

NOVEMBER 2009 MINUTES & NEWSLETTER

Attendees

Amy Sundick, Barbara Leasure, Bob Green, Bridgett Kelman, Elizabeth Mobley, Frankie Jones, Joanne Paller, John Hafner, John Phillips, Joy Hafner, Kris Korn, Leah Barr, Linda Manners, Lori Schinelli, Mary Brightwell, Michelle Gill, Nancy Hobson, Pat Green, Shawn Gant



Announcements

- Bridgett Kelman won "Best Booth" at the McIntosh (County) Art Association's juried exhibition at the Darien Fall Festival. Congratulations!



- **January Meeting will be on the fourth Sunday, January 24, 2010 due to Martin Luther King Day holiday**

OLD Business

Show Report on Brookhaven Linda Manners

The Brookhaven Arts Festival was held on October 17-18, 2009. Seven AGAG members participated in the show. While the weather was dreadfully cold, spirits were high and sales were brisk. We experimented with several new concepts designed to increase sales. The artists setup the tents and tables then were excused while a setup committee comprised of members not participating in the show arranged the wares in an artistic and impartial manner. All participants seemed pleased with the results of this new setup process. A flyer was sent to our small postal list and our email list, announcing our presence at the show. Several customers said they came as a result of receiving show notification. Also a raffle was devised with items donated by participating artists to capture more names to add to our mailing list. The results were successful. Several members also donated an item to the Brookhaven Arts Alliance silent auction, which will be held during the Taste of Brookhaven next spring. Shawn Gant was the high seller, winning the show t-shirt.

A tent side needs to be repaired, and the cost should be a minimal. Linda and Brian will make weights to hold the canopies down during windy weather. Also, plans are underway to apply to the 2010 Decatur Arts Festival. We have already sent our application for next year at Brookhaven.

There was a discussion on whether the guild should attempt to get into Dogwood Festival in addition, or should we not be accepted at Decatur Arts Festival. Updates will be sent later.

"Time, Talent & Technique" initiative Shawn Gant

There were eight responses, where two offered a place to meet. There were a variety of ideas of interests. It was recommended to meet quarterly. She will move forward in the spring.

"Frit Coop" Betsey Dahlberg

In Betsey's absence, Leah gave the update from Betsey: She was no longer pursuing this idea as there was little interest expressed by members.

Vision Team Status Report Leah Barr

In the first meeting the team learned some of AGAG's history, going back over 30 years and what the guild was like in the past and shared learnings from other successful guilds across the country. Most vibrant guilds have a wide range of skill levels and talents ranging from hobbyists to professional artists, and have significant involvement with their community such as businesses and the public. Next, the team will develop a mission statement and goals.

New Business

Elections

Attending members unanimously voted in the board of directors for 2010:

- President - Leah Barr
- Vice President - Barbara Leasure
- Treasurer - Kris Korn
- Secretary - Elizabeth Mobley
- Directors at Large - Nancy Hobson, John Phillips, Connie Douglas

Gift-swapping

Gifts were swapped to kick off the holiday season and end 2009.

Christmas Ornaments

Though the Festival of Trees was not an option for us this year, guild members made ornaments having a theme of stars and angels. During the meeting we wired and decorated them with bows for the guild's annual Christmas tree project. The ornaments were donated to Our Lady of Perpetual Help Home in Atlanta, established for the care of incurable cancer patients who no longer have sufficient funds to receive adequate nursing care. The home has its own tree and will have a tree-decorating event with the residents. Briget Kelman accomplished this successful project in a short time frame. Thank you Bridget!

Program: Don Lillie on Christmas Ornaments

Master Glassblower Don Lillie, of LILLIE GLASSBLOWERS in Smyrna, Ga. presented a slide show on the history and process of making glass Christmas ornaments. Don Lillie is a glassblower who began his apprenticeship at the Mayo Clinic in Rochester, MN. He went on to earn a physics degree from Georgia Tech and worked there as a master glass blower for 30 years. His expertise in shaping molten glass has led him to

create glass sculpture that is held in high esteem by his peers. His shop's production is based on the cottage industry era when family members did segments of production. Because his ornaments are created without molds or presses, the pieces are not mass-produced by machine. Don would be happy for the guild to tour his studio; so we may make such a field trip in the future. You can go to his website: www.lillieglass.com.

2010 Meeting Schedule

January Meeting will be on the fourth Sunday, January 24, 2010 due to Martin Luther King Day holiday.

Date	Time	Location
Jan 24	4:00pm	TBD
Mar 21	4:00pm	TBD
May 16	4:00pm	TBD
July 18	4:00pm	TBD
Sept 19	4:00pm	TBD
Nov 21	4:00pm	TBD

Message from President Leah Barr



Well, we had another successful year for the Guild, with several accomplishments and trying a few new things. In the spring we revised and passed new Bylaws, bringing them into the 21st century – with significant help from our counsel, Tom Hafner. And we got roles and responsibilities of officers & committee chairs defined and documented to simplify future transitions. Thanks to Linda Manners and Brian Renoud (our Show chairs), our equipment was moved out of Daven's into our newly acquired space and inventoried. We participated in the Brookhaven Arts Festival and implemented new participation requirements to increase member involvement and a new, impartial setup process.

Furthermore, the Guild continued its charitable tradition with members contributing artwork to the Children's Restoration Network's annual fundraiser in July. But without the Festival of Trees this year, we revised our custom donating glass ornaments by giving directly to Our Lady of Perpetual Help for use inside the hospice.

In addition, several new efforts have started this year with a promising future. We formed the Guild Mission/Vision Committee and another committee to develop our new web design. Shawn Gant is spearheading a new endeavor to create structured opportunities for sharing among guild members - be it technique, business skills, or any other useful information. We embarked on a new "partnership" with The Southern Flames lampworking guild to share programs, ideas and events. And we had a productive brainstorming session for future program ideas. But, thanks to our Program Chair, Joy Hafner, it will be difficult to top the diverse slate of programs (listed below) we had this year!

- Lisa Moore, Georgia Lawyers for the Arts, and Tom Hafner, SCORE on art law and other resources for artists
- Mary Anne Maslanka, stained glass artist, on engaging adults and children in creative endeavors using glass
- Ricky Frank, enamel artist, demonstrated his techniques with enamel and fine metals
- Tour of Lori Schinelli's new studio and a review of Bullseye's BECon convention
- Todd & Kathy Blandin, Marketing Consultants, on how to market your art and the guild
- Don Lillie, Master Glassblower, on the history of glass ornaments

Thanks for a great 2009, and looking forward to 2010!

Leah
