

NEWS from the PALETTE

Louisiana Art & Artists' Guild

www.laag-site.org

926-4657

April Issue

Nora Scarbrough - Interviewed by Kay Bailey

Like many artists, Nora began drawing at an early age. At age five, she copied images from the "funny papers" and enlarged them. By the time she was ten years old, she was drawing the people who played cards with her parents to amuse herself while the adults were occupied.



Primarily a self-taught artist, Nora has taken many classes and workshops in Arkansas, Oklahoma, New Orleans, and at Louisiana Art and Artists' Guild throughout the years. When asked if her style has changed over the years, she said that she began creating realistic paintings, but now finds herself attracted to Impressionistic painting, although she experiments with a lot of different styles. She admires the work of late artist Mary Jane Cox.



I asked her about "painter's block" and whether she ever experienced it. She said she felt that most artists experienced it over time. Life goes on, and things happen that we have no control over. Her advice was to keep painting and creating, even if only to doodle. The desire and inspiration will eventually return.

An accomplished artist who practices in all mediums, Nora employs and combines them in her own special way. She teaches private lessons in her home and at Hobby Lobby. Beginning April 24, she will offer a workshop on watercolor and the use of pastels the at Louisiana Art and Artists' Guild studio. During the month of August, she will again teach a multi-medium workshop using acrylic and colored pencils at the Guild studio. She will inspire you to mix different mediums for ingenious results. To register for either of these workshops, please send in your \$50 deposit to 2490 Silverest Avenue, Baton Rouge, LA 70816. You can find out more at our website www.laag-site.org.



Message from the President



Kay Bailey
2012 LAAG President

Spring is here and with it are lots of happening things at the Studio in the Park. The art guild committee structure is working. Thanks to Jeanette Eckerd for researching our history. She has culled through old board meeting minutes, news articles, photos, and scrap book pages to put together 38 pages of times gone by. Denice Ducote has agreed to write the story of our organization for our 60th anniversary.

Have you noticed more news items in the media? The publicity committee has been active in getting our name out. Great job! We appreciate all that you are doing.

The River Road Show catalog is a real work of art. Kudos to Lane Downs for the beautiful job. He carefully tweaked each image to show it at its best. Leah Schwartzman, Claudia LeJeune, and I put labels on them and got them ready for mailing.

Member handbooks have been printed and should be in your hands by the time you read this message. You can find your Membership Card inside the front cover. It would not have been possible without the diligence of Lori Dalton, Lane Downs, Sue Warnock, Barbara Andrepont, and Roberta Loflin. Data entry, checking information, writing procedures, proofreading, selecting art for the cover, and more proofreading are required tasks before the handbook is "birthed". This is another great job, volunteers!



I hope that you have had an opportunity to study the workshop and class offerings for the year. The workshop committee researches instructors, contacts them, and negotiates fees. Thank you for putting together such a good slate for us. We are promoting local art instructors as well as a few nationally known presenters. Don't miss out. There is something for everyone in every price range.

We have new venues for exhibits as a result of the efforts of Anne Thigpen. If you haven't had an opportunity to meet her, look her up. She works tirelessly promoting LAAG for us. She is a dynamo. She communicates with us about our paintings, where they are and when to pick them up. She gets our photos and makes sure that we get our paintings exhibited. You are the best, Anne!

You've heard the old saying "It takes a village..." On Sunday, April 29 from 2:00-4:00 pm, LAAG will have a Member Forum and reception honoring our "village" volunteers. The activities described above are examples of just some of the work performed by our members. There is so much day-to-day activity that it is hard to describe in the space that I am allotted. Many thanks to the Board of Directors for the work you do. We will be celebrating all of you! If you are a regular volunteer, don't miss this date. If you aren't a volunteer yet, come out and see what all fun is about!

Last month Leah Schwartzman and I painted the Women's restroom at the Studio in the park. We really had fun getting to know each other. Until one has spent time with another in close quarters, you can't imagine how much you can laugh and cut up while getting a job done. If you haven't been to the studio



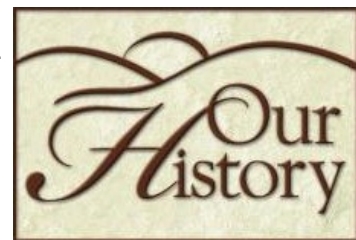
lately, it's time to stop by and see the beautiful paint job. The restroom is painted a sparkling white and yellow. The next step is embellishing the walls with paintings of flowers or other pictures. If you are interested in this project, please send your ideas to me as well as your offers to help. The female members of the board will select the best option. Please send your idea to kay.bailey@cox.net by May 1.



