

El Morro Area Arts Council

Volume 10, No. 1

NEWS

1st Quarter, 2007

All events are held at EMAAC's Old School Gallery, east of Ramah on NM53, unless otherwise noted.

~ JANUARY SPECIAL EVENTS ~

SEASCAPE



A Play by
Edward Albee

Friday and Saturday, January 19 & 20

6:00 pm, \$10

The El Morro Area Arts Council and the Old School Gallery Players will present "Seascape" by Edward Albee, a two-act play which won the Pulitzer Prize for Drama in 1975. Tickets will be on sale at the Gallery and include a beach picnic dinner for \$10 a person.

Newsday said, "Not only does this brilliantly original play stimulate you, it also is thoroughly entertaining."

The cast will include Jill Acheson, Walker Pickens, and Kyrie Ivanovich. Kathy Ivanovich is assistant director, set designer and costume person with help from Sophia Tripodi. Rocco Tripodi directs. "Seascape" will surprise you with its warmth, humor, and poetic eloquence, and with emotional and intellectual reverberations which will linger in the heart and mind long after the play has ended. Come and enjoy a delicious picnic dinner followed by a delicious play!

Basic Drawing for Adults with Sari Clark

Come continue to develop your drawing skills at the Gallery. Local artist Sari Clark will lead this session with creative drawing exercises and ideas. Bring your sketch pad, pencils and erasers, and a lunch if you like.

Movie Night

Saturday, January 27

7:00 pm, Free

The Triplets of Belleville

A Film by Sylvain Chomet



"A wildly inventive and highly original animated feature crowded with colorful characters and fantastic imagery."

Kidnapped by mysterious henchmen, a Tour de France cyclist is spirited across the ocean to the teeming metropolis of Belleville. His grandmother and faithful dog follow his trail and are taken in by a trio of eccentric jazz divas. The motley sleuths follow clues to an underground betting parlor and now the chase is on!

2 Academy Award Nominations. Run time: 81 minutes. Rated PG-13. Refreshments available.

Poetry Group Winter Barbecue and Auction

Saturday, January 13, 5:30 pm, \$7

The EMAAC Poetry Group is beginning its sponsorship of many of our student art and writing projects with the first annual Winter Barbecue and Auction. Featured will be Jack Carter-North's famous barbecued chicken and sauce, and complete dinner for \$7 a person. The auction itself will begin around 7:00 pm. All proceeds will go to the EMAAC education fund for student artists & writers. Classic rock and roll will be played at intermissions. There will be a Stroll line, and, if you remember the Stroll, you must attend this worthwhile event.

~ FEBRUARY SPECIAL EVENTS ~

VISUAL JOURNALS IS BACK

Saturday, February 3, 2:00 pm (FREE)

Come celebrate St. Brigit's Day (Imbolc) with us by creating your own "Book of Shadows" and/or "Book of Songs".

Book of Shadows – A Book of Shadows is a personal journal on the more spiritual and reflective aspects of life and can include dreams, poems, stories, trance journeys, rituals, meditations, charms, drawings, pictures, etc.

Book of Songs – The Book of Songs is based on the **Carmina Gadelica**, "a treasury of Gaelic blessings, which are both practical and deeply mystical" collected by Alexander Carmichael in the Highlands of Scotland in the 1880's. Scottish crofters created these charms, songs and incantations as a way to connect to family, neighbors, livestock, plants, and spirituality. Create your own blessings and charms or borrow a traditional one for your own personal Book of Songs, or use them in your Book of Shadows. A copy of the Carmina Gadelica will be available for inspiration.

No artistic talent is necessary, just the desire to create. You will need a sketchbook/journal (12"x 9" is a good size). Some other materials that you might want to bring are: Scissors, Elmer's, or Yes glue, magazines with pictures you like, tissue paper, pens, markers, watercolors, rubber stamps, photos, ribbon, odd envelopes, pressed flowers...the list is endless. We all share our supplies, so all you really need is your willingness to explore creativity. Experienced visual journalists Lisa de St. Croix and Carol Casady will be there to help you out. Jackie Rossignol and Candace Lee will give a brief introduction. Children welcome. This is a **free** event.

