

Conversazione

The Newsletter of the River Region Art Association April 2008

### ART GUMBO ON THE GO!

The artists of River Region Art Association will take the Art Gumbo Market on the go starting in April. They will be at the Diversion Canal at Pier 13 on April 16 from 10am-2pm. There will be numerous art booths and musical entertainment by Gaynelle Moore. Caricatures will be available by Jean Liehe. Lunch on the terrace of Pier 13 overlooking the water and browse through the original creations by the artists scattered on the big open deck.

The Art Gumbo Market will join the Ascension Fresh Market opening of the new location at 621 and Airline Highway on April 26 from 8am-noon. The artists and farmers will set up under the trees in front of This, That, and More to provide an open market for the community to enjoy with fresh fruit and vegetables, fresh edible creations, original art and gifts. RRAA will continue to join the Art Gumbo Market with the Ascension Fresh Market on the third Saturday of each month at this new location in the heart of Gonzales. Any artists interested in signing up to attend any of the Art Gumbo Markets to sell their art, please contact Donna Braud at 225-328-7354 or email to [artgumbomarket@yahoo.com](mailto:artgumbomarket@yahoo.com).

### APRIL GALLERY EXHIBIT

The theme for the community art exhibit for April at River Region Art Gallery is titled "April Showers Bring....?". Use your imagination to express this idea with painting, drawing, photography or three dimensional art and bring your art to the gallery at 1835 N Magnolia Ave in Gonzales between April 1-5. Any artist may enter work in this month's exhibit--members of RRAA and non-members alike. All ages may participate. There is no entry fee and each person may have up to 3 exhibit pieces.

Just what to do is up to you! April showers could bring Mud Puddles?...or Gray skies...or Colorful Umbrellas...or creepy crawly things...or dandelions, weeds, and clovers...or the proverbial spring flowers. You may know something else the showers bring. Put your ideas into your art and join in the fun for free. All 2 dimensional art work must be suitable for hanging with frame and wire on the back. The show will be judged and ribbons will be awarded. Art will be on display at the Gallery until April 30. River Region Art Gallery is open from 10am-4pm Tuesday thru Saturday. Call the Gallery at 644-8496 or visit our website [artgumbo.org](http://artgumbo.org).

### POSTER CONTEST FOR ARTS & CULTURE FESTIVAL

River Region Art Association announces a Poster Contest for their Awesome Art in Autumn Gardens show to be held Oct 11 & 12, 2008. This Arts & Culture Festival, held annually at Houmas House Plantation in Ascension Parish, involves over 150 artisans demonstrating their talent with music, singing, dancing, fine art, folk art and the literary arts. There is a judged Awesome Art Show & Sale for both adults and youth featuring over 300 works of art vying for the prized blue ribbons and \$1500 in cash awards. There are numerous Arts & Crafts Booths offering an array of Louisiana talent scattered along the pathway throughout the lush gardens.

The Arts blend perfectly with the colorful palate of nature and the historical beauty of the Houmas House Mansion, called the crown jewel of Louisiana's River Road.

The Poster Contest is open to all ages. The winner will receive a \$50.00 cash award and a framed poster of their work. Judges will be looking for a unique idea that vividly expresses the excitement of Louisiana Art! Use your imagination to bring art, culture, nature, and history together. The composition is up to the artist. Winner will be announced to the media and the winning art will appear on the [www.artgumbo.org](http://www.artgumbo.org) website as well as on an art poster displayed at the Houmas House gift shop. The poster will also appear on the cover of the Awesome Art Program distributed to the community prior to and during the festival.

April 30 is the deadline for submission of artwork to the River Region Art Gallery located at 1835 N. Magnolia Ave in Gonzales. For more details go to our website or call 328-7354.

**IMPORTANT! LOST ITEM. If anyone knows the whereabouts of our copy of the financial software Quicken please call Linda at 677-8889.**

WELCOME TO NEW MEMBERS Elaine Forstall, Helen Reese and Robin Rotolo.

JAN HEBERT is ARTIST OF THE MONTH for April 2008. Jan Hebert has been drawing and doodling for as long as she can remember. Years ago she heard about an art class being given by Peggy Miller and immediately approached her and started painting in oils. Through the Art Guild of Gonzales and River Region Art Association Jan found new opportunities for training in the art field. Jan has attended classes by Teddy Ruiz in oil painting, Ann Warner in still life oils, Mary Jane Cox in watercolor, John O'Neal painting birds in acrylic, Louise Hansen in pen and ink and Krista Roch in value in watercolor. She finds that taking these seminars furthers her knowledge of painting and gives her new ideas to express on canvas.

Jan was one of the earliest members of River Region Art Association and has served as Vice President and President of RRAA. Jan teaches both adult and children drawing and painting classes at the RRAA art gallery. You can see samples of Jan's vivid art work if you go to our website at [artgumbo.org](http://artgumbo.org). As RRAA Artist of the Month Jan's work will be on special exhibit at the RRAA Art Gallery during the month of April 2008.

