

"Eddy...A current that runs contrary to the main current or tradition, as of life, art, or philosophy; a byway."

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Board Chair's Message

Your board,
office staff,
and volun-
teers are
working

hard to take care of the
ERAAA's daily business while
we search for a new executive
director. Please bear with us,
in the interim.

We have a new development
director, Julia O'Brien, who is
working diligently on a number
of projects. For one, she and
Tara Roth, a board member, are
planning the Second Annual
Gala on February 15. Please
see the mailer side of the Eddy
for more information on the Gala.

Your board decided at their
December meeting to make
two major changes in the
ERAAA. We have discussed
for some time changing the
name of our organization. The
name experts tell us that an
organization's name should be
no more than three syllables
and preferably two. We have
learned over the past few

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City Pages awarded the *Best Dance Performance in 2005* to **10 Foot Five**.
Don't miss this energetic group just back from performances in Finland.

10 Foot Five started with two guys. Actually two brothers, Andy and Rick Ausland, who with a set of five-gallon paint cans and a few moves, descended to the busy streets of Minneapolis for a little impromptu street performing. But what started as a lark has since turned into a full-time venture, with three additional dancers and concert dates that span the country, including a date in Finland.

Like the popular act Stomp, 10 Foot Five is a non-traditional dance troupe that uses the body and ordinary objects to produce the fast percussive thrum of an urban landscape against which they choreograph the tap dancing. And it is not your grandmother's tap dance, either. This is high-octane stage performance.

The group will be appearing at Elk River High School's Zabee Theater, 900 School St. Advance tickets can be purchased through the ERAAA (763-441-4725), Coborn's in Elk River, Rise and Shine in Zimmerman, and Luna Blu in Rogers. Tickets are \$15 for adults, \$12 for members and seniors, and \$5 for students. A performance will also be given during the day on Thursday for the high school students.

The George Maurer Group

□ **Returns to the Zabee**
March 3, Thursday
7:30 PM

George Maurer, called by some
Minnesota's premier jazz pianist, will bring
his highly acclaimed jazz group to Elk River
High School's Zabee Theater. The Maurer
Group will perform jazz, swing, Broadway
and specialty numbers, featuring works by
George Gershwin, Duke Ellington and
Cole Porter.

□ □ □ *continued on page 2*



Photos by
Howard A. Gitelson

We're going electronic and we are changing our organization's name!
Read about it in the Board Chair's Message.

10 Foot Five performs Buckets & Tap Shoes

Zabee Theater
January 11
Thursday
7:30 PM

George Maurer continued

Members of *The George Maurer Group* have opened for entertainers such as Bob Hope, Maynard Ferguson, Lou Rawls and the Count Bassie Orchestra. The Group has released the albums *Jazz in Black and White* and *On Track: Live at the Dakota*, the latter cited by music critic David Nathan as the release that would cement their reputation as "one of the preeminent small jazz groups on the scene."

The George Maurer Group will be performing in the Elk River High School's Zabee Theater in Elk River. Tickets will be available at the box office the night of the performance. Advance tickets can be purchased through the ERAAA (763-441-4725) and will be available as early as February at Coburn's in Elk River, Rise and Shine in Zimmerman, and Luna Blu in Rogers. Tickets are \$15 adult, \$12 member/senior, and \$5 youth.

Arts in Harmony '07 Opening Reception February 11

You know it's winter when *Arts in Harmony* hangs its show. The second largest national juried show in the state (behind the State Fair show), this year's 12th annual exhibition took in 579 entries from 223 artists.

Once again, director Dave Beauvais promises a fine opening reception, which will take place 1-3:30 PM, Sunday, February 11 at the Sherburne County Government Center off Highway 10 in Elk River. Expect something to nibble on (crackers, cookies and the odd roll of lunch meat) and something to delight your ear (i.e., live music) while you peruse the best art going this side of the Mississippi.

Participating artists will want to attend the awards ceremony, beginning at 1:30 PM in the Government Center Board Room. (So, get your gnoshing done early.) Fifty-two awards totaling \$8,800 in prize money will be distributed, among them the \$1,000 Best of Show and \$1,000 Purchase Award.



Left: *Hotel Fire*, oil by Craig A. Bell
Above: *Bus Drivers' Bocce Game at Day's End*, Pastel by Diana DeSantes
Both works from *Arts in Harmony 2005*.

