

SAG NEWSLETTER

SPRINGFIELD ART GUILD



Our guest this month will be oil painter Diane Frykman

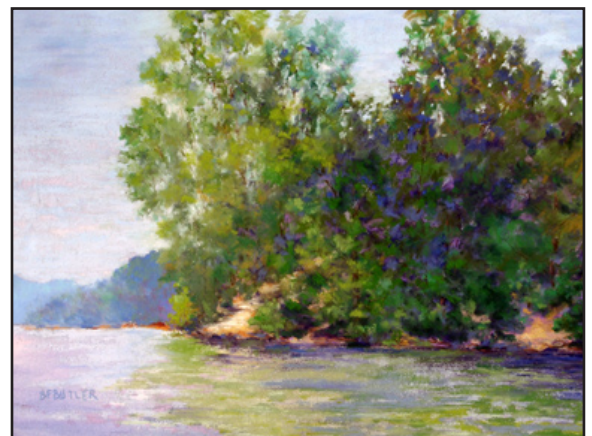
Diane Frykman is an oil painter who has been developing her style for 30 years. She has won art awards from Oklahoma to Alexandria, Virginia. While traveling as an Air Force dependent and then as an Army wife, she took private classes and earned a degree in illustration and a masters in painting and sculpture from VCU. She taught art in the elementary schools in North Carolina and Virginia and has been awarded Art Teacher of the Year in Northern Virginia. She continued to show her work, teach adults and paint in her studio in the Workhouse Art Center at Lorton, Virginia until her retirement in 2012. She is currently working in

genres of traditional still life and abstracted landscape. Her style is varied from realistic based on objects of a personal nature to abstract utilizing traditional oil painting methods of underpainting and glazing. She is a former member of the Springfield Art Guild and a former juried member of the bin Gallery at the Torpedo Factory.

Bonnie Ferguson Butler

has been elected a juried
Associate Member
of the Pastel Society of America.

Fountainhead
Soft Pastel on PastelMat with watercolor underpainting
9x12, plein air



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**Our next meeting will be on
Wednesday June 12th -6 PM**

Our meetings are held at
the Richard Byrd Library
7250 Commerce Street Springfield, VA 22150
(703) 451-8055

SAG General Meetings Now Open at 6:00!

Wasn't our May meeting fun? We tinkered with some shiny new elements! And we received such enthusiastic feedback that the board decided to make them features of our coming year, along with a time change to accommodate them.

One of the surprises we bestowed in May was the first session of SAGE (**Springfield Art Guild Entrepreneurs.**) Totally optional during the social part of our meeting, it grabbed the attention of almost everyone in the room. The purpose, SAG President Stephanie Bianco imagined, when she put forth the SAGE idea, was based on comments some of the members expressed evidencing a strong desire to organize and market their work more knowledgeably.

Treasurer Sy Wengovitz was our first SAGE speaker and his insights involved basic things we ought to consider about art as a business: advantages of having a tax ID number, keeping records, what to keep records about.

Yes! The doors will now be open at 6:00 for anyone who wishes to join us! This will continue for the coming year, and the schedule

of events during the General Meetings will be posted for all to know. The plan is now: Refreshments from approximately 6:15 on, Social time until 7:30 as before AND with these three optional additions back to back: SAGE 6:40; Spotlight (someone who signed up will have about ten minutes to briefly show or tell about something they are currently participating in artwise) at 6:55; Feast for the Eyes (the monthly contributor of this display will have about five to ten minutes to tell us about their eye candy artwork on the refreshment table).

At 7:35, roaming social time will conclude. All members are to be seated and turn their attention to the business meeting; from 8:00 to 9:00 will be the featured speaker or activity and from 9:00 to 9:30 will be wrap up and clean up.

June is our Annual Meeting, as established by our Bylaws. There will be minutes recorded and later forwarded to the State of Virginia as part of our agreement for being a 501c3 corporation. We will elect new board members (and we need some!)

