



# River Region Art Association Newsletter

July 2010



DUES OF \$20 ARE DUE NOW FOR HANGING ART AT OUR RRAA ART GALLERY AT HOUMAS HOUSE. THIS COVERS EXHIBIT FEE FROM JULY 1 TO DECEMBER 31.



## We Welcome New Members!

Vicki Durfey...Baton Rouge...Painting and 3-Dimensional Art

Sylvia Dunlap...St. Gabriel...Painting and Crochet

Vicky Stinson...Gonzales...Pen and Ink Drawings



## ART SALES AT RRAA

June brought us even hotter weather, but the sales cooled off a bit. We did have sales at the Houmas House Art Gallery and the Art Center but no off-site sales this month. **Diane Tygier** grabs first place again with her popular slate paintings! **Deborah Bianchetti** was right behind her with a nice, big sale! **Mary Demarest** scooted into third place with her pottery sales. Other artists who enjoyed sales were: **Betty Marks, Carolyn Bowman, Donna Montagino, Josie Young, Ken Taylor, L J Mayers, Mimi Fowler, Monica Landry, Peg Carbo, Robin Rotolo, Sally McConnell, Shirley Schell, and Sylvia Rochester.** July first is the first anniversary of our art gallery at Houmas House. Thanks to all who have worked so hard this year to make this happen.....we did it! It has been a very successful year!!!

The Art Center in Gonzales has been revitalized and sales are also happening there. Drop by and observe the new look. There are plans in the making to draw the community to the Art Center for shopping and special events.

Anyone available to volunteer 10 a.m.-4 p.m. Thursday, Friday or Saturday....call Donna at 225-328-7354 or email to [donnadidit@cox.net](mailto:donnadidit@cox.net). Presently we have a few open days in July. Also if you are interested in displaying some of your art with no exhibit fee, bring it to the Art Center on Thursday or Saturday.



## JUNE, A BUSY MONTH

River Region had a busy month of art instruction during the month of June. The Youth Summer workshops had 62 students! Teaching this year were **Carolyn Milner, Terry Ferrall, Vicki Durfey, Mary Crochet, and Donna Smith**. Adult classes were held by **Jan Hebert and Janice Carter**. Thanks to all for sharing their talents so that others can learn more about art. There are more classes coming up in July for both children and adults. Check online at [www.artgumbo.org](http://www.artgumbo.org) for more information.



## JOHN ROBBINS FEATURED AT BARNES & NOBLE BOOKSELLERS

The photography of **John Robbins** will be displayed at Barnes & Noble Booksellers, Perkins Rowe store in Baton Rouge, during the month of July. John finds art in the scenes surrounding him as he surveys the area with his camera. He always attempts to preserve the charm, beauty, and grace of the old south using the most modern techniques and materials available in photography. He is always looking for another way to capture that special shot. Occasionally he tosses in a bit of abstract photography along the way just for the fun of it.

He has been published in local and regional magazines and newspapers and does some freelance work. He also does contract work for people designing brochures or business promotions. His art photography can be found in homes, businesses, and institutions both nationally and internationally.

John is a longtime member of the River Region Art Association and presently serves on the Board. His work is exhibited regularly at the River Region Art Gallery at Houmas House on the River Road in Darrow, LA and at the River Region Art Center in Gonzales, LA.

River Region Art Association will feature a member artist's exhibit each month at the Barnes & Noble Booksellers Perkins Rowe store in Baton Rouge. John's photography will be exhibited at the store from July 1 through July 31. Store hours for viewing this exhibit are Sunday from 10 a.m.—10 p.m., Monday—Thursday from 9 a.m.—10 p.m., and Friday—Saturday 9 a.m.—11 p.m.



## JO ANN MOBLEY, ARTIST OF THE MONTH

I was born in Texas but grew up in Louisiana. Like most local artists, I find creative inspiration in the beauty and richness of our area. I also love to travel and frequently discover subjects to paint while on one of our trips. Some of my favorite subjects are animals, architecture, informal portraits, and landscapes (especially swamp scenes and local landmarks). Usually I keep a camera at hand to record things that strike me as possible subjects. Lately I have also been busy doing commissioned works.

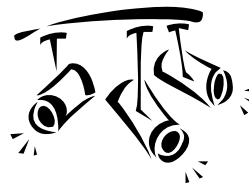
My interest in drawing began when I was only five or six, and I began painting in oils during my teens. Over the years I've worked in pencil, pen and ink, watercolor, and acrylics, but my favorite medium is oil on canvas.

I began painting seriously while living in Houston a number of years ago where I was active in several art societies and exhibited frequently in juried, judged, and selling shows. During my time there I

was privileged to meet and work with many gifted artists and to study with several including Dick Turner and Dalhart Windberg. This was a formative period for my painting style.

After returning to Baton Rouge, I've continued to paint, and since retiring, I pursue that passion every day if I can. Although my paintings are usually representational or realistic in style, I try not to merely reproduce a copy of what I see. My goal is to interpret my subject in a way that each painting will tell a story, evoke a memory, or stir an emotion in the viewer. It's been said that what is important about a work of art is not what it looks like, but what it makes you feel.

