

Dataaw Island Visual Arts Club
2017 Annual Report

VAC Leadership

Executive Board

President – Marj Shymske
Vice-President – Kathy McShane
Secretary – Peggy Len
Treasurer – Bobbi Weber
Past President – Bill Tremitiere
Historian – Dale Martin

Committee Chairs

Education – Brooke Schuster and Marj Shymske
Library – Patty Hopkins
Clay – Janet Bura
Mixed Media – Barb Carakostas
Communication – Lynn Baker
Date Line – Peggy Len
Special Events – Kathy McShane
Exhibits – Deak and Holly Fitzgerald
Studio Tours – Kathy Crowther
Volunteers – Bobbi Weber and Kathy Crowther
Photographer – Melanie Gentile
Membership – JoAnn Schneider (Jan-June), Kathy Kelenski (June-Dec.)

VAC Board Meetings were held on the first Monday of a month at 4:00PM in the Arts and Crafts Room at the DI Community Center. No meeting was held in July or August. The Annual Meeting was held on January 9th, 2017.

Financials

Balance in VAC account December 31, 2018 was \$6406.17.

Membership

2017 VAC Members were 266, 30 of whom were new members. To create awareness for VAC, Kathy Kelenski sent out communications to new residents inviting them to join. Along with Lynn Baker, Kathy also created a promotional piece “The 10 Reasons Why You Should Join VAC” which was sent by email to all Dataaw Island Club members. The VAC Membership application form was redesigned and placed on VAC Website.

Membership dues remained at \$15 per person per year.

Education

Three workshops took place every month with exception of some of summer months, Mixed Media, Mudslingers (Clay), and Card Club.

Over 8 different classes were offered throughout the year including rug hooking, drawing, oil painting, watercolor, calligraphy, sterling silver and bead jewelry making and iris paper folding.

Bob Wellborn ran a lecture of the life and times of John James Audubon to an audience of about 20 at the Community Center.

Communications

Lynn Baker with assistance from Marj Shymske worked with Complete Spectrum, Tampa, Florida to design and rebuild the VAC Website, which was launched in the spring. The new site includes History of VAC, a Gallery of art from all exhibits, pictures from events, listing of all learning materials available for our members in our library and a calendar noting all upcoming events.

Lynn Baker also created promotional pieces and regular email communications to all VAC Members keeping them apprised of upcoming events and educational/workshop opportunities.

Peggy Len and Lynn Baker were responsible for writing articles for Dateline, the DIC Quarterly Newsletter about events and happenings on Dataw Island.

Special Events

Exhibits – 4 Exhibits were held in 2017, Chaired by Holly and Deak Fitzgerald. They were One Square Foot, Inspired by the Bob Dylan Songbook, Black and White and Cityscapes. Prior to each event a Poster promoting the exhibit was created by Brooke Schuster along with post cards. Headed by Peggy Len, postcards were distributed to VAC volunteers who delivered cards one week prior to the event into the message box of all Dataw Residents. Posters were displayed in the Community Center and Club House.

Approximately 125 pieces of art were entered in the exhibits during the year, each hung in the Arts and Crafts room or on the ledges at the Community Center. The opening night of the event featured a reception which ran from 5:00-7:00PM and which included wine and appetizers. A People's Choice Award was given to the artist whose entry received the most votes.

Votes were cast by event attendees, tallied and announced the day after the event. Photographs of all art entries reside on the VAC Website, www.datawvisualarts.com .

In May, 40 VAC and Garden Club members traveled by motor coach to Litchfield, SC to visit Brookgreen Gardens. Offered in conjunction with the DI Garden Club, the groups spent 2 days touring the gardens and viewing the hundreds of pieces of sculpture of artists from all over the world.

Also in May, the movie Big Eyes, about the life of artist Margaret Keane, was shown at the community center.

On Mardi Gras, February 28, the VAC sponsored a Mardi Gras party at the Gazebo. Most of the participants wore homemade Mardi Gras masks, many of which had been made at a mask making workshop held earlier in the month. A prize was awarded to the best homemade mask.

Three collaborative events were held during the year, starting with Camp Dataw where VAC members worked with visiting children of Dataw families and made mobiles.

In November, in conjunction with the Dataw Historic Foundation, a contest was held amongst Dataw artists for the best interpretation of the history of Dataw Island. Artists' works were display in the Community Center for 2 weeks, giving residents an opportunity to view and vote on their favorite piece. An unveiling of the winners was held at the History and Learning Center during a wine and cheese reception. Nancy Walnes, Tricia Gardner and Rose Bowman won first, second and third place, respectively. All three winning works are on permanent display at the History and Learning Center.

Over 80 silk butterflies were painted and decorated by VAC and Garden Club members to adorn the Christmas tree for Dataw's tree for the Festival of Lights, benefiting Friends of Caroline Hospice.

The Dataw Island tree received the award for the "Most Whimsical".

The last big event of the year was the VAC Holiday Boutique. Chaired by Chris Dedel and Peg Dale, the event held November 12th in the Community Center. Twenty-four artists and craftspeople displayed their work for sale in the dance studio and multi-purpose room. The arts and craft room was set up as a lounge, and the foyer included musical entertainments and food and drink. The boutique had a tremendous turn out. 2017 was a tremendous year for VAC; we broadened our membership, expanded our workshops and learning opportunities and worked closely with other organizations on Dataw Island.