Kathy Miller Stone nws - Interviewed by Kay Bailey

Baton Rouge artist, Kathy Miller Stone, has been painting and drawing professionally for 47 years. She is a signature member in the National Watercolor Society, Transparent Watercolor Society of America, Louisiana Watercolor Society, Missouri Watercolor Society, and others. When asked if she ever considered any other career, she replied: "Only when I was in grade school did I think of being a veterinarian. When I started thinking about what I REALLY wanted to be, my father said 'DO WHAT YOU LOVE'. When I told him I wanted to be an artist, he said to at least find an art career that could be profitable." So she studied Commercial Art in college (but never used it).

Kathy paints every single day, usually from 3-5 hours. She says that when her children were little she claimed a day (Thursday) to paint. She took the kids to Mother's Day Out, and family and friends knew not to call unless the need was urgent. As the kids got older, they knew that their Mom wasn't going to bring lunch, homework, etc., to school on Thursday.

Kathy advises all artists to enter competitions: "Even if you don't want to compete, it will make you look at your work in a whole different way - consider it a challenge to yourself and not just competition with other artists. Enter as many shows as possible - it keeps you thinking about the next painting and bettering yourself - and - if your work is not out in front of the public, who will know about it to buy it?"

Selling one's art requires the artist to be proactive. When at art shows, "introduce yourself to potential buyers and strike up conversations which will include your work - give them a business card, and 'happen to mention' the next holiday that is coming up (Mother's Day, Father's Day, Christmas, etc.). The next time they think about art, you may be the one they call because you were professional enough to engage them in a conversation."

Her final piece of advice to new artists is to take as many workshops as you can - "with each one, you will learn something, and you will be networking with other artists from whom you will also learn."

Kathy will be teaching a LAAG workshop, Making a Masterpiece Using Light & Shadow, on March 21-25, from 6:00 to 9:00 pm.
From the President

A letter from Kay Bailey, the new LAAG President -

It seems that only yesterday we were ushering in the year 2000, with all of its hype about what the new millennium might bring. Here we are 10 years later, and I’d venture to guess that most of us, as artists, have scarcely approached our medium any differently despite the abounding new technology. Watercolorists, along with oil and acrylic painters, go about the business of creating art just as we did before iPhones, iPods, and GPS units. The internet, however, has changed the way we access information. At our fingertips is more information on art, artists, and techniques than we will ever be able to use.

As we kick off 2011, able to communicate faster and more frequently thanks to Facebook and smartphones, we are focused on what’s important to our Guild members. In addition to having a place to paint, many Guild members have expressed the need for real-life interaction with other artists. At the Studio in the Park on Silverest Avenue, both of these needs are met on Wednesdays and on Sunday afternoons. Fellow artists gather to enjoy each other’s work, to share techniques, to offer help, or to provide a friendly critique when asked. Your studio is open on Wednesday from 10:00 am until 4:00 pm. and on Sundays, Open Studio is scheduled from 1:00 pm to 4:00 pm. Join us for coffee and donuts, go out to lunch with other artists from noon until 1:30 pm, and return to paint the afternoon away. The coffee is always hot. You cannot find a better place to paint than with the Guild community.
Bylaws
A committee was formed in September to review and revise the existing LAAG bylaws. Changes were made and approved by the Board. The resulting bylaws were then sent to the membership to vote on. They were unanimously approved and official announcement of the new bylaws was made at the Christmas Party. These updated bylaws more clearly define the structure and operations of our organization. If you would like to read the new bylaws, they can be downloaded from our website at www.laag-site.org/Bylaws_2011.pdf.

2011 Board Members
The results of the election of new Board Officers for 2011 were announced at the Christmas Party.

Officers
President: Kay Bailey
Vice-President: Roberta Loflin
Treasurer: Claudia LeJeune
Secretary: Eve Carmena

Committee Chairs
Membership Chair: Elmer Godeny
Workshop Co-Chairs: Charleen Kling and Betty Klenke
Exhibit Chair: Don Schifferl
Publicity Chair: Lane Downs
Newsletter Co-Chairs: Howard Hershberg and Lane Downs
River Road Show Co-Chairs: Wilma Roy and Denice Ducote
Members-at-Large: Suzanne Antoon, Seay Earehart, Lata Johnson, Trish Poynot, Leah Schwartzman, Tom Skillern
Immediate Past President: Lane Downs
Building Manager: Larry Downs
Hospitality Chair: Jane Hershberg
Iberville Chapter Liaison: Shirley Daigre

Feliciana Chapter
President: Alice Kent
Treasurer: Alice Kent
Secretary: John Labbe
Membership Chair: John Labbe
Liaison: Carol Shirley
New Years Resolution
It is a new year and we have all made our New Years resolutions. How’s that going? As artists looking to grow and better our skills, we should all resolve to dedicate more time to painting. Some of us are overly busy with a variety of important adventures happening in our lives. So how can we make art more of a priority? Sometimes you just have to “turn off the TV” and pick up a paintbrush.

