

# NEWSLETTER

MARCH – APRIL  
2010

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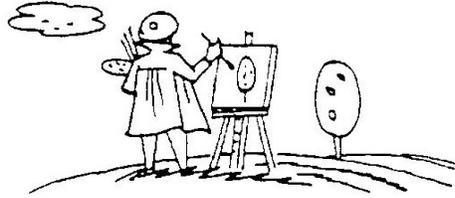
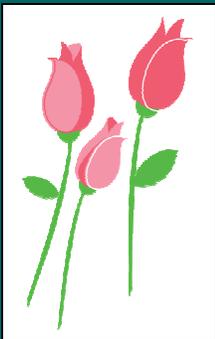
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## IMPORTANT REMINDER

Our Meeting Location has changed!

The next Regular Meeting of the James River Art League Will be at St. Matthew's Church 1101 Forest Avenue (corner of Patterson and Forest)

Friday, March 19  
At 11:30am



The James River Art League  
Richmond, Virginia

## JRAL Weathers January & February

While dodging the snowflakes, JRAL members still managed to enjoy some terrific events that took place in January and February. We put up a show at **Glenmore Yoga** on January 2<sup>nd</sup> which remained up until the end of February and was enthusiastically received by Glenmore patrons. There was a wonderful reception on Valentine's Day afternoon.

**JRAL President Jane Cox pictured at right with Glenmore owners, Nancy Tatum and Kevin Casey.**



**Bamie McCreight**

At our meeting on January 22<sup>nd</sup>, featured guest speaker, **Bamie McCreight**, explained the development of the Giclee process for producing fine art reproductions using digital photography and high end digital ink jet printers. Bamie originally got into the business of doing Giclees for his wife, Ann Chaddock, and now runs a business, Memories on Canvas, which puts photos on canvas or artwork on canvas or textured paper from any medium except pastel. See more at [www.myartcaptures.com](http://www.myartcaptures.com).

On February 19<sup>th</sup> JRAL members took a field trip to the **Kluge-Ruhe Aboriginal Art Collection** in Charlottesville, and what an eye-opener that was. Tour guides, Dominique Cocuzza and Melinda Hope were most informative about the art that ranged from natural ochre paintings on bark to prints and bright acrylic paintings on canvas. The collection includes many images of the animals and beings that inhabited the earth during the creation era known as the "Dreaming." It was fascinating to hear the explanations of the moral stories that were being told in the paintings and the complex iconography that was used to represent humans, flora and fauna that were the subject of the artwork.



**Bush Onion Dreaming**

Unfortunately there were several JRAL events that did have to be cancelled because of the weather. The February Critique Group was cancelled and the show at Bank of America has been rescheduled for August.

**President's Message**

*Jane Cox*

Bundled up again for winter in Richmond, I have to concentrate hard to bring back memories of those warm, sunny days in Ft. Myers Beach. But it was a relaxing, memorable month, and I am able to remember and relish the time I call playing hooky from life!

One vivid art-experience-memory is that of attending the Bonita Springs National Art Festival at the Promenade at beautiful Bonita Bay. It was a magnificent weekend event featuring 211 artists from around the country and Canada. The sale of paintings and sculptures earned close to \$100,000 to benefit the Bonita Springs Art League. That was quite a sale!

I am sorry to have missed our first meeting held at St. Matthew's. The title of Bamie McCreight's talk, The Reproductive Process, was certainly enticing and, I understand, informative and entertaining. That sounds like the Bamie I know. I regret too that I missed being there when Margot Titmus received the William

Youngblood Award. Congratulations, Margot. And the tribute to our Mac Okada, who was a talented, humble painter and photographer. I had the privilege of knowing Mac when he worked with my husband at the Times Dispatch.

The second onslaught of snow caused the postponement to August of the JRAL's exhibit at the Bank of America. But we had an excellent exhibit at Glenmore Yoga and Wellness Center from January 2-February 27. And there was an extraordinary reception held there on Valentine's Day.

The most recent event of the JRAL was our field trip on February 19 to the Kluge-Ruhe Aboriginal Art Museum in Charlottesville. It was a new and fascinating learning experience for most of us, who knew little about aboriginal art. Our lovely day was capped off by a bountiful buffet at the Boar's Head Inn. Our field trips are always good for art's sake, but also for getting



to better know our very nice members.

