

Artists teach, lecture, demonstrate for students in The Gathering Place

By Loraine McClish
staff writer

The senior adults who study oil painting in The Gathering Place have a host of award winners as their teachers.

"Guest lecture-demonstrators for the month are Jerrie Habsburg and Audrey DiMarco, both familiar names in art winning circles.

"Jerrie takes the classic approach in oils. Audrey demonstrates in pastels, layering colors on as she would layer on oils," said Barbara Turney, who heads up the every-Wednesday afternoon sessions in Mercy Center.

"We all have different approaches and techniques and that's why we have members come in for demonstrations to learn from as many people as we can."

The members she speaks of are members of Farmington Artists Club (FAC) who give both their time and money to keep the classes going for all comers.

"Students come and go but the classes keep steadily growing in attendance so all of the teachers are kept pretty busy for those few hours," Turney said.

"Teachers for the class this season are Jo Schmidt, who took one of the popular vote awards in FAC's fall exhibit in November; Ken Lockwood, who is a

commercial artist; Shirley Sloane and Joanne Gregory.

All are members of Farmington Art Foundation by virtue of their membership in FAC. The foundation is the service arm of the club.

THE ART classes for senior adults is given without charge to the students, subsidized in part by Farmington Hills Parks and Recreation Department.

The classes follow the same drop-in format as all of the classes, programs, and special events that are planned for seniors in The Gathering Place.

"There is no signing up for an eight-week course. There is no registration or registration fees. There is no obligation or commitment. If you want to come and paint you just show up at 1:30 p.m. Wednesdays and we'll find some brushes and oils for you to start," Turney said.

"But several of our regular students have told us they plan their entire week around Wednesday afternoon classes and that was nice to hear," she said.

Doris Pipino drives from Northville to attend the classes and she says she schedules all of her plans to be in The Gathering Place every Wednesday from September to May.

Student Gwen Satz calls her art lessons "on the job training. We learn as we paint," she said.

Student Ann Stoffel calls the class

"top priority on my schedule.

"The teachers are super, as you can see in the results of their pupils. My results are fantastic. I have come a long way since I became a member of this class."

THIS is Turney's second year as chairwoman of the art classes, overseeing the administrative end of the project such as having enough oils and turpentine on hand, bringing in the guest-demonstrators, lining up the teachers, as well as teaching herself.

"It wouldn't have lasted this long without the enthusiasm that's put into it," she said.

The enthusiasm comes from both teachers and students, as well as those members of FAC who do not teach but who donate a piece of their original work for a raffle that is staged during each of the club's art shows.

The money that is raised in the raffle is always earmarked specifically to fund the Farmington Art Foundation.

The classes were started eight years ago with a \$200 grant from Michigan Council for the Arts. At the time the foundation was compelled to ask a small fee for the students' materials.

"Now everything is free to the seniors who want to paint," Turney said. "Some buy their own brushes because it's easier to take care of them as

they should be taken care of. Some buy their own canvas board because they want to. But we encourage them to stretch their own canvas."

"We have students at all levels of expertise. Some have never picked up a brush before. Some are re-activating an old interest," she said.

LAURA WEISS, one of Turney's students who found an interest in painting late in life, said, "Art can be a wonderful medium of expressing one's inner-self."

"I rejoice that maybe, just perhaps, through my art peoples' hearts will be opened and let me in to appreciate their true nature."

Turney commented on this by saying, "The way she uses words she's been an artist all along but just never realized it."

Tenny Upchurch summed up what many of the students feel about their Wednesday afternoons by saying, "We are all thankful for this class and the various instructors who devote their time and energy and skills on our behalf."

"That's what keeps us going," Turney said. "We have retired business people in our classes and housewives who have never even had a hobby before. But a mutual feeling of wanting to create crosses all boundaries."

Thursday, December 16, 1982 O&E

(FSC)



RANDY BORST/staff photographer

17th century evening staged to benefit Oakway

Oakway Symphony Orchestra Society has staged an evening for guests to step back into Elizabethan England. The event begins at 7 p.m. Wednesday, Dec. 29 in Botsford Inn's Coach House leading up to an authentic wassail dinner.

