Following up on the success of our First Impressions Artists’ Workshop in 2007, we are offering it again on April 25. The following sessions are offered as part of our mission to provide educational opportunities for artists:

**Watercolor Painting Basics with Lorraine McDonald:**
If you are intrigued by watercolour artwork, this is your opportunity to learn the basics with artist, Lorraine McDonald. This workshop will allow you to work with watercolours in a relaxing and supportive atmosphere. You will learn about paints, brushes, papers, water, and the many effects that can be created with a few brush strokes. This is an excellent workshop for novices, as well as those who haven’t painted recently.

Lorraine has an extensive background in arts and education. She studied at the Ontario College of Art and Design, holds a teaching certificate from Stratford Teacher’s College and a diploma in Fine Art from Sheridan College. Lorraine has conducted numerous workshops in drawing and watercolor painting.

**Drawing Faces with Character with Patricia Turbitt:**
This workshop incorporates a simple template for working with proportions. Using this tool, the participants will explore various ways to depict age, character, and emotion. There will also be instruction in the use of light and shadow to complete the drawings. This is a morning session.

“I love to draw faces, but I am not too interested in pretty people. I would much sooner draw a face that shows character: sorrow or fear, pride or compassion. The face of an elderly person has so much more of the human experience to show than the face of youth,” explains Patricia. Her training in Interior Design included two years of Fine Art. After her retirement, she took art lessons from Lynn Souliere and Tony Luciani for several years.

**Professional Microphone Techniques for Live Sound and Recording with Chris Moon:**
This is an afternoon session full of sound advice. Much like a visual artist uses a paintbrush as a critical tool, an audio engineer uses a microphone to accurately capture color and sound. This seminar provides a beginner's overview of microphones, ranging from physics theory, to technical characteristics of microphones, to practical application. Everyone with an interest in audio engineering, from the performing musician to the curious amateur, will come away with a good foundation in the basics of microphone technique.

Chris, an industry experienced record producer, owns and operates *This Dark Empire Records* in Listowel. He is a graduate of Fanshawe College’s elite Music Industry Arts program, where he studied music business, engineering, and audio production taught by industry notables such as Jack Richardson (The Guess Who, Alice Cooper) and Siegfried Meier (The Salads, The Gandharvas). To date, Chris has production and engineering credits on over 20 albums. His work is represented through *This Dark Empire Records* with national retail distribution and international digital distribution deals.

The full day of fun and information includes a Starving Artists’ Soup and Sandwich Lunch as part of the workshop fee. Be sure to register early to avoid disappointment, as class sizes are limited to ensure the most effective experience for the participants. Registration information is available on our web site, NorthPerthArts.ca or by calling 519-291-2583.
Cathy Bitton

Many of you will recognize Cathy as a local actress who mastered many roles in the fondly remembered Music Alive musicals as well as in several other productions.

Cathy has been with the Arts Council since February 2006, serving as Treasurer for two years. Always ready to jump in with both feet, Cathy has been a tremendous asset to the board, whether manning a booth, selling tickets, helping at events or serving as a one person catering service for the Starving Artists Luncheon at our last First Impressions Workshop.

Cathy, your enthusiasm, sense of fun and creative input will be missed. Thank you! We wish you all the best as you pursue new interests in the volunteer sector.

Joan Moore

Joan joined the board in February 2008. Her financial expertise made her the perfect candidate for the treasurer’s position at a time when it was greatly needed. We are grateful for her diligence in this area. Joan brought a practical and straightforward problem solving attitude to our meetings, which was appreciated by all members. Her knowledge and assistance with marketing have been great assets.

A sister-actress to Cathy, Joan has also carried her share of roles in Music Alive and other productions, in our area over the years. If you have a NPACC concert ticket for our concert on April 20, you will witness Joan making a lively appearance, along with CKNX’s Phil Main.

Joan, much thanks! We’re sorry to see you go, but know you will make a great contribution in your next chosen area of volunteerism.

Patricia Turbitt

Patricia joined the board at our annual meeting on April 14, bravely taking on the position of Treasurer. With 18 years retail experience, and 10 years serving as a member for the Listowel Memorial Hospital board, the Huron Perth Health Partnership and participating in the planning for the reconstruction of the Listowel Hospital, Pat will be an invaluable member of our board.

Keenly interested in visual art, music and theatre, Pat says she is amazed by the amount and caliber of talent in the North Perth area in all these fields. An accomplished artist, she has taken several years of art classes to develop her talent, recently presented a showing of her work at the Christian Dennis Studio in Listowel, and will be teaching a face drawing class at our upcoming First Impressions Workshop on April 25.

We’re delighted to have you join us, Pat!

