



# Cultural Centre

*A Community that Inspires*

**Bird Island, MN**

Volume 3 Issue I Fall 2020

## ELDER STORY PROJECT

Through the financial support from BIO Legacy Foundation, a benevolent donor, and a LYFT Grant, the Cultural Centre is embarking on a BOLD/BLHS Film Documentary class where Junior and Senior Highschool students will learn the art of film making in a documentary format as they preserve the histories of this county's residents.

Please register at : [www.birdislandculture.com](http://www.birdislandculture.com) to schedule your story or become part of the team learning how to interview, film, edit and preserve these

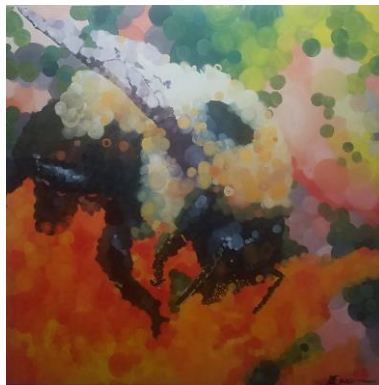
Chaila Amundson "Glamorous"



Ron Kahler

## **"ARTS AN ESSENTIAL PART OF THE COMMUNITY AND THE COMMUNITY AN ESSENTIAL PART OF THE ART."**

We had been closed due to COVID-19 pandemic from March until July 1, 2020. Like you we got busy completing building maintenance projects, researched alternative programming for classes and ways that we could open the gallery while maintaining the COVID-19 Preparedness Plan. One of our pillars is that appreciating art in a calm environment is healing and may relieve some of life's stressors. The second pillar is that participating in the creative process is a time of self-discovery. This respite from stress is integral to being healthy. The Cultural Centre in Bird Island creates an environment where art appreciation is intertwined with socialization and well-being. We continue to encourage you to view the works of outstanding Minnesota artists and appreciate their renderings.



Abigail Blythe Davisson – July

## **Reinventing In a New Season!**

I recently received this article, "The Art of Blooming Late" appreciating the content I thought I'd share a snippet while encouraging you to read it in full. "Rich Karlgaard, the publisher of *Forbes* magazine and author of *Late Bloomers*, argues that our culture's obsession with early achievement dissuades us from pursuing our passions. Instead of having varied interests, studying widely, and taking our time – essentials for self-discovery – we're encouraged to ace tests, become specialists right away, and pursue safe, stable, and lucrative careers. As a result, most of us end up choosing professional excellence over personal fulfillment, and often we lose ourselves in the process." Kevin Evers. "The Art of Blooming Late". Harvard Business Review, May-June 2019.

Allow yourself fifteen minutes a day without distraction – just you, a pen and piece of paper. Allow yourself to speak without using words. Hold these drawings/doodles dear – you may surprise yourself with the reduced stress and self-expression revealed.

We are all in this together! So instead of thinking of this pandemic as a glass half empty, look at it as a glass half full. We are rediscovering our own strength, fortitude, appreciation for family, friends and new experiences.

## So, What Are We Doing this Autumn of 2020?

- A. We continue to comply with COVID-19 Standards.
- B. We continue to host monthly gallery exhibitions from Southwest Minnesota Artists.  
**September 1<sup>st</sup> - 24<sup>th</sup>:** Chaila Amundson, Redwood Falls, MN; **Sept. 25, 26 & 27:** Gerald Patten, Redwood Falls, MN; **October 1<sup>st</sup> – 30<sup>th</sup>:** Richard Krogstad, Ortonville, MN; **November 1<sup>st</sup> - December 12<sup>th</sup>:** Ron Kahler/Sue Happel, New Ulm, MN.  
*The gallery hours continue M-F 10 AM to 5PM and weekends by appointment. Please call 229-220 - 4232 for reservations.*
- C. Starting November (grant permitting) we will fulfill our COVID-19 challenge by offering the following:
  - 1. Zoom Children’s Tutorials with **Rebecca Heerd** of **Studio 155 on Main**.
  - 2. **Mark Haen**, founder and creator of **Curiosity Cabin** will teach landscape oil painting.
  - 3. Our website will offer 20 YouTube links in various arts like String/Chain Painting, Rock Wrapping, Cattail Mat Weaving, Watercolor+Doodling, Quilling, etc. to inspire your creative side and pique your interest.*Please check out our updated web site [www.birdislandculture.com](http://www.birdislandculture.com)*
- D. We continue to host a monthly writers’ group on the second Tuesday each month at 7:00 PM. Please come prepared to comply with social distancing and face masks.
- E. *All other social activities will continue upon notification of State and Local Health Authorities, these include the following: SAIL (Stay Active Independent for Life), Bridge Club, Dominos Club, Jam Session, Chess Club, and Woodbury Choir Practice. Thank you for your cooperation.*

