



NEWSLETTER

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Field Trip to JSRCC Art Gallery on April 21

A Gallery Walk and Talk through J. Sargeant Reynolds Community College's Art Collection will be JRAL's April 21st program. We'll meet at the campus at 1651 East Parham Road in Henrico County (23228).

Our host will be Karen Steele, curator for the art collection and art instructor at Reynolds Community College. Following her presentation, we will have a guided walk through the Workforce Development & Conference Center buildings to see the extent of the emerging collection.

We will meet at Reynolds Parham Road Campus at 9:45 am; the presentation will begin at 10:00 and the tour will conclude by 11:30. Lunch will be on your own. While the event includes walking, it will be on level surfaces and elevators are available.

Directions: Turn into the main Parham Road entrance of the campus. The Workforce Alliance Building is located immediately to the left. Drive to the left of the building and park in the first parking area. Enter the building through the small entrance immediately in front of the parking area. Inside, on your right is the Conference Center Gallery where the event will be held in the auditorium. Please arrive by 9:45 A.M.

"Focus on the Artist" Features JRAL Members on March 17

The March 17th meeting will feature three of our own! Carol Matuschek, Mary Pedini, and Gigi Vranian will each discuss their work, and share with fellow artists the reasons why their art is such an important part of their lives. The meeting will begin at 11:00 am at St. Matthew's Church.



Carol Matuschek joined the Art League in 2011 and she splits her time between Richmond and Germany. Carol works in many media; her recent awards include a Third Place-Acrylic for "We Stick Together" in JRAL's Annual Judged Show in June 2016.



Mary Pedini has been a JRAL member since 2012. Mary will discuss her love of working with oil and pastel. Her portrait "Zachary" recently won first place in the Portrait & Figurative category at JRAL's October 2016 "Subject Matters" judged exhibit at the Montpelier Center.



Gigi Vranian joined the Art League in 2001, and she somehow manages to find time for her JRAL leadership roles and her art! Gigi's watercolor paintings have won a number of awards; most recently her "Night Owl" won Best in Show and People's Choice Award at the "Subject Matters" judged show last October.

Refreshments and the business meeting will follow these presentations. Please stay for both!

After the business meeting, there will be a New Members Orientation in the Parish Hall for our new members and any others who would like to participate. Please meet JRAL's newest artists in the article below!

JRAL Inducts Twelve New Members!

The James River Art League welcomes its newest members, juried into JRAL at the March 3rd Executive Board meeting. Eleven Exhibiting members and one Associate member brought our current rolls to 124 artist members from all around Central Virginia. Our new members are (standing, left to right) Gerrylea Ferriter, Norma Ruppap, Garry-Lou Upton, Bill Campbell, Kay Hansell, Linda Wolitz, Roz Mathias, Diane Worthington; (seated 1 to r) Dale Berry, Charlene Lehto; (insets, 1 to r) Gayle Soloe, and Amanda Wallace. We look forward to getting to know these new member artists and their remarkable work!



2017's Artist Challenge & Annual Meeting Will Be the Focus in May

Our final meeting of the JRAL year will be on May 19th at St. Matthew's Church. It will begin with an exhibit of member artists' interpretations of this year's Artist Challenge theme: "**Reflections.**" This creative theme provides members with the opportunity to express the concept of "reflections" anyway we like, be it literal, symbolic, meditative, or metaphysical.

There is still plenty of time for you to take up the challenge: Go forth and reflect! The "show and tell" at the May 19th meeting will showcase the paintings we have created to express the theme.

Marjorie Perrin, instructor at the Virginia Museum Studio School, will be our guest reviewer. A well-respected area artist <<http://marjorieperrin.com>>, Marjorie will review and critique our work, and we all will learn a little more about how we each express our artistic "reflections."

Please plan to stay for the business meeting after the Artist Challenge and refreshments; JRAL's election of officers for 2017-2019 will top the agenda. See more about our current leadership nominating process on page four.

