

SAG NEWSLETTER

SPRINGFIELD ART GUILD

May Speaker, Hsi Mei Yates! Chinese Watercolor Painting

Hsi Mei Yates, came to the United States in 1983 from her homeland of Taiwan. After studying with many renowned artists who emphasized the Chinese philosophy of art, she graduated and became a designer for the China Art Company, known internationally for its exquisite hand painted ceramics.

Hsi Mei brings to us her philosophy that artistic power comes from the artist's Chi, an inner tranquility which flows out onto the paper and brings the subjects to life. Her inspiration is Mother Nature as can be seen in her landscapes and still life arrangements of birds, fish and insects. Her work is as often whimsical, and sweet as it is sometimes serious. She has taught nationally in various locations of Washington, North Carolina, Texas and Virginia.



And she will be with us, at the Springfield Art Guild, Wednesday, May 8th, 2013!

We will give away her instructional DVD as a door prize at the end of the meeting (must be present to win). All in attendance, member or visitor, are eligible for the drawing!

AND we will draw 3 names of members to be the lucky participants to enjoy a free paint along lesson with Hsi Mei, right there at the meeting! If you are a member and interested in entering this drawing, send your name **RIGHT NOW** to:

glbene1123@yahoo.com

The drawings for the lesson will be at 7:25 p.m.,
at the general meeting.

~Don't miss out on this rare opportunity~

Our next meeting will be on

Wednesday, May 8th -6 PM

at the Richard Byrd Library,

7250 Commerce St., Springfield, VA 22150

The recently renovated library is located near the intersection
of Old Keene Mill and Commerce St.

Our newsletter is published monthly and can be found on
our website at:

<http://www.springfieldartguild.com>

Inside this month

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HOW DO MEMBERS FEEL ABOUT SAG NOW?

Stephanie Bianco

We've entered the stretch where I am wrapping up my service to you as your President on June 12th. I began in March 2012, fulfilling Gloria Benedetto's term so she could blossom at the Lorton Workhouse, and she has! Go see her at Studio 510A.

Like those valiant souls before me over the last 43 years of SAG's existence, I did my best to enable desirable growth and face inevitable changes. Within the month I took over, Springfield Mall informed us we had to move out as they rehab the mall. We parted with many of our physical possessions as well as the hard won dedicated space in which to store them, hold shows, meetings and classes. I made sure we left on good terms, and continued to do everything in my power to secure us a role in the mall when it reopens.

I saved SAG from the bureaucratic cliff where we'd lose our 501c3 status and our social cliff where we could have disintegrated as a group. You, the members, responded to my leadership so warmly that I felt I could discern what you envisioned for SAG, and gave me the courage to win it for you!

Together we chose Richard Byrd library as our new location, and learned new ways to handle hospitality and our DVD library. We've grown slightly in membership, to about 101 at this moment, and have increased the prize money for Green Spring, initiated a very successful new show at Ernst Cultural Center along with a scholarship award to a college student, and continued our regular shows at the Franconia Government Center and Goodwin House. We have at least as much money in our bank account as we had when I began.

Many of the lucky folks who attended April's general meeting formed a collective voice via a survey that I circulated, and one (Lydia Jehorchek) was rewarded via a raffle for completing the survey right then with a great 8x10 photograph I made from attending the Fleetwood Mac concert at the Verizon Center the night before.

Here's the conversation, collectively, from my survey:

What are the main reasons you are a member/would consider becoming a member/will not continue being a member next year (whichever applies to you)

"Friendly group, many venues for exhibiting art, be exposed to more and new techniques, networking with other art lovers, good programs... nice people, to share what I do/see what other members are doing, participate in shows, forum for sharing ideas, social and artistic stimulation."

