

MAY – JUNE
2010

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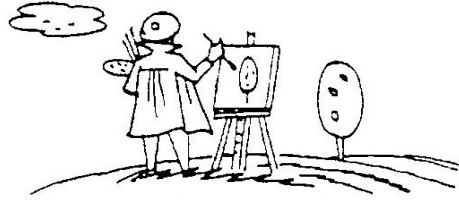


IMPORTANT REMINDER

**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, May 21
At 11:30am**



The James River Art League
Richmond, Virginia

JRAL Annual Juried Show in June

Each year the James River Art League holds its annual juried show at the Omni Atrium at the James Center during the month of June. Every Active Member of the league is strongly encouraged to participate in this special event and invite friends and family to enjoy the reception that will be held on Sunday, June 13th.

This year our juror is noted Richmond artist, David Tanner, and we are pleased to announce that the number of ribbons to be awarded has been increased from four to ten, giving more of our members a chance to be recognized. In addition to the coveted "Best in Show" award, First, Second and Third place ribbons will be given in each of the following three categories: (1) watercolor/watermedia, (2) oil and acrylic, and (3) "other" which includes pastel, pencil, pen & ink, prints, photography and mixed media.

Logo Challenge

The JRAL Board has recommended coming up with a new logo for our organization and to that end has issued a challenge to the membership. To summarize the guidelines, we are looking for a unique logo that incorporates our name and/or the initials JRAL. It might incorporate parts of our current logo, if desired.

Members wishing to participate in the challenge may submit up to three designs, which could be in color or in black and white. Work must be original

Don't let anything hold you back from participating in this great show. Details about drop-off and pick-up dates and times can be found in the Exhibit Schedule on page 4. If you anticipate having any problems getting your artwork downtown for any reason, do not hesitate to contact Karen Witthoefft 272-9453 or Gigi Vranian 784-8087 for assistance.

An e-mail flyer that you can forward to friends will be sent to all members who have e-mail addresses, and paper invitations will be available at the May meeting for those who may want to mail a few.

It is most important that you sign up with Exhibit Chairman, Karen Witthoefft, if you plan to participate in this show. Our numbers are growing, the Atrium space is limited, and there will be room for just one painting apiece this year. Let's all make it our best!

– no clip art or copyrighted or trademarked images allowed.

Designs may be submitted at the September or November meetings. The Board will select 3-5 finalists to be presented to the membership at the January meeting. Members will vote on the final design. Staying with the existing logo, rather than selecting a new one, will be a choice on the ballot.

More details at the May meeting.

President's Message

Jane Cox

Finally, spring! As we enjoy the warm, sunny days of May, we can look back on an eventful, productive year in JRAL, and ahead to more activities during the spring and summer months. And as I think about our year, the faces and of so many of you come to mind. I sincerely thank the officers, committee chairs and members, and the entire membership for your enthusiastic participation and dedication to JRAL.

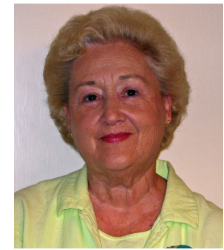
Our year was highlighted by our move to St. Matthew's Episcopal Church, thanks to Pam Roach. This site is perfect for our growing numbers, now at 68. We lost 3 members but gained 13. Special thanks also go to: Karen Witthoefft for arranging and, sometimes, rearranging our numerous exhibits; Collin Hoskins and his crew for artfully hanging the artwork; Gigi Vranian, joined now by new member Elizabeth Hood, for publicity of our events; Lois Shipley for informative programs and delightful field trips; Carol Mullen and her new co-chair, Anne Twisdale, for the bountiful receptions (5 so far); Beth Bradford for taking care of the JRAL wall at

Crossroads Art Center; and Mary Kent for keeping us informed about our events, and providing news about our members in the newsletter.

JRAL also suffered two losses with the death of William Youngblood, who designed our logo, and Mac Okada. Our art league is the recipient of Mac's paints, brushes, and other art and framing materials. These will be on display and for sale at the May meeting.

Since our last newsletter, we have had instruction by Susan Stuller on the rather involved process of painting on yupo. And we have been on yet another field trip, this time to the Phillips Gallery in Washington, DC to view the excellent exhibit of Georgia O'Keeffe. Our field trips are always synonymous with food, and this culinary experience may have been the best yet. We ate at a Greek restaurant on Dupont Circle and the meal was superb!

You will receive an updated exhibit schedule for the summer and fall.



