

## Suburban Life

Lorraine McClish editor/477-5450

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# Architect named Artist-in-Residence for 1984

## Artist and gardeners lauded for service

By Lorraine McClish  
staff writer

Architect Walter Reddig has been chosen Artist-in-Residence for the year by the Farmington Area Arts Commission.

Ken Lockwood, a retired commercial artist who now gives his time and talents as a volunteer, has taken the Distinguished Service to the Arts Award, given each year to an individual.

And Hill and Dale Garden Club has taken the Distinguished Service to the Arts Award given to an organization.

Mary Bahna, president of Hill and Dale will accept the award on behalf of the club members, for their work in garden therapy.

The winners were chosen from nominations submitted to the commission from area residents and will be guests of honor at a reception hosted by the commission 4-6 p.m. Sunday, June 3 in Farmington Community Center. There is no charge for the reception, which is open to the public.

REDDIG IS A native of West Germany where he apprenticed as a cabinet maker, earned the title of design technician and from that specialized as an interior architect.

"But that designation didn't mean much here," said Reddig, who returned to school in Michigan for the necessary additional training to become a registered architect in the state.

Not too long after that he picked up his National Council of Architectural Registration Boards certificate; then out-of-state jobs caused him to become registered in Virginia and Maryland.

Reddig has called Farmington Hills his home town for the past 20 years and works out of a contemporary not-yet-finished studio next door to his farm-house residence in a country setting on Inkster Road, between Nine and Ten Mile.

"It'll all be tied together, maybe by mid-summer," he said. "I work on this as I can between jobs."

He may well have added, between painting fine art, between winning awards for these paintings, between duties as president of Farmington Artists Club, and between serving as architectural authority for Farmington Historical Commission.

He considers his work on the commission as an obligation to his community and says his recently

purchased farm house was bought not for its history, but its potential "to make an eye-catching stop for visitors."

He thinks of his new home and workplace as the best of two worlds, "with a large expanse of land and a back-yard pond on main street."

In his work, Reddig has no specialty and doesn't want one.

"Every new job is a new problem to be solved, and I'm not afraid to do anything new," he said.

"It's the best way I know how to grow."

As for his award-winning paintings, "They are all realism because I'm very graphically oriented."

LOCKWOOD WAS the first artist to step forward as a volunteer when the Farmington Art Foundation started offering oil-painting classes to area senior adults, and he has been the foundation's one steady teacher ever since.

"When the artists (members of Farmington Artists Club) agreed to serve as teachers for the classes, the original idea was that we would do this on a rotating basis," Lockwood said. "That sounds OK on the surface, but it really wasn't a good way to work it because the students need continuity. We're volunteering now for a complete season and that's working out much better."

One of the factors that came from the continuity of teachers was a seriousness in painting.

"I think they took the classes as a plaything at first. But it wasn't long before a sort of competition among them took hold and then they started turning out some pretty dog-gone good pictures," he said.

All of the classes are given without charge and are open to all comers. Lockwood said they are made up of seniors who always thought they would like to paint but somehow just never got around to doing it, those who painted once and are reactivating an old hobby and those who have never picked up a paint brush before lured to the class just because they've seen others painting.

Lockwood claims he's gotten as much pleasure from teaching as his students have gotten from the afternoon get-togethers, and has made a lot of friends in the interim.

Before his retirement Lockwood worked as a commercial artist in the advertising department of



Walter Reddig, Farmington area's Artist-in-Residence for 1984, chose what he calls "a country setting on Main Street" for his new studio on Inkster Road, between Nine and Ten Mile roads.

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Distinguished Service to the Arts Awards for 1984 go to Ken Lockwood, at left, standard bearer for the art classes offered to area seniors, and to Mary Bahna, at right, who accepts the award in behalf of Hill and Dale Garden Club members and their work in garden therapy.



Staff photos by  
Randy Borat

# Honeymoon's over when tax time rolls around

By Joanne Maliszewski  
staff writer

When tax time rolls around newlyweds will know for sure the honeymoon is over.

The simple figuring of your income tax as a single person and filling out the 1040A short form most likely is an event of the past.

Now that you are married, the tax rules change, particularly if you both work.

One of the biggest changes in your tax circumstances will be the doubling of income. Great for increased buying power. But the doubled income most likely will throw you into a higher tax bracket. That of course means higher taxes.

To compensate for the higher tax bracket, the IRS has initiated a married couple penalty deduction (schedule W),

said Diane Werenka of H&R Block.

Schedule W allows a married couple to subtract 10 percent off the lower income earner's wages, which will reduce the total of both incomes and hopefully allow you to remain in a lower tax bracket, Werenka said.

Unfortunately, however, Michigan disallows this 10 percent reduction and you have to add it back on to your total incomes when filling out state tax forms.

Another change affecting married couples is the zero bracket amount, Werenka said. When single, you are able to deduct \$2,300 off your income if you don't itemize personal deductions such as medical expenses or charitable contributions. When married though, you may deduct \$3,400 as a base deduction, if, and in most cases, you will be unable to itemize as newlyweds. If you are able to itemize, however, the total number of deductions must total more than \$3,400,

said Susan Fitzpatrick, of H&R Block's district office in Livonia.

With deductions you, subtract a certain amount from your income before calculating your tax obligation. Consequently, only a small portion of the deduction is reflected in lowered taxes.

If you have other income, such as interest earned on NOW accounts or stocks and bonds dividend checks, in addition to your employment salaries and wages, don't forget to add it in to your total incomes.

Even if you forget to add these other bits and pieces of income, you can be sure the IRS has this information locked away in one of their computers.

As a single person you could have excluded \$100 of your total qualifying dividends — indicated on statements issued from your broker. For married couples, you may exclude \$200 regardless of which spouse owns the stock, Werenka said.

Once you have your total annual incomes calculated, it's time to do some figuring that could be to your advantage in the form of deductions. Remember, however, in order to itemize, your deductions must be more than \$3,400.

But consider some of these items that could be relevant to your newwed status:

• Moving expenses: If either spouse moved more than 35 miles because of a job relocation you might be able to make a deduction from your total gross income even if you don't have enough deductions to itemize.

You may also be able to count certain trips made to your new home before moving in, as well as the "settling-in" costs that come with moving into a new home or apartment.

• Transportation: Although commuting expenses are not deductible if both spouses traveled to one job each, there is a chance you can deduct cents per

mile from your gross income if either of you traveled to more than one job in a day. Without a doubt though, remember to keep meticulous automobile records.

• Tax credits: These reduce your taxes by their full amount and are not to be confused with deductions. Examples of tax credits are for energy and political contributions.

Tax credits may be claimed whether or not you itemize your deductions.

As far as itemizing, you may be disappointed because, reaching the \$3,400 base allowed for married couples in deductions is hard to reach if you are only buying a house or condominium on which you are paying interest or taxes.

When trying to itemize, keep in mind that most interest payments, payroll deductions for health insurance, employment-related expenses, most all books, memberships, calculator or self-forms are deductible.