Volunteers Needed for Arts in Harmony

And now that you're all revved up about *Arts in Harmony*, Dave Beauvais and crew are looking for a few good volunteers to help put up the show. The show will be going up January 29; volunteers would work from 9 AM to 12 PM. To volunteer, call Dave Beauvais at 612-877-0364.

**Artist Talk on Tuesday,
January 23, 7 PM
in Becker, MN**

**The Looting of the Iraq National
Museum, A Curator's Perspective**

Cori Wegener is an assistant curator in Architecture, Design, Decorative Arts, Craft, and Sculpture at The Minneapolis Institute of Arts and a retired major in the U.S. Army Reserve. Her last military assignment was in Baghdad, Iraq as the Arts, Monuments and Archives Officer for the 352nd Civil Affairs Command.



Wegener at home and in Iraq

She assisted staff at the Iraq National Museum after the looting that took place during the U.S. invasion and acted as military liaison to the Iraqi Ministry of Culture. Wegener will give a slide lecture discussing the looting and subsequent reconstruction of the museum, as well as her efforts to establish the United States Committee of the Blue Shield, a non-governmental organization dedicated to the protection of cultural property during armed conflict.

Wegener's talk about the looting will be at The Sherburne History Center in Becker and is free to the public. For information or directions contact the History Center at (763) 261-4433. This event is being co-sponsored by the ERAAA and The Sherburne History Center.

— Britt Aamodt

Second Annual Gala information on mailer side. Please check it out. It is a grand event. We hope you can attend.

Board Chair's Message continued

Rosemaling Workshop

Have you ever wondered what rosemaling is all about? On Saturday, February 24, Winnie Figenshau will present a workshop on the traditional Norwegian folk art of rosemaling from 1 to 3 PM at the Sherburne History Center in Becker. She will talk about the history of rosemaling, the variations in the different parts of Norway, and will demonstrate the art itself. Samples are on display in the History Center's shop.

The cost of this workshop is \$5 to the general public, \$3 for History Center members. Please call the History Center at 763-261-4433 or 763-262-4433 (metro line) to sign up or to get more information.

Call the ERAA office (763-441-4725), if you are interested in Rosemaling or any other arts classes. We will keep your name on an interest list and if the class can be offered, we will give you a call.

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www.elkriverart.org

years that the name is cumbersome and it does not say that we are a regional resource for the arts. Our work mainly serves residents in the 728 School District but reaches also to communities beyond the district's borders.

We are inviting our readers to send us name ideas. The board will be carefully considering the new name over the next few months with the goal of announcing our new moniker at ArtSoup '07 (June 23-24).

Your board also made the decision at the past meeting to take *The Eddy* electronic with the goal of being completely electronic by the fall of 2007. With this issue we have started to pare down the size of the newsletter and hope to do both a printed copy as well as an electronic one for a few months. We know we can save money by using e-mail and we expect to reach more readers in this format. For those of you with no email, we will continue to send you our news but in a briefer format.

We hope you will send us your e-mail address so we can put you on our electronic mailing list. Send it to: elkriverart@sherbtl.net

We would like to welcome the following new and renewing members to the Elk River Area Arts Alliance.

- | | | |
|---|--|---|
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The Eddy will be in a new medium, sent to you by e-mail.
 Read the details in the board chair's message on the cover and on this page above. Please share your e-mail with us by sending it to: elkriverart@sherbtl.net

SAVE THE DATE! FEBRUARY 15, 2007

THE ELK RIVER AREA ARTS ALLIANCE PRESENTS -

second annual
HEART 
of the arts gala

\$75
per person

COME JOIN US FOR A DINNER AUCTION AND
EVENING OF ENTERTAINMENT FEBRUARY 15, 2007
6:00 P.M. AT THE WELLSTEAD OF ROGERS.

TICKETS WILL BE HELD AT THE DOOR. RESERVED TABLES AVAILABLE. CALL 763-428-7148
PROCEEDS BENEFIT ELK RIVER AREA ARTS ALLIANCE PROGRAMS & SERVICES

*Artist or Art Group
Shows Available at
Government Center*

The ERAAA is recruiting artists or groups of artists to show at the Sherburne County Government Center during the 2007-08 season. These are not juried shows, and you do not need to be a member of the ERAAA to participate.

Dates to be filled are: April 1-May 11;
July 29-August 31; September 3-
October 5; and December 17-January 25.
Call our office at 763-441-4725 for
more details.

ELK RIVER
A R E A
ARTS
ALLIANCE



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