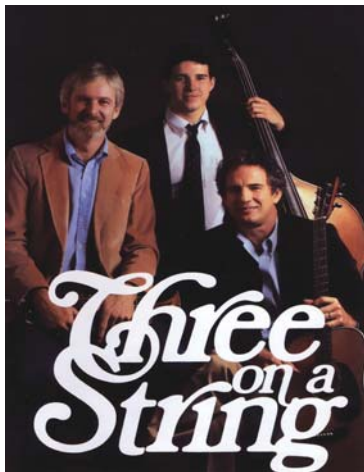


January/February 2007

GAHA is endorsed and supported by the Georgia Council for the Arts, Gilmer County and the cities of Ellijay and East Ellijay.

# Arts in Ellijay

*Gilmer Arts and Heritage Association  
Dedicated to promoting the arts in Ellijay*



## Upcoming Show Unites Comedy and Music

Join the Gilmer Arts and Heritage Association on Saturday, February 3, 2007, 7:30 pm at the Ellijay Elementary School Auditorium. Three on a String will be performing as the second concert of the B.E.S.T. Series.

Three on a String

performs many different kinds of music: old standards, country, classical, blue grass, and folk. Their three-part harmony has a unique and pleasing blend. Be prepared to sit back, relax and enjoy some great music and a comedy routine that will guarantee an

evening full of enjoyment and laughter!

Ticket prices range from \$10 to \$30. Please call GAHA to reserve your seats at (706) 635-5605.

## Artists and Visitors Declare Tour a Success

The Artist Tour, held on a beautiful weekend in November, was a great success. The sixteen artists at six locations kept guest books. If the book at the GAHA gallery was representative, hun-

dreds of visitors from all over the North Georgia area visited Gilmer County to look and buy. If you were one of the visitors and saw a piece of art that caught your eye and now regret not pur-

chasing it, give us a call at 706-635-5605 and we will contact the artist for you.

Plans are already underway for next year's tour to be held November 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup>. If you are an artist and

would like to be considered, give us a call at (706) 635-5605.

## The Heritage Museum of Gilmer County Officially Opens

Interested in history, folklore, moonshine, Cherokees, lifestyles of the pioneers? Check out the Heritage Museum of Gilmer County, open Monday through Friday from 9 to 5:30 pm. It is located in the Gilmer Arts and Heritage Association facility at 207 Dalton Street.

The museum covers life in this area over the last 12,000 years. It gives a new meaning to *Gilmer native*. Discover how families were divided between the Union

and the Confederacy and how the Cherokees lived when they were arrested and removed from their lands.

Questions and answers are interspersed throughout the interactive museum. Some artifacts are 10,000 years old. Most are from the 19th and 20th centuries. A rotating display currently features *Housewares through the Ages*.

The next display, which begins in January, will spotlight *Music in Appalachia*. If you have any appro-

priate items for that display, contact GAHA. All items are locked behind glass cases and are video monitored. Items loaned for a rotating exhibit will be on exhibit for four months and then returned to the owner. The third exhibit will be the *Southern Work Ethic*.

The formal dedication of the museum was held in early November. State Representative David Ralston, a Gilmer native, spoke on behalf of the Governor. Morris Parks represented the local



*Rep. Ralston addresses audience at museum dedication.*

citizenry. Al and Lisa Hoyle entertained the group with some of their favorite songs.

## Enjoy our Next CoffeeHouse January 20

GAHA will sponsor a CoffeeHouse Saturday, January 20, to showcase local musicians.

Performing at our first CoffeeHouse of 2007 will be the group Barefoot Creek. With an early Grand Ole Opry sound, this is the closest you can get to sister harmony without being kin.

The artists are Sarrah Ellen McDonald, Tonia Conner and their guitar slave, Jim Pittman.

Please join us for a fun evening at 7 pm in the Hawthorne Room of the GAHA building. There is no cover charge; however, we gladly accept donations to cover the cost of coffee and dessert.

"We are excited to schedule a series of CoffeeHouses at GAHA this year," says Kelly Adams-McBride, chair for these events. "We hope to offer a wide variety of local talent for your enjoyment. We appreciate any suggestions for guest artists."



## Seeking Actors for *Granddad Steps Out*

GAHA is currently seeking actors to audition for the upcoming performance of *Granddad Steps Out*. "We had originally intended to perform *The Odd Couple*.

However, due to casting conflicts, we were unable to perform this production," says Carol B. Moore, chair of the GAHA Community Theatre. "We are always on

the lookout for new talent." Performance dates are March 1, 2, 3, 8, 9 and 10 at 7:00 pm at GAHA. Please contact Carol if you would be interested in auditioning

for a part or would like to help behind the scenes at (706) 276-4471.