One good way to get more focused on painting is to get out of the house and away from distractions. Part of the allure of Open Studio is the opportunity to paint without stopping to answer the phone or questions from the spouse. Being around other artists inspires creativity. So why not resolve to spend more time painting with fellow artists at LAAG Open Studio on Wednesdays and Sundays.

2011 Dues
Annual membership dues were due in January, but we will continue to accept dues throughout the year. To be included in the Membership Handbook Directory your dues must be paid by February 28. The 2011 Membership Handbook will be published and delivered in early March. Also, please note that if your dues are not current you will no longer receive newsletters or email notifications.

Welcome to our new members: Judy Hanks, Kathy Kramer, Tracy Munson.

Christmas Party
The annual LAAG Christmas Party was on December 19. Over forty people showed up to enjoy the festivities including bountiful food, flowing spirits and timeless fellowship. Thanks to the tireless efforts of Jane Hershberg, LAAG was granted permission to serve wine at the party.

Every year partygoers play a gift exchange game where each person takes a turn opening anonymous gifts. Each person has the option of “stealing” someone else’s gift or choosing a new one to open. This brought about plenty of laughs and good camaraderie. We also had a painting exchange where each artist who brought a plainly wrapped, unframed painting chose another artist’s painting to take home. This is a great way to get a piece of art by one of your fellow artists!
Grants
LAAG is the recipient of grant monies from the ExxonMobil Foundation's Volunteer Involvement Program. The grants are received on behalf of a participant who donates volunteer hours to LAAG. Current and retired employees of ExxonMobil and its US affiliates, or their spouses, are eligible to participate. There may be other companies who also provide similar opportunities. Please check and see if you are eligible to apply for a grant from a past or present employer.

Sale: Frames and Things
Saturday March 26, 2011
We do spring cleaning and you reap the benefits. Lots of frames, some art books and odds and ends we have accumulated throughout the years can be yours at great bargains. The sale begins at 9:00 am and lasts until 2:00 pm. Anything not sold on Saturday will be available for purchase on Sunday March 27 at further reduced prices. Come stock up on frames and finally hang that art work you keep under the bed!

Members Forum
Sunday, March 27, 2011
The first Members’ Forum this year will be held at the Studio in the Park from 2:00 pm to 4:00 pm. This is your chance to be heard. Share your thoughts and ideas for improvement of your organization. We want to know what we can do for you.
Exhibits

41st National River Road Show

This year 137 artists from 23 states submitted 418 entries to be considered for the show. The Judge and Juror, Paul Jackson, AWS, NWS, selected 77 paintings from 55 artists.

1st Place: Janice Cipriani-Willis, *A Mover And A Shaker*
2nd Place: Will Pealatore, *Golden Moment*
3rd Place: John Brown, *Don't Mess With My Marbles*

Merit Awards
Don Michael, Jr, *Hidden in Plain Sight*
Claudia LeJeune, *Umber Happens*
Denice Cyrex Ducote, *Taboo*
Brenda Beck-Fisher, *Incoming Tide*
Peter Hay, *New Life*
Pio Lyons, *Horn Island*
Tim Lloyd, *Young Soldier*
Willie Briar Jones, *Gulfo di Napoli*
Ernie Fournet, *Almost Under Colors*
Lita Andreano, *Snowy Re*fections
Seay Earehart, *Fork in the Road*
Mary Lou Liberty, *Egret Sanctuary*

Honorable Mentions
Jane Flowers, *December Yellows*
Janice Evans, *Luminous Grace*
Cindy Brabec-King, *Snaps, Sours and Beans*
Maureen Killaby, *Spirit Winds*

Congratulations to the following LAAG members who won an award in the exhibit.
Claudia LeJeune, Denice Cyrex Ducote, Tim Lloyd, Seay Earehart, Jane Flowers

Congratulations to these LAAG members who had a painting accepted into the exhibit.
Jane Brown, Mary Sue Couvillon, Marylyn Daniel, Gary Drinkwater, Louise Hansen, Donna Kilbourne, Karla King, Amy Lee, Joann Mobley, Christy Olson, Thomas Skillern, Kathy Miller Stone, NWS, June Tuma

Pictures of the winners and all exhibited paintings are on the website at
www.laag-site.org/Gallery/LAAG_Galleries/River_Road_Shows/River_Road_Show_10/index.html

Color catalogs will soon be available for sale for $10.
Winter Judged Show
The Winter Judged Show was exhibited at the Independence Park Theater Gallery from November 11 to January 6. The show was judged by Elayne Kuehler.