What other art organizations do you belong to now? What do they provide that keeps you a member? (responses listed alphabetically)

"Art League - opportunity to enter judges shows, networking; Arlington Artists Alliance - studio in Crystal Underground, monthly shows, heavy member participation; Baltimore Watercolor Society; Capitol Hill Art League - juried shows; Del Ray - life drawing times; Guild of Natural Science Illustrators - they keep me informed about producing exquisitely detailed scientific images; Mid-Atlantic Plein Air Painters Assoc - paint-outs, no charge gatherings of members, member workshops; Potomac Valley Watercolorists; Southern Watercolor Assoc; Maryland Federation of Art; Vienna Art Society; Virginia Watercolor Association; Washington Watercolor Assoc."

Whew! And these folks still took time to come to our meeting!

Then I asked members to describe their interaction with SAG at this time with these comments, and listing the number who responded yes to each: I teach/want to teach art (3/14) I sell/want to sell my art (13/14) SAG helps me improve my artistic skills (10/14) SAG helps me improve my marketing/business skills (4/14) SAG helps me network with other artists (13/14) I have used the SAG library (7/14) SAG newsletter helps me feel connected (12/14) SAG is meeting my needs/expectations—stay this way (9/14) SAG is NOT meeting my needs/expectations—change something (4/14)

Would you like to offer suggestions about SAG? Please do! Email me at sbianco@hotmail.com until June 1, 2013.

Want to take an active role in this organization?—and I urge you to do so!!—watch for a separate email from SAG coming soon which will describe in some detail many of the ways you could volunteer, and what would need to be done, so you can determine if it's a fit for you. Remember, you are a wheel on the SAG vehicle. Keep us running!

The Springfield Art Guild
Welcomes a New Member

Kathy Smitley

E-mail: Kasmitley@verizon.net
Medium: pencil

Kauppinen, Monna

E-mail: mkpastel@hotmail.com
Mediums: pastel, watercolor, graphite,
tros crayon silverpoint

Cruz, Leslie

E-mail: mekamalaphoto@gmail.com
Web Page: [http://www.leslie-cruz.
artistwebites.com](http://www.leslie-cruz.artistwebites.com)
Mediums: Photography, Digital Art

We're delighted that
you've decided to join us.

CALLING ALL ARTISTS:
Art Exhibit Opportunity

The building is located in Chantilly, VA, and we have an "Art Hallway" where we display different local artists on a quarterly basis. Is this something that you think you may be interested in?

Please contact:

Sibley Cotton, RPA

Sibley.Cotton@copt.com

Associate Property Manager

703.818.3909 | direct

703.818.5590 | facsimile



ART
in
4
DIRECTIONS

- H. K. Anne
- Gloria Benedetto
- Rebecca Chase
- Karen Kozojef Ching
- Julia Dzikiewicz
- Nancy Hannans
- Allen Levy
- Marni Maree
- Traci Oberle
- Eileen Olson
- Songmi Park
- Denise Phalan
- A. Relene Schuster
- Hsi Mei Yates

14 Artists of Workhouse Studio 5
in Lorton, VA

Now exhibiting at the
Frame Factory
212 Dominion Rd NE, Vienna, VA 22180
(703) 281-2350
www.theframefactory1.com

May 4th - June 8, 2013
Reception: Saturday, May 18th
5:30 - 8:30 pm

Gallery Hours:
Mon through Sat, 9:30 - 5:30
Thursday: 10:00 - 5:30
(Extended hours available upon request)

www.workhousearts.org



SAG SAMPLER

A MONTHLY NEWSLETTER FEATURE FOR YOU, BY YOU, AND ABOUT YOU May 2013: What SAG Members Say About Workshops

(passed along from you to you by Barbara Bass)

Below, four SAG members share their thoughts on out-of-town workshops, while a fifth weighs in on a local workshop. Are you thinking of attending a workshop? If so, here are five experiences you might count yourself lucky to have.

1. Banish artist's block, learn new techniques, and take childlike glee in playing with paint.

Sag member Audrey Relene Schuster says, "I have gone to an in-town workshop with Mark Mehaffey, a watercolor artist from Michigan. He presented two types of painting styles, one that was realistic concentrating on value relationships and color schemes and the other on Yupo (plastic paper) techniques. The workshop was a time of renewal for me as I was struggling with artistic block. The Yupo time was a time of play and a chance for me to honor the child within. We tried all sorts of techniques, the more textures the better. It was also non-threatening because I could experiment and then wipe it off if I did not like it. Mark was supportive, humorous and humble."