The evening's guest host is Roland Sharette who has orchestrated the wandering minstrels who will play,

sing and stroll about the room decorated in appropriate 17th century fashion. The menu is drawn directly from 17th century cookbooks and will list cabbage and almonds, roast stricken of beef, currant rolls, figgy or plum pudding and lemon rice.

Wassail generates from medieval times and is literally a toast to wish health.

COZY CHRISTMAS CLEARANCE

Prices slashed, tremendous savings on our coziest, cuddliest, plushiest warm-up suits.

Perfect gifts to warm-up everyone on your Christmas list.

(250 units)

Holiday Hours
Mon-Fri 9:30-9, Sat 9:30-6, Sun 12-5

tennis time

5 E. Corner Maple & Lehigh
Birmingham, AL 35247

Turkey Talk hot line open

"Turkey Talk Hot Line, sponsored by Swift Company is open now from 8 a.m. to 6 p.m. Monday through Friday, until Dec. 24.

"The line is manned by a team of professional home economists who will take all questions concerning how to

prepare a turkey by calling 1-800-323-4848. The free service is given by the company's Butterball division.

Callers who wish to leave their names and addresses will receive a free booklet of cooking tips and recipes.



save energy

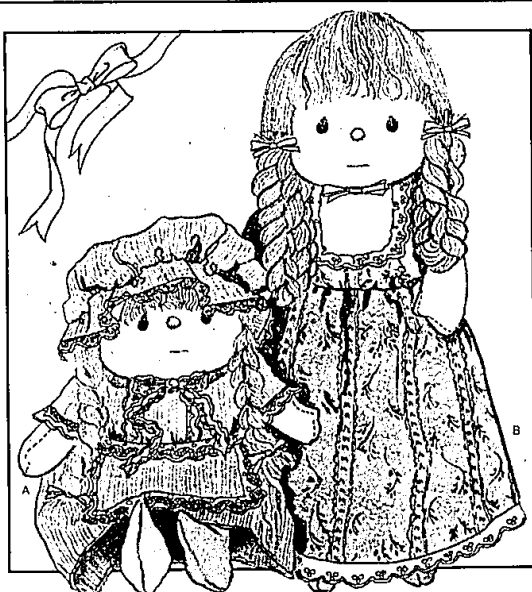
Don't be misled into thinking using your fireplace will save on gas or fuel oil. Most fireplaces actually suck more heat out of the house and up the chimney than they generate.

Get Ready For Christmas Sale

5.99-6.99
Reg. \$12-\$14
cozy knit gloves with suede or genuine leather palms.
600 units

6.99 Reg. \$14
she loves legwarmers in all her favorite colors and patterns... buy them for every gal on your list at these Merry Christmas savings.
600 units

39.99
Reg. \$80-\$120
sculptured genuine leather handbags with the lasting good looks she loves.
300 units



LOOK WHO WANTS TO SPEND CHRISTMAS WITH YOU!

Meet Alma™, the little dairy maid, and her friend, Millicent™, a ballroom dancer. Each soft-body rag doll by Applause™ is hoping to be cuddled in little arms soon, or belong to a collector's family. A. Alma™, 8"H, in yellow, \$7. B. Millicent™, 14"H, in blue, \$11.

Jacobson's
BIRMINGHAM

Open a Jacobson charge there is no annual fee.



FOR YOUR HOLIDAY SHOPPING CONVENIENCE, OPEN MONDAY THROUGH FRIDAY EVENINGS 'TIL 9:00 P.M., SATURDAY 'TIL 6:00 P.M.

Volunteer
American Red Cross
Together, we can change things.

B. SIEGEL

DOWNTOWN 7-MILE EASTLAND BIRMINGHAM NORTHLAND B SIEGEL MASTERCARD VISA AMERICAN EXPRESS
ALL STORES OPEN SUNDAYS 12 TO 6 P.M.