Margrét Comack

Margrét also joined the board at our recent annual meeting. As CEO of the Listowel Wingham Hospitals Alliance for the past 10 years, member of the Ontario Hospital Association from 2001 to 2006, and having served on various professional association boards, she brings a multitude of practical skills, which will be an asset to our young and growing organization. She has accepted the position of By-Law Officer, so we believe we are in capable hands!

Margrét’s interest in serving with NPACC stems from her commitment to surrounding herself with people who have an equal interest in supporting local art and cultural activities. She has a strong interest in music, studied piano for many years and plays for her own pleasure. As an accomplished seamstress she has made everything from wedding and formal gowns to curtains. Painting and drawing have been life interests.

Currently, she is focusing on developing her photography and writing skills. Margrét explains she is “basically looking to live from my heart through creative self expression rather than from the cognitive domain of 40 years of professional life.”

Welcome aboard, Margrét!
Because Mommies are Awesome Contest

Photographer, Amanda Stratton, is inviting nominations for awesome mothers. If you visit her blogspot at http://livingproofphotography.blogspot.com, and click on the contest link, you'll discover how her own mother inspired her to put the offer out there for other mothers to be acknowledged in an exciting way. The winning nominee will receive an amazing special day, packed full of surprises! Entry rules, instructions for entry submission and prize information are on the blog. Nominations will be accepted until May 7 at 11:59 pm and the winner will be announced on May 8, in time for Mother's Day. The contest is part of the 'Giving is Awesome' initiative.

NPACC Summer Art Experience

This year's summer art program is taking on a new format. It will be held from August 10-14th for young people aged 10 to 15. It promises experiences to inspire and excite the budding artist.

The theme is “The Summer Garden”. Each day a different medium will be explored to creatively portray the theme. Mediums will be photography with Gary Moon, watercolour painting with Rosemary Galloway, mixed media collage with Janine Bakelaar, and drawing and paper maché with Keith Devries. The program will be 5 full-day sessions with a supervised lunch period. Students are required to bring their own lunch.

Keep posted to our website at www.NorthPerthArts.ca for further details and registration. Enrolment will be limited. Inquiries can be directed to Brenda Kaufman at 519-291-4167 or email brenda.kaufmanart@gmail.com

NPACC Concert Series #2

Paul's Odd Friends

Sunday, May 31 ~ 2:00 pm at Theatre Three-Eleven

By Paul Dekker

Paul's Odd Friends is a play on the unusual nature of musicians in general (more particularly of my friends), as well as the unusual collection of music we will be performing (songs are also my friends).

I am honoured to share the stage with locals Chris McIntosh (singer and drummer with Need an Elevator), Arif Qureshi (Drummer with NAE, Licks and other local groups), Mitchell Dekker (base, vocals and drums with Thirteen O’clock), Alex Mason (guitar with Thirteen O’clock) Karli Purcell (singer and guitarist recently featured at The Anchor Pub), Brian McMurren (base with Need An Elevator), Agnes Marie Henderson (composer and recording artist), Alex Alejandrios (singer with The Cavaliers of London and long time friend/collaborator with yours truly) and Bob “Booker” Boertien (guest vocalist with NAE). That’s the short list at this time and there may be others as well.

The focus of this show is newer music (rather than old classics) with a few originals and a few old favourites of mine as well. There's some current rock (nothing screaming), some current country and a couple of gems from people like Paul Simon, Robert Plant and Peter Gabriel. Let me introduce you to a few odd friends.

This concert is sponsored by J.H. Keeso and Sons Ltd., Listowel.
Tickets $20 each, available at The Bookery, Chocolates on Main, and Selinger's Music in Listowel. Or call 519-291-4167. Our third concert in the series, on November 22, at Theatre Three-Eleven, features Waterloo County Carollers. This will be a Victorian Christmas Program. Among those performing will be Wallace Township native, Carol Treitz. Warm up performance by Sentimental Journey. Tickets at the same locations as for Paul's Odd Friends.
Two more schools complete Artists in Education Program

Listowel watercolour artist, Brenda Kaufman, has completed her Artists in Education Program in four local schools. As reported in the last issue of The Palette, she received a grant from the Ontario Arts Council to teach these workshops. ‘Poss Abilities Within Colours’ involves five full days of instruction by Brenda over a 5 week period. Students at Elma Township and Wallace Public Schools were the first to benefit last fall.

The final two schools, Eastdale and Central, in Listowel, have since completed the program. The eager artists received the basics in watercolour techniques during January and February sessions, resulting in amazing individual creativity. Student artists and the class room teachers, Robin Grant (Eastdale grade 4/5) and Sheila Arnold (Central grade 5/6) were so excited with the experience they organized a Gala Art Display, at each school, complete with light refreshments. Invitations were sent to parents, relatives, fellow students and the local media to view the display of the students’ work.

Brenda expressed gratitude to the Ontario Art Council for the funding to make this endeavour possible, and to the local principals and teachers for their cooperation and enthusiasm.