There will not be a speaker on

June 12th; instead each member is invited to bring one piece of art which has not been shared before at a SAG event, and there will be a judge (Diane Frykman—same one we loved two years ago!) to reveal whose talent stars shine this year. The work will be brought to the meeting no later than 7:15 (giving the judge time to look over the entries) probably displayed on chairs around the perimeter of the room, and be taken home when the meeting ends. No hanging.

And **SAGE** will continue at 6:40 when Stephanie Bianco talks about Artomatic! It's an intensely fun, multi-week, multimedia arts event. Stephanie even made a video about Artomatic, and will share a DVD copy with the first four members seated for her SAGE talk. In September, Skeeter Scheid will share with SAGE "How Art Saves Lives!"

Join us at Richard Byrd Library anytime from 6:00 to 7:15. You must bring your art by 7:15 if you are participating in the event. Why not invite your art loving friends, too?

submitted by Stephanie Bianco

PERSONAL ART NEWS FOR SAG MEMBERS

Members can have personal art news published in the newsletter or emailed to members, such as upcoming shows, winning an award, teaching a class, etc. Please email newsletter designer / editor Reggie Garrett a short article for the newsletter as far in advance as possible. Be sure that SAG appears in the subject line. You can include a photograph of your award winning work, a show promotion card, or a photo of yourself with the notice.

SAG celebrates an Artist of the month. The artist of the month is featured in the monthly newsletter. If you are interested in participating email Lydia Jechorek at: raylyd@verizon.net. You will be added to the list of interested members. You will be notified when selected.

E-MAIL: Posting news to all SAG Members:
A SAG email address was established for members

who want an email sent to the SAG membership. Everyone is requested not to include a linked image or photograph. But embed the image or include a link address. If you have news you want to share with the membership by email, award, upcoming shows, helpful tips, etc., send it to springfieldartguild@gmail.com to be forwarded to the membership. Note: if you change your email address be sure to notify our email manager at springfieldartguild@gmail.com. & our membership manager at raylyd@verizon.net

GUEST SPEAKERS: SAG sponsors guest speakers at the monthly meetings. Please see the newsletter for details. If you've seen an interesting speaker at another event you think would be someone members would enjoy hearing and seeing their work, please contact programs coordinator Dean Allen diallenart@gmail.com

SAG Board of Directors

Presidents: Stephanie Bianco
Vice President: Deane Allen
Secretary: Shirley Edwards
Treasurer: Sy Wegrovitz
At large: Reggie Garrett, Jackie Allen,
Gloria Benedetto, Lydia Jechorek,
Bonnie Ferguson Butler

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Newsletter: Reggie Garrett
Contributing Editor: Stephanie Bianco
Contributing Photographer: Jon Strother

ART:

Feast for the Eyes Exhibit



Among the pieces of art that I exhibited at the May 2013 SAG General Meeting were two collages, a soft sculpture and a gouache-oil pastel landscape. Photos of the landscape, the soft sculpture and one of the collages are above. For more information about my art, check out the SAG on-line gallery.

*A huge
"Thank You!"
to all that stopped by the exhibit.*

Jackie Allen

Passing on a teaching opportunity.....
Volunteer Artist Request

What:

Seeking an artist willing to volunteer to conduct a 90 minute presentation on the benefits of maintaining a daily sketchbook. Hopefully, this will include one or two 10 minute sketching sessions for the attendees.

When:

Any weekday between mid-September to mid-November 2013.

Where:

Lorton Arts Workhouse

Audience:

Group of 15-20 seniors who are new to drawing/ art and/or who need help getting started with keeping a daily sketchbook. The attendees are affiliated with the Lifelong Learning Institute of NOVA. LLI/NOVA is an autonomous non-profit, member-run organization dedicated to providing continuing education opportunities to older adults of all backgrounds and income levels.

Objective:

Encourage the use of starting a sketchbook(s) to draw the most important happenings or areas of focus of every day...and to write down only some words.

