

# Walworth County Arts Council

*Advancing the importance and growth of the Arts and cultural activities  
throughout Walworth County.*

**A Quarterly Newsletter**



**Mike Murphy**  
receives **Business**  
**Friend of the Arts**  
**Award 2010** for  
**Community Bank.**

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**Jo Ann Hobbs**  
receives **Individual**  
**Friend of the Arts**  
**Award 2010.**

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**3rd Place Poetry**  
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**Caravan Tour in**  
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## **Tribute to Jo Ann Hobbs** by Christine Groth

Jo Ann Hobbs is my music teaching mentor, my piano teacher, my sons' piano teacher, and a dear friend of our family. There is no other person who has had a greater musical impact on our family. I am certain that I speak for hundreds of Walworth County piano students when I say that being a piano or harp student of Jo Ann Hobbs is a tremendous privilege and prepares one to be a lifelong music-lover.

As a parent of two piano students, I observed Jo Ann teach my sons for at least eight years. In the course of those lessons, she taught them not only the requisite piano technique, music theory, history and performance practices, but also correlated their piano lessons to include information and examples of visual arts, dance and architecture. It was not unusual for an introduction of a Debussy piece to include Jo Ann showing my sons paintings from a book of Impressionist artists or a picture of the *Alhambra* when studying Spanish pieces. All of Jo Ann's music students receive an education that goes far beyond just playing piano or harp. She engages students in the

enjoyment of practicing and performing and leads them to discover their own musicality.

As a piano and piano pedagogy student of Jo Ann Hobbs I can attest to her tireless enthusiasm to help her students do their best. She models the highest standard of study and performance yet somehow has the patience to encourage her students to keep trying when they fall short. One of the high points of my piano study with Jo Ann Hobbs was performing on the 100<sup>th</sup> Studio Recital of her career on June 6, 2009. Each student performer received a personalized trophy marking the event. I continue to proudly display mine.

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As a fellow piano teacher I have had the opportunity to see Jo Ann's valuable contributions to the leadership of the Wisconsin Music Teachers Association and the Music Teachers National Association. Jo Ann is a Nationally Certified Teacher of Music which is considered the benchmark of professionalism for independent music teachers.

Jo Ann actively serves as an adjudicator for all levels of music competitions and is sought after as a clinician for music association educational events.

Jo Ann Hobbs is truly a "Friend of the Arts" in Walworth County, and is deserving of this honor. She has instilled a love of music-making in countless piano and harp students, and continues to influence students of all ages. It is a great privilege to stand among those who are considered students of Jo Ann Hobbs.



### Don Brick presents Corporate Friend of the Arts 2010

The Community Bank of Delavan has supported the Walworth County Arts Council by providing a free meeting place each month. The student winner of the annual Arts Scholarship has exhibited his/her work each March during Art Education Month in the bank for the community to view.

The Arts Council is appreciative of Michael Murphy, president of Community Bank, for the bank's generosity and recognition of the Arts Council's efforts.



### MSO Alert

Just a reminder of the four remaining MSO Friday morning concerts.

February 18 - Mendelssohn

March 25 - Royal Fireworks

April 15 - Pictures at an Exhibition

June 3 - Cello Virtuoso, Edo de Waart, conductor

Ride the bus with us if you do not wish to drive and park. We leave at 9 a.m. from the Park and Ride lot, Hwy 12, north of Frank's County Market. At times, there may be extra tickets available. Call Lois Morava for information at 245-6138.

### SCHOLARSHIP DISPLAY

**Notice:** Sean Quinn, the 2010 Art Scholarship Winner will have an exhibit of some of his work on display at the Community Bank of Delavan from March 7th to March 25<sup>th</sup>. Be sure to plan a stop at the bank during this time. Sean is an alumnus of Williams Bay High School and is currently studying art at the University of Minnesota.

# In Appreciation

*The members below have chosen to support the Walworth County Arts Council as Sponsor and Patron. We thank them and all our members for their support!*

## Sponsor

Allyn Foundation  
Chapin Foundation

Jim Carlson  
David & Sandra Conrad  
Carol Dinsmore  
Ginny Hall  
Sally Harper  
Don & Emily Henderson  
Jo Ann Hobbs  
Robert & Gerry Jennings  
Cheryl & Ed Kaufenberg

Calvin & Joan Kuder  
Mary Kaye Merwin  
George & Lois Morava  
Edith Niederer  
Lois O'Brien  
Robert Rauland  
Dick Roeder

## Patron

Joyce Atkinson  
Don & Connie Brick  
Irene Buckingham  
Marshall & Gay Burmeister

## President's Column

### Lois Morava

### In Appreciation

The Walworth County Arts Council has been the fortunate recipient of major donations during its almost 50-year history.