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Drama Camp 101 is back! by Crystal Daugherty

Drama Camp 101 is back at Theatre 311 this summer! This camp provides children with the opportunity to express themselves through improv, skits and a final performance that will be presented to family and friends at the camp finale. They will also get the chance to meet other children and counsellors who share their passion for drama.

There will be two separate camps; the first, for children ages 8-12, will run from July 6th until July 17th. The second camp, for ages 13-16, will run from July 20th until July 31st. Both camps run Monday to Friday from 9 am until 3 pm. Spaces are limited so register soon! To register or to receive more information you can contact Crystal Daugherty by phone @ (519) 503-6115 or by email cldaughe@artsmail.uwaterloo.ca.
How to promote yourself as an artist Part 3:
The importance of networking with fellow artists

For most artists, the creative process is a lonely one. The artist, with his idea and media of choice, works diligently in his creative space to complete his vision. To obtain feedback on his efforts, he may rely on his partner, or a mentor. A sometimes lonely process. For validation, art is displayed in a gallery, music is performed for an audience, and writing is published.

There is a way to broaden the creative experience, add new insights, and express fresher viewpoints: organize a group of artists for a stimulating exchange of thoughts and ideas.

The great authors, poets and artists, at one point in their career, would go to the local pub, café or dance hall, and engage, as a group, in lively discussions on the state of the arts. French Impressionist artists are well known for having networked with one another to explore ideas, techniques, and challenge the ideas about art.

The networking concept for musicians is evident in the ‘jam session’ where musicians get together and play music for the sake of the music. At folk, blues, and jazz festivals around the world, musicians perform for the audience. However, off stage, they look for smaller groups to meet with, and learn new styles of guitar strumming, vocal styles of folk music and the traditional tunes that are passed on from musician to musician.

For creative artists in North Perth now is the time. Check the NPACC web site talent directory. Look around in the community. Find some artists you would like to meet, and contact them. Arrange a coffee break to ‘talk shop’. Show your portfolio, or share your music to garner feedback.

The next step, after making the social connection, is to apply your newfound knowledge. Commit to a time and location to ‘create on demand’. (See Rosemary Galloway’s call to fellow arts to meet ‘in the garden’ on page 7 of this newsletter). Go with one or two others, and paint or draw at the same location. Share your ideas. Encourage each other. Do things outside your comfort zone. Stretch your creative experiences.

Musicians, singers, and performers - arrange for a similar time and place and use that opportunity to try a new music genre, performance style, or read your works aloud while the musicians accompany you. New performance groups may come from the meeting.

Social networking will get you out of the studio. Creative networking will challenge your ideas, and continue your educational experiences. At the end of the day, you will find that your creative process has expanded and improved and you may have made a new friend or two along the way.
Brian McIntosh returns home for June concert

North Perth Arts and Culture Council is delighted to present Brian McIntosh in Concert this coming June. Brian lives a hectic life, as Head of Voice and Opera at the University of Alberta, as well as singing publicly. Thus he has not yet been able to confirm an exact date for us. Watch our web page, and your email for this announcement.

Brian has earned international acclaim with his full bass-baritone voice. He is a regular performer with North America’s leading opera companies and orchestras as well as with opera-houses and festivals across Europe. Son of Jean and Blair McIntosh, sister for Kathy Hoover, Brian was born and educated in Listowel. In grades 12 and 13 he studied music privately with Lorne Willits. He felt it worth mention in here to credit Brenda (Weber) Kaufman for teaching him how to waltz at the Kork Music Festival in Ireland while on the first LDSS school choir trip.

Between 1972 and 1975 Brian sang with the Ontario Youth Choir. He went on to study music at the University of Western Ontario, pursing his interest in vocal under the guidance of teacher, Alvin Reimer.

In 1978 he married Karen Shelstad and continued his music studies in Detmold, Germany at the Hochschule für Musik. In 1980 he began performing with German opera companies and orchestras. Bringing his talents closer to home, he performed with the Canadian Opera Company from 1984 to 1987.

Brian has been singing opera internationally since 1987 and teaching voice at various universities since 1991. In 2000 Brian made his debut at the Lincoln Center, with the New York City Opera.

NPACC is honoured to be able to bring to our community such a distinguished talent with home town roots.

Ontario Arts Council offers arts education courses

The Royal Conservatory, with support of the Ontario Arts Council, is launching the Artist Educator Skills Development course for artists at seven sites across Ontario this spring. The 30-hour course is for artists who are already engaged in arts education or would like to learn more about arts education. It prepares artists to work in schools and can also be applied to work in community settings. The OAC is making it possible for Ontario artists to attend this course at a subsidized $60 cost. More information will be available in April. Go to http://www.arts.on.ca, and click on ‘Arts Connect March 09’ to access the latest newsletter. The article, “Would you like to enhance your arts education skills?” is what you’re looking for!

