

**Wisconsin Visual Artists
South Central Chapter**

Meeting Minutes February 18, 2020

Program

The South Central Chapter member meeting was held at the Holiday Inn Express, 610 John Nolen Dr., Madison, 6:30-9 pm.

Welcome

Don Friedlach, a new member introduced himself and his mediums: jewelry, metalsmithing, and glass. The rest of the members introduced themselves, their medium, and any art shows.

Reports

The airport show is up until July 26. Janet Nelson reports Tandem is handling the reception, which will be March 21, 1-3 pm. She requests people attending the reception to go to the Facebook page and add themselves to the event. Janet also has leftover packing materials, if anyone is missing theirs.

The West Bend MOWA Biennial Show goes to March 29 and Alverno College in Milwaukee until February 29.

Jayne relayed the treasurer report balance.

Announcements

The state board will be electing new state officers. The president will be Jennie Gao, currently vice president. The Northeast Chapter chairperson may volunteer to be vice president.

Allie Wilbur is the new Executive Director. She works at adult programming and manages the gift shop for MOWA.

Mary Tilton and Jayne will receive training on the state WVA web site. A third person would also be welcome.

Program

Jayne presented the process of mezzotint, passed around tools, and spoke about the International Mezzotint Festival show in Ekaterinburg, Russia. The International Mezzotint Society, which Jayne leads, started in 2009 and brings artists and collectors together for the technique. Mezzotints, or halftones of black to white gradients, date back to the 1600's. Printmaking makes art affordable for common people. In the 1800's mezzotints were replaced by photography and lithography. There was renewed interest in the process in the 20th century. Paper makes them less expensive than paintings, and there are no toxic chemicals used to make the plate, but rather a mechanical process. Jayne started in the 1990's working with Andrew Balkin and purchased Carol Wax's book, *The Mezzotint*, to further her understanding. Copper plates are rocked back and forth with a tool that makes a dot pattern where the ink will go. She transfers her image to the plate and then uses different burnishing tools to create highlights that polish the surface. She heats the copper plate, applies ink, wipes excess from the surface, and makes proofs until satisfied with the image. Then the plate can be printed into an edition of multiple prints. She enjoyed her trip meeting people and learning different ways to make mezzotints.

New Business

March meeting: Art is in the Air reception

April

May

June meeting: critique

July

August meeting: picnic

The meeting adjourned around 9 pm.

Merikay Payne, secretary