## GAHA Welcomes New Office Staff

In August, Gilmer Arts and Heritage welcomed two new employees - Tammy Bravo and Bev Kuseliauskas.



Tammy Bravo, a graduate of Reinhardt College, is a resident of Pickens County and comes to GAHA with a

background in graphics design. She is responsible for all advertising and publicity.

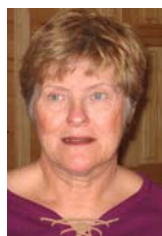
Tammy and her high school sweetheart, Angelo, have been married for twenty-two years. They have two children—Michael who is in the Army Reserves attending North Georgia College and Kristina who plays percussion in the band at Pickens County Middle School.

The Bravos are members of the First Baptist Church in Jasper and have participated in eleven church mission trips

ranging from the coal mines of Lynch, Kentucky to the beautiful scenery of West Yellowstone, Montana.

"We are pleased to have someone so creative and skilled as Tammy," says Joe Ragland, president of GAHA.

"I love the variety and people I meet as part of my position," says Tammy. "It is a pleasure to work with the board, members and artists who are all such an integral part of GAHA in bringing the arts to Gilmer County."



Bev Kuseliauskas was born and raised in Oak Park, IL, a suburb of Chicago. She attended the College of

DuPage. Bev has a background in administration, facilities, human resources, customer service and real estate and condo management.

She and Vid "escaped" the Chicago weather in May 2001 to move to sunny Florida.

Upon Vid's retirement they knew they wanted to get back to enjoying a slower lifestyle and four seasons again. They chose Ellijay as their home.

Bev and Vid are both active in the Ellijay Lions Club and enjoy anything to do with the outdoors whether it be hiking, kayaking, fishing or hunting. They have been married six years (going on fifty!) and met when Bev was widowed and answered Vid's personal ad in the local newspaper. They have five children and seven grandchildren between them.

"I am truly blessed to find a part-time position right here in Ellijay while still utilizing my skills. I thoroughly enjoy new challenges and learning new programs while interacting with my co-worker Tammy, the board, members,

artists and community leaders," says Bev.

"With the addition of Bev to our staff, we now have the balance of creativity and organization necessary for our success. Bev will keep us focused with her strong organization skills and attention to detail. She will handle the accounting and membership database for GAHA," says Ragland.

The office hours at GAHA are 9 to 5:30 pm, Monday through Friday. Stop by and meet Tammy and Bev!

## Ragland's Ramblings - Letter from the President

On December 2, the Atlanta Sacred Chorale performed an outstanding program, the first of the B.E.S.T. concerts this season. Comments heard that night were, "wonderful," "outstanding," "the best choral group I have heard."

The remaining concerts for the 2006/2007 B.E.S.T. season are Three on a String—February 2, Lovell Sisters—March 17, and

The Blackwoods—May 12. We have polled our membership and the audiences to determine the types of shows desired.

Our B.E.S.T. Committee has worked very hard to bring Ellijay a variety of talent. If you feel the mission to bring Ellijay sensational entertainment is worthwhile, please continue to purchase tickets and tell your friends and neighbors about the shows.

Through a concerted effort, we can keep B.E.S.T. concerts alive in Ellijay. Please help by sharing your thoughts and suggestions.

Joe

*Welcome  
New  
Board Members*

*Al Congdon  
Virginia Roberts  
Justin Wingate  
Lauren Blank*



## Shopping for Christmas at the Gallery

If you still have names on your shopping list, consider a gift of art. Three local artists are on display in the gallery.

Sheryl Holstein's display

of functional pottery includes brie bakers, chicken roasters, and teapots. If stained glass appeals to you, Lenzy Bond is displaying snowflakes, tree ornaments,

and panels. Terry Daniel offers two pieces of award-winning turned wood.

## Winter Classes Offered in Art and Drama

Gilmer Arts and Heritage Association continues to support the arts in our community by offering quality classes. Upcoming classes:

### **Beginner Acoustic Guitar**

Tuesdays, Jan. 6 - Feb. 27  
7:00 - 8:30 pm (ages 13+)  
Class Fee \$60

The instructor, Jim Pittman, has been performing and teaching guitar for over thirty years. Jim will instruct students in traditional acoustic music of the region, using a guitar flat pick.

### **Children's Drama**

Thursdays, Jan. 11 - Feb. 15  
3:30 - 5:30 pm (ages 8 - 12)  
Class Fee \$45

Penny Dalton works with children to build their confidence by developing speaking and acting abilities through drama.

### **Beginner Watercolor**

Thursdays, Jan. 4 - Jan. 25  
1:00 - 4:00 pm (Adult)  
Class Fee \$75, Supplies \$15  
Kathy Maas has been studying with various nationally-known watercolor artists/instructors for the last 20+ years. The class emphasis will be on basic color theory, color mixing, watercolor painting techniques, as well as material and brush choices.