2. Delight in congenial company, eat yummy food, revel in scenery, and adjust the length of your stay to your budget.

Says SAG member Judy Isaacs, "Mary Exline and I have gone to Pennsylvania for the May plein air workshop at Hameau Farms given by Susan Gephart. Susan also leads fall workshops at the same place. Look the workshops up on line if interested under Hameau Farms and Susan's name. The people are fun to be with and the food is great. The scenery is pleasant and the weather in May is wonderful. Susan works in pastel and oil and she has had an instructor friend of hers from Arizona who works in watercolor. I have enjoyed

this workshop very much. It's not far from home and you can stay for as a couple days or longer. You pay by the day so it is flexible. Since it's coming up soon, I'm not sure about the spring availability."

3. Learn from master painters, paint, dance, eat, drink, and relive the fun of being a kid at camp.

Says Kay Fuller of workshops attended with Bob Fuller, Kay's husband and fellow SAG member: "Bob and I refer to our Springmaid experience as Adult Art Camp. It is a week of watermedia classes in Myrtle Beach, South Carolina, with masters such as John Salminen, Mary Todd Beam, Carrie Burns Brown, Linda Baker, Fred Graff, George James, Gerald Brommer, Frank Webb and many more in sun filled classrooms that overlook the ocean. There are five days of classes, comfortable rooms, three meals a day, and an open bar each evening. Evening activities include talks by the teaching artists, a tour of the classrooms, a visit to a local gallery, and on Friday evening we have our own art show, special dinner, and disco. All we have to do is paint and let our muses out to play.

"We also did a week at Springmaid Mountain, in North Carolina. It was even more like camp with comfortable cabins, communal meals, classes with Mary Todd Beam, hiking, and horseback riding. Both Springmaid and Springmaid Mountain are reasonably priced at under \$1000 per artist per week, double occupancy."

4. Take an easy, carefree drive to inspiring surroundings—charming scenery, tasty dining options, and painting instruction by some of our country’s top artists.

SAG member Lydia Jechorek reports that she’s taken three workshops “and loved them all.” She picked this workshop to tell us about because it’s in driving distance: “I took a workshop at the Easton Studio & School last Spring from David Shevlino. I would recommend his workshop. I find workshops are great opportunities to study with artists you admire from all over the country. I look for workshops within an easy driving range because I don’t want the hassle of flying with oil paint. Easton Studio has some of the most well-known artists in the country teach their workshops. A majority of Easton’s classes are for oil painters, but it does offer some acrylic & watercolor workshops.

“Easton, Maryland--only a two-hour drive—is a lovely little town on the Eastern Shore. Lots of great restaurants and just up the road from St. Michaels. I would recommend taking a class in the off season

For next month’s SAG SAMPLER, brush us up on the topic of BRUSHES AND NOT-BRUSHES. And, yes, that means YOU! Whether we paint with a liquid medium as an end in itself, create under-paintings for pastels, or add paint to 3-D creations or photos, we use traditional brushes. Many of us also employ other tools, professional or makeshift, to manipulate paint on our painting surfaces. Some things you might tell us: What’s your favorite brush for your medium, and why? Or your favorite brush manufacturer, and why? Or your favorite brush store? The opposites of these? Which brush do you like for what special purpose, and why? What else do you use to apply, blend, blot, or texturize paint with, and to what effect? A tip on brush care? A tip on brushes from a teacher? A lesson learned the hard way? A happy brush discovery? Whatever pops into your head on the subject, send it to me at sagsampler@verizon.net by May 10.

SAG SAMPLER is written for you, by you, and about you. Brush us up on whatever you like, or don’t like, about brushes. Just don’t brush us off! That might makes us bristle.

Looking forward to the pleasure of hearing from you by May 10-

Barbara Bass, sagsampler@verizon.net

when hotel rates are more reasonable.”

