



River Region Art Association Newsletter

May 2011

From the President, Robin Rotolo,

Hi, Everyone! Have we got things going on! We are getting summer classes organized, setting our plans for Awesome Art for October, and also for Scarecrows in September. We have Red Hot coming up QUICKLY, and we have new and interesting members who do a variety of wonderful things! This is so exciting. I hope you all will find time to attend the General Meeting on Sunday, May 15th at 2:00 p.m. (We have delayed the general meeting in May by a week because of Mother's Day).

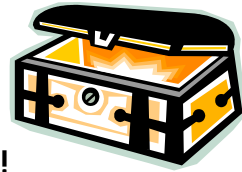
Carolyn Milner has agreed to take the lead for the Summer Children's program beginning the day after Labor Day. PLEASE go by the center and fill out a class sheet if you plan to teach a class this summer. We need help with this program; it is one of the best ways we know to promote art in our community, please be part of our mission!!!

Our next board meeting is Sunday, May 2 at 6:00 p.m. Once again, anyone is invited to come but if you have issues that you would like for us to discuss, please contact one of the Members at Large, **Betty Marks, Jan Hebert, Gene Ferguson** prior to the meeting so they can bring your issue up during the meeting for you. I believe this is the best way to handle all issues quickly and thoroughly and your Members at Large are here to represent you to the board so feel free to discuss any ideas, issues, complaints or suggestions with them.

Between now and the next General Meeting, we will have an ALL OUT wine and cheese trunk show. We are going to feature all our 3-D artists, gourds, jewelry, housewares, pottery, sculpture, three D art of all kinds will be shown. (I have attempted to contact all 3D artists but have not been totally successful, please contact me if you want to participate, we want everyone to take part this time!!!) We have been given permission to use the church fellowship hall on the corner by the Art Center so will overflow there. We are going to have some fun, a lot of visitors and expose our art to a lot of people at one time. For those of you who do hanging art, if you do not have something hanging in the art center, this would be a great time to get something there, we have been selling as much off the walls as off the tables at the trunk shows. Tell all your friends, family and neighbors it is free to the public and a lot of fun. Friday, May 6, Art Center in Gonzales from 6 p.m.-9 p.m.!

On a very serious note, I heard from a member this weekend who complained that their art had been splattered with paint in the Center. I assume that our members are responsible enough and respect others enough for this not to be directed at them. For all the teachers, please make sure your students are not swinging brushes around in the center either full or paint or rinsed and full of colored water. The classes are important to our organization, they bring in revenue but we all need to remember that the art there is very valuable not only to the artists but potentially to interested patrons of the arts. Any student or member caught marring or damaging finished art should be dismissed from the classes or the center permanently. Each of us understands that we cannot hold River Region Art Association responsible for damage to our pieces but as artists, we need to make sure we respect all other artist's pieces at all times. We will not tolerate disrespect of any kind to any of the art at any of our locations.

Last but not least...Congratulations to **Jan Hebert** for being our Artist of the Month for May. We will celebrate the honor with her at the General Meeting on May 15th.



Wine and Cheese TRUNK SHOW On FRIDAY, MAY 6!

NOTE: "Trunk Show" is just a phrase which means "a showing and sale of an entire collection of (a related group of objects--in this case, 3D objects)"

All members of RRAA who do any type of three-dimensional artwork (jewelry, gourds, scarves, wood carvings, pottery, ceramics, decorated trays, boxes, ornaments, etc.) are invited to participate in our upcoming Wine and Cheese Trunk Show which will be on Friday, May 6 at the Art Center on Magnolia Street in Gonzales (we are also renting the Fellowship Hall around the corner for overflow). The Trunk Show is open to the public from 6 to 9 p.m.

If you do 3-D art, even if it is not your main endeavor, you are welcome to participate. No big rules or admission procedures.... just bring a table to display your artwork on and a small tray of cheese and crackers to serve customers at your own table. Participating artists need to contact **Robin Rotolo** at 225-717-7178 so she can reserve you a spot for your table. There is no fee to participate but RRAA will be assessing a 20% commission on all sales (so price your work accordingly).

An added attraction at the Trunk Show will be a wine expert from LeBlanc's Supermarket who will be offering samples of some of the wines they carry and will be happy to discuss the merits of the various wines and vineyards.

RRAA has had several Trunk Shows in the past and they all were fun and rewarding. We are hoping this will be our biggest show ever, and we really want your participation, so call Robin today!

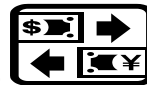
PS: No 3D Artwork? No problem! Bring your friends to see the fabulous 3D art our members create. Or call Robin and volunteer to be a 3D helper (always work to do at these events!)



RESERVATIONS, PLEASE!!!!

River Region Art Association is hosting an All-American Cookout on May 30 to welcome the French visitors to Gonzales and to our Art Gallery. We will begin the evening at 6 p.m. at the Art Center with an offering of wine as they browse through the art. Then at 7 p.m. we will all go to Sally McConnell's home for a backyard cookout.

If you plan to come, please RSVP to **Donna Braud** (328-7354) by May 23, so that we may be prepared with enough food. We are planning hamburgers, hotdogs with all the trimmings, potato salad, baked beans, and chips. There will be apple pie a la mode for dessert. Brush up on your French and join us s'il vous plait!



ART CHANGE OUT AT CC'S

Cy Rawls and **Deborah Bianchetti** are changing out the artwork at CC's. We will be removing the March Into Art items and replacing them with hanging art that is currently at the Art Center. HOWEVER, if for any reason you do NOT want your artwork which is now at the Art Center to be hung at CC's please let her know ASAP. They will make every effort to choose hanging art by artists who have NOT had a piece at CC's previously.

For all new (and old) members: The Community Coffee Coffeehouse at 42 and Airline has graciously invited all members of RRAA to demonstrate (or just showcase) their art (any medium or 3D) at the Coffeehouse on any Saturday or Sunday. The drill is take a table, put a sign on it with your name and saying you are representing RRAA, gather your art and supplies, and march yourself right down to CC's any weekend morning or afternoon. Introduce yourself to whomever is manning the shop (you may be lucky enough to catch the manager, Sarah), tell them you are from RRAA---they are always friendly and helpful.

You will set up in the waiting area to the left of the front door. Most artists stay 2-4 hours. Chat with customers (if they are so inclined) and perhaps sell an item or two. If you would like to schedule a time to participate, or have any questions, call or e-mail **Cy Rawls** 622-2872 or rawreid@eatel.net.



ARTISTS-IN-ACTION

Sylvia Rochester and **Carol Pierce**, both RRAA Members and writers, have been invited to be presenters for the upcoming 2nd Annual Berries, Books, and Bridges Writers Conference in Hammond on Saturday, May 7. Sylvia will be doing a breakout session on science fiction, and Carol has been invited to be a panelist for the afternoon general session devoted to the various aspects of the publishing industry. As the publishing consultant on the panel, Carol's focus will be on breaking the myths to becoming self-published and helping writers understand how they can create a top-quality book by using Louisiana resources instead of having to go out of the state or out of the country to make that possible. Great opportunity for both of you!

Louise Hansen is the featured artist at Barnes & Nobles Bookstore at Perkins Rowe for the month of May. You are invited to view her work!



CHAMBER SUMMER Kick Off

Event

Donna Braud and **Carolyn Bowman** will staff an information table at the Ascension Chamber Summer Kick Off Event on May 19 from 4-6 p.m. They will represent RRAA with upcoming event flyers, membership information, Summer Youth Art Workshop sign-ups, and pass out free maps of Gonzales.

It will be an afternoon of networking opportunities, door prizes, delicious food, music, and fun with several businesses involved. It is all free to any member to come by. It will all be happening at 1006 West Hwy 30 on the patio behind the Chamber Office.



SALES FOR APRIL!!!

Sales of our art were just a little less than last month. The top selling artist is **Diane Tygier** with **Josie Young** capturing second highest. **L J Mayers** and **Monica Landry** tied for third place. Others enjoying sales were: **Robin Rotolo**, **Desiree' Dugas**, **Sylvia Rochester**, **Helen Haw**, **Kathleen Kuhnert**, **Donna Marie Montagino**, **Skip Goldstein**, **Louise Hansen**, **Mary Demarest**, **Betty Marks**, **Carolyn Bowman**, **Shirley Schell**, and **Jan Hebert**.

Put your art out there for the public to see! It won't sell in your closet! You may be surprised and sell a piece or two yourself. We have room for your work at both the Houmas House Gallery and the Art Center. If you display at Houmas House there is a \$20 exhibit fee, and you must work one day a month. But to place your art in the Art Center is free!!!

We welcome you to give it a try! Call **Robin Rotolo**, our president, to let her know when you are ready to exhibit.



RED HOT ART NEEDED

Are you thinking RED...HOT...FIERY??? Get the reds out and bring your RED HOT ART to the Art Center in Gonzales on June 2, 3, or 4 for the RED HOT ART SHOW. Free to enter....you may enter 3 pieces of art. All categories: Painting, colorful drawings, color photography, or colorful three-dimensional art. Just be creative! The show will be judged by People's Choice. All winners will receive RED RIBBONS!

The exhibit will be presented at RED HOT NIGHT at the Art Center on June 24 from 5:30-7:30. Gaynell Moore will provide RED HOT Music. There will be RED HOT prizes given out. Every member who participates brings a RED or HOT pot luck dish or a fun party food. We guarantee that everyone will have a RED HOT NIGHT! OH! Be sure to wear RED! and bring a friend or two!

NEXT GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING Sunday, May 15 (due to Mother's Day) at 2 p.m. at Art Center
NEXT BOARD MEMBER Sunday, June 6 at 6 p.m. at Art Center