1st Place: Louise Hansen, *Angel Caps*
2nd Place: VG Hope, *Fancy*
3rd Place: Betty Efferson, *Ousel Falls, Big Sky, MT*

Honorable Mention
Patricia Ryan, *Rosedown Retreat*
Annette Melancon, *Rural Louisiana*
Barbara Dupree, *Williamsburg Medley*
Katie McGarry, *Oak at Windrush*
Ruth McNaylor, *The Falls*

Iberville Judged Show
On November 6 and 7 the Iberville Chapter of LAAG held their Fourth Annual Fall Art Show & Community Market. The show was judged by Kathy Miller Stone, NWS.

Professional Division
1st Place: Sandra Keller, *Wisdom*
2nd Place: Calvin Balencie, *Forgotten*
3rd Place: Donna Kleinpeter, *Hydrangea’s Evening*

Honorable Mention
Ann K. Brown, *Equine Altercation*
Mary Heckman, *Dominica*
Robert Loflin, *Onion & Garlic*
Shirley Daigre, *Hollyberry Time*

Non Professional Division
1st Place: Brenda Perrault, *Watchers of the Falls*
2nd Place: Bobbie Booksh, *Blue Winter*
3rd Place: Bobbie Booksh, *Speckled Beauty*

Honorable Mention
Brenda Perrault, *Blue Mountain Ridge*

Feliciana Judged Show
On November 6 the Feliciana Chapter of LAAG hosted a judged art show and sale at the Landmark Bank in Clinton. The show was judged by Ann Warner.

1st Place: Carol Shirley
2nd Place: Donna Kilbourne
3rd Place: Kathleen Simpson

Exhibits

Angel Caps

Fancy

Ousel Falls, Big Sky, MT

Kathy Stone, right, and Mary Heckman with her painting *Dominica*

Brenda Perrault, *Cypress Bayou*

Amite River at Dusk
Carol Shirley
Exhibits

Baton Rouge Little Theater Exhibit

As we do every year, the winning paintings from the Winter Judged Show and one painting from each exhibiting artist were selected and exhibited at the Baton Rouge Little Theater from January to February. At the end of the exhibit, the paintings will be brought to the Studio in the Park and artists will be notified to pick them up.

Current Independence Park Theater Exhibit

Currently on display at the Independence Park Theater Gallery is a Member Show consisting of 16 paintings entered by 9 artists. The reception on January 16 was well attended by about 40 people.

Kathy Miller Stone, NWS discussed techniques and equipment used and executed a pouring demonstration.

Reception attendees voted and chose Louise Hansen to receive the People’s Choice Award for her painting *The Music Man*.

Upcoming Independence Park Theater Exhibit

Take in for the Spring Judged Show will be held at Independence Park Theater on February 17 from 12-4pm. Paintings currently hanging in the Member Show should be picked up at this time. If you cannot drop off your paintings at that time, other arrangements can be made, such as dropping off your paintings at Open Studio the day before. Just give us a call at 926-4657 or send an email to laagbr@laag-site.org and we will be happy to accommodate you. The reception will be held on Sunday, March 6, from 2-4pm. Cash awards totaling $500.00 will be presented as prizes for the paintings judged 1st, 2nd, and 3rd.
Exhibits

Ongoing Exhibits

Paintings at the **Forum Salon** in Town Center were changed out on January 24. A painting by Margaret Harmon was sold from the last exhibit at this venue.

Paintings at the **Mayor’s Office** will be changed out on February 11. Please drop off paintings at the Studio in the Park on Sunday, February 6 from 1 to 4 pm or on Wednesday, February 9 from 10 am to 4 pm. The available exhibiting space at the Mayor’s office is best suited for larger paintings, at least 20” x 28”, up to 4’ x 4’.

There is limited exhibiting space at the **Serops Express Restaurants.**

The restaurant at 712 Jefferson Hwy has space to hang 8 paintings. The restaurant at 18169 Highland Rd has space to hang 7 paintings. Therefore, we have decided to begin using the Serops Express Restaurant locations for one-person shows. This opportunity is free and open to all members. Anyone interested in exhibiting at either one of the locations, please contact the Guild at laagbr@laag-site.org or 926-4657 for more information.

