



**Art On Main**  
**Voted Best Art Gallery**  
**in the Mother Lode for 2015**

*By Patricia Cherry*

After only two and one half years in business, Art On Main was voted by the readers of *Sierra Lodestar* to be the best art gallery in the Mother Lode. As you can imagine, the artists involved with this gallery are proud of this recognition, while also feeling quite humbled by the honor. We are grateful to our patrons and community for all of the on-going accolades and support we have received.

*Sierra Lodestar* is a widely-read weekly events magazine produced by editor Mike Taylor. This popular magazine sails off of racks in over 600 locations in three counties – Amador, Calaveras and Tuolumne – and enjoys a circulation of over 35,000.

---

*“We are grateful to our patrons and community for all of the on-going accolades and support...”*

---

So how did our art gallery gain this wonderful recognition in such a short time?

You can credit the start-up to charismatic artist Marian Bologna Swanson, although she is always quick to credit every artist showing their work in the gallery. Marian is a woman with a gregarious and expansive personality. She is shy about only one thing... and that’s calling herself an “artist.” Yet her charming paintings of legendary Kokopelli

of the Southwest are one of the gallery’s most popular items.

After retiring from a successful corporate administrative career in San Francisco, Marian moved to Murphys in 2004. Deciding to further explore the world of art, she began taking art lessons from accomplished artist, Vienna Watkins.

Many of us recall that when the recession hit, art galleries all over the country began to close their doors. Murphys, which once had seven art galleries, was down to one or two. One of those, Misty Redwood Glen, where Marian had been showing her art, sadly closed its door less than a year after it opened.



Marian knew there was an abundance of talented artists in the community who wanted, and deserved, to have a place to display their art, and thought, “if I can find a location, I can open a gallery.” And we are all quite happy she followed through on that thought!



With the generous assistance of property owner and art lover, Frances Barnsley, and with help from her dear friend and realtor, Cynthia Trade, the building that now houses Art On Main was secured. Using some of her retirement money

to invest in this project, Marian began talking to and meeting other artists within the community. And with the collaboration of 25 artists, who lent ideas and often prior experience in the art gallery business, the group reached a common goal for the

best interests of the gallery.

Every quarter of the year, the “display committee” (consisting of five artists, with Susan King at the helm), receives new artwork from each participating member. Their work is carefully and attractively displayed in a new location so that each piece can be seen to advantage. This quarterly rotation of art keeps the gallery continually fresh, exciting and interesting.

The gallery has now expanded to 33 local artists. Each does his or her part in keeping this collaborative effort by sharing the work of running the gallery. To quote Astronaut Ron Garon: “Collaboration begins with mutual understanding and respect.” And, that has been achieved.

We again thank you, our patrons, for your continued support of the arts and in voting us Best Art Gallery in the Mother Lode. ❖



Examples of Marian's Kokopelli, pear and berry root paintings.

## Art Attractions in Northern California

**Oakland Museum of California** (in collaboration with **San Francisco Museum of Modern Art** while closed for construction):

**Fertile Ground: Art and Community in California**  
September 20, 2014 — April 12, 2015

This exhibit highlights four defining artistic movements in the history of California, including 1930s San Francisco artists such as Diego Rivera and Frida Kahlo; photographers and painters associated with the California School of Fine Arts during the 40s and 50s, such as Imogen Cunningham and Mark Rothko; faculty and students at UC Davis in the 60s and 70s such as Wayne Thiebaud and

Robert Arneson; and those of the new Mission scene from the 1990s to the present. ❖

[http://www.sfmoma.org/exhib\\_events/exhibitions/582](http://www.sfmoma.org/exhib_events/exhibitions/582)

**Crocker Art Museum: Toulouse-Lautrec and La Vie Moderne Paris 1880-1910**

February 1, 2015 — April 26, 2015

Henri de Toulouse-Lautrec (1864-1901) was of a generation of artists in Paris moving away from traditional French academic art standards. This exhibit focuses on the Montmartre area of Paris and the many artists representing the changing times and styles. ❖

<http://crockerartmuseum.org/exhibitions/toulouse-lautrec-and-la-vie-moderne>

*Highlights from three more  
Art on Main artists...*

**Marta Magistrali**

Marta likes to make things; and if it has fur, feathers, or foliage, all the better. Her animal sculptures are the physical expression of her sense of stewardship and she hopes her work expresses her reverence of nature.



She says the ceramic surface is of constant interest and a challenge. Textured glazes, colored slips, and graffito

(scratching into the surface) have interested her for many years. She also enjoys wood firing, which leaves a deposit of ash on the work during several days of stoking the anagama kiln. Additionally she enjoys raku, where the finished surface is dictated by the combustible material and atmosphere that is subjected to the piece after removing it from a red hot kiln. She likes those “uncontrolled” opportunities.



