

NEWS YOU CAN USE
March 2023, Volume Ten
**“Stars and Stripes
Forever”**



Everyone who visits the murals in Wittenberg seems to come away with a “favorite” one (or two or three). Brooke Jorgensen has brought many friends to Wittenberg to tour the murals. One year she made it her goal to locate E.J. Homme in every mural. Brooke chose “Stars and Stripes Forever,” a 2009 mural by hometown Wittenberg artist Beth Koepfel as her favorite. Brooke says one of the reasons she likes it so much is because of the vibrant colors. Another reason is the thrill of finding E.J. Homme in this mural. It is one of the most challenging, and he is found in a very unique spot.



Stars and Stripes

Muralist Beth Koepfel

In 2009 Beth Koepfel was a student at a university in Minnesota, working through the summer at Lisa's Bakery in her hometown of Wittenberg. Members of WOW met at the bakery, discussing what could be done with the wall on the Post Office. Artist Alicia Rheal recalled Beth as a high school art student who was involved in the painting of the mural on the grocery store, and Beth was encouraged to submit ideas for a new mural on the Post Office. Something bright and geometric was suggested.

She began drafting everything from geometric designs to large, bold flowers. All were rejected by the post office, which requested something to do with stamps or flags.

Beth's final design is on the post office today, depicting an actual 44 cent flag stamp. It is simplified for a more geometric look, then repeated in varying colors, inspired by the style of Andy Warhol.

Beth began painting in mid-July, completing the mural the night before she returned to school in Minnesota. The brick wall was so porous that it took 16 gallons of primer paint just so Beth could start. Next came the tedious measuring and marking, then finally the painting. The final step of outlining all of the patterns was very time consuming.

Her goal was to make it bright and fun, and also to introduce a style of art not yet seen in any of the other murals. And of course, as in all of our murals, E.J is hidden...somewhere.

ART PARTNERS

PROGRAM

Individuals and businesses



may
became
**Art
Partners**
by making
an annual

contribution to support the
work of **WOW**. This is a
**critical component of our
operating budget**. We
look forward to greeting
new Art Partners;
individuals, businesses and
organizations are all
welcome

Highlights of 2022:

"ART OF THE QUILTER VIII - QUILTY AS CHARGED"

January 22 - February 6, 2022 ~ WOWSPACE

The Art of the Quilter VIII - Quilty as Charged quilt show at the Walls of Wittenberg WOWSPACE was enjoyed by over 200 visitors. This non-juried, non-judged show ran for 3 weekends and included 40 quilts representing the work of 26 different quilters from 18 different cities. It also featured 2 antique Grandmother's Flower Garden creations and a disappearing quilt block tutorial display.

Rose Grych of Wausau, WI received the Award of Excellence for her quilt titled My Fresh Cut



Flower Garden. Rose's quilt was a colorful wool applique embellished with intricate embroidery. This award recognizes the high level of technical skill and difficulty employed by the quilter. The recipient is chosen

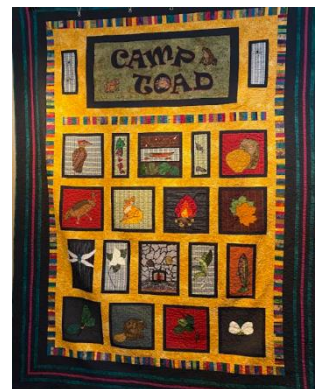
by local quilt club quilters with entries in the show.

3 Peoples' Choice awards were presented based on votes cast by visitors to the show who were asked to vote for the quilt or quilts which appealed to them the most. Each visitor was allowed 3 votes.

1st place went to Marge Beine of Hatley, WI for Purple Elephant. Marge used paper piecing techniques to create the mosaic effect.



2nd place was awarded to Victoria Reigel of Birnamwood, WI for Friendship, Memories and Hope (Camp Toad). Her quilt commemorates the life and love of her husband and gives praise to how women often bless the lives of other women.