There is one change on the JRAL board to report. Betty Eddowes had to resign as chairman of the publicity committee. Gigi Vranian agreed to take on this additional responsibility. Betty, thank you for your years of service on the board and your continuing participation and dedication to the JRAL.

Now as we begin to think a lot about leaving winter behind and the coming of spring, we look forward to the March and May meetings, a field trip in April, more exhibits and receptions, and the sharing of good fellowship.

**Program Schedule - Spring, 2010**

- March 19\*** Susan Stuller – “Techniques in Watercolor and Acrylic on Yupo”
- April 16** A planned field trip to the **Corcoran Gallery of Art** in Washington, D.C. has been replaced by a visit to the **Phillips Collection** to see the Georgia O’Keeffe exhibit. We are scheduled for self-guided tours. **Note this Change!** More details at the March meeting.
- May 21\*** **Visions of Kalymnos,**” show and tell by nine JRAL members who have visited and painted on this Greek island.

**\* Meetings with guest speakers:**

Speaker	11:30 am – 12:15pm
Refreshment Break	12:15 pm – 12:30 pm
Business Meeting	12:30 pm – 1:30 pm

**Please stay for the Business Meeting. This is your Art League!**

## Spotlight on the Board

*This month the spotlight is on Sandy Bruton, our Corresponding Secretary.*

Sandy Bruton was born and raised in the Richmond area. She grew up with three sisters and lived here most of her life with the exception of two years spent on the island of Maui. She had a career as a secretary for about 12 years and then was a high school science teacher off and on until 2000.

Sandy tells us she wanted to be an artist ever since she was four years old. "I love creating my own world with my own colors and forms or sharing my feelings about things that inspire me." She began painting in 2000, describes herself as self taught except for an art class in the 8th grade, and learns from what other JRAL members and speakers have to share. Her

favorite medium is oil, and her favorite subject is trees.

Sandy has been a member of JRAL since 2003. She served as our Gallery Chair (a.k.a. "Hangman") from 2005 to 2007, Recording Secretary from 2007 to 2009, and is presently serving as our Corresponding Secretary.

In addition to being a member of the James River Art League, Sandy used to be a member of Bozarts Gallery in Charlottesville. She has won three 1st place awards in local shows: one at the JRAL annual juried show at the James Center, one at



Montpelier's Regional Show and one at Artworks in South Richmond.

Sandy lives in Cumberland with her Standard Poodle, Cotton, and enjoys gardening, natural history and science information and discoveries. Her three favorite, inspirational artists are Michelangelo, William Turner and Vincent Van Gogh.

## March Speaker – Susan Stuller

JRAL will be pleased to welcome local artist and teacher, Susan Stuller, as our guest speaker at the March meeting, giving a talk and demonstration on "Techniques in Watercolor and Acrylic on Yupo."

Susan has been a professional artist and instructor for over 20 years. Her emphasis is on rich color and strong design. She paints in a variety of media, though her passion lies with watercolor. She is known for her portrayal of crystal and glass and for her ability to capture light in her paintings.

Susan is a member of the Bon Air Artist Association, the American Watercolor Society and numerous other watercolor societies, and she currently sits on the board of the Arts and Cultural Funding Consortium for Richmond, Virginia.

Crossroads Art Center and Suitable for Framing represent Susan locally. Her work can also be found in many other galleries and at [www.susanstuller.com](http://www.susanstuller.com).

Susan has been the recipient of many awards locally as well as nationally. She was finalist in the still life category in the 23rd annual Artist magazine Still Life Competition. Susan has two paintings published in North Light's Slash 10 Series "Passionate Brushstrokes". This is the tenth edition of North Light Book's hardbound showcase of the best in contemporary watercolors, released in June 2008. Susan had one painting in North Light's Splash 11: New Directions released in July 2010.

Susan's work can be found in many private and corporate

collections in the United States and abroad. Federal Reserve Bank, Franklin Federal Savings Bank, I.B.M., A.H. Robbins, BB&T Bank, H. H. Hunt Land Developers, and the Richmond Times Dispatch Corporate Headquarters are but a few of her corporate clients.

