



League of Milwaukee Artists

# Open Carnivals

Late Fall 2007

## From Kathleen's Desktop...

*by President Kathleen Flaherty*

As we begin a new year of meetings, speakers, exhibitions and camaraderie, many questions arise. How many exhibits are the right number for the League members? Do we want to become a nonprofit organization? Should we obtain a Merchant's Visa? Should we hold another Plein Air event and a Gallery Night so close together in the spring? What is our mission statement? Do we want our League to become more businesslike?

With all these questions, and more, swimming through my head, I visited with Kenneth Ng, lawyer and also husband of LMA member, Stacey Williams-Ng. During our conversation Ken was dubious as to whether our league could meet the state's criteria. A nonprofit 501C-3 status is given to only certain institutions, typically religious or having a social benefit to society. He says there are many "hoops" to jump through and forms to fill out. An organization has to keep very good books and all records. We would have to pay fees. It would have to have general liability insurance to cover any injuries during events.

Ken correlated the decision, whether or not to become a nonprofit organization, to:

**Swimming together in the water** vs **Building a boat together...** everyone chips in to buy some wood. Then there has to be a Captain, register with the state, buy fuel, provide maintenance, raise dues, etc.

Without the "boat" there's no easy target (liability). Say a painter sells three paintings to individual customers...very little liability. Now a painter starts selling \$15,000-\$25,000 worth of paintings to hospitals or businesses... liability increases.

Elizabeth T. Russell, one of LMA's former guest speakers, and author of Art Law Conversations, cites that Section 501(c)(3) applies exclusively to organizations that exist for religious, educational, charitable, scientific or literary purposes; that provide testing for public safety; or that exist to foster national or international amateur sports competition and/or the prevention of cruelty to children or animals. What's wrong with this picture? She answers by stating that the term "artistic" does not appear anywhere on that list of qualifying purposes.

What are Ken's recommendations? Think of our group's goals. How much risk do we really want to undertake? How much trouble do we want to bear? The larger our influence, the less control we have over people's behavior. Ken stated that in looseness there is joy!

- Investigate how to continue seeking corporate sponsors.
- Have exhibitors sign waivers, not holding the league responsible for damage.

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**OPEN, please volunteer**

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### **WEBSITE**

leagueofmilwaukeeartists.com

# From Kathleen's Desktop

*continued from page 1*

- Continue with giving good value to members.
- Keep the feeling that we're having a "good time", not overworked.

At this time we are not registered with the state. We are a group who has informal gatherings. LMA has been a successful organization for over 63 years (1944). If we go off in a more business-like direction, Ken cautions us that we may end up with a vehicle we don't recognize.

In an effort to find out the goals of 150 members, a questionnaire has been compiled. It was trimmed down

to 10 questions and many members filled it out at the October meeting. Please take a few moments to complete it so your views are taken into consideration when making future plans for LMA's direction.

The number of exhibitions that we have in the future will largely be determined by how many members wish to participate, not only by submitting art work, but also volunteering their time to support the efforts of our exhibit chairs. The completed questionnaires will hopefully give us this information, and a direction on how to proceed.

My personal goal as your president is to keep the business portion of the meetings to 30-40 minutes, leaving more time to appreciate our guest speakers.

## LMA Member Questionnaire

1. Why did you originally wish to become a member of LMA?

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

2. Has our organization met your needs as an artist?  
Yes  No  If no, why not?

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

3. What do you like best about LMA?

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

4. What would you like to change?

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

5. Do you attend meetings? Yes  No  \_\_\_\_\_times a year  
If no, why not?

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

6. What do you like about the meetings?  
Suggestions for guest speakers?

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

7. What would you like to change about meetings?

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

8. Do you plan to participate in exhibitions? Yes  No   
\_\_\_\_\_times a year

9. Are there distance or submission challenges for you?  
Yes  No  If yes, please explain further

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

What is the furthest distance you will travel for an exhibition?  
\_\_\_\_\_ miles.

10. Which would you exhibit in?

- A. Group exhibitions that are juried? Yes  No  Would you volunteer time to help it succeed? Yes  No
- B. Non-juried group exhibitions? Yes  No  Would you volunteer time to help it succeed? Yes  No
- C. Plein Air Events? Yes  No  Would you volunteer time to help it succeed? Yes  No
- D. Gallery Nights in the Third Ward? Yes  No  Would you volunteer time to help it succeed? Yes  No
- E. Other exhibition suggestions? \_\_\_\_\_

\* Further suggestions and/or comments would be appreciated.

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

**BRING TO NEXT MEETING OR MAIL TO KATHLEEN FLAHERTY  
427 MADERO DR. • THIENSVILLE, WI 53092**

Name \_\_\_\_\_ (Optional)

## Member News

**Bill Davis** was juried into the Cedarburg Artists Guild Fall Show at the Cedarburg Cultural Center. He received a blue ribbon for his entry "Frigid Morning." The show ends Oct 28.

