

June 2010 Newsletter

Dear Friends of Heartland Gallery,

I would like to share with you a little bit about some of our recently acquired new artists:

**Vera Gaffney (Boyle, Co. Roscommon, Ireland)** – We have limited edition signed giclee prints of Vera’s oil paintings. Her abstract Irish landscapes are “expressive, dramatic and colourful, providing a true window into the essence of Ireland’s history, memory and imagination.”

**Brenda McGinn, Busy Bee Ceramics (Monaghan, Ireland)** – Brenda’s hand- sculpted ceramic gift items reflect designs in nature and Celtic tradition. They include a selection of claddagh-themed items such as mugs, vases, candlesticks and a wedding “engagement” bell, and all come neatly packaged in bright red gift boxes suitable for any occasion gift-giving.

**Gail Kelly, Algan Arts (Crossgar, Co. Down, N. Ireland)** – Come and see Gail’s unique range of fine art cards, all based on her prints and paintings. Her “sacred” tree cards are prints of her linocuts, which are printed on linen. Other cards convey the sacred mythological sites, monuments, and icons of Ireland and Great Britain, and are prints of her etchings, woodcuts and watercolour paintings.

I also want to give you an update on some of the upcoming events that were mentioned in the last newsletter and to let you know about a couple of additional ones. First of all, I regret to inform you that the Heartland Gallery Irish Festival planned for June 12<sup>th</sup> and the Scottish Festival planned for July have both been postponed until a later time, due to scheduling conflicts with musicians and conflicts with other major events here in town. However, we will still be having an Irish-themed event on June 12th in the form of a tea party. Please see the event listing below for more info.

**Saturday, June 5 (10am–5pm) Art Gallery Bicycle Tour** – second annual urban bike tour sponsored by Peter Davis of Champaign Cycle with the participation of many galleries and small shops throughout Champaign-Urbana. Tune up your bicycle if you haven’t already and spend the day touring Champaign and Urbana like you’ve never seen them before. Art can be found everywhere, from the sculptures at Meadowbrook Park to the galleries that line Main St. and Lincoln Square Village in Urbana, and to those scattered throughout Champaign. Heartland Gallery will, of course, be a participating venue and will donate a prize basket of Irish goods worth over \$75, so please stop in and enjoy a cold drink before heading to your next stop on the trail. We encourage you to eat at one of the many fine participating restaurants for your lunch. You can easily turn this into an exciting family activity that your loved ones will never forget. The registration fee is only \$15, and all proceeds will be donated to 40 North/88 West, Champaign County’s Arts, Culture and Entertainment Council. For more info or to download a registration form, please go to [www.40north.org](http://www.40north.org).

**Saturday, June 12 (11am-2pm)– Ultimate “Second” Saturday “Irish Tea”** – This event is free and is co-sponsored by Heartland Gallery and Sylvia’s Irish Inn ([www.lindleyhouse.cc](http://www.lindleyhouse.cc)). Fancy a cup of tea? Join us here at the gallery for a selection of Irish teas (iced and hot) and a bit of conversation. There will be tables and chairs set up both outdoors under the awning and inside the

gallery for your dining pleasure. We will be providing free samples of Irish cheeses, tea cakes and soda breads (with genuine Irish butter and jams) along with your tea. If you have not sampled Sylvia's tasty breads before, let me just say that we think she bakes the most delicious Irish soda bread this side of the Atlantic.

Please note: The July Second Saturday (July 10) event will revolve around a book signing and readings by Illinois author Andrea Jones, whose recent novel "Hook and Jill" has won numerous book awards and can be purchased right here at Heartland Gallery. Our August event (August 14) will be a mini Welsh Festival at Heartland Gallery and possibly another venue. More info will be included in the next newsletter.

**Sunday, June 20<sup>th</sup> – Father's Day** – Don't forget to make a stop at the gallery during the weeks ahead to check out our ideas for unique Father's Day gifts. For example, we have new Celtic silk ties designed by Patrick Francis of Dublin, leather wallets by Lee River of Cork, linen caps by Hanna Hats of Donegal, linen handkerchiefs by Ulster Linen Co., pewter flasks by Mullingar and St. Justin, men's jewelry by Shanore, and lots of new puzzles and games.

**Tuesday, June 22 – Tim Britton & Brian Miller Concert (Irish/Celtic)** - This event, sponsored by the Piper's Hut and hosted by Heartland Gallery, features Tim Britton on uilleann pipes, whistles and flute, and Brian Miller on guitar and vocals. Tickets are \$10-20 and can be purchased online at [www.pipers-hut.com](http://www.pipers-hut.com), or at the door. However, reservations are strongly requested as seating is limited. Please call the gallery at 217-337-4767, or e-mail Dean Karres at [pipers-hut@gmail.com](mailto:pipers-hut@gmail.com) to make a reservation.

In addition, there are several other events that I would like to mention. These are not Heartland Gallery events but they may be of interest to you.

Thursday, June 3 – **"Picasso at the Lapin Agile"** written by Steve Martin and performed by the Celebration Company at the Station Theatre 223 N. Broadway. An opening night reception will take place at Heartland Gallery on Thursday evening after the performance. For more info, please see [www.stationtheatre.com](http://www.stationtheatre.com). Call 217-384-4000 to make a reservation.

Friday, Saturday and Sunday, June 11-13<sup>th</sup> – **Taste of Champaign-Urbana**. Spend your Saturday morning and early afternoon here in downtown Urbana, then head to downtown Champaign for this well-known annual event in West Side Park.

Friday & Saturday, June 18-19 – **2010 Scottish Festival & Highland Games**, at the polo grounds in Oakbrook, IL and sponsored by the Illinois St. Andrews Society. I encourage you to visit this event for a fun-filled day of ancient Scottish sports, highland piping and dancing, and tasty food choices.

June 17 – 20 and 25-27 – **"Willy Wonka"** performed by the Champaign Urbana Theatre Company at the Parkland College Theatre. For more info, please see [www.cutc.org](http://www.cutc.org).

**Many thanks, as always, for your continued support.**