



## Neighborhood News

### Penland Welcomes New Trustees

The steady, wise, and concerned support of the Board of Trustees is an important part of life at Penland. Trustees provide a perspective and all bring particular skills relating to various programmatic and administrative functions of the skill. Both through committee service and as individuals, board members make valuable contributions to the life of the school.

The new group of trustees exemplifies the range of experience which is represented on the board. **Jane Peiser** and **Bob Trotman** are craft artists and both will be instructors next summer. Jane is also a neighbor. To quote John Coyne writing in *The Penland School of Crafts Book of Pottery*, "Jane Peiser's work is primitive in nature. It reflects the type of art she loves, an art that is individual and special." She has a BA in Industrial Arts Education from George Peabody College for Teachers, Vanderbilt University, an MA from Illinois Institute of Technology, and is now working towards another master's from Duke University.

A woodworker, Bob lives in Casar, NC, about an hour from Penland, close enough to be a frequent visitor. His work has been in dozens of exhibits and is currently in a traveling show entitled *Art That Works: Decorative Arts of the Eighties* and was included in *Craft Today in America* which toured throughout Europe from 1989-91.

**Buddy Patton** lives in Asheville where he and his wife, Marilyn, and sister-in-law own both Harry's Cadillac-Pontiac Company and the Grovewood Gallery. Buddy is a collector of crafts and has established a scholarship fund at Penland honoring the work of Doug Sigler. He is on the regional board of NationsBank and a member of H-Tephila Congregation where he has served on the board. He has also served on the boards of the American Red Cross, Salvation Army and Northwestern Bank.

Both **T. Clyde Collins** and **Susan Parker Martin** bring backgrounds in development. A native of Greensboro, Clyde is retired from the Southern Life Insurance Company, where he was Executive Vice-President, Chief Financial Officer, and Secretary. He is a collector of Ceramics and other art, and his wife, Dot, is a painter.

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## HIGHLIGHTS FROM THE BOARD MEETING

At the Annual Meeting of the Penland Board of Trustees on October 23, these officers were elected for a second term: Chair of the Board and President, **Zack Smith**; Vice Chair and Vice President, **Mignon Dunn**; Secretary, **Norman Schulman**; and Treasurer, **Sam Smoak**.

The following people were elected to the Board: **T. Clyde Collins**, **Susan Parker Martin**, **Buddy Patton**, **Jane Peiser**, **Bob Trotman**, and **Max Wallace**.

Long-time Trustees **Evon Streetman** and **Bill Watson** rotated off the Board at this meeting. They were thanked for their outstanding service over the past eight years with the comment that their exceptional expertise as board members will be deeply missed.

### FUNDRAISING COMMITTEE

**Libba Evans** reported that, with the school operating well in the black, the committee decided to develop a twelve-month fundraising plan rather than promote an all-out immediate capital campaign. Priority will be given to expanding the funding base and emphasis will be placed on planning for a capital campaign in the future. Funds specifically for the new glass facility will be sought through a focused effort.

**Bill Watson** announced that a \$50,000 challenge grant given anonymously had been successfully matched and had been received. This money will be placed in an endowment restricted solely for instructor salary support.

### DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Ken listed the following issues, not in priority order, as his concerns for the coming months:

1. Studio management—The studio coordinator position needs to be reevaluated and reworked. New systems will be put in place for developing job descriptions and finding the right person for each of the studios.

2. Enrollment—Enrollment had been high again this year. This fall, the school has the largest Concentration session in its history. Since Concentrations have the potential for even more growth, a plan will be developed for Concentration programs that are innovative and offer variety. Ken suggested setting a goal of six studios with about 100 students total. If this were accomplished, summer enrollment could safely be lowered by about one student per class. This would reduce some of the stress on staff and facilities during the busy summer months.

3. Tuition support/scholarship management—Much thought has gone into developing this year's scholarship program. Ken will use the catalog to clearly outline what options are available. The aim is to expand the number of work/study positions available.

4. Diversity—This is a priority issue for the school both in terms of the philosophical desire to enrich the student body and the requirements of our funding to expand our outreach to people of color and people with disabilities.

**Donna Jean Dreyer** attended a seminar on the laws pertaining to the Americans With Disabilities Act and reported through a memorandum about the ways the new law will affect Penland. Ken discussed the school's lack of housing for people with mobility impairments. The school has applied for a grant from the North Carolina Arts Council for a capital improvement project to build new housing facilities that could accommodate persons with disabilities.

5. North Carolina constituency—Ken explained his ideas for making important connections with industry. He cited examples of mutual benefit from such a program.

6. Capital Projects—Projects that need attention include the winterization and renovation of the Craft House and the beginning of work on the new glass studio. Ken also reported on plans for the glass studio, explaining that plans were solicited from area glass artists. These ideas have been incorporated into one plan which best suits the needs of the school. The studio, made of block and steel construction, will incorporate new safety features. Its appearance will be consistent with the Northlight building. Construction is scheduled to begin March 1, 1994, with completion by March 1, 1995.

In discussing other capital improvements Ken reported on new housing plans. If the school receives a capital grant from the North Carolina Arts Council, new cabins will be built. This will be the first step in bringing all housing facilities up to code for the Americans With Disabilities Act requirements.

### FACILITIES AND GROUNDS

**Dick Blomberg** has been working hard to make the school grounds safe. Thanks to his watchful eye, safety hazards have been identified and are being attended to. He recommends developing a safety committee and an ongoing safety training program for staff and studio technicians.

### SPECIAL EVENTS COMMITTEE

**Mignon Dunn** reported on plans for the annual Auction. The date has been set for August 14, 1994. The Committee considered ways to decrease the strain on the staff and Core students, which has been increasing each year. Suggestions included simplifying the music, reducing the lavishness of the event, adding additional paid staff, simplifying the food for the preview party, and hiring a coordinator for this event.

-Geraldine Plato