



River Region Art Association Newsletter

May 2010



PUMP UP THE VOLUME!

At the May 3 Board Meeting it was decided to "pump up the volume" at the Art Center and to make it a more active and attractive venue. Beginning with the June 13th Membership Meeting, there will be a reception each month for the current Artist of the Month featuring a display of their art. Refreshments will be served. The artist will continue to have an additional display of their art at the RRAA Houmas House Gallery each month as well. This will give our artist a bit more promotion and provide more exhibit space. The artist may invite their friends and family to the reception at the Art Center which will follow the membership meeting each month.

We are calling for more art for the Art Center. Have many of you "forgotten" the River Region Art Association still exhibits at the Art Center??? It is still our home! It is totally FREE to hang at the Art Center. Please feel free to bring in a few of your artworks so that we may show your art. The center is manned by volunteers every Thursday and Saturday from 10 a.m. – 4 p.m. and open to the public. If any members want to volunteer to work at the Art Center.....please call **Donna Braud** at 328-7354 or email at donnadidit@cox.net. We can use your help.

We have on-going art classes on Tuesdays, Wednesdays, and Thursdays in the evening right now. So people are coming into our Art Center for classes on a regular basis. We want the Center to look like an Art Gallery again! We have had two calls recently about other non-profits using our Gallery for events, and we want it to look inviting when they come. Let's all work together to make it happen.....let's get the Art Center back in shape again! Wake up artists! Get your art out of the closet! Paint something, create something, snap some interesting shots with your camera! This is another way to fulfill our mission of enriching the community with the ARTS!

REMEMBER....WHEN.....

Remember way back... when some of us gathered for friendship and painting? Well, since we've moved to HH, this activity has been pushed to the side. This used to be our hangout! It still is! HH is a business place, and we can't gather and yak! And now some of us have voiced our desire to return to this ... beginning right away next Wednesday, May 12, from 1--3 p.m. Those of us who are retired or do not work or have the day off—may want to bring your art supplies to paint, sketch, chat, inspire, or help others with techniques or updates of what we're doing. No one is in charge. This is not a club, just a gathering of friends on the Wednesdays you are able. No calls are needed, just show up at the Art Center on Wednesday afternoons; and come as you are! No fancy dress needed.

TEACHERS OF ART & DESIGN

Calling all artists who want to share their knowledge of art with others. Do you want to teach a class at RRAA Art Center? The instructor receives 75% of the class fee if a member....65% for nonmembers. We are not talking just about painting...it can be jewelry making, gourd design, wood carving, photography, collage, and any three-dimensional art. We even have kilns at the Art Center for firing pottery and ceramics. If you have an idea you would like to teach....call **Elaine Champagne** to find out what times are available. Call her at 677-8054 or 252-8877. Call Elaine and get on the calendar!!!



APRIL SALES

Art Sales were terrific in April. The traffic at Houmas House has picked up with the spring sunshine, and therefore we enjoyed our biggest month yet this year. We also had sales at the Art Center and at Community Coffee! Top sales person for the month was **Susan Sheets**, our Artist of the Month for April. Congratulations!

Second in line for sales was **Diane Tygier**. Others enjoying sales this month were: **Mimi Fowler, Josie Young, Helen Haw, Louise Hansen, John Robbins, Carolin Milner, Mary Demarest, Mary Crochet, Carolyn Bowman, Betty Marks, Kathleen Kuhnert, and Sally Mc Connell.**

FREE PLUGS

Jenny Heroman of Eatel's Community Connection invited RRAA member **Carol Pierce** to be her guest on her show which airs beginning Monday, May 3rd. Carol will be discussing the Teen Writers Camp coming up in June and give lots of great plugs to RRAA in particular.

Recently, Jenny invited **Susan Sheets**, our April Artist of the Month to appear on the show and exhibit and talk about her jewelry. Susie admits she was nervous doing a TV spot for the first time.

We are most appreciative of the opportunities Ms. Heroman is giving RRAA and the fact that she really promotes our art to the local community.

ARTIST-OF-THE-MONTH



Terry Farrell is our May Artist-of-the-Month. Returning to her roots that are based here in this incredible diverse culture just teaming with art, California born artist Terry Farrell, a Carlsbad native, is now residing in Louisiana not too far from New Orleans, where inspiration runs amuck. Her family has history here based back to the 1800's. Currently she is working on new inspiration inspired by her new location a very recent move. She also keeps busy with private commissions, shows, numerous juried exhibitions and annual receptions. Her pursuit of the arts represents more than three decades of serious work in and for art. Showing talent at a very early age, she immersed herself in the artistic pursuit, starting at the age of eleven with oil painting. Since that precocious beginning, through a history of various career paths, art has remained a consuming passion.

One job that kept her particularly close to that passion was working as an assistant to the Executive for Whitt/Krauss Objects of Fine Art. Along the way she has been a primary art instructor in an Oceanside public school as well as having private students.

Teaching is still a true passion of her art, with students of all ages, starting as young as four years as well as her "Seniors Art Plan." The "Seniors Art Plan" is a weekly program at retirement communities to spread her enthusiasm and joy of painting to our seniors. Terry has just been accepted into the incredible organization "The Arts Council of Greater Baton Rouge" as an Education Community Artist. As one of the communities most qualified artists she teaches with the Bright Futures 21st Century program, through the Federal government; recently awarded Donaldsonville, Louisiana a \$300,000 grant for arts and education. Terry has been honored with the position of the visual artist working with this program. She also teaches at private schools and at the River Region Art Association Center.

As satisfying as being involved with art in those capacities can be, the ultimate satisfaction for any artist is in the creative act itself. Thus she has worked through the years to develop her talent and to exhibit her work, some of which will be located at her new working studio gallery in Louisiana. Her work has been honored in invitational art receptions and in one-woman shows. Miss Farrell's recent works include cerebral, surreal paintings commanding style as well as a heartfelt personal interest in the style of the renaissance, all done in acrylic on canvas.

Terry can be reached at her studio at (225) 257-4065 res. (225) 323-1774 cell or by e-mail tborn4art@aol.com. Her work is on display at the Houmas House Gallery, on our website, and on Eatel's cable show Community Connection.

FREE WRITING WORKSHOP IN PIERRE PART, LA.

Do you have a story to tell? Have you ever wanted to write a novel? Join RRAA member **Sylvia Rochester** for a lively and informative discussion covering all aspects of this adventure. Believe me, it IS an "adventure." The workshop is free and refreshments will be served Saturday, May 8 from 8 -- 10 a.m. at the Pierre Part Library.



ARTISTS-IN-RESIDENCE AT COMMUNITY COFFEE IN PRAIRIEVILLE

Stop and visit! These are the artists who will be featured at Community Coffee for the month of May:

Louise Hanson, painting.....Saturday, May 1 from 8 a.m. to 12 noon

Donna Braud, painting/ collage.....Saturday, May 8 from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Anne Thigpen, calligraphy.....Sunday, May 16 from 1 to 5 p.m.

Robin Rotolo, jewelry.....Saturday, May 22 from 8 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Susan Rodrigue, pottery.....Sunday, May 30 from noon to 5 p.m.



ART LOVER'S DELIGHT



The monthly **RRAA membership meeting for May** has been moved from the second Sunday to the third...**May 16 at 2 p.m.** due to Mother's Day falling on the second Sunday. The meeting will be brief and no guest speaker...After the meeting we will have **Art Lover's Delight**....an art sale with art supplies, paintings, creative books, frames, canvases, and anything related to the arts. Members are asked to clean out their studios and bring usable art and supplies to sell at this sale. It could be anything from crayons, colored pencils, beads, gourds, clay, or paint to frames, art books, art kits, or actual paintings you are ready to part with. If you have a lot of stuff...bring your own table. RRAA will provide four tables to share. You will sell your own stuff...have it priced and ready to sell. You keep your money from your own sales...make your own change.

