

FocalPOINT

Minutes of Meeting of October 20, 2009

The October 20, 2009 meeting of FocalPOINT was held at Northland Arboretum with digital photography at 5 p.m. followed by social hour at 6 p.m. Doug Livingston called the meeting to order at 6:35 p.m. with 28 members in attendance. He introduced member Mary Hirman who attended her first meeting.

Treasurer Brenda Pfeffer reported the financial records are in transition and that in the future a report would be given, that presently the club has approximately \$2,000

In order to get more members involved in the club, committees will be formed for program, monthly assignments and field trips.

Jeff Collins has volunteered to chair the Program Committee. It was suggested the club members vote on selected programs proposed by the Committee.

Barb Munson will head the Assignment Committee and will find someone to work with her.

A chair is needed for the Field Trip Committee.

A haunted trail will be held at the Arboretum on October 24 and 25. Doug suggested it as a photo opt.

Monthly minutes are not getting posted to our website. Doug will talk to the person responsible.

Doug discussed an upcoming photo content. The Arboretum is looking for photos of its grounds, building, and events going on at the Arboretum to display at its Visitor Center. The Arboretum is asking for FocalPOINT's help in this endeavor. Members should either send their pictures each month to Doug Livingston or Peg Serani at the Arboretum where the members will vote for it's favorite photo each month. The winning photo will be displayed upstairs at the Arb for that month. The Arb is also looking for 4 – 8 photos to be displayed downstairs in their large meeting room. (Details to follow.)

A \$100 donation has been given to the Arboretum in past years and Doug directed it be given again this year.

Doug stated that Biff Ulm has paid \$125 for the Club's website for the past years and from now on the Club will pay for this. Biff will be listed as a paid member in our membership listing. Doug stated that Biff, along with a few other members, is the reason FocalPOINT began several years ago.

Picturing, the annual juried photo exhibit sponsored by the Crossing Arts Alliance and promoted by FocalPOINT, was addressed by Biff who described it as a great event and one that keeps growing each year, with this year being the tenth annual event. Volunteers are needed for five

major areas, including workshop, exhibit, reception and food, marketing and publicity, and jury and prizes. The event will be held at the Q Gallery this year. Everyone is encouraged to exhibit at this event, the date which is not yet certain, but around the end of March. A sign-up sheet was circulated for members to volunteer for specific areas.

Doug referred to the Minnesota Nature Photography Club in Minneapolis, in which he is a member, where photos are submitted for critiquing each month and judged by volunteer judges, with photos given a selected number for further competition. This differs from our club with assignment photos and photos for critiquing, the critiques given by members. John Bonde feels that whatever our club is doing now is working.

Brenda Pfeffer encouraged new members to join the Crossing Arts Alliance. It was announced that the Franklin Arts Center's Christmas Open House would be held on November 14 and will feature "Folkmusik Stills: The Nisswa Stamman" with photos by John Erickson.

Sandy Holm asked for volunteers who would show and discuss travel photos to residents at Woodland Assisted Living facility. This would include an hour-long presentation once a month on a Tuesday. Contact Sandy if you are able to help.

Doug presented the monthly assignments, Hands, in the absence of Roy, who prepared them for presentation.

Barb Munson provided the snacks for the break.

Lorraine Northagen showed her Sampler.

Mark Persons gave a great presentation on posting to the Web.

The assignment for next month is Family.

Respectfully submitted,

Lorraine Northagen
Acting Secretary

Roy Abbott and Stanley Mikles will now be doing the FocalPOINT website. Software has been ordered for Stanley. Monica Katzenberger, who has been keeping up the website, will assist them in getting started.

Nametags are needed for new members. Lorraine Northagen will get the information from Monica Katzenberger to do them. It was stated that Andrea Baumann has software for name cards.

Doug announced that John Erickson would have an open house at the 119 Gallery at the Franklin Arts Center on November 8, 2008 from 10 a.m. – 4 p.m. featuring New York photographs. Anyone purchasing \$50 or more will receive a complimentary copy of “Impressions.”

Brenda Pfeffer announced that Arts Alive is at the Q-Gallery at Franklin Arts Center on Tuesday and Thursday from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. [also the second Saturday] through November 8, 2008 and features local artists whose work has been featured in the *Lakes Country Journal*.

Doug reminded those who haven't paid their dues yet, that they are due.

Roy Abbott showed the October assignment photos of color, also the critique photos. Roy stated that the e-mail address to use for submitting photos is rabbott@brainerd.net.

Dwight Munns gave an interesting presentation on the use of lenses.

Brenda Pfeffer served various colorful snacks emphasizing the assignment theme of “color.”

Jim Kingsley showed his sampler featuring family and trips, all done with a point and shoot camera.

Monica Katzenberger volunteered to do a list of assignments. If anyone has any suggestions, they should contact her.

The assignment for the November 18 meeting is “emotion.”

Jim Kinsley displayed a book he had published, “*A Century of Pioneering Pioneers by Herman Nelson*.”

Respectfully submitted,

Lorraine Northagen
Acting Secretary