



Enhancing North Eastern Manitoba by Advancing Arts

WRAC NEWS

AS THE NEW YEAR BEGINS, TAKE TIME TO WORK ON YOUR ART!

WRAC Contact Information

Box 1199, Lac du Bonnet, MB, R0E 1A0

Website: winnipegriverarts.com

Email: info@winnipegriverarts.com

Phone: (204) 340-0889

- PLEASE HELP SPREAD THE NEWS ABOUT **WRAC**.
- TELL US ABOUT YOUR UPCOMING ARTS EVENTS OR ACTIVITIES.
- CONNECT, INSTRUCT OR PROMOTE!
- MAKE ARTS COME ALIVE IN EASTMAN!
- LIBRARIES AND SCHOOLS, WE WANT TO HEAR FROM YOU.

INSIDE:

- Local arts events
- Featured artist
- EMCA season continues
- MTC'S Regional Tour Performance of "Miracle on South Division Street"
- And much more!!

Program Coordinator Update:

Debbie Majeau has decided to focus her energies in a new direction and recently let WRAC know she won't be able to continue in her contract as program director. We wish her well and ask members to bear with us as WRAC searches for a new employee.

EMCA Season Continues in 2014

Exciting line-up includes:

True Jive Pluckers - Classical, Blues & More

January 31

Tim Hus & the Rocky Mountain Two – Country/Canadiana

February 28

Lizzy Hoyt - Celtic

March 21

The Pelletier Family - Country Jazz & More

April 25

* All concerts start at 8:00 P.M. in Pinawa Community Centre/ High School Gym at 8:00 PM

Do you live in the Town of Lac du Bonnet or Victoria Beach area?

WRAC is looking for a BOARD MEMBER from either of these two communities.

Contact

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for more information or to let WRAC know you are interested.

WRAC is pleased to present Manitoba Theatre Centre's Regional Tour Performance of "Miracle on South Division Street"

- Mark your calendar for February 19, 2014 when WRAC will be bringing the Manitoba Theatre Centre regional tour presentation of "Miracle on South Division Street" to the Eastman region.
- We have secured the Great Falls Community Club for this event (the perfect central location for Winnipeg River residents).
- Tickets are sure to sell out fast so don't delay in getting yours! General public prices are \$25.00/person. WRAC members qualify for reduced ticket prices of \$20.00/person.
- Tickets for general sale will be available throughout our communities in the coming weeks so keep your eyes open & tell your friends!



Do you have a website showcasing your art or talent? Is there a link out there on the world wide web to your accomplishments? WRAC would love to know about them! Part of the mission of the Winnipeg River Arts Council is to promote the talent of our members! We want to accomplish part of this by linking our members to our webpage (www.winnipegriverarts.com). If you have information that can be shared with us, please let WRAC know as soon as possible so WRAC website visitors can know where to find you.

***** NEWSLETTER SUBMISSIONS:

Help us connect artists and arts organizations in Eastman. If you know about any arts related events, programs, products, services or opportunities, please email info@winnipegriverarts.com. WRAC newsletters link artists, arts organizations, schools and libraries in the region and promote art happenings. Please send us your arts news. *

An Important Message from MACA

Dear Manitobans for the Arts Members and Supporters,

Manitobans for the Arts invites you to join us **on January 28th 2014 for a special event (5:00 to 7:00 pm) at The Manitoba Museum** as we unveil plans to ensure arts and culture are at the forefront of the next civic, provincial and federal elections. This event will launch a community-wide advocacy campaign and we encourage attendance by arts organization representatives, individual artists, stakeholders, and board members. It is very important that arts and cultural supporters, workers and volunteers come together to speak with one voice as we enter this critical phase of election planning. Your input and assistance is essential, so please plan to attend to help us make arts and culture a priority. Another invite will follow but in the meantime, please hold the date and distribute widely to your networks.



WRAC Featured Artist
for December 2013
Ken Palmquist



For the month of December, Winnipeg River Arts Council features musician Ken Palmquist who grew up on the north shore of Powerview in the Cheverfils District. When he was five, he got a plastic toy guitar for Christmas. And he has never stopped playing! His desire to play was fueled at parties with local musicians, including many uncles and aunts. Soon he could play lead guitar. He had a natural ability to harmonize and honed his singing skill with the help of his mother Jean, who used to win many talent contests and even cut a 78 record in the 50's. In high school, with his musical confidence firmly established, he started to play at talent shows all over Manitoba. Palmquist said, "I just enjoyed the thrill of entertaining and competing!"

At sixteen, he entered a competition with his Uncle Frank on the "Ray St. Germain Country Talent Caravan" and won. After that, he went on to perform with many bands, playing everything from Gospel, country and bluegrass to rock and roll and heavy metal. In his home studio, he recorded three original songs which made it onto the radio. Presently, Palmquist plays all the different styles and categories of music he loved as a young man and also enjoys blues and jazz. He admitted, "I am now close to being a pensioner, but I still love to play anything pleasing to the ears."

He has performed at the 4P festival on three different occasions with different friends and family, and he hopes to do again. His dream is to play on cruise ships in warmer climes when he gives up his day job. His wife Jo has always supported his endeavors so it may happen. Palmquist started building guitars and finished his first one this summer. He plans to continue construction and repair of guitars, and hopes to give lessons in the future.

His family has carried on the musical legacy. Daughter Tamara is an up-and-coming songwriter and grandson Chance loves guitar. Son Myles, accomplished guitarist and singer, is working on his second album. Palmquist said, "They all make me very proud!"



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1. Local arts events
2. Featured artist
3. EMCA season
4. Miracle On South Division Street – MTC TOURING SHOW
5. Opportunities and news for artists

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Exciting line-up includes:

- *Tim Hus & the Rocky Mountain Two* – Country/Canadiana
February 28
 - *Lizzy Hoyt* - Celtic
March 21
- *The Pelletier Family* - Country Jazz & More
April 25
 - * All concerts start at 8:00 P.M. in Pinawa Community Centre/ High School Gym at 8:00 PM

WRAC ADMINISTRATOR UPDATE:

Retired high school Principal Gail Conrad Davey has agreed to work for WRAC. Gail and husband Don moved to Lac du Bonnet from North-western Ontario about thirteen years ago. Gail is looking forward to working with WRAC to support and grow the arts in Eastman. A big thank you goes out to Karen Munn for looking after WRAC business in the interim.

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To let WRAC know you are interested.

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- Tickets are sure to sell out fast so don't delay! General public prices are \$25/person. WRAC members qualify for reduced ticket prices of \$20/person. (Students - \$20)
- Tickets for general sale will be available throughout our communities so keep your eyes open & tell your friends!
- Buses are being arranged so contact WRAC if you need a ride.

Miracle on
South Division
Street



In June of 2014, Lac du Bonnet Library will bring **Mike Grandmaison's Prairie and Beyond II** photography exhibit to their library for the whole month. The exhibit will be co-hosted with Winnipeg River Arts Council. Mike Grandmaison is a Manitoba photographer and he has published worldwide in magazines, calendars and books. Manitoba Arts Networks has produced two traveling exhibitions with custom printed photographs from Mike's recently published book **Mike Grandmaison's Prairie and Beyond**.

ANOTHER OPPORTUNITY FOR VISUAL ARTISTS

Interlake-Eastern Regional Health Authority seeks a proposal for an after school art project that would last 3 or 4 classes. They would provide art supplies, mentor costs, and snacks. The project would be aimed at youth 12-18 (or 6 -12) and take place from 6:00 to 8:00 pm. The artist would be encouraged to speak about the meaning of art in his or her life. Some examples of possible projects: Australian aboriginal art, graffiti art, clay art, Aboriginal art (creation stories, beadwork, painting).

Contact: Orysia Klymkiw, MSW, RSW, Mental Health Promotion, Community Wellness and Chronic Disease Prevention, Interlake-Eastern Regional Health Authority, Office# 204-444-6148

OPPORTUNITIES FOR VISUAL ARTISTS:

Interlake-Eastern RHA has walls in offices and facilities that would benefit from some local art, and their patients and clients could enjoy viewing artistic talent from our region. A group of IERHA staff and board members will review and select art for display. The RHA is prepared to rent pieces for 4-6 month period. Artist contact information will be posted with the pieces, so if people are interested, they can purchase the piece. **Deadline for submissions is February 28, 2014.** Anyone interested in submitting wall hanging artwork for consideration needs to:

1) Submit images of pieces via e-mail to kgaudry@ierha.ca or CD-ROMs can be mailed to Kelli Gaudy, 589-3rd Ave. South, Stonewall, MB ROC 2Z0. **Please ensure all pieces have a title that includes the artist's name and the artwork name (if one applies).**

2) Include a name, phone number and mailing address where we can contact you. Please also identify dimensions of any oversized pieces.

3) Identify a monthly rental fee (per piece if the fee varies from piece to piece).

4) We are requesting that artists be self-insured, the Interlake-Eastern RHA will not be responsible for insuring any art.

Artists of selected submissions will be notified by phone.

