

Portland Botanical Artists Circle - meeting notes February 7, 2013

Attendees: Janet Parker, Janene Wallky, Jane Levy Campbell

Jane Levy Campbell's house

guest: Dawn Hummel

Notes - Janet Parker

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We started off with a tour of Jane's home and studio, both gorgeous and beautifully situated botanically - with lots of green space all around. Jane's place is filled with her artwork. It was wonderful to see such an impressive body of work, and to see her spacious studio and get a sense of how she works.

1. We unanimously voted to adopt the name, Oregon Botanical Artists, (OBA)
2. We unanimously voted to adopt the mission statement draft circulated before the meeting. (And copied at the bottom of these notes)
3. We unanimously voted to require a \$25 annual membership fee.
4. Dawn Hummel took time away from working on setting up at the Yard, Garden and Patio (YGP) Show, to come to the meeting and give us an idea of the many plant and garden-related groups that we might connect with in Portland. She blew us away with an unbelievable list of ideas for us, and I know she will be a terrific resource as we go forward. She's also studying botanical art, so I hope we may find a new member in her. Here are just a few of the things she talked about:
 - HGTV is starting their own plant source
 - She gave us postcards that she designed, advertising the annual Designers Garden Tour in Portland, which takes place Saturday, June 22 from 10 to 4.
 - She strongly recommended we send a representative to the YGP show on Saturday (Feb 9), but none of us were able to attend. We'll be ready for it next year.
 - Cornell Farms will be opening the house for events. Meaning a serendipitous gallery space. Dawn suggested we contact Debbie Barnhart about showing our work there, maybe on a regular basis. Maybe getting PNBA involved in showing there.
 - Other organizations and institutions for us to reach out to include:
Garden Writers Association (GWA), Oregon Flower Growers Association <http://pdxflowermarket.com/ofga/>, Sauvie Island Flower Growers, Bush Barn Art Center - a gallery space in Salem whose director, Catherine Alexander, is a botanical artist and teacher, and much more.A big thank-you to Dawn for coming and sharing all of her ideas. And a plea to be patient as we get ourselves together.

Other things we discussed:

- The need for a postcard with our basic information, to start getting word out. I'm working on it and will have something to circulate this week.
- The hope to move forward with purchasing a domain name and starting to build a website.
- We talked a bit about framing and pricing our work. Jane mentioned ordering some of her frames from Frame Central and Custom Frame Solutions.

- Jane and Janet are planning to show work at the upcoming Miller Library show in Seattle. If anyone else is interested in showing there, let us know. Deadline for submitting an inventory of art you plan to show is due to PNBA by March 25. Check PNBA website for more details.
- Janene recommended a valuable resource in the website Great Plant Picks, which comes from the Miller Botanical Garden in Seattle.
- There will be a lecture and presentation on Oregon's native orchids (more than 30!) on March 14, Thursday, 7 pm Metro building at 600 NE Grand Ave., Portland. Enter the building at the south end of the upper plaza on Irving St. (not the door on 600 NE Grand Ave.). More info at Hardy Plant Society website.
- Janet suggested going forward that we start to meet quarterly for business / administrative issues, and begin to meet monthly for more fun-focused things. Some possibilities include: drawing and painting outings, a meeting where we focus on our sketchbooks, sketching in a garden when the weather is nice, a trip to the rare books section of the main library for a presentation on some of the highlights of their botanical collection.

Janet would also like to suggest moving our monthly meeting dates to either a weekend or weekday evening time so that potential new members who work will have an opportunity to join us. I'd love to hear everyone's thoughts on this. We don't have a meeting date or place for March. I'm open to ideas!

We missed those of you who couldn't make this one. Hope we'll see you at our next gathering.

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 Our Mission Statement

The Oregon Botanical Artists Circle consists of a small group of enthusiastic botanical artists and student artists living in and around Portland, Oregon. We embrace the goals of the American Society of Botanical Artists (<https://asba-art.org/about-asba/mission-vision>), in that we are interested in promoting public awareness of contemporary botanical art in the city of Portland and its environs, honoring the traditions of botanical art and furthering the development of botanical artists on the local level.

The group was started in November, 2012. Many of us are also members of the Pacific Northwest Chapter of the ASBA (<http://pnwbotartists.org>). Located in Seattle, PNBA is a hub for regional news of current botanical art-related activities, classes, workshops, exhibition opportunities and more. As we grow, we hope to bring more of these features to the Portland area.

If you are interested in learning more or becoming a member, please contact Janet Parker at jkp920@gmail.com

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