **Grey Larsen** is considered an authority and exceptional performer on the Irish flute and tin whistle, he is also accomplished in both West Virginia and Scandinavian fiddle styles. **Cindy Kallet** is an award winning songwriter with fluid vocals and exceptional guitar work. This event will also mark the release of their first CD together as a team. To learn more check out Grey's website at www.greylarsen.com.

Adult donation is \$10.00; SVAN members \$7.00. Youth under the age of 18 will be admitted at no cost when accompanied by an adult. Light supper fare will be available at an additional, reasonable cost. For further information, call 863-7078 or 883-5761 or visit the SVAN website at www.svanarts.org.

This concert is made possible, in part, with a Community Cultural Grant from New York State Council on the Arts, administered in Fulton, Montgomery, and Schoharie counties by Tri County Arts Council.

Three other coffeehouse dates in the series have been scheduled: On **February 10th**, **Maria Zemantauski and Brian Melick will perform Flamenco guitar fused with rhythm.**

On **March 9th** the **Stringduster's** will perform with traditional country, bluegrass and swing. The series will come to an end on **April 13th** with **Annie and the Hedonist's**, featuring soulful singing of jazz, folk, swing, and bluegrass standards. Save the dates, come join us as we have the three F's - **fun, fellowship and food.**

For more information, Contact: Susan Casler 883-5761 or Robin Gaiser 863-7078

Edinburg Classical Concerts- Many thanks to all who helped make the Edinburg/SVAN Classical Concert series so very successful in 2007. We look forward to another fantastic series in 2008. From the committee, the volunteers and the audience the feedback continues to be encouraging. The committee members feel we have met our goal of bringing the best in classical musicians to our area at an affordable price. Kudo's to all SVAN members who support programs such as this in our area. A very special thanks to Jeanne MacCorkle who manages to lead an army of volunteers each year and pull off an enormous task. **Bringing big city music to a small town.**

Coordinator Needed- we are in need of a special volunteer. (We are all volunteers) We need someone to coordinate and track the locations for showing our 2008 commemorative quilt. The person in this role will schedule the dates and locations for the quilt from April to August 2008. You will work with the current Quilt committee chair and the treasurer. We have a current schedule of locations used each year as a base. Locating a few new locations would enhance the program. This program is an important core SVAN program and its success is very important to us. If you can help us by being the coordinator next summer please call MaryAnn Evans at 863- 7052 or Frank Casler at 321-3468.

Drumming Circle- The drum circle continues to meet the 3rd Sunday of every month from 3-5 PM at the Northville Fire Hall. We are considering changing the location in 2008 so if you are interested please call for further information. Please call Sue at 883-5761 with any questions.



THANK YOU FOR SUPPORTING THE ARTS

SEE YOU NEXT YEAR!

I Pledge \$_____ toward the SVAN Building Fund for the fiscal year 1/1/2008 to 12/31/2008

I am supporting the SVAN Building Fund with a one time gift of \$_____.

From: Name _____
Address _____

Mail to: Sacandaga Valley Arts Network
P.O. Box 660
Northville, NY 12134

Check here___ if you would like us to mail you a receipt for your contribution. Thank-you!

*For your contribution to be tax deductible for 2007 it must be received or postmarked by 12/31/07.

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