



River Region Art Association Newsletter

September 2009

AUGUST BOARD MEETING

The August 16 Board Meeting was attended by: Betty Marks, president; John Robbins, parliamentarian; Alma Sholmire, treasurer; Jan Hebert, member-at-large; Donna Braud, publicity; Shirley Russell, newsletter; and members Frances Prestridge and Cy Rawls.

GRANT FUNDING UPDATE

Thanks to our grant writer, **Donna Braud**, we have received funding and will be able to pay for the performers and demonstrators at Awesome Art. The show will go on!!! A great big thanks to our **Donna Braud!!!!!!!!!!!!!!**



UP-DATED THANK YOUs

Gaynell Moore and Joan Ann Martinez's names have been recommended for a special Thank You! We thank **Gaynell Moore** for the wonderful and fun music she plays for us at events, and **Joan Ann Martinez** who volunteered to clean the front of the Art Center each month. A BIIIGGGG "thank you, Ladies!"

If any other names were left off, contact Shirley Russell at 647-6940 or starw0man@eatel.net.



MISSING ART AT THE GALLERY

Martha Robert and Sally McConnell have reported some of their art is missing at the Gallery. If anyone knows anything about this, please contact the president, Betty Marks, at 647-0595.

MEMBERSHIP WHO ARE NOT SIGNING UP ON THEIR OWN

Membership, we have many volunteers who are signing up without reminders; we thank you! However, there are a few members who have work displayed and are not signing up ahead of time. This is not fair to the general membership because it makes another member have to docent an extra day; our Gallery has to be manned seven days a week! Members need to check on their work from time to time and to sign up **AHEAD OF TIME** for the next month or two. We ask you to contact **Carolyn Bowman** (who works so hard to keep the Calendar updated) and the daily docent at the Art Gallery at 473-9330! Just call them and tell them what dates you can work. Perhaps if you need a particular date and it's not available, someone will trade with you, just ask Ms. Bowman! Thank you for your co-operation.



GATE VOLUNTEERS NEEDED FOR Awesome Art

October 10 and 11, Saturday and Sunday, we will need six (6) volunteers to man the Houmas House gates during Awesome Art from 7 to 10 a.m. and from 4 to 6 p.m. If you are willing to help, call **Jan Hebert** at 622-6593.



DISPLAYING ARTISTS AT HOUMAS HOUSE

Artists who are displaying at Houmas House must keep watch over their art in order to keep within the maximum limit of allowed pieces. You can simply call 473-9330 to ask the docent to check on your pieces instead of driving in to see if any have been sold. But wouldn't it be nice if the docent who sells your art would call you and let you know? Then you could bring in another piece the next day!

CHANGING DATES ON THE CALENDAR

For any changes that you want to be made on the Docent Calendar, two calls should be made: to the Art Gallery at the Houmas House at 473-9330 for the docent to write it on the Calendar for you, and also to Carolyn Bowman in charge of the Calendar at 622-6667. This will keep order in our scheduling. Thank you!



NEW POSITION OF "CHECK UPPER"

As the year progresses, the Board discovers more things that need to be done on a regular basis. Since some volunteers are not remembering to call the next day's docent at the end of the day, a new volunteer position has been created for a daily single phone call to be made each morning at around 10:15—10:30 a.m. to find out if the docent who signed up shows up! Cy Rawls has volunteered to make this call each day. If she receives no answer at the Art Gallery at Houmas House, she will let Carolyn Bowman know. A great big thanks to **Cy Rawls!**

Each day before leaving, the docent for the next day should be called as a courtesy reminder. We can't let the Gallery be empty without a docent!

ART GALLERY HANGING RULES CHANGED

The Board says that new members may hang their art as soon as they join as long as they train and docent for that month. To find out who will train you and to arrange for a date, call Carolyn Bowman at 622-6667 to inquire.

USE OF EMAIL REGARDING MEMBERSHIP

Gene Ferguson has created a committee to address the use of RRAA email for political or religious reasons.



SEPTEMBER ARTIST-OF-THE-MONTH

Betty Marks is our September Artist-of-the-Month. She says she fell in love with painting in high school and even got in trouble for having an easel in her dorm room at LSU! Later, she didn't have a lot of time to devote to art since she was raising children and traveling.

Then Betty took a 12-week drawing class with Diana Knapp in 2004 and was hooked! After joining River Region Art Association, she took classes with Louise Hansen, Jan Hebert, Judy Betts and several other artists. She has settled on watercolor as her favorite medium.

Betty considers the real highlight of her art career as being president of RRAA in 2009. It happened that this was the year the association was invited by Kevin Kelly, the owner of Houmas House, to move the art gallery there! The move has rejuvenated RRAA's artists and attracted new members. She says there is so much to paint and so little time. Betty believes that, as with fishing, "time painting is not charged against your days on earth."

See her biography on our website www.artgumbo.org with her painting of *Mike, the Tiger*! Betty will also be featured in the local paper and the Advocate. Come by and see her art display at the Art Gallery from September 1 through September 30!



KREATIVE KIDS CLASS AT THE ART CENTER

Calling all Kreative Kids! "Drawing and Painting with Miss Terri" will begin at the River Region Art Center in Gonzales on Tuesday, September 8 and follow with September 15, 22, and 29. Class fee for the four-week course is \$55. Ages 6-9 will learn to be an artist from 4 p.m.-5 p.m. each Tuesday. Ages 10-13 will try enhancing their creative flair from 5 p.m.-6 p.m. each Tuesday. Registration forms can be found online at www.artgumbo.org The River Region Art Center is open for viewing and visiting every Thursday and Saturday from 10 a.m.-4 p.m. located just off Airline Hwy. behind Domino's Pizza at 1835 Magnolia Ave.

California born artist and teacher Terry Farrell, a Carlsbad native, is now residing in Donaldsonville, Louisiana where she has opened her own studio, The Art Bank. She will be working with the children on the Gonzales side of the river at the River Region Art Center for this fun and inspiring youth art session. As a professional artist she also keeps busy with private commissions, shows, and has experienced more than three decades of serious work in and for art. For any questions about the "Drawing and Painting" class, call **Miss Terry at 257-4065**.



MAGNETIC SIGNS FOR OUR CARS

A few magnetic signs for our cars may still be available for our members advertising Awesome Art. Contact the Art Center on Magnolia Ave. to see if any are left.

TWO OF OUR MEMBERS DIED THIS YEAR

Two RRAA members have passed away this year, and they will be missed very much. There will be two Awesome Art Awards to honor them. *Best of Show* will be **The Gerard Lotz Memorial Award**. *Master of Color* will be the **Jessie Bourgoyne Memorial Award**. We appreciate the talent and vibrant colors they brought to our Gallery. Memorial Plaques will be presented to their family members at the Awesome Art Awards Reception at Houmas House on Sunday, Oct 11 at 3:30 pm.