



# creative Ohio

A Newsletter for the members of the Ohio Arts and Crafts Guild

Volume 8 – Number 3

October 2007

## President's Corner – Vicki Boatright



### President's Message October 2007

What is "fine art"? What is "craft"? What distinguishes a "fine artist" from a "crafts person"? Do so-called fine artists and crafts persons share commonalities in their creative pursuits? Is one any better than the other?

I am not asking these questions simply to be rhetorical. These questions were brought to mind recently by some discordant communications among Guild members. As the president of an "arts" and "crafts" guild, I believe that it is important to consider such issues that create tension among members. I say that, however, with trepidation. It is a delicate discussion, indeed.

Comments from a recent Guild survey (published in the June Creative Ohio) revealed that divisiveness on this issue is significant within the Guild. Some members complained of a bias towards "fine artists" from the Guild in their surveys; others complained of stronger leanings toward crafters. Survey feedback was requested in order to respond to the needs of members, but with such disparate opinions, how should we respond?

A dear friend told me that he was "loathe to get involved" in such a discussion, as it is one that often brings up conflicting opinions. It is a debate that has been ongoing in artistic communities for centuries, so it is doubtful that the Guild will break new ground on the issue. As we

face a very challenging year of transition, however, we are a community that is in need of unity, and such division could jeopardize our future growth.

Our diversity has been our strength since the creation of the Guild in



Marble sculpture by Featured Artist Judy Sterling

1963, and our common threads have enabled us to survive many

difficult times over the years. Diversity need not lead to division. I think we owe it to ourselves to find ways to engage in open dialogue about our differences, so that all feel welcome, and so that the Guild's future continues to connect it to its original roots. From dialogue, we dignify our differences, and we open our arms to many more perspectives that can enrich us.



Fused glass jewelry by Featured Artist Maria Soliman

Lets face it—the Guild needs to increase its membership to survive. Will we do that if we limit our definition of whom we represent?

So let me open up the dialogue by sharing my own perspective. As a painter whose images

would be described as contemporary by most, I consider myself an artist. I am proud of the Master's Degree in visual arts that I earned in my early career, and I confess to some attitudes that clearly were shaped by academia. My most influential professors were pretty clear in their disdain of "craft", as if crafts persons were less valid in their creativity. I am ashamed to say that I bought into some of that elitism at the time, and I still have essences of it remaining in my thoughts at times. I am working to eradicate it.

My membership in the Guild has helped that early thinking evolve. In fact, over the past two months, I have had my eyes opened to the amazing creativity of some of the most talented and dedicated crafts persons around. Collecting items for Guild auctions at the recent Shaker in the Woods and Yankee Peddler festivals has truly opened up my mind to the amazing artistry and workmanship of traditional crafts persons. Although my own work is vastly different from the works that many generous crafters donated to the Guild to be auctioned at these festivals, I have gained a deep and admiring

respect for their gifts. Despite our differences, I have found many common threads, and I have gained many new friendships. (Continued on page 2)

*(President's Message Continued from page 1)* It is my hope that we can seek new members for the Guild who are both contemporary and traditional in their creative works; who are both artists and crafts persons; who are some blend of both, or, better yet, something new and innovative that is unique to the wonderful state of Ohio! There is room for all in the Guild, and we have the opportunity to share and learn from each other.

Does the definition of "craft" versus "fine art" matter? Do we have to have craft and fine art as opposing entities?

We are all creative in our own unique ways. Through the Guild, we can enjoy the camaraderie of other creative spirits, and our diverse perspectives can artistically enrich us. We do not need to stand opposed. I know that each Guild member whom I have come to know has enriched me, and I look forward to meeting many more!

What are your thoughts? Let's get a dialogue going! Please share your thoughts in the OACG-L online list, or, if you prefer, contact me personally at: [info@ohioartsandcraftsguild.org](mailto:info@ohioartsandcraftsguild.org).

Enjoy your adventures in the world of arts and crafts!



