



River Region Art Association Newsletter

December 2009



From the Newsletter Editor's Desk:

RRAA has created a partnership with EATEL Channel 4 cable show and anchor Jenny Heroman of EATEL Community Connection. The art of our River Region Artist-of-the-Month will be featured on the set of the show each month with a display of their work. Jenny will highlight the art and tell the community to view more of the artist's work at the River Region Art Gallery at Houmas House. This will be good advertisement for our Art Gallery and will promote our artists. We began last month with our November artist, **Cy Rawls**.

Donna Braud will appear as River Region Art Association Public Relations spokesperson from time to time as special RRAA events come up to invite the community to join us with the ARTS! This will keep the community aware of art happenings and will be a great connection for us!

Artist-of-the-Month is chosen by a drawing each month at the membership meeting from among the "active" RRAA members. An "active member" is defined as one who has dues paid up-to-date for the year, have attended at least six of each year's meetings (the year is defined as January through December), and must sign up to help in the operation of the Association either at the Art Center and/or special RRAA art events.

After chosen, the artist is required to submit a simple biography relating their art experience, their style of art, and explain how they got to where they are in the field of art. The artist will then be featured in the newspapers *Weekly Ascension* and *The Advocate* and our website, www.artgumbo.org. Photographs of the artist and/or their art is needed for the newspapers and website. Contact **Shirley Russell** by email at starwOman@eatel.net with your biography and photographs of you and your work. Shirley is the Artist-of-the-Month coordinator, and she will guide the Artist-of-the-Month through the process.

The artist is responsible for putting up their own display at the Art Gallery at Houmas House in the designated Artist-of-the-Month area by the first of the month and take it down on the last day of the month. In addition, the Artist-of-the-Month will contact Jenny Heroman at EATEL and arrange to bring a few pieces of their art to the set for the EATEL Community Connection that month.

EATEL *Community Connection* airs every Monday at 6:30 p.m. exclusively on EATEL Channel 4 with repeats on Wednesdays and Friday at 6:30 p.m., and on Tuesdays, Thursdays and Saturdays at noon.

To sum it up, the Artist-of-the-Month is:

- (1) to email a biography and photographs of themselves and their art to Shirley Russell at starwOman@eatel.net or call 647-6940 for further explanation,
- (2) put up their own art work at Houmas House on the first day of the month and take it down on the last day of the month,
- (3) call Shirley Russell to get the phone number for Channel 4,
- (4) make a call to Jenny Heroman to arrange for their art work to be brought and picked up for display at EATEL's channel 4 studio

NOVEMBER BOARD MEETING

Present at the Board meeting on November 15 at 2 p.m. at the Art Center were four Board members: **Donna Braud**, treasurer, led the meeting (thank you, Donna!); **John Robbins**, parliamentarian; **Aileen Pine**, secretary; **Gene Ferguson**, member-at-large; and member **Shirley Russell**, Newsletter editor.

The Board members discussed plans for the future year and will bring these plans to the next Membership meeting which will be Sunday, January 4.

ACTIVE MEMBERSHIP RULES WILL BE ENFORCED for 2010!!!
Not just any member will be able to hang art work at offsite events anymore!



The Board decided that the By-Laws will be enforced regarding what shall constitute an "active member" in order to hang art work at offsite events.

Beginning in January 2010, an "active member" will be defined as one who:

- (1) has paid dues for the upcoming year
- (2) signs up to help with at least one or more committees listed below
- (3) attends six (6) meetings out of the calendar year

Attendance records will be recorded at meetings so be sure that **you check in** with the secretary at each meeting (don't take for granted that she will "see" you).

The days for take-in work for these offsite events will be announced in the Newsletter. This deadline must be honored to help the volunteers who will be handling this.

