



River Region Art Association Newsletter

April 2010

NEW MEMBERS AND THEIR SPECIALTIES

New members: Donald and Linda Hume—Photography
The Martinez Family—Supporter of the Arts
Elaine Forrestall—Painting
Helen Reese—Painting on silk
Gaynell Nelson—Painting and Pottery



MARCH SALES

Highest sales: **Diane Tygier**; second highest, **Elaine Champagne**. Others who enjoyed sales in March were: **Mimi Fowler, Mary Demarest, Robin Rotolo, Kitty Kuhnert, Deborah Bianchetti, Shirley Schell, Gaynell Moore, Carolyn Bowman, Ruth Bivens, Sally Mc Connell, Peg Carbo, Louise Hansen, Josie Young, Helen Haw.**



MARCH INTO ART with CHILDREN'S CREATIVITY

Seventy-seven children exhibited their ideas through art in the *2010 March into Art Show* at the River Region Art Center in Gonzales. Twenty schools were represented in the competition with St. James Gifted Center capturing the Louisiana Spirit Award for the most enthusiastic participation. Art instructor, **Lynn Bolding**, received the plaque for her school. Steve Schneider judged the show. **Terry Farrell** coordinated the event with **Donna Braud** assisting. **Mary Crochet** and **Carolyn Bowman** helped with art activities for the Children's Creativity Day. **John Robbins** took photos of the event. Thanks to all who brought cookies for the reception. They ate almost every one! It was a sunny, but windy day and most enjoyable. Check the website for a list of all the winners at www.artqumbo.org



COMMUNITY ART SHOW AT TANGER MALL

The artists of River Region set up a "Food, Glorious Food" Art Show at the Tanger Outlet Mall on Saturday, March 27 to spring into art with food as the subject. The art was glorious and so was the day. Children enjoyed mural painting, face painting, and a Food Art Scavenger Hunt throughout the Mall stores. Music was provided by **Gaynell Moore** and prizes and giveaways were contributed by Harry & David and the Tanger Outlet Stores. It was a great way to bring community and art together. The People's Choice winner chosen by the shoppers at the Mall was **Donna Marie Montagino**. The judges chose the following winners of the Art Show .

Adult Painting

- 1 **Mary Crochet**
 - 2 **Jan Hebert**
 - 3 **Peg Carbo**
- HM Cy Rawls

Adult Drawing

- 1 **Terry Farrell**
 - 2 **Terry Farrell**
 - 3 **Dawn Broussard**
- HM Betty Marks

Adult Photography

- 1 **Josie Young**
 - 2 **Mimi Fowler**
 - 3 **Josie Young**
- HM Josie Young

Adult 3-D
 1 **Ken Taylor**
 2 **Carolyn Bowman**
 3 **Peg Carbo**
 HM **Carolyn Bowman**

Youth Drawing 12-17
 1 Joubé Ryan

Youth Drawing 11 & under
 1 Jordyn Melancon
 2 Heidi Feng

Youth Painting 12-17
 1 Camille Nolan
 2 Lacie Laurendine
 3 Sydney Jack
 HM Alexandra Coleman

Youth Painting 11 & under
 1 Heidi Feng
 2 Isaiaha Kielborn
 3 Heidi Feng
 HM Gracie O'Neill

RRAA ARTISTS INVITED TO SHOW WORK

AT COMMUNITY COFFEE HOUSE IN PRAIRIEVILLE



Drop by Community Coffee in Prairieville and visit with your fellow artists throughout April. Artists for each week are listed below. If you would like to try a weekend day (either Saturday or Sunday) please contact **Donna Braud** by email at donnadidit@cox.net or call 238-7354 and get on the agenda. She is booking artists for May now. You would take a table and chair and set up your art in the Coffee house and talk to people about what you do and show your work. Just as simple as that and fun to meet and greet the people. You can sell your art also.

ARTISTS OF THE WEEK AT CC's

Gaynell Moore..... Saturday April 3 9 a.m. - 4 p.m. Painting & Music
Mary CrochetSaturday April 10 8 a.m. - noon Folk Art
Dawn Broussard.....Saturday April 17 7 a.m. - 11 a.m. Drawings & Photos
Robin Rotolo..... Saturday April 24 7 a.m. - 1 p.m. Jewelry
Louise Hansen..... Saturday, May 1 9 a.m.-2 p.m. Painting
Donna Braud..... Saturday, May 8 9 a.m. - 1 p.m. Painting & Collage
Anne Thigpen..... Sunday, May 16 1 p.m. - 5 p.m. Calligraphy
Robin Rotolo.....Saturday, May 22 8 a.m. - 1 p.m. Jewelry

ARTISTS IN ACTION

Betty Marks and **Donna Braud** represented RRAA at the annual Ascension Chamber of Commerce Awards Banquet at Houmas House on March 11.