Bill exhibited two paintings at the Wisconsin Watercolor Society show at Gallery 110 in Plymouth this summer.

Bill would also like to invite the members to attend his reception, Sunday, December 1, 10 am to 1pm, at the Leenhouts Gallery, 1342 Astor St., where he will be having a solo show through February 1, 2008.

**Joyce Eesley** is a featured Artist at the Griffin Gallery, 133 E. Wisconsin Avenue, Oconomowoc the months of November and December with the opening reception 5:00-9:00pm on November 2nd. The opening reception is during gallery night with many of the area establishments having music, food and other activities. Hope you can make it to this gala event. Joyce also has a painting that was accepted into The Kent Gallery at Kent, Conn. with the North East Watercolor Society 31st Annual International Juried Exhibition that begins October 21st.

Interfaith Exposure, Older Adult Programs, will be hosting an exhibit at the Reuss Building downtown Milwaukee, November 1-30. **Joe Stanke, Gladys Thays,** and **Suzanne Eli-Germaine**, are participating in this exhibit. **Suzanne** and **Joyce Eesley** will be represented by the Plymouth Arts Center, in the Alcove Member Gallery at 110 North Mill Street in Plymouth from December 7, 2007 through January 13, 2008.

**Marie Myler's** oil painting "When The Cows Come Home" has been accepted into the Richeson 75: Landscape exhibit. The show will hang from October 27, 2007 through January 3, 2008. An opening reception with awards will take place Saturday October 27, 2007 from 5-7 pm. The Richeson School of Art and Gallery is located at 557 Marcella Street. Kimberly, WI.

**Mary Ulm-Mayhew** was the winner of the People's Choice Award at the 2006 Friends Exhibition at the Museum of Wisconsin Art.

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### LMA MISSION STATEMENT:

*The purpose of the League of Milwaukee Artists shall be to bring together sincere creative artists for the mutual advancement of its members and its works. Our aims are to promote interest, appreciation and understanding of art in Milwaukee; to foster a desire for improvement among our members by working and exhibiting together.*

## ATTENTION!

### Museum of Wisconsin Art Digital Submission Dates are:

**November 1** by email to **Judith Reidy** or  
**October 26** via snail mail to **David Klein**  
Prospectus was in the last newsletter. Available online.

## LMA Proposed By-Law Change

**"Digital images will be held from the date of submission to a date 3 weeks. after the completion of the exhibit; at which time the images must be deleted/destroyed or returned from LMA possession. Use of digital submissions from participating artists and award winners for publicity and promotional use by the LMA is optional."**

This proposed change will be voted upon at the November meeting.

## Newsletter Info

***The next deadline is December 10th.***

Send articles to **Chris Sommerfelt** at [csommerfelt@wi.rr.com](mailto:csommerfelt@wi.rr.com). Use the title LMA News or Open Canvas somewhere in your subject line to avoid accidental deletions. No verbal requests accepted. Email is preferred. In lieu of email, fax articles to 414-259-9233 or mail them to Chris Sommerfelt, 3214 N. 105th St. Wauwatosa 53222.

**Joyce Eesley** is editor in charge of proofing and mailing the newsletter. All address or email changes should be sent to her at [joyce\\_eesley@msn.com](mailto:joyce_eesley@msn.com). **If you wish to receive your newsletter via email, let Joyce know via email.**

## Website Info

Check in on the LMA website [www.leagueofmilwaukeeartists.com](http://www.leagueofmilwaukeeartists.com) to see what's new! Remember to submit member news to **Patrice Herbst**, [patrice@patriceherbst.com](mailto:patrice@patriceherbst.com) for posting on the web as well as to **Chris Sommerfelt** to post in the newsletter."



**League of Milwaukee Artists**

8039 W. Waterford Ave.  
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[www.leagueofmilwaukeeartists.com](http://www.leagueofmilwaukeeartists.com)



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## MEETINGS: Dates & Places

### NOVEMBER

Saturday, November 10th – 9:30am  
Stiemke Hall, Mount Mary College  
2900 Menomonee River Parkway

**Speaker:**

Jeff Darrow paints cityscapes of Milwaukee often employing high contrast shadows and deep rich hues. He shows at Elaine Erickson Gallery.

### DECEMBER

Saturday, December 8th– 9:30am  
Stiemke Hall, Mount Mary College  
2900 Menomonee River Parkway

**Speaker:**

David Niec paints night landscapes on sight, where he mixes his colors by the glow of his flashlight. David also creates sculptures from found objects from nature and is represented by Dean Jensen Gallery.