

SAG NEWSLETTER

SPRINGFIELD ART GUILD



Gifts... all around!

That's the flavor of SAG's 2013 holiday party. After a sit down dinner of lasagna and chicken in red sauce, green beans, salad, bread and cookies, about 56 members and their guests opened a series of gifts.

First, there was an optional exchange of small artworks; then an optional exchange of small items under \$10 in value; a cookie exchange for the bakers in the group, and then door prizes and table decorations (books wrapped in wallpaper—all recycled) so that the holiday excitement included everyone present. No person

went ungifted! And many—as we already suspected—were substantially gifted :-)

Thank you Jackie Allen and all those who contributed to this event.

Mentioning gifted, in January every member is invited to bring an artwork in progress—especially one you feel “stuck” about completing. Has this happened to you? Feeling uncertain of how to continue is probably a gift in itself if it elicits some additional eyes. Or just bring whatever you're working on now.

Our January judge will critique one piece from each member from approximately 8 to 9pm offering experienced suggestions for your individual piece on what works and does not; ideas to try next. This will be done in front of the whole group, so we can all learn.

For those interested in SAGE, this time we will meet in the adjacent conference room (so we can hear the speaker better) at 6:45 to hear 15 minutes of advice from Sy about taxes for the working artist.

By Stephanie Bianco

Inside this month

Franconia Gov. Center Show

Page 2

The Value of a Critique

Page 4

Our next meeting will be on

Wednesday, January 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>

Art Opportunity for SAG Members

The 2014 Franconia Government Center Show

6121 Franconia Road, Alexandria, VA. 22310

Submission email: No later than Saturday Jan. 11th
Hanging the show: Saturday Jan. 18th
Drop off time: 10am -10:30:am
Reception: Saturday Jan. 25th 1-3pm
Pickup: Saturday March 29th 2014 at 10am

Once again the Springfield Art Guild is honored to have a show at the Franconia Government Center. Lee District Supervisor Jeff McKay has been a wonderful supporter and friend of SAG for many years. They have a very nice reception at no charge to SAG. Our People's Choice awards will be selected by the votes of the guests on the day of the open house reception 1/25/14. First, second and third place winners will be announced in the SAG newsletter.

All persons interested in participating in the Franconia Government Center show are welcome to submit up to 5 pieces of art. This is not a juried show so all submissions will be considered. If the number of submissions exceeds the space available some works may not be accepted. At least one work from each person who signs up will be hung. Hanging space will be the determining factor on the number of pieces that can be hung. We will do our best to announce to the participants in advance of the hanging if the number of submissions from each person needs to be reduced.

- All work must be framed or presented on gallery wrap canvas (with sides finished) and proper wiring on the back of each piece by secure screw eyes. Hanging wire must be placed high on the back of each work so that the work will lay flat against the wall. Matted work must be clean, well cut and dust free with clean glass. A weight restriction will also be imposed (Heavy pieces cannot be hung). Any work that does not meet these minimal standards will not be accepted.

On the Back: Each work you bring to be hung must have an identification tag attached to the back. The tag must include:

1. Your Name
2. The title of the work
3. A contact number or E-mail address
4. Legible hand written information is acceptable

Three dimensional and relief works are also welcome. A glass case is available to us for the purpose of such presentations. The size of these works should not exceed 12" high X 12" wide X 8" deep.

SUBMISSION DATE:

To allow time to have labels made you must send you submissions no later than January 11th . Once your submissions are made no substitutes or changing will be permitted.

IN THE BODY OF YOUR EMAIL SUBMISSION PLEASE INCLUDE (in the following order)

1. Your Name (first then last)
2. The title of each work
3. The medium with which it was created
4. The size (dimensions) of each piece. Width by high in inches
5. And your E-mail address AND or a telephone number.
6. NO PRICING WILL BE INCLUDED ON YOUR LABELS

Submit your information by Jan. 11th, e-mail to the attention of the show Chairperson, Reggie Garrett at: reggiedrew@aol.com.

Your subject line on your email must include SAG and should read "SAG, Franconia show entries"

Entries will be received starting at 10:00. All participants must be present at the Franconia Government Center no later than 10:30 AM to sign their work in on the day of the hanging. If you cannot be present you are responsible for providing a proxy to bring your work and sign it in on your behalf. As always volunteers are needed. ALL SAG members participating in the show are requested to assist in some way in hanging. If you can bring a light weight ladder please let Reggie know.

If you would like to donate a piece of your art work for the Grab bag giveaway to be held at this event please include that information in your email to: reggiedrew@aol.com
If possible please include an image of your donated work for publicity purposes.

Thanks for your contribution to this show,
Reggie Garrett
Franconia Government Center Show Chairperson

From your Hospitality Team



Barb and I encourage you, new SAG members, as well as members of long standing, to consider finding your volunteering niche in this most rewarding role of Hospitality. So, at the close of the January 2014 SAG meeting, you will want to be prepared to take home with you the paper products, coffee, tea, coffee pots, etc. which you will be using in your role as Hospitality.

In closing, I am certