



# River Region Art Association Newsletter

June 2010

## May Art Sales



The month of May was very productive for River Region art sales. We had four sales at Red Hot, two sales at Community Coffee, and three sales at the Art Center. The rest were all at the Houmas House Art Gallery. Top selling artist for May was **Diane Tygier**. Her slate art pieces have been hot items. Second in line with sales was Josie Young with Peggy Carbo following close at third. These artists also enjoyed sales: **Jan Hebert, Deborah Bianchetti, Sylvia Rochester, Kathleen Kuhnert, Elaine Champagne, Mary Crochet, Carolyn Bowman, Mimi Fowler, Sally McConnell, Robin Rotolo, Betty Marks, Shirley Schell, Terry Farrell, Mary Demarest, Gaynell Moore, John Robbins, Martha Robert, Sharon Turner, Susan Rodrigue, and Susan Sheets.**

Both paintings and photography are selling at a good pace. Keep your exhibit checked and replace any that have sold. Docents can always give a call if artist needs to replenish their art works, especially if it is a larger piece. We do not want to have lots of holes where art should be. The new arrangement at the Houmas House Art Gallery looks great! Thanks to **Carolyn Milner** for her ideas. Also kudos go out to **L.J. Mayers** for another counter piece he designed and built for the Houmas House Art Gallery. We are looking good!

## WELCOME TO OUR NEW MEMBERS



**Sylvia Dunlap**....Painting and crochet artist from St. Gabriel  
**Lynne Mongesku**....Fabric Artist from Prairieville  
**Dennis Mongesku**...Spouse from Prairieville

## ARTIST IN ACTION



**Louise Hansen** has an exhibit of her watercolors at Mansur's Restaurant in Baton Rouge June 2 through August 4. She is a member of not only River Region Art Association, but also of Louisiana Watercolor Society. Recently she took a watercolor workshop by Soon Y. Warren in New Orleans.

She has juried into Southern Watercolor Society Regional Exhibition for 2010 held in Kentucky. See Louise's biography on our website!

**Sally McConnell and Catherine McLaurin**, two of our River Region members, are both represented in the Louisiana Public Broadcasting "Art and Travel Auction" with their art. You may bid online at [www.lpb.org/auction](http://www.lpb.org/auction). The auction will be televised on Sunday, June 13 from 6-9 p.m.

**Terry Farrell** was hired as a full time art teacher for Faith Academy starting in August. Congratulations!

Both **Louise Hansen and Betty Hutchinson** will be out of circuit for a while recuperating from knee surgery. **Catherine McLaurin** has her hand in a cast from a bad injury recently. No painting for her right now.

**Robin Rotolo** will have a jewelry "Trunk Show" along with another Louisiana jewelry maker at the Community Coffee House in Prairieville on Saturday, June 26.

**Mary Demarest and Sally Mc Connell** are already at work on the Awesome Ad campaign for the Program Brochure for the annual Awesome Art in Autumn Gardens Arts and Cultural Festival coming up on Oct 9 and 10 at Houmas House Plantation.

## ART CENTER and GALLERY



**Terry Farrell, Donna Braud, and Jan Hebert** have been rearranging the Art Center and improving the looks of things. **Robin Rotolo** has done a great job of redoing the jewelry case, and it is lighted to enhance the sparkling jewels within. Robin is working on another project to provide more three-dimensional room. **Ken Taylor** recently added his line of jewelry and beaded serving sets in addition to his gourds. **Susan Rodrigue** is adding a line of pottery this week. You won't recognize it! Remember you may bring a few pieces of your art works to the Gonzales Art Center for exhibit and there is no fee. We are trying to revitalize the art and activity there. Anyone who has time to volunteer at the Center, please call or email Donna Braud to get on the calendar. Hours are from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. We are now open regularly on Thursdays and Saturdays, but would like to add Fridays if enough people would commit. Let's all pull together to see if we can make something happen in Gonzales!

We are staying busy at the Art Center with classes and workshops. Lots of parents have been coming in to register their children for Summer Youth Art. We are going to honor our artist of the month starting in June at the membership meeting with a reception following the meeting. So a lot more people are coming into the Art Center and are pleasantly surprised to see the art display. We hope to increase traffic to the Art Center. Let's take pride in keeping it looking like a gallery.



## ARTIST OF THE MONTH FOR JUNE IS PEGGY CARBO

I always thought that I had the soul of an artist but no talent, until I took some art classes with a wonderful teacher named Sue Sickle. After a few classes I was off and running, painting everything I could. Twenty years later I am still going strong. Although oil on canvas is my first love, I use different mediums on all kinds of reclaimed items—old sawblades, crosscut saws, wood shingles, cypress knees, milk cans, driftwood—just to name a few. I am inspired by the beauty of nature. I try to capture the everchanging colors of sunrises, sunsets, and bright summer days. Most of my paintings are of Louisiana landscape and scenery including old cypress houses, barns, and swamps.

In 1998 I created a creature called the "swamp thing". He is in all of my paintings hidden away somewhere. If you look closely you may find him peaking over a tree root, hiding behind a boat, or even hanging off a wooden fence.

I paint because I love it, but I also paint to see the joy in my customers' faces when they pick up a custom order. Most of my customers will bring me an old saw blade they found clearing land or an item passed down from their grandparents. They will tell me a story about the item and a vague description of what they would like the painting to be. The rest is up to me to paint their vision. I don't always know where my paintings go, but I do know that they are in at least 15 different states. Many of my paintings have even made it out of country including Germany, Africa, South America, Canada, and Wales.

Currently my work is displayed at the River Regions Art Gallery at Houmas House, the River Region Art Center in Gonzales, Louisiana Pottery at the Cajun Village in Sorrento, The Shadow Box in Galvez. I also set-up at various festivals and farmers' markets in the area. My art will be on display at the Art Gallery at Houmas House for the month of June. Please stop by to see my exhibit Sunday through Saturday from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.

## What's Brewing at CC's ?

**Jan Hebert, John Robbins, and Donna Braud** worked together to take down the photography exhibit at Community Coffee House and replaced it with a stunning RED HOT exhibit. Artists represented at CC's for the next 2 months are: **Cy Rawls, Mimi Fowler, Betty Hutchinson, Shirley Russell, Jan Hebert, Robin Rotolo, Mary Crochet, Gaynell Moore, and Donna Braud.** There were a few pieces with the improper wiring on the back that we wanted to take but couldn't for it will not hang there without the wiring. Keep that in mind whenever you bring in a piece of two- dimensional art to hang....it MUST HAVE WIRE ON THE BACK. An artist reception will be held at CC's on Friday, July 2 from 5 p.m. to 7 p.m. for this new RED HOT exhibit. All are invited to attend.

More weekend demonstrating artists are needed for July and August. Please email Donna at [donnadidit@cox.net](mailto:donnadidit@cox.net) or call at 328-7354 to get your name on the list. You pick the day (Sat or Sun) and decide the time you will be there. We advertise on Facebook and Twitter and on the CC's calendar that you will be there with your art. Take a card table and set up your art and greet the customers. Simple as that! And FUN! Here is the schedule so far.....**Martha Robert** will make her appearance on Saturday, June 12 from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. with painting and photography.

<b>Mary Crochet</b> .....	Saturday, June 19	8am-12pm	Folk Art
<b>Robin Rotolo</b> .....	Saturday, June 26	8am-1pm	Jewelry
<b>Donna Braud</b> .....	Saturday, July 3	9am-1pm	Painting
<b>Gaynell Nelson</b> .....	Saturday, July 10	9am-1pm	Cracked Pots
Open.....	July 17 or 18		
<b>Monica Landry</b> .....	Saturday, July 24	9am-1pm	Jewelry/scarves
<b>Robin Rotolo</b> .....	Saturday, July 31...	8am-1pm	Jewelry

Also any weekend in August is open and available.....just let Donna Braud know.



### BARNES AND NOBLE'S PARTNERSHIP

After consultation with upper management at the Perkins Rowe Barnes & Noble Bookstore in Baton Rouge, we have been offered a wonderful opportunity to market RRAA art at their store. This location is a great spot to promote your art.

1. One artist will be featured each month with 12-14 pieces of their art hanging in the Coffee shop area and hallway.
2. Artist will come on 1st of the month and hang their own art.
3. Artist will be responsible to come on the last day of the month they have been exhibited and remove their art so that the walls will be cleared for the next artist who will come on the following 1st day of the month.
4. Artist is expected to come equipped with at least 15-16 pieces of their art already wired on the back and any hanging equipment they may need such as a hammer, nails, tape. Bringing extra art is a good idea due to how the art may fit in the area provided.
4. Artist is responsible to have cards filled out with the title, name of artist, and price that will be hung from the painting or photography using tape from the back of frame at the right hand bottom side. These cards will be provided for the artist by RRAA and can be picked up at the River Region Art Center in Gonzales prior to going to Barnes & Noble.
5. Artist will submit a brief biography and description of the collection of art they are displaying by email to Donna Braud for media purposes.
6. Artist will provide a list of art displayed to the Barnes & Noble management that will have each title and price of the art displayed and include their name and contact info at the bottom of this page. Artist should keep a copy of this list for their own reference and provide a copy to Donna Braud for RRAA to be kept on file at the Art Center.
7. Artist will receive a check for all art that is sold during their month at Barnes & Noble Bookstore from River Region Art Association on the following month of their exhibit. The 20%

donation to RRAA will be subtracted from each sale. RRAA will pay all taxes and take care of any process fees.

8. Following your month of exhibit, a thank you note of appreciation for the opportunity should be sent by the Artist to:

Carron S. Fillingim, Community Relations Manager  
Barnes & Noble Booksellers  
7707 Bluebonnet Boulevard  
Baton Rouge, LA 70810

9. **This is a privilege for our artists. NO EXCEPTION TO THESE RULES. IF YOU CANNOT ABIDE BY THESE RULES...DO NOT SIGN UP TO EXHIBIT. You must have an adequate amount of art...it must be framed attractively, it must be wired for hanging, you must have proper cards filled out for each piece of art, and you must have your art up on the 1st and down on the last day of your month.**

10. **PLEASE SUBMIT YOUR NAME AND PHONE NUMBER NOW TO DONNA BRAUD IF YOU ARE INTERESTED IN TAKING PART IN THIS SATELLITE EXHIBIT. Donna Braud, Public Relations 225-328-7354 [donnadidit@cox.net](mailto:donnadidit@cox.net)**

### HANGING AT HOUMAS HOUSE ART GALLERY

The Board has noticed that we have occasionally had trouble with Artist of the Month hanging their art on time, which is the first of the month, or taking it down on the last day of the month. When a chosen Artist of the Month doesn't hang on the designated time, it leaves a huge "blank" space in the HH Art Gallery, and it makes us look terribly unprofessional. Therefore, if you are selected as the Artist of the Month, and you can't get your work up on the 1<sup>st</sup> or have it taken down by the last of the month, do not accept the honor. If we are working with businesses the Board agrees that we must be professional and business-like also.



### RENEWING FEES FOR HANGING AT HOUMAS HOUSE ART GALLERY

Exhibit Fees for the second half of the year to hang at Houmas House Art Gallery is \$20 for the next six months. Please take care of this by mailing a check to the Art Center or coming by to pay on Thursday or Saturday from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. The fee is due by July 1.



### RED HOT REPORT

Thanks to all who entered art in the RED HOT art exhibit at Houmas House in May. There were 109 beautiful and bright pieces of art. The show was judged by Craig Black and Kevin Kelly. The winners were:

3-D

- 1 **Shirley Schell**--Beaded necklace called "Dancing Poppies" ---this was breathtaking!
  - 2 **Carolyn Bowman**—"Roses are Red" necklace
  - 3 **Susan Rodrigue**—"Fire in the Water" vase
- HM **Peggy Carbo**--Saw blade called "Strutting"

2-D

- 1 **Louise Hansen**—"Angel Caps"--watercolor
  - 2 **Diane Tyger**—"Sunset Sailing"--acrylic
  - 3 **Ray Schell**--photo called "Nature Photography"
- HM **Sharon Turner**--photo called "State Fair"

Congratulations to all. Several of the art pieces are now hanging at Community Coffee in Prairieville.



## SUMMER ART WORKSHOPS

Summer Youth Workshops are going on now at River Region Art Center with **Terry Farrell, Carolin Milner, Donna Smith, Mary Crochet, Vicki Durfey, and Carol Pierce** all instructing. Classes are June 7-10 and June 14-17 from 10 a.m. to noon. Carol Pierce's Teen Writing class is on June 11 from 9 a.m. to noon.

Terry Ferrall is offering a July workshop for the Youth on Mondays and Tuesdays in July. The kids will enjoy art with "Tools, Terms, and Techniques" July 5/6, July 11/12, July 19/20. Two hours each day for 6 days. Ages 5-8 will have class from 10 to noon. Ages 9-15 will have class from 1 to 3 p.m. Class fee is \$75 for entire 6 days. Only first 10 students will be accepted. Contact Miss Terry at 225-323-1744 for information. Register by July 3.

For the adults, **Janice Carter** will be offering an Acrylic Still Life class on Monday, June 21 and Monday, June 28 from 7 to 9 p.m. at the Art Center for \$55 (includes both classes). Teacher will furnish basic supplies with canvas board, paint, and brushes. Instructor will provide picture of still life for student to work from. Class will follow step by step process: drawing, under painting, and finishing details. This is a great price....Janice, an RRAA member, is the art teacher at East Ascension High School. Call now to reserve a spot.

Got a camera and only know how to hit the button! Take a basic Camera and Photography class at the River Region Art Center given by **Sharon Turner** for ages 15 to adult. Class will meet on Mondays July 12, 19, and 26 from 6:30-8:30 p.m. \$85 for all three days. Register by July 7...call 328-7354.

Make a necklace, bracelet, and earrings to match with glass beads at River Region Art Center. This is a beginning jewelry class to be held for three nights on Thursdays July 15, 22, and 29 from 7 to 9 p.m. Class fee is \$60 with everything included. Instructor, **Robin Rotolo** will provide tools, stringing wire, findings and beads. Students must provide a list of desired bead colors at time of registration. Call 328-7354 or visit the Art Center on Thursdays or Saturdays from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

## ART GUMBO MARKET

The next Art Gumbo Market is June 19<sup>th</sup>, the third Saturday of the month, from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Call Donna Braud if you plan to set up a booth.



## Y'ALL COME!

The June membership meeting of the River Region Art Association will be on Sunday, June 13 at 2 p.m. Guest speaker will be Kevin Kelly, owner of Houmas House Plantation. The Scare Crow contest and new offsite exhibit will be discussed. Artist of the month, **Peggy Carbo** will be honored with a reception following a brief meeting. We hope you will be there!



**NEXT MEMBERSHIP MEETING Sunday, JUNE 13 at 2 p.m. at the Art Center with reception for the Artist of the Month, Peggy Carbo**

**NEXT BOARD MEETING Tuesday, JULY 6 at 6:30 p.m. at the Art Center due to the holiday.**