

# 2023 Winter Plein Air at Menogyn

March 5-10, 2023

March 10, 2023: 5-7pm Reception at Johnson Heritage Post Art Gallery (JHP)  
115 Wisconsin St. W, Grand Marais

Exhibit Dates: March 10 – April 2, 2023

## Information & Packing List

### Key Places & Times:

- Sunday, March 5**  
Between 3:00 - 4:00pm, meet at **Cook County Whole Foods Co-Op** in Grand Marais.
- 4:00pm:** caravan together up the Gunflint Trail to the parking lot at Menogyn. We'll meet staff to unload, send most gear on snowmobile sled, and walk across Bearskin Lake together.
- Friday, March 4** – 10:00am departure: send gear by snowmobile sled and walk back to parking lot, arrive in Grand Marais around 12:00pm
- Friday afternoon:** Check in at motel, framing & hang exhibit at JHP
- Public Reception**  
5:00pm to 7:00pm at JHP

### Phone Numbers:

- Allison Eklund: (651) 592-7858 (cell phone)
  - Johnson Heritage Post Art Gallery:  
(218) 387-2314
  - YMCA Camp Menogyn:  
(218) 388-4497 landline
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- There is no cell phone service or internet at Menogyn. Cellular service disappears about 15 minutes up the Gunflint Trail from Grand Marais. We sleep in bunk rooms with up to 6 people. Pretend you're 12 years old again and going to camp.
  - We meet on Sunday, 3/5 at **Cook County Whole Foods Co-Op**, 20 1st St, Grand Marais, MN 55604. We leave together at 4:00pm and drive caravan-style up the Gunflint Trail 31.5 miles to the parking lot at Menogyn.
  - YMCA Camp Menogyn's dining hall and cabins are located ½ mile across west Bearskin Lake from the parking lot. A snowmobile with trailer sled will haul most of our gear upon arrival and we'll walk together across the lake. (Snowmobile ride is available if needed.)
  - If you arrive separately, you must haul your own gear in a sled or make arrangements for pick-up by calling the camp staff at (218) 388-4497 before leaving Grand Marais.
  - Menogyn has **group cabins** with common area and bunkrooms that will accommodate all or most of us. The camp is not handicap accessible, but reasonable accommodation can probably be made if some people require a bunk room on the

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same level as indoor toilets in the dining hall. Talk to the organizer about any special needs so we can ask the camp director. (Allison Eklund, [allison@outdoorpaintersofminnesota.org](mailto:allison@outdoorpaintersofminnesota.org))

- We must **haul out everything we haul in, including garbage**. Also, don't bring or leave in your vehicle any glass bottles or carbonated drinks that might freeze and explode.
- It might be cold outside, but it's warm in the dining hall and cabins. **We have electricity inside the cabins but no running water.**
- The dining hall has two indoor toilets in bathrooms with plumbing. Cabins have close access to outdoor pit toilets. Use of the pit toilets is encouraged.
- Three meals a day are scheduled family-style in the Dining Hall. Otherwise, our time is generally unstructured. We paint outside in the morning and afternoon, and sometimes at night. We paint and nap in the dining hall too. We've traditionally had one all-day painting expedition, for example to Rose Lake, Caribou Rock trail overlooks, and Honeymoon Bluff.
- Dog-sledding is an optional activity that is usually scheduled for one afternoon or morning. It's great fun and highly recommended for only \$15 additional charge.
- Snowshoes and skis are available for use. You can also bring your own.
- Thursday night is Sauna Night! Don't miss the Finnish style dry sauna and frozen lake plunge. **Bring a swimsuit and old wool socks** so your feet don't stick to the ice.
- We leave camp Friday after breakfast and drive back to Grand Marais. Friday night from 5:00pm to 7:00pm is our reception and exhibit at Johnson Heritage Post in Grand Marais. **Consider booking an overnight stay on Friday in Grand Marais before driving home Saturday.**

## Packing List

### Winter Plein Air Painting

- Plastic sled for daily painting outings (Menogyn has some but nice if you have one to fit your equipment)
- Plein air umbrella or sunlight diffuser
- Paint box/pochade/art materials
- Paper towels/rags/garbage bags
- Extra screws, nuts, etc. for paint box repairs
- Duct tape
- Frames for 4-7 paintings in exhibit

### Sleeping:

- Sleeping bag or bedroll and fitted twin sheet to cover plastic mattress on bunkbed.
- Thermarest if you like extra cushion
- Pillow(s)
- Earplugs in case of snoring
- Lightweight pajamas: cabins are warm

### Lodge and Sauna:

- Slippers or house shoes
- Bath towel (for sauna night), hand towel, & washcloth
- Swim suit
- Old pair of thick wool socks to wear in sauna and lake plunge

### Outdoor Gear

- Glove liners and mittens
- Wool socks
- Silk or wool long underwear
- Balaclava or neck gator
- Sunglasses (snow-blindness is an issue on sunny days)
- Warm boots, parka & snow pants
- Ice cleats for boots:** trails are steep and slippery
- Hand- and foot-warmer packets
- Dress in layers:** down and wool

### Just for fun:

- Musical instruments (guitar, ukulele, mandolin, etc), piano music, songbooks/lyrics
- Art magazines & art books
- Sketching and other indoor art supplies