3rd place was awarded to Barb Boettcher of Crivitz, WI for My Quilt of Life. Incorporating a sampler of colorful pieced blocks of varying sizes appliqued with silhouettes in black, her quilt commemorates many significant events that have made up her life thus far.



DUELING PIANOS

February 11, 2022 ~ WOWSPACE

The WOWSPACE was once again filled with folks who cheered and sang along while they were watching and listening to dueling pianos on February 11th, 2022!



This event is a fundraiser for the WOW art park and we saw many new faces this year. Many complimented that they would be back next year as they danced their way out the door into the



frigid cold.....
February 10th, 2023 is the date reserved for 2023. This is one of

WOW'S most successful fundraisers for what President Elaine Knab refers to as a "One Nighter"!!! Come join us!



MURDER MYSTERY DINNER THEATRE

*Fridays and
Saturdays,
March 25th & 26th
and April 1st &
2nd ~
WOWSPACE*

Sam Spade and The Case of the Malted Falcon by Tony Schwartz and Marylou Ambrose was this year's Murder Mystery dinner theatre at the WOWSPACE. Audience members worked hard to solve this whodunit, hoping to garner one of the fabulous prizes traditionally awarded to super sleuths.



2510 Restaurant of Wausau were the caterers for the dinner, and the Crossroads Community Theatre members had the audience laughing and scratching their heads, trying to figure out who the murderer was.

WINE, BEER & CHEESE GALA

Friday, April 22, 2022



The 2022 Wine, Beer and Cheese Gala on April 22nd attracted many locals who were happy to be out to enjoy what has always been considered a, "Let's celebrate spring is here!" event. The event featured local and regional craft

beers, wine and ciders donated by Fabiano Brothers. The 101 North Wine Collection from California was enjoyed by many—Moscato, Pinot Grigio, Chardonnay and Cabernet Sauvignon. Look for them in your local shopping markets. Complimentary cheeses and meats were donated by both Nueske's Smoked Meats along with Mullins Cheese. Cheese lovers feasted on all sorts of cheeses from around the state while enjoying

the savory Nueske's ham and turkey complimented by donated BBQ meatballs from Lisa's Catering. This popular fundraising event for WOW also granted you live entertainment by Julie Krolow while you strolled through the WOWSPACE where you not only could admire the art pieces entered into the 9th juried Artists' Free Play art show but also had an option to purchase their work. It was a great night for folks who fancy good wine, beer and cheese (and meats) along with art.

ARTISTS' FREE PLAY IX

Saturdays and Sundays, April 23 to May 8th, 2022 ~
WOWSPACE

The "Artists' Free Play: IX" juried art show continued through May 8th. This show offered the greatest latitude possible for creativity. It included photography, painting, mixed media, three-dimensional work, etc. Awards went to: Best of Show - Blaine Koch for his Cherry and Maple Diamond Wood Basket, Awards of Excellence - Elaine Groshek for her acrylic painting "Freedom At Latch" and Cindy Martin for her water color painting "Lost Falls" and Awards of Honor - David Windey for his stainless steel aluminum "Pink Rose" and Annie Bonham for her water color painting "African Women".



This show was sponsored by Ho-Chunk Gaming Wittenberg and Friends of WOW. The 2023 Wine, Beer and Cheese Gala will be on Friday, April 14th and the Artists' Free Play: X will continue every weekend until April 30th.

EMERGING TALENT VIII

Saturdays and Sundays, May 29th - June 13th 2022

11AM-3PM ~ WOWSPACE

As in the past shows, the Witt-Birn District students put on another delightful show with over 100 pieces of art on display, from grades K - 12. The art was chosen by the district art teachers over the course of the 2021-2022 school year, putting aside pieces chosen to be included in the spring show.