Resources: Arrangements will be made to provide each attendee with a small sketchbook and pencil... and a room will be reserved at the Lorton Arts Workhouse to accommodate the artist's schedule

PLEASE RESPOND TO Anna Dixon njoi2day@aol.com if you are able to do this!

Best,

Anna Dixon
LLI/NOVA Curriculum Cmte
703.517.3556



Our 5 minute Spotlight presenter last month

Kathy Smitley

I received a bachelor's of fine arts from Old Dominion University where I worked in all media, but preferred drawing and acrylics. I exhibited and sold work in local shows, but stopped painting while pursuing a master's of education at George Mason University.

I have taught in the area of autism in Fairfax County for over 30 years. During this time my interest shifted from painting to writing poetry. In 1999 I published Through Kathryn's Eyes, a small volume of poetry highlighting my love of teaching autistic students. Ten years ago I began taking drawing classes locally. Two years ago, I began to seriously attempt to draw facial expressions. Now I hope to illustrate my poetry with my drawings.

IMPORTANT REMINDER

If you change your email address don't forget to send your new email address to Gloria Benedetto at

springfieldartguild@gmail.com

Please note in the subject line "Email Change"

Hsi Mei Yates+Ink+Paper=One Great Time!

May 8 brought our guest speaker, Hsi Mei Yates to our general meeting. The excitement started with the drawing of the names of 3 lucky winners who would, later in the evening be the students for a lesson with Hsi Mei. Barb Aigen, Sharon Boyle and Susan Butler were chosen. Barb graciously donated her spot to Mary Rose Janya.

Hsi Mei then demonstrated how to grind the ink, all the while explaining how care must be taken in purchasing the ink blocks as some are of far less quality.....even when purchased directly in China!

Sharon Boyle took a turn grinding the inks, until her arm grew tired (we were tired out just watching her!). Meanwhile, Hsi



Mei began a painting with a lotus flower and goldfish. We were all entranced with the way a few simple strokes suddenly became part of a lovely flower or fish. Within a short 30 minutes, she had completed a beautiful painting of approximately 18x24 inches. Just shows you what years of experience can do!

Members gathered around as our 3 students began their instruction. Kudos, Ladies, for your bravery in front of the crowd! The lesson began with instruction for the proper brush pressure and strokes to create bamboo, a staple object in many oriental paintings. Once the ladies had mastered the 'touch and GO!' strokes, it was on to a panda! What a terrific job was done by all.

As we concluded our evening, a drawing was held for an instructional DVD by Hsi Mei which was won by a visitor, Marien, who was so thrilled she proclaimed she would definitely be back to Springfield Art Guild. Congratulations, Marien!

The Board of Directors of the Springfield Art Guild defines the guild

policy regarding mass distribution of emails to the membership as follows:

1. No attachments; please embed pertinent information in the body of the email.
Exception: Call for Artists entry forms for shows sponsored by SAG. All other organizations are welcome to include a link or include the form as part of the email announcement.
2. Non SAG related announcements will be distributed only twice It is the responsibility of the sending party to resend for 2nd mailing
3. Duplicate announcements from different parties concerning the same event will be discarded (ex.: different people sending the same announcement)
4. Announcements will be related to the arts, such as, but not limited to visual and performing.
5. Personal announcements of awards, achievements or accomplishments of individuals should be sent to the webmaster as a short article for the newsletter: ReggieDrew@aol.com webmaster

NOTE When sending to Reggie 'SAG' MUST be in the subject line to insure that it is read or found if in Spam.

- The springfielddays@gmail.com email address does not process replies. Write to the original sender.
- Please DO NOT include attachments. Embed pertinent information in body of email or include a link.
- All original mailing lists must be sent BCC.
- SAG only forwards artists' opportunities. It does not endorse them. Research for suitability and decision to enter is the responsibility of the individual artist.

SAG SAMPLER

A MONTHLY NEWSLETTER FEATURE FOR YOU, BY YOU, AND ABOUT YOU

June 2013: Brushes and Not Brushes

(Passed along from you to you by Barbara Bass)

Below, eight Springfield Art Guild members share art-related experiences, ideas, sentiments, and inspirations. Their topic: paintbrushes and alternatives to paintbrushes.