New Exhibition for Pinawa Art Gallery

Celebrating the New Year means a new look for the Pinawa Art Gallery. For the months of January/February a new exhibition titled “In the Abstract” focuses on non-representational form. An abstract image may represent the altered appearance of a recognizable object such as Georgina O’Keefe’s flowers, or an arrangement of forms in a mathematical sequence as seen in Mondrian’s coloured squares so popular in the 1960’s fabrics. It may be an arrangement of colours or the manipulation of an image to present it from a new perspective. The Gallery feature wall will give the viewer many examples of how the genre, “Abstract art”, has been interpreted by the Gallery artists. **The Pinawa Art Gallery is open every Friday from 11:00 AM – 3:00 PM. It is staffed by members of The Gallery so your host may be one of the artists on the feature wall.**



Winnipeg River Arts Council brings professional theatre to Eastman

Over the past couple of years, Winnipeg River Arts Council representatives have approached local artists, teachers, arts organizations and other interested individuals by phone, presentations, surveys and interviews, to let them know about the recently formed regional arts council. These people, who love and support the arts, often ask, “Why should we join the arts council? Why do we need one? Don’t we have enough arts organizations?”

First off, one can envision WRAC as an umbrella. This umbrella supports and includes all of the Eastman artists and arts organization. This umbrella seeks to connect, promote and build arts of all kinds, and bring arts instruction and expertise to our area. One example is **Miracle on South Division Street**, a family friendly comedy, put on by a group of professional actors who are touring the play from January until March. They will perform for audiences across Manitoba and Northwest Ontario, as part of RMTTC’s annual Regional Tour. This is a first time project for the Winnipeg River Arts Council and, if it succeeds, the arts council hopes to make it an annual event

WRAC Featured Artist
for January 2014
WALTER KELLER



In 1967, Walter Keller emigrated from Switzerland and he now lives in Elma. In 1996, after years as a logger, forester, forest fire fighter, log builder and log building instructor, he discovered chainsaw carving. Totally self-taught, he has been self-employed as an artist since 2000 and has been teaching chainsaw carving courses since 2009. Keller's various careers gave him an appreciation for his medium - the natural tree trunk. Incorporating the natural features of logs or driftwood into his pieces, he has progressed from chainsaw carver to wood sculptor, and combines the saw's bold strokes with the intricacies of hand tools.

Although he specializes in life-size forest animals, he sometimes sculpts free hand, to release the spirit of the wood into the world, creating whimsical creatures from stumps with intact roots, tree crowns, witch's brooms, and forked trunks.

His pieces vary, according to the wood's size and properties, and he even carves standing trunks. He scavenges from tree removal services, clear cut operations and land clearing sites.

In 2005, Keller's partner, Alexa Hoerster, took up carving. Together they expanded their repertoire, integrating wood sculpture into buildings. They now carve beams, fireplace mantles, doors, cabinets, stair cases, furniture, and bowls, with styles ranging from traditional to contemporary, fanciful to disciplined, filigree to monumental. Today, ninety-five percent of their work is commissioned, making it hard to find time to explore new subjects or techniques.

First Nations' art has influenced Keller's perception of nature. He finds inspiration in local forests and kayak trips throughout Manitoba, and from explorations across Canada and Europe. He takes frequent trips to Europe to reconnect with family and fulfill carving commissions.

Keller has demonstrated his techniques on occasions such as Canada Day, Red River Ex, various fairs, and competitions in Switzerland and Canada. A founding member of the Eastern Manitoba Artists Coop, he has exhibited work at the Manitoba Art Expo and Eastern Manitoba Art Exhibition. In 2004, he was featured in CTV's "Manitoba Moments." Recently, he was interviewed by a professional videographer for a TV program, showcasing Manitoba artists.

Link: <https://vimeo.com/79250953>

Keller's website is www.thetimberman.net-profiles.com



ISSUE 18

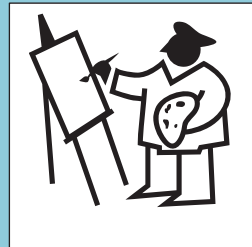
MARCH 2014

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- connect, instruct, promote
- make arts come alive in Eastman
- libraries and schools - please add WRAC news to your newsletters and print out WRAC newsletter for students and library patrons to enjoy!

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1. Local arts events
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3. EMCA season
4. Report on Miracle On South Division Street
5. Rural Youth Mentorship
6. Opportunities and news for artists
7. Member news

EMCA Season Continues - Exciting line-up includes:

Lizzy Hoyt - Celtic March 21

The Pelletier Family - Country Jazz & More April 25

* All concerts start at 8:00 P.M. in Pinawa

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MEMBER NEWS: Winnipeg Public Libraries and Manitoba Writers' Guild hired Lac Du Bonnet writer and WRAC board member to lead five months of "Critiquing Circles" for writing groups at Henderson Library in Winnipeg.

PHOTO EXHIBIT COMING TO LDB

In June of 2014, Lac du Bonnet Library will bring **Mike Grandmaison's Prairie and Beyond II** photography exhibit to their library for the whole month. The exhibit will be co-hosted with Winnipeg River Arts Council. Mike Grandmaison is a Manitoba photographer and he has published worldwide in magazines, calendars and books. Manitoba Arts Networks has produced two traveling exhibitions with custom printed photographs from Mike's recently published book **Mike Grandmaison's Prairie and Beyond**.

Winnipeg River Arts council hosted Manitoba Theatre Centre's Regional Tour Performance of "Miracle on South Division Street"

On February 19, an appreciative audience of over 100 in Great Falls Hall enjoyed the antics of the four professional actors from Manitoba Theatre Centre and gave them a standing ovation to thank them for bringing this touching family comedy to Eastman. Dozens of positive comments after the play indicated that WRAC should try this again and WRAC would definitely like to make it an annual event. If you were there and enjoyed the play, please tell your friends. WRAC would like to thank the actors, stage crew, volunteers who set up stage, sound system, lighting and chairs, the bus driver, and all the kids who showed up to help out. A special big thank you goes out to Lori Vialoux from Victoria Beach, Karen Munn from Pinawa and Gail Davey from Lac du Bonnet for taking care of all the pre-show organization, and promotions.



MTC actors (left to right): Stephanie Wiens, Marina Stephenson Kerr, Cory Wojcik, Tricia Cooper



MTC stage crew (in middle line) and two helpful employees (one behind and one in front) from one of the play's many sponsors - MB Lotteries

News for rural teachers and performers interested in theatre, music, dance, and media arts

Symposium for the Performing Arts in Rural Communities takes place on April 25 and 26, 2014, in Haliburton, Ontario.

Deadline for reduced registration is March 14. Check out details and register for this symposium at this website:

<http://www.sparcperformingarts.com/symposium/registration/>

Manitoba Arts Network is asking people to forward the link to this survey to as many Manitoba Indigenous artists (First Nations, Métis, and Inuit) as you can.

<http://fluidsurveys.com/s/ACIIndigenousArtSurvey>. If you can send it to any Indigenous artists in your area, band councils, organizations, and individuals, you will help ACI Manitoba provide the kind of training needed in the Indigenous arts community. In addition, ACI is offering you a one year, FREE membership in the organization (\$25 value) in exchange for the 15-20 minutes it takes to complete the survey. They ask that you respond by **February 28,**

2014. If you have any questions, Email: leah@creativemanitoba.ca

Phone: 204.927.2787; Toll free: 866.802.1104

On February 19, 2014, Joan Chase, a well-known and inspirational artist died at Grace Hospital. She will be missed by many artists in the Eastern Manitoba art community. Joan lived in the Whiteshell and often invited artists to her home to teach them her spontaneous and free-flowing style of painting and creating art. She also gave art lessons at Lac Du Bonnet Farmers' Market. She was a WRAC member and very active in Pinawa Art 211. We offers condolences to Joan's family.

Does your arts group or board need this workshop?

Effective Boards and Committees

March 18, 2014, 09:00 AM to 04:00 PM **Cost:** \$50.00

Sunovo Room, Sun Gro Centre 360 Veterans Ln Beausejour
Facilitator: Sharalyn Reitlo, Community Futures Winnipeg River

Learn the principles to strengthen board governance and group work!

RURAL YOUTH MENTORSHIP PROGRAM IN EASTMAN

For the fourth year in a row, Winnipeg River Arts Council has partnered with ACI Manitoba to organize rural youth mentorships for Eastman area. This program, funded by ACI, gives interested youth (16-24 years of age) an opportunity to work with a professional artist and explore the possibility of pursuing their art practice. The program runs from January to May. In the first year, it took place in Powerview and two students interested in writing worked with Donna Besel from Lac du Bonnet. In the second year, two writers from Lac du Bonnet worked with Besel. In the third year, three students from Pinawa Secondary School worked with Pinawa photographer Anita Drabyk. This year, the program has returned to Powerview-Pine Falls where Lori Pachkowsky, a professional photographer from this town, is mentoring Haley Alarie and Blaze Sammons.

Sammons is a grade 11 student at École Powerview School. She enjoys everything in the arts, from painting, theatre, film and photography. "I wish I had taken this course before I went on a trip to Scotland, for drama. I would have loved to use the techniques Lori has showed us in my photos." Sammons plans on using her newfound skills to pursue a career in the arts.

Alarie is a grade 12 student at École Powerview School. She loves the arts, and is involved in theatre, dance and fine arts. She plans to attend the University of Manitoba in the fall and hopes to pursue a career in either environmental or medical sciences. She has always been interested in photography. "I never knew how to take such amazing pictures. This mentorship class has given me skills that can be useful in my future in the arts." She recently participated in a spoken word project in Winnipeg with five other students from Winnipeg schools and created a film about youth being part of positive change around the world. They presented it live at the legislative building for international development week.