The show extended for 3 weekends with the culminating weekend part of the



"Happy Moon and Sun"
Kaleigh Fleischman Grade 3

Wittenberg Community Days, with over a dozen of the participants riding on the WOW wagon in the parade. A reception at the WOWSPACE Gallery



"The California Egyptian"
By McKenna Underwood
Grade 2

was enjoyed by all, supporting, congratulating, and picture taking of the lucky participants! The creativity and talent of

these students are always refreshing and enjoyed by all who visit!

Refreshments were donated by Lisa's Sweet Shoppe and Catering, and the show was sponsored by WOW and Cirrinity.

Summer Concert Series

Tuesdays, June 13, July 12, August 16
WOWSPACE Art Park

Walls of Wittenberg had a delightful summer concert series in 2022! We kicked it off on June 13 with **Sloppy Joe** who regaled us with their unique blend of bluegrass and old-timey tunes. The weather was sunny and HOT! With the temperature topping 90 degrees, it was pleasant with a gentle breeze. Delicious food was served (Sloppy Joe Sandwiches!) by the Redeemer Church group. And of course there were free ice cream cones. In July **Open Tab** entertained us with contemporary and recent hits. Rain was threatening, so the concert was held in the WOWSPACE with about 80 guests. Yummy Nachos were sold by the Fire Department, and of course, there were ice cream cones. The **Drovers** played for us in the Art Park on August 16 to about 200 guests, who enjoyed delightful toe-tapping tunes in perfect summer weather. The Homme Foundation sold delectable walking tacos and of course, many ice cream cones were consumed. Other attractions included a lucrative 50/50 drawing, and a very educational presentation of One Room Schoolhouses in the WOWSPACE, sponsored by the Historical Society.

FALL ART SHOW

Saturdays and Sundays, September 18th - October 3rd ~
WOWSPACE

"Life Through the Lens" was presented by five photographers who were invited to participate in WOW's annual fall show. Those sharing their amazing talents were Roger Bloemers of Wausau, Brian Gutheinz of Bowler, Hans Schmitt of Birnamwood, Tom Walchesky of Howards Grove, and Brent Zeinert of Wittenberg. Contrary to what many people think, photography is much more than snapping a pretty picture, and this was certainly proven by the 50 pictures that were

entered for this juried show. Each photographer brought 10 of his best for the exhibit in the WOWSPACE gallery. The judge for the show was Curt Knoke who is a retired professional photographer.

Roger Bloemers won the Best of Show for his "Milkyway Over New Hope"; Hans Schmitt won the Award of Excellence for his, "Order & Chaos"; Tom Walchesky won an Honorable Mention for his "Friday Night Lights"; and Roger Bloemers won an Honorable Mention for his "A Walk in the Fog". All five photographers were present for the Grand Opening afternoon greeting guests and enjoying good photography conversation among themselves. Refreshments were also served, compliments of Nueske Meats, Wagner Shell, and fresh apple cider from Kelly and Dan Kapitz. Thank you to all who visited and supported WOW's fall show, "Life Through the Lens".



Left to right: Tom Walchesky, Brian Gutheinz, Roger Bloemers, Hans Schmitt, and Brent Zeinert

FALL THEATRE PRODUCTION

Fridays & Saturdays,
October 7th and 8th and 14th and 15th~ WOWSPACE

"The Red Velvet Cake War"

By Jones, Hope and Wooten

This year's play was a southern-fried comedy, centering on three cousins who decided to host a



family reunion to one-up their aunt. The eccentric Verdeen family gathered on the hottest day of July, smack-dab in the middle of Texas tornado season. Things quickly spun out of control when a neighbor's pet devoured everything edible, a one-eyed suitor showed up to declare his love, and a wager was made to see who could bake the best red velvet cake. The audience was treated to red velvet cupcakes at intermission, and of course the many laughs the play had in store.

