

# Amana Arts Guild

# arts communiqué

Amana Arts Guild Newsletter

Fall Issue #64

2010

## FRIEND OF THE ARTS AWARD

Gloria Alexander received the Amana Arts Guild 2010 Friend of the Arts Award which was presented to her at the Festival of the Arts XXXIII at the Middle Amana Park on August 14.



Gloria was born and raised in Middle Amana. Her parents worked days and she learned to cook on her own often cooking lunch for them. After high school she attended Hair-styling school and had her own shop for many years. She then started at the Amana Schools in Middle Amana, where she was head cook and food service director for 29 years.

Gloria helped with the communal meal and in 2001 the previous Kuchebaase (kitchen boss) retired and passed on the task to her. She has done an excellent job of planning, cooking and organizing, with the help of many dedicated volunteers, the meals using recipes from many old Amana cook books. Gloria also enjoys working and overseeing the Octoberfest food booth.

Gloria recently returned from a trip to Germany where she enjoys staying with family and of course sampling the wonderful food. She always brings home recipes that she can prepare for her friends and family, her husband Herb, 5 children and 7 grandchildren.

Thank you Gloria.

## WOODFEST 2010

The Amana Arts Guild sponsored the first annual Woodfest Friday, Saturday and Sunday August 27, 28 and 29th at the RV Park in Middle Amana.

We approached RC Eichacker about revitalizing the former Holtzfest to see if we could use it as a fund raiser. RC accepted the task and many miles, lots of conversations later RC had the event planned. Our first year was very successful.

The show featured 50 vendors from Iowa, Alabama, Wisconsin, Illinois, Minnesota, Missouri and Nebraska selling all things made of wood. Estimated attendance was 300 on Friday, 500 Saturday and 300 on Sunday.

The Ronneburg also had a booth set up selling refreshments and sandwiches.

RC is already hard at work on the next years event to be held August 26, 27 and 28th, 2011 at the RV Park in Middle Amana. So far we have 25 vendors signed up.

Our thanks to all the volunteers who helped with setting up and cleaning up. We would like to thank South Slope Communications Co. for grant money used to purchase a portable PA system.

## Festival of the Arts XXXIII

The Amana Arts Guild sponsored the 33rd annual Festival of the Arts on Saturday August 14 at the Middle Amana Park. The show and sale included folk arts and fine arts of all kinds featuring a considerable collection of local talent from the Amana Colonies. Guest artists from across the state of Iowa also brought their original work to display and sell.

Performing artists included Sara Uthoff as Laura Ingall Wilder giving us a unique view into the life of the author. Also performing was the Erich Sandersfeld Band whose members included siblings Hannah, Gunther and Shawn, playing an assortment of Christian Rock.

A life long resident of Middle Amana, Gloria Alexander, received the Friend of the Arts Award for dedication and hard work every year with the annual Communal Dinner.

Our thanks to all the Volunteers who helped make this event possible: the Children's Corner volunteers, the food booth operators, the set up crew, the parking monitors and every one who donated baked goods.

### AAG BOARD & STAFF

*President*, Tina Hinsley;  
*Vice President*, Scott Williams;  
*Secretary*, Gordon Kellerberger;  
*Board Members*: Jennifer Sandersfeld, Ruth Kolp, Jean Hemphill, Dave Miller, Ruth Cooper, Deb Hawkes  
*Gallery Hosts*: Alex Nowotny, Deb Hawkes, Jeanne Hertel.  
*Director*. Mike Mintle

# CHRISTMAS HAUS TOUR 2010

Dates for this years Amana Arts Guild Christmas Haus Tour are Saturday, December 4th and Sunday December 5th, with homes throughout the Amana Colonies included.

Tour Times are 10 am-4 pm on Saturday and 4 pm-8 pm on Sunday.

Admission: Tickets are \$10.00, children under 12 are free.

Tickets may be purchased at each individual home during the days of the tour or in advance from the the Amana Visitors Center or the Amana Arts Guild beginning November 15. Call 1-800-579-2294, 319-622-3678 or visit the Amana Arts Guild website at [www.AmanaColonies.com](http://www.AmanaColonies.com) for more information.