Guild News

What Do You Know About the Beginnings of LAAG?

In October 1953, our organization was founded through the efforts of six members. By researching old records, we have identified the names of five of these far-sighted individuals: Pearl Jordan, Barbara Beaucoudray, Dale Ammondm, Kathleen Willie, and Marguerite Woods. If you know who the sixth person is, or know anything about the early history of the Guild, we would like to hear from you. The year 2013 marks the 60th anniversary of our organization. A written history is being constructed from various old documents in our files. Personal commentary from long-time and former members would certainly add to the bare bones of the story we have now. If you or someone you know has information that would be helpful in this project, please contact Jeanette Eckert at jeckert249@yahoo.com or 205-0950.



Members' Forum

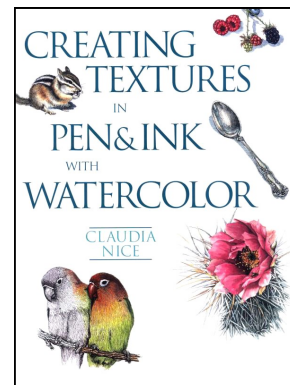
Our next Members' Forum will be April 29, Sunday, 2-4 pm. The theme of the forum will be Celebrating Our Volunteers. There will be a representative from each committee presenting a short explanation of the committee's activities. Afterwards, there will be a meet and greet with current committee members. Refreshments will be served and door prizes will be given away.

From the Library

Creating Textures in Pen & Ink with Watercolor by *Claudia Nice*

Reviewed by Kay Bailey

If you have ever admired the detail of pen and ink drawing, then, this book is for you. If you are a watercolor artist and would like to get amazing texture in your paintings, then, this book is for you too. Claudia Nice's book *Creating Textures in Pen & Ink with Watercolor* provides beautiful examples in the use of this mixed media. The artist takes us through an introduction to and the use of the basic materials. She covers in detail the technical pen, colored inks, as well as maintenance of the pen. The chapters which follow cover such topics as basic texturing techniques, achieving transparency, and creating realistic-looking metals. Earth textures, such as sand, gravel, volcanic rock, marbles, bricks and others, are shown in beautiful detail. Other chapters show how sky can be enhanced with pen and ink, as well as instruction on wood grains, tree techniques, floral painting, and still life strategies. The final chapter of the book takes the reader from fur to feathers.



This book is more of a beautifully illustrated picture book than a text on pen and ink with watercolor. The pictures provide a feast for your eyes and inspire you to try adding pen and ink enhancements to your watercolor paintings.

Creating Textures in Pen & Ink with Watercolor is available for lending from the LAAG library collection. To further your knowledge, you may also consider signing up for Louise Hansen's "An Introduction to Pen and Ink", a one-day workshop to be offered July 12 from 9:00 am-3:00 pm. See the LAAG website for further details.



LAAG has a **Facebook** page!

Check us out at www.facebook.com/LouisianaArtandArtistsGuild

We will be posting upcoming events and pictures afterwards. Look out for special news and offerings as well. To all of you using Facebook, please Like LAAG's page.

How to view Up-to-Date info on a Webpage

In order to help load web sites faster on your computer, once you visit a page on the internet, your computer will save a copy. This copy, saved on your computer, is called a Cached copy. If you visit this page again, your computer will load the Cache copy onto your screen which is much faster then redownloading a new copy. Most of the time this is just fine, but problems can occur if the page has been updated since it was stored on your computer. This causes you to view an older, out-of-date copy. Refreshing the page will make your browser download a new copy of the page and insure you are viewing the latest information.



There are two ways to bypass your computer's cache and refresh the webpage.

1. Press and hold the Ctrl key on your keyboard and click on the Refresh button at the top of the browser.
2. Press and hold the Ctrl key on your keyboard and press the F5 key at the top of your keyboard.

If you are using Firefox, press the Shift key instead of the Ctrl key. If you are using a Mac, press the Cmd key instead of the Ctrl key.

From the Internet

Fine Art America: www.fineartamerica.com

This website offers free registration. You can upload infinite numbers of your artwork, but you can offer only 25 for sale. The site offers different groups for association and contests with cash prizes.



Red Bubble: www.redbubble.com

This online art community offers numerous groups that you can join, based on mediums, media, and styles, to share your art in their galleries. Also within these groups, there are many "challenges" and contests with cash prizes. Joining a group certainly makes your art visible to the many people surfing the net.