Favorite paintbrushes

SAG oil-painter **Susan Butler** says, “I recently took a plein air workshop with Valerie Craig from Pennsylvania and she used and recommended a stiff bristle filbert brush from the Silver Co when painting outside with oils. She uses no medium and really loads the brush up and ‘lays’ each layer on the one before rather than pressing hard and making the colors muddy. Using this technique in her demo with as large a brush as possible (she used a #6 and #8 on an 8x10” board), she came up with a very nice oil sketch ready for framing in about an hour. The stiff boar bristle really made her simplify - essential to a quick oil sketch. I just bought these brushes in several sizes from dickblick.com and will let you know how it goes.”

Maria Hock, another SAG oil painter, says, “My favorite brushes right now are Rosemary brushes... the Ivory line. They are synthetic, which I didn’t think I would like, but they hold paint well and keep their shape for a long time. I wash them with Murphy’s Oil soap and lay them flat to dry. When I had an issue with a brush, I was sent a new brush--no questions asked. I always look for good customer service and try to deal only with companies that value their customers. Rosemary & Co is at the top of my list.”

For non-acrylic water media, SAG artist Sharon Boyle’s favorite brush is “a travel size brush from Cheap Joes’s. It is green and was given to me for Christmas by my daughter, Valerie. I have a bib full of brushes, including Sable and squirrel and even some

Chinese wolf hair, but the one I invariably turn to is my American Journey 12 Round! It has great spring and a super point.”

How to care for paintbrushes

SAG artist **Theresa Brunson** shares brush-cleaning advice found in *American Artist Magazine*. Among the tips she found helpful:

- Instead of mineral spirits, use cooking oil to rinse oil paint from brushes. When done, save the oil to reuse until it’s too dirty. Wipe the oil-rinsed brush with a rag before proceeding with a soap-and-water wash.
- Use clean water to rinse acrylic or watercolor paint from brushes; proceed with soap-and-water wash described next.
- After most of the paint is rinsed away by one of the methods above, wet the brush in lukewarm water and stroke it first over a cake of mild hand soap and then into the palm of your hand. Repeat until the lather is colorless. Rinse with lukewarm water.
- Shake the water out of the washed brush. Reshape the brush head with your fingers.
- Residual water can swell the wood of the brush, which in turn can loosen the head from the handle and cause the handle’s painted finish to crack and peel off. Yikes! To avoid this, air-dry the brush either by laying it flat or hanging it head down.

- For natural-hair bristles, use a minimum of soap to avoid drying the bristles out.
- While painting with acrylics, keep brushes wet. But don't allow natural bristles to sit in water too long before washing them. Otherwise, they'll become waterlogged and difficult to paint with.

What else to paint with, besides a paintbrush

When she painted 'Potter's Gift,' SAG artist Jackie Allen discovered a set of virtual paintbrushes that practically everyone has on hand. In fact, like Jackie, you may find these remarkable tools on hand not once but twice, since what they are is fingers.



Sharing her exceptionally handy creative process, Jackie says, "I primed a piece of hardboard (approximately 2 feet by 3 feet) with several coats of gesso, using a brush as one normally would. After the gesso dried, I used a limited palette of Liquitex acrylic paints. I lightly sketched in the outline with a bristle brush, avoiding any details on the face. The entire painting, with the exception of the face, was

painted with brushes. Because the painting surface was rough, I knew that using brushes to paint the potter's face would prove difficult, at least for me, so I decided to paint it with my fingers, relying upon the way I applied my own make-up. I found that making contact with the rough painting surface was rather like sculpting...well, perhaps not, but the tactile experience felt like I was actually 'creating' a face rather than painting a face!"



SAG oil and acrylic painter **Lydia Jechorek** says, "Small plastic spreaders, also called trowels, are great for adding lines and texture in an acrylic painting.