Artist Spotlight

Artist Shelly Tomlin began drawing and painting during her childhood in Palmerston, and currently pursues her art in North Perth, where she has lived for the past 11 years. She enjoys pencil drawing and painting in acrylic and watercolour. Favourite subjects include animals, flowers and people. She particularly enjoys the challenge of painting realistic animals with eyes that follow the viewer. She also enjoys scrapbooking and photography. Many of her paintings begin with photos she has taken herself.

Shelly earned a diploma in illustration and advertising from the Ontario College of Art and Design. She considers herself fortunate to be able to use her art skills in her career as a layout artist and memorial counsellor with Harriston Superior Monuments, where she captures clients remembrances of their loved ones in her drawings and transfers them onto monuments. She participated in the North Perth Arts Tour in 2006 and 2008, and has entered work in several juried art shows in the wider area. She plans to continue expanding her artistic abilities and to increase sales of her paintings and prints. She is also interested in finding new venues for her work. Anyone interested in viewing or purchasing her work is invited to contact her at home: 519-291-1115 or at work: 519-338-2342.
April & May

Tuesday, April 21
North Perth Library: Meet the Author
Ruth Smith Meyer will read from, and sign, her latest book, “Not far from the Tree”
Listowel Branch: 2:00 p.m.
Monkton Branch: 7:30 p.m.
Free admission

Saturday, April 25
North Perth Arts Council Workshop
Lunch provided
9:00 am to 4:00 pm
Info and registration at www.NorthPerthArts.ca

April 24, 25, 30, May 1,2,7,8,9 at 8:00 pm
April 26 and May 2 matinees at 2:00 pm
Lionel Bart’s Oliver - A Musical
Presented by Grey Wellington Theatre Guild
Harriston Town Hall Theatre, 68 Elora St. Harriston
Many Listowel area residents, of varying ages, will be appearing in this production
Tickets $15 advance; $20 at door
Available at Pandora’s Pantry, Listowel, Blooms and Things, Palmerston or 519-338-2778

Friday, May 1, and Saturday May 2
Come Back to the Gym, Mary Lou, Mary Lou
Blyth Memorial Community Hall
Dinner/Theater $35 Theatre only $25
Blyth Festival Box Office: 519-523-9300 or 1-877-862-5984

Saturday, May 23, and Sunday May 24th
Listowel School of Dance Spring Dance Recital
“Jungle Book”
Listowel District Secondary School
7:00 pm May 23: 2:00 pm May 24
Donations at the door

Sunday, May 31
NPACC Concert #2 in 2009 Series
“Paul’s Odd Friends”
Theatre Three-Eleven ~ 311 Main St. E., Listowel
2:00 pm
Single ticket $20
Available at: The Bookery, Chocolates on Main, and Selinger’s Music in Listowel

June

June 11, 12, 13 and June 18, 19, 20
Biloxi Blues by Neil Simon
Theatre Three-Eleven ~ 311 Main St. E., Listowel
8:00 pm
Call 519-291-2033 for tickets

July

July 6 -17 ages 8-12, July 20-31 ages 13-16
Drama Camp 101
Contact Crystal Daugherty: (519) 503-6115 or email cldaughe@artsmail.uwaterloo.ca.

July 16 - July 19
Annual Fair presented by Listowel Agricultural Society
Fairgrounds, Listowel

Call to fellow artists
Time Out in the Garden

I enjoy exploring art – be it drawing, painting, photography, drama or music. However, I lack motivation and fail to set aside time from everyday life to get “creative”. If you are like me, here is an opportunity. I would like to encourage other artists to meet, informally as a group, to draw, paint or photograph in my gardens. For those that have not yet visited it, see the photo attached. This simple setting could inspire artists to learn from each other while making a personal commitment of creative “time out” for your art. For example, meetings could be every other Sunday morning in the warmer summer months? Bringing your own supplies and a brown bag lunch could keep costs to a minimum. I dare say that artists, like gardeners, are entertaining characters to be around, so making a commitment to meet regularly for a common love could be a lot of fun! Your input is welcome. Let me know what you think of this idea. 519-291-4868, or email me at paintbrush63@live.com

Sincerely,
Rosemary Galloway
NPACC MEMBERSHIP

Artists, as well as members of the public, interested in arts and culture in our community, are welcome to become members of NPACC by linking to the ‘become a member’ button on the left side of our website at: www.NorthPerthArts.ca

or call Brenda Kaufman: 291-4167 or Gary Moon 291-2583

Membership is free and ensures you receive information about upcoming events by receiving notice via email when this newsletter has been posted on our web page.

Members are entitled to submit information about arts and cultural events on the webpage and in the newsletter, in accordance with NPACC guidelines.

To submit for newsletter email: the.maclennans@wightman.ca
To submit for the website email: info@northpertharts.ca