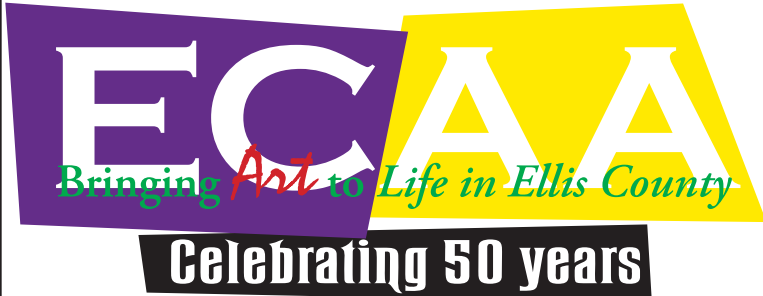


1958-2008



501 W. Main Street  
Waxahachie, TX 75165

(972) 937-3414

Fax (972) 937-3429

E-mail: [ecaa@sbcglobal.net](mailto:ecaa@sbcglobal.net)

Web Site: [www.elliscountyart.net](http://www.elliscountyart.net)

## ECAA General Meeting:

**Monday, January 5th, 6:30 P.M.  
Ellis County Art Center**

## FROM THE PRESIDENT:

Happy New Year everybody!  
I hope your Christmas holiday was blessed!

Last year, ECAA was blessed in many ways; new friends, new members, and successful fundraisers. We planned for, and funded, more than \$12,000 on building improvements: installed a new vinyl floor throughout the lower level; upgraded the electrical and lighting in the classroom; moved the library into the lower level for better access by members; purchased a new freezer; purchased new shelving for our storeroom, installed a new exterior sign, and many more small repairs and improvements...not on as grand a scale...but very important all the same.

We're beginning a new year in an economy that will present our organization with more than a few financial challenges. In the coming year, the Board will be prudent with building maintenance expenditures and all new improvements will be funded carefully. The cost to maintain our building, sponsor events, and provide benefits to our membership averages about \$1500 per month. Source of funding is a percentage of tourism tax from the City of Waxahachie, membership dues, private donations and fundraisers. It goes without saying the Board will be counting your pennies very carefully in the coming year to insure that the benefits of your membership will remain the same as in years past such as: an art center that is open 5 days a week for classes, member activities and special events; the privilege of free exhibition space, a library, newsletter, art demonstrations, and workshops; and best of all...the camaraderie of art lovers and artists.

We anticipate meeting fundraising goals and sponsoring events to be more difficult, but I'm confident our membership is up to the challenge. In the last fiscal year, more than 4800 hours were documented in the Volunteer Program Log Book. The majority of hours logged were dedicated to the day-to-day operation and general management of the Association, with the balance of hours going to special events and fundraising activities. In this fiscal year 2008-2009, ECAA will need as many volunteer hours as last year...or maybe even more. If you volunteer regularly, and participate in every way you can, THANK YOU SO MUCH....If it's been a while since you last helped with an event, a fundraising effort, or served as an officer, isn't it time to get involved again?

The next exhibition opportunity is the Anderson Gallery opening in February. If you haven't started already, get going on your entry now! In March, ECAA will participate in the Lifestyles Expo and the Master Gardeners Expo. All three events require many volunteers as well as exhibitors. Just around the corner from the Expo events is our annual Youth Art Show in April. The 1st week of June is the fun-filled "Paint Historic Waxahachie". Please plan to be a part of these important upcoming events.

See you at the January meeting....and don't forget to bring a painting for the Mini-Show!

**Tina**

## JANUARY DEMONSTRATOR

Martha Jane Spurlock

Martha is a Nationally Acclaimed artist with numerous credits and awards. She was born in New Mexico and her natural artistic ability and love for the outdoors developed at an early age. With the encouragement of well-known western artist Bob Tommey, Martha began her art career. She has been painting for over 30 years, and professionally since 1976. Her range of subject is vast but western and wildlife are her specialties.

Each painting Martha produces reflects the countless hours of research and planning required before she butts paint to canvas. Her in-depth research



and study into authentic situations includes numerous cowboy gatherings and modeling sessions. Martha has received many awards over the years. These include winning Region III at the Arts for the Parks competition. She has had work published in many periodicals, magazines and calendars, including the National Park Academy of the Arts, The National Quarter Horse Association and The American Paint Horse Journal.

Martha operates her own studio and resides in Aledo, Texas. Inquiries about commissioned works are welcome.





Ellis County Art Association, Inc.

Fine Arts Museum

501 W. Main Street • Waxahachie, TX 75165

General Meeting  
Monday,  
January 5th  
at 6:30



## January Birthdays



4	Betty Guynes	16	Margaret Bailey
6	Jana Jennings	27	Betty Howard
7	Mary Beth Roye	31	Mickey Hayes
9	Sandy Reese		



## SOMETHING I'VE BEEN THINKING ABOUT....

by Tina Bohlman

Several weeks ago, I came across a book review by Jim Pawlak in the Dallas Morning News. As I read the review, I couldn't help but think about how it compared to the members and associates of Ellis County Art Association:

(From the book, Monday Morning Choices by David Cottrell)

We are products of the choices we make....and the ones we avoid. Author David Cottrell divides our choices into three categories: character, action, and investment.

Character choices deal with responsibility, commitment, drive and integrity. When it comes to your life, are you a driver or a passenger? Drivers are responsible for their journey; passengers let drivers do the work and often become back-seat drivers. Drivers are committed to their journey. For them, failure means they're one step closer to success.

Action choices come into play when the route must be altered. Drivers rarely take shortcuts because they know that cutting corners always

has a price. They are enthusiastic about the journey. At the end of it, they ask: "Where do we do from here?"

Investment choices have nothing to do with finances and everything to do with investing in people – establishing and maintaining relationships. "Eventually we become like the five people we hang around with the most, which could be a blessing or a curse," Mr. Cottrell writes.

Serving on the Board one year as Vice President, and 3? years as President, I've noticed that ECAA has a wealth of members that make the right choices; we have many "drivers", that are committed to ECAA. They make "action" choices in their journey; they don't take shortcuts. Best of all, these members have invested in each other, forming relationships and becoming "family-like"...which, I feel, is truly a blessing! I'm so thankful for my artist "family"; God Bless you, one and all.