### *Lets open up a dialogue!*

We encourage you to join the **OACG-L** and respond to the dialogue opened by Vicki in the President's Corner. Please keep comments respectful of various perspectives and relevant to the entire membership. The **OACG-L** is an important networking opportunity available to all OACG members. Through the **OACG-L**, you can network with other artists and crafts people, gaining new creative insights, business strategies and opportunities, supplies and show information, etc. The **OACG-L** is also a good tool to get information about organizations looking for artists for different events and commissioned work. Members can join this email discussion group by sending an email to: [info@ohioartsandcraftsguild.org](mailto:info@ohioartsandcraftsguild.org).

### *Won an award lately?*

We want to celebrate your success! Send quality photos and story to the OACG office at: PO Box 35836, Canton,

Ohio 44735, or Email jpegs and story to: [info@ohioartsandcraftsguild.org](mailto:info@ohioartsandcraftsguild.org).

## ***Congratulations to Guild member Sherry Rodehaver!***

Sherry Rodehaver, of Uniontown, OH, received an Honorary Fellowship Award of Distinction at the Quilling Guild's 4<sup>th</sup> International Festival of Quilling held recently at Weston College in Weston-Super-Mare, near Somerset, England. The



honor bestows the title of Fellow of The Quilling Guild on the recipient and recognizes the honoree for having achieved the Honors Level of Accreditation.

Sherry, a member of the Ohio Arts and Crafts Guild, was the only recipient of the award from the United States. A total of eight Honorary Fellowship Awards, including six in England and one in Australia, were bestowed. In addition, Sherry also received a second-place award for her entry in the "free standing quilling" competition.

She was guest speaker at the festival's Saturday evening dinner event. Held every five years, the festival is attended by quillers from all over the world.

Sherry is also a member and vice president of the North American Quilling Guild and chairwoman of its Accreditation Steering Committee.

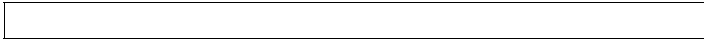
You may send your congratulations to her at [sherry\\_rodehaver@sbcglobal.net](mailto:sherry_rodehaver@sbcglobal.net).

### ***Consider a gift to the Guild***

The OACG is a 501(c)3 organization that promotes the arts throughout Ohio and surrounding states by offering tangible support to artists and crafts people. We are funded through membership dues, grants and donations. In order to keep dues affordable, we rely on the gift-giving support of businesses, individuals and other organizations. Please consider a tax-deductible donation to your Guild as a way to promote the arts in your community and state. Simply send a check with "Donation" listed on the memo line to:

**Ohio Arts and Crafts Guild  
PO Box 35836  
Canton, OH 44735**

You will receive acknowledgement of your generous gift. Thank you for your consideration!





## *Calling All Artists!*

Are you an emerging artist/crafts person seeking opportunities to exhibit and sell your work?

**First Fridays Canton**, sponsored by **Arts in Stark**, the County Arts Council, and the **Canton Special Improvement District**, is seeking artists and crafts persons to participate in this exciting monthly event. First Fridays Canton is a growing arts event that attracts a variety of visitors to the downtown arts community in Canton, OH. Participating artists are expected to either display work or demonstrate their talents during the hours of 6:00—10:00 PM on the First Friday of each month. Prime downtown locations for exhibition include: Court Ave. between 6<sup>th</sup> St. NW and 2<sup>nd</sup> St. NW; 4<sup>th</sup> St NW between Court Ave. and McKinley Ave.

At this time, there are no entrance fees and no juried acceptance, however, the committee reserves the right to determine the appropriateness of work for a public event. Work must be hand crafted by the artist. Tents and display set-up are the responsibility of the artist. Spaces awarded on a first-come first-served basis. Interested persons should contact Jon Tisevich at: 330.806.2829 or [jontisevich@yahoo.com](mailto:jontisevich@yahoo.com).

## *Is there something going on in your Ohio community?*

If there is something big going on in your community that involves the arts, please let us know about it. The Creative Ohio newsletter is one way that we can shine a beacon on the great arts activities that are going on across the state. The Guild office is located in Stark County, and we are becoming involved in that community's activities, however, our mission is to promote arts involvement across the state. If you would like your community's events highlighted, send the information to: [info@ohioartsandcraftsguild.org](mailto:info@ohioartsandcraftsguild.org). Also, let us know if you would like to initiate some events in your community as a part of the Guild.