Mentor Pachkowsky is a member of the Winnipeg River Arts Council. She has been interested in photography since she received her first film camera when she was five years old. In 2007, she decided to expand her passion and take photography classes in Winnipeg. She currently takes family, wedding, group and sports portraits in her free time. She said that the students have been enjoying the class workshops and they have a great eye for photography. She says, "We've had a lot of fun experimenting with our cameras - painting with light, creating "ghosts" and testing our skills at panning photography. They are picking up the manual functions quickly. We have great projects planned for the next few months and can't wait for the weather to warm up so we can get outdoors and shoot."



ACI Rural Youth Mentorship Program participants Haley Alarie (left) and Blaze Sammons (right) who are working with their mentor, professional photographer Lori Pachowsky, in and around Powerview-Pine Falls, from January until May.

February
Featured WRAC
Artist:
Jodie Wentz from
Lac du Bonnet



For February, Winnipeg River Arts Council featured tattoo artist Jodie Wentz from Lac du Bonnet. At a very young age, from the moment she first saw them on the television show “Happy Days,” Wentz knew she wanted to create tattoos.

The dancing hula girl tattoo shaking her hips with the flex of a muscle on “Happy Days” fascinated her, as she realized drawings that lived in the skin and on the body could add life to art. This allure carried on through subsequent artistic choices.

In the 1980's, in small town Manitoba, one simply didn't speak of tattoos. The response from the adults and their reaction to the TV episode was clearly negative, so Wentz simply told those who asked that she wanted to be an artist.

It took time and confidence to search out an apprenticeship in tattooing. A stickler for rules, the young artist didn't tackle this learning independently. In April of 2004, she started her apprenticeship in Winnipeg and has been tattooing full time for eight and a half years.

In late 2006, she opened Rock Road Tattoo, just outside of Lac du Bonnet.

Wentz continues to develop her skills as the industry changes. She attends seminars, does diligent research and states, "If a tattoo artist ceases to strive and improve, he or she may as well stop. What can be done with inks and machines is advancing so quickly that, if one does not keep up, he or she will become a fossil."

Wentz is interested in other arts – throwing pottery on a wheel, making jewelry, and working on a series of gender bending fantasy creature illustrations for fun. She is also co-artistic director of Fire & Water Festival and vocalist and co-writer in the band “Carnival Bride.”

To sum up her creative talents, she says “I am a maker. But, of all the things I have made, my daughter is most certainly my proudest achievement.”

Visit www.rockroadtattoo.com for more information.



Shirley Kurian Abstract Photo Display

Pinawa Art Gallery Presents Lac du Bonnet Artist

The Pinawa Art Gallery welcomes a new display from Lac du Bonnet artist, Shirley Kurian. The photographer manipulates lenses and focal range and then plays with colour (or lack of) to produce thought-provoking pieces. Her work presents a new perspective on her environment. Shirley is known for her "Crocus" series of photos in The Gallery. This new display expands her repertoire as an exciting abstractionist. The Pinawa Art Gallery is open Fridays from 11:00 AM - 3:00 PM or by appointment (204 753 2412). Purchases may be made using cash, cheque, VISA or MasterCard.

Do you live in the Town of Lac du Bonnet or Victoria Beach area? WRAC is looking for BOARD MEMBER from either of these communities. Contact info@winnipegriverarts.com. Board meets once a month on second Monday. (4:00 – 6:00 pm)

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Artists of selected submissions will be notified by phone.

Starting Points: Community Collaborative Arts Master Class w. Ruth Howard April 10, 11, 12, 2014, (18 hours of instruction)
Dates: Thursday to Saturday, April 10, 11 & 12, 2014 **Time:** 9:30 am to 4:30 pm **Location:** ACI Manitoba Classroom, 245 McDermot @ Arthur Street; wheelchair accessible **Cost:** ACI Manitoba Members \$225 | Non Members \$275 includes lunch and materials**Funding for this professional development may be available through Manitoba Arts Council (for artists) and The Winnipeg Foundation (for community groups). **Registration Deadline:** March 28, 2014 – hurry, seating is limited! **Register by email:** admin@creativemanitoba.ca or by phone: 204.927.ARTS (2787) or 1.866.802.1104. This course counts as credit toward the Community Collaborative Arts Certificate through the Manitoba Institute for Artists + Community Collaboration at ACI Manitoba. **More information:** Carol Finlay at ACI Manitoba: carol@creativemanitoba.ca | 204.927.ARTS

Manitoba Arts Network, with support from **Manitoba Arts Council, Canadian Heritage and CAPACOA**, is offering a 6-hour workshop about audience development, presented by Inga Petri, who just completed one of the most thorough looks at arts presenting in Canada today, **The Value of Presenting**. The workshop will explore a number of facets of cultivating an audience within your community. It's designed to "explore what you can do so your audiences and your community truly care about you; and what you can do to show that you love your audience back." The event is slated for **March 25, from 10 AM to 4 PM** at the **William Glesby Centre** in Portage la Prairie. Lunch will be provided. Registration is **\$25 for Arts Network members** and **\$40 for non-members**, and payment can be made by cheque to the Manitoba Arts Network. Space is limited; please pay in advance to secure your spot at the workshop. Register by calling **204-943-0036** or by email at info@mbartsnet.ca.



ISSUE 19

APRIL 2014

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INSIDE:

1. Featured arts organization
2. EMCA's last show!
3. February, 2015 - WRAC hosts another MTC SHOW
4. Photo Exhibit in Lac du Bonnet Library
5. Photo Exhibit in Pinawa Gallery
6. "Celebrating Stories" at Eastman Libraries

EMCA'S Last Concert! Don't Miss It!
The Pelletier Family - Country Jazz & More April 25
 * All concerts start at 8:00 P.M. in Pinawa Community Centre/ High School Gym at 8:00 PM

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Great News! Winnipeg River Arts Council will host another Royal Manitoba Theatre Centre's Regional Tour Performance – "Armstrong's War" on Saturday February 14, 2015, at Pinawa Community Centre

Plan now for next year's Valentine Day and take your loved one (or loved ones) out for a special evening. "Armstrong's War" was written by well-known Canadian playwright Colleen Murphy.

Here's a summary: Corporal Michael Armstrong is recuperating in a rehab hospital when he's ambushed by an optimistic 12-year-old Girl Guide in a wheelchair. Halley's mission is to earn her Community Service badge by reading to a wounded soldier. In spite of himself, Michael becomes engaged in their sessions. When he gets up the courage to share an explosive story from his time in Afghanistan, the unlikely allies show each other how to stand tall.

Here's a review: "Funny, thought-provoking, heartfelt" – The Vancouver Sun

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The Pinawa Art Gallery welcomes a new display from Lac du Bonnet artist, Shirley Kurian. The photographer manipulates lenses and focal range and then plays with colour (or lack of) to produce thought-provoking pieces. Her work presents a new perspective on her environment. Shirley is known for her "Crocus" series of photos in The Gallery. This new display expands her repertoire as an exciting abstractionist. The Pinawa Art Gallery is open Fridays from 11:00 AM - 3:00 PM or by appointment (204 753 2412). Purchases may be made using cash, cheque, VISA or MasterCard.



Shirley Kurian Abstract Photo Display

2014 "Celebrating Stories" in all three Eastman Libraries (Lac du Bonnet, Allard, and Pinawa)

In partnership with Manitoba Writers' Guild, special presentations will be held in Pinawa Public Library, Lac Du Bonnet Regional Library and Allard Regional Library. All three libraries will be hosting "Celebrating Stories." Each library's event will include a reading by the Winnipeg Millennium Library's 2013-2014 writer-in-residence, Meira Cook, question and answer session, and time for socializing. In Lac du Bonnet, Mary Louise Chown, a well-known story-teller from River Hills, will present a few of her stories and a young musician, Cohen Sieg from Whitemouth, will also entertain the audience. Come out and enjoy the talent of all these artists!

Eastman residents will get a unique opportunity to meet the poet and novelist, Meira Cook. Her novel, *The House on Sugarbush Road*, won the 2013 McNally Robinson Book of the Year Award. The book is set in post-apartheid Johannesburg, South Africa, shortly after the 1994 election of Nelson Mandela. Ms. Cook worked as a journalist in South Africa and immigrated to Canada in the early 1990's. She has had four books of poetry published and her poems have also appeared in various magazines and literary journals. She has also published a novella and a book of essays.

March Featured
WRAC Arts
Organization:
Pinawa Public
Library



Pinawa Public Librarian Marg Stokes (second from right) with some of the library's board members (from left): Donna Wuschke, Lynn Ewing, Anne Quinn, Michael Luke, Michelle Long

For March, Winnipeg River Arts council featured Pinawa Public Library, located in the same building as Pinawa Secondary School and Community Centre. Nine volunteers serve on the board and the library draws from a pool of approximately fifty volunteers who work alongside staff, checking books in and out, shelving items, covering new books and doing whatever else might arise.

In addition to attending monthly meetings, board members play a hands-on role in overall operations. In contrast to most libraries, Pinawa Public Library has Adult and Junior Selection Committees who meet, suggest new purchases, and, after often lively discussion, produce a list of books and DVDs to be ordered. Their choices, plus items purchased by the librarian and book donations from patrons, make for a diverse and interesting collection.

Chair Michael Luke also serves on the Selection Committee. Ann Quinn, Chair of Operations, runs meetings when Luke is away. Secretary Anne Shiflett records minutes. Treasurer Donna Wuschke also serves on Adult Selection Committee, chaired by Elaine Greenfield. Michelle Long chairs Junior Selection Committee and helps organize the story time program.

