



Eva Gallagher brings us up to the present time and place, with her work in the current exhibit at the Deep River Library, "Canoe Culture," a joint exhibition by Deep River and North Bay potters.

REVIEW

"Canoe Culture" demonstrates mastery of pottery medium

BY ANNE SECK

Living by the Ottawa River as we do, we must be aware of the importance of the canoe as a principal form of transportation for the indigenous people of our land as well as explorers, settlers, and later for recreation.

The current exhibit sponsored by the Deep River Library Arts Committee is a joint project between the potters of North Bay and Deep River, and is supported by the Ontario Arts Council.

Fifteen artists explore the significance of the canoe in the culture and shared history of the Ottawa River.

The potters represented here each demonstrate a remarkable mastery of the medium, a variety of techniques and a personal and thoughtful interpretation of the theme.

A few have created model canoes with different surface treatments. Peter Brewster's very successful use of a peeling glaze emphasizes the apparent fragility of the birch canoe while Ligita Gulens stains her clay canoe with native plants.

The brightly glazed native insignia on the large vessel by Rosemary Thomas acknowledges its aboriginal origin.

Marg Killey uses a variety of unglazed clay bodies to provoke discussion as to the future of the waterway as a canoe laden with possessions overpowers the turtle & its world.

Keith Campbell made a full size stoneware paddle, "Artefact" (a technical and ironic feat in itself). The gold fleur de lis, the image of Champlain and blue and white glaze remind us of the wealth of the French court as the explorer travelled this area seeking more riches.

In a well balanced composition on her platter, Rui Xu paints paddles criss-crossing the surface to support an iconic red canoe.

Two potters have created very effective wall pieces from deeply textured and modelled clay slabs.

The dynamic design of Glenda Mikawa's piece is a powerful depiction of the difficulties

encountered by the Voyageurs as they paddle furiously through the turbulent waters.

Alison Packer's work indicates a gentler journey where the protruding prow emerges from a winding, tree-lined back water.

One of the most powerful pieces for me is "Three Crows" by Edie English. In light of the Truth & Reconciliation Report and Joseph Boyden's ballet Going Home Star, these black robed figures with beads and bible are a menacing presence.

A kinder figure, equally well executed, is her Nokomis refilling the river with water and fish.

The Voyageur, complete with hat, bandana and shouldering his canoe, by Betty Ackroyd, captures the essence of this historic figure of French Canadian song and legend.

Most work is non-functional but Sue Huang's detailed Loon Casserole reminds us that early travellers marvelled at the call of the loon, (and probably ate them too!).

Mary Lahaie used underglaze to show a canoe and cabin on her functional bowl and Karen Grey ably demonstrated her free hand drawings of related images through sgraffito on a serving dish.

The intriguing fish plaques of Cheryl Brabant recall fossils and take the viewer back to pre-historic eras.

Eva Gallagher brings us up to the present time and place, uniquely combining the image of atomic chain reaction with a stretched beaver pelt.

Her three part Portage, in warm, earthy colours, allows the weary traveller to rest in between the pieces, laying down pack and canoe before continuing to the water.

The potters of North Bay and Deep River are to be congratulated on a wonderful exhibition.

One hopes that canoeists will continue to paddle down the river, and that the members of Ontario's oldest and newest potters' guilds continue to explore the possibilities of clay and maybe collaborate again in the future.

The show continues in Deep River Library until April 26. Please do see it!

Golden Oldies Euchre Club

Monday, April 11 read as follows:
 High lady - Bernice Marion, Second - Eileen Baker. Most loners - Edith Oullette
 High man - Ted Holland, Second - Gerald Marion, Most loners - Basil Rousseau

Euchre results from games played

MATCH UP

To put a free notice in Match-Up, phone the NRT office at 584-4161, or email <NRT@magma.ca>.

PETERBOROUGH: Leslie White is looking for someone who will be travelling to Peterborough who would have room to take a bike down to her daughter. If you can help, please contact Leslie at leseytaylorwhite@gmail.com.

PLANT SALE: The Shamiso Children's Home is holding a Plant and Garage Sale on Saturday, May 28. We are looking for vegetable seedlings, plant seedlings, plant trays and pots. Drop-offs at: 96 Glendale Ave. or 436 McAnulty Rd. (Cemetery Rd). This sale will be held at a new location this year, which is at 436 McAnulty Rd. (lots of parking). Check out the website at www.shamisochildrenhome.org or their facebook page. Email Claire Kennedy at clairemk@live.ca.

HOUSE: The Deep River Welcome project is looking to rent a house (at a modest rate) for a second Syrian refugee family it will be sponsoring for one year. Please call Richard Wray, member of the project's housing committee, at 584-4900. The group could do small upgrades and will ensure the house is well taken care of.

SPRING SALE: Do you have too much stuff? Are you downsizing or just plain house cleaning? If you have reusable items to donate to the Deep River Lawn Bowling Club, please call Marion at 584-3519. The club is getting ready for its annual spring yard sale, and donation of items is greatly appreciated.

The Men's Fellowship Breakfast is this Sunday, April 24 at 8 am. Guest speaker for the event is Al Carmichael who will speak on the benefits of meditation. And not far away, on May 5, the popular Cards/Games party will take place.

Deep River Community Church

viously mentioned include nourishment. (Did you know that we also serve cookies after Sunday morning worship?)

The church will be hosting a Community Spring Carnival on June 11 from 10 am - 3 pm, similar to the one held in 2014.

Church is all about nourishment. A man complained once that he had gone to church for 30 years and listened to about 3,000 sermons, but he was unable to remember even one.

The event will feature local crafters and artisans, information booths for local groups, boot sale, live entertainment, bake sale and canteen. A rental fee of \$20 for vendors and \$15 for the Boot sale apply.

In response to this, another gentleman wrote to the newspaper stating that he had been married for 30 years but for the life of him, he could not recall the entire menu from any one single meal.

All proceeds this year go to the Deep River Community Church.

"But I do know this," he said. "If my wife had not nourished my body for all these years, I would be physically dead today. Likewise, if I had not gone to church for nourishment I would be spiritually dead today."

More helpers are needed for this event - if interested please call church office. Inquires can be made at the Community Church office: Tuesday through Friday, 9:30 to 11:30 am, 584-2812.

Nourishment of the body, in fact, includes nurturing the soul. Involvement in a church provides sustenance for the entire body. Come for a "snack."

It's noticeable that all the special events pre-