COMMUNITY CHRISTMAS TREE DECORATING AND LIGHTING

December 2nd Art Park

It was the most wonderful time of the year here in Wittenberg when we had our annual lighting of the Christmas tree in the WOW Art Park on



December 2. The Wittenberg Birnamwood High School Choir arrived joyously in bounds and filled the stage, where they began the very first carol...."O Christmas Tree"! As everyone joined in with the choir, the tree lights came on and started to glisten the audience ahhhhhhhed ... then the local fire truck arrived with Santa and Mrs.Claus. The little ones giggled as they munched their cookies and sipped their cider. It truly was a community event: the Wittenberg Chamber sponsored the cookies, cider, and goodie bags for the kids along with reserving Santa and the Mrs. for the night. Thor Anderson of the Wittenberg Fire Department transported the special couple; WOW volunteers had embellished the tree and Art Park with additional lights and other festive decorations; Melissa Gauderman and the Wittenberg-Birnamwood high school choir led the crowd into an old fashioned Christmas Carol sing-along. The Community was now ready for the Christmas holiday season. Happy New Year to all!!

CHRISTMAS CRAFT AND BAKE SALE

December 3rd 3-8PM and

December 4th 9AM-3PM~ WOWSPACE

The first full weekend in December found the WOWSPACE in downtown Wittenberg bustling with excitement for their annual Christmas Craft Fair. The WOWSPACE can accommodate 18 vendors. We had 8 new vendors this year. Their crafts included evergreen Christmas wreaths, framed photography, Christmas and snowmen glassware, Christmas decorations, journals, fabric wreaths, quilting and maple syrups, all of which filled our WOWSPACE. Our regular vendors did not disappoint either; our goat soaps, art work, sewing and crochet projects, jewelry, signs and mesh wreaths, children's clothing and flannel hats and capes, and

recycled dishes were readily available for purchase. The baked goods table was full of Christmas goodies. We at the WOWSPACE would like to thank everyone who took the time to stop by and shop our unique, homemade crafts. See you next year!!

After more than a decade the Walls of Wittenberg Mural Booklet was finally updated in 2020! It now captures all the information about WOW as well as our new murals as of 2020! Thanks to Dynamic Designs it has a very eye catching look to it! Thank you Dynamic Designs for donating a portion of your design work. Drop by the WOWSPACE or local businesses to purchase your own copy!



LOOKING AHEAD TO 2023:

Quilt Show

Saturdays and Sundays, January 21st - February 5th, 2023
11AM - 3PM ~ WOWSPACE

"Art of the Quilter IX: Sew Inspired" is the title of this year's quilt show. January is the perfect time of year to view cozy, colorful quilts! This show will feature the talents of many area quilters. Please check our website for updated information.

Dueling Pianos

Friday, February 10, 2023
7PM ~ 10PM WOWSPACE

Join us for something fun! Limited tickets are available. This entertaining show will

feature singers who will take your requests and keep you enlightened and entertained throughout the evening with comedy and music from classic rock to the 80's hits to modern hip hop! They aim to please all ages! See our website for further details.

Murder Mystery Dinner Theatre

Fridays and Saturdays,
March 3rd and 4th and March 10th and 11th
6PM - 9PM ~ WOWSPACE

Join us at the WOWSPACE for a marvelous meal, mayhem, mystery, and of course a murder! This event has become an annual favorite for many area sleuths. This year's show is "Murder on the Menu" by Bill Hand. Tickets are purchased in advance at Sentry Foods or by calling 715-253-3525. Check our website for more information!

Wine, Beer and Cheese Gala

Friday, April 14, 2023,
7-10 PM ~ WWOWSPACE

Fabulous Food, Winning Wines and Brewery Fresh Beers will abound at this 12th annual event. It is the perfect way to welcome spring as you enjoy an evening with friends and neighbors. We open the **Spring Art Show** tonight. Tax deductible tickets are available for \$25 in advance. Check our website for details or call 715-253-3525.