This will be announced in the Media and Open to the Public. REMEMBER IT IS ONLY ART RELATED ITEMS.....THIS IS NOT A JUNKY YARD SALE. It can be a lot of fun to find another artist's junk is another artist's delight. Some parents may come to pick up items for the kids to create with. Of course there will be the curious shoppers to see what we have to offer. Beginning artists may have an interest also.

The Sale will follow a 30-minute meeting which will begin at 2 p.m. and the **ART SALE will be from 2:30-4:30 p.m.** Please come in advance of 2 p.m. to set up your items. **John Robbins** and **Robin Rotolo** will clean out the garage at RRAA and have a load of goodies from there to sell. Oh, the things they will find!

This should be a fun event. Whatever is left will be loaded up and taken to the Goodwill. Everybody will find something they no longer use or something they even wonder why they bought!...Bring it! Swap it! Sell it! Come for the FUN and the ART TREASURES!



RED ALERT! RED ALERT!

Let's all get the REDS out and create works of art for RED HOT ART NIGHT at HOUMAS HOUSE on MAY 27. All members are encouraged to enter so that we will produce a nice display for the Baton Rouge Chamber and the Ascension Chamber as they meet to greet the artists and enjoy an evening of hors d'oeuvres and networking.

Bring your pieces of RED ART either to the Art Center on Thursdays or Saturdays or to the Houmas House Gallery, open daily 10 a.m. – 5 p.m. Paintings, colored drawings, colored photography or bright three-dimensional art featuring RED as a theme will be accepted. An entry form will need to be filled out when you leave your art. Also ID tags must be placed on the back of the art. Art will be numbered by the hanging committee. All art must be turned in by May 25 so the committee can arrange for set up in the Neptune Building for the RED HOT ART NIGHT event.

Kevin Kelly is sponsoring the food for the evening and River Region is providing the RED HOT ART.

ALL MEMBERS ARE INVITED TO PARTICIPATE and may bring a guest. Wear something RED to add to the festive event and come have a HOT time in the Gardens of Houmas House on May 27 from 5 p.m. —7 p.m. Please RSVP that you will be there to **Donna Braud** at 328-7354 or donnadidit@cox.net.

ACRYLIC STILL LIFE

Member, **Janice Carter**, art teacher at East Ascension High School, will offer an Acrylic Still Life painting class this summer on Monday, June 21 and Monday June 28 from 7 p.m. –9 p.m. This will be for teens and adults. Basic supplies will be furnished: 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, finishing details. Class fee is \$55 for two days. Sign up at the RRAA Art Center in Gonzales on Thursdays or Saturdays from 10 a.m.—4 p.m. Class forms are online at www.artgumbo.org Deadline for registration is June 17.

MAY ART GUMBO MARKET UNDER THE TREES

ART GUMBO MARKET will be held on May 15 under the trees at Houmas House from 10 a.m.— 2 p.m. All those interested in a FREE booth, please email or call **Donna Braud**.(328-7354 or donnadidit@cox.net.) You will bring your own set up and make your own sales. RRAA does not take any commission of your ART GUMBO MARKET sales. There will be a free tasting booth offered by Chef Jeremy of Houmas House. Music will round out the day. Spread the word to any artists or farmers or people with home grown & home made items to call Donna to get on the agenda for May 15.

EXCITING VISITORS AT HOUMAS HOUSE!

There has been a different kind of excitement at Houmas House lately. Hollywood has moved in to make movies! The last week of April they filmed "First Comes Love, Then Marriage" with Jane Seymour, James Bronlin, and Mandy Moore. The first week of May they filmed a Disney movie, "The Revenge of the Bridesmaids" with Raven from *That's So Raven!* a tv comedy. News is that another filming may be coming soon. It is interesting to see the art of movie making. It is not how it really looks at the theatre.

WOW! Something scary is coming in September to Houmas House!!!! Artists be prepared for a challenge! Tune in later for details in this Newsletter!

NEXT MEMBERSHIP MEETING AT THE ART CENTER ON Sunday, MAY 16 AT 2 P.M. WITH AN ART SALE AFTER.

NEXT BOARD MEETING AT THE ART CENTER ON Monday, JUNE 7 AT 6:30 P.M.