

NEWSLETTER, MARCH 2010

Each year, the first Monday in February, the Art Center members gather for the annual meeting and election of officers. The following have been chosen to serve on the Board of Trustees, 2010:

PRESIDENT	Ruth Hemming	ART BRANCH	Oatley Kidder
VICE PRESIDENT	Cindy Frings	DANCE BRANCH	Karin Dron
SECRETARY	Jean Bates	LITERARY BRANCH	Liz Grumette
TREASURER	Iris Williams	MUSIC BRANCH	Judy Vander
HOUSE & GROUNDS	Phil Riege	PHOTOGRAPHY	Roger Conrad
DEVELOPMENT	Joanne Cunha	THEATRE BRANCH	Herb Hemming
SPECIAL EVENTS	Edmund Arredondo	MEMBERS AT LARGE	Steve Grumette,
PUBLIC RELATIONS	Linda Harmon		Bill Spellman, Len Klaif

The Board of Trustees give tirelessly of their time and talents to guarantee the continued success of the Art Center - a great group of volunteers who are dedicated to keeping the arts alive in the community.

THEATRE THINGS..... The originally scheduled production of *Inherit the Wind* (March 19 -April 17) has been cancelled due to health problems of the director. In its place will be *Love Letters*. Opening March 19, four different "real-life" Ojai couples will take stage each weekend to perform in this Pulitzer prize winning drama by A.R. Gurney. The play centers on two characters as they read notes, letters, and cards, in which, for over 50 years, they discuss their hopes, ambitions, dreams, disappointments, and victories. Starring will be: *Tracey Williams* and *Cecil Sutton* (March 19,20,21), *Buddy Wilds* and *Tree Bernstein* (March 26,27,28), *John Hankins* and *Suz Montgomery* (April 5,6,7), and *Bill Spellman* and *Lynn Van Emmerick* (April 12,13,14). Times are Fri. & Sat. at 8 p.m., Sun. at 4 p.m. Call 640-8797 or log on to "OjaiAct.org". Buy one ticket and see the others for free.

AUDITIONS – Gai Jones, director, and Herb Hemming, producer, are looking for actors of various ages and levels of experience to perform in *Charlie and The Chocolate Factory*, a play adapted from the fantasy by Roald Dahl. This is the nonmusical version of the classic book. Auditions will be held on Thursday, March 18, 4:30 -6:30 p.m. and Friday, March 19, 4 – 6 p.m. with final date/call backs on Saturday, March 20, 1-3 p.m. Requirements for audition are to bring a personal calendar for March, April, May to indicate non-changeable conflicts. Bring a pencil/pen. Bring a small head shot and resume if you are unfamiliar to director. Back stage personnel needed as well. For more info email gai.jones@sbcglobal.net. Rehearsals begin March 22. Performances are April 30 – May 23 (no show on May 1).

MUSIC MUSTS.....The magnificent February cello-piano concert opened our chamber music series in 2010. Our upcoming concert on Sunday, March 21, at 2 p.m. promises to match this high standard. **The Channel Islands String Quartet:** *Irving Weinstein* and *Ted Lucas*, violinists, *Diana Ray-Goodman*, violist, and *Ervin Klinkon*, cellist, will delight us with classic selection of quartets by Mozart, Schubert, and Shostakovich. Tickets sold at door, \$10 general admission, \$8 Art Center members and students. For further info call 640-8327.

LITERARY LONGINGS.....On Monday, March 8 at 7 p.m. the Literary Branch will present a reading of *Eleanor*, a play about the life of Eleanor Roosevelt written by the late *Paddy Rees*. Paddy had previously acted in the Art Center's production of *The Gin Game*. She had worked on *Eleanor* for many years and was planning to read it herself as the first step towards a fully staged performance. Unfortunately, Paddy died January 4. Well-known actress *Olivia Donnelly* will play the role of Eleanor in this reading of Paddy's play. Steve Grumette will direct. Suggested donation is \$5.

DANCE DOINGS.... **Contra Dancing** will be on Saturday, March 13, 7:30 to 10:30 p.m. *Susan Michaels* returns to call the steps to the music of *Frank Hoppe* on fiddle and *Jeff Spero* on piano. Introductory class at 7 p.m. Everyone welcome. Partners are not needed. Admission is \$9 general, \$8 Art Center members, \$5 teens. Call 933-0660 for more info.

ART ATTRACTIONS.... Our Main Gallery will feature the works of *Laurie MacMillan*. She will display abstract acrylic paintings with themes of overcrowding vs emptiness in her landscapes and non-objective paintings using texture and color to suggest weathering, erosion and deposits of time. In the Signature Gallery, *Valerie Freeman* will exhibit a variety of colorful, free- flowing multi-media artworks including painted studies of Ojai and experimental photography. Reception is Sunday, March 7, 1-3 p.m.

THE 33RD ANNUAL ART IN THE PARK WILL BE HELD MEMORIAL DAY WEEKEND, MAY 29 & 30. THIS PRESTIGIOUS FINE ART FESTIVAL HAS ENJOYED A LONG TRADITION OF DISPLAYING A WIDE SELECTION OF REALLY FINE ART IN THE BEAUTIFUL SETTING OF LIBBEY PARK. ARTISTS WISHING TO APPLY SHOULD CALL 646-0117.

