

A MESSAGE FROM THE BOARD

Fifty Years; Fifty More -- 50/50

Starting with this issue of the Sketches newsletter, Gualala Arts will have a on-going column to update our members and the community on the priorities and progress toward the objectives outlined in the open "50 Years - 50" More two day planning meeting held October 19 & 20, 2010.

To find out more about the "50 Years - 50 More" working session and the recommendations presented to the Board of Directors, please visit GualalaArts.org/About/FiftyYears.html. A more detailed update on the 50/50 recommendations will be available on that page soon.

As a courtesy, we are sending out email messages to remind everyone of updates from the Gualala Arts Board of Directors. You can sign up or update your subscription for the 50/50 email list by clicking "Email sign up" on the left menu at our website,

GualalaArts.org. You will then receive directions for updating.

In February, 2011, at the Annual Members meeting, a summary and consolidation of the recommendations from the "50 Years - 50 More" meeting was presented to the members. The new Board organization was also reviewed and the members voted to approve the changes to the Board.

The new Board of Directors will be meeting face-to-face in an all day retreat on March 21 to review the recommendations, and using a new planning process, the Board will prioritize the objectives for the coming year. These objectives will have owners and measureable results to enable monitoring the progress. The objectives and status will be posted on the Gualala Arts website.

A MESSAGE FROM OUR DIRECTOR

As spring is right around the corner so is our "busy" season here at the Gualala Arts Center. Spring is a time of new growth and possibilities. It was about this time of year when a group of people got together and had a vision to create a wonderful permanent temple dedicated to the arts. Some thought this goal was out of reach, but some visionaries worked for decades to keep that dream alive for our community.

After several building sites were explored and investigated, Gualala Redwoods offered 11 acres of land on the "Old Mill Site" property. One stipulation stood in the way of receiving this generous donation to the community - Gualala Arts was required to raise a half a million dollars before the deed was signed over and the land transferred. This seemed to be an impossible feat. Again, the visionaries kept the dream alive and the hard work ensued to bring the community together and raise the funds needed. For the next several years fundraisers were planned, donations solicited, bake sales held, art events thrown, you name it...they did it! Many individuals committed both time and dollars.

Individual and corporate donations have been the spring rains that have brought sustainability and new growth to life at Gualala Arts for our community to enjoy. Please consider getting involved this coming season. We are actively seeking sponsors and underwriters for our 50th **Art in the Redwoods** this summer! If you own a company, work for a company or know of company or you yourself would like to participate financially in this milestone event, please call me 884-1138 ext. 12 or email me at sus@GualalaArts.org to find out more details on how you can be a part of making our history.

You have, can and will make a difference!



David 'Sus' Susalla
Executive Director
Gualala Arts, Inc.