OPEN MIC NIGHT

Saturday, February 24, 7:00 pm \$2

Singers, musicians, poets, and any other "act" that a person can come up with are all here to enjoy. Performers should arrive at 6:30 pm for free admission and sign-up. Great refreshments will be available.

Valentine's Dinner and Concert

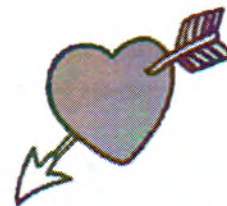


with A.J. Rice
and Jon Pickens
A Benefit for EMAAC

Saturday, February 17, 6:00 pm

\$25 per person

Tickets must be purchased in advance. Available at the Gallery. Enjoy a special night out with your Valentine, and support EMAAC at the same time by attending this benefit performance by two of our area's outstanding musicians. A.J. Rice, a conservatory-trained Mohawk composer, has performed, written, recorded, and produced on both coasts and in his home state of Alaska. Jonathan Lee Pickens spent sixteen years in Nashville as a performer and staff songwriter with several publishing companies. Ticket price includes the concert and a complete dinner and dessert.



Sunday, February 18, 2:00 pm,

\$5.00 at the door

There will be a matinee performance by A.J. Rice and Jon Pickens at the Gallery.

~ MARCH SPECIAL EVENTS~



SPRING FLING SOCK HOP

Saturday, March 17, 7:30 pm

\$3.00 at the door

Come to the Old School Gallery and dance the night away to your favorite oldies from the 50s and 60s! Costume contest, karaoke contest, and more! Delicious refreshments, featuring Root Beer Floats, will be available!

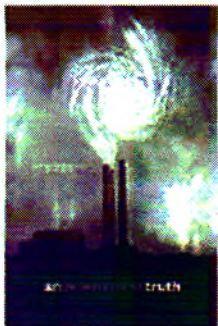
Everyone welcome!

MOVIE NIGHT

Saturday, March 31

7:00 pm, Free

An Inconvenient Truth With Al Gore



With wit, smarts and hope, *An Inconvenient Truth* ultimately brings home Gore's persuasive argument that we can no longer afford to view global warming as a political issue – rather, it is the biggest moral challenge facing our global civilization.

Refreshments available.

PAINTING FROM THE HEART

with Jacqueline Mercenier

Saturday, March 10 and Saturday, March 17

11:00 am - 4:00 pm

\$20.00 per workshop or \$35.00 if you attend both

When March blustering winds blow outside, come into the Gallery to paint with soul! Through fun painting exercises, we will free our creative self; painting with watercolor on rice paper, will allow for our heart's expression. Next, we'll paint flowers or landscapes—with preliminary drawing then watercolor and a creative use of soft pastels. We will also try our hand at "flow watercolor" with subsequent drawing and soft pastels.

Principles of design and color will be woven lightly in our painting to build in a good foundation. Individual attention will be given throughout the workshops. For beginners and intermediate. Class size may be limited, so please sign up ahead of time. Please bring your own watercolors, brushes, and soft pastels. Paper will be available at a moderate cost if you are unable to supply your own.

FAMILY TALENT SHOW

Saturday, March 24, 2:00 pm

\$2 at the door

Performers and kids 12 and under get in FREE.

A chance for our younger performers to take the stage! Adults and family acts are welcome, too, at this open mic event intended for a younger audience.

Performers, please arrive at 1:30 pm to sign up.

2006-2007 YOUNG WRITERS COMPETITION

The third annual EMAAC writing contest for area students generated 281 entries from 14 schools and home school families. A reception for the winning students, their families, friends, and teachers, was held Sunday, December 10, at the Gallery. Jack Carter-North organized the project, and the EMAAC Poetry Group (Jack, Sharon Logsdon, Tim and Lucia Amsden, Donna Suttle, Marge Gross, Dean Woodard, Donald Sharp, Richard Dates, David Kessler, Lisa de St. Croix) judged the entries and hosted the reception.