## *Creative Ohio Online*

In the July newsletter, we announced a plan to distribute the Creative Ohio newsletter via e-mail and through a password protected Web page. We have received feedback from many members who do not use email regularly that an exclusively online newsletter is not welcomed. We do plan to continue researching this idea, and likely will have an optional program for either print or online versions in the future. Until a clear decision is made, we will continue to distribute print copies to all members. The website will also feature a password protected version available to all members. To receive the password, join the OACG-L by sending an email to: [info@ohioartsandcraftsguild.org](mailto:info@ohioartsandcraftsguild.org)

## *Welcome! New OACG members*

Erin Fritz, Leo, IN  
Sue Camulli, Copley, OH  
Liz Flynn, Kent, OH  
Connie Grainger, Shiremanstown, PA  
David Kuntzman, Paris, OH  
The Village Peddler Festival, Austinburg, OH  
Robert Zink, Brazil, IN  
John T. Dunphy, Mount Vernon, OH  
Sara Smith, Mount Vernon, OH  
Beverly Newbold, Kingsville, OH  
Lloyd Natof, Chicago, IL  
Mark Weierman, Milford, OH  
Sarah Everett, Cochran, PA  
Laurel Avenue, Clarion, PA  
Dorothy Stewart, Blanchester, OH  
Darlene Pally Mollica, Youngstown, OH  
Elaine Greene, Burton, OH  
Patrice Ford, Indianapolis, IN  
Dean Johnson, Peninsula, OH  
Jamie Snow, Columbus, OH  
Drew Deimling, Cincinnati, OH  
Shelley Gross, Lakewood, OH  
Jennifer Kamm & Alice Woodrum, Stow, OH  
Aimee Colahan, Vermilion, OH  
Joseph Sokol, Warren, OH  
Helen Rife (Patron), Kingston, OH  
Jennie Binney, Erie, PA

## *Membership Renewal Process*

Beginning in February 2007, the Guild's membership renewal process changed. In the past, memberships were renewed according to the month that the member initially joined, resulting in renewals each month. Most similar organizations, however, renew all memberships at the same time each year, eliminating cash flow problems and the myriad complexities that come with attempting to get people to renew each month. We have decided to change our renewal process to this more common practice.

This means that from this point forward, **ALL MEMBERSHIPS WILL BE DUE FOR RENEWAL IN FEBRUARY EACH YEAR**, regardless of when a member joined or last renewed. Current members will be due for renewal in February 2008. You will receive a renewal letter in January. The Membership Committee apologizes for any confusion that may have resulted from the transition. Thank you for your promptness with the renewal process in the future.

## Arts Beat

### Robb Hankins, President and CEO of ArtsinStark

Written by Vicki Boatright

Some call him the Pied Piper for the arts. Others call him the catalyst for the greatest cultural renaissance that ever hit Northeast Ohio. But most people in Stark County, Ohio, just call him Robb.

Robb Hankins, that is.

Robb is the President & CEO of ArtsinStark, the county arts council for Stark County. With such a formidable title, you would expect him to be found in the most elite places of the county, interacting primarily with those who dedicate large sums of money to arts programming. After presiding over two record-breaking fund drives, it is clear that he definitely has inspired those who open their pocketbooks for the arts.

Although you will often find Robb sharply dressed in boardrooms and fancy offices, you are just as likely to find him whooping it up in a campy downtown arts street fair, hula-hooping with a bunch of artists and indie music fans. And in those boardrooms, you probably will find him juggling colored balls or playing a kazoo, bringing lightness and mirth to some of the most unlikely of places. A man of many contrasts and unquestionable appeal, he is both friend and leader to people from all walks of life in Stark County.

I had the opportunity to talk with Robb one recent afternoon in his office in the Cultural Center for the Arts in Canton. He acknowledged his range of character with slight modesty, hoping that business leaders would not see him as too over the line. He also stated that he feels a



Robb Hankins "hooping" in downtown Canton

responsibility to be a "bridge builder", meeting varieties of individuals on their own turf, and bringing them together for shared interests. He points to the phenomenal success of bringing the artistic community together with the business community in Canton. He boasts proudly, "There is a new arts business opening in downtown

Canton every month!" One of those business, he is quick to note, is the Ohio Arts and Crafts Guild.