5. With a bit of luck, become Queen for a Day two days in a row—everyone else in sight teaching you, feeding you, serving you, doing your bidding. Even better, instead of a new washing machine, your take-home prize is the pleasure of being an artist. Long live the queen!

SAG member Thea Barron tells us: “Several years ago, I saw an ad in Northern Lights Magazine about a two-day class in the Northern Neck region of Virginia. I sent in my check, and in mid-July I headed for Lewisetta, Virginia, for the weekend. Bill Martz, a well-established naturalist painter of the Northern Neck, was the instructor. Each morning we would drive out to a site and paint for several hours. I painted whatever struck my fancy. At noon sharp, each day, his wife would show up with lunch. In mid-afternoon, we would go back to his studio and he would critique what we had done. By a stroke of good luck, it turned out to be a tutorial, because I was the only one who showed up for the class!”



The doors will open
EARLY
for our General
Meeting in May.
6 p.m.

Thanks to Theresa and Stephanie
 for agreeing to open up early.

The Spotlight on Spotlight

By Barbara Aigen

Stephanie demonstrated the idea of *Spotlight* with one of her creations: an autobiographical display she made for a NVCC design class five years ago. She described how it came to be, and some of the details of her story: herself in photos at many ages, song lyrics that she loves, small photocopies of documents as far back as 1700's she discovered through genealogy research, and the family photo from 1906 that started that quest.

Along the edge were a hundred or so small photos of her work, her collection of license plates, and family, since they're a strong part of her story. She was also delighted that Barb Aigen actually highlighted her work with a real spotlight!

Did you enjoy this? What's in *your* art closet? You may volunteer for the five minute *Spotlight* opportunity to share when you come to the next meeting

Greeting to all,
 Exciting news!

We now have 2 new DVD's



- Gordon Mackenzie teaching "Improve Your Water Painting Techniques in Watercolor"
- Lian Quan Zhen teaching "Chinese Watercolor Techniques Painting Animals"

Don't forget all the other instructional DVD's

Call to ARTISTS
 accepting artists working in all mediums & subjects

art comes alive 2013

NOW \$115,000+
 in purchase awards, gallery contracts & recognition

The Top 10 Reasons Artists Should Enter Art Comes Alive 2013!
 ...apart from the \$115,000+ and delicious food! ;)

ENTER AT www.adcfineart.com

Photos of last month's guest speaker courtesy of resident photographer, Jon Strother.



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Contributing Editor: Stephanie Bianco
Contributing Photographer: Jon Strother



Bob and Kay Fuller, new members to SAG, have accepted the invitation from Hospitality to exhibit some of the art work at the April 10, 2013 SAG meeting. Be sure to stop by the Feast for the Eyes Table where you'll find the couple displaying some of their collages.

SAG Hospitality
Barb Aigen
Jackie Allen



Six Artists: *One by One*

Join us at The Frame Factory's
Alexandria location for solo
shows, one by one...

April 9th -May19th: Elaine Florimonte
May 20th-July 1st: Debbie Glakas
July 2nd-August 12th: Lisa Neher
August 13th-September 23rd: Jackie Elwell
September 24th-November 4th: Sarah Swart
and Barbara Wagner

The Frame Factory
5700 General Washington Dr #E
Alexandria, VA 22312-2406
<http://www.theframefactory1.com>
(703) 941-0737

Tuesday - Saturday: 9:00 - 5:00
Monday: 9:00 - 5:00

We have a wonderful new show in the Alexandria Location. The show, "Six Artists: One by One" features local artists, Elaine Florimonte, Debbie Glakas, Lisa Neher, Jackie Elwell, Sarah Swart, and Barbara Wagner.

The show runs April 9th-November 4th with each of the artists showing their work on a rotating basis. Please see the invitation for the dates of the individual artists and visit the website for a slide show. www.theframefactory1.com

The show in Vienna," New Works with Gold and Paint ", by Tom Xenakis runs until April 27th. The show was a great success and Tom has added several new paintings. Thank you to everyone who attended the opening.