This year we wish to recognize the Allyn Foundation and the Chapin Foundation for their generous contributions of

\$1,000 each. Our art education programs, Visiting Artists, music and art scholarships and Winning Words awards were the beneficiaries.

The Allyn Foundation contributes to cultural and educational endeavors. It was the first major donor to Music by the Lake, building the Allyn Pavilion.

The Chapin Foundation supports churches, hospitals, institutions, i.e. libraries and education. Simeon E. Chapin

was instrumental in founding the Lake Geneva Water Safety Patrol.

The other vital components of the Arts Council are our patrons and members. The efforts of the Board of Directors would be in vain without your help and belief in our causes.

This newsletter has a listing of our patrons so they be recognized and known. No matter how you participate in the Arts Council activities, each of you is important.

## Performing Artists

"Opera for the Young" is coming to the Delavan-Darien School District to perform with and for elementary school-age students in February.

The show will feature 16 Delavan-Darien elementary students in the opera company's performance of "The Pirates of Penzance." The students will perform with professional opera singers in front of their

schoolmates and in a **special one-night-only performance** at Phoenix Middle School. The free public show is scheduled for 6:30 p.m. Thursday, Feb. 10.

Opera for the Young's adaptation of "The Pirates of Penzance" brings this swashbuckling operetta alive for children. The district's elementary music teachers, Janet Palmer and Donna Berg, said including an opera unit in the curriculum is helpful in letting students learn about

other forms of music, vs. what they see and hear on television, the radio or on the Internet.

"When I first started bringing in opera into the classroom, everyone thought it was crazy," Palmer said. "But it's a different experience for the students. It's live and it's different music than they're used to, so it keeps the kids interested."

**Winning Words 3rd Place Poetry Winner 2010**

**To a Guitar**

We sit before a multitude of faces,  
 All looking with rapt attention toward our stage.  
 My fingers, itching to begin their dance,  
 tap anxiously on your smooth, lustrous surface.  
 You rest in my arms, stoic and composed,  
 as if trying to relieve my apprehension.  
 One deep breath ...  
 and we begin.

My touch causes your silky strings to sing,  
 releasing the beautiful cadences locked inside.  
 Flowing over the listeners, our music draws them in.  
 Each stroke, each note, immerses them deeper into  
 our song.  
 But suddenly one discordant note pierces our focus  
 and obliterates our harmony.  
 My fingers stumble and the enchantment breaks,  
 returning the audience to their seats.  
 I bow my head in humiliation,  
 searching for an excuse to leave the stage.  
 But you sit sturdy and straight-necked,  
 encouraging me to stay strong.  
 One deep breath...  
 and we begin again.

**Grant Luberda**

**Williams Bay High School**

**SPRING QUARTERLY MEETING  
A SPECIAL TREAT**

Mark your calendars for a special treat. On Tuesday, April 5, 2011, Kirsch’s Restaurant at the French Country Inn will be opening especially for the Walworth County Arts Council. This restaurant, listed as one of Walworth County’s best, will provide us with a gourmet three-course lunch. Located on the south shore of Lake Como, the setting overlooking the lake should be in full spring glory. We will all enjoy a pear salad with mixed greens, chevre, and carmelized pecans. That day you will be able to choose between an entrée of Great Lake’s Whitefish with herbs, citrus and saffron rice or Wilson Farm’s Pork Tenderloin with “porchetta”, apples and spice. The meal ends with warm apple pie ala mode with coffee or tea. Cost will be \$24 per person. A cash bar will be available.

We are also in for a special treat with our program, which is a part of the “Big Read”, sponsored by the National Endowment for the Arts and coordinated by the Young Auditorium at UW-Whitewater. The great tales and poems of Edgar Allan Poe are the focus of this year’s Big Read. In keeping with this theme, our speaker will be Erika Janik, a freelance writer and editor from Madison, WI. She is the author of “A Short History of Wisconsin”, “Odd Wisconsin: Amusing, Perplexing and Unlikely Stories from Wisconsin’s Past” to name a few.