Susan continues to instruct 4 painting classes a week at Crossroads Art Center. She has been a workshop instructor locally as well as nationally.

If you are a watercolorist and have ever tried or considered trying painting on Yupo, you won't want to miss this opportunity to see how it's done! And, if you are not, it still promises to be an informative and interesting demonstration.

## Exhibit Schedule – Spring 2010

### Bank of America Center – 1111 East Main Street, Richmond

60 paintings/30 artists; narrow display boards will not hold wide paintings  
Up Saturday, January 30, 2010, 10:00 am  
Down Saturday, February 20, 2010, 10:00 am (three week show)

**Note:** This event had to be cancelled due to the weather and has been rescheduled for August. Details to appear in the next newsletter.

### Uptown Gallery – 1305 West Main Street, Richmond

50 paintings/25 artists + crafts and sculpture (New Venue)  
Up Saturday, March 27, 2010, 10:00 am  
Down Saturday, May 29, 2010, 10:00 am (two month show)  
Two First Friday Art Walks and receptions  
**30% Commission**

### James Center Atrium – 901 East Cary Street, Richmond

#### James River art League Annual Juried Show

68 paintings/34 artists  
Up Saturday, June 5, 2010, 9:00-10:00 am  
Down Saturday, June 26, 2010, 9:00-10:00 am (three week show)  
JRAL sponsored reception Sunday, June 13, 2010, 2:00-4:00 pm

### Montpelier Center for the Arts – 17185 Mountain Road, Montpelier, VA

50 paintings/25 artists  
Drop off Thursday, July 1, 9:00-10:00 am  
Pick up Monday, August 2, 9:00-10:00 am  
JRAL sponsored reception Sunday, July 11, 3:00-5:00 pm  
**25% Commission**

### Some Reminders about Participation in League Exhibits

- ◇ Gallery Chairman, Collin Hoskins, reports that in the five exhibits that have gone up since September, 45% of the members have already taken part in two shows and another 14% have taken part in one show. According to our By-Laws, “An Active member who fails to participate in two League sponsored shows per year will become an Inactive member”. An Inactive member is required to pay dues and may attend League functions but may not vote or hold office. The Board is planning to begin enforcing this requirement (which does not apply to Patron members).
- ◇ Gallery Rules require that all paintings must be in ready-to-hang condition with picture wire firmly attached (not strung too taut, please). Clip type hangers are not acceptable.
- ◇ In consideration of your fellow artist members, please do not deliver paintings late, pick up paintings early or neglect to pick up paintings from any exhibit or from any other member you have made an arrangement with!

### Exhibit/Contact Chairman:

Karen Wittthoefft  
272-9453 (h)  
380-0173 (c)

The Exhibit/Contact Chairman is in charge of procuring new and existing exhibit areas and shall be the liaison between the League and the public.

### Gallery Chairman a.k.a. “Hangman”:

Collin Hoskins  
677-7542 (c)

The Gallery Chairman is in charge of hanging all art shows and exhibits. The membership is required to aid the Gallery Chairman when called upon to do so.



## Member News

JRAL extends a warm welcome to the following new members of the Art League:

**Elizabeth Hood**

808 Dover Bluff Pl  
Manakin Sabot VA 23103  
[elizabethhood@comcast.net](mailto:elizabethhood@comcast.net)

**Paulette Nesbitt**

4025 Walters Drive  
Chester, VA 23831  
[pletnesbitt@comcast.net](mailto:pletnesbitt@comcast.net)

**Kathleen Stuart**

16500 Amelia Ave  
Amelia Court house VA 23002  
[stuart@ameliaschools.com](mailto:stuart@ameliaschools.com)

Congratulations to **Linda Reynolds** whose membership status has changed from Patron Member to Active Member.

The following JRAL Members took awards at For Art's Sake Annual Juried Student Art Show:

**Gigi Vranian** – Best in Show  
**Babs Bowie** – People's Choice  
**Suzanne Counts** – Watercolor 2<sup>nd</sup>  
**Annie Negus** – Oil 1<sup>st</sup>  
**Marla Coleman** – Oil 2<sup>nd</sup>  
**Diana Robinson** – Pastel 1<sup>st</sup>  
**Elizabeth Eubanks** – Acrylic 2<sup>nd</sup>

**Lori Wilson** was awarded 2<sup>nd</sup> Place and **Maryanne Evans** received an Honorable Mention for their entries in Susan Stuller's Annual Juried Student Show at the Crossroads Art Center.