The Amana Colonies Christmas Haus Tour is an event filled with lovely traditions and whimsical surprises. Here, during this festive season, the Amana Arts Guild welcomes visitors to its 6th annual Christmas tour of homes. Visit with homeowners and get to know the colonies in a whole new way while you visit homes with stories as remarkable and varied the colonies themselves. (See descriptions below)

While in the area visit the Tannenbaum Forest, open November 26th to December 19th. This enchanted forest at the Festhalle Barn is created by local businesses, artists and volunteers. Live Christmas trees inspire holiday wishes while you visit with Santa and see the 17 foot handcrafted Weihnachts's pyramid.

Prelude to Christmas, running December 3rd-5th, is the Colonies' advent celebration. Shop on the candle lit streets in the village of Amana and visit the Amana Church Bazaar and Cookie Walk.

During Glimpse of Christmas Past, also December 3-5th, you'll enjoy a program of songs, poetry and story telling the lets you experience a Christmas in communal Amana a Century ago.

1) THE JEFF POFFENBARGER & RHONDA LOUPEE HAUS  
4424 V Street, Homestead

Known as the Store Kuche this historic structure was built in 1862 and served as the kitchen house and residence. Arger the "Great Change" in 1932 the building became a residence which over time served several families. In the 1990s part of the building became and Inn. Now under new ownership it serves as a residence and a nine room

Bed and Breakfast known as Bessie Marie's. Here visitors will find many charming rooms with unique character such as a former vegetable drying room, room with original timbering and rooms with an interior view of the original brick. For the season the Haus is decorated with antiques and lighted holiday displays.

2) THE TOBY AND GINA THOMAS HAUS

1610 4th Avenue South Amana

This historic brick home was built in 1869. The east wing served as the communal kitchen and the adjoining two story home was the residence of 'die Kuche Baas', the woman in charge of the kitchen. The east wing is now a separate residence from the main house, which was later reconfigured into two separate living quarters as evidenced by the 'retro' kitchen on the second floor. For the last year the residence has been home to South Amana newcomers Toby and Gina Thomas. They invite you into their home to view a shimsical mix of Old World Santas and New World creativity.

3) THE PITZ HAUS (DAS PITZE' KUCHEN HAUS)

715 13th Avenue, High Amana

Four generations of the Pitz family have inhabited the frame dwelling built in 1861. The home served as the communal kitchen house until Amana's "Great Change" in 1932. Over the many years there have varous efforts to preserve and enhance the property with a variety of upgrades and improvements, including the installation of modern conveniences. Yet...if you are looking for the "new" things, you won't find anything here! In the Pitz home you will experience an incredible variety of family furnishing and decor, antiques, heirlooms and traditional and fine art, including memorabilia, collectibles and primitives.

4) AMANA ARTS GUILD CENTER

1210 G Street, High Amana

This former church building was built in 1858. Today this charming sandstone structure serves as the Amana's community arts and folk-life center. The attic gallery offers visitors, during the warmer months, an opportunity to experience wonderful art exhibits from regional and local artists and serves as the sales headquarters for handmade traditional colony folk arts and crafts. During the Christmas Haus Tour, visitors will enjoy complementary treats and warm drinks,

an opportunity to sit and visit for awhile and are encouraged to browse through the "Kolonie Kristmasmarkt" in the warmer lower level.

5) THE ITHIEL AND JENISE CATIRI HAUS

4506 220th Trail, Amana-Catiri's Art Oasis Entrance

This is a chance to see the rest of the historic Noe' Haus which was built in 1856 and added to in 1871. It once served as a kitchen house and community residence. It is now the home of the Catiris. This incredible brick structure houses the Catiri's art gallery, glass studio and home. The upstairs dwelling was beautifully remodeled in the late 70's and is a perfect setting for artists to live. The Catiri's just recently moved to the Noe' Haus in March and are just beginning to learn the history. You will also get to view Catiri's personal art collection as well as their incredible fossil and mineral collection. Use the Cariti's Art Oasis entrance and go upstairs thru the gallery. Parking is available by the General store, behind the Bakery or East of Lehm Books.

