

ART FOR ART'S SAKE

The BAA Is a Center of Art Activity

You've heard a lot about the BAA, but just what is it? And how do you join?

The B.A.A. stands for the Bloomfield Art Association, a group which (confusingly enough) runs the Birmingham Art Center (NOT known as the BAC because of a prior claim to the name).

The greatest evidence of activity is the yearly Birmingham Art Festival circuit spread out all over town for all to enjoy, from the main streets, store windows

and dome in the park to the Birmingham Art Center. Bloomfield Art Association members are just as busy the rest of the year supporting and running the art center on Cranbrook Road.

THIS IS AN ideal group for the reluctant joiner since there is only one official meeting a year. Nevertheless there are more than 700 members in single and family memberships.

Who are these members? Some art active, professional artists of impressive ability

Some are amateurs or Sunday painters who enjoy other artists' company.

Some are students of all abilities from beginner to highly qualified, who take the BAA classes in life drawing, oil painting, enameling, jewelry making, water color, ceramics and other media.

Oakland University Gets Magnetics Lab

Oakland University has received a grant of \$120,000 from the Charles F. Kettering Foundation for construction and operation of a magnetics laboratory not duplicated anywhere in the world.

The grant will make possible a cooperative venture in magnetics research with General Motors Corporation's Research Laboratories. It will also make a unique laboratory freely available to all other interested firms and scientists.

ONE-HALF of the grant will be used to construct a Charles F. Kettering Magnetics Laboratory on the Oakland campus, which will be a relocation of the present Kettering Magnetics Laboratory south of Dayton, Ohio. The scientific equipment in that facility will be donated to the University for inclusion in the new structure.

The other half of the money will be paid over a five-year period to enable the University to add a member of its physics faculty qualified to work in the magnetics area with Gifford C. Scott of the GM Research Laboratories, who conducts GM's experimental work in this area in the present Kettering Laboratory.

THIS LABORATORY will be especially designed and built to permit precise measurements of the motion produced in delicately suspended pieces of iron or steel and their alloys by subjecting them to a magnetic field.

To make these difficult measurements which give clues to the properties and hence to possible uses of the metals, the laboratory must be free of the earth's magnetic field whose effects are a million times greater than those being measured.

THE BUILDING thus will be constructed without so much as a nail of steel or other ferromagnetic materials. The earth's magnetic

field will be cancelled out by two vertical and two north-south pairs of electrical coils eight and nine feet in diameter, and a smaller east-west pair.

Because the earth's magnetic field is constantly changing in magnitude and direction, other equipment that follows and compensates for it regulates the coil system.

THE MAGNETIC "vacuum" thus produced is so nearly perfect that a zipper in the researcher's clothing is an interference. Automobiles must be parked 300 feet away. The building is in the shape of an elongated T to minimize interference from any other equipment in the structures.

In an experiment, a rod of the material being measured is suspended inside a coil in a vacuum chamber.

WHEN AN electrical current is passed through the coil, the charge magnetizes the rod and imparts a sudden twisting motion to it.

When the current is reversed, there is also a motion, in the other direction.

Repeated measurements of these movements are made at a distance of 60 feet by means of mirrors, and the light is carried through a canal, further to minimize any electrostatic interference.

THE ROD twists because part of its atomic structure consists of negatively charged electrons which, like the earth, are spinning on their axes and orbiting in circular paths.

The magnetic force of the electrical charge abruptly restricts the spinning and orbiting electrons, pointing their axes more nearly in the direction of the magnetic field.

The change of position causes a change in the angular momentum of the electrons, which must be absorbed by the rod, and therefore the rod rotates.

IF THE ELECTRONS were only spinning, the twist might be the same for all kinds of ferrous materials, differences in orbit are also involved. It is hoped studying these differences will lead to a better understanding of properties of magnetic materials.

The laboratory may also be used by the Oakland University physics faculty and students for beta ray spectroscopy work; studying the energies of the low-energy electrons emitted in the radioactive decay of nuclei.

IT MAY ALSO be used in low temperature physics, which is the investigation of behavior of solids at extremely low temperatures.

The nearly complete absence of magnetic fields will be an advantage in both of these research efforts.

NO MORE DRIPPING Here's good temporary way to repair a persistently leaking water pipe. Cut out the leaky section with a hacksaw, then join the pipe-ends with a piece of automobile hose. Fasten this tightly with hose clamps.

Stringbean Cooking It is claimed that stringbeans will cook in half the usual time if they are cut lengthwise, instead of broken in the customary manner.

THE BIRMINGHAM (MICH.) ECCENTRIC June 20, 1963

or art show enthusiasts and some do not fit in any category, they just belong.

THE BLOOMFIELD Art Association is more than an ordinary social service organization. It made national news for Birmingham when it leased the city's deactivated sewer plant and, with an investment of more than \$40,000, converted it into one of the metropolitan areas finest art galleries.

How's that for making a silk purse out of a sow's ear? This community gallery is open to the public, free of charge, every afternoon (except Monday) with new shows monthly.

The shows vary from a most impressive collector's show (with armed guards for the irreplaceable works shown) to the student show including even beginner painters.

MEMBERS CAN exhibit their creative efforts in yearly member's show. An art rental program and art library for members are two new ideas in the planning stage.

Whether you like to plan and hang shows, schedule program events, entertain speakers, arrange and serve on the board, type, telephone, hammer, argue, listen, paint, scrub, catalogue things or just gab—there is no end of the contribution of effort, great and small, that the BAA can absorb.

Art is an exciting, many faceted field and there is much space available at the BAA to develop new ideas and help carry on the existing ones.

READY TO JOIN? Great. Just phone the BAA and ask for a membership blank.

are open to the public (for an enrollment fee).

With all this available free, why should anyone join? Along with the satisfaction of belonging to such an organization, members gain these privileges. They are invited to private previews of all the shows and events. All monthly programs are free. Members receive a discount on classes and art publication purchases.

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