The first one-person shows opened on February 1. Roberta Loflin is featured at Highland Rd and Byron Levy is featured at Jefferson Hwy.

Paintings at the **Atelier Rouge Salon** inside the downtown Hilton Hotel will be changed out on March 4. This location can accommodate 20-25 paintings, therefore we really need artists to bring in their artwork. Paintings can be dropped off at the Studio in the Park on Wednesdays and Sundays during Open Studio times.
Recent Workshop

Paul Jackson - Watercolor
Painting Glass and Shiny Objects
November 29 - December 1

Nationally known artist and instructor, Paul Jackson, judged the 41st River Road Show sponsored by Louisiana Art and Artist Guild at the LA State Archives. While Jackson was in Baton Rouge for the judging he conducted a three day watercolor workshop from November 30 through December 1, 2010 at the Studio in the Park. The workshop was well attended with twelve participants eager to gain tips from Jackson on painting “Glass and Shiny Objects”.

Workshop participant comments:

“It was a fun filled three days, with a lot of fast paced painting that somehow was still very relaxed. Paul was easy to work with and had a great sense of humor. I learned several tips that I think I will use often in my future paintings. My favorite fun tip that he showed us was the use of a “Mr. Clean Eraser” sponge to lift paint...in some instances, all the way down to the white paper and it didn’t damage the paper. That was pretty cool.”
Leah Schwartzman

“As a beginning painter I learned several helpful hints and techniques.. I got a lot of encouragement from Paul and painted a painting that I would never had thought I could do.”
Elmer Godeny

“I have taken other workshops from Paul. I like Paul's workshops because you paint along with him in a step by step process.”
Claudia Lejeune
Current Workshops

Roberta Loflin - Watercolor
Elements of Landscapes
Saturdays, January 15 - February 19

In this class students are working on separate "elements" such as water, sky, trees, etc., and composing a painting from their photographs. Students will also work on composition and how to combine elements from two or more photos to create one composition.

Life Drawing Sessions
Every Wednesday, 6:00 pm - 9:00 pm
Fee: $10.00 per night / $30.00 per month

Sessions are open studio, no instruction provided. Artists are welcome to draw or paint from a live model in different poses for various durations. The sessions start off with approximately fifteen 1 minute warm-ups in different action poses. Then the times increase to 5 minutes and 15 minutes. We also try to have two 30 minute poses followed by one long 45 to 60 minute final pose. We have several models and offer a different one each week. For more information contact Steve Shamburger at steve@steveshamburger.com.
Upcoming Workshops

March

Kathy Miller Stone, NWS
Watercolor - Making a Masterpiece Using Light and Shadow
March 21-25, Monday through Friday from 6:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m.
Fee: $150.00 members / $200.00 nonmembers
To register contact Judy Hanks at judyhanksdesign@gmail.com or 240-418-2460

April

Judi Betts
Creative Watercolor
April 4-8, Monday through Friday from 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.
Fee: $225.00 members / $275.00 nonmembers
To register contact Charleen Kling at brcrawfishtails@aol.com or 225-938-1058

May

Billie Bourgeois
Acrylic Painting for Beginners
May 16-19, Monday through Thursday from 9:00 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.
Fee: $150.00 members / $200.00 nonmembers
To register contact Roberta Loflin at rloflin@gmail.com or 225-803-6785

June

Mort Solberg
Experimenting in Water-based Media
June 6-10, Monday through Friday from 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.
Fee: $275.00 members / $325.00 nonmembers
To register contact Betty Klenke at bjklenke@gmail.com or 225-371-3405
46th Annual Jackson Assembly Antique Show Art Sale  
March 25 - 27  
Application DEADLINE March 10, 2011

It is time again for the Annual Jackson Assembly Antique Show Art Sale. This year we are offering several options for artists to display and sell their work. To participate in this year’s show, please download an agreement from the website and mail it along with your deposit to: Alice B. Kent, 6988 Mack Lane, Clinton, LA 70722. Please also include a brief artist statement, biography and photo(s) (if available) of your work to be used for publicity. If you have any questions, call Alice Kent at 225-683-8785 or 225-719-2728.  
We hope that you will join us this year at the show!

Member News

Margaret Harmon has been invited to show her work at the East Baton Rouge Parrish Library in Zachary for the month of February. She also sold one of her oil paintings, "Strutting in High Grass," in November at the Forum Salon Exhibit.
When should exhibited paintings be picked up?

Paintings exhibited at the Independence Park Theater should be picked up from the Theater on the Take-in day of the next exhibit. When entering paintings into an exhibit, please mark your calendar with the pick-up date. Take-in / Pick-up day is always on a Thursday from 12 pm - 4 pm.