Jenny Peterson, Resident Administrator of LGD of Pinawa, is the liaison with Town Council. Patty Drew coordinates library presentations. Lyn Ewing, Member-at-Large, keeps an eye on the books and identifies those ready for deletion.

Actual weeding of the collection is done through a collaborative process. Besides specific board duties, all of the above contribute to discussions at meetings and guide development of library policy. Staff eager to greet patrons includes Head Librarian Marg Stokes, Library Assistants Audrey Miller and Cheryl Michaluk, and Student Assistants Kaeli Wilcox, Shannon Gibson and Sophie Hanson. Because their combined work week totals just forty-one hours, the library relies heavily on volunteers. Pinawa Public Library Board and staff strongly believe that library services should be free and open to everyone. They welcome all patrons who come through their door, wherever they live, and accept everyone for membership.



ISSUE 20

MAY
2014

Enhancing North Eastern Manitoba by Advancing Arts

WRAC NEWS

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Pinawa Art Gallery

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3. Photo Exhibit in Lac du Bonnet Library
4. A Touch of Red – ArtWave art show and art sale
5. Celebrating Stories report
6. Author visit to Pinawa
7. Pinawa ACT festival
8. Open house , Hillside Beach

Glass artist Claudia Chomichuk from Hillside Beach will be holding an Open House in her studio on Saturday, July 26 and Sunday, July 27 from 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. To view Claudia's new work and learn more about her art, visit her website www.purplepelicanartglass.com

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2014 “Celebrating Stories” in Eastman Libraries

In partnership with Manitoba Writers’ Guild, special presentations called “Celebrating Stories” were held in Pinawa Public Library, Lac Du Bonnet Regional Library and Allard Regional Library. Each event included a reading by the Winnipeg Millennium Library’s 2013-2014 writer-in-residence, Meira Cook, question and answer session, and time for socializing. In Lac du Bonnet, Mary Louise Chown, a well-known story-teller from River Hills, told a captivating story from the North and read from her book, *Now I know the World is Round*, a collection of stories she told and heard while working in hospitals. Young singer-songwriter, Cohen Sieg from Whitemouth, entertained the audience with his catchy lyrics and fine guitar playing.

Meira Cook’s novel, *The House on Sugarbush Road*, won last year’s McNally Robinson Book of the Year Award. It is set in post-apartheid Johannesburg, South Africa, shortly after the 1994 election of Nelson Mandela. Ms. Cook worked as a journalist there and immigrated to Canada in the early 1990’s. Four books of her poetry have been published and her poems have also appeared in various magazines and literary journals. She has also published a novella and a book of essays. She captivated the audiences in all three libraries with her stories about South Africa, various writing projects and adjustment to life in snowy Canada. Check out your local library for her excellent book!

Lac du Bonnet Library welcomed help from the local Royal Bank’s “A Day of Service” crew who set up the chairs, prepared food trays and served beverages. These women pick community events to support and they really go all out to make the chosen event a success. Best of all, they marched out during the break with a novelty cheque for \$1000.00 to donate to the library! This cheque was a giant surprise to the audience of about thirty people (and the library staff).



Meira Cook



Cohen Sieg



Head Lac du Bonnet librarian Vicky Short with Cohen Sieg, Mary Louise Chown and Meira Cook

Helaine Becker, children's author, visits Pinawa on Thurs. May 8, 2014, 2:15 p.m. in the Community Centre
Best known as the author of *A Porcupine in a Pine Tree*, Helaine is a New York native who has lived in Toronto for more than 20 years. She writes best-selling children's and YA fiction, non-fiction and verse. She is one of the authors on tour across Canada as part of Canadian Children's Book week and we appreciate the sponsorship of the TD Canadian Children's Book Centre in bringing her to Pinawa. Although Helaine's presentation is intended for kids, these author visits are always a lot of fun and the public in general is most welcome and encouraged to attend. Please join us for a great afternoon. Visit <http://www.bookweek.ca/book-week/2014> for more info on TD Canadian Children's Book Week and who's touring where. Before coming to Pinawa, Helaine is doing a presentation at Centennial School in LdB and might possibly be doing one in Powerview earlier in the morning.



WRAC
FEATURED
ARTIST FOR
APRIL
KATHRYN
JONES



For April, the Winnipeg River Arts Council featured artist Kathryn Jones, a potter who lives along the shores of Pinawa Bay. After finding a pottery lesson in Winnipeg Leisure Guide in 2000, she has worked with clay ever since. She says, “I had a high stress finance job and I needed something to help me relax. After my first class, I knew that I would do this for the rest of my life.”

In 2003, still working full time and taking pottery lessons, Jones, along with her husband James, purchased 2.5 acres of untouched Canadian Shield where they spent the next few years building their dream log home. Because they were so busy, splitting their time between Winnipeg and “the lake,” pottery took a backseat for a while.

It wasn't until 2006, when they moved to their cabin fulltime, that she could again focus on pottery. Although Jones says, “I couldn't make a matching set of mugs if my life depended on it,” this is where her passion for her craft really flourished. In 2011, she seized the opportunity to purchase another piece of property and a run-down business. The couple renovated the building into a gift shop and Jones filled it with unique pieces from Canadian artists and artisans, and gourmet food. The seasonal business she now owns and operates is called Cottage Country Co. With time and luck, she hopes to include a studio, where she can create and share with others the fun and beauty of clay. Today, you can find her at 20 Hard Rock Road, off highway 11, outside of Lac du Bonnet. She says, “This address strikes me as kind of ironic, given my love of clay.” The business is open from mid to late April until just before Christmas and she is always looking for work from talented local artists to showcase in her store. She invites everyone, tourists and locals, artists and lovers of good food, to stop by for a visit.

On May 2 – 4, Pinawa Players will host provincial drama festival at Pinawa Community Centre. Fourteen community theatre groups from across Manitoba will perform and compete. Public is welcome to attend and can purchase day or weekend pass. Come out and enjoy some great community theatre on Friday night, and all day Saturday and Sunday.



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#S20-24 Aberdeen Ave Pinawa

OR

What's on Second, 76-2nd St Lac du Bonnet

Full details & entry forms at www.firewater.ca

Great News! Winnipeg River Arts Council will host another Royal Manitoba Theatre Centre's Regional Tour Performance – "Armstrong's War" on Saturday February 14, 2015, at Pinawa Community Centre

Plan now for next year's Valentine Day and take your loved one (or loved ones) out for a special evening.

"Armstrong's War" was written by well-known Canadian playwright Colleen Murphy.

Here's a summary: Corporal Michael Armstrong is recuperating in a rehab hospital when he's ambushed by an optimistic 12-year-old Girl Guide in a wheelchair. Halley's mission is to earn her Community Service badge by reading to a wounded soldier. In spite of himself, Michael becomes engaged in their sessions. When he gets up the courage to share an explosive story from his time in Afghanistan, the unlikely allies show each other how to stand tall.

Here's a review: "Funny, thought-provoking, heartfelt"
– The Vancouver Sun

A Touch of Red – just think of the possibilities!!

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If you want to signify your intention to enter a piece into the Touch of Red display and/or to request a booth space, feel free to email me now. You will have priority! Send your email to artwave2014@hotmail.com

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Mike Grandmaison is a Manitoba photographer and he has published worldwide in magazines, calendars and books. Manitoba Arts Networks has produced two traveling exhibitions with custom printed photographs from Mike's recently published book **Mike Grandmaison's Prairie and Beyond**.

Learn to Weave a Basket from Bulrushes and Cat Tails

July 12th, 2014: 9 am to 4pm, Pioneer Club, 32 Park Avenue, Lac du Bonnet \$45 per person (all materials included) Ages - 13+

Sponsored by: ArtWave 2014 with assistance from WRAC and Province of Manitoba. (ArtWave is a Visual Art Show held during the Fire & Water Music & Arts Festival on the August long weekend)

This unique workshop will be a day of fun! Laura Reeves is your instructor and just spending a day with Laura will be a fascinating experience. She is a botanist who has completed many courses in Wilderness Survival and owns Prairie Shore Botanicals where she teaches courses like "You can eat that?!", Natural Basketry, Wilderness Skills and more. See more about Laura on her website at www.pshotanicals.com Natural basketry is a perfect skill to learn as the raw materials for future endeavours are there for the taking - free in our ditches! This is a craft to pursue with no large expenditure for supplies and materials. Workshop is a 6 hour day with a lunch break in the middle. Lunch is not included so bring your own please.

Spaces are limited so register soon. To sign up: Mail a cheque for \$45 payable to Janice Charko, PO Box 1681, Lac du Bonnet, MB R0E 1A0. Please be sure that you include your email address on or with the cheque as further updates and reminders will be emailed. to registrants

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<http://www.flightsoffibre.com/gallery/artwave-basketry-workshop/?SSScrollPosition=671>

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HARD ROCK ART MARKET – On Saturday the 17th of the May long weekend, Kathryn Jones, WRAC member and potter from Pinawa Bay, organized an art market to showcase the talented artists in the area. She rented a 20 x 30 white wedding tent where eight WRAC artists displayed their work for cottagers and locals to view and purchase. Many people came out to see the art and meet the artists first hand. Thanks go out to ArtWave for grids, WRAC for financial support, LdB Lions club for tables and all the talented artists who participated. Kathryn's business property is located on Hard Rock Road, just off highway 313 and 11. She would like to organize more of these art markets and include even more interested WRAC artists. As Jim Niedermayer, chainsaw carver and WRAC member, said, "It worked out well and the people who showed up really wanted to see our art and buy something. I'm glad I brought my carvings to this event."



