

Tatanka Arts Newsletter Spring/Summer 2009

This issue of our newsletter is dedicated to the memory of Ruth McKinney, Tatanka Arts founding president and newsletter editor.

We are just beginning to feel the extent of the loss of Ruth McKinney who passed away at her home near Walnut Grove on March 18 after a difficult struggle with cancer. Ruth and husband, Joel were on the founding board of directors for Tatanka Arts and Ruth continued to work with us by telephone and email until shortly before her death.



As we plan for our season of arts events, Ruth's name appears again and again in our notes. She was our resource for advice and procedures; our creative idea person; artist, teacher, friend. Ruth was extremely generous with her time, her ideas, her art and creativity. She was artist, art teacher, arts administrator and her contributions of time and knowledge made Tatanka Arts grow and thrive very quickly.



As we begin to pick up the pieces to plan this year's arts events, we often stop to remember Ruth. We miss her smile, her laugh, her hugs and her vibrant personality. Each of our events and projects have Ruth's mark on them from the newsletter to the documents we regularly use to the ideas for Arts in the Park Classes. She had a wonderful way of working with

kids of all ages and her teaching was growing our summer Arts in the Park program, which will resume in 2010. This year, without Ruth as our art teacher we have decided to cancel the Arts in the Park classes for 2009.

To honor Ruth, Tatanka Arts will be working to raise funds for a memorial to be placed in the "Downtown Park" in Redwood Falls. Also in the planning stages is a McKinney Retrospective Art Show later in 2009. Our support and condolences go to Ruth's husband, Joel and their friends and family. We hope you, our readers will continue to support Tatanka Arts and to remember Ruth McKinney who helped us in many ways.

Tatanka Arts Spring/Summer Events

- **May 9-10 and May 16-17** are the dates for the **Fieldstone Vineyards Art Show**. Music, Food, Art and Artists!
Times: Saturdays 11 am – 8 pm and Sundays Noon – 5 pm.
- **May 21** come down to **Ramsey Park** for the annual **Jamboree**. Artists booths will be set up with art to look at and enjoy, as well as, items for purchase. A portion of sales proceeds will go to Friends of the Park to help with renovations at Ramsey Park.
- **June 12-13** we will be at the **Minnesota Inventors Congress** with the annual **Tatanka Arts Art Fest**. Artists from the area will set up booths in the hallway leading to the MIC. Artists will be on hand to talk about and sell their artwork.
- **July 24-25** is the **Art Show & Sale at Capitol Corn Days in Olivia** at Master's Coffee Shop on Highway 212 in downtown Olivia.
- Progress will begin taking shape on the "**Town Square Park**" in **Downtown Redwood Falls**. Tatanka Arts has purchased an ironwork gazebo with funding from the Estebo Foundation. The gazebo will become the focal point of the park. You will see concrete work begin first. The gazebo "weighs as much as a car" so we need a solid base!



Redwood Falls, Minnesota

note: contractors are responsible to verify all existing conditions at site prior to bidding



Now Showing!
Artwork Displays in Store Windows

Several of Tatanka Arts artists have worked to set up displays of artwork in empty storefront windows in Downtown Redwood Falls. Tatanka Arts saw the opportunity to improve the appearance of the downtown area by working with the owners of the buildings to set up art displays.

Thank you to the owners of the buildings, Don and Marian Hardin who have provided the use of the old Ford Garage and the old Office Supply building windows on Second Street. Ken & Carol Hammerschmidt have given us the use of the windows of the building at the corner of Third and Washington. Thanks also go to Gerry Patton, Ramona Larson, Pearl Ziegenhagen, Nan Kaufenberg, Kathy Peterson, Dona Larkin and Elaine Hagen for setting up and maintaining the displays.

Any artist who wishes to display their work, please contact Nan Kaufenberg at 507-640-0343.

