



# November 2009

*Celebrating the Arts in Fairfield for 44 Years!*

## Stoneware & Porcelain

By Mary Weisgram

I am a Minnesota native, educated at the College of St. Benedict and Mankato State University, and have lived and worked professionally in Iowa since 1969. My current body of work is influenced by my years of rambling the woods of southern Minnesota. These pieces reflect my love of organic textures and the colors of the woodland floor, fossils and stones. Trained first as a painter, I use vessel forms layered with engobes, stains, and glazes as a canvas for translating these in ceramic media.

and freedom in working within these limits. One group of pots leads to another, changing subtly with mood and experience, exposing the richness of variety possible while working within a theme.

*Editor's note: Mary's work may be viewed on her website, [www.clayvisions.com](http://www.clayvisions.com). She also has work at many galleries throughout Iowa including IA City, Ames, Des Moines, Marion, Amana, and Mason City. The exhibit runs November 6 - December 31. There is an artist reception at 6PM on 11-6.*

While I work with vessel forms and with functional considerations, still a valid orientation in contemporary crafts, I relate most closely to natural forms and finishes than pure utilitarianism. My intention is for the work to be integrated in all aspects, not technique, form or decoration becoming the main emphasis of the work. I like repeat throwing both for the natural rhythm of work style and for the way it enables me to unconsciously personalize the forms. For these same reasons I work with a limited color palette and with relatively few forms at a time. I like the challenge



**DUES ARE DUE IN JANUARY 2010**  
The FAA has changed their membership year to January through December. If you paid in September of last year, you are granted 3 free months. Please plan on making your membership renewal in January 2010. You may use the membership form on the back of this newsletter. As always, we thank you for your support. Your dollars go to FAA programming, classes, special projects, and this newsletter.

### 2009 Exhibit Calendar

- January 2 – February 28  
"Handblown Glass" By Art Cicotti
- March 6 – April 30  
"Watercolors" By Ann Porter
- May 1 – June 30  
"Liberty Iron Works" By Dale Merrill
- July 3 – August 31  
"Pastels" By Cecile Houel
- September 4 – 30  
"Membership Show"  
By FAA Artists
- October 1 – 31  
"Contemporary Visions In Fiber"  
By Iowa Art Quilters
- November 6 – December 31  
"Stoneware & Porcelain"  
By Mary Weisgram

### Fairfield Art Association Officers

- President: Suzan Bates Kessel
- Vice President: David Kraemer
- Secretary: Makenzie Kessel
- Treasurer: Deb Doyle
- Board Members
- Alicia Carradus
- Elaine Duncan
- Karin Hauring
- Jessica Ledger-Kalen
- Cindy Preston
- John Preston
- Wendy Read
- Historian - to be filled
- Newsletter - Barb McMahon
- Volunteer Director:
- Suzan Bates Kessel

# Don Kremer Recognized for Over 40 Years of Service



Don hanging an exhibit in March 1967

The Fairfield Art Association announces a newly created "Don Kremer Art Scholarship", in honor of the man serving as Exhibition Chairman for over 40 years.

Don was an original 1966 founder of the local arts organization, and

has served in numerous capacities as a dedicated volunteer. As local art instructor in the Fairfield School System and later Iowa Wesleyan, Don has been recognized for his talent as an art educator. From the early years in the FAA, Don led classes in painting, litho prints and calligraphy to name a few, along with chairing the popular Beaux Art Ball event. Don is best known for his long standing position of Exhibition Chairman. This job included seeking out new regional artists for each 9 month season, keeping contact, contracts, insurance, doing publicity and then hanging the actual exhibit. Don was always

present for the artist's reception, and sometimes he took them out to eat.

The FAA has found that it takes a whole committee to fill Don Kremer's shoes as Exhibit Chairman. The FAA board would like to recognize and publicly thank Don, with a reception in his honor on Friday, November 6, from 6-7 PM at the FAA Studio in the FA&CC. The "Don Kremer Art Scholarship" will be announced in his honor at this time. Selection of the scholarship winner will take place as others, with submission and awarding in local schools.

## FAIRFIELD ART ASSOCIATION ANNOUNCES 2010 SEASON

Main Gallery at the Fairfield Arts & Convention Center ~ 200 N Main

All Exhibits open on 1st Friday of the month during Art Walk. Receptions for the Artists are 6 - 7 PM Opening Night. Come meet the artists, and on occasion hear them speak about their work or demonstrate. \* denotes special exhibit in addition to monthly show.

JANUARY/FEBRUARY:

"PRINTMAKING" by Ann Klingensmith

MARCH 1-11:

"PIEA" Photography Exhibit in conjunction with MSAE

MARCH & APRIL:

"WATERCOLORS & SILKSCREENS" Wendell Mohr Collection

MAY:

"FAIRFIELD HIGH SCHOOL ART" by Students of David Kraemer

JUNE:

"PHOTOGRAPHY" by Erin Jo Chung

And "FAIRFIELD PHOTOGRAPHY INVITATIONAL"

JULY & AUGUST:

"IOWA PASTEL SOCIETY" by IPS Members

SEPTEMBER & OCTOBER:

"3D DESIGNS" by Design Students of Monica Correia

NOVEMBER & DECEMBER:

"FAA MEMBERSHIP SHOW" by FAA Members

## FAA to Host 2010 State Show

The "Iowa Artists" organization has accepted our offer to host their state show in May 2010. A typical State Show includes top artists from across the state who compete for awards after being advanced from 12 regional shows. The FAA will select a judge who will critique and give awards. There will be an artist demonstration and the state board will have their meeting here.

