

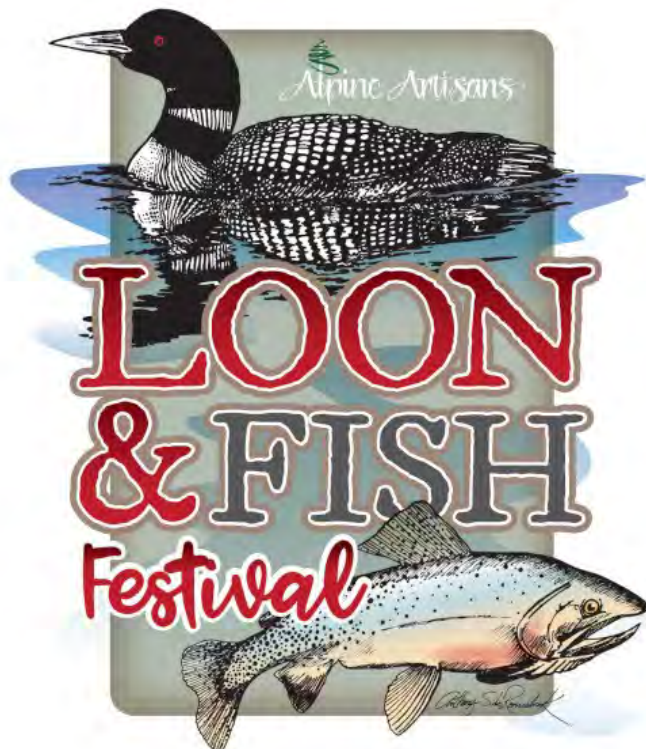
ART *is* Alive!

The Newsletter of *Alpine Artisans*

August 2021 Newsletter

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Loon & Fish Returns August 20 & 21

The **Loon and Fish Art Show and Festival** is a local tradition. For 22 of the last 28 years, this event has showcased the prolific and varied artwork produced by dozens of our members from the Swan Valley through Seeley Lake, Ovando and Lincoln. And we're at it again.

See a full Festival schedule at alpineartisans.org.

Gala Opening

You are invited to the gala Festival opening on **Friday evening, August 20, 5 pm to 9 pm**, in a new location – the **Seeley Lake Community Foundation** building. “AAI saw the opportunity to create an elegant display of the art in the West Wing of the Foundation Building, while still having enough room for demonstrations, live music and presentations,” stated AAI Vice-President Jean Dickey. AAI also moved the Festival dates from Memorial Day Weekend to mid-August, to accommodate more summer time visitors. Beer, wine, soft drinks and refreshments will be served at Friday’s opening.

The West Wing of the Foundation Building will be **transformed with artwork** as varied as pine needle weaving, oil and watercolor paintings, wooden and copper bowls, jewelry, photography, ceramics, wool art and children’s books. The Foundation Building porch will be the scene of **live music** throughout the festival by local musicians. **Katie Thompson** of Missoula’s Movement4Movement will demonstrate selections from a dance program that we hope to bring into the local schools.

Alpine Artisans
LOON & FISH FESTIVAL
& Art Show
Design Contest
WINNERS - 1993-2021

ARTISTS
1993- Bob Korn & Jeanne Moon
1994- Barbara Willing & Jeanne Moon
1995?- Barbara Willing
1996- Jennifer Dyer
1997- Kathy Titus
1998- Rick Sherman
1999- Rick Sherman
2000- Feather Sherman
2001- Bob Korn
2002- Donna Love
2003- Donna Love
2004- Donna Love
2005- Carol Dorne
2006- Donna Love
2007- Bob Korn
2008- Brown-Robbius
2009- Donna Love
2010- Kris Gullikson
2011- Jennifer Dyer
2012- Margot Wilcox
2013- Beverly Fridson
2019- Brandy Wykoff
2021 - Tony DeKonnebeck

*Shirts was not sold 2004-2020
*Poster not sold 2004-2020

Sales of this Commemorative poster support the ongoing AAI Student Art Scholarship program year-round.

Commemorative poster design by Kris Gullikson © 2021

You can also purchase a **commemorative poster** featuring the winning Loon and Fish logos that were printed on our t-shirts for previous festivals, and get them signed by the artists!

Support AAI's Youth Grant and Scholarship Program with your purchase of Loon and Fish Raffle tickets – one for \$5 or 5 for \$20. This year's prizes are a Stand Up Paddleboard, a beautiful Japanese-style lamp and a horseback ride for two with Juanita Vero on the E-Bar L Ranch in Greenough.