Spring Art Show

Saturdays and Sundays, April 15-April 30, 2023
11AM - 3PM WOWSPACE

"Artists' Freeplay X" welcomes art of any kind by any artist! This favorite show features a wide, eclectic collection of artwork by a variety of area artists. The show opens

during the Wine, Beer and Cheese Gala then is open to the public weekends through April 30th.

Wittenberg Area Rummage Sale

Saturday, May 6, 2023

8AM - 3PM WOWSPACE Art Park

Something new this year, as we offer members of the community to rent a table and spot in the Art Park to participate in the community rummage sale. The WOWSPACE will be available if it rains so people can take advantage of the sale rain or shine!

"Emerging Talent IX"

Saturdays and Sundays, May 27th - June 11th 2023

11AM-3PM ~ WOWSPACE

Join us as we celebrate the refreshing artwork of Wittenberg-Birnamwood students. This is our 8th year showcasing the talents of our district students. **Please check our website for updated information.**

Second Tuesday Concert

Tuesday, June 13, 2023 ~ 6-8 PM ~ WOW Art Park

Yata, Sinz, and Orfield will join us for our first concert of the summer! As always, the Concert is free to the public, sponsored by The Doris & Irving Hanson Memorial Fund, incrediblebank, Crossroads Community Theatre, and Walls of Wittenberg! Bring chairs, a picnic supper or snacks and beverages to enjoy. Food will be sold on grounds by an area organization. Donations are always welcome. In case of rain, the concert will be held in the WOWSPACE. **Please check our website for updated information.**

Second Tuesday Concert

Tuesday, July 11, 2023 ~ 6-8 PM ~ WOW Art Park

Tonight former Wittenberg resident **Mike McAbee** will be our guest. As always, the Concert is free to the public, sponsored by The Doris & Irving Hanson Memorial Fund, incredible bank, Crossroads Community Theatre, and Walls of Wittenberg! Bring chairs, a picnic supper or snacks and beverages to enjoy. Food will be sold on grounds by Redeemer Lutheran Church of Wittenberg. Donations are always welcome. In case of rain, the concert will be held in the WOWSPACE. **Please check our website for updated information.**

Tuesday Concert

Tuesday, August 15, 2023 ~ 6-8 PM ~ WOW Art Park

The **Drovers** will be here tonight, playing all the songs you love in their familiar style. As always, the Concert is free to the public, sponsored by The Doris & Irving Hanson Memorial Fund, Incredible bank, Crossroads Community Theatre, and Walls of Wittenberg! Bring chairs, a picnic supper or snacks and beverages to enjoy. Food will be sold on grounds by Wittenberg Area Fire Department. Donations are always welcome. In case of rain, the concert will be held in the WOWSPACE. **Please check our website for updated information.**

Annual Fall Art Show ~ TBA

Saturdays and Sundays, September 17th - October 2nd,

2022 ~ 11AM - 3PM ~ WOWSPACE

Please check our website for updated information.

Fall Theatre Production

Fridays and Saturdays, October 20th and 21st and 27th and 28th, 2023 ~ 7PM ~ WOWSPACE

This fall we plan to perform the sequel to **The Red Velvet Cake War**, our show from last year. **Rex's Exes** is the second in the trilogy of comedy plays written by Hope, Jones and Wooten. The Verdeen cousins Peaches, Gaynelle and Jimmy Wyvette, along with Aunt Lamerle and Uncle Aubry and their relatives and friends will be on hand to ensure healthy laughs and sunny smiles.

Please check our website for updated information.

Community Christmas Tree Lighting

December 1, 2023 ~ 7:00 PM ~ WOW Art Park

Help us start the holiday season as we light our Community Christmas Tree in the Art Park. Refreshments and Caroling fun for all!

Please check our website for updated information.