#### ART CLASSES FOR ADULTS

**Oil Painting** (Beginner & Intermediate) - Jan Hebert, Instructor. 4 sessions on Wednesdays, 6pm to 8pm. ONGOING CLASSES. \$45 for 4 sessions.

**An Evening of Drawing and Fun** (ages 14-Adult) - Alexis Braud, Instructor. Fridays, 6pm to 8pm. ONGOING CLASSES. You can come to any number of classes. Fun class to awaken your creativity. \$40 for 4 sessions or \$12 for one session.

**Learning to Paint in Watercolor** (Beginner) - Louise Hansen, Instructor. One-day workshop, April 5, 9am to 4pm. \$60 (includes some supplies). Registration deadline is April 1.

**Drawing in Pen and Ink** - Louise Hansen, Instructor. One-day Workshop, April 26, 9pm to 4pm. \$40.

#### NEW RRAA ADULT ART CLASSES IN MAY

**Masking and Pouring Over Watercolor Painting** (Advanced Beginner-Intermediate) - Kathy Stone, Instructor. May 5, One-day workshop, 9am to 4:30pm. \$50.

**Introduction to Creating Mosaics** (Ages 14 to Adult) - Carolin Milner, Instructor. May 1 and May 8, 9:30am to 11:30am. \$30 (does not include supplies).

**Study the 'Fauves' and do an artwork - all mediums** (Fauve is a term meaning 'wild beast' where a group of artists in the late 19<sup>th</sup> and early 20<sup>th</sup> century created artwork with wild and crazy colors. Two of the Fauve painters were Deran and Matisse) - Renee Fletcher, Instructor. One-day Workshop, May 10, 9am to 4pm. \$50.

#### ART CLASSES FOR CHILDREN

**Ongoing Class for Children.** (Ages 7 and up) - Jan Hebert, Instructor. Mondays 5pm to 6:30pm. \$20 per session, pay as you go.

#### YOUTH SUMMER ART WORKSHOPS

Registration is now being accepted for **Children's Summer Art Workshops**. There will be two sessions of classes. The first session will run from Monday June 9 thru Thursday June 12; the second will run from Monday June 16 thru Thursday June 19 from 10AM to Noon. Classes for children ages 6 to 7 will offer Multi-mediums: painting, printmaking, story illustration, collage. Classes for children ages 8-14 will offer 1)Acrylic Painting and 2)Drawing (basic design, shading, perspective). \$45 per 4-day session includes all supplies.

**To assure a spot in class students must fill out registration form by May 31 and pay \$45 class fee.** Call the Gallery at 644-8496 or visit [www.artgumbo.org](http://www.artgumbo.org).

Check out our **RRAA WEBSITE**, [artgumbo.org](http://artgumbo.org), and you will find much info about our Association, members, classes and upcoming events. RRAA member Gene Ferguson is our webmaster. If you have any questions or comments about our website send them to [webmaster@artgumbo.org](mailto:webmaster@artgumbo.org).

**Carol Bryant** was the Gallery's top seller for the Month of March.

#### **MEMBERS ARE ASKED TO VOLUNTEER AT GALLERY ONE DAY A MONTH.**

RRAA is able to keep its gallery open only through our member's time and effort. We are asking all RRAA members to volunteer to man the Gallery one day (6 hours from 10AM to 4PM) or

two half days (10 to 1 or 1 to 4) every month. You will have a brief training session to acquaint you with the routine of opening and closing the gallery and making sales. You may bring a friend to keep you company or spend your free time working on your current art project. To volunteer, call the Gallery (225 644-8496) and leave a message for Jan Hebert.

**PLEASE PUT THE FOLLOWING DATES ON YOUR CALENDAR**

Apr 1-5 Take in for April Showers Gallery Exhibit, 10am-4pm

Apr 3 March Board Meeting

Apr 16 Art Gumbo on the River at Diversion Canal Pier 13, 10am-2pm

Apr 26 Art Gumbo with Farmer's Fresh Market, 8am to noon

Apr 27 General Meeting at Sno's Restaurant in Gonzales 2pm. Wilma Roy will be our guest speaker at the meeting. She will talk on framing and hanging artwork.

Apr 30 Deadline for Awesome Art Poster Contest

Every Wednesday is **OPEN PAINTING DAY** at the Gallery. Feel free to bring your painting or drawing materials and spend a few hours in leisurely, unstructured art work with your RRAA colleagues.

**COMING EVENTS IN THE RIVER REGION**

RRAA's annual **RED HOT** exhibit reception will be held June 19<sup>th</sup>, 5pm to 7:30pm.

**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 for its annual **Awesome Art in Autumn Gardens** at Houmas House on Oct 11 and 12., 2008, 10AM-4PM. The fee for RRAA members is \$50, for non-members \$75. This is our biggest art event of the year and our annual fundraiser. 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.**