

EDITORIAL

The members of Gualala Arts are the backbone of the organization. Without them this spot of earth would be a few second-growth redwood trees with only birds passing by. Thanks to each and every one of these members, this place now stands. Because of them you can enjoy the benefits of a community of artists, musicians, thespians, lecturers, and people with talents to share.

This year the membership committee has increased its efforts to draw in more residents and visitors. At Art in the Redwoods they offered two deals that helped nearly fifty people decide to join. The committee members have taken on the added work of being at every event at the Center with a special table offering help with filling out the membership forms and answering questions. They are hoping that their mere presence will remind people that while they are enjoying the merits of this place, they could easily become a member.

Last year, and this year again – in February, Gualala Arts holds a very special dinner for members who have joined at the Life and Patron levels. We greatly value these people and proudly publish their names on the wall in the hall. Here in this issue of *Sketches* are members who have joined at the Sponsor, Life, and Patron levels.

Because the Arts Center has again increased its functions and events, we need more members to support us with not only money – that is very necessary – but also as co-workers and volunteers. The more our community members become our members, the more vital we become in local life.

We are open always to new suggestions and even the membership committee is looking for new members. In 2008 I will be turning over my job to Betsi Carey and we would like to pass along a well-trained support group to her.

Think about what a difference Gualala Arts makes in your life. Think about how you could make a difference at Gualala Arts.

Annie Brayer
Membership Chairman

Sketches Newsletter of Gualala Arts Center

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Sketches is printed on 100% recycled paper out of concern for the planet. Taking care of trees is a part of our job.

Generous Donation Kicks off Fund Drive

A Life Member has just given \$5000 to kick-start Gualala Arts Year End Fund-Raising Campaign. Even before the request letters hit the mailboxes, this couple wanted to express anonymously their encouragement for our goals and programs by supporting the board, building, staff, and volunteers with their donation. It is such selfless acts of generosity by those promoting the work at the Arts Center which makes possible our mission of excellence in the growth of programs for all the arts across the breadth of community interests and needs.

Grounds Crew Report

The serious rains spelled relief for the faithful watering crew. Under the stalwart direction of Dard Hunter, the plantings continue to flourish (with minuscule % losses!). Thanks to Dard, Bruce Jones, Mary Hunter, Paul Nordstrand, Jinx McCombs, Cecelia and John Moelter, David and Shirley Welch. Next summer, we'll start weaning some plantings off the irrigation. *Art Dreyer*

Thank You!

A very special thanks to **Jan Harris** for her vision, work, and the many glittery Christmas decorations she brought to transform the whole Art Center into a marvelous wonderland for the Festival of Trees.



- Liz gives thanks to **Harriet Wright, Harmony Susalla, Cora Lee Seale, Claire McPherson, Amie Heath, and Pat Owings** for assisting in the smooth work in the central cashier station at the Festival of Trees.
- Office Staff thanks **Sharon Nickodem** for all her patience and work on the signs and to the photographers **Mike Henderson** and **Jack Haverty**.

Wish List

- A Street Team to deliver publicity to shops and inns along the coast. See the town, meet old friends, and give away free stuff!
- A Tool Elf to come in once a month to sort and manage supplies for the Hanging Committee.
- Spencer wishes for a flat-panel monitor for her computer. The front desk needs more room.

Deadline for information for *Sketches* on events in **February** is **Friday, December 29.**