Coming Soon:
Appraisal Day in Vienna, TBA

The Frame Factory
<http://www.theframefactory1.com>
5700E General Washington Drive,
Alexandria, VA 22312
Hours: M-Sat 9:00-5:00pm
(703) 941-1256
(703) 354-4715 fax

212 Dominion Rd NE, Vienna, Va 22180
Hours: M-Sat 10:00- 5:30 pm
(703) 281-2350

Introducing Kay Fuller



You could say that I am a cactus flower when it comes to art. I did not pick up a paintbrush until I was eligible for Social Security, but once introduced to watercolor painting, it became my passion. My first painting workshop by Janice Beck was part of a vacation in Provence in 2005. Subsequently, I have taken classes by David Daniels, Gina Clapp, Michelle Hoben, Rachael Collins, Steve Fleming, Jackie

Saunders, Susan Herron, Mary Todd Beam, Marni Marie, Myrna Wacknov, Carrie Burns Brown, Carla O'Connor, Marsha Staiger, and Kathleen Conover.

I am a signature member of the Potomac Valley Watercolorists and the Baltimore Watercolor Society; a member of The Capitol Hill Art League where I serve on the Steering Committee, and a member of The Art League of Alexandria, The Springfield Art Guild and the Maryland Federation of art.

Selected Group Shows: My works have been accepted in numerous juried shows from January 2008 to present : The Art League of Alexandria, Capitol Hill Art League, Touchstone Gallery Mini-Solo, the Maryland Federation of art and 77th, 78th and 79th Annual International Exhibition of Fine Art

in Miniature, MSPG of Washington, DC, Pop Art Exhibition, and Truro Art Festival, Little Washington Miniatures Painting Exhibition.

Awards:

Merit Award – The Capitol Hill Arts Workshop Student Art Show June 2007

Honorable Mention – Capitol Hill Art League January 2008 show, Night and Day

Honorable Mention - Capitol Hill Art League October 2008 show, Rhythms of Autumn

Award of Distinction – Truro Arts Festival, May 2011

Honorable Mention - The Capitol Hill Arts Workshop November 2011 show, Local Turf

Award of Distinction –The Capitol Hill Art League Juried Show at The Hill Center, January – February, 2013

Introducing Bob Fuller

Bob Fuller is a part-time Consulting Structural Engineer, who evaluates residential construction for sustainability, durability, energy efficiency, and environmental protection. In between consulting and volunteering, he is a painter of watercolors and acrylics.

Bob and his wife Kay painted for the first time in 2005, on a trip with a group to Provence, France with Watercolor Teacher Janice Russell Beck of Florida. She taught us plein air watercolor painting, and we loved it so much that we went back to Europe the next year, and every year afterward. Bob has taken many classes in the DC Metro area and in Maine, and several classes at Springmaid Watermedia Workshops

in Myrtle Beach, SC and Spruce Pine, NC.

Bob's art has been accepted at several Capitol Hill Art League shows, Truro Church Art Fair in Virginia, International Miniature Painters, Sculptors, and Gravers Exhibits, and Little Washington's Miniature Art Show. He also has displayed his art at Capitol Hill restaurants, Results Gym in DC, and at Glen Echo's Yellow Barn.

The following wonderful teachers have contributed so much to Bob's love for painting: Janice



Beck, Gina Clapp, Sue Herron, Steve Fleming, Rachel Collins, Gwen Bragg, Bonnie Lundy, Fred Graff, Don Andrews, Eric Weingart, Warren Taylor, Mary Todd Beam, and Marni Maree.



WE MOVED!

to: Scarborough Lane
Shoppes
Come visit
the new gallery at
1171 Duck Road, Unit D-3
Duck, NC 27949
Ph: 252-261-2787

**Gallery is now Open with
many new items**

Jackie Perry has several of her art pieces in this gallery. If you're in the area, stop by to take a peek!!

obxartspace@gmail.com
www.obxartspace.com



**Box 221
Springfield, VA 22150**