Christmas Craft And Bake Sale

*Friday, December 1, 2023 ~ 3-8 PM and
Saturday, December 2, 2023 ~ 9AM - 3PM ~
WOWSPACE*

Start out your month with this fun craft and bake sale, guaranteed to get your Christmas shopping off to a good start! Find gifts for family and friends and baked goods to enjoy now or later. **Please check our website for updated information.**

Please visit our web site:

www.wallsofwittenberg.com for
periodic updates, event information,
and learning more about the Walls of
Wittenberg

Walls of Wittenberg volunteer meetings are held the first Tuesday of each month at 5:00 pm. Everyone is welcome with ideas, and everyone has an opportunity to volunteer.

Phone: 715-253-3525

Email: wallsofwitt@gmail.com

We Thank Our 2022 Art Partners

Lifetime Partners: Joe & Kathy Gwidt Susan Hanson Bob Nueske Lois Smith

Individuals and businesses that made an annual membership contribution in 2022 that is vital in supporting WOW include:

Diamond Palette - \$2500 +

Charitable Foundation Jerry & Andrea Nelson

Platinum Palette - \$1,000 - \$2499

Teressa Knab Jean Sredl
Town of Wittenberg

Gold Palette - \$500 - \$999

Gwidt Pharmacy

Silver Palette - \$300 - \$499

Curt & Marty Knoke Jack & Elaine Diffor
Pam Laking & Blaine Koch Anita Principi

Bronze Palette - \$200 - \$299

Tom Andrews Rick Froom
Richard & Nell Mace Victoria Reigel Smart Move Realty
Szmanda Dental Office Village of Wittenberg Wittenberg Lion's Club

Copper Palette - \$100 - \$199

Deo Almazar Karl & Lois Anderson Dick & Mary Beversdorf Reuben & Kay Carlson
Roger & Margaret Chase John & Lisa Gast Roger & Mona Hanson Dale & Meg Hartleben
Tom Hennessy Dan & Kelly Kapitz Miriam Nelson Cheryl Peterson
Roger Wendler Darwin & Elizabeth Zeinert

Basic Membership - \$50 - \$99

Banner Banks Greg Bunker Linda Philipp & Mark Felix Calon & Ann Hawley

In-Kind Donors

Alan Clough Mullins Cheese evolutions in design Fabiano Brothers Hanke's Sentry Foods
Cathy Kirk Lisa's Sweet Shoppe Bakery & Catering Nueske's Applewood Smoked Meats
Shops on Grand Wagner Shell Food Mart Wittenberg Area Chamber of Commerce

Show Sponsors

Cirrinity Central Wisconsin Electrical Coop Nueske's Applewood Lane Alpacas
Pinery Patches Shops on Grand Wittenberg Ho-Chunk Gaming

Thank You to Our Current Board Members:

These are WOW members elected to serve the organization. As with everyone within WOW, all are volunteers.

President: Elaine Knab

Vice-President: Elaine Diffor

Secretary: Ann Hawley

Treasurer: Elaine Knab

Members at Large:

Lois Anderson

Marge Hartleben

Karen Hendrikson

Mary Beth Koeppel

Miriam Nelson

Nancy Pehlke

Paul Pehlke

Barb Resch

Steve Vera

Thank You to Our 2022 Committee Chairs:

Murals: Elaine Diffor

Art Park: Elaine Knab

Building: Steve Vera

Quilt Show: Mary Koeppel

DU ELING Pianos: Elaine Knab & Tarrie Beran

Dinner Theatre: Miriam Nelson, Lois Anderson, Nancy Pehlke

Wine, Beer, and Cheese Gala: Barb Resch, Elaine Knab

Spring Art Show: Elaine Knab

Emerging Talents: Elaine Diffor

Summer Concerts: Marge Hartleben

Fall Art Show: Elaine Diffor

Fall Theatre Show: Miriam Nelson, Lois Anderson, Nancy Pehlke

Community Christmas Tree Lighting: Elaine Knab

Christmas Craft Show: Karen Hendrikson

“News You Can Use”: Lois Anderson, Committee Chair