Exhibits Update

From Elizabeth Hood, Exhibit Chair

Our exhibit year is winding down; let me know if you'd like to be added to the waitlist for Capital One or the First UU Annual Judged Show. We often have cancellations, so you may still be able to participate in those exhibits.

We will open the signups for Fall 2017 exhibits at the May meeting. As of now, we will be showing at St. Giles Presbyterian Church, Cedarfield, and Tuckahoe Library in September-December.

Any questions? Contact Elizabeth Hood at elizabethhood@comcast.net, text 804-212-7204 or call my landline at 804-784-5868.

JRAL Continues Its GWHS Mentorship

JRAL's Community Outreach Committee continues our work with George Wythe High School's art program. We are sponsoring an exhibit of student art work in the school library in March, to coincide with Youth Art Month. JRAL will present awards for this exhibit, and will also present an award in May to GWHS's Outstanding Senior Art Student.

The Art League's mentorship of GWHS students includes the gift of art supplies throughout the year, some donated by JRAL members, and others purchased at Plaza Art through funds available to us from Capital One's honoraria for our annual exhibits at their bank headquarters. Jane Cox, Outreach Committee Chairperson, thanks all JRAL members who have donated supplies and otherwise participated in this partnership; the instructors and school principal are so appreciative of all we are doing for the students. We also want to thank Plaza Art for their continued helpful support of this program and for donations in-kind!

What is Art for the Journey?

Art for the Journey is a nonprofit 501(c)(3) organization that promotes the well-being and healing of children and adults through creative expression, with a special focus on people who otherwise do not have such opportunities available. Begun four years ago by Mark Hierholzer, this amazing program depends on volunteers from the arts community to take art instruction and appreciation into facilities such as Carmel School, the women's prison in Goochland, senior care locations such as Marywood and St. Mary's Woods, and adult education settings for those lacking other creative opportunities. JRAL members interested in volunteering should contact Cindy Paullin (543-4516), coordinator of volunteer programs for Art for the Journey.

Exhibit Schedule — Spring 2017

<p>CROSSROADS ART CENTER Side Car Gallery 2016 Staples Mill Rd Richmond, VA 23230 March 17 - May 8 Theme: "Pathways"</p>	<p>Drop off: Thursday, March 9, 10-11am Pick up: Monday, May 8, 10-11 am Reception: Friday, Mar.17, 6-9pm 15% Commission-must be for sale Giclees and prints are welcome.</p>
<p>FOR ART'S SAKE GALLERY 9770 Gayton Road Henrico,VA23238 April 3 - May 1 Theme: "Life's a Zoo"</p>	<p>Drop off: Monday, April 3,10-11am Pick up: Monday, May 1, 10-11 am Reception: Friday, April 7 (Note date change for reception!) 30% Commission-must be for sale</p>
<p>CAPITAL ONE-Knolls 1 Private exhibition-not open to the public April 5 - June 29</p>	<p>Drop off: Wednesday, April 5, time/place tbd Pick up: Thursday, June 29, time/place tbd No Commission; NSF/POR okay</p>
<p>FIRST UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST CHURCH 1000 Blanton Avenue Richmond, VA 23221 June 5 - July 31 JRAL Annual Judged Show Judge: Linda Hollett-Bazouzi</p>	<p>Drop off: Monday, June 5, 9:30-10 am Pick up: Monday July 31, 9:30-10 am Reception & Awards: Sunday, June 11, 2-4pm</p>



Member News

Exhibits:

- The JRAL Gallery at Crossroads will feature **Renee Gleason, Alice Goode, Cindy Kinney, Cathy Kresan, and Florence Tromater** for the period of March 9-May 11.
- "Landscapes by Lois" — a selection of over 35 landscape paintings by **Lois Shipley** — will be featured at Glenmore Yoga Center, 10442 Ridgefield Parkway, Henrico, in the Glen Eagles Shopping Center. The show runs March 8 – May 10th. Gallery hours are Monday - Friday, 8:30 - 4pm; however afternoons are a better time to visit when there are no yoga classes.
- The MidAtlantic Pastel Society's first annual judged show includes paintings by JRAL members **Terry Atkinson, Jane Bodnar, Elizabeth Hood, Rosemary McKnight, and Nancy Tucker**. The show is in the Gumenick Gallery of Glen Allen Cultural Arts Center through March 26.
- **Anne Burnley** has a solo exhibit, "A Feather Study — Recent Works by Anne B. Burnley," at Art Works, 320 Hull Street, through March 19. It is a suite of images done in Prismacolor pencils, pastels, and watercolors of feathers found while hiking in Virginia and West Virginia. Art Works is open Tuesday-Sunday, noon to 6 pm.
- **Susan French** featured 14 paintings ranging in size from 5x7 to 30x40 in a solo exhibition in the Parish Hall at St. Stephen's Church, Grove Avenue and Three Chopt Road, January 3 through February 28.
- **Cindy Kinney** exhibited at For Art's Sake along with David Short; their duo-show ran from January 30 through February 27.
- **Sally Booth, Susan Hutcheson, and Anne Twisdale** exhibited in the Tuckahoe Artists Association group show at Crossroads Art Center in January & February.

Awards & Sales:

- Two JRAL artists were prize winners in Virginia Orchid Society's exhibit at Strange's Greenhouse in mid-February. **Mary Ellen McFadden** won Best in Show and First Prize-Professional Category with her painting "Orchids at Longwood Gardens" (seen at right, top). **Dani Ashbridge** won Third Place in the Virginia Orchid Society show with her painting "Marshmallow Fluff."
- **Jan Priddy** won Second Place in the Crossroads/BuyRVAart.com's March *Wildlife* Exhibit with all three of her entered paintings! The three oil paintings are titled "Spirit Guide," "King One Day" (seen at right, middle), and "Tanzania Zebra." The exhibit's opening reception is March 17, 6-9 pm.
- **Lois Shipley** won First Place in BuyRVAart's January online exhibit "Anything Goes" with her oil painting entitled "Serenity" (seen at right, bottom).
- **Margot Titmus** sold a pet painting titled "Jake" at the Gayton Kirk Presbyterian Church's craft fair in November.
- **Mike Steele** sold his scratchboard painting "Chickadee X 3" at Robert Caldwell's recent student show. Mike won second place with this painting in JRAL's "Subject Matters" exhibit in October.



Workshops:

- **Terry Atkinson, Jane Bodnar, Elizabeth Hood, and Linda Wolitz** participated in a MidAtlantic Pastel Society sponsored three-day workshop "Painting Brilliant Skies and Water" on February 18-20 at the Hampton Inn/Virginia Center, taught by Liz Haywood-Sullivan, nationally renowned pastel artist, and President of the International Association of Pastel Societies.
- Autumn in England? **Diana Robinson's** For Art's Sake Gallery & Studio is offering a plein air workshop with Christopher Wynn in historic Arundel, West Sussex, England, October 1-6, 2017. Contact Diana at 804-740-1400 for complete details.

In Memoriam:

- JRAL Honorary Member **David Crighton**, who joined the Art League in 1979 and served as its Treasurer in 1999-2000, died on January 5th at the age of 101. David's late wife, Helen, was a Charter Member of JRAL in 1964; both were extremely active over their long tenures with the League.
- Well known artist, beloved instructor, and JRAL member **Brenda Bickerstaff-Stanley** died suddenly on January 5th at the age of 70. Brenda's work appeared in countless shows and juried exhibits over the years, including those at area galleries and the Smithsonian Institution. At her death, she was the Artist in Residence at The Hermitage at Cedarfield and Lakewood, and an instructor at For Art's Sake Gallery & Studio.

