

Conversazione

Newsletter of the River Region Art Association August 2008

ALL MEMBERS ARE INVITED TO TAKE PART IN AWESOME ART IN AUTUMN GARDENS ARTS & CULTURAL FESTIVAL AT HOUMAS HOUSE PLANTATION OCTOBER 11-12, 2008

Awesome Art in Autumn Gardens will be the biggest and best event yet for River Region Art Association. We hope you will get excited and want to be a part of it all. With our members adding their part we will dazzle Louisiana with a special and unique art event. We have already received our grant from the WCEF Louisiana Passport Grant, which means we will have both national and international advertising about our event. They think enough of our program to give us \$2,000 and wonderful opportunities with promotion of the event as a highlight in our state for October!

You can get involved in several ways. **#1...** We are in the process of **selling ads** for the program booklet and most of you already know about this. If each member can sell at least one ad or perhaps buy one advertising your own art or get a family member or friend to take a "good luck with Awesome Art!" ad just showing their support of the arts that would be great! **#2...Plan to enter your art** in the Awesome Art Show & Sale. All members (and non-members) are encouraged to enter the Awesome Art Competition. It can be paintings, drawings, photography, or 3/D. Start now to have your art ready for October....3 pieces for \$25. Prizes of over \$1500 will be awarded. **#3...Volunteer to help** for a few hours for set up, art take in, greeting the public, clean up, etc. for the week of the event. Let Jan Hebert (jsodysey1@yahoo.com or 225-933-1582) or Donna Braud (donnadidit@cox.net or 225-328-7354) know what you can do to help! We all really have fun presenting this Art Event. **#4... Rent a booth or get another artist to rent a booth** and be a part of Awesome Art in Autumn Gardens. Booth fees are \$50 for members, \$75 for non members for the weekend. Literary artists are asked for a \$10 fee to set up a card table with just their own books or literary club groups pay \$50 for a large booth. Deadline is Sept 30.

For details about selling or buying ads, renting booth space, or volunteering, e-mail Jan Hebert or Donna Braud or call the gallery at (225)644-8496. **Enclosed with this newsletter is an Entry Form for the Awesome Art Competition.**

SPORTSMAN'S PARADISE Sportsman's Paradise is the theme for the September Gallery exhibit. There are 4 seasons in Louisiana...Deer season, duck season, squirrel season, and fishing season. Catch one of these on canvas or in a snapshot or in your own creative way with 3 dimensional art. In Louisiana, most men won't get married during hunting season and the brides have to really hunt for an open date! Get your humorous ideas together on this wonderful paradise of sports we have....or be just as serious as the hunters! This Community Exhibit is open to all art forms. Any artist may enter; there is no entry fee. The entries will be judged and ribbons awarded. Two dimensional entries must have wires for hanging. Take-in is Sept. 2-6.

Hats Off to LOUISE HANSEN who was our #1 seller last month.

ART GUMBO MARKET. Members may participate in our Art Gumbo Market which is held every third Saturday in conjunction with the Farmer's Market. The location is at Airline Highway and Hwy. 621 from 8AM to Noon. Please call Jan Hebert (933-1582) or Donna Braud (328-7354) to sign up for a booth and get all the information you need to sell your art at Art Gumbo. All market fees are paid by RRAA.

CLASSES AND WORKSHOPS

Paint a Landscape in Oil (Beginners/Intermediate). Sylvia Rochester, Instructor. Tuesdays, September 9, 16, 23 from 10AM to Noon. \$50 total for the three sessions. Details are on website artgumbo.org or at the Gallery. *Registration must be completed by Tuesday, September 2nd. Forms are on artgumbo.org or at the gallery. Check MAILED with registration form is acceptable.*

Oil Painting (Beginner/Intermediate) - Jan Hebert, Instructor. Sessions are on Wednesdays, 6pm to 8pm. ONGOING CLASSES. \$45 FOR 4 sessions.

CERAMICS WORK DAY. Carolyn Bowman, Instructor. Anyone interested in working with ceramics can come and work on their pieces and when there is enough collected we will fire the kilns. Carolyn will have brochures and catalogues available from which you may order greenware, molds or bisque pieces for painting or glazing. The next ceramics work day will be Saturday, August 16. If interested, call the Gallery (644-8496) and leave a message for Carolyn Bowman.

ART CLASSES FOR CHILDREN will resume soon. If you are interested in enrolling your child in a weekly art class, call Jan Hebert, Instructor 933-1582.

WATCH FOR MORE NEW CLASSES. Rene Fletcher's one-day workshop on drawing and painting portraits, November 1. Carol Bowman's Gingerbread House Workshop, November 29 and December 6. Look at artgumbo.org website and newsletters for details about these and other classes that are in the works. Call Jean Liehe if you are interested in teaching a class.