He credits Canton's success to a number of factors, including the business community's embrace of the arts for economic development, and the hard work of local artists and crafts persons to establish galleries and studios in the downtown area. Canton has wholeheartedly signed onto his 3-part formula for reviving downtowns, which is to bring in: 1) live music, 2) public art, and 3) galleries and studios. It is paying off. A once forgotten downtown has suddenly become a showplace that brings people in from all parts of Ohio, and a hangout that locals love to enjoy.

Robb shared with me that, although he is highly educated (he has a Bachelor's Degree in Theater, a Master's Degree in Communications, and a Master's Degree in Arts Administration), his parents both worked 20-30 years in factories to support their family. He connects well with the mostly blue-collar community of Stark County, as his roots are humble, and he sees great value in less academic cultures. "It's harder to find the arts, sometimes [in Stark County], but that doesn't mean that there aren't a lot of creative people here. The artists and crafts people here tend to be easier to work with and more willing to say, 'Let's not get caught up with definitions. Let's just create something and celebrate it and make this a better place.'"

Robb sees the entire state of Ohio as a creative place with hidden arts treasures waiting to be discovered. Ohio artisans tend to be more practical and more relaxed, he says, creating for reasons beyond academic definition. He sees artisans as similar to entrepreneurs—both have to be creative, and both have to be willing to try new things. He recognizes, however, that artists and crafts persons tend to be reluctant to embrace the marketplace. Entrepreneurs seek what the market wants; artists and crafts persons want to shape the marketplace to their own creative visions. Although seeing the nobility of the artistic passion, he encourages creative people to be open to the demands of the marketplace for their survival.

Robb sees little need for distinctions when looking at artistic products. Whether a piece is created as an individual work of "fine art", or whether several pieces are reproduced to the exacting standards of a master crafts person, he sees all creative works as having validity. "Creativity comes in lots of shades, and everyone loves something." The arts are not just for artistic people. They are for everyone. In that regard, he sees that each artist or crafts person has an audience, and the audience's enjoyment of the piece has importance.

Coming to Stark County in 2005, Robb has been instrumental to the arts development in many communities across the country. His works are legendary in those communities, as well, but he claims that Stark County's growth is the (Continued on page 5)

(Arts Beat Continued from page 4)

most rapid he has ever seen. "I have never seen things move with this velocity before."

Some may think Robb Hankins' desire to make Stark County "the most famous place in the world for two things—football and the arts" is grandiose. But those of us who live in the community known for the Football Hall of Fame recognize that our friend Robb is anything but grandiose. He inspires creative passion in people who never considered themselves artists or enthusiasts for the arts, and he creates teams determined not to fail.

And at the end of the day, he dons his baseball cap backwards, sheds the suit for a funky T-shirt and jeans, and joins the fun with the rest of us. That's Robb.

*Arts Beat is a new feature of the Creative Ohio Newsletter, designed to highlight persons, programs, organizations, etc., that are of special interest to the arts community of Ohio. If you know of a story for the Arts Beat, please send an email to: [info@ohioartsandcraftsguild.org](mailto:info@ohioartsandcraftsguild.org)*

*"Creative work is play. It is free speculation using the materials of ones chosen form."*

*--Stephen Nachmanatovitch*

## **OACG Member Benefits**

### **Artist/Patron Connections**

Members are provided opportunities to be linked with organizations seeking artists for commissioned work and opportunities.

### **Members Only Merchant Card Program**

Save on merchant card charges! Membership is required to participate. (Ohio residency not required.)

### **Directory of Ohio arts and craft shows**

Over 400 Ohio shows listed annually

### **Annual Membership Directory**

Available upon request



## **Ohio Arts & Crafts Guild**

Established in 1963, the **Ohio Arts & Crafts Guild** is a non-profit organization that represents practicing artists and crafts people at all levels of achievement. Members include: professionals, amateurs, students, and arts enthusiasts. Our membership represents people of all ages and walks of life who appreciate and support the arts and crafts. In addition, the Guild promotes the future of arts and crafts by awarding annual scholarships to Ohio high school and college art students.