They're inexpensive, too—a couple of dollars apiece. Each of the spreader's four sides can have different 'teeth,' though it's useful also to have a smooth side. I learned about spreaders from one of our guest speakers. After dropping 2-3 colors of thin acrylic paint along one edge of a white canvas, SAG's visiting artist scraped the paint across the canvas with the plastic spreader. The spreader makes wonderful blends of colors and shapes. After the paint dries, you can use a brush and regular acrylic paint to accent the patterns created with the spreader."



Lydia also uses wipe-out tools as virtual brushes. Wipe-out tools have soft rubber ends with different shapes. The shapes wipe paint from the painting surface. Clean-up is easy: simply wipe the paint off the tool. Both wipe-out tools and spreaders are good to have when creating mixed media. When painting her representational oils, Lydia has used wipe-out tools "for things like tree trunks way in a background or painting a brick building. They must be used when the paint is wet. On a toned canvas, I paint the brick color and scrape away mortar lines."

Lydia says, "I took Dreama Tolle Perry's workshop and she recommended the Kemper Wipe Out Tool, which is made by Kemper, costs about \$6.00, and is normally used with ceramics. I use it with oil, but it can be used with any type of paint. I have other brands of wipe out tools, but what is nice about the Kemper tool is that each end of it has a distinct rubber shape. The pointed end is great for signing your name. So much easier than using paint! The other end is a flat edge and can scrape away paint."

The above methods are practically guaranteed to produce happy results. Here's one submitted by **Barbara Bass**, SAG acrylic artist, that's not. Why? Well, for one thing, it hasn't been tried yet. (Barbara WILL try it. She just hasn't got to it yet.) Two questions: 1. When you splatter paint onto a canvas, does it not splatter well or not go where you want it? And, 2., Are you stuck with one of those battery-operated toothbrushes that pulses like a jackhammer

and that Amazon.com reviewers warn not to stick in your mouth? If your answers to both questions are yes, trim the sides of a paper cup so it's about an inch tall. In the side of the shortened cup, cut a little door just big enough to accommodate the width of the toothbrush head. Insert the brush head into the cup. Glop up the toothbrush bristles with paint (multi-colored sounds fun). With the business-end of the toothbrush not quite touching the painting, hold the rim of the cup to the painting surface (to keep the splatter from flying all over). Turn the brush on. Ta DAH!

(?????!!!!!!)

You'd try it this minute, you say, but you're fresh out of AA batteries? Read on.

Our most recent SAG president, Stephanie Bianco, enjoyed an Art League class that made use of a slew of battery-free found objects; students turned each find into a marvelous virtual paintbrush. Inspired by instructor Marsha Staiger, Stephanie and her classmates foraged outdoors for leaves, bark, pebbles, twigs, and pine cones. From home they brought sponges, egg carton pieces, combs, mesh produce wrappers, plastic bags, and corks. They

used their found objects to create abstract acrylic paintings. Paint-covered objects in hand, they stroked and dabbed on their own and each other's papers. Stephanie's favorite virtual paintbrush was a nail brush: "I think I was the only one who brought that in I used it often after that! Marsha's classes were always fun." After adding collage materials to a couple of the paintings done for Marsha's class, Stephanie framed them.

Be on the lookout for a new round of monthly SAG SAMPLER topics starting with your September online newsletter. Around that time, you'll also get word of the latest SAMPLER topic via a Springfield Art Guild membership email. Once again you'll be invited to share your art-related experiences, knowledge, ideas, and interests—a chance to learn, grow, and express yourself while helping the rest of us to do the same. Whatever comes to mind on the given topic, let's hear it! goes! The more we put into SAG SAMPLER, the more it can give us.

In the meantime
have a wonderful summer, everyone!
Barbara Bass, sagsampler@verizon.net



WASHINGTON SOCIETY OF LANDSCAPE PAINTERS

~since 1913

June 8 through September 28, 2013
AMERICAN PAINTING FINE ART 5118 MacArthur Blvd., NW
Washington, D.C., 20016
PH: 202-244-3244 classicamericanpainting.com

An Opening Reception will be held on Saturday, June 8, from 5 - 7 PM.
Gallery hours are Wednesday through Saturday, 11 AM to 7 PM, and by appointment.

