

GNSI – NE Meeting January 11, 2014

1. In attendance: Tricia Cassady, Tony Gerardi, Wendy Amaral, Laurie Bebick, Frances Topping, Nancy Minnigerode, Sarah Saltus, and Dorie Petrochko.
2. The meeting began at 10:00am.
3. Briefly discussed website and improvements; send links and images to Erica at ebeade@mbcgraphics.com
4. **Member news:** Frances has work included in the NESBA Show “Mountains to the Sea”, which is traveling to several venues. It will be in Bristol, RI at the Bristol Audubon Center from May 18 through June when she will be doing a demo. She will give more specifics later.

Dorie has been juried into the “Focus On Nature” exhibit at Albany State Museum in April and “Art In the Animal Kingdom” in Bennington, Vt. in June.
5. A discussion of the jurying process and various shows ensued. March 1 is the deadline for submitting to the National Conference show.
6. Tony gave the financial report and we discussed membership; 3 new members for 2013. Should we continue to send info to “old” members? Decided we should keep them on an email list.
7. There was discussion of our exhibit in the fall, but so far we have no coordinator and no exhibition site.
8. We agreed it would be good to have a joint meeting with the New York chapter and Sarah suggested we join their group (\$15) and we could then enter their exhibitions. Tricia will contact Eileen to coordinate a March meeting and obtain a show prospectus for “Homage to Animals” to distribute. Dorie will send membership info to Tricia. (form is attached)
9. The calendar so far:

February 8 (Saturday) – Sketching at the Nature Lab from 10 to 1; Tricia to contact Neil Overstrom to arrange. **Update since meeting from Tricia: We can take specimens from the lab and bring them downstairs to draw. This has been confirmed with RISD and scheduled with them.**

March – Joint meeting with the New York Chapter. Date and location to be announced. **Update since meeting from Tricia: I did communicate over e-mail with Eileen from the NY Chapter about this. She said**

they already have something planned for that month. Here is what she sent in her e-mail to me:

That would be great! We met once about 3 or 4 years ago at Yale. It was a fabulous meeting! We have a workshop planned by one of our members in March. We usually meet on the second Sat, but I think this workshop in how to package art work for shipping is on the second SUN. But I will check that out! She may be willing to change that date. April is open. As is May! Our planning and elections are scheduled for Feb 8 at NYBG, so things should a bit more organized by then.

NY Chapter Exhibit "Homage to Animals" : Here is the info from Eileen if people are interested in entering the exhibit: (If people want to enter they can become a NY Chapter member - I am attaching the membership form here too)
We will also get that ready at the Feb meeting. Dick Rauh is in charge of exhibits. I can give you some ideas. The original idea was to pay homage to animal artists- such as George Stubbs, Durer, ancient peoples and cultures, etc. Well that quickly got distorted into just "Homage to Animals".

Some ideas that have been suggested: a segment of ancient pottery that shows creatures and then on the same page, the actual animals. (or maybe a cave painting extending out into the real animals. I have been thinking of sketching the llama (alpaca?) in the hallway of the Environmental building at Yale, and placing it onto a background of woven material or something like that (I am a spinner and weaver, also) and include the fleece, the spinning utensils, the looms, etc. One person is thinking of Egyptian hieroglyphs as a border surrounding the actual animals. So, it is pretty open! Mickey Mouse came up but copyright issues would be intense on that one (cute,tho!)

Talk soon
Eileen

April – Sunday April 13 (tentative) at Denison Pequotsepos Nature Center in Mystic, CT. Frances to arrange. Update since meeting from Frances: Frances spoke with the Denison Pequotsepos Nature Center and was able to schedule a sketch outing, which may include a program from Frances there for Saturday, April 13th from 10 -12. Here is the e-mail Frances sent to me about it:

I talked with Suzanne Enser at DPNC briefly. It seems the program classroom is open on Sun. April 13th. I said 10 -12 a.m. (We can amend that if necessary) She was not sure if there would be a charge for using the classroom. We could be outside without charge anyway. That is a bit weather dependent though. They have some owls and birds of prey in cages outside as well as trails. They have cases of birds inside and some other taxidermied animals including a grey fox, live turtles and a snake. However I had a thought. It might be nice to offer it as a program for them in that we would be there sketching, others could join us and/or we could actively do some instruction or demonstration. That would be a good cooperative event and

might attract some new members??? What do you think? If you think it feasible perhaps put out an email to membership asking who would be able to come and if they would be interested in it being a joint event with DPNC. I don't mind doing a bit of demo or instruction. They could then advertise it in an e-blast or newsletter if there is time. Let me know as soon as you can whether you think this worth pursuing.

May 3 (Saturday) 10am–12pm– General Meeting. Tricia will see if Gretchen Halpert is available for a workshop. **Update since meeting from Tricia:** I confirmed that Gretchen can come and do a presentation after our next general meeting. This would take place at RISD on Saturday, May 3rd. We would have our general meeting from 10 -12 and then lunch then Gretchen's presentation from 1 - 3

Here Gretchen's e-mail detailing the presentation:

Exhibiting and Teaching Overseas- this is what I presented in Bar Harbor. It would require a PowerPoint projector, which I believe they have set up in Carr House. If not, I could bring one. Time: 1.5 hrs including questions, discussion and sharing of sketchbook.

"Two exhibitions, two methods. One involves original artwork and government paperwork for last year's large scale exhibition in Taipei; the other, reproductions for a different type of exhibit this year in Bangkok. Pros and cons of both; finding outside grant funding; teaching in a foreign culture; slides of student artwork, sketchbooks and images of glorious Buddhist temples and tropical vegetation on the Andaman Sea combine business, art and travel."

And this was my talk in Savannah:

"How do you get your life's work across the ocean safely and frugally? What is it like to teach in another culture? Where might you find financial assistance to make this experience come true? This presentation is my

experience mounting a solo exhibition and teaching in Taiwan, with a side trip exhibiting and drawing with the Sci-Art Network in Thailand. This power point presentation and discussion is meant to save you many months of

research, hopefully containing more do's than don'ts. Slides of presenter and student artwork, sketches and the local landscape will keep this presentation lively."

June – Lakeville, MA Betty's Neck Conservation Land "plant walk" with Martha Schroeder – details to follow.