Zazzle: www.zazzle.com

Café Press: www.cafepress.com

If you wish to promote your art on t-shirts, and different kind of accessories, zazzle.com and cafepress.com allow you to operate a virtual store. They offer interesting ways to turn your art into different kind of gifts or promotional objects to share with your friends and family.

Proper Disposal of Art Materials

If you use oil paints, you should be aware of the proper method to dispose of turpentine, oil paint, and linseed oil. You can find some guidelines for safe handling of these items on the LAAG website at www.laag-site.org/materials_disposal.html. Keep them in mind in your studio, your home, and at the LAAG studio.



John Brown



Louisiana Art and Artists' Guild extends sincere condolences to the family of LAAG member John Brown, who passed away on Monday, March 12. John's painting "Don't Mess With My Marbles" won 3rd Place prize in both the Louisiana Watercolor Society's 40th International Exhibition and the 41st Annual River Road Show. John was an active member of the New Orleans Art Association, St Tammany Art Association, and former Vice President of the Louisiana Watercolor Society.

Brush with Burden Exhibit

Every year the Burden Horticulture Society presents the Brush with Burden Exhibition. It is a multi-media, juried exhibit of local artists' works depicting scenes at the Burden Center. The show was on display at the Steele Burden Memorial Orangerie from March 3 -11.



Betty Efferson won the Judge's Choice for her oil painting *Chairs*. Carol Ordogne won an Honorable mention for her oil painting *Dapple Blue*. Many other LAAG members had artwork in the show.



You can view pictures of the show on the LAAG website at www.laag-site.org/Gallery/Brush_with_Burden_Exhibit

Tablescapes Exhibit

Members of the Baton Rouge Garden Club designed floral arrangements and table settings to express a theme inspired by paintings from LAAG artists. The interpretations were displayed together with the paintings in a unique exhibit combining flowers, art and table settings at the Baton Rouge Garden Center in Independence Park on February 25 & 26.

You can view pictures of the show on the LAAG website at www.laag-site.org/Gallery/Tablescapes_Exhibit



Exhibits

Variety!!!

Variety is the spice of life! In our exhibits, we see lots of watercolors, oils, and acrylics. Just once in a while, we see a work in pastel or colored pencil. Don't you think that would be interesting to see some collages, more pastels, more works in colored pencil? What about graphite pencil work? Showcase your creativity in all aspects of art. We love what you are doing and want to share it with the community!

Tip for Handling Artwork

As the person responsible for hanging our exhibits, I transport many of your paintings to different places to showcase them. One of our members had a great idea. She brought her paintings in boxes. That not only protects the paintings from scratches or damage during the travel, it's a great way to store and protect them against mold and dust at home. Thanks to Margaret Harmon for the tip!

I worked for a while at Hobby Lobby, in the framing department, and often people asked for boxes. I would often give few to customers, when it was time to unload a truck. When you are frame-shopping, if you notice that deliveries are being made, you can ask if they will give you boxes for your frames. It does not hurt to ask!

Anne Thigpen, Exhibits Chair

Independence Park Theater

The Spring Judged Show is hanging at Independence Park right now. We'll soon know the awards given by Thomas Neff, who is judging the show. Kay Bailey (as LAAG President) and Anne Thigpen (as Exhibits Chair) will add their own awards to the judge's choices.

Don't forget to put May 20th on your calendar for the Spring Judged Show Reception. You won't want to miss Louise Hansen's pen and ink demonstration!

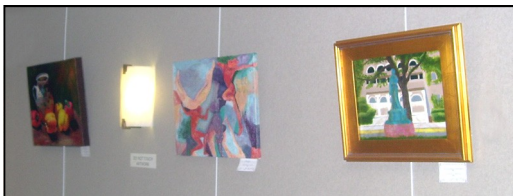


Please note, from now on the NEW time for take-in is 10:30 am to 2:00 pm.



Ochsner Hospital

On February 29, Ochsner Hospital off O'Neil Lane offered the Guild the opportunity to showcase our paintings for the month of March and part of April. During the hanging, the hospital staff made great comments about the originality and variety of the paintings. Thanks to Jo Busse, Betty Efferson, Margaret Harmon, Mary Heckman, Vera Deville Judycki, Roberta Loflin and Jo McWilliams for your participation.

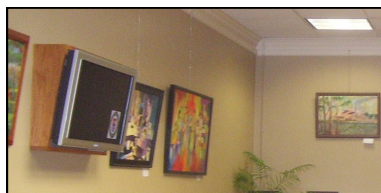
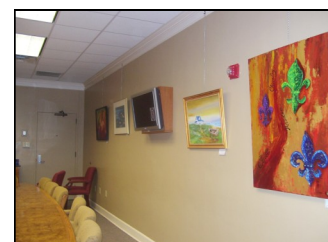


Mayor's Office

The paintings at the Mayor's Office were exchanged in mid-February. Because a few of them were smaller than usual, the exchange was easier to handle, and still looks great in the space.