The Festival is an opportunity to take advantage of a deep discount in **2 Valleys Stage** Season tickets, which normally sell for \$50, now selling for \$40. What a deal! The Season Ticket package gives you six tickets to five 2 Valleys Stage concerts, averaging less than \$8 for each enthralling performance by professional musicians. This discount expires at the end of the Festival.

As she did in 2019, Seeley Lake ceramicist **Carrie Darrah** of Obsession Pottery created 85 beautiful bowls for the *Food Bank Soup Bowl Lunch*, with substantial help from volunteers to complete the glazing, coordinated by Kris Gullikson. Local restaurants donate gallons of homemade soup and the handcrafted bowls sell for \$25 for the bowl plus soup, or just \$15 if you prefer to get soup only. The bowls go on sale at 10 am Saturday morning, August 21 at the Festival sales table in the Foundation building. **Mission Bible Church & Food Bank** volunteers will be serving the soup across the parking lot at the church beginning at 11 am. Remember, the bowls sell out fast!

Festival Art Demos, Loon Talk & Raptor Event



Kate Davis photo ©

Raptors of the Rockies, Baby Peregrine

Art demonstrations of beading, wood marquetry, watercolor, wool spinning & wood art are scheduled throughout the 2-day Festival. Torrey Ritter, Montana FWP, will deliver an update on our loons locally. And an additional event will be held outdoors on Sunday with Kate Davis of Raptors of the Rockies at the Double Arrow Homestead Pavilion* at 1 pm. Kate always draws a big crowd, and she will show her falcons, including the 8-year old Sonora, the Aplomado Falcon and a new baby Peregrine featured in the photo – still unnamed! Signs will start at Cory's Market and will lead you 1 1/2 miles down Whitefish Lane to the Homestead Pavilion. Free and refreshments served. This event is the first of three author events titled Seeley Celebrates, and funded by the Seeley Lake Community Foundation and Humanities Montana.

*Directions to the [Double Arrow Homestead Pavilion](#)

For questions about the festival contact Jenny at 754-0034 or jenny@alpineartists.org.

2 Valleys Stage Returns Full Swing!

After a quiet 17 month hiatus due to the COVID pandemic, 2 Valleys Stage is coming out full swing with an exciting season of jazz, Celtic, classical, comedy, brass and world music. These performances follow the season opener of Montana Shakespeare in the Park (MSIP), presenting Cymbeline on Monday, August 16, at 6 pm on the grounds at the Double Arrow Resort. Cymbeline is free, appropriate for all ages and we encourage you to bring a lawn chair and a blanket. Thanks to Double Arrow Resort for lodging the full cast of MSIP.

2 Valleys Stage is presenting five musical groups in community concerts in Seeley Lake and Condon. However, the most important part of the 2 Valleys Stage program takes place in our four local schools. Each 2VS performing group completes a two-day residency in the schools doing in-school concerts and workshops for students.

2VS 2VS Performers Coming from Ontario, Washington State and California

Originating in California, **Quarteto Nuevo** merges western classical, eastern European folk, Latin and jazz with an organic feel that packs a wallop! They effectively meld the music of ancient worlds and faraway places with a contemporary groove that enchants audiences of all ages! Catch them on Sunday, September 26, 3 pm at the Swan Valley Community Hall in Condon.

We are truly lucky to book **The Gothard Sisters** trio for a special holiday concert on Sunday, December 12 at 3 pm at Seeley Swan High School. Based in Washington and blending Celtic, folk, classical, world and northwest musical influences, the Gothard Sisters bring songs to life with violin, acoustic guitar, mandolin, bodhran, djembe, octave violin, whistle and vocal harmonies, creating music that is "vivid, inspirational and captivating."

You won't want to miss the **University of Montana Tuba and Euphonium Consort (UMTEC)** in concert at Seeley Swan High School on February 13 at 3 pm. UMTEC's musical offerings draw from a treasure trove of styles & genres that reflect timeless musical traditions from around the world.

Renowned jazz, blues and gospel singer Leonard Patton teams up with the critically acclaimed Danny Green Trio to form **LP And The Vinyl**. Coming from California, they will rock the Seeley Lake Community Hall on Sunday, March 27 at 3 pm. The band's wide array of influences includes everything from jazz, R&B, and rock, to 80's and 90's hits, Brazilian music, and classical music.