WRAC FEATURED ARTIST FOR MAY - ROBERTA LALIBERTE

Visual artist Roberta Laliberte is primarily self-taught, since childhood. Through the years, she has gathered knowledge and experience from several sources. In 1993, she attended Mount Allison University for first year Bachelor of Fine Arts, working mainly in acrylic, watercolor, textiles and mixed media. In 2009, Laliberte began using digital media and creating digital line art illustrations for use in crafting and digital scrapbooking. She has also done freelance work in graphic design, setting up and creating graphics for websites. In 2010, Allard Library in St. Georges selected her to work on an art installation for their new building. She collaborated with Denise Prefontaine to create *The Storybook Garden*, a thirty-six panel installation with each 16”x16” panel illustrating a cherished children’s book. In 2012, Laliberte teamed up with Tanya Magnan, administrator from École Powerview School to get an ArtsSmarts grant from Manitoba Arts Council. She has continued to do arts integrated teaching in the school, working with teachers to bring the arts directly to education.

Powerview School has applied for three other art grants with Laliberte. Heritage, Culture and Sports contributed the first grant which produced *The Northern Lights* installation. One hundred and forty-seven students learned about the northern lights and worked on this installation. A second grant from Community Access allowed about one hundred and forty students to participate in an installation called *Future Flight Path*. The students learned about Canada Geese migration and each student created a feather with their dreams and aspirations written on it which have been used to create the wings and tails of the geese. This installation will be completed by June and the unveiling will be announced. Powerview School was awarded another ArtsSmarts grant this year to create an anamorphic garbage sculpture. It is being mounted outdoors but the weather has disrupted the expected installation. Full details on the project and curriculum covered will be unveiled and a video will be released after the installation. Because she is interested in cinematography, Powerview School and Sagkeeng Anicinabe High School hired her to produce videos with their students. At present, Laliberte teaches an online art course with thirty-eight other artists worldwide called *Soul Food*. Recently, she finished a contract with St James School Division for their Integrated Arts program, working with twenty teachers in several schools, and graduated from the Community Collaborative Arts Training Program offered by ACI Manitoba.

Celebration of the Arts – On June 6, Lac du Bonnet Library hosted a wine and cheese celebration to showcase and launch their month-long exhibit of Mike Grandmaison's photography. The library and co-sponsor Winnipeg River Arts Council thank all those who attended this event. Be sure to check out this exhibit if you are in Lac du Bonnet.



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2. Feb. 14, 2015 – MTC Show
3. A Touch of Red – ArtWave art show and art sale
4. Open house , Hillside Beach
5. Art of Managing Your Career registration
6. Latvian Presentation
7. Rural and Northern Art Show

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“Sveikt Il” - An evening exploring Latvian Heritage presented by Lac du Bonnet and District Historical Society, Saturday, July 19 from 7-10 pm at the Pioneer Club - 32 Park Ave. LdB (admission free) - a visual overview of the History of Latvia and Latvians in Manitoba by Viesturs (Ves) Zarins from Ontario.
Open to: descendants of Latvian pioneers, their friends, and Lac du Bonnet and District Historical Society members. All participants are invited to bring pictures, artifacts and stories from the earliest times for a “**show and tell**” round table discussion.
 Jerry Zihrul from Dauphin will talk about his extensive Latvian genealogical research for those interested in researching their family histories. Coffee will be served.

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Summer Art Camps for Ages 6 to 16: Joye Platford, visual artist and art instructor, will be holding art camps in Lewis Business Centre in Pinawa, from 1:00 - 4:00 pm. Cost is \$45.00.

Themes: July 8, 9, 10 – Birds July 15, 16, 17 – Reflections

July 23, 24, 25 – colourful Fun August 12, 13, 14 - Safari

August 19, 20, 21 – Wild and Wacky

Call Joye at 204-753-8471 or email Joyezart@gmail.com



NEW ADMINISTRATOR: WRAC

welcomes new administrator, Alynne Anderson, taking over from Gail Davey. Alynne lives on the east side of Winnipeg River, near Lac du Bonnet, and she helped WRAC compile information for last year's artists and arts organizations regional survey. A big thank you goes out to Gail for helping WRAC get organized and up-to-date.



Pinawa Art
Gallery in
W.B. Lewis
Business
Centre

WRAC FEATURED ARTS ORGANIZATION FOR JUNE: PINAWA ART 211

This organization began in late 1989 with artists from Pinawa and eastern Manitoba. Vivian Thomson, an art teacher from Whiteshell School District, was mentor and catalyst. She started giving classes for adults interested in developing their “inner artist.” From these classes came Pinawa Art 211 – a reference to both the town and the provincial highway.

Initially the group met in Pinawa Secondary School but moved to the closed W.B. Lewis School. They provided space to local artists, held meetings and mentored younger people. In October 1998, Art 211 shifted to Kelsey House (Wilderness Edge) and later to houses and then back to the high school.

Over the years, members have hosted art sessions and workshops. In 1990, they started exhibiting members’ work in art shows. To raise funds, they produced the ever-popular calendars, which highlighted members’ artwork. In 1997, due to AECL restructuring, Art 211 became dormant. Remaining members continued meeting to develop skills and some joined Eastern Manitoba Artists’ Co-op. In January of 2011, President Irene Friesen encouraged newcomers and former members to rebuild the organization. Although the initial focus was marketing, they became known for creative programming. Artists from surrounding communities joined and soon the group was 24 members strong.

The same year, Art 211 produced “Art in the Forest,” partnering with the Manitoba Forestry Association. They created “art about the forest in the forest” at Sandilands Forest Discovery Centre near Hadashville. These works remained on display for a full year in both Sandilands and Pinawa. In August 2012, Irene Friesen and Arlene Bohn produced “Green Water Art Show” in Lac du Bonnet, partnering with Winnipeg River Arts Council and Fire & Water Music Festival. Fifteen Eastman artists sold art during the two-day sale.

In 2013, the organization renamed itself as a collective. Members exhibited work in Selkirk at Gwen Fox Gallery, in Winnipeg at Cre8ery Gallery and annually in Pinawa during birthday weekends. To honour Pinawa’s 50th birthday, Art 211 hosted Eastman Judged Art Exhibition, adjudicated by professional artists, where Eastman artists displayed and sold work. Recently, they opened “The Gallery” in Lewis Business Centre. This initiative created Pinawa’s first gallery, now used for exhibitions and workshops.

During Pinawa 51st Birthday celebrations (July 18-19, 2014), in the Lewis Business Centre, EMAC and Art 211 will hold “Artisan Square,” co-hosted by The Gallery. Regional artists and artisans are invited to display and sell their work.

(To rent a table contact Viv Thomson at 204-753-8350).

Art of Managing Your Career for fall 2014: Registration Now Open!

Intake is now open for the fall session. Apply below by **Aug. 15, 2014**. This is a course for self-employed artists, developed by artists and cultural workers. We are approaching our fourth year of The Art of Managing Your Career (AMYC), and over 200 Manitoban artists have graduated from the course! The next AMYC session will begin this fall. The course costs \$200 for ACI members.

AMYC will help you to:

- Envision and develop a career strategy
- Create a business plan
- Market and promote your work
- Manage a project
- Manage your financial affairs
- Manage legal matters
- Communicate effectively
- Develop effective business skills

Who is the course designed for?

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12th Annual Rural & Northern Art Show
September 6-28, 2014 – Assiniboine Park Pavilion
Gallery in Winnipeg
Opening Reception: September 7, 2014 at 4:00pm

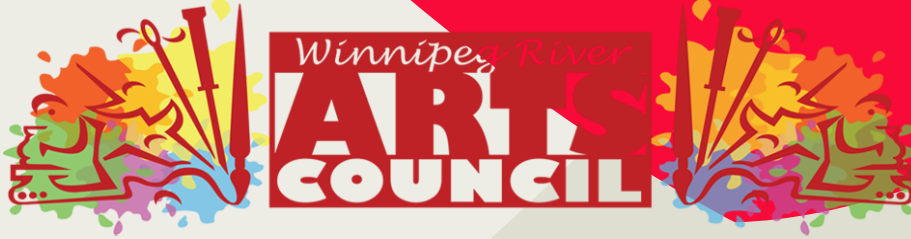
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A Touch of Red – just think of the possibilities!!

ArtWave will be happening again on Saturday and Sunday of the August long weekend in Lac du Bonnet!! This is the second ArtWave Visual Art Show to be part of the Fire & Water Festival weekend and it will be bigger and better than the last. This year there is a theme – **A Touch of Red** - each artist is invited to submit one entry with the Touch of Red theme. Entries will be displayed and a people's choice award will be given. Last year the People's Choice award (won by Gary Holden of Steinbach) consisted of the glory of winning... this year there will be a fabulous if modest prize to go with the glory!! So, start the creative juices flowing!! Application forms will be available soon. Also, this year artist can set up a booth to sell their work if they choose. There will be no cost for the space, however, if you cannot beg, borrow or steal your own grids, we will try to find some for you for a modest rental fee on a first come, first serve basis. Same for tables. If you want to signify your intention to enter a piece into the Touch of Red display and/or to request a booth space, feel free to email now. You will have priority! Send your email to artwave2014@hotmail.com



ISSUE 23

August 2014

Enhancing North Eastern Manitoba by Advancing Arts

WRAC NEWS

WRAC Contact Information

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INSIDE:

1. Featured artist
2. Feb. 14, 2015 – MTC Show
3. Fire n Water Festival
4. A Touch of Red – ArtWave art show and art sale
5. 4P talent show coming soon
6. Art of Managing Your Career registration
7. Rural and Northern Art Show

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Summer Art Camps for Ages 6 to 16

Joye Platford, visual artist and art instructor, will be holding art camps in Lewis Business Centre in Pinawa, from 1:00 - 4:00 pm. Cost is \$45.00.