Because of the addition of even more talented artists to JRAL, there will be additional opportunities for everyone to display his/her works. Currently, we have an exhibit of paintings, sculpture and 3-D crafts at Uptown Gallery. This exhibit will be there until May 29th.

There will be one last program on May 21st presented by our own ladies of Kalymnos. And our grand finale is June 13th at the reception at the James Center Atrium, when we will know the winners of our juried art show. I look forward to seeing you at these events.

Best wishes for a relaxing summer that includes lots of time to paint.

Souvenirs of Mac Okada

Susie Counts has generously donated this serene watercolor by Mac Okada to the Art League for a drawing at the May meeting.

You could be the lucky winner, but you must be present to participate!



In addition JRAL has been the recipient of some of Mac's art materials and framing supplies, and these will be on sale at the meeting.

Artists in the Landscape

In conjunction with their celebration of **A Million Blooms**, Lewis Ginter Botanical Garden is inviting groups of painters to work in the garden "en plein air" again this spring. Our president, Jane Cox, has arranged for us to be allowed to visit the garden free of charge and paint all day, any day, during the week of May 24-28. A handout containing some LGBG guidelines will be available to pick up at the May meeting. Please be prepared to let Jane know by show of hands if you think you will be taking advantage of this opportunity.

March Speaker – Susan Stuller

JRAL was pleased to welcome local artist and teacher, Susan Stuller, as our guest speaker at the March meeting to give a talk and demonstration on “Techniques in Watercolor and Acrylic on Yupo.”

In addition to her fascinating demonstration of a fascinating process that not many of us were familiar with, Sue offered many good tips on design that would benefit an artist in any medium. She is a strong proponent of preplanning your painting and doing value studies before you start.

Some quotable quotes included the following:

“Always squeeze fresh paint.”

“There are a lot of bad abstracts out there. A painting needs a place for your eye to go.”

“Make it sing from across the room.”

“I don’t do a painting without a value study.”

“Paintings need light.”

And, vis-à-vis her own evolution as an artist, “I want to be able to see a change in my work – to keep growin’ and doin’.”

It was a pleasure to have Sue as our presenter in March and such fun to watch the thought process of the artist at work!

April Field Trip to Washington

By all accounts the April 16 field trip to Washington to see the Georgia O’Keeffe exhibit at the Phillip’s Gallery was one of the best ever. It’s hard to beat great 20th century art followed by a great meal at a Greek Restaurant on Dupont Circle and a relaxing trip home on the bus complete with “refreshments.”



May Program on “Kalymnos Colors”

At the next regular meeting on May 21, we will have an informal “show and tell” by nine JRAL members who have visited and painted on the Greek island of Kalymnos. Jane Cox, who has visited the island many times with her husband; Elizabeth Eubanks, Diana Robinson and Karen Withhoefft, who traveled there on a painting workshop with Ann Chaddock in 2008; and Betty Brinser, Arlene DeConti, Mary Kent, Linda Reynolds and Helen Sanders, who went more recently with Sara Linda Poly; will share their paintings, photography and painting experiences with the group.

In addition to showing off their images of the island, the presenters hope to impart information about what it is like to participate in a travel workshop and some of the lasting impressions that may be formed by such an experience.

The program will begin at 11:30 a.m., and following a break for refreshments, there will be a business meeting. Please stay for the Business Meeting. This is your Art League!

Exhibit Schedule – Summer 2010

Uptown Gallery – 1305 West Main Street, Richmond

50 paintings/25 artists + crafts and sculpture
 Up Saturday, March 27, 2010, 10:00 am
 Down Saturday, May 29, 2010, 11:00 am **(time change)**
 Two First Friday Art Walks and receptions
30% Commission

**James Center Atrium – 901 East Cary Street, Omni Atrium
 Richmond James River Art League Annual Juried Show**

68 paintings/68 artists; one painting per member
 Up Saturday, June 5, 2010, 9:00-10:00 am
 Down Saturday, June 26, 2010, 9:00-10:00 am
 JRAL sponsored reception Sunday, June 13, 2010, 2:00-4:00 pm

Montpelier Center for the Arts – 17205 Mountain Road, Montpelier, VA

60 paintings/30 artists
 Drop off Thursday, July 1, 9:00-10:30 am
 Pick up Monday, August 2, 9:00-10:30 am
 JRAL sponsored reception Sunday, July 11, 3:00-5:00 pm
30% Commission

Bank of America Center – 1111 East Main Street, Richmond

60 paintings/15 artists/4 small paintings each (thematic)
 Up Saturday, August 7, 2010, 10:00 am
 Down Saturday, August 21, 2010, 10:00 am **(two week show)**

Some Reminders about Participation in League Exhibits

- ◇ 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!
- ◇ A new “Buddy System” has been instated to help members who may have difficulty getting paintings to exhibits. Call Karen Witthoefft or Gigi Vranian if you need someone to help you get your painting to a show. Our goal is for every member who wants to participate in a show to have the opportunity to do so.