### **Beaded Wire Candleholder**

Thursdays, Jan. 4 - Jan. 18  
6:30 - 8:30 pm (Adults)  
Class Fee \$30, Supplies \$7  
Lisa Cox, instructor, enjoys creating beautiful art using various techniques. During this class, students will make an intricate wire candleholder and paint their design.

### **Beg/Intermediate Watercolor**

Mon. & Tue., Feb. 5, 6, 12, 13  
10:00 - 12:30 pm (Adult)  
Class Fee \$70, Supplies \$15  
Joy Lyons is a well-known and popular teacher in the North Georgia area. Please don't miss this unique opportunity to learn watercolor techniques and create your own work of art.

### **Drawing/Painting**

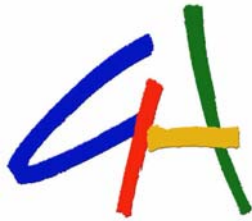
Tuesdays, Jan. 9 - Feb. 13  
3:30 - 5:00 pm (ages 12 - 16)  
Class Fee \$60, Supplies \$15  
Louisa Brown is an acclaimed art teacher who has taught art for many years. Natural materials will be used for inspiration for this class, incorporating a variety of drawing tools to learn to render precise images, as well as abstractions. To enhance your final drawing, various color combinations will be utilized using a wide range of oil pastels.

### **Yoga—Level 1 (Beginner)**

Tuesdays, Feb. 6 - Mar. 27  
10:30 - 11:30 am (Adult)  
Class Fee \$88

Heather Huck began practicing yoga in 1996 to rehabilitate her back and relieve pain caused by scoliosis. Today, she is a Registered Yoga Teacher (RYT) with the Yoga Alliance. Basic principles and postures of yoga are explored in this class. The standing poses and flow sequences will energize, while forward bends, twists and inversions ease and calm the mind.

*Start the New Year by  
doing something for yourself.  
Call GAHA at (706) 635-5605  
to reserve your space today!  
If you have not already joined  
GAHA, now's your chance as  
members receive a 10%  
discount on all class fees.*



**Gilmer Arts and Heritage Association**  
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www.gilmerarts.org

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## **Special Thanks to our Volunteers, Members, and Local Businesses**

Thanks to Beverly Martarella for her community involvement around the square with the DEMA Art' Round the Square Committee and with the Artist Studio Tour.

Thanks to Beth Pigott and her committee for their efforts in opening the Heritage Museum of Gilmer County.

Thanks to Jane Layman and Lisa Lacey for their hard work with the Community Chorus and the performance of the music of *Rodgers & Hammerstein*.

Thanks to Edna McClellan for chairing the annual Attic Sale. This event is one of GAHA's annual fundraiser events.

"The museum is the product of an outpouring of love from many people," says Beth

Pigott, chairman of the Heritage Committee. "So many people have shared their time, their talents, their gifts, and their heritage."

"Raymond E. Holt left funds for the establishment of a museum," says Pigott. Those monies allowed GAHA to purchase the building. "Others pitched in, giving, doing what they could.

Smitty's Engraving etched the museum quality plaques. Alan Young of Village Frames provided and cut foam board. Philip Goble installed plexi-glass provided by Ace Hardware. Clampitt's Electric wired the cabinets for lighting. ETC donated the monitoring system. Lowe's provided paint for cabinets. Jack Bearden constructed several wooden plaques. Tim Hilburn reassembled the large cabinets which came from Parisian.

Dorothy and Mack Logan donated materials. Rod Thomas created a shelf display for the geology area. Earl Cagle donated and loaned a number of items.

"Our prehistoric display is outstanding," says Pigott. "Thanks to Gary Hyde, we have an excellent display of points and a reproduction of an atlatl, a throwing spear used for thousands of years in this area. Sallie Gabree loaned us a reproduction of an harquebus, an ancient Spanish gun, similar to one that was unearthed in the Cartecay area."

"A number of artists contributed artwork to the museum. Their work enriches and beautifies the museum," says Pigott. Contributing artists are: Gayla Pankey - Chief Whitepath's home; Candy Day - Penland home; Sallie Gabree

- Whitepath Hotel; Barbara Edwards - apples/agriculture and Zada Jackson - early pioneers.

Artifacts are on loan from Hertis Key, Morris Parks, Ruth Caudell, Candy Day, Elaine and Phillip Goble, Leslie Thomas, Lillian Westmoreland, Diane Nealey, Beth and Wallace Bice, and Beverly Martarella.

"I hesitate to mention names of volunteers who helped, because there were so many from painting to proof reading, to hanging artifacts, to dry mounting photographs, designing displays and framing objects.," says Pigott. "It has taken a long time, but we have a museum that visitors and natives will enjoy and find challenging."