Combining comedy and music, Michael Bridge (accordions & piano) and Kornel Wolak (clarinet & piano) are an internationally-acclaimed duo, **Bridge & Wolak**, integrating traditional acoustic instruments with 21st century digital technology. They perform their own uniquely re-imagined repertoire of classical, world and jazz fusion. Their performance will wrap up our season at the Swan Valley Community Hall on Thursday, April 28 at 7 pm. Note the day and time.



2021-22 SEASON SCHEDULE



Shakespeare in the Parks

Cymbeline

Monday, August 16, 2021, 6 pm
Double Arrow Lodge Grounds



Quarteto Nuevo

Sunday, September 26, 2021, 3 pm
Swan Valley Community Hall



The Gothard Sisters

Sunday, December 12, 2021, 3 pm
Seeley Swan High School

University of Montana Tuba and Ephonium Ensemble

Sunday, February 13, 2022, 3 pm
Seeley Swan High School



LP and the Vinyl

Sunday, March 27, 2022, 3 pm
Seeley Lake Community Hall



Bridge and Wolak

Thursday, April 28, 2022, 7 pm
Swan Valley Community Hall



2 Valleys Stage is supported by:





Shakespeare in the Parks presents Cymbeline

With this year's performance of Cymbeline, Seeley Lake is privileged to be part of an international experiment brought to us by Montana Shakespeare in the Parks (MSIP). This free event is Monday, August 16 at 6 pm on the lawn at the Double Arrow Resort, which is co-hosting the event. MSIP's Cymbeline is one of seven unique productions of Shakespeare's play; other locations range from Kazakhstan to Wales to Yosemite National Park. Although Cymbeline was first staged in 1610, this variation is tailored to uncover ecological values in the play's range of stories. The cast then hopes to relate these emotions and themes to local environmental conditions, which should be challenging with our smoky skies! This international effort is titled "Cymbeline in the Anthropocene".

Anthropocene is defined as 'the current geological age, the period during which human activity has been the dominant influence on the environment', generally seen as beginning with the Industrial Revolution of the 1800's. Cymbeline's main story-genre – romance – shows us a way to make implausibly plausible sense of our current age's heart-rending and mind-bending tragedies. As stated by MSIP, "The play's romance plots operate in the dramatic mode known as tragicomedy, which mingles sensational sad and happy events. Experiencing the calamities and optimism of tragicomic romance gives us an existential analogue for living with the Anthropocene's environmental insecurities, perplexities, and tenuous hopes."

Bring a lawn chair and a blanket.
Double Arrow Resort will be providing food and drink for sale.

Meet Two New AAI Board Members

AAI members elected four new Board Members at our January annual meeting: **Michael Cropper, Kris Gullikson, Jenny Kauffman** and **Janet Morgenstern**. In this issue, we introduce Michael Cropper and Janet Morgenstern. Kris Gullikson and Jenny Kauffman were featured in the previous newsletter.



Michael Cropper, at-large Board Member, is pictured here at the 2019 Norman Maclean Festival. After retiring as Maritime Librarian for the City of Los Angeles, where he created a full maritime library from scratch, Michael and his partner Sara Wilcox spent time off-shore in his 41 ft. ketch for two years before coming to live in Sara's home territory in the Swan Valley. Prior to his Librarianship, he worked in North and South California for the Library of Congress and the British Library, reporting on all books published in English during the 17th century. Cropper continued as a rare book specialist in the USA from his original business in London, primarily with the Book Auction Gallery in San Francisco before going to Randall House Rare Books, then moved to Southern California to report for the Library of Congress and eventually became their maritime librarian until retirement.

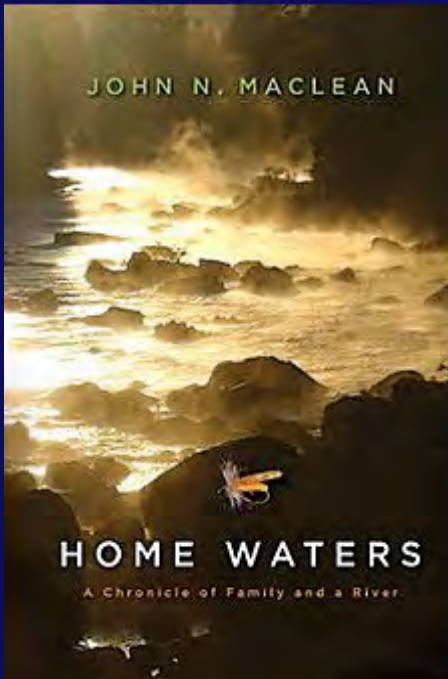
Before starting his career in the rare book trade, Michael trained as a paper technologist and worked in the paper trade, not only in the paper mill but traveling throughout Europe as a sales engineer for an American company and latterly as Export Sales manager for an English engineering and manufacturing company.



