

The Festival of Trees 2010

A fundraising event for Gualala Arts Friday, November 26, 10:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m. Saturday, November 27, 10:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.

Gualala Arts' Seventh Annual Festival of Trees will be held Thanksgiving weekend, Friday, November 26 and Saturday, November 27, kicking off the Holiday Season on the Mendonoma Coast.

The entire Arts Center will be transformed into mid-19th Century Gualala. Highlights include festively decorated booths displaying handcrafted wares and demonstrations in both the Coleman Auditorium and the Burnett Gallery.

The Gualala Arts Interest Groups will again fill the Burnett Gallery with a wonderful display of crafts handmade by our own Pacific Piecemakers Quilt Guild, Fiber Arts Group, Woodcarvers and Woodworkers groups, Basket Makers and Beads n' Beyond.

In the Coleman Auditorium, visitors will discover several artists offering their beautiful crafts, including Joan Rhine Designs jewelry, Jennie Henderson's Fancy Fibers, Jan Maria Chiappa's Which Craft Workshop pottery, Shirley Egerlund of Caz Gal Soaps, Bill and Sue Halderman's Birdhouses, Patrick Allessandri's Regimental Colours toys, Walt Rush Studio's jewelry. Artists new to the Festival of Trees this is year are Cinnabar Ceramics by Geoff Graham; De Tie Dye Lady, De Williams, Scarves by Jeanne Gadol, Country Store Kirby Leary's note cards, botanical prints & earrings, Red Dog Ranch Rubs & Dog Bones.

New to the Festival this year is the Gualala Arts Company Store located on stage in the Coleman Auditorium. A variety of goods to tempt you, to perhaps create your own gift basket, will be on sale from Lisa's Luscious Jams, or The Mustard Mistress special mustards, Candles and More by Barbara Tocher, Barbara Dunsmoor's hand crafter paper boxes and the California Coastal Monument's C.D. All of these products are locally made for your delight. And of course what would a gift basket be without that special something from Gualala Arts such as a hand dyed tee shirt?

Upstairs, the Magical Gingerbread House offers activities and crafts for children. The Magical Gingerbread House will be open from 11:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m. on Friday and Saturday.

Throughout the Festival, visitors will enjoy live musical entertainment. Schedules for the entertainment will be posted at Gualala Arts before the Thanksgiving Holiday. For the delight of children of all ages there will be daily visits from Santa Claus, between 1:00 - 3:00 p.m.

Holiday cookies, breads, puddings, fruitcake and an assortment of confections will be available for sale at Mrs. Claus' Bake Shoppe & Confectionery. Local bakers and candy makers donate goods from their favorite holiday recipes (many handed down through the generations) to this appetizing shop.

Festival-goers will be greeted in the foyer by the Old Gualala Mill Cookhouse serving fresh coffee cake in the morning, and hearty homemade vegetarian chili with hot cornbread, George Marshall's award-winning clam chowder with real sourdough bread for lunch, as well as fresh coffee, hot chocolate, chilled apple juice, and hot-spiced apple cider. For the adults, there will be the yummy winter beverage available, called "Scrumpy."

Refreshed, you may continue shopping for that perfect gift and take a closer look at the beautifully decorated Fantasy Forest. Again this year, Vickie Hodge and Tom Mc Eneany will work their magic creating beautiful table top Christmas trees decorated with exquisite ornaments and available for sale by silent auction. Trees will be set-up in the Gualala Arts Center foyer by November 24th for preview.

Come, relax and enjoy the Festival of Trees!