Anne Thigpen has created a following with her calligraphy classes. She had them in February—then more people called....offered them again in March and filled her class....now she is having both beginners and advanced classes in April! Way to go Anne! Visit her website at www.imagitypomani.com

Mimi Fowler has been successful with her "Bead It!" jewelry store on Burnside in Gonzales. She offers classes and jewelry repair as well as sells beads for jewelry makers and has a nice line of jewelry. Now she is planning an art gallery right next to her "Bead It!" store. **GEAUX MIMI!**

Betty Marks, **Josie Young** and husband, **Gaynell Moore** and friend, and **Carolyn Bowman** and husband are all busy getting ready to head to Meylan, France, the sister city to Gonzales. They will be representing the RRAA from April 23 to May 2. There will be two art shows in Meylan, France, a mini-jambalaya festival, and many others festivities to promote the arts in Gonzales' sister city. **Gaynell** will be providing Cajun Music along with her paintings. I am sure they will be checking **Gaynell's** guitar for bombs or something!!!!

(Artists in Action continued)

Sally McConnell and **Mary Demarest** traveled to Troy, Alabama last month for the Alabama Clay Conference where they were educated, entertained, and amazed at all they learned about clay, their art medium.

Sylvia Rochester has stayed busy lately marketing her latest book, *Da Vinci's Lost Years*, as well as giving free writer's workshops at Pierre Part Library and Plaquemine Library.

Sally Mc Connell just been selected to participate in LPB's Juried Art Exhibition Auction this year. Her pieces will be on exhibit from April 27 - May 7 at the Louisiana State Museum, with a preview party and reception on May 1st. Then the auction will be June 13, live on LPB during prime time. Congrats to Sally....watch for her art on LPB!

ARTIST OF THE MONTH!

Our artist of the month is **Susan Sheets**. Susan is married to Blaine Sheets and lives in St. Amant with her three children. She is originally from Grand Point and loves the great outdoors. Susan began beading after receiving a beaded belt from her son. This birthday gift brought to surface her hidden talent and love for designing beaded jewelry. Susan also attributes her college roommate and best beading buddy for fueling this beading obsession.

Susan works part-time for the Pontchartrain Levee District and once considered her jewelry making a hobby. This hobby has developed into a sideline business and she markets her unique handcrafted designs at craft shows, jewelry parties and some retail gift shops. She works with gemstones, pearls, crystal, glass and any other bead or component that sparks her imagination. She loves going to markets throughout the year in search of the perfect bead! She also does special orders and custom jewelry designs for weddings, proms and other events. Susan also offers hand-turned sterling silver rosaries and rosary bracelets. Her favorite rosary designs are custom mothers' rosaries in which you use your significant family members' birthstones. Susan's designs are on display at Houma's House throughout the month of April. Stop in and check out some of her new summer designs or look for "Simply Susan" at local craft shows!

**Spring Forward with Your Writing**

Discover how to write so people want to keep reading. Learn how to avoid frequently made mistakes so your writing immediately grabs people's attention and holds it. Whether you're an aspiring writer, an author who's already published, or someone whose writing skills is critical to your profession, River Region Art Association's **Spring Forward with Your Writing Workshop** will take your writing to an even more professional level with instructor, **Carol Pierce**.

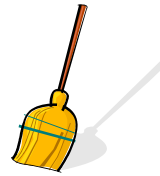
"Those participating in the April 10 event are guaranteed to learn easy-to-apply secrets I've used editing books for clients whose readers don't want to put those books down, no matter the topic or the length of that book," states professional editor/publishing consultant Carol Pierce.

The limited seating workshop takes place Saturday, April 10 from 9 a.m. to noon at River Region Art Association's Art Center in Gonzales. Registration fee is \$45 for RRAA members. For more details and to register for the event, contact **Donna Braud** at 225-328-7354 or visit www.artgumbo.org To learn more about Carol Pierce, visit www.jumpnow.com



GUEST SPEAKER AT NEXT MEMBERSHIP MEETING

Guest speaker at the April 11 Membership meeting will be art photographer, Jim Byron. He has competed and won ribbons both statewide and nationally. He will speak about expressing your style through art and give tips for marketing your art. Announcements about the upcoming RED HOT Art Show will be made and Artist-of-the-Month for May will be selected. Come meet your fellow artists and learn something interesting from the guest artist on Sunday, April 11 at 2 p.m. at the River Region Art Center in Gonzales. Any one who would like to volunteer with RED HOT Art Show can call **Betty Marks** at 647-0595.



ART SWEEP AND SALE

At the **May 16 Membership Meeting** we will have an Art Sweep and Sale. Start cleaning out your art materials....art things you never use, art project leftovers, or any art related items! Bring them to the meeting at 2 p.m. that day and maybe a card table if you have a lot of stuff. We will set it up and you can sell your discards and keep the money. We will also have some RRAA materials that are cluttering our Art Center.....and a bit of lost art. Get busy and sell what you sweep out of your art studio! We will have a **brief meeting followed by an Art Bargain Day!** This should be fun for all. One artist's junk is another artist's treasure!



Some Like it HOT!

Just a reminder that May 27 will be RED HOT ART NIGHT from 5 p.m. - 7 p.m. at Houmas House Plantation with the Ascension Chamber and the Baton Rouge Chamber visiting for an After Hours event. RRAA will provide a Red Hot Art Exhibit. So get your ideas jumping around and mix up some RED,,, HOT ... FIERY colors for your art! Art work can be paintings, colored drawings, photography, or three-dimensional art. More details will follow!

NEXT MEMBERSHIP MEETING SUNDAY, APRIL 11 at 2 p.m. at the Art Center
NEXT BOARD MEETING SUNDAY, MAY 3 at 6:30 p.m. at the Art Center