Themes: August 12, 13, 14 - Safari

August 19, 20, 21 – Wild and Wacky



Call Joye at 204-753-8471 or email Joyezart@gmail.com

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Coming on AUGUST LONG WEEKEND to FIRE & WATER FESTIVAL

- A Touch of Red!!

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Held annually on August Long Weekend

August 1st through 3rd, 2014

We are thrilled to announce that we have secured a limited amount of

Weekend camping passes,

Located adjacent to the festival grounds!

Lac du Bonnet Community Centre Grounds

Weekend passes are \$60 at the gate

Or \$45 in Advance

Youth, daily and corporate/bulk pricing will also be available.

Fire and Water Music Festival offers 3 stages of largely independent music and workshops, children's programming, the Art Wave Art Show featuring local visual artists, Artisan Square Trade and Crafts Show, and now, camping!

Check out the website for schedules and information on performers/events! Also, postponed Lac du Bonnet Fireworks will be set off on this weekend!

NEWS FROM HAGIOS PRESS IN REGINA REGARDING BOOK BY MANITOBA AUTHOR

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**Ray St. Hilaire
pictured with a
couple of guitars
from his collection
of instruments.
Thanks, Ray for
agreeing to serve
as WRAC's new
president.**

**WRAC FEATURED
ARTIST
FOR JULY:
RAY ST. HILAIRE**

For this month, Winnipeg River Arts Council features Ray St. Hilaire, from Lac du Bonnet, who plays guitar and bass, and sings. Fifty years ago, he watched the Beatles on the Ed Sullivan Show and realized that he needed to grow his hair long and buy a guitar. On his twelfth birthday, he got one. And, as they say "the rest is history."

After taking lessons for six months, he recruited friends to form a rock band. They performed at school variety and talent shows, and at university frat parties. Then he started playing in Winnipeg bars and travelling with various bands from The Pas to Emerson. As he says, there are "not too many Manitoba towns I haven't played in." He's been in so many bands he can't remember all the names. Here are a few: Four and a Quarter, The Missing Link, White Rabbit, The Rich Hippies and Big Brass Band.

His other love is motorcycles and he's performed at many Harley riders' celebrations and shows. For four years, his band played at the Thursday Night Riders Children's Wish benefit. This year, it will be held on October 25th at Canad Inn Transcona.

St. Hilaire enjoys teaching guitar, and is very proud of his "number one student," his fourteen-year-old grandson, Darien Tayler, who is starting his own band. St. Hilaire's son is an accomplished drummer who just returned from three and a half years playing in the Middle East, and his granddaughter Calista is following in this musical family's footsteps.

He has often played at Casey's in Lac du Bonnet, and, when he retired from his job as a journeyman industrial mechanic, he decided to settle on the Winnipeg River.

St. Hilaire calls himself a "Gear Head" because of the numerous guitars, basses, amplifiers, drums and microphones he has acquired. He also works as a sound technician and he'll be providing sound production for the 4P Festival in Powerview-Pine Falls on the Labour Day weekend. St. Hilaire recently played at Pine Falls Legion with current band "Rice and Beans." He says, "Seeing the dance floor packed with smiling faces and gyrating hips brought me back to that magical night in 1964 when John, Paul, George and Ringo mesmerized me."

Art of Managing Your Career for fall 2014: Registration Now Open!

Intake is now open for the fall session. Apply below by **Aug. 15, 2014**. This is a course for self-employed artists, developed by artists and cultural workers. We are approaching our fourth year of The Art of Managing Your Career (AMYC), and over 200 Manitoban artists have graduated from the course! The next AMYC session will begin this fall. The course costs \$200 for ACI members.

AMYC will help you to:

- Envision and develop a career strategy
- Create a business plan
- Market and promote your work
- Manage a project
- Manage your financial affairs
- Manage legal matters
- Communicate effectively
- Develop effective business skills

Who is the course designed for?

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Please note: this course is designed for serious artists who want to become professionals. Ask any of the artists who have taken this course and they will highly recommend it!

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4P FESTIVAL COMING TO POWerview-PINE FALLS ON LABOUR DAY WEEKEND WITH EXCITING NEW EVENT - *YOUTH AND ADULT TALENT SHOW*

Saturday, August 30, 11:00 am to 6:00 pm

@Sunova Arena

Winnipeg River Arts Council has partnered with 4P to present a fabulous youth and adult talent show. Come show off your talent or simply watch the talented artists perform. Big \$\$\$\$ prizes will be awarded for best talent. Make sure to check out Edgewater Recreation Commission website for the schedule of other fun and friendly events – kids' entertainment, dinner with Patsy Cline Tribute, sports competitions, parade, fireworks, social, pancake breakfast, market square, beer gardens, fish fry, family movie night, BBQ, bands, Gospel music, fishing derby, Lego competition and much, much more.

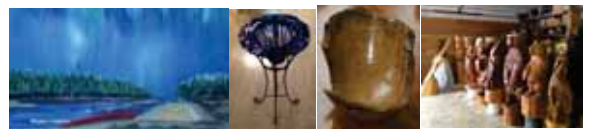




Enhancing North Eastern Manitoba by Advancing Arts

September 2014

WRAC NEWSLETTER



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Art can grow like sunflowers!

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WRAC would like to welcome **Jennifer Hudson Stewart** as administrator. In September, she will set up office in Winnipeg River Community Futures building in Lac du Bonnet, for two half-days per week. Jennifer looks forward to meeting and promoting local artists and organizations.

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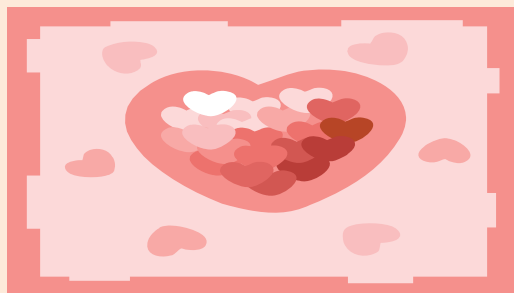
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WRAC FEATURED ARTIST FOR AUGUST – PAUL LUSSIER

Sculptor Paul Lussier was born into a creative St. Boniface family. At a young age, he and his siblings spent hours playing with plasticene. They created anything their imaginations could conjure - towns and forts and fantastic creatures.

They also spent many days at his aunt and uncle's home. His uncle was a famous St Boniface architect (Etienne Gaboury) and his aunt was a reputable potter. Their house was filled with sculptures and modern art. This exposure encouraged Lussier to enter an art contest at school. He went to a construction site, gathered clay, created an old man in Québec city's "artisanat" style and placed second in the contest.

Lussier left Winnipeg to teach at Powerview School where he met gifted art teacher, Sister Pauline Ménard. He took her pottery classes and discovered he liked working on the wheel but his real inspiration lay in formed structures.

Later on, he took an "attelier" with Saskatchewan sculptor Joe Fafard whose colourful caricatures led him into the style he loves today.

After thirty-one years of teaching, he retired and then decided to refocus on his artistic side. He took a course at Winnipeg Art Gallery with Nancy Litchfield-Hutchison, a ceramic instructor with over thirty years of experience. She taught him different techniques, emphasized putting emotions into clay and encouraged him to take time on details.

He has exhibited his sculptures at St. Boniface Cultural Centre and, in August of 2014, he participated in the ArtWave show in Lac du Bonnet. He's currently doing a project inspired by photos of John Paskievich (*The North End*) and also enjoys sculpting local people.

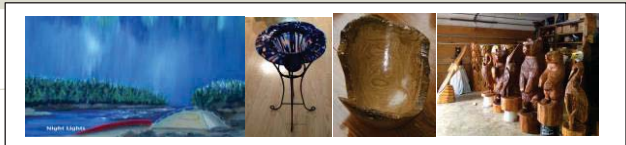
Lussier says, "Even though I prefer doing older people, I am fascinated by the human form. I like to capture certain emotions in the clay ... a look of struggle and despair, yet hope... a look of joy at seeing a friend. I hope to continue to do sculptures that capture our humanness."



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October 2014

WRAC NEWSLETTER



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Sing your own fall song!!!