Attend meetings and become an "active member." Call Betty Marks at 647-0595 to volunteer. Here are the jobs that need to be filled if you want to hang at offsite events:

Art Class Coordinator: **Elaine Champagne**
Red Hot Show Coordinator and helpers (held at Houmas House)
Houmas House Gallery Calendar **Carolyn Bowman**
Click Art Show Coordinator and helpers
Summer Youth Workshop Coordinator
Offsite Coordinator and helpers for
Community Coffee **Donna Braud** assisted with **Jan Hebert**
Library Art Show
Eatel Community Connection Coordinator **Shirley Russell**
Publicity Coordinator **Donna Braud**
Deck the Halls Open House Coordinator
Awesome Art Competition Coordinator and helpers **Jan Hebert**
Sign Display Coordinator **John Robbins**
Phone Committee **Toni Cookman** and **Cricet Accardo**

Scrap Book Coordinator **Cricet Accardo**
Artist of the Month Coordinator **Shirley Russell**
Newsletter Editor **Shirley Russell**
Houmas House Art Gallery Coordinator
Houmas House Art Market Coordinator
Spring Mall Show Coordinator and others
Advertising Committee
March into Art Coordinator
Art Center Calendar/Coordinator
Supplies for the Center and Gallery Coordinator
Awesome Art Grant Writer **Donna Braud**
Scarecrow Show Coordinator **Donna Braud**
Photographer **John**
Website **Gene Ferguson**

NOVEMBER'S THEME SHOW WINNERS: "THINGS

REMEMBERED"



Thanks to all who took time from their busy lives to reflect on the more simple past. Congratulations to all winners!!! (Next exhibit will be Click Art in January, and we need a volunteer to head this exhibit).

- 1st place--Old Grain Mill, Houston Tx.----**John Robbins**
2nd place--Old Store----**Carolyn Milner**
3rd place--The Hat, the Hoe, the Harvest----**Aileen Pine**
Honorable Mention-- Ancient Village in Turkey----**Donna Braud**



ARTISTS-IN-ACTION!!!

Our very own member, who is both a painter and a writer, **Sylvia Rochester**, signed a contract with Whiskey Creek Press for her latest book, DaVinci's Lost Years (historical time travel). The release date has not been set yet. We are proud of her and offer our sincere congratulations!

Member **L. J. Mayers** recently took some of his gourd artworks to St. James Gifted Center to present a demonstration to the children about the preparation and painting of gourds. The students enjoyed learning from L. J. and they all made their own gourds under the guidance of **Lynn Bolding** (another RRAA member), their art teacher. Thank you so much helping our youth express their creativity!!

Our Publicity Relations coordinator, **Donna Braud**, has been chosen to help judge the Ascension Chamber Christmas Parade this December 13.

A great big "Thanks" to **Kevin Sanchez** and **Gene Ferguson** who spruced up the Art Center by pressure washing the building and walkway.

Thanks also to **Donna Braud**, **Mary Crochet**, and **Carolyn Bowman** who put a few decorative Christmas touches around the Art Center and put up the tree for our DECK THE HALLS party on Sunday, December 6 at 5-7 p.m.

Jan Hebert and **Donna Braud** hung River Region Art at the new Community Coffee store in Prairieville in November. Drop by to see the works of Louise Hansen, Betty Hutchinson, Carolyn Bowman, Elaine Champagne, Helen Haw, and Jan Hebert. The store is near Hwy 42 at Airline. We will feature photography there in January. The exhibits will change every six weeks. Active members will be selected to have their art exhibited there.



DECEMBER ARTIST-OF-THE-MONTH

Chris Dore' is our new December Artist-of-the-Month! He is a south Louisiana native born in New Iberia and grew up in Louisiana, Oklahoma, and Mississippi. Chris returned with his family to Baton Rouge in his teens, where he still resides. His first job out of high school required a lot of traveling so he bought his first camera to record the scenery. Later Chris became interested in black and white photography and set up his own darkroom in his home. When Chris went to work for a manufacturing company, he began doing product photography for them and moved his darkroom to work.