The process of creating a work is rewarding enough for me, but having opportunities for others to view my paintings is very important, too. During July my work will be displayed at the River Region Art Association Gallery at Houmas House in Darrow, the River Region Art Center in Gonzales, and at Bett's Fine Art in Baton Rouge. The Houmas House Art Gallery is opened Sunday through Saturday from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. The River Region Art Center is open on Thursdays and Saturdays from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Come by and see my work!



## ARTISTS IN ACTION

Our very own RRAA member, **Mimi Fowler**, opened her new art gallery called the Gallery 3 Studio next to her BEAD IT store, in Gonzales at 720 N. Burnside Avenue; and her manager is another RRAA member, **Martha Robert!** The gallery features fine art, sculpture, pottery, and photography. A friend of hers, JE' Potter, has a graphic design office in her studio area and helped set up the art exhibits for her gallery reception Saturday evening, June 26<sup>th</sup>. from 7 p.m. to midnight. There were about 100 guests who attended to support her opening! Refreshments were served. Members of RRAA wish Mimi much success with this new venture! Please stop by to see her new business located in Gonzales.

A big "Thanks" to **Robin Rotolo and her husband** for putting together the striking display shelves at the Art Center. They look really coordinated with the new lamps in the entry room.

Another big "Thanks" to **Gene and Jo Ann Ferguson** who donated the annual website fee for our [www.artgumbo.org](http://www.artgumbo.org) site. We appreciate all the work that Gene does to keep the site up-to-date.....it is constantly changing and looking good! If you ever have a bio to submit or any art photos you want with your bio.....send to [gene@artgumbo.org](mailto:gene@artgumbo.org) !

Again, many "thanks" to **L J Mayers** for all the latest shelf designs he completed at our Houmas House Art Gallery.....the improved look is super looking!

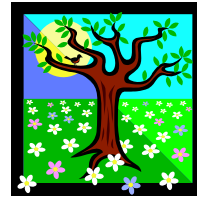
**Linda Simms** is off to visit her mother in Canada for two months. Who wouldn't want to go to a cooler place right now! Have fun Linda.

Knee surgery must be contagious! **Betty Hutchinson** has already replaced both knees at the same time. **Louise Hansen** had one knee replaced! Ladies, take care of yourselves in this heat.

Anybody else? Watch those knees, girls!

## HANGING OUT ON WEDNESDAYS

Don't forget that every Wednesday the Art Center in Gonzales will be open from 1 p.m.-3 p.m. for a "Gather and Create".....gathering of artists to paint, draw, bead, or do whatever art you want. It is a time to meet with your fellow members, see what they have going, share ideas, help each other, and chat. Just a friendly little session to stay in touch. Come as you are.....nothing fancy. Bring your supplies and ideas and create! No obligation, no fee, no reservations, no one in charge.....just drop by if you can.



## AD CAMPAIGN for AWESOME ART In OCTOBER

Mary Demarest, Sally McConnell, Jan Hebert, and Donna Braud are working on the ad campaign for the *Awesome Art in Autumn Gardens* event brochure. Our Arts & Cultural Festival is October 9 and 10 this year, but it takes months of preparation to get it all together. This is our biggest event of the year. Your help would be greatly appreciated!

Ads are \$35 for a business card size, \$60 for a half page, and \$100 for a whole page (size 8" x 5"). If you have any businesses you deal with regularly, ask them to support the arts through one of the ads. Or you may just want to include your own business card in the brochure. All ads should be copy ready and in black and white at a minimum of 200 dpi and in a jpg or pdf format. If it is a business card ad.....just turn in the actual business card. It is okay to turn in color, but all ads will be printed in black and white on a high grade paper. **An ad sheet is included in your newsletter** to use when selling ads. Turn in any sales with form, ad copy, and check to either the Art Gallery at Houmas House or the Art Center in Gonzales. **Be sure to write up a sales slip and put the info in the journal just like a regular sale.**



## BUSY CLASS SCHEDULE for JULY



**Terry Farrell** will be offering a class "Tools, Terms, and Techniques" for kids ages 5-8 and 9-15. She will explore the world of painting with these students through July on Monday and Tuesdays.

**Donna Smith** will offer digital photography for kids ages 8-13 with Tues-Friday schedule July 6-9. She will teach photo basics and composition. Donna will also offer an advanced digital class for kids on July 19-22.

**Sharon Turner** will offer Basic camera and photography for adults on Mondays July 12,19,and 26 From 6:30-8:30 p.m.

**Robin Rotolo** will offer beginning jewelry where students will make a necklace, bracelet, and earrings on three consecutive Thursdays.....July 15, 22, and 29. Go online at [www.artgumbo.org](http://www.artgumbo.org) for more details.

**NEXT BOARD MEETING MONDAY, JULY 5 AT 6:30 P.M. AT THE ART CENTER**

**NEXT MEMBERSHIP MEETING IS SUNDAY, JULY 11 AT 2 P.M. AT THE ART CENTER**