Paintings exhibited at other venues will be returned to the Studio in the Park. They can be picked up from there on any Wednesday or Sunday thereafter. When dropping off your paintings for one of these exhibits, please mark your calendar with the pick-up date.

Any paintings not retrieved within 30 days become the property of the Guild.

How can I found out where my paintings are being exhibited?

If you have lost track of which paintings you have hanging in which venues, please contact the Guild at laagbr@laag-site.org or 926-4657 or come by the Studio in the Park on a Wednesday or Sunday during Open Studio times. We keep track of all paintings so our records will solve your dilemma. We’re here to help!

What is a Featured Artist?

Starting this year, the Guild will periodically feature different artists. Each featured artist will be interviewed for the front page of the newsletter and will have their bio and pictures of their work displayed on the home page of the website. The opportunity to be a featured artist is open to all LAAG members and is a great chance to get better connected to your art community by increasing the exposure of your name and artwork. If you are interested, submit your bio and pictures of your work to Lane Downs at laagbr@laag-site.org. If you are chosen to be a featured artist, we will contact you to arrange an interview.
2011 Calendar of LAAG Events

Tuesday, **February 1**
Serops Express Exhibit - Byron Levy
Serops Express Exhibit - Roberta Loflin

Saturdays, **January 15** - **February 19**, 9:30 am - 12:00 pm
Roberta Loflin - Elements of Landscapes - Watercolor classes

Tuesday, **February 8** - **February 11**
AWA workshop - Ken Hosner - Oil

Friday, **February 11**
10:00am Mayor's Office Exhibit

Thursday, **February 17**
12:00pm Spring Judged Show Take-in and Pick up

Friday, **March 4**
10:00am Atelier Rouge Salon Exhibit

Sunday, **March 6**
2:00pm Spring Judged Show Reception

Tuesday - Thursday, **March 15** - **March 17**, 9:00 am - 3:00 pm
Kathy Miller Stone - Watercolor Workshop, Iberville Chapter

Monday - Friday, **March 21** - **March 25**, 6:00 pm - 9:00 pm
Kathy Miller Stone - Watercolor Workshop

Saturday - Sunday, **March 26** - **March 27**
Frames and Things Sale

Sunday, **March 27**
Members Forum and Sale

Monday - Friday, **April 4** - **April 8**, 9:00 am - 4:00 pm
Judi Betts - Watercolor Workshop

Thursday, **April 28**
12:00pm Workshop Show Take-in and Pick-up

Tuesday, **May 10**
Serops Express Exhibit
Serops Express Exhibit

Monday - Thursday, **May 16** - **May 19**, 9:00 am - 3:30 pm
Billie Bourgeois - Acrylic Workshop

Monday, **May 23**
10:00am Forum Salon Exhibit

Friday, **June 3**
10:00am Atelier Rouge Salon Exhibit

Monday - Friday, **June 6** - **June 10**, 9:00 am - 4:00 pm
Mort Solberg - Waterbased Media Workshop

Friday, **June 17**
10:00am Mayor’s Office Exhibit

Second **Monday** - last Monday, monthly
6:00 pm - 8:00 pm
Larry Downs All Levels Drawing Class

**Wednesdays**, 6:00 pm - 9:00 pm
Life Drawing Sessions

**Wednesdays**, 10:00 am - 4:00 pm
**Sundays**, 1:00 pm - 4:00 pm
Open Studio

**Thursdays**, 6:00 pm - 8:00 pm
Larry Downs All Levels Acrylic Class

Third **Sunday**, monthly, 10:00am-4:00pm
Picture Day
This newsletter is produced by a committee consisting of the following LAAG volunteers:

Co-Chairs: Howard Hershberg & Lane Downs
Art & Design Director: Lane Downs
Information Director: Trish Poynot
Copy Editor: Sue Warnock
Photographer: Lane Downs
Guild News: Lane Downs
Member News: Trish Poynot
Iberville and Feliciana News: Trish Poynot
Exhibits: open
Workshops: Dotti Berry
Interviews: Tom Skillern and Howard Hershberg
Mailing: Leah Schwartzman

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 published bi-monthly.

If you are interested in helping with the newsletter, please contact Lane Downs at laned69@yahoo.com or 275-8835.

Practise what you know, and it will help to make clear what you do not know.
- Rembrandt van Rijn

I certainly hope to sell in the course of time, but I think I shall be able to influence it most effectively by working steadily on, and that at the present moment making desperate efforts to force the work I am doing now upon the public would be pretty useless.
- Vincent van Gogh