**Ohio Arts and Crafts Guild**

**PO Box 35836**

**Canton, OH 44735**

**330-456-0477**

[www.ohioartsandcraftsguild.org](http://www.ohioartsandcraftsguild.org)

[info@ohioartsandcraftsguild.org](mailto:info@ohioartsandcraftsguild.org)

### **Membership Certificate**

Members receive a 5 X 7" membership certificate that may be framed in a manner appropriate to their booth style and displayed at shows.

### **Product labels**

3/8 X 1 3/4" labels available to members to show that their products are "Handmade by an OACG Member".

### **Read Show Reviews Online**

### **Networking opportunities**

Network with fellow artists/craftspeople, promoters, and shop owners via the Guild's online forum.

### **Insurance Protection**

Low-cost business and liability protection available in Ohio, Pennsylvania, Indiana & Michigan.

**OACG Featured  
Artist  
October 2007  
Maria Soliman**



Maria Soliman does with glass what lapidaries do with stones – she makes cabochons of uncommon beauty.

The advantage of glass vs. rocks? Dichroism. Dichroic glass has a range of colors rather than one solid color, and when fused en cabochon, it results in stunning pieces that can be worn as pendants, rings, earrings brooches – you name it. A characteristic of dichroic glass is that when it is viewed from different angles, the color appears to change.

“An example would be a piece of jewelry that appears yellow and red. As the piece of glass jewelry is moved, a variety of shades of yellow, orange and red will show up,” Maria said.

All the jewelry pieces are one of a kind and all are handcrafted in her studio in her residence in Upper Arlington, Ohio, a suburb of Columbus. She shares her home with Ahmed, her husband of 11 years, their 6-year-old daughter, Hala, and a SharPei named Cleo.

She also makes clocks. “My clocks are designed to be used in smaller spaces such as desks, bedrooms and kitchens and are intended to be fun and lighthearted,” Maria said.

Maria has been working with glass for the past 11 years. “I was attracted to it because of the unique qualities it possesses as an art form,” she said. “I started in stained glass as a hobby. Two years ago I took a workshop and learned to love warm (fused) glass because of the depth and variety it affords me as an artist.” Fused dichroic glass offers Maria the opportunity for creativity that she craves.



“I love fused glass because it allows me to be creative and relax. I never know what I’m going to do when I walk into my studio. I just start playing and see what I can

create. I may have a general idea of creating earrings or a certain style of cabochon but other than that I just let

my hands do the work,” Maria said, explaining how her muse works.

Her formal instruction includes a Bachelor of Science Degree in Economics and Statistics from The Ohio State University, and her craft education includes instruction in both stained and fused glass, a couple of introductory courses, and networking with fellow artists who are willing to share what they have learned through experience and workshops.

While managing her home, cooking and caring for her husband, daughter and SharPei, Maria manages to devote an average of 5-10 hours of time each week to studio work, designing, firing, cold working, finishing pieces, applying for shows, ordering supplies and all the other things required by her passion.

Maria’s shop is outfitted with a drill press, grinder, sanders and kiln, and her supplies include a variety of types of glass, sterling silver findings and kiln supplies. She soon will be adding silversmithing equipment – a torch and other supplies for working silver – to her workshop.

“Recently, I learned about silverwork from fellow OACG member Dave Crookston and loved it,” she said. These skills will permit her to feature her work in beveled pendants, earrings and bracelets, all of which she hopes to have available this coming summer.

Summer and fall demand more of Maria’s time because that’s when she is focused on showing her art/craft at art festivals around the state.

“Working with glass is relaxing and gives me great satisfaction when I can see the finished piece that I created with my own hands,” Maria said.

And she is giving back. This year Maria has been passing along what she knows about fused glass through an after school enrichment program in schools near her home. She also has been teaching service groups such as Girl Scouts.