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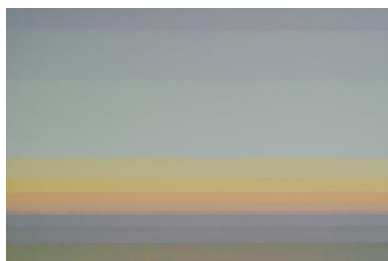
*“Over the years I’ve had numerous exhibits in various venues, though few were as well presented as this one at the Bird Island Cultural Center.” John White, Ortonville, MN*

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## Writers’ Group

A writer’s group gathers each month at the Cultural Centre in Bird Island. It includes poets, essayists, short story writers, novelists and some who simply feel the urge to scribble something down on paper. It’s an eclectic bunch that finds commonality in our shared reverence for the written word. Mostly, what we do is talk...and talk...and talk. We share our work with one another. We talk about writing in general and we talk about life. Some might think it odd to talk about life in a former funeral home, but we don’t think that at all. As writers we understand that it’s not odd, that it’s just ironic and writer’s love irony. It’s also why we love the Cultural Centre, a place that celebrates irony and life. So if you feel the urge to scribble, why not join us? We meet at 7pm on the second Tuesday each month. Our only requirement, our only standard, is a love of the written word. And we talk a lot.

## Guest Writer: Chuck Brown



Richard Krogstad



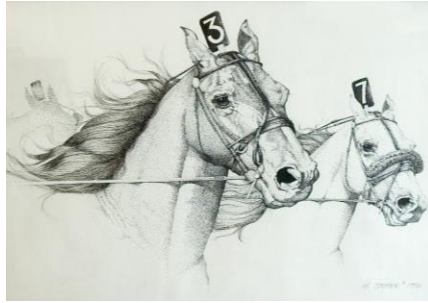
Sue Happel/ Ron Kahler – November and December



# A Sampling of Past Gallery Exhibitions



John White



Michelle Steffen



Deborah Petron



Trisch Bielke



Jonas Heyl



Paul Heyl

## MEMBER CONTRIBUTION FORM SEND TO - CULTURAL CENTRE, PO BOX 434, BIRD ISLAND, MN 55310

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Amount Enclosed \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Comments \_\_\_\_\_

I appreciate the arts and intergenerational services provided by the Cultural Centre in Bird Island.

## MEMBERSHIP FORM SEND TO - Cultural Centre, PO Box 434, Bird Island, MN 55310

\$30 – Individual \$50 – Family \$250 – Lifetime (Includes your name plaque on the donor wall.)

Membership Category \_\_\_\_\_ Amount enclosed \_\_\_\_\_

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Address \_\_\_\_\_

Phone ----- e-mail \_\_\_\_\_

Thank you for joining the Cultural Center in Bird Island.



Sharon Hagford - August

## WHEN YOU THINK ABOUT GIVING THINK LOCAL

Just as we support our local businesses in purchases of supplies and groceries, we ask for your continued support of local artists and the Cultural Centre in Bird Island. Your support of the arts and culture throughout this region is critical. Culture encompasses art, customs, foods, music, work practices, beliefs, health and wellness. Most importantly, culture is designed to meet the needs of all age groups, all ethnicities and all belief systems forming a thread of dignified humanity. Thank you for your support. If you have not gotten a membership, or made a contribution this year, please complete the enclosed form and send it in today. You may enroll or contribute on line at [www.birdislandculture.com](http://www.birdislandculture.com). Your contribution is tax-exempt.

**Thank You!** If you are interested in booking the Cultural Centre for a private event, please contact Rosemary at (320) 365-1011 or call (229) 220-4232.

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### CULTURAL CENTRE IN BIRD ISLAND

640 Dogwood Ave, PO Box 434  
Bird Island, MN 55310

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