

NEWS from the PALETTE



Louisiana Art & Artists' Guild laagbr@laag-site.org 926-4657
www.laag-site.org www.facebook.com/LouisianaArtandArtistsGuild

December 2013

Lisa Pope - Interviewed by Trish Poynot

Meet Lisa Pope, a new Louisiana Art & Artists' Guild member since this past Summer. She's deeply immersed in her art work nowadays, painting 3-4 times a week at her kitchen table at home while her 6 and 9 year old kids are in school. These days, she is a full time mom after having travelled much over the past 7 years with her husband's work.

Here's some of what Lisa has to say about herself and her art work: "I attempt to capture light and color that breathe life into the subjects I paint. I wish to carry the viewer on this journey with me, to find interest in the ordinary. I have always loved art. However, I chose to pursue a career in education as a school counselor, got married and started a family; which left little time for art. I grew to miss it. During the past five years, I immersed myself in painting every chance I get and reading all I can about art. I reconnected to my original love for art. I love how it feels to start with a fresh piece of paper. It's like I'm seeing something for the first time, when I study it to paint it. I apply paint and can't wait to see what happens. Pablo Picasso was quoted as saying, "Every child is an artist. The problem is how to remain an artist once he grows up." This is what I am attempting to do – return to the art I love and see the world with fresh new eyes. ...The world is anew. It's full of vibrant colors, compositions, and perspectives. It feels like a rebirth.

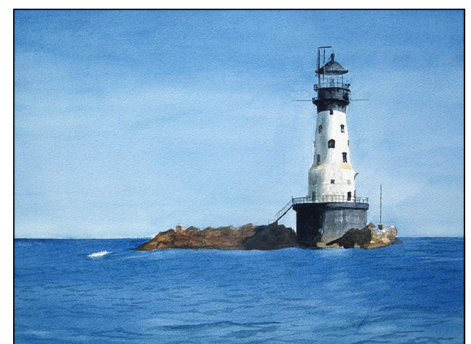
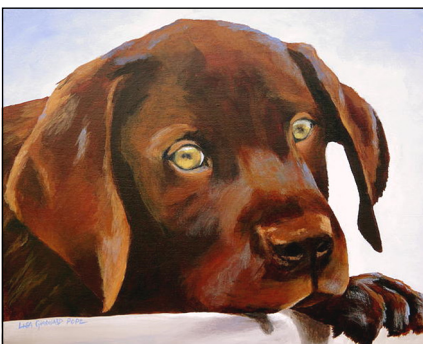
"I have lived on both coasts of the United States, Canada and Guam and now live in Zachary, Louisiana. I feel fortunate to have experienced the sites, food, friendly people and cultures. I hope my paintings capture a glimpse of all the natural beauty I have seen from places I have been. While I had a successful career as a high school counselor, I have chosen to leave that behind to continue on my path as an artist. This is my passion."

Lisa hopes that from her art, others would see things in a different light, and hopefully, see the beauty in the ordinary. She advises aspiring artists to read and study about art, but more than anything-paint as often as you can, even 5 -10 minutes at a time-you learn more from doing, experimenting and trying things than from reading. She has painted lots during the past 5 years, and sees her work getting better and better-she is proud of the improvements she's been able to make!

It was in high school that Lisa had a teacher who helped her discover that she loved art. She is mostly self-

taught, having also taken some workshops along the way and learned from other people as well. Among her favorite artists are: Andrew Wyeth, Richard McKinley, and LWS artists Carrie Waller and Annie Strack. Lisa is a member of Louisiana Art & Artists' Guild, Louisiana Watercolor Society and Zachary Artist Guild. She paints with watercolor, acrylic and soft pastels and doesn't particularly have a favorite medium, but chooses her medium based upon the subject of the painting. She said that she recently purchased a set of oils and looks forward to trying them out at least by 2014.

Lisa paints both for herself (she'll continue to paint no matter what) and to sell her work and make some money and have others' admiration for her art work. She welcomes commissions and invites you to her website, lisa-pope.artistwebsites.com. She doesn't "advertise" per se, but has a Facebook page, [Lisa Girouard Pope Fine Art](https://www.facebook.com/LisaGirouardPopeFineArt) and a blog, whatsonlisaseasel.blogspot.com. You can also see her work on the LAAG website at laag-site.org/Gallery/Artist_Galleries/Lisa-Pope/





Message from the President

WOW! It's chilly out there. (Notice that I LOVE WEATHER?) I'm enjoying my tea... warming my hands and smelling wonderful...not to mention that it's yummy.