6) THE JIM AND CONNI DOSER HAUS  
4517 F Street, Amana

This historic brick home next to the Amana Meat Shop was built in 1873 as a Wohnhaus (community residence) for several families. At one time markers for the Amana graves were produced in the basement. In later years it became a winery. In June of 2010 Jim and Conni Doser purchased this home and transformed the ground level into the Grapevine Antiques. Conni is not new to the area as she was employed at the Amana Furniture Shop as a buyer and designer for 19 years. Visitors will enjoy beautiful Table Settings and Holiday Groupings with the Doser's collections of 35 years. Come through the Grapevine Antiques entrance next to the Meat Shop and go upstairs to their upper level residence.

**"How will you be remembered"**  
Have you considered the  
**Amana Arts Guild**  
as part of your estate planning?  
**Remember...**  
**Giving Today Will**  
**Benefit Tomorrow**

## Handcrafts Throughout the Ages

The Amana Arts Guild Center hosted four artisans on Saturday and Sunday July 9-10. Gordon Kellenberger, Plien Air Painting; Renee Driscoll, knitting; Ithiel Catiri, lithography and Deb Hawkes, carpet weaving. Others participating in High Amana were Harvey Jeck, wood turning and the High Amana General Store.

In West Amana The Broom and Basket Shop featuring Joanna Schanz and the Siegler Family. Also included were the Schanz Boys, Michelle Maring Miller, Gerald Rieskamp, Lalanya Bodenbender, Judy Erhke, and the Huebner family.

In South Amana Schanz Furniture and Refinishing, Fern Hill, Larry and Wilma Rettig, George Berger, The Agriculture Musuem, and The Barn Museum.

In Middle Amana Hahn Bakery, Bill Metz and the Rose & Thorn Public House.

In Homestead Henry's Market, AJ's Copper and Harry Heldt's Cider Mill.

Watch for the event next year.

## Garden News

The weather did not cooperate this year and we had an average year in the garden. Charlie Hoehnle, our Master Gardener, with the 4-H Amana Achievers helping him planted horseradish, potatoes, Ebenezer onions, Amana string beans, Amana tomatoes and Amana multi-colored radishes for seed.

## Communal Dinner Tours

There's something new this year, Paula Blessman and Ruth Kolp have been selling the communal dinner experience to bus tour groups.

So far we've had two groups dining at the Amana Arts Guild Center. The tour, which also includes stops at Hahn's Bakery; the Communal Kitchen Museum; Home and Workshop of Bill Metz; High Amana General Store, Amana Arts Guild Gallery; Gordon Kellenberger's Pottery Studio; the Broom and Basket Shop and Giant Rocker; and Michelle Maring Miller Studio and Gallery. Interest in the tour has been good.

This is also another fund raiser for the Guild.

If any outside groups are interested call Paul Blessman at 319-560-7623.

Oran Hagen  
Marjorie Sherman  
Tom & Janet Zuber  
Brad & Lynn Hahn  
Shawn & Jennifer Sandersfeld  
Dell Secor  
Janet Drake  
Denny Hanson  
Annalyn Elloren  
Norman & Rosemarie Geiger  
Mildred Setzer  
Gordon & Deanna Kellenberger  
Dr. & Mrs Warren Chadima  
Ivan & Darlene Reihmann  
Henry & Mildred Meyer  
Harriet Graesser  
Alex & Joann Meyer  
Madeline & Benny Bendorf  
William Ackermann  
Emma Dittrich  
Kate Hawkins  
Robert Roemig  
Joanne Ward  
Dorthe Flick  
Pamela Daws  
Lucille Kraus  
Larry & Caroline Ertz  
Runi & George Ehrmann  
Margo Jarosz  
Helen Kopka  
Dennis & Elaine Zuber  
Dwayne & Joan Bourret  
Stan & Bonnie Hertel  
Carroll & Janet Zuber  
Willard & Joan Hegewald  
Harriet Bierman  
Jack Hoehnle  
Betty & Jerry Peterson  
Henry & Nola Moser  
Robert Brost & Jill Ward  
Bob & Marti Bennett  
Elsie & Bill Oehler  
George Schuerer Sr.  
Mark Marz  
Renee Driscoll