**Helen Sanders** had a solo show of paintings from San Miguel at the Bon Air Library in February, and she and her husband, Earl, are currently having a show at the Fraeble Gallery in Uptown Gallery, running through April.



*Congratulations, Margot!*

**Margot Titmus** was pleased and surprised to receive the William Youngblood award at the January meeting. The JRAL Executive Board has established this award to recognize those members who have continued to be active and contributing members for more than 20 years and who have held at least one Board position.

## Announcements

The **Critique Group** meeting that was previously scheduled for Friday, April 2<sup>nd</sup>, has been rescheduled for the following Friday, April 9<sup>th</sup>, due to the original date falling on Good Friday and creating a scheduling conflict at the church. Those interested should plan to meet on Friday, the 9<sup>th</sup>, from 11:00 to 1:00 at St. Matthews Church. Sign up at the March meeting or contact **Anne Sampson**, Group Leader, at [annesva@comcast.net](mailto:annesva@comcast.net) or on 804 330-3145 or 804 467-2911 if you plan to attend.

Don't forget there will be a **free introductory yoga class** at Glenmore Yoga and Wellness Center on Saturday, March 13 from 10:30 am to 12:00 noon. Call Glenmore on (804) 741-5267 to sign up.

The **Executive Board** of the JRAL is recommending that we consider changing our logo, which is used on signage, correspondence and this newsletter and has been in service for 45 years. Ideas on how to proceed will be presented to the membership for discussion and a vote at the March meeting.

We are pleased to announce that **David Tanner** has been selected to judge the Annual June Show at the James Center.

It's not too early to contact First Unitarian Universalist Church if you have an interest in participating in their **Gallery** and have never done so. In 2010, the show will run from October 20-24, but new participants are selected in the spring. Each artist is reviewed and accepted individually to participate. If you are interested in applying, email digital photos to [hfabry@verizon.net](mailto:hfabry@verizon.net) or send slides or photos of your work by the last week of April to:

Gallery  
First Unitarian Universalist Church  
1000 Blanton Avenue  
Richmond, VA 23221

More info about Gallery can be found at [www.richmonduu.org](http://www.richmonduu.org).

**JAMES RIVER ART LEAGUE**

President, Jane Cox  
4604 W Grace St  
Richmond, VA 23230

(804) 358-1697  
[janenealcox@comcast.net](mailto:janenealcox@comcast.net)

**MEETINGS**

Third Friday of every other  
month, 11:30am  
September-May  
St Matthews Church

Newsletter Editor  
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Bi-monthly September-May

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**WINTER WEATHER POLICY**  
Our meeting cancellation  
policy follows the Henrico  
County school closure due to  
inclement weather  
announcement;  
Next meeting will be the  
following month, unless  
otherwise notified.

**About Our  
Organization**

The James River Art  
League was originally  
organized by members of  
a painting class taught by  
Helen Bailey. Through  
Helen's persuasion, an art  
league was formed south  
of the James River in  
1964. At that time, the

meetings were held in a  
small white house on the  
grounds of the Westover  
Hills School. The  
members decided to  
follow the constitution and  
by-laws of the Petersburg  
Art League. They  
organized the James  
River Art League as a  
corporation.

Their membership grew,  
and soon the League  
included members from  
across the James River,  
and into the City of  
Richmond.

Thanks to a few who had  
vision, the James River Art  
League celebrated their 40<sup>th</sup>  
year anniversary in 2005.

**JRAL Logo**

The design, pictured on page one, was selected by the membership in 1964.  
Member artist, William Youngblood, depicted an artist at work, on the banks of the  
James River.

**We want your news!** Let  
us hear from you if you  
have information to share  
about exhibits, awards,  
sales and other fun stuff.  
Send e-mail to  
[mary.kent1@verizon.net](mailto:mary.kent1@verizon.net)  
or call 804 278-8917.  
Snail mail works too.

***Our Mission Statement:***

***To encourage the  
creation and appreciation  
of good art.***

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**JRAL**  
Mary Kent  
5 Tow Path Circle  
Richmond, Va. 23221