It's been a very busy time around the Guild and the Studio, too!

The River Road Show is hanging at the State Archives Gallery. It was exhilarating to see the paintings as we opened the shipping cartons and as artists brought in their pieces for the exhibit. I hope you have the Reception on your calendar for December 13. You'll want to see this exhibit before it ends on December 19!! A visit to the Winter Judged Show Exhibit at Independence Park should also be in your December plans. Artists have shared some excellent works.

The Board is planning the January Retreat where we'll review this year's activities and plan for 2014 and beyond. Please email or call me or any of the Board members to share your ideas about YOUR Art Guild! Tell us what we can improve, and what we are doing well. We need to hear from YOU.

BREC renovations at Cedarcrest Park continue. The Studio now has a new water fountain and deep sink in the entry area. We now have hanging rails on two walls, and those go along with the new light fixtures and new fans very nicely. Lighting for the parking lot and front entry is greatly improved. I hope you'll join us at the Studio and enjoy these new features while you paint or visit.

Paint (or draw) daily. Be part of a team that inspires you. And, care!

Sincerely, Barbara Andrepont bandrepont@bellsouth.net cell: 225-773-8020

Retrospective Exhibit and Reception

The Retrospective Show Anniversary Reception was a marvelous success. It was held in the exhibit area, among the 87 paintings. The two-tiered Anniversary cake from Ambrosia Bakery was the centerpiece of the beautifully decorated tables. Members provided sweets and treats of all kinds.

Barbara Dupree, Ruth McNaylor, and Byron Levy were honored with Lifetime Membership Awards. Their longtime commitments to the arts community and their work for the Art Guild were noted as Barbara Andrepont and Kay Bailey presented each with a plaque noting their lifetime membership.

Leah Schwarzman provided a quick history of the Art Guild.

Art Guild past presidents were introduced, including Judi Betts, Bill Stracener, Greg Kiger, Sammie King, Lane Downs and Kay Bailey. Their recollections and comments provided glimpses of LAAG as it has been. Judi Betts noted that Phil Witter had once donated a HORSE for a fundraising campaign. Greg Kiger and Sammy King noted the importance they placed on having studio and meeting space, and their efforts to keep the Guild together during tough times. We owe a debt of gratitude to the work, vision and commitment of members in each of our 60 years. Bill Stracener recalled their first exhibit being hung on chicken wire outside of the old Sears Building (now the BREC Administration Building), on Florida Boulevard in Baton Rouge.



Three cash awards were presented to honor entries in the Anniversary Exhibit, including *City Lights* by Kathy Stone, *Git Dat Beat* by Don Rast, *A Labor of Love* by Joyce Hensley. The following paintings received merit awards: *Sisters on the Square* by Louise Hansen, *Day Dreamer* by Sue Wang, *Living on the Edge* by Larry Downs, *Mandolin Divided by 15* by Caroline Derbes. Past president and Baton Rouge artist, Bill Stracener, was the judge.

It was a glorious 60th Anniversary Celebration. We hope you enjoyed it with us.

44th Annual *River Road Show*

Once again the Louisiana Art and Artists' Guild brings to the Baton Rouge area, world class art, for the enjoyment of the community. This national annual art show began as part of a historical art event: the "Great River Road Art Contest" established in 1968 through the efforts of Colonel Lester White and the Mississippi River Parkway Commission in St. Louis, MO. The Commission was comprised of 10 states along the Mississippi River and 2 Canadian Provinces. Each of the states hosted its own show, with the winners coming together to compete in the International Show held during the Commission's Annual Convention in St. Louis. Through the efforts of then Louisiana Art Director, Jay Broussard and what was then known as the Guild Gallery of Baton Rouge, Louisiana had a very successful showing at the Old State Capitol.

After Col. White's death, and no convention in 1972, participation dwindled in the early 70's with some dropping out each year. Today Louisiana is the only remaining State National River Road Show and it continues to be an outstanding success with ever growing participation. The Louisiana River Road Show is a show that artists from across the nation eagerly await each year. This year 131 artists from 26 states submitted 403 entries ... 71 new artists and 60 returning artists. Seventy-three of those paintings were juried into the show by internationally known artist, instructor, author and judge, Judi Betts, AWS.

The Louisiana Art and Artists' Guild invites you, your friends and family, neighbors and colleagues to join us for an evening of socializing, viewing fabulous art and refreshment/hors d'oeuvres, as we celebrate the artists and their work with a reception and awards ceremony on Friday, **December 13**, 2013 from 5:30 - 7:30 p.m., at the Louisiana State Archives Building on Essen Lane.