VOLUNTEERS ARE NEEDED!! WE ESPECIALLY NEED PEOPLE TO WORK AT THE GALLERY ON SATURDAYS. PLEASE VOLUNTEER TO WORK A FEW HOURS ON ONE SATURDAY A MONTH. Saturday hours are flexible, if you cannot work a full day consider working 10AM-2PM, or 11AM-3PM. We will miss sales if we are not open on Saturdays. Our Gallery is an asset to our Parish and the surrounding communities so please help us keep it open by volunteering to be a docent for at least one-half day (three hours) per month. If two or three new members are interested in being docents, Carolyn Bowman will set up another brief training session. Old and New members—call Carolyn at 622-6667 or 571-9695 and volunteer!

Check out our website at artgumbo.org and read biographies of your favorite artists. If you don't have your bio posted, now's the time to do it. Send your bio to webmaster@artgumbo.org and our webmaster Gene Ferguson will take care of the rest. Ask him about putting photos of your artwork along with your bio.

The SUMMER EXHIBIT SPECIAL will be available to members for two more months. Just bring two pieces of your artwork to the Gallery (No pieces larger than 20"x30" please) and they can be exhibited without fee until September 30, 2008. Let us see your artwork!

A big welcome to new members Eric Vosburg and Terry Farrell, also to Soulemane Ba for renewing his membership.

PLEASE PUT THE FOLLOWING DATES ON YOUR CALENDAR

IMPORTANT. New time and date for our General Meeting. Our August General Meeting will be held on Thursday, August 21, at 6:30PM. Please try to make this meeting as details of the Awesome Art Exhibit and Festival will be discussed. If you have questions about Awesome Art this is an opportunity to ask them.

Aug 15 Deadline for Awesome Art Program Booklet Ad Sale

Aug 16 Art Gumbo with Farmers Market at Airline Hwy and Rt. 621, 8am-Noon

Aug 21 General Meeting at RRAA Gallery. 6:30PM. All members.

Sept 4 Board Meeting 6PM at Gallery. Any member may attend.

Sept 2-6 Take-In for Sportsman's Paradise September Gallery Exhibit

ARTIST OF THE MONTH for August is jewelry designer and maker Diane Rougelot. Diane is a self-taught artist, born in New Orleans and raised in Metairie, La. After finishing nursing school and getting married she moved to Mobile, Alabama where she had her first two children. She returned to live on the west bank of New Orleans where she had her last two children.

As a Girl Scout leader for 15 years, Diane became interested in the creative arts and began making jewelry to sell at fund-raisers for her Girl Scout troop. Starting with glass beads, she ventured into semi-precious gems and sterling silver, copper, gold-filled findings, pearls, bone, shell, and Swarovski crystals. She has explored making necklaces, bracelets, rings, lariats, headbands, eye-glass holders, cake pulls, ornaments, and brooches.

Diane has exhibited/sold her jewelry at Gonzales Art Gumbo Market, Canton Festival in Mississippi, Gretna Art Walk, and various other local craft shows in the southeast Louisiana area. She has made the jewelry for many weddings and enjoys filling custom orders and repairing jewelry. She has sold her jewelry at the River Region Art Gallery in Gonzales, My Sister's Closet in Kenner and Letters & Gifts in Hattiesburg, Mississippi.

Diane finds it very fulfilling when customers look for her work and challenge her with new designs. The inspiration of others, young and old alike, keeps her interest in jewelry-making alive and fresh. Stop by our Gallery and see Diane's beautiful handiwork.

COMING EVENTS IN THE RIVER REGION.

- **St. Luke's Episcopal Church Arts and Crafts Fair** is taking applications for booths for their next fair on Oct 4, 2008. Booth rate is \$70. Phone 225-275-5588.

- **RRAA** is accepting applications for art booths at it's annual **Awesome Art in Autumn Gardens Arts & Cultural Festival** which will be held on Oct 11 and 12., 2008, 10AM-4PM. This is our biggest art event of the year. The fee for booths is \$50 for RRAA members and \$75 for non-members. Booths must be juried in by the Awesome Art Committee. All art must be the original work of the artists. No commercial, retail or food booths allowed. Call Donna at 225-328-7354.

RIVER REGION ART ASSOCIATION IS A NON-PROFIT ORGANIZATION. WE RELY ON UNPAID VOLUNTEERS TO KEEP THE GALLERY OPEN AND THE ASSOCIATION FUNCTIONING. PLEASE COME TO MEETINGS AND VOLUNTEER TO HELP US REALIZE OUR MISSION TO MAKE ART ACCESSIBLE AND AFFORDABLE TO ALL IN THE RIVER REGION.

Anyone who would PREFER to have their newsletter via e-mail rather than post please e-mail me at rawreid@eatel.net. Cy