

CONVERSAZIONE...The Newsletter of River Region Art Association



MARCH 2007

MEMBERSHIP MEETING IS SCHEDULED FOR MARCH 25, 2007 at 2:00 pm at the Gallery. All members are welcome.

MEMBERSHIP ROSTER

The 2007 RRAA roster is ready and will be sent to all paid members soon.

COPYRIGHT LAW: ART COPIED FROM ANY SOURCE NOT ORIGINAL TO THE ARTIST MUST BE ACCOMPANIED BY WRITTEN CONSENT OF THE SOURCE.

REMEMBER: ART ONLY SELLS WHEN THE GALLERY IS OPEN. WE NEED DOCENTS TO WORK THE GALLERY. HAVE YOU SIGNED UP YOUR ONE DAY A MONTH TO KEEP THE GALLERY OPEN.

SPECIAL WORKSHOP: Judi Betts, an internationally known artist, is coming to RAA to teach a Color-Sketch Journaling Workshop on Saturday, March 31, from 9:30-4:00. Class size is limited and since this will be a popular workshop, students must register by March 24 to be assured a spot. Call 644-8496.

Betts, one time art teacher in Ascension Parish, is now a highly respected, internationally recognized painter, author, instructor and juror. Her award

winning book *Watercolor...Let's Think About It!* is in its fourth printing. Her newest book is *Painting...A Quest Toward Extraordinary*. Her accomplishments are too numerous to list here.

MARCH INTO ART: The take-in went great! Eighty-two artists from 28 schools participated. Rene Fletcher, artist/instructor from LSU, was the judge. The Louisiana Art Spirit award was awarded to Lutchter High School for having the most participants. The reception will be held on March 10 at 2:00 p.m. Kudos to Toni Cookman, Ted Melancon, Helen Haw, Carol Bryant, Jan Hebert and Donna Braud for pulling it all together!!

HOUMAS HOUSE: The Blue Dog Riverboat chugged to Houmas House on a beautiful day. Everything went well. All present had a good time. We are now looking forward to Awesome Art in October. The RRAA members who showed up for the fun were: Jean Liehe, Jan Hebert, Mary Crochet, Donna Smith, Chloe Daniel, MiMi Fowler, Martha Robert, Carolin Milner, Maria Brocato, Ted Melancon, Don Vincent, Sally McConnell, Peg Carbo, Fred Guidry, John Robbins, Gaynell Moore, Cyndi McMurray, Sylvia Rochester, Carol Bryant, Elaine champagne, Mamie Braud, Doris Cowan, Mona Simon, Diane Rougelot, Grace Cryer, Carol Zvonek, Louise Hanson, Helen Haw, Kitty Kuhnert, Toni Cookman, Irena Ivanova, Betty Hutchinson, Linda Simms, and Donna Braud. Participating guest artists were Mike Smith, Muriel Prejean, Kathy Daigle, Martin Benoit, L. J. Mayers and Allen Crochet. Mr. Kevin Kelly was most impressed with all of the artists and sends his thanks to all for being there.

OFF SITE EXHIBITS: RRAA members hung their art at the Simple Pleasures Café in Prairieville and Folsom Seafood Market in Gonzales. This art will hang until the end of March so hurry out to see RRAA

talent at work. The next exhibit will hang for three months. The Board decided to limit the offsite hanging to those members who work at least seven hours a month. Hurry and place your name on the volunteer list so you can display your work. offsite for free. The Board is working on new offsite exhibit opportunities.

POTTERY CLASSES: The Pottery Shed is up and running. Sally McConnell will teach hand-building pottery classes on April 10, April 17, 24, and May 1 at both 9-12 am and 6-9 pm. The class fee is \$125 for 12 hours of instruction and includes all supplies. Just pay your fee, pick morning or evening, and come play in the clay!

ASCENSION PARISH BICENTENNIAL: Artists! You can enter up to three pieces in each category FREE in the Ascension Parish Bicentennial Art Show coming up April 20-22 at the Lamar Dixon Expo. Take-in is April 19 from noon to 7:00 pm . Ribbons and cash prizes will be awarded for painting, drawing, three-dimensional, and photography. Your art can be priced to sell. We will need volunteers to manage the take-in and the three-day show. Please call Jan if you can help for a couple of hours. The fee for an art booth is \$175 and non-refundable. An entry form will be online soon.

PICTURES AROUND PARISH PARKS: The Parish has offered RRAA the opportunity to photograph each of the Parish parks. (A list of the parks is online.) The photographs will be used for publicity purposes. Also, they would like painted murals on the walls at the parks and will purchase the supplies for the artists who choose to do this. Another request by the Parish is for RRAA to paint (new) garbage cans with decorative scenes.

PARISH MAPS: We are very fortunate to have Gene and Jo Ann donate the money once again for the new parish maps sporting the new RRAA log. Thank you, Gene and Jo Ann.

GALLERY WORKSHOP AREA: The gallery has been rearranged to accommodate small art classes. Larger classes will still be held at the church. Our goal is to have more classes on week days and evenings. If you are interested in conducting a class or workshop, call Jan at 622-6593.

RED HOT NIGHT: Red Hot Night is fast approaching! The date is June 28 from 5-7:30 pm. We need a volunteer to chair this event. Please call Jan at 622-6593 to volunteer your services.

WORKSHOPS: Listed below is a partial listing of our workshops. Check on-line for workshops and supply lists.

March 31 - Color Sketching & Journaling by Judi Betts. Time: 9:30-4:00. Cost \$50.

April 18 - Creative Composition by Pat Carpenter. Time: 9:30-4:00. Cost: \$40.

April 28 - Pastels with Linda Coffman. Time: 9:30-4:00. Cost: \$40.

For more details and supply lists, please check our website.

March 17 - Water, Rocks, and Reflections in Watercolor by Pat Carpenter. Time 9:30-4:00. You must be registered by March 16 at noon. Cost: \$45. Supply list online.

CHILDREN'S SUMMER WORKSHOPS:

There are two sessions of children's summer workshops. The first is June 11-24 for children ages 8 to 14. We will offer small sculptures with sculpey, drawing, acrylic, photography, pottery, and mixed media. The second session on June 18-21 session is for children ages 5 to 7. Both sessions

will be from 10:00 am to 12:00 noon and the class fee is \$45 for each session.

NEW MEMBERS (and old ones, too): Gene Ferguson will post your artists' bio and photos of your artwork on the web FOR FREE! Contact him at gene@artgumbo.org.

Happy painting to all of you--