Winter Judged Show & Christmas Party

The Winter Judged Show is currently on exhibit at the Independence Park Theatre and will be available for public viewing until January 9, 2014. The Louisiana Art and Artists' Guild would like to express our appreciation to Monica Bishara who will be the judge for the show, which features 36 works of art by 22 artists. Monica is local artist, retired art instructor from the Ursuline Academy in New Orleans, member of Associated Women in the Arts and signature member of the Louisiana Watercolor Society.

This year LAAG will hold its annual Christmas Party in conjunction with the Winter Judged Reception and Awards Presentation on Sunday, **December 8** from 2:00 - 4:00 p.m. at the Theatre Gallery. The Guild Christmas party is always a fun event for members and guests. The lively gift exchange, opening of random gifts and fun of being able to steal from each other always leads to lots of fun and laughter. Each member who wants to participate in the gift exchange should bring a wrapped gift (apprx. \$10) suitable for male or female. There will also be a painting exchange for members who wish exchange their art with other member artists. Each artist who wants to participate should bring one of their signed paintings, unframed and wrapped. The paintings are exchanged in a random manner, each one being a surprise. All Guild members and their guests are invited to enjoy the festivities, including snacks and refreshments. Of course all contributions to the food/refreshments are appreciated.

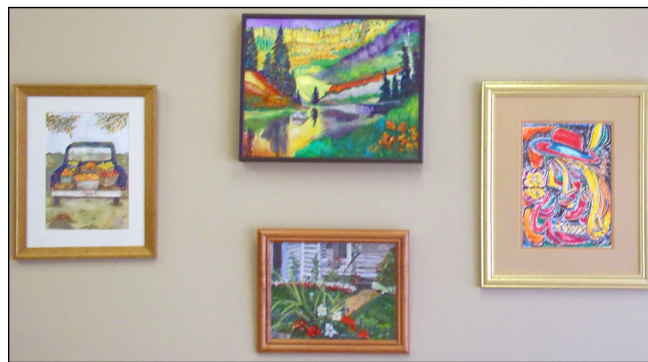


Salon Fashion

The exhibit at Salon Fashion was changed out on November 12. Currently on display are 10 pieces of art work by 8 Guild member artists. The exhibit will hang until January 2014.

Mayor's Office

The current exhibit at the Mayor's office will be on display through February 7, 2014. The exhibit includes 11 paintings by 7 Guild member artists. To display your artwork in this great forum make your plans now to have something ready for the February 7 change out. Paintings exhibited in the Mayor's office must be a minimum of 22" x 28".



Serop's Express Restaurants



Jo McWilliams is currently exhibiting a one woman show at Serop's Express, Highland Road location. The exhibit will be available for viewing until January 2014.

The Jefferson Highway Serop's is currently featuring the acrylic paintings of Joann Smith, and this exhibit will also be on display until January 2014.



CALL FOR ART: The Louisiana Art and Artists' Guild is currently in the process of establishing the 2014 schedule for one person art exhibits at the two Serop's Express locations--Jefferson Highway and Highland Road. The first exhibiting opportunity will begin the first week in January, 2014 and will hang throughout the months of January and February.

These establishments provide great visibility for your artwork and have yielded several sales/commissions for member artists who have exhibited in these locations. Each exhibit hangs for a two month period. The exhibit space at each location can accommodate approximately 6-8 paintings depending on the size of the paintings--usually from 5x7 to 16x20. Make your plans and reserve your place for your one person show now! Contact Roberta Loflin at rloflin@gmail.com to get on the list and take advantage of this exhibit opportunity.

Ken Hosmer Workshop

The final LAAG workshop of 2013 was an oil painting workshop conducted by well known artist, Ken Hosmer. Originally from West Texas and New Mexico, Ken moved to Nebraska in 1997. He is a signature member of the Southwestern Watercolor Society. This oils workshop focused on "Developing Color Energy." What a delightful and informative workshop! Thirteen participants enjoyed painting with Ken, October 29 thru November 1 at the LAAG Studio in the Park. Some of the comments by participants included:

"learned new techniques-painting upside down, broken color, color pathways"...and much more. "Ken is a very generous instructor," effectively sharing as much of his reservoir of knowledge as possible in four short days. He is a widely respected artist, noted for his calm, supportive manner and unique use of color. If you missed this workshop don't worry-we are working on getting him to return to Baton Rouge in 2014; but, this time to conduct a watercolor workshop.