FROM THE PRESIDENT...

It seems that, so far, we have gotten lucky with the winter weather. February was very mild and maybe March will be as well. I hope you are all looking forward to painting the beautiful spring flowers that are already blooming.



March looks to be a good month for JRAL. Our Membership Chairperson has been working quite hard and we have quite a few painters presenting for membership this month. This is an excellent group of artists who will, I am sure, add greatly to our League.

Our Outreach Committee has been working very closely with George Wythe High School to put together a show of their student artwork. We will be presenting awards and purchasing art supplies for them again this year (you may read more about JRAL Outreach on page two).

We're also organizing another "Paint-In" for the summer, as we did last year. (See "Save the Date" below!) Information on this fun event, as well as a sign-up sheet, will be available at the March meeting.

As our year draws to a close for the summer, we still have lots to do. The Nominating Committee is working very hard to come up with a slate of officers for the next two years. If you have not had a chance to express your interests in helping on the committees, please do so. We will have forms available at the March meeting.

I want to thank everyone who has served JRAL as committee members, board members, and officers over the last couple of years. We would not have been able to accomplish all that we have without your tireless support.

Rosemary McKnight

Save the Date for the MidSummer Paint-In!

The second JRAL Paint-In will be Saturday, July 15, at For Art's Sake in Gayton Crossing Shopping Center. JRAL members will share a creative day of painting, camaraderie, and mutual inspiration and encouragement. Your Executive Board has decided that members will not pay any participation fee for this event; the JRAL Treasury will foot the bill! Details will follow in coming weeks, but be sure to mark your calendars now. Thanks to Carol Baron for helping to organize this special painting day for the Art League. Please sign up at a regular JRAL meeting or email Carol Baron at cebaron0210@gmail.com if you would like to participate.

*The James River Art League is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization of more than 100 member artists from throughout Central Virginia whose goal is to encourage the creation and appreciation of the visual arts. The James River Art League Newsletter is published bi-monthly in support of JRAL programs and the activities of its membership. Copyright 2015: The James River Art League — all rights reserved.
Editor 2015-2017: Stella Jones, stellaj17@gmail.com*

Nominating Committee Is Hard at Work

New JRAL leadership will be elected soon to manage the Art League for the 2017-19 term. Nominating Committee Members Elizabeth Hood, Alice Goode, and Betty Eddowes, along with *Ex Officio* member and current President Rosemary McKnight, need your input regarding how you'd like to serve JRAL on the 2017-19 leadership team.

At the May general meeting, we will elect five new officers: President, First VP/Program Chair, Second VP/Parliamentarian, Secretary, and Treasurer. Before then, the Nominating Committee will be contacting JRAL members, to determine who is willing to serve in what capacity; please let the committee members know that you want to get involved! A final slate of nominees will be chosen and presented to the membership for election on May 19. Nominations can also be made from the floor at that time, if the nominee has given prior permission for her/his name to be entered.

Once the new President has been elected, she/he will select the nine Committee Chairs (see list of committees below) from those members who have expressed interest to serve on the Executive Board, which meets the first Friday of every other month, September through May. Serving on the Executive Board is an excellent way to get to know your colleagues, and to assist in the functions & progress of the James River Art League. For more info, contact Elizabeth Hood at elizabethhood@comcast.net.

Executive Board for 2015-2017

Officers

President: Rosemary McKnight
1st VP & Program Chair: Alice Goode
2nd VP: Collin Hoskins
Secretary: Nancy Tucker
Treasurer: Terry Atkinson

Committee Chairs

Membership: Gigi Vranian
Exhibits: Elizabeth Hood
Gallery: Mary Kent
Hospitality: Jean Younkun
Publicity: Susan Hutcheson
Communications: Elizabeth Hood
Community Outreach: Jane Cox
Newsletter: Stella Jones
Archivist: Stella Jones