Shelbi Johnston's memoir of Ramah Lake was awarded Best of Show.

This year's first place winners:

- Ukisha Maria, Third Grade Writing
- Selena Dehiya, Fifth Grade Writing
- Lyle Johnson, Middle School Poetry
- Alexis Hustito, Middle School Narrative
- Felicia Waseta, High School Poetry
- Anne Duffield, High School Narrative/Exposition
- Shelbi Johnston, High School Memoir

A "Book of Winners" containing 1st, 2nd, and 3rd place writings is on sale at the Gallery for \$2.00. Be sure to stop by and get your copy, as they always sell out!

STUDENT ART EXHIBITIONS

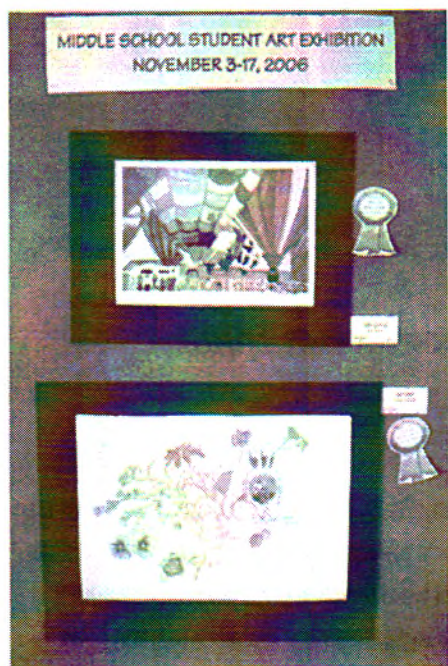
Middle School (grades 6-8) students' art was exhibited at the Gallery November 3-17, 2006. The exhibition featured excellent work by students of the following teachers:

- Mr. Daniels, Ramah High
- Mr. Frye, Zuni Middle
- Mrs. Jordan, Ramah Elementary
- Mrs. Meekhof, Zuni Christian Mission
- Mr. Ness, Zuni Twin Buttes
- Mrs. Samson, Zuni St. Anthony

Cash prizes were given in seven categories. First prizes were awarded to:

- Terisha Chuyate, Abstract
- Elaine Tucson, Landscape*
- Derick Weebothee, Still Life*
- Latonia Latone & Tristen Paquin, 3 Dimensional
- Chelsey Edaakie, Portrait
- Michael Seotewa, Miniature
- Qiarra Lalio, Mixed Media

*Shown in photograph



Art by High School (Grades 9-12) students will be on display February 2 through February 16. Elementary School (K-5) students will be exhibited in April.

~ ONGOING EMAAC EVENTS~

TAI CHI

Meets every Monday. Beginners at 5:00 pm. Ongoing group at 6:00 pm. Call Monika (775-3045).

SUNDAY JAZZ JAM

2:00 to 4:00 pm on most Sundays at the Gallery. Free. Musicians! Dust off your ax and have some fun! Open to anyone high school age and up who can play and likes jazz, blues and rock/metal-fusion. Sessions will be hosted by multi-instrumentalist Brian Neher and daughter Kelsey. Open to any instrument, including voice. For more info contact Brian at 783-4186 or call the Gallery.

DRUMMING/TRIBAL DANCE

Meets once this quarter at 7:00 pm on Saturday, February 10th at the Gallery. Free.

Bring drums, rattles, flutes, or just yourself. Leave the cares of the day behind as we create rhythms and music. Come dance, play, or just listen.

HAND CRAFTS

Meets sporadically in homes to share patterns and skills. Call Claire (783-4900) for dates and times.