Judi Betts Workshop

By Leah Schwartzman

"Life is Like a Box of Chocolates" ... and so was the recent watercolor workshop of the same title conducted by internationally recognized and respected watercolor artist Judi Betts. For five days in September, 22 participants gathered every morning at the Louisiana Art & Artists' Guild Studio in the Park to enjoy an adventure in watercolor painting with Judi. Attendees, many of whom had taken workshops with Judi before, traveled from as far as Natchez, MS, Beaumont TX, Washington state and several towns between. In keeping with the workshop title, each day began with a chocolate related surprise and continued throughout each day with surprise painting opportunities/techniques that Judi skillfully demonstrated and then provided individual assistance to participants' completion. This was my first Judi Betts workshop and I can't wait for my next one.



The first day Judi shared with us, three of her favorite triads; transparent, desert and staining, each of which mixes to a neutral. We were instructed to choose one of those triads to use in all of the paintings we worked on the first two days. She also encouraged us to experiment and invent our own triads outside the workshop. Our first challenge (not using the triads) was to complete a 30 minute painting related to the bag of chocolate candies that was at each of our workstations. Judi is an exuberant artist that imparts her passion for art and life in the way she teaches. Each morning I looked forward to greeting her good morning. Although, slight in stature with a gentle face, her sparkling blue eyes make me think of a silver haired child still full of wonderment about life and a contagious smile that made me wonder "what surprises, what knowledge, what humor" she would share that day.



Every day, Judi shared new and exciting techniques, anecdotes and knowledge, challenging and encouraging us to add enthusiasm, consideration and generosity to our paintings and to life. One of the things I heard over and over again... "leave holes" ... "leave holes" ... "leave holes" ... "these holes become "light" in the painting". We also, learned about color values, composition, infusing interest in our paintings with "shapes"; relating color temperature throughout the painting; completing a painting using 3-4 colors in a color blocking technique that entails dividing the page into unequal quadrants, paint each quadrant a single random color wash, overlay a subject that reaches into each quadrant then paint that subject one quadrant at a time, using only the complement of the color of the quadrant being worked, (i.e. if working in a blue quadrant use only orange to paint that portion of the subject in the blue quadrant. There was no planning for this technique. We painted the quadrants random color washes without knowing that we were going to add a subject. We had a surprise guest speaker, attorney Bill Wilson who spoke about copyrights; a live human model and a live cat model; we painted representational subjects over abstract shapes and experimented with "frisket film" ...fun ...fun..fun. Participants brought a variety of plants, flowers, pumpkins/gourds and Judi brought a large bouquet of sunflowers for still lifes.



Upcoming Workshops

Don Rast - Painting Realism and Abstraction using Acrylics

Tuesdays, January 7-February 11 from 6:00 pm to 9:00 pm

Early Bird rate until December 6: \$145 members / \$190 nonmembers

Regular fee: \$190 members / \$240 nonmembers

To register contact Betty Klenke at bjklenke@gmail.com or 225-755-2449.

More information on the LAAG website at laag-site.org/workshops/Rast/



Roberta Loflin - FUNdamentals in Watercolor

Saturdays, January 11-February 15 from 9:30 am to 12:00 pm

Registration Fee: \$100 members / \$125 nonmembers

Ages 14 and older

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

More information on the LAAG website at laag-site.org/workshops/Loflin/fundamentals

Kathy Stone - Creative Solutions and Corrections

January 22-24, Wednesday - Friday from 9:00 am - 4:00 pm

Early Bird rate until December 21: \$190 members / \$225 nonmembers

Regular fee: \$225 members / \$250 nonmembers

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

Ron Thomson - Luminous Passages - Oil/Acrylics

February 5-8, Wednesday - Saturday from 10:00 am - 4:00 pm

Early Bird rate until December 16: \$400 members / \$450 nonmembers

Regular fee: \$450 members / \$500 nonmembers

To register contact Joel McLain at jbmclainla@cox.net or 225-766-2353.

More information on the website at laag-site.org/workshops/Thomson/



Caroline Derbes - Drawing on the Right Side of the Brain

February 9-12, Sunday - Wednesday from 9:00 am to 12:00 pm

Early Bird rate until January 8: \$125 members / \$150 nonmembers

Regular fee: \$150 members / \$175 nonmembers

To register contact Charleen Kling at brcrawfishtails@aol.com or 225-927-0933.