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1. EMCA 2014-2015 season begins
2. Feb. 14, 2015 – MTC Show
3. Love Quilt Raffle - in support of MTC Show
4. Rural Youth Mentorship
5. Featured arts organization
6. WRAC administrator
7. Board vacancies
8. Elections are coming

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EMCA CONCERTS

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DEC. 12- Borealis

JAN. 23 – Dan Frechette & Laurel Thomsen

FEB. 20 – Del Barber & The Profiteers

MARCH 20 – Cadence

APRIL 24 – Suzie Vinnick

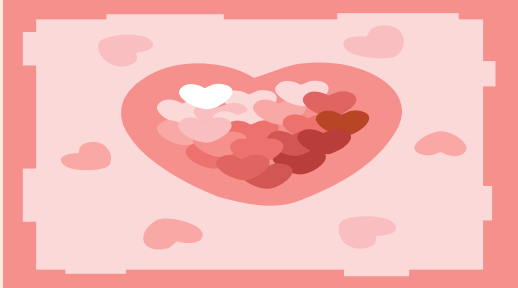
Eastern Manitoba Concert Association season has already started. On September 26, the two sisters of **Ennis** brought their sparkling humour and Celtic harmonies to Pinawa. But don't despair, you can still get subscription tickets for the rest of the season, or just buy tickets for individual concerts. All concerts start at 8:00 pm and are held on Fridays at the Community Centre (which often doubles as the Pinawa Senior School gym). For tickets, call Cathy at 204-753-2767 or Colin at 204-753-8295. For more detailed information about each of the above listed artists and the subscription prices, you can visit website: www.emcaconcerts.com

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Local writer, **Donna Besel**, will be leading creative writing workshops for students in Winnipeg at George Waters School (October 6-20) and in Lac du Bonnet at Centennial School (November 14 - 27). She will also be doing a writing workshop at the Mamingwey Burn Survivors' Conference in Winnipeg on October 25.

IMPORTANT: As you know, elections are coming soon in the rural municipalities of Alexander and Lac du Bonnet, and in the communities of Pinawa, Powerview-Pine Falls and Lac du Bonnet. If you participate in any kind of arts practice as an artist, belong to an arts organization, or simply want to see more arts events and instruction in the region, be sure to ask your local politicians how they plan to support the arts in the Winnipeg River corridor. WRAC would like the politicians to know that local people really care about the arts!

WINNIPEG RIVER ARTS COUNCIL'S FEATURED ARTS ORGANIZATION FOR SEPTEMBER: EASTERN MANITOBA CONCERT ASSOCIATION

For over four decades, the Eastern Manitoba Concert Association (EMCA) has presented professional entertainment, providing a venue for talented artists and enriching cultural life in Eastman.

The idea originated in the laundry room of a Pinawa apartment block. In 1971, two young mothers, Yvonne Oldaker (ballet tutor/examiner) and Joyce Hart (formerly with Winnipeg Art Gallery) met while folding diapers. Both lamented the loss of their previous artsy lifestyles. To fill this gap, they decided to hire artists to perform in Pinawa. Neither had money, but they agreed to risk it.

The first concert, a quartet, was held in Kelsey House (now Wilderness Edge) and sold enough tickets to convince the women to continue. A second concert, at F.W. Gilbert School, featured Winnipeg dancers. A third event showcased George Swinton (artist and historian) and was allegedly held in Pinawa Public Library.

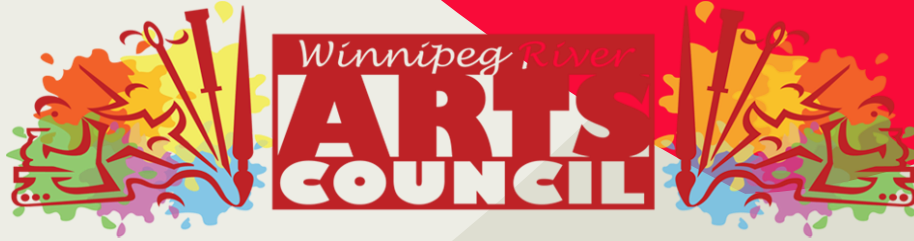
The EMCA formula is simple: quality concerts and a rewarding volunteer experience. It has hosted hundreds of Manitoban, Canadian and international artists. Winners of Junos, Prairie and East Coast Music Awards and even Grammy and Oscars have appeared on the Pinawa stage. Some examples: Buffy Ste. Marie, Leona Boyd, Ian Tyson, Stan Rogers, Winnipeg Symphony Orchestra, Natalie McMaster.

With volunteer production and local sponsors, EMCA gives Eastern Manitobans A-list performances at affordable prices. Subscribers come from Pinawa, Lac du Bonnet, Whitemouth, Seven Sisters, Powerview-Pine Falls, Beausejour, Nopiming and Whiteshell Parks.

EMCA contributes to the local economy, buying equipment, advertising, printed material, agency services, rentals, meals and accommodation. It also donates music scholarships, in-school presentations, and lighting/ sound expertise to various groups. Non-profits can raise funds by supplying refreshments during intermissions.

Hundreds of volunteers from Pinawa and surrounding communities have joined the EMCA board, working on administration, publicity, advertising, membership, staging, lighting, sound, and artist liaison. EMCA also provides on-the-job training for presenting professional shows.

In short, EMCA adds value to cultural life in Eastman. After 41 years of attracting a faithful audience and paying its bills, EMCA is a favourite destination for performing artists across the country.



ISSUE 26

NOVEMBER
2014

Enhancing North Eastern Manitoba by Advancing Arts

WRAC NEWS

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Charlie's knives

- PLEASE HELP SPREAD THE NEWS ABOUT WRAC.
- TELL US ABOUT YOUR UPCOMING ARTS EVENTS OR ACTIVITIES.
- CONNECT, INSTRUCT OR PROMOTE!
- MAKE ARTS COME ALIVE IN EASTMAN!
- LIBRARIES AND SCHOOLS, WE WANT TO HEAR FROM YOU.

INSIDE:

1. EMCA season
2. Featured artist
3. MTC TOURING SHOW – Armstrong's War
4. WRAC's new office
5. Painted Turtle Pottery
6. Rural Youth Mentorship

EMCA Season Continues in 2015

Exciting line-up includes:

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All concerts start at 8:00 P.M.

Pinawa Community Centre/ High School Gym

NEWSLETTER

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Here's a summary: Corporal Michael Armstrong is recuperating in a rehab hospital when he's ambushed by an optimistic 12- year-old Girl Guide in a wheelchair. Halley's mission is to earn her Community Service badge by reading to a wounded soldier. In spite of himself, Michael becomes engaged in their sessions. When he gets up the courage to share an explosive story from his time in Afghanistan, the unlikely allies show each other how to stand tall.

Winnipeg Free Press review – 4.5 stars out of 5 – "a lively stage skirmish that culminates in a momentous battle of wills over their conflicting views of life and death." Check out **WFP** online edition for full review - posted 10/31/2014.

More Great News! -Karen Munn, WRAC board member (treasurer) and avid quilter from Pinawa, has donated her time and talents to create a "LOVE QUILT" which will awarded to a lucky raffle ticket buyer. Tickets can be purchased from Karen in her quilting shop at Lewis Centre in Pinawa, from WRAC board members and at various outlets throughout the region. Prize-winning ticket will be drawn at MTC TOURING PRODUCTION!!!!

Why Join the Arts Council? Over the past couple of years, Winnipeg River Arts Council representatives have approached local artists, teachers, arts organizations and other interested individuals by phone, presentations, surveys and interviews, to let them know about the recently formed regional arts council. These people, who love and support the arts, often ask, "Why should we join the arts council? Why do we need one? Don't we have enough arts organizations?" First off, one can envision WRAC as an umbrella. This umbrella supports and includes all of the Eastman artists and arts organization. This umbrella seeks to connect, promote and build arts of all kinds, and bring arts instruction and expertise to our area. One example is **Armstrong's War**, put on by professional actors who are touring the play. Another example would be the **regional art shows** that WRAC has promoted and sponsored. Then there are the various **music festivals** and **library programs** that WRAC supports. Also, WRAC organizes the rural youth mentorship program for young artists in the area. And that's just the beginning! WRAC needs your continued help.

Painted Turtle Pottery Opens at 20 Hard Rock Road in Lac du Bonnet

As of November 1, 2014, **Cottage Country Co.** is pleased to announce the opening of **Painted Turtle Pottery**. After countless requests and interest from customers, and a lot of hard work and time, this new venture is ready to go. Groups or individuals of all ages are welcome. The goal is to enable visitors to create a piece of functional pottery or work of art of which they can be proud. Guided project instruction and teaching of techniques such as ombre effect or marbling will be provided. Painted Turtle Pottery is not just pottery ... it is an inspirational craft studio. Thanks to some talented locals, they will be offering Canvas and Cork Nights, as well as Canvas and Kool-Aid events. How It Works: You pay studio fee \$9 adults - \$7 kids, pick your piece/pieces, all individually priced, choose from a great selection of colours and paint your piece. If you can't finish it, they will keep it until you can come back. When the piece is finished, the final glaze will be done and you can pick it up in a week.

Email Kathryn Jones, owner of Cottage Country Fine Foods and Gifts, at cottage2@mymts.net or call 204-345-6120 for more information. Book a birthday party, bridal shower, ladies night, office party, club event, school trip, movie night, kids' camp or "paint me a story" party. For birthday parties, take \$1 off both studio fee and pottery piece. (No minimum). For parties with 6 or more painters, your birthday child will get a commemorative tile with all the guests' thumbprints on it.