## MEMBERSHIP 2010

David & Carol Heusinkveld  
Ron Goltz  
John & Julie Zuber  
Harold Pitz  
Henry & Emaline Ruff  
Sheryl Sandersfeld  
Susan Turnbull  
Marlin Zuber  
Carl Oehl  
Pat & Kathy Kellenberger  
Barry Oehler  
George Mittlebach  
Gilber & Marie Staman  
Elsie Mattes  
Don & Eileen Klenk  
Henrietta Moershel Hale  
Shirley Reihman  
Caroline Trumpold  
Stan & Georgia Wiebold  
Luella Lear  
Ray & Katie Berger  
Karen Moline  
Lial & Helen Selzer  
David & Connie Cunningham  
Linda Hardin  
Sandy Jo Messingham  
Vic & Diane Rathje  
Norman & Joanna Schanz  
Donald & Nancy Pohnl  
Rose Wendler  
Judy Oehl  
Mrs. Harry Leonhardt  
Betty M Graesser  
Glenn & Mary Goetz  
Lillian Haldy Krauss  
David & Michelle Miller  
Harry & Katy Ehrman  
Allyn & Gaycia Neubauer  
Donald J Misel  
Lisa Kinzenbaw  
Roy W Ehrle  
Mike & Deb Hawkes  
Mary Burgher  
Connie Zuber  
Tina & Steve Hinsley

Kenneth Schaefer  
Rose M Leonhardt  
Denny Hanson  
Marie Noe Larew  
Jim & Terry Roemig  
Bill Metz  
Ruth Kolp

## Business Membership

Colony Inn Restaurant  
Heritage Designs  
AJ's Copper Garden  
Fern Hill  
Amana Society  
Colony Visits  
Stamats Communications Inc  
Sandstone Winery  
Lehm Books  
Broom & Basket Shop  
Schanz Furniture  
Ronneburg Restaurant  
Clothes Encounter  
Ox Yoke Inn  
Amana Family Practice  
Hahn Bakery  
Dusk to Dawn  
Rose & Weinbrenner CPA  
WRH Inc  
Tim Meyer  
Amana Colonies-  
Plumbing & Heating  
Willkommen  
Shuttleworth & Ingersoll  
Colony Inn  
Great Midwestern Leather  
Amana Colonies Village Store  
Renate's Antique Gallery  
Amana Print Shop  
Amana Insurance Agency  
Tim's Plumbing,  
Heating and Cooling  
Babi's Bed & Breakfast  
**Lifetime Members**  
RC Eichacker  
Jean Hemphill

Photo: From our *Spirit of Communal Living* Exhibit





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Current Resident or

### Art Iowa Workshops 2010

Photography (March 20-21) taught by Bob Campagna, Sumi-e Brush Painting (April 17-18) taught by Karen Kurka Jensen, Watercolor Painting II (June 14-18) taught by Richard Dutton, Surface Design with Dyes (June 21-25) taught by Joan Webster-Vore, Paper Collage Making (June 29-July 2) taught by Julie Bousum.

The Arts Guild offers this workshop series every year in cooperation the Grant Wood AEA. Students may take these classes for teacher re-certification credits, graduate college credits or for no credit. For information about 2011 Workshops contact the Amana Arts Guild at 319-622-3678, amanarts@juno.com, or www.amamaartsguild.com.

### AMANA ARTS GUILD DONATIONS 2010

The Amana Arts Guild would like to thank the following individuals for their recent donations .

- Florence Schuerer- Paper stencils
- Marietta Moershel- German Needlework Pattern Books (4)
- JoAnn Meyer- Middle Amana calendars (2)
- Dorothy Trumpold- Cloth material, yarn and crochets hooks
- Lila Rohrer- Beads and jewelry making material
- Kent Zimmerman- George R. Zimmerman's Amana carpet

### CONTRIBUTIONS NEEDED

The Guild reminds everyone of the AMANA ARTS GUILD COLLECTION that has been formed with the Amana Heritage Society. We're in continuing need of additional Amana folk art items and traditions for study and research.

We'd like to include: tinware, small woodwork, toys, baskets, quilts, carpetweaving, scatter rugs, all types of needlework, pottery, blacksmithing/metalwork, novelty items, calico materials and items, and early paintings.

We need your help...please contact the Amana Arts Guild today at 622-3678 and make your contributions.

Remember: your interest in sharing these treasures with those of future generations is critical.