She’s looking forward this summer to demonstrating her craft and crafts at birthday parties for children and adults and ladies night-out parties.

Maria can be reached via e-mail at [soliman.6@osu.edu](mailto:soliman.6@osu.edu).

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If you would like to be a Featured Artist, please e-mail Dave Crookston at [djc744@sssnet.com](mailto:djc744@sssnet.com) or call him at 330-833-7045. Featured Artists are also spotlighted on the OACG Web site at <http://www.ohioartsandcraftsquild.org/>.

***OACG Featured Artist***  
***October 2007***  
***Judy Sterling***



Put a piece of wood, marble or metal into Judy Sterling's hands and she will find in it shapes and forms, usually from nature. Then she takes up her tools and lets you see what she saw in her mind's eye.

From her well-equipped 20- by 24-foot Sterling Nightengale Studio in Canton emerge wooden and marble wonders alive with what she calls "a sensual essence" and glowing with a warm patina or seemingly lighted from within. When a piece requires support for its presentation, she turns to her torch and steel, and voila, metallic vines and leaves grow to embrace the sculpture.

Judy is the former owner/operator of Construction Container Systems in Massillon, Ohio, and mother of three grown children: Kathy Sterling, a Web designer in Columbus, Ohio, Jim Sterling and John Sterling, both contractors with Beaver Excavating in Canton, Ohio.

Judy has immersed herself in her art, returning recently from a six-month intensive marble-sculpting program with master sculptor Jena Fillacio at the Lorenzo de Medici in Italy. "I sold my home and car and stored my equipment to move to Italy to study with Fillacio," she said. "I was able to meet and learn from many wonderful artists who have worked the quarries of Carrara, where Michelangelo worked and lived a significant portion of his career. To have studied at the feet of the master and to live in the birthplace of art with unlimited access to the academy, the home of the David, is surely the dream of every sculptor."

Judy received a Bachelor of Fine Arts degree Magna Cum Laude with ceramics major in 2006 from Kent State University. She also studied classical methodology of clay sculpting at the master's level at Wells College in Florence, Italy in 2006. She attended workshops in 2000, 2001 and 2002 at Laloba Clay Ranch in Steamboat Springs, Colo., with Biz Littell and Tim Coleman, and studied with Mary Beth Coulter in 2002 at Talocapague, Mexico.

Judy considers her work "a love affair with grace and beauty" and says she "pushes the limits of aesthetics and composition to make the work speak, to interpret our world."

Her studio is replete with Italian made pneumatic stone carving chisels, sculpting and woodworking tables, woodworking tools and chisels, welder, compressor, oxy-acetylene torch, 9-cubic-foot kiln, two potter's wheels, jeweler's bench and assorted jeweler's tools and

hand equipment for manipulating metals. She's in the process of converting an old kiln into a gas forge to help with the making of forged supports for her wood carvings.

Judy finds inspiration from nature and "from within" and says "the creation of my work gives me the pleasure of accomplishment and completion." "I see artists as the interpreters of our world – we help the world see in new ways," she said.

Judy grew up in East Canton and lived most of her adult life in the Jackson Township area of Stark County. "My roots are here, my children and my friends are here, but art is that which speaks to my soul and leads into the world. I intend to live and work my art and offer my skills, my work to the world by keeping my mind and heart open to new opportunities and visions," she said.

Judy is a new member of the Ohio Arts and Crafts Guild and believes "networking is an essential part of marketing (herself) as a professional artist." She hopes the OACG can provide connections with other artists and the community. Others have benefited from Judy's expertise. She has taught students of nearly all ages the wonders and ways of ceramics, sculpture, painting, drawing, photography and darkroom procedures and matting and framing.

Her professional memberships include the Canton Artist League, Art for Women's Sake (treasurer), Canton, Massillon, Akron and Cleveland museums of art, National Women in the Arts, American Association of University Women and International Sculptors Association. Her travels have taken her to Greece, France, Switzerland, Turkey, Austria, Mexico, Canada and Australia. Her works have been seen in widely varied venues as the Stark County Artists Juried Show at the Massillon Museum in 1999 and in the Florence City Wide Art show in Florence, Italy, in 2006.