He embraced the digital age with great enthusiasm, immediately buying the first available camera and constantly updating through the years as the technology advanced. Today Chris uses Nikon SLR cameras and color and photo Management on his computers as well as a photo printer. His favorite subjects are wildlife and nature and still he enjoys recording scenery when he travels.

Come by the Art Gallery at the Houmas House this month to view his work. Also Chris Dore' has a photo which will be shown on Channel 4's *EATEL Community Connection* which airs every Monday at 6:30 p.m. exclusively on EATEL Channel 4 with repeats on Wednesdays and Friday at 6:30 p.m., and on Tuesdays, Thursdays and Saturdays at noon.



TOP SELLING RIVER REGION ARTISTS

Top selling artist for November as of Nov 29 was **Diane Tygier**. Congratulations, Diane! These other River Region artists also enjoyed sales through November: **Carolyn Bowman; Elaine Champagne; Mary Crochet; MiMi Fowler; Loreta Godwin; Helen Haw; Jan Hebert; Kitty Kuhnert; L J Mayers; Sally Mc Connell; Carolin Milner; Sylvia Rochester; and Josie Young.**



A MARKET WITH HOLIDAY SPIRIT ...Spread the Word



Put a little art and creativity into your Christmas.....shop at one of the community ART GUMBO MARKETS at Houmas House coming up Saturdays: **Dec 5, Dec 13, & Dec 19**...from 10 a.m.-2 p.m. Santa will be available for pictures with children, pets, or adults. You may want to sit on his lap and tell him just what you want from those last minute shoppers.

There will be **FREE scrumptious holiday treats** at Chef Jeremy Langlois's Tasting Booth. Of course, you will find a variety of original ideas from the artists of the River Region Art Association and their visiting artist friends. There will be a variety of booths with paintings, jewelry, pottery, gourd art; notecards, wood art, voo doo art, Louisiana based novels, photography art, fabric art, and several special creative ideas you cannot find anywhere else!

Off I-10...take Hwy 44 to the levee and turn right onto the River Road. Houmas House parking is just down a bit on the right. **Entrance to the market is FREE.** Call 225-328-7354 for information.



CLICK ART COMPETITION

Get your camera ready for the Click Art Competition coming up in January. Maybe Santa will bring you a new camera and you will have a winning photo. All artists are encouraged to participate and please spread the word.....**CLICK ART IS COMING** in JAN 2010. Times and dates of take-in will be announced soon. Just get busy and snap those award-winning photos! No specific subject matter.....just capture the moment!

LET'S CELEBRATE TOGETHER!



All RRAA members, friends and family are invited to a celebration Sunday, December 6 from 5-7 p.m. held at the Art Center! We call it our **DECK THE HALLS** Open House Christmas party. Please come and help us celebrate another year of supporting artists in the community!

DID YOU KNOW?

1. You can bring in 3 free pieces of your art to the Art Center for the Christmas Open House. Bring it in on Thursday, Dec. 3 or Saturday, Dec. 5 from 10 a.m. - 4 p.m. Bring it **BEFORE** the party!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!! The idea is to have the Art Center fully decorated with lots of art **BEFORE** the party.
2. You can also bring in your original homemade Christmas ornaments for the tree. Be sure to price and put your name on all pieces you bring.
3. If you design note cards or Christmas cards....bring a few in also. We want our Art Center to have a variety of creative art pieces available for Christmas shopping.
4. Drinks will be provided, and we will have a holiday feast.....and there will be Christmas music by our own **Gaynell Moore**.....and door prizes!



THE FIRST 2010 "BOARD MEETING" WILL BE MONDAY, JANUARY 4 AT 6:30 P.M. AT THE ART CENTER.

THE OPENING "MEMBERSHIP MEETING" for 2010 WILL BE SUNDAY, JANUARY 11 AT 2 P.M. AT THE ART CENTER WITH A short BUSINESS MEETING AND THE REST OF THE TIME DEVOTED TO A MOTIVATIONAL SPEAKER, (Carol Pierce)!

Make it your New Year's resolution to be an active member of River Region Art Association!!!!