 April 2022 Director's Report

Since our last meeting, I'd like to thank everyone who helped out and stepped up keeping our doors open. I didn't come in as often as I'm used to, due to health reasons and home repairs! I resurfaced the front porch on our 1879 home up on Carlisle Hill. Alice Reynolds, Steve Robinson, Bev Reilly, Angela Young, Cheri Noel, and Dave Rieder kept the doors open, the floors and bathrooms clean, and engaged our patrons. We had good sales and visitations due to their continued dedication.

Our March Pioneer Show was very successful, much improved from last year. Thanks to board member Mark Trainer, owner of Carl's Town House, for sponsoring it. Courtney Lewis, a staff member at Pioneer, made sure we had plenty of art, over 100 pieces. With over 150 people in attendance throughout our opening, we sold about half of the shown pieces, averaging about $12 per sale.

Our April Show, the Chillicothe Art League Spring Open, also was very successful. I can't say enough about the spirit of cooperation we have with the Art League. They pretty much hang all our shows now and are happy to do it. This is a tremendous help to us. With their show, I just sat back and watched. They hung the show, labeled the artwork, planned and executed our opening night reception, cooperating in every fashion imaginable. We have already sold several pieces from the show and the month isn't over!

Dr. Robert Kroeger, our August 2021 featured artist, paid us a visit April 6th. Starting at 8 AM, he painted a picture of the Maxwell Barn. Kroeger specializes in recording the history and painting historic barns. He has authored a book, Ohio Barns, featuring barn paintings from all 88 Ohio Counties. We held a raffle for the Maxwell barn and Nancy King, a local barrister, won the drawing. He is currently working on a new book about round barns. He gave an hour talk to conclude the day about his latest barn adventures. He also brought some additional barn paintings of Ross County Barns, and we sold 3 of those as well.

Coming up quickly is our Art in the Streets program April 29th, from 5-9 PM on East Second Street from Paint Street to Mulberry Street. PH Board member Jade Berry, owner of The Stack, is the brainchild behind this event. The street will be blocked off for this event and artists will have booths all along the sidewalks. There will be a stage with local musicians performing along with poetry readings and other presentations. With Chillicothe's new DORA in effect, it will be a fun event for all!

Our May show is titled "Captured". This will be a judged show, with ribbons and cash prizes and a continuation of having a photography show in May. Board Member Jarrod DePugh came up with the title. He is the creative force behind Metropolis Design Studios and designs all of our post cards and posters, along with any other branding needs. Bev Reilly, former Board President, is serving as our Program Coordinator for the Pump House and is putting together a

fantastic show. She is currently working on our 2023 calendar. Board member Cheri Noel will cater this event as she has so many times before, creating many homemade treats for the attendees.

Angela Young, another PH board member, is working hard to ensure our June Show, Celebrating Artists of Color, is a success. In addition, she has something planned every weekend, cumulating in a Juneteenth celebration. There will be food trucks, June 4th, 11th, and 19th, an essay contest for Ross County Students, a Jazz Special June 11th, and an All Faith service June 19th from 2-6. She will have a tent for this to accommodate the crowd.

PH board member Alice Reynolds, our Grant's Coordinator, has finished and submitted an Ohio Appropriation's grant and submitted it to Senator Peterson and Representative Johnson for approval to the appropriations list for Ohio. If given, this grant will help us stabilize the exterior of the building bur replacing over 300 deteriorated bricks and 14 sandstone lintels, retuckpointing all joints. This is about a $270,000 project that will ensure the Pump House exists for future generations.

In the meantime, we have received a Shaeffer grant for $10,000 to paint the trim and shore up any rotted wood. Board member Vicki Pritchard, who assists Alice, has written and received for us a grant to work with Carver Community Center to bring art lessons this summer to their clientele. Alice and Vicki are currently working on a Paccar grant to replace the flooring in the gift shop room and main gallery. A Hernnstein Family Trust grant enabled us to replace the flooring in the restrooms and front entrance way, and a First Capital Rotary Grant enabled us to paint those areas. The board, with our surplus funds from 2021, had the main gallery and upstairs painted too, so, if we get the grant, with new floors, the inside will be fresh and newly updated! As far as daily upkeep and repairs, board member Stephen Steele has been a great help, from replacing burned out gallery lighting to fixing the elevator's alarm that went off unexpectedly.

The Pump House is committed to working with other entities in the community. The Mighty Children's Museum held a fund raiser last December at the Pump House, serving breakfast and selling tickets to their skate park. As a result, we are looking at partnering with them to bring the ice-skating park to the Pump House this December. We are looking forward to working out the details on this endeavor. Ohio University Chillicothe has also reached out to us and wrote a grant from which the Pump House will receive funds. Local students will be attending our "The Hills" show in September and writing essays for their classwork. Reaching out to community resources continues to be a valuable asset.

So, despite all the turmoil from the Pump House boards of the past, this new board is leading the Pump House to a bright future. They are committed to preserving the iconic Pump House building for future generations while bringing the arts to the people of southeastern Ohio!