Marta’s mother gave her clay at age five and with the help and encouragement of many people along the way, she earned her BA at University of Santa Cruz and her MFA at San Francisco Art Institute. She’s been teaching

---

*“...and if it has fur, feathers, or foliage, all the better.”*

---

as an artist in residence since 1983 in several states and at various community colleges. She currently teaches at Columbia College in Sonora. Marta says, “I learn from my students every semester.” ❖



**Carole & Ron Kamerlink  
Wild Hare & Silver Fox Designs**

Silver, gold, copper, gemstones, natural stones, handmade glass beads...this is the passion of the Kamerlinks! They constantly look at these materials and see endless possibilities for creating wearable treasures – organic, glistening, delicate or bold – and each piece is unique. They hope you will enjoy their creations as much as they enjoy creating each piece; fun to wear and wonderful to give.

The Kamerlinks combine some of these quality materials with various techniques: metalsmithing, flame painting, wire wrapping and wire weaving, form folding, etching and off loom bead weaving. Flame painting has been the most challenging. It involves heating the natural copper with a torch, cooling, re-heating, cooling and so on until the desired colors and patterns are obtained. It is a thrill for them to achieve certain color combinations.

A permanent move to Murphys has given them the opportunity to do what they enjoy most and they give thanks to all for supporting the local arts. ❖



Sample of a copper platter and earrings made by the Kamerlinks.

Salutations, Mrs. King, Jan. 15, 2015  
 I really liked our field trip yesterday. I mostly loved all of the different types of art, sculptures, water color, Clay and much more because it inspired me to draw and sketch just like you and all of the other artists and photographers, your museum was so pretty that I really couldn't choose which one I liked best but I want to tell you that the ones I chose I will never forget thank you so much.  
 Sincerely,  
 Breanna McElroy

Dear Mrs. King, Jan. 15  
 While I was at the art gallery with my class I had a great time. I loved every thing in there. The Mediums in there are amazing. Art on Main is an amazing place.  
 Sincerely,  
 Jakob Shawkey

## Fifth Grader's Visit Gallery

Fifth graders from Mark Twain Elementary were introduced to the Art on Main gallery on January 15<sup>th</sup>. For some students this was a first visit to an art gallery. Part of their learning experience was to discover the use of different art mediums. Students chose their four favorite art works and replicated one of them on their own worksheet.

Dear Mrs. King, Jan. 16, 2015  
 Thank you for showing us the art gallery. I liked every one. It was hard to choose only few pieces of art. I wanted to choose each one. I chose the bike race one, the dog sitting up, the candy corn fairy, and the tree with the moon beside it. The tree one looks like it has the Northern Lights in the background. The gallery looks (inside and out) really pretty. It was an honor coming to the gallery.  
 Sincerely,  
 Sean Hodley

Gallery member, Susan King, lead the student's gallery tour and in return received many appreciative thank you notes. ❖

## Word is Getting Out!

One of our member artists was recently given a page from a San Francisco newspaper that plugged Murphys as "one of the best gold country spots for soaking in history" and specifically mentioned "contemporary art at Art on Main" as one of the newer draws to zero in on when visiting. We are delighted. ❖

## Congratulations

Congratulations to Daphne Cagle of Elk Grove, California, the winner of our fourth quarter drawing. She wins a \$50 Art on Main gift certificate. ❖

## Quarterly Change of Art

Every quarter we change the art in the gallery. Our next rotation is April 8, 2015, so please come and see our new work.

### Gallery Artists Include:

Jan Alcalde, Marianna Bologna, Diana Boyd, Dick Bradford, Marlene Bradford, Kathy Canning, Patricia Cherry, Sarah Evans, Annie Fountain, Carol Goff, Carole Kamerlink, Ron Kamerlink, James Kelly, Susan King, Jane Lucas, Marta Magistrali, Charlotte Mahood, Therese & Steve May, Judy Morgan, Ruth Morrow, Karen O'Neill, Bambi Papais, Duane Papais, Marilyn Richards, Helen Scofield, Christine Spracklin, Lori Sturdivant, Joani Taylor, Martha Wallace, Vienna Watkins, Larry D. White, and Shirley Wilson-Rose. ❖

# ART ON MAIN

a community of artists

466-B Main Street • Murphys, CA • 209-728-1888  
[www.artonmainmurphys.com](http://www.artonmainmurphys.com)

The *Museletter* is produced by the following members of Art on Main gallery.

Copy Editor: Marian Swanson • Copy Editor: Annie Fountain • Content Editor: Patricia Cherry • Graphics: Karen O'Neill

You are receiving this newsletter because you have requested to be part of our email newsletter list, made a purchase at our gallery, have purchased artwork from one of our artists, or entered one of our drawings. If you no longer wish to receive these mailings, just reply to this email, put the word "unsubscribe and your name" as the subject, and you will be removed from the list.