WRAC Featured
Artist for
October 2014
Marilyn McNish



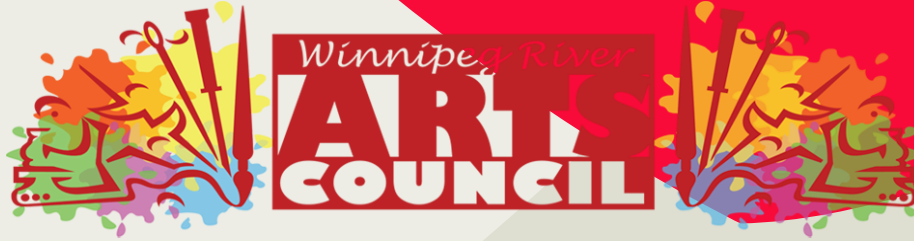
For this month, the Winnipeg River Arts Council features visual artist, Marilyn McNish, who lives on the shores of the beautiful Manigotagan River. Manigotagan is one of the smaller communities in the north Eastman region. It is located at the mouth of the river, on the east end of the Manigotagan Provincial Park, a popular and accessible destination for whitewater canoeists.

Following many years in the corporate environment, semi-retirement finally provided McNish the freedom to focus on her true passion – painting. She now has the time and energy to dedicate herself to this art form, and has created a new art career. She is a self-taught artist who paints vibrant and colorful paintings from photographs or memory, with her most popular medium being acrylic.

Recently, she participated in the Manitoba Art Expo where she displayed her artwork and created a themed art piece and video called, “Missing Children,” for the special Showcase Gallery for Human Rights. She also teaches art classes from her home, displays her artwork in corporate offices, and participates in various art shows and juried events, including the Eastman Judged Art Exhibit in Pinawa.

Her subjects and interests vary, allowing McNish to paint many interesting compositions, which she feels diversifies and challenges her skills. Her artistic themes include local wilderness, prairie vistas, farmyard animals, birds, flowers, trees, winter scenes, wildlife, boats, planes, beaches, oceans, images from her travels, and various illustrations intended to evoke thought and contemplation.





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Enhancing North Eastern Manitoba by Advancing Arts

WRAC NEWS

WRAC Contact Information

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Phone: (204) 340-0889



Starry, Starry Night

- **TELL US ABOUT YOUR UPCOMING ARTS EVENTS OR ACTIVITIES.**
- **CONNECT, INSTRUCT OR PROMOTE!**
- **MAKE ARTS COME ALIVE IN EASTMAN!**
- **LIBRARIES/SCHOOLS, WE WANT TO HEAR FROM YOU.**

INSIDE:

1. EMCA season
2. Featured artist
3. MTC TOURING SHOW – Armstrong’s War
4. WRAC’s new office opening!
5. Painted Turtle Pottery
6. Rural Youth Mentorship
7. Pinawa Art Gallery News - Photo Exhibit
8. Crèche Displays

EMCA Season Continues in 2015

Exciting line-up includes:

DECEMBER 12- Borealis

JANUARY 23 – Dan Frechette & Laurel Thomsen

FEBRUARY 20 – Del Barber & The Profiteers

MARCH 20 – Cadence

APRIL 24 – Suzie Vinnick

All concerts start at 8:00 P.M.

Pinawa Community Centre/ High School Gym

NEWSLETTER

SUBMISSIONS: Help us connect artists and arts organizations in Eastman. If you know about any arts related events, programs, products, services or opportunities, please email info@winnipegriverarts.com for promotion of regional arts news and shows.

NEW OFFICE SPACE FOR WRAC

Jennifer Hudson Stewart has set up the new WRAC office in Winnipeg River Community Futures building in Lac du Bonnet (between RBC and Sunova buildings, across from bakery). She will be there on Tuesdays and Thursdays, 9:00 – 12:00. Please drop by if you are in town. (See contact info).

Do you live in the Town of Lac du Bonnet or Victoria Beach area? WRAC is looking for a BOARD MEMBER from either community. Contact WRAC office for info.

Rural Youth Mentorship: For the fifth year in a row, **WRAC** will work with ACI (Creative Manitoba) to organize a rural youth mentorship in our region. This program helps rural youth (ages 16 to 24) explore the possibilities of a career as a professional artist. From January to May, the two young people who are selected will work with a rural professional artist. Nine young artists in this region (Lac du Bonnet, Pinawa, Powerview-Pine Falls) have been mentored in writing and photography. Check out the ACI website for guidelines and application forms. ***** **Roberta Laliberte**, featured WRAC artist for May 2014, has offered to share her talents with two youth interested in enhancing their visual artists’ skills. WRAC is now looking for two youth in the Powerview- Pine Falls area who would like to meet with her a few times a month to work on their skills and increase their creativity. Please note – the youth do not pay any fee for these mentorships but mentors get paid. Call Donna Besel (1-204-345-8513) for info.

WINNIPEG RIVER ARTS COUNCIL PRESENTS ROYAL MANITOBA THEATRE CENTRE'S REGIONAL TOUR PERFORMANCE – "ARMSTRONG'S WAR" ON SATURDAY FEBRUARY 14, 2015, AT PINAWA COMMUNITY CENTRE

Here's a summary: Written by award-winning Canadian playwright **Colleen Murphy**, this play tells about Corporal Michael Armstrong, recuperating in a rehab hospital. He's ambushed by Halley, an optimistic 12- year-old Girl Guide in a wheelchair, determined to earn a Community Service badge by reading to a wounded soldier. In spite of himself, Michael becomes engaged in their sessions. When he gets up the courage to share a story from his time in Afghanistan, the unlikely allies show each other how to stand tall.

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TICKETS FOR THIS PLAY CAN NOW BE PRUCHASED AT VARIOUS VENUES THROUGHOUT THE EASTMAN REGION.

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PAINTED TURTLE POTTERY OPENS AT 20 HARD ROCK ROAD IN LAC DU BONNET: As of November 1, 2014, **Cottage Country Co.** will be operating **Painted Turtle Pottery**. After countless requests from customers, and a lot of hard work and time, this new venture is ready to go. Groups/individuals of all ages are welcome. The goal is to enable visitors to create a piece of functional pottery or work of art. Instruction and teaching of techniques such as ombre effect or marbling will be provided. Thanks to talented locals, they will offer Canvas and Cork Nights, as well as Canvas and Kool-Aid events. How It Works: You pay studio fee \$9 adults - \$7 kids, pick piece/pieces, all individually priced, choose from selection of colours and paint your piece. If you can't finish, they will keep it until you come back. When the piece is finished, the final glaze will be done and you can pick it up in a week. Book a birthday party, bridal shower, ladies night, office party, club event, school trip, movie night, kids' camp or "paint me a story" party. For birthday parties, take \$1 off both studio fee and pottery piece. (No minimum). For parties with 6 or more painters, your birthday child will get a commemorative tile with all the guests' thumbprints on it. Email Kathryn Jones, owner of Cottage Country Fine Foods and Gifts, at cottage2@mymts.net or call 204-345-6120.

The photos on the left may show Pinawa's art gallery lacking viewers but looks can be deceiving. The Pinawa Art Gallery has just had a major reorganization of its display areas and, for now, this is the result. Pinawa Art 211 has eleven of its members now hanging works in The Gallery. Visitors will find photographs, paintings, glass ware, silk pieces, and art cards for viewing and for sale. All the works are by artists throughout the region. Payment can be made using a VISA or MasterCard, cheque or cash. One wall has been designated for "Special Displays." The wall currently shows works on a theme of "A Touch of Red." Pinawa's gallery is open Thursday - Saturdays from 11:00 AM - 3:00 PM in the W.B. Lewis Business Centre, Aberdeen Ave at Vanier Rd.

Allard Library invites you to 5th annual Crèche Festival from November 25th, 2014 to January 9th, 2015. Come by the library during regular business hours to see these wonderful items. Contact Library Allard to book tours.





WRAC
Featured Artist
for November
2014 - Stu
Iverson

**November 27, 28, 29 and December 4 and 5,
from 11:00 a.m. until 3:00 p.m.**

Pinawa Art Gallery presents their first one man exhibition of Iverson's photographs in their gallery located in W.B. Lewis Centre (Aberdeen Avenue and Burrows Road). It will showcase 30 images he photographed during a recent tour of North Atlantic and Scandinavia.

For this month, Winnipeg River Arts Council featured photographer Stu Iverson from Pinawa. He has been taking pictures all his life, progressing from a black and white darkroom he built as a teenager to his present digital color "darkroom."

Iverson's training and career were in science so only recently in his retirement has he found the time, energy, and opportunity to devote to the serious study of photography including color printing. The combination of digital cameras, which allow easy experimentation, with the internet, which provides an incredible information resource, has allowed him to progress at a rate which would have been unthinkable only twenty years ago.

He shoots mainly nature and landscape scenes from across Canada, from Newfoundland to British Columbia and the Yukon, and in Manitoba from the southern regions to Churchill. He has also travelled further afield.

He says that his best pictures have a kind of simplicity where the elements in the frame all work together. His style is naturalistic, similar to the pictures found in National Geographic, and he likes the subject of the photo to be the centre of attention without adding distracting styles or techniques.

He states, "Of course, the real world is far from simple. The greatest challenges are to select and fine-tune the view through the lens and then seize the critical moment to click the shutter. The next challenge is translating the digital image into a print on paper while maintaining the impact of the original scene."

Although he finds inspiration in new and exotic locations, he finds plenty of subjects and inspiration hiking on the Trans-Canada Trail or at Old Pinawa, waiting for the sun to set or the fog to start to clear.

Iverson is also a member of Pinawa Art 211. **A collection of his photography will be exhibited for the general public at the Pinawa Art Gallery in the Lewis Centre - November 27, 28, 29 and December 4 and 5, from 11:00 a.m. until 3:00 p.m.**