

Arts Circle Report to MERA AGM March 26, 2017

The Arts Circle, which meets on the first and third Friday mornings of the month, has grown to 16 artist members, and is continuing to thrive. The new members have brought their own skills to add to our creative knowledge. We learn from each other and move through our own lessons, following helpful books and benefitting from others' former training and experience.

Artist Catherine Blake is currently taking some of us through painting scenes focusing on creating water images.

The group took a trip to the National Art Gallery last fall. From that trip, we have expanded into art using shadow boxes.

To find out more about shadow boxes and other artistic styles created by the Circle, people will have to see our annual Arts Circle exhibition in June and possibly into July. The theme is to celebrate the 150th anniversary of our great country, and there are plans to fill the walls with our unique pieces. Last June, we mounted our second successful exhibition as well.

We are delighted that one of Circle members, Helen Mogford, will be mounting a solo exhibition in the fall here at MERA.

In addition, we worked hard in the fall of 2016 to create hundreds of one-of-a-kind Christmas and all-occasion cards. We sold these hand created cards as part of the annual MERA Christmas Fair and netted over \$600 for MERA.

So, we have a healthy and vibrant bunch of artists in our midst. How good is that!

The Arts Circle also helps out by setting up and setting all of the tables and chairs in February and March for 40 people for the 'Round the World on a Dinner Plate Friday night suppers, which is much appreciated.

by Gloria Lee-Shoebridge