A special thanks to Joel McClain for his great help of carrying the paintings up and down the building with Anne.

The next time to exchange paintings is in June.



Forum Salon



At the end of February, when the art was exchanged at the Forum Salon, it was discovered that a few of the paintings had been replaced by other works. The staff said that they accepted another artist's work for a permanent showcase. It is disappointing that we have lost half of our spots, but take comfort in the fact that we still have 6 spots available.

So don't give up! Keep painting, drawing, and creating!

Our next exchange is May 14th.

Serop's Express Restaurants

Around the 10th of May, Mary Heckman's work will take the place of Leah Schwartzman's and Beverly Heil's at the Serop's on Jefferson Hwy. Jo Busse's work will replace Roberta Loflin's at the Serop's on Highland Rd.

No one has signed up yet for August (our next exchange). If you wish to share a show or display a "one-person show", please email Anne Thigpen at athigpen@eatel.net.



Interpret This Photo



New Challenge from the Exhibit Chair

When you come to the Studio in the Park, do you think that the walls look a bit "bare"? We need to do something about that. I've had a "challenge" in mind for a long time, but had nowhere to really showcase the results. "Well...", I thought, "why not use our place? Our studio!"

Create your own interpretation of the above photograph. You can use any format, size, media and any style you wish.

This photograph is also available on our website and on flyers at the Studio in the Park. The deadline to bring your interpretation of the photo is Wednesday, June 6th.

How fun it will be! We can cover our empty walls!

If we have great participation, we will repeat this challenge for the month of September.

Upcoming Workshops

Charles Smith - Plein Aire

April 14-15 (rain out will be April 28-29)

Fee: \$80

The Feliciana Chapter of LAAG is holding its first workshop of 2012. The Chapter is looking forward to holding several more workshops this year. For more information contact Joe Savell at joesavell@bellsouth.net or 225-635-6595.



Roberta Loflin - Exploring Color in Watermedia

Every Saturday April 21 through May 19 from 9:30 am to 12:00 pm

Fee: \$100

Ages 14 and older

To register contact Roberta Loflin at rloflin@gmail.com or 225-803-6785

In this class students will learn how to mix harmonious colors in watercolor and/or acrylic and how to avoid mixing "mud." Students will work with limited palettes and find out that one does not need a lot of different tubes of paint to create vibrant compositions.



Nora Scarbrough - Mixed Watercolor and Pastel

April 24,26,27, Tuesday, Thursday, Friday from 10:00 am to 4:00 pm

Fee: \$125

To register contact Kay Bailey at kay.bailey@cox.net or 225-343-3265

Students will work from photos to create a mixed media painting integrating the two mediums - watercolors and pastels. The layering of pastels over the watercolor will create luminous paintings focusing on light. The technique of using pastels will also enhance shadows to make for dramatic paintings.



Louise Hansen - Creating Texture in Watercolor

May 15-17, Tuesday through Thursday from 6:00 pm to 8:30 pm

Fee: \$60

To register contact Kay Bailey at kay.bailey@cox.net or 225-343-3265

In this class we'll look at some tried and true textures, for example salt, and review these methods of application. We will also create texture in ways and with materials that may surprise you. You'll learn textures that can apply to almost any subject matter. A drawing will be furnished to allow maximum opportunity to explore different applications of texture. I will give short demonstrations on techniques throughout the class, giving you plenty of time to paint and practice.



Regina Loch Elvert - Abstract Oils

May 18-20, Friday through Sunday from 10:00 am to 4:00 pm

Fee: \$135

To register contact Alex Favre-Smith at aiidbtr@yahoo.com or 225-328-5936

Hurry, this workshop is already half full!

If you have always wanted to paint real objects and people in abstract forms, this workshop will teach you how. Learn about tensions between colors and shapes creating a coherent composition. In this workshop we will also analyze abstract artwork of famous artists.



Kimberly Santini - Getting Fresh at Your Easel and Your Desk

May 31-June 2, Thursday through Saturday from 9:00 am to 4:00 pm

Fee: \$225

To register contact Roberta Loflin at rloflin@gmail.com or 225-803-6785

Registration is due by **April 20**.