Image shown, "Artist Working", by Hiu Lai Chong

The Art of Washington, D. C.

Paintings by the Washington Society of Landscape Painters



Let's Help Kids' Annual Charity Auction Call For Artists

Annual Art Auction Raises Funds For Children

May 30, 2013, -Reston, Virginia- Let's Help Kids is now accepting art submissions for the 2nd annual Art Auction for Happiness to be held at the Greater Reston Arts Center Gallery August 22-24. Original paintings, sculptures, ceramics, drawings, photography, glass, digital art, mixed media and assemblage are all eligible for acceptance.

"The Art Auction for Happiness embodies the spirit of selfless giving that lies at the heart of Let's Help Kids," said Jen Sterling, Let's Help Kids co-founder. "Last year's auction showcased the works of 30 artists. We hope this year's auction will be even more successful."

The Greater Reston Arts Center (GRACE) in Reston Town Center has graciously donated its facility for the gallery showing and auction. Accepted art will be displayed for three days at the gallery, culminating in a cocktail reception and auction with proceeds benefitting Let's Help Kids. All artists will have their work officially recognized by Let's Help Kids and will receive a tax receipt for their contribution. Let's Help Kids (LHK) a 501(c)3 charitable organization founded in 2009 by then six-year old Rachel Harris and her mother Jen Sterling as a mission to bring the joy of childhood to children in need. The organization grants wishes to financially disadvantaged elementary-aged children by providing kids with bicy-

cles, Halloween costumes, sporting equipment, movie tickets and weeks of summer camp –items often taken for granted by the majority of Americans but sorely missed by children who lack the financial means. The organization holds regular charitable events throughout the year in Northern Virginia to raise money to continue its mission.

For more information about the event and to download the submission form visit <http://www.letshelpkids.org/includes/filetransfer/2013-CallForArtists.pdf>

Artists will receive a tax receipt for their donated work. All applications must be submitted by July 15, 2013. Artists will be notified of submission acceptance no later than July 30, 2013. Some restrictions apply.

About Let's Help Kids Foundation (LHK)

LHK is a 501(c)3 charity founded by Rachel Harris and her mother Jen Sterling to enrich the lives of needy children. Many organizations provide underprivileged youth with necessities such as food and clothing. LHK is dedicated to making sure that those kids get to enjoy their childhood. It is a completely volunteer-driven organization with 100% of all donations and contributions going to kids who need it most. www.letshelpkids.org

Bonnie Ferguson Butler

Is a finalist in the Open Division of
the 1st Annual
"Fairfax is Beautiful"
Photo Contest

As part of Celebrate Fairfax
June 7-9 at the Fairfax County Government Center.
Her work will be displayed in the Greenology tent at
the festival. See more at
www.celebratefairfax.com

Bonnie Ferguson Butler

has a pastel painting,

"See No Evil,"

juried into the regional exhibit
at the Hill Center Galleries
in the Old Naval Hospital

at 921 Pennsylvania Ave SE.

It will hang there until September 1, 2013.

HILL CENTER Galleries

Proudly presents an Open Regional Art Exhibition of **65 Artists**, Juried by Jack Rasmussen, Director and Curator of the American University Museum at the Katzen Arts Center.



Reception with Artists

Tuesday June 25th, 2013

from 6pm - 8pm

Exhibition Dates: June 25 - September 1, 2013

All art work is available for purchase.

Hill Center at the Old Naval Hospital 921 Pennsylvania Avenue SE Washington, DC 20003

1 block to the Eastern Market Metro hillcenterdc.org The Galleries are open to the general public

Monday through Friday 10am to 7pm. Saturday 10am to 5pm. Sunday 12 Noon to 5pm.

Occasional closings for special events - call **202 - 549 - 4172** for confirmation of open hours on a particular day.



Box 221

Springfield, VA 22150