We will gather at 11:30 with lunch served at noon. Following lunch we will enjoy Erika’s multi-media presentation and end with a book signing.

Kirsch’s Restaurant is located on the north side of Highway 50, approximately 3 miles west of the city of Lake Geneva. Take Red Chimney Road north to the lake (watch for the Kirsch’s Sign).

**Reservations should be sent before March 28<sup>th</sup> along with a check of \$24 per person made payable to WCAC, to:**

**WCAC, P.O. Box 446, Delavan, WI 53115-0446.**

SPRING QUARTERLY MEETING  
 KIRSCH’S RESTAURANT AT THE FRENCH  
 COUNTRY INN  
 APRIL 5, 2011 – 11:30 A.M.

NAME(S): \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_

AMOUNT ENCLOSED AT \$24 per person:  
 \_\_\_\_\_

**The WCAC Newsletter**  
 Published by the Walworth County Arts Council.  
 President ..... Lois Morava, 245-6138  
 Vice President ..... Ron Pippitt, 728-0458  
 Secretary ..... Carol Dinsmore, 728-6077  
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Newsletter Editor ... Laura Jacobs-Welch, (262) 745-5588.  
 Published in February, May, August, October. Please  
 address all inquiries, membership dues, and contributions  
 to: WCAC, PO Box 446, Delavan, WI 53115.

## HOARD MUSEUM

The Hoard Museum Tour was a great success and our first try at a possible new tour format went very well. Many of the participants said it was one of the most enjoyable trips in recent years.

In the interest of holding costs to a minimum we utilized a “caravan” approach, with individual members pooling resources to make the drive to Fort Atkinson. We were treated to a very interesting presentation by a very talented former Delavan resident.

Richard Quinney grew up on a farm near Delavan, graduating from Delavan High School. In his words, he “couldn’t wait to get away from the farm” and went on to an impressive academic career, teaching at several major universities before retirement in the early 2000’s. He came back to the family farm after the death of his mother and found a new appreciation for his heritage. A very talented photographer, he took a number of excellent monochrome photos of the farm buildings and implements which are on display at the Hoard Museum until February. Richard graciously came from his home in Madison to discuss and give a history of the photos. He generously gave us copies of **Where Yet the Sweet Birds Sing**. Our lunch was at the oddly named “Velvet Lips” restaurant, a special experience in itself.



**A convivial and informative visit with Richard Quinney.**

We are looking forward to another experiment this spring, using the train from Harvard to Chicago. We want to take the Architectural Boat Tour on the Chicago River. More on this as weather warms up.

If enough members can fill a bus for some terrific special exhibits at the Art Institute in Chicago at a cost of around \$75 a person, we will do the arranging. [Vote for a bus to the Art Institute](#) by calling Ron Pippitt 728-0458 or Laura Welch or email Ron at [rjpippitt@yahoo.com](mailto:rjpippitt@yahoo.com).



**Arts Council Members peruse the exhibit.**

### Music Scholarship

The Scholarship committee would like to announce its 3rd annual Music Scholarship.

Applicants must be a graduate of a Walworth County high school or certified home schooling program in Walworth County pursuing a post high school degree with preference being given to a degree in music.

An applicant not majoring in music must be enrolled in a formal university/conservatory musical organization.

Applications can be obtained by contacting the Arts Council at [info@walworthcountyartscouncil.net](mailto:info@walworthcountyartscouncil.net) or by phone to Laura Jacobs-Welch at (262) 745-5588.

Walworth County Arts Council  
P.O. Box 446  
Delavan, WI 53115

## Join the Walworth County Arts Council

The Walworth County Arts Council, est. 1968, is a not-for-profit service organization advancing the importance and growth of the arts and cultural activities throughout Walworth County. Its membership includes participating artists and musicians, students, agencies, businesses and concerned citizens who together represent widely varied backgrounds and interest in the arts.

### Patron Membership:

\$250 \_\_\_\_\_ \$100 \_\_\_\_\_ \$50 \_\_\_\_\_

### Regular Membership:

\$35 Couple \_\_\_\_\_ \$25 Individual \_\_\_\_\_ \$5 Student \_\_\_\_\_

Name ( s) \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone \_\_\_\_\_ Email Address \_\_\_\_\_

Mail with check to: **WCAC, P.O. Box 446, Delavan, WI 53115. Any questions about membership can be addressed to Laura in Delavan at (262) 745-5588.**