Judy believes that, "Becoming is the dance of fleeting moments within our lives. We walk and dance and run through our lives, changing and transforming our world and ourselves. We are becoming. We can learn or we can ignore our lessons – growth is our choice."

"Becoming" also seems to be an art she has mastered.

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Contact Judy at: [fineart902@aol.com](mailto:fineart902@aol.com) or 330-224-7742. If you would like to be a Featured Artist, please e-mail Dave Crookston at [djc744@sssnet.com](mailto:djc744@sssnet.com) or call him at 330-833-7045. Featured Artists are also spotlighted on the OACG Web site at <http://www.ohioartsandcraftsguild.org/>

## ***Volunteers— the lifeblood of the Ohio Arts and Crafts Guild***

***By Dave Crookston, Treasurer***

Volunteers are administering your Guild, and volunteers have helped make the Guild's presence at the Shaker Woods and Yankee Peddler festivals successful, both in the sales of shopping bags and at the auctions.

I won't attempt to name all that have volunteered for service at the festivals – and at the upcoming Christmas in the Woods Festival – but I would like to heap praise upon Natalie Biller and Lynn Corbin, who spent many hours enlisting the service of Guild members.

Lynn Corbin worked despite flood conditions in her hometown of Findlay. That's dedication. Natalie not only enlisted the aid of volunteers but also served as a volunteer herself, even at Yankee Peddler, which is a good distance from her home.

I won't attempt to name all those who volunteered for fear of omitting someone and slighting their service.

I can tell you that volunteer service at the festivals has swelled the Guild's treasury to the point that we are discussing how we might award scholarships again this year.

Your president, Vicki Boatright, served four days at the Yankee Peddler Festival when your treasurer, Dave Crookston, was unavailable. She and Dave and his wife Sally also served three days each at Shaker Woods. Your officers are working officers.

Worthy of note is the fact that OACG President Emeritus John Croft, who had bypass surgery recently, brought his wagon booth and auction cart to Yankee Peddler with the help of his son-in-law and was at the festival at least one day each weekend to help at the booth. That's the kind of dedication that sets an example for us all. Thanks, John! John's booth has been a Guild landmark at Yankee Peddler for years.

We learned some valuable lessons and will begin lining up volunteers earlier next year for service at the festivals. One lesson learned is that when volunteers step up with their ideas and their time good things happen and the Guild grows.

Won't you please come forward with your ideas and offer your service so the Guild can continue to grow and provide more services to our members?

***Dave Crookston is the Treasurer of the Guild, who has also taken on the responsibilities of Secretary since that position was vacated in June of this year. He has volunteered countless hours toward keeping the Guild operating over the past year. Please let us know if your or someone you know may be interested in volunteering or serving on the Board of the Guild by emailing [info@ohioartsandcraftsguild.org](mailto:info@ohioartsandcraftsguild.org).***

## ***The Guild was rockin'!***

On Friday, July 6, the Guild hosted an outdoor concert by Jason Farnham as part of the inaugural First Friday festival event in downtown Canton. Farnham, a native of Stark



County, OH, recently relocated to Los Angeles to pursue his musical career full time. His debut electro-pop CD, "Barriers," produced in Toronto and released last year, has received critical praise. Farnham's one-man, live show was an innovative multimedia production combining cutting-edge electro-pop and techno, and featured songs from "Barriers" as well as new music.

The concert turned out to be a huge hit! Festival attendees relaxed to Jason's smooth sounds as they toured the galleries and studios in Studio 5, and a street jam complete with dancers, hula-hoopers and lawn chairs sprung up all around. Jason's tunes were appealing to people of all ages. He enjoyed it so much, he played well into the night, to the delight of his adoring fans! Jason played for the Guild as a benefit for the Leukemia and Lymphoma Society. Artist exhibitors representing the Guild included Dave Kuntzman, Barb Franzreb and Vicki Boatright. Thanks to all for making this a fantastic event!