Paul Jackson - Painting Patterns and Textures in Nature

March 12-14, Wednesday - Friday from 9:00 am to 4:00 pm

Early Bird rate until January 10: \$325 members / \$375 nonmembers

Regular fee: \$375 members / \$425 nonmembers

To register contact Betty Gravois at elizabethgravois@gmail.com or

225-257-4958

More information on the website at laag-site.org/workshops/Jackson/



Member News

LAAG member **Helen Robichaux** invites all to check out a watercolor workshop by internationally known artist and instructor **Lian Zhen**. The workshop will be held in Schriever, LA, which is between Houma and Thibodaux, from February 11 - 13, 2014. The cost is \$300 and a \$150 deposit will reserve your spot. Contact Helen Robichaux at 985-447-3334 or 985-852-1539 or helenrobichaux@concast.net.

You can visit Lian Zhen's website at www.lianspainting.com to check out his work.

Four members of Louisiana Art & Artists' Guild exhibited their works along with the Open Studio members and Art Classes from BREC's Webb Park at Greenwell Springs Library during the month of October. They are Betty Hughes, Shelley Neil, Joyce Hensley and Mary Heckman.

Debbie Denstorff, Marylyn Daniel, Dana Mosby, Pat Wattam and Nanci Charpentier had an open house at the home of Tonya Polozola in University Club Plantation Subdivision on November 15.

Several Guild members won awards at the Iberville Parish Library's 43rd Annual Acadian Art Show held in October. In the Professional category, four Honorable Mention awards were won by Mary Heckman, *Mabel Waits in the Vehicle*, Joyce Hensley, *Kerlerrec Street*, Roberta Loflin, *Crashing Wave Study*, and Theresa Marchi-afava, *Ladies in Waiting*. In the Non-Professional category, Joel McLain won Second Place for Oils with *Iron into Gold: Triathlete*. Kay Bailey won Second Place in Drawing with *The Four Seasons*. Suzanne Lamotte won Third Place in Watercolor with *Fall Gourds*. Congratulations to these Guild members!



Mary Heckman participated in the Habitat for Humanity Annual Auction of Artful Creations from Recycled Items held Nov 7. She entered *Tower of Lights* and *The Indian in the Cupboard*. One part of the artwork has to come from the Re Store store. This is Mary Heckman's third year participating in this project.

Roberta Van Zandt Loflin exhibited a one person show at Fairwood Library during the month of November including a demonstration November 16 on painting trees in watercolor. She also gave a one day workshop in New Iberia, November 14, on color mixing and still life; and on December 6, she will give a workshop on "Basic Watercolor for People's Health."



Lisa Pope was juried into the 44th Annual River Road Show; she received Honorable Mention for *Two Elephants* at the 2013 Louisiana Watercolor Society Spring Member Show; she had a solo exhibit with the Artists of Guam at DSF Galleria in Guam and was juried into Creative Hands: Pacific 2010 Exhibit on Guam and her painting, her painting *Inarajan Bay* was chosen as the featured magazine cover for The University of Guam Spring Catalog. Lisa recently attended a watercolor workshop instructed by Pio Lyons November 16th through the Louisiana Watercolor Society. Also, she taught a 6 week watercolor workshop for adults, at Joie Petite Designs in Zachary last summer and will be offering future workshops in watercolor and soft pastel in early 2014.



Kathy Miller Stone announces that she is exhibiting in "The Calligraphy of Trees," a group invitational featuring new works of photography, paintings in oil, watercolor and pastel, drawings in ink and graphite and mixed media sculptures, and is on view at the Garden District Gallery, located at 1332 Washington Avenue in New Orleans, from November 15 - December 8, 2013.



Nanci Charpentier sold her painting, *Yellow Flowers*, a 24" x 24" Oil on Panel, through Lagniappe Frame Shoppe. Nanci also had three paintings, *Trail to Avalanche Lake*, *Plume* and *Far Shore*, juried in the AWA Archives Gallery Show and Sale in October. Her painting, *Magnolia 9*, was juried into the 88th Annual River Road Show. Additionally, Nanci is showing her work at Beauregard Gallery and Bistro in downtown Baton Rouge, 715 Europe Street. Congratulations, Nanci!





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December 2013

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

Chair: Lane Downs

Art & Design Director: Lane Downs

Information Director: Trish Poynot

Copy Editor: Trish Poynot

Guild News: Open

Member News: Trish Poynot

Iberville and Feliciana News: Trish Poynot

Exhibits: Open

Workshops: Leah Schwartzman

Interviews: Leah Schwartzman, Trish Poynot, 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 newsletter@laag-site.org by the tenth of every other month. The newsletter is then published and mailed on the first of the next month.