Exhibit/Contact Chairman:

Karen Witthoefft
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.



**“Caribbean Collage”, by Karen Witthoefft
 Currently at Uptown Gallery**

Member News

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

Stella Jones

6609 Fitzhugh Ave
Henrico, VA 23226-2827
282-4307
Stellaj19@verizon.net

Nancy A. Markwith

1934 Huguenot Hundred Dr
Midlothian, VA 23113
897-9071
LN_markwith@verizon.net

Yvonne Wilson

3716 Cedar Grove Rd
Richmond, VA 23235
272-6779
WyWilson1957@aol.com

Congratulations to Nancy Foley and Lori Wilson who were accepted into the 31st Annual Virginia Watercolor Society Juried Exhibition that is being held at the Cultural Center at Glen Allen from May 8 through July 4. Only 90 paintings were selected out of 595 entries from 232 artists!

Details at
www.virginiawatercolorssociety.org
and www.artsglenallen.com

Congratulations also to Anita Baker and Mary Beth Ols whose entries are on display at the Salon Des Refuses at Crossroads.

Congratulations to Susan Knaysi who was awarded ribbons for two paintings that she entered in the 61st Annual Tuckahoe Woman's Club Art Exhibition in April. This show included Fine Art, Photography, Needlework and Crafts and was open to the public.

Kudos to Mary Beth Ols for winning the Campbells Ceramics Award for a hand built "Whimsical Teapot" that she entered in the Annual Juried Student Show at John Tyler Community College.

We appreciate the work of our volunteer Logo Challenge Committee Members: **Betty Eddowes (Chair), Elizabeth Hood, Collin Hoskins, Annie Negus, and Pam Roach.**

Thanks to Gigi Vranian who has been working on increasing publicity for JRAL. For information about JRAL events, visit the following online sites:
Richmond.com/Richmond-va/events/show and ConnectRichmond.org. Also look for notices in Times Dispatch Weekender, WCVE NPR Radio announcements. .and Style Weekly.

Goings On About Town

The Virginia Museum Has Reopened.

You grumbled when it closed. You watched the endless construction. You've read the hype. But have you been to see it yet? The VMFA has been transformed into a world class museum with the addition of a new wing and greatly expanded gallery space. Our favorites are still there – the Art Deco – the English Silver and American Furniture - the Faberge´ – but now there is more, much more, in the way of visitor services and special exhibits. Not to be missed, in this reporter's opinion, is the display of American Art from the McGlothlin Collection, especially "The Gilded Age" gallery that includes masterpieces by Winslow Homer, John Singer Sargeant, Childe Hassam, William Merritt Chase, Mary Cassatt, James McNeill Whistler and others.

Information 804-340-1400 or www.VMFA.museum

Van Gogh is on the Giant Screen at the Science Museum

"Seen for the first time with the full force of the immersive IMAX® theatre format, the extraordinary colors and passionate brushwork of Vincent Van Gogh take on a new life in the dazzling giant screen film, "Vincent Van Gogh: Brush With Genius." Audiences will re-live Van Gogh's life journey through his letters, visit the landscapes that inspired him, and discover a Van Gogh they never knew before."

Several showings per day through the end of May.
www.smv.org/imaxdome

A Comedy about Art and Artists by Mark Twain is at the Barksdale

In "Is he Dead?" "A desperate young painter attempts to increase the value of his work by feigning his own death and returning as a long-lost sister to gain the spoils of his own legacy. As the riotous scheme unfolds, Twain poses daring questions about fame, greed and the value of art, while poking his signature fun at everyone involved."

Playing at the Barksdale Theatre at Willow Lawn through May 23.

JAMES RIVER ART LEAGUE

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

(804) 358-1697
janenealcox@comcast.net

MEETINGS

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

Newsletter Editor
Mary Kent

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mary.kent1@verizon.net

This newsletter is published
Bi-monthly September-May

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 40th
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
or call 804 278-8917.
Snail mail works too.

Our Mission Statement:

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

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