## ***Strategic planning by the OACG Board of Trustees***

The Board of Trustees met on October 2, 2007 to develop a Strategic Plan for the future of the Guild. The next Creative Ohio edition will have much more information about the Strategic Plan and our future goals. In the meantime, we wanted to share the revised Mission Statement that was drafted. This mission statement was formulated by revisiting the original one written back in 1963 when the Guild was first incorporated. Feedback from surveys submitted by members contributed to the strategic planning process and influenced the purposes outlined in the Mission Statement.

### **OACG mission and Vision**

**Mission:** To preserve, promote and develop fine arts, performing arts, and crafts in the state of Ohio.

**Vision:** To be an educational and business resource for artists and crafts persons, and to advocate for fine arts and crafts.

# WANTED!

## ARTS and CRAFTS For Display at the Guild

The Guild has a small exhibition space to display the works of Guild members, especially for community events when the offices are open to the public. If you would be interested in lending a few pieces for display, please send an email regarding your interest to: [info@ohioartsandcraftsguild.org](mailto:info@ohioartsandcraftsguild.org). Please keep in mind that work will be selected according to specific themes for specific events. **You will be expected to attend the events at which the work will be highlighted.** At this time, the Guild is not prepared to handle consignment sales, therefore, all sales will be done directly through the artist.

*Everyone has talent. What is rare is the courage to follow the talent to the dark place that it leads.*  
--Erica Jong

CLASSIFIED AD RATES: Deadline is the 24th of the month. PLEASE NOTE we are on a 3-MONTH LAG. 1x rate - \$7.50 for 25 words or less plus .40 per word over 25. 6x rate - \$5.00 plus .30. Copy must be typed. OACG members are entitled to one free classified ad per year (MAXIMUM OF 25 WORDS). Over 25 words subject to above rates. Email free classified ads to: [info@ohioartsandcraftsguild.org](mailto:info@ohioartsandcraftsguild.org). Name and address count as four (4) words, telephone as two (2) words. PAYMENT MUST ACCOMPANY ALL PAID CLASSIFIED AD ORDERS. Mail copy and payment to classified ads, Creative Ohio, Ohio Arts and Crafts Guild, PO Box 35836, Canton, OH 44735



### *Classified Ads*

**Art Affair at The Greene, Dayton, Ohio** (June 14 & 15, 2008) and the **Easton Art Affair, Columbus, Ohio** (June 27 - 29, 2008) - call 330-493-9207 for applications!

**WANTED: VENDOR COORDINATOR** First year Festival in need of a vendor coordinator for Old West Festival. Interested parties please contact: [Drew@Oldwestfestival.com](mailto:Drew@Oldwestfestival.com).

**Are you Zapped yet?** Many shows are requiring, or will require in the future, online submission of applications and images through Zapplication. To view shows that presently require this format, go to Zapplication.org. To make this process easier, I will prepare your information and images for this site and set you up.  
Jason Pavlik, Graphic Designer 440-670-5392  
[jasonpavlik@yahoo.com](mailto:jasonpavlik@yahoo.com).

### *OACG Merchant Card Program with First Data*

#### **Terminal**

Statement fee - waived  
Terminal swiped rate - 2.11%  
Terminal keyed rate - 2.7%

#### **YourPay (Internet/wireless)**

YourPay discount rate - 2.69%  
YourPay transaction fee - \$0.10 all cards  
YourPay monthly service fee - \$19.95  
YourPay 1x set-up fee - \$44.95  
YourPay C/B - \$15.00  
Statement fee - \$15.00

#### **ETC4 (knucklebuster/phone in)**

ETC4 discount rate - 2.71%  
ETC4 transaction fee - \$0.40 all cards  
ETC4 1x set-up fee - \$20.00  
ETC4 monthly service fee - \$7.50  
ETC4 C/B - \$15.00  
Imprinter fee - \$15.00

1-year contract with \$250 penalty if withdraw before 1 year, none thereafter.  
Eclipse, 3750, or Hypercom T7P terminals recommended, possibly available on eBay.

There is no service fee if you own your own terminal.  
C/B means charge back and indicates that your account will be charged if a cardholder says his/her card was not used and the charge is inaccurate.

For more Information, contact:  
Octavia Justice, account executive  
First Data Commercial Services  
877-457-2615, ext. 6147