The organization was founded around 1969 by Jack Olds of the Iowa Arts Council. FAA has helped host several Iowa Artists Regional Shows in Fairfield - but never a state show.

Local Artist Suzan Kessel, won best of state at this event in 1975. She is also a past Vice President and State Co-Coordinator.

### FAA Gallery

*The Gallery is now open  
Tuesday-Friday 1-4 pm  
and during Art Walks  
and Special Events*



Suzanne Wolfson Gallery Mgr

# Spotlight on Artist Wendy Read

Wendy Read, originally from Southern Louisiana, has been in Fairfield 17 years. She is a textile artist whose work takes the form of painting with fabric and threads.

Wendy was exposed to the arts as a young girl. She came from an extended family of professional and hobby artists. Her grandmother was an art instructor, an uncle is an acclaimed water color and graphic artist, her father was an artist, writer, puppet maker, and children's story teller and both of her children have earned art degrees and have already won honors for their work. Wendy's artistic interest appeared in sewing. She began sewing at a young age, learning from her mother and when old enough, from classes her mother enrolled her in.

In the early 1980's Wendy's interest in textiles blossomed. She explored crocheting, silk screening, and eventually settled into quilting. She took numerous classes perfecting quilt basics. As her skills improved, Wendy began to look at opportunities to transform a basic quilt into a work of art. She was fascinated by the early works of Nancy

Crow and Michael James, and later in the African-American quilting of family friend Anna Williams.

Upon the birth of twins, Gabrielle and Galen, Wendy took some time off from her artistic endeavors. Once they were



grown and her time was her own again, Wendy renewed her interest in fabric art. Through classes, reading and her observations, Wendy improved her skills.

She uses a wide range of textiles to

complete a piece. From ribbons, yarns and fabric, to bamboo fibers, cheese-cloth, and metallic threads, Wendy layers her works to add dimension and interest. "The beauty of nature, both earthly and celestial, is the primary source of inspiration for my textile art. I enjoy exploring new techniques and ideas, and love embellishing my work!" Wendy is a member of Studio Art Quilter's Association, Professional Art Quilt Alliance, Iowa Art Quilter's Guild, Northside Strippers Quilt Club, Prairie e-Quilters, American Quilter's Society, International Quilt Association, American Craft Council. She is also a member of the Fairfield Art Association and is a board member.

Wendy currently has 3 pieces displayed in the current FAA Show of the Iowa Art Quilters Guild's "Contemporary Visions in Fiber". Wendy's works may also be found locally at the Fairfield Art Associations' Studio Gallery and the Green Zinnia or on line at [www.wendyread.com](http://www.wendyread.com). Her pieces range from about \$65 to \$1,700 depending on size and the intricacy of the design. She is available for commissioned work.

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## Quilt Show Continues Through November

The Iowa Art Quilters Guild continues their exhibit "Contemporary Visions in Fiber" in the gallery of Fairfield Arts and Convention Center.

The show opened October 2 in conjunction with Fairfield's First Friday's Art Walk and has been invited to continue showing through November.

The artist members of the IAQG use fiber as their medium; dyeing it, painting it, cutting it, tearing it, stamping it, fusing it and embellishing it. The final step, stitching through the layers of fabric, brings a dimensional depth to the artwork that mere paint cannot. Although the art is constructed from fabric, it is not meant to lie at the foot of the bed, but rather to hang on the wall like an oil or watercolor painting.

Hours for the show are: Monday-Fridays 10-5:30; Thursdays 10-7; Saturdays 10-5; Sundays 1-4.



From left to right: Judy Ludwick, Barbara Riggs, Karen Harris, Rebecca Kemble; Wendy Read, Elizabeth Levi, Linda Knierem

# NOVIDEC ART CLASSES

"Young Artists" Classes continue on the Saturday after Art Walk 10-11:30 AM, for grades 1st -5th. FAA Studio, cost \$8, pre-register 472-5374 or suzan1252@aol.com  
Nov. 7 project TBA,  
Dec. 5 "Holiday Gingerbread Ornaments"

"Ladies Night" is back on third Thursdays!  
7-9 PM in FAA Studio. Fee according to project materials. "Painted Floor Cloths" projects were started in October & can be finished in November, or try "Glass Painting" just in time for holiday gifts!



Children at recent art class in the FAA Studio.

## Thank You So Much!

To our Art Camp Volunteers:

Makenzie Kessel, Deb Doyle, Talya Miller, Linda Dearborn, Kella Moschkau, Mark Shafer & Suzanne Wolfson. Thank you for \$200 donation to be used for "FAA Art Class Scholarships" from Sheri Austin and 8yr old Aaron Austin!

**YES**, I want to become a Fairfield Art Association member.

\$250 Benefactor  
\$100 Patron  
\$50 Friend

\$25 Business  
\$25 Contributing  
\$20 Family

\$15 Individual  
\$10 Active Artist  
\$5 Student

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Send this form and a check to the address below or drop it off at the FAA Studio and Gallery.  
Fairfield Art Association  
PO Box 904  
Fairfield, IA 52556

*Your donation is tax deductible. Thank you!*

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