Janet Morgenstern, AAI's Treasurer, is originally from Wibaux, MT, and is a relative newcomer to the Seeley Lake area. She just completed her first year at Seeley-Swan High School and Seeley Lake Elementary. This coming school year will be her 18th year teaching, having previously taught in the Billings area and in Rapid City, S.D. She is married to Aaron Morgenstern, our new principal and music teacher at Swan Valley Elementary School. Together they have two children, Elliot and Reece. The Morgensterns love the outdoors, good friends, and great beer.

Janet is pictured here with Elliot and Reece.

We hope anyone with an interest in the arts would consider being on the Board of Directors in the future.



Open Book Club sponsors *Seeley Celebrates* Author Series

The Open Book Club (OBC) has brought prominent Western authors to our valleys since 2007 – and it all came a halt in March 2020 with the COVID pandemic. To celebrate our ability to gather again in person, OBC has launched a three-author series in August and September titled **Seeley Celebrates**.

The first author is Raptors of the Rockies founder **Kate Davis**, who is bringing her falcons and eagles outdoors at the Double Arrow Pavilion on Sunday, August 22 at 1 pm. Additional details, including directions to the Double Arrow Homestead Commons area can be found by going to the [Open Book Club](#) page on the AAI website. Scroll down as needed.
<https://www.alpineartisans.org/open-book-club#obcSchedule>

Following Davis, **John N. Maclean** will be presenting his new memoir, *Home Waters: A Chronicle of a Family and a River* on Sunday, September 5 at 1 pm, also at the Double Arrow Homestead Pavilion. This is John's ONLY reading anywhere this year. This book has received rave reviews nationally, such as this from Booklist, "His Hemingway-esque prose is as clear as a mountain stream, flowing with a poetic cadence and lyrically describing the many natural treasures to be found under the Big Sky". In short, Maclean's book is a valentine to Seeley Lake. John was also featured on the CBS Sunday Morning show which vividly demonstrated the beauty of our area, found at this link: <https://www.cbsnews.com/video/john-maclean-and-his-love-for-montanas-great-outdoors/#x>.

The third author is **Bob Quinn**, author of *Grain by Grain: A Quest to Revive Ancient Wheat, Rural Jobs, and Healthy Food*, speaking on Sunday, September 18, 1 pm at the Seeley Lake Foundation Building's West Wing. When Bob Quinn was a kid, a stranger at a county fair gave him a few kernels of an unusual grain. Little did he know, that grain would change his life. How Bob Quinn went from being a true-believer in better farming through chemistry to a leading proponent of organic farming is the unlikely story of *Grain by Grain*.

These events are free and are funded by the Seeley Lake Community Foundation and Humanities Montana.



AAI Scholarships & Youth Grants Awards Announced

Laura Johnson, Scholarship Committee chair, is pleased to announce our Senior Scholarship winner and three additional Youth Grant awards. Seeley Swan High School recent graduate Kess Victor will use her \$1,000 Senior Scholarship to attend University of Montana, focusing on therapy for children and adolescents with a minor in fine arts to supplement her therapy skills. The youth grant award winners reflect the age range

we often see with these applicants. Layla Bullis lives in Lincoln, and her \$200 award has enabled her to pursue art classes with Lincoln artist Annie Clark. Audrey Stevenson is a 5th grader at Seeley Lake Elementary, and her \$300 award will enable her to continue taking guitar lessons at Missoula's Childbloom Guitar program. Elliot Morgenstern is a 6th grader at Seeley Elementary, and he will be traveling to the Flathead Music Camp near Rollins, MT, applying his \$300 award to improve on his baritone trumpet skills.

You Helped Us Set a Record!

Thanks goes to all of our marvelous supporters who were part of a record-setting fundraising effort through this year's Seeley Lake Community Foundation's Change Your Pace Campaign. Only July 14, Alpine Artisans received a check for \$11,002.15, which breaks down into \$8,542.48 raised by AAI and \$2,459.67 from the Foundation's matching dollars. Thanks in particular to the Condon team of volunteers who pitched in to raise almost \$4,736 from the Swan Valley to support the work of 2 Valleys Stage in the Swan, including matching dollars. Adding in funds received from other AAI supporters, 2VS programming received \$7,869.39 and AAI Outreach programs \$3,132.76.

We appreciate your support.

Alpine Artisans, Inc.

P.O. Box 841

Seeley Lake, MT 59868

Telephone: 406.754.0034

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