In this acrylic workshop, Kimberly will introduce some color theory, focus on the benefits of working a limited palette to create extraordinary color and discuss the hazards of working from photo references. The class is geared toward the student who is comfortable with his/her tools, has a basic understanding of values and demonstrates a competent grasp of drawing. Participants will experiment with color mixing and learn brushwork tips shared via demonstrations, exercises, and critiques. Kimberly will also address the business side of being an artist, including the value of daily creativity, marketing, building an internet presence, using social media to enhance sales, and more.

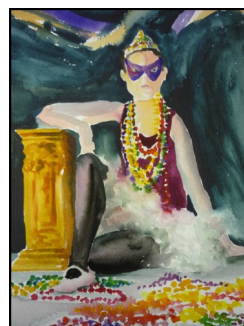
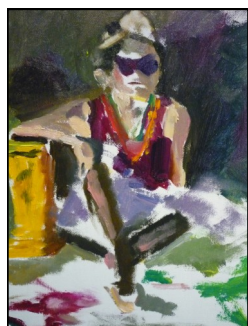


Life Drawing Sessions



Music, King cake and lots of beads helped celebrate the Mardi Gras season at the Wednesday night Life Drawing session on February 15th. Participating artists painted the model all dressed up in seasonal finery, to the inspirational Mardi Gras music in the background.

Life Drawing sessions are held every Wednesday, 6:00 pm to 9:00 pm at the Studio in the Park. The fee is \$10 per night or \$30 per month. For more information, e-mail Steve Shamburger at steve@steveshamburger.com



Member News



Pat Wattam's oil painting "Afternoon Splash" was accepted into the Brush with Burden Exhibit, and it sold! "Clouds on Beach", another painting of Pat's, was juried into a show in Covington with the St Tammany Art Association and has been hanging for about one month. Congratulations Pat!!



Louise Guidry sold three small paintings at The Opera House in St. Martinville in March. Her next show will be in New Orleans at the Ariondante Gallery on Julia Street from April 7 through May 5.

Elayne Kuehler is exhibiting two oil paintings in the Catharine Lorillard Wolfe Art Club's 2012 Annual Members Show at The Salmagundi Art Club, New York, NY. The exhibit will hang March 18th through March 30th. Elayne's work will also appear in an exhibition by the Associated Women in the Arts at the Louisiana Old State Capitol from April 19th through May 28th. The opening reception will be held on April 19th from 5 – 7 pm at the Old State Capitol in the Senate Chamber Gallery. The public is invited to attend.

Bhi C. Wooley's "In Living Color" is currently on exhibit at the Maison DaBovale in Rayne, LA. Bhi is also exhibiting at the LeVieux Presbytere Museum with a group of local artists in Church Point, LA. The museum is hosting its first art show, with an opening reception on March 17th from 6:30-8:30 p.m. From March 26 thru May 26, Bhi is exhibiting at the Zigler Museum in Jennings, LA, with a group of friends. The exhibit is titled "Friends".

Carol Shirley attended the Brush with Burden Art Reception March 3rd where her painting "Cabin in the Sun" was displayed. Carol also exhibited for one month at Oshner Clinic. Carol was selected as one of two artists commissioned by Audubon Library through a grant with Baton Rouge Arts Council. Carol is currently teaching a gifted and talented art class in East Feliciana Parish School system and oil painting lessons at McKnight's. She is planning to attend the Charles Smith workshop scheduled by the Feliciana Chapter of LAAG in April.

Linda Broderick will attend the Charles Smith workshop with Feliciana Chapter of LAAG in April. Her work can be seen at The Foyer and Main Street Market in Baton Rouge.

Martha Singer is scheduled to take a plein air workshop with V. Vaughn in Fredericksburg, TX and attend the Charles Smith workshop with Feliciana Chapter of LAAG in April. Martha sold a commission piece in March.

Alice Kent attended a workshop in March with Laura Robb in Santa Fe, New Mexico. She is also teaching a six-week abstract and landscape class at Silliman in Clinton. Her work is now hanging at The Foyer in Baton Rouge.

Murrell Butler, Frances Durham, Krista Roche, Dahn Savell and Joe Savell are exhibiting their work at Backwoods Gallery in St. Francisville.



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This newsletter is produced by a Committee consisting of the following members:

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Copy Editor: Sue Warnock
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Member News: Trish Poynot
Iberville and Feliciana News: Trish Poynot
Exhibits: Anne Thigpen
Workshops: Leah Schwartzman
Interviews: Caroline Derbes, Kay Bailey, Tom Skillern and Howard Hershberg

Any member information to be included in the newsletter should be sent to Trish Poynot at grannytrishp@yahoo.com by the first of every other month. The newsletter is then published and mailed on the first of the next month.