TAI CHI WITH REED

9:00 to 10:30 am on Sundays at the Gallery. Free. Tai Chi Chuan and Chi Kung for health and wellness. Abbreviated Wu style movement and basic Wah Mountain breathing discipline. Beginners always welcome. Call Reed Anderson for more information: 783-4067.

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BOOK CLUB

Meets on the fourth Tuesday each month at 7:30 pm at different homes. Free.

New readers are always welcome!

January 23rd - "Memory Keeper's Daughter" by Kim Edwards. A tragic, poignant family story. Pam Davis' house. (783-4101)

February 27th - "The Whistling Season" by Ivan Doig. Set in Montana in 1909; one-room school house featured! Fran Anderson's house. (783-4067)

March 27th - "Fingersmith" by Sarah Waters. Set in London in the 1860's - a view of Victorian underworlds. Kristi Davis' house. (783-4444)

POETRY GROUP

11:00 am on Sundays. This group meets at Inscription Rock Trading across the Highway from the Gallery. New poets welcome. Free.

ART SMART

3:00 pm every Wednesday at the Gallery. Free. Arts, crafts and storytelling for kids. Contact the Gallery for more info.

FIGURE DRAWING

11:00 am once a month at Lisa's Studio instead of Landscape Outings this quarter. January 18th, February 15th and March 15th. Please call Lisa de St. Croix for more information at 783-4502.

YOGA

9:30 to 10:45 am on Thursdays at the Gallery. Free. Class is ongoing and celebrates "beginner's mind." Led by Jill Acheson or other class members, the group begins anew each time.

SPECIAL TRIBUTE TO ROCCO TRIPODI



In the past six years, Rocco Tripodi has produced, directed, acted in and promoted many dramatic and musical productions at EMAAC. He has served as a Board member and Education Committee member and he created the Performing Arts Committee and Fund.

He has set a high standard of excellence and included all generations in his activities.

Notable examples of his contributions are "Wizard of Oz," "Ice Wolf," and the El Morro Chorus and Summer Youth Arts Program. Rocco's leadership has broadened the scope of EMAAC programming and treated us to many evenings of culture and entertainment. His latest production, "Seascape," will be presented on January 19 and 20. Rocco's book, *The Man with Hair on his Nose!*, is a wonderful collection of short stories which capture times past and is available for purchase at the Gallery. We hold Rocco in great esteem and affection and want him to know it.

Ya! Rocco!

~CONTACT INFORMATION~

El Morro Area Arts Council is a vibrant organization that celebrates diversity, thrives on the sharing of creative ideas through programs, exhibitions and workshops, and supports a community-centered activity hub for traditional and contemporary arts. EMAAC membership is open to all artists and individuals who share our love of the arts and the El Morro area community. Members are entitled to voting privileges, participation as Board and Committee members, newsletter subscription and notification of special events. Persons with special needs are encouraged to contact us to ensure that their needs are met!

Paula D. Tripodi, Executive Director



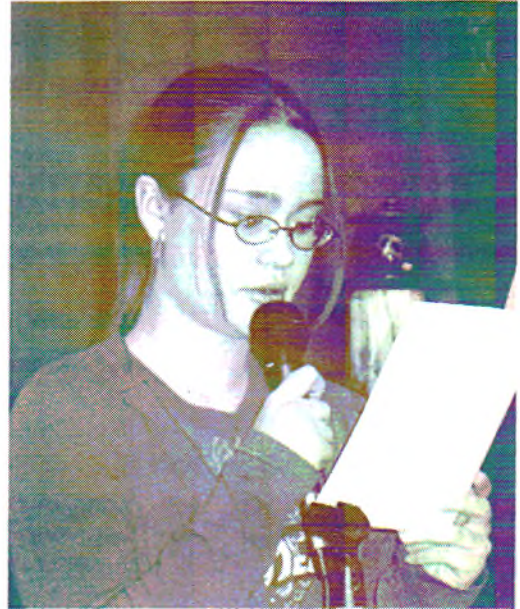
The Old School Gallery,
home of El Morro Area Arts Council,
is located on NIM Highway 53, 11 miles east of Ramah
Hours: Thursday-Sunday, 11am-5pm
Phone: 505-783-4710
Email: emaac@wildblue.net
Web Site: www.elmorro-arts.org

Board of Directors

- President: Harry Hutton (783-4441)
- Vice President: Susan Mayne (783-4472)
- Treasurer: Lisa McNitt (775-3702)
- Secretary: Joel Tryheart (775-4446)
- Members: George Steigenwald, Owl McCabe, Donald Sharp, Beverly Moody, Tony Buchen, Jude Filippi, Patti Jordan, Alicia McCabe, Sandy Rupnow, Be Sargent
- Committee Chairs:
 - Building: George Steigenwald
 - Business Campaign: Harry Hutton
 - Newsletter: Owl McCabe
 - Education: Harriet Lawrence
 - Gallery: Pam Davis
 - Programming: Paula Tripodi
 - Performing Arts: Rocco Tripodi
 - Grounds: Susam Mayne
 - Public Relations: Alicia McCabe
 - Docents: Susan Haygood

Pages 7, 8, 9,
Calendars
Omitted

First Place, High School Memoir



(Untitled)

by Shelbi Johnston, 9th grade, Ramah High School

April Simun, teacher

It will be seven years next summer when my family and I went swimming in the lake.

I remember the water being deep and cool, and I remember sand and soft loam under my feet. My cousin was always scared to follow me out of the shallows and into deeper water. "Barracuda!" she would shriek after me, dancing around in place and looking pale against the murky water. "The lake is full of barracuda!"

"Come on, Alise! There are no barracuda in the lake," I would state confidently, wading out to my father, who had owned the most fascinating "fishing seat" (an inflatable chair used when fishing in deep water without a noisy boat) at that time. We remained at the lake for hours that day – hours of reeling in bluegill and trout, hours of cajoling Alise out of the shallows, hours of splash-fights and dunking one another's heads beneath the tame waves. We were there long after the sun went down, sitting on the leafy banks, listening to the waves hit the shore and watching a cool white moon climb over Stony Point and glow on the water like a phantom, like a glittering cat's eye.

It will be five months this Saturday since last I visited Ramah Lake. My sister and I went alone, but I was intent on reliving the days of my childhood out in the lake's cool embrace. I had not gone all these past summers because of the other hobbies or issues occupying my time, but now I felt a sort of relief in knowing that, despite the tumult roaring throughout the rest of the world, this haven of mine had not yet been manhandled into the worldwide fashion of power, usefulness, and ugliness.

As I passed through the copse at the lake's edge, I caught a whiff of something vile. Following the draft of foul air, I came across two things at once: a dead, rotting crow corpse and the haven of my younger years.

The crow was, by far, more beautiful.

What had once been a blooming swan of a lake was now a shriveled, ensnarled beast, choking on its own stink, bleeding, the life draining from it even as I watched. Slime and algae crowded and piled on the banks, looking hideously like translucent green skin stretched taut over their milkweed skeletons. The water was clogged with it, inasmuch that it had turned green, as though plagued with some vulgar disease. The Point jutted from the water like a bone from a fresh wound – the waterline had gone down so much that all of the fish had died, so that they drifted on the green water, eyes emptied by mouths gaping, praying too late for the food and air that this crypt of a lake could not provide. No one fished anymore. No one swam. Only the moon returned to gaze down on the lonely puddle that once had been beautiful, that once had been loved so dearly – the moon and me... one last time.

I remember going home in a dry swimsuit and asking my father who murdered – was still murdering – the lake. I remember him telling me that people were draining it to water their crops, and that it was public land, so they could lawfully do so.

I do not remember ever returning to the lake again since that day, and if there was one thing in the world that I would change, it would be that the next time I return to the lake, it would be like returning to that shore seven years ago. I want to see the beauty of nature look back on me, and not another one of man's many mistakes.

~GALLERY NOTES~

CURRENT EXHIBITIONS

THROUGH February 25, 2007

AT THE OLD SCHOOL GALLERY

"A Place at the Table"



Call for Entries:

Old School Gallery Exhibition

"Spring Fling"

Opening Reception

3 pm March 4, 2007

Entry deadline, Sunday, February 25,

11 am-5 pm.



In Conjunction with "SPRING FLING"

A Chorus of Ceramic Art

Featuring the work of Andy, Richard, Harry, Maqui,

Owl, Eden, and Redwulf.

Select pieces will be offered in auction as a fundraiser for the EMAAC building fund. Come experience the singing of sculpted earth.



THE ARTIST'S QUARTER

Any member may use the Gallery stage to mount a mini-exhibition. Shows run in conjunction with regular

Gallery exhibitions. Interested artists should submit their name to Pam Davis (783-4343).

In the Artist's Quarter

Maqui

Wood Fired

Ceramic Art



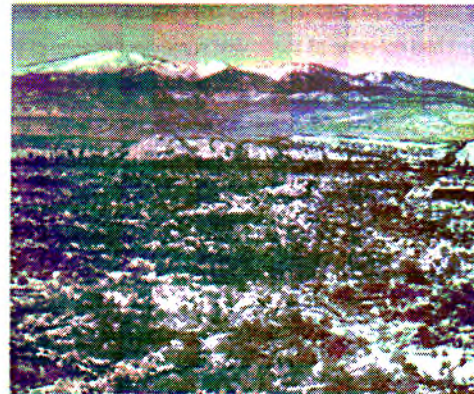
Be sure to stop by the gallery to see additional art by Maqui displayed in the Artist Quarter after January 21.

In the Artist's Quarter

Starting March 4

Photography by

Peggy and Doyne Loyd



"When taking a photograph our philosophy is: **fill your lens.** Take a tight picture. Don't think in terms of cropping a photograph. When shooting a flower, a cowboy or a panoramic view of Mt. Taylor and the El Malpais, we use the lens that allows us to maximize the photograph we want to capture."



Candy Kitchen General Store?

Come to a presentation and discussion about opening a co-operative food and more store near the Wild Spirit Wolf Sanctuary. (A co-operative is a community-owned business operated solely for the benefit of it's members.)

When: Monday January 8, 2007 at 6:30 PM.

Where: The Ramah Navajo Chapter House in Mountainview.

What: A dessert potluck and discussion.

Why?: A co-op exists to please it's member/owners...What would you like us to stock?

For more information, please contact Scott "Coyote" Ricci
at scottricci@hotmail.com or 775-3155.

Spirit Stories

Looking for people to share personal experiences with spirits for my next book. If interested contact inspirational author Barbara L. Gunn
505-287-7278
bwriter@peoplepc.com



Reminder!

Thinking about Spring cleaning?
Remember to save all your unwanted items to donate to EMAAC's Annual Yard Sale, which will be held in April.

~EMAAC MEMBERSHIP NOTES~

PRESIDENT'S LETTER

Thanks to the membership for their confidence and support of the new Board members and officers.

At our meeting and orientation on 11/8, we identified priorities for the coming year and formed committees. The consensus issues are:

- Improved public relations and community outreach
- Improved landscaping and exterior appearance of grounds
- Expanded programming, especially for children and youth
- Improved technology (computer, website, internet, digital)
- Improved artist sales

Recent accomplishments are:

- Roof improvements and attic insulation — Panic bar put on front door
- Satellite internet hookup and donated flat screen monitor
- Digital projector, screen, monitor, dvd player and window shades ordered

- Electrical system hookup and upgrade, including underground exterior wiring
- Plans for supplemental water storage tank to function when well problems occur

Future activities will be:

- Patching and painting building exterior
- Define and enlarge parking and upgrade landscaping
- Workshop for artists to help market their art

Member input and participation in addressing these issues is most welcome!

Special Note: As one of its first acts, the Board approved continuation of the policy of prohibition of serving or consuming alcoholic beverages on the Gallery premises.

Sincerely,
Harry Hutton

WELCOME, NEW MEMBERS

Kathleen and Peter Carels

Ben Saiz

Kenny and Ann Chavez

Jacqueline Mercenier and David Murnion

Mark Ferguson

Scott 'Coyote' Ricci

BUILDING ACQUISITION FUND Update

As of December 1, 64 members have donated \$11,570 and another \$2,525 is pledged.

We exceeded our goal by over \$4,000. What a splendid demonstration of the generosity of our membership! Donor names are posted in the Gallery. Donations are still being accepted.

SPECIAL EMAAC THANKS TO:

Outgoing EMAAC Board members and officers for their many contributions and outstanding leadership:

Claire Knowles

Lisa de St. Croix

Pam Davis

Rocco Tripodi

Turza Shows

Herman van Diepen

George Steigerwald – Building Committee Chair Extraordinaire (our "Consider it done" man)

Lee & Susan Haygood – Computer monitor

Caroly Jones, Jill Acheson, Herman van Diepen, Bob Schafer, Tony Buchen – Roofing and Insulation installation

Knitwits – this year's fundraising afghan

~EMAAC MEMBERSHIP NOTES~

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S LETTER

Things have been wonderfully hectic at the Gallery since our building purchase at the end of August. George Steigerwald and others have been working like mad to complete necessary additions and repairs before winter sets in...or George goes on vacation. We maintained a very full schedule, in spite of some days without power, water, or both. The power was off when musicians Don and Victoria Armstrong came to play for us, so we moved over to Inscription Rock Trading for their performance. Thanks go to Pam, Jon, and Walter Pickens for their hospitality towards our performers and EMAAC audience. It was an exceptional concert.

Besides the events we already had on our schedule, EMAAC hosted a number of impromptu happenings that point out the importance of the Gallery as a community facility. When the Fall Festival Kick-Off Dinner at Inscription Rock was hit with a cold rain, we invited the dancers from Zuni to use the Gallery. Over seventy-five people crowded in to watch the Rainbow Dance, which was immediately followed by a gorgeous rainbow soaring above the Gallery and the mesa. Guitarist Jeremy Mayne and his band performed in the Gallery as well. The Farmers Market held their potluck and seed exchange, a well attended event squeezed into the calendar when they couldn't arrange for another facility. Also, the National Park Service, as part of El Morro's Centennial Celebration, showed the movie "Four Faces West", filmed in 1948 at El Morro and other area locations. And two more ongoing groups found a place in our schedule--Reed Anderson's Tai Chi Sunday mornings, and Brian Neher's Jazz Jam Sunday afternoons.

Special thanks to Jack Carter-North and the poetry group for hosting the inspiring Young Writers Reception, to Harriet Lawrence and the Education Committee for their work organizing the Mid-School Art Exhibit, to Alicia McCabe and Claire Knowles for hosting the Fiber Festival, and to all our EMAAC hosts and bakers. Thanks also to Susan Mayne for extra help during events, and to George Steigerwald for all his work and for responding every time I cried, "George, we have no water!"

ANNUAL ARTIST DRAWING

This year EMAAC artists donated items valued at over \$5,000. The drawing held on October 21 contributed \$1749 to our annual budget. Thanks to all of you!

Tim Amsden, Eldon Gibson, Lisa de St. Croix, Carol Casady, Marina Powdermaker, Jane Chilton, Allen Burnham, Kristi Davis, Lisa and David McNitt, Katharine Jorgensen, Tray Cool Group, Sari Clark, Mary Ellen O'Conner, Be Sargent, Pam Davis, Denis Black, Candace Lee, Christine Loeffler, Herman Van Diepen, David Kessler, Turza Shows, Andrew Shows, Butch & Laura Hall, Jim Hopkins, Tony Buchen & Jazzmean Goodwin, Rocco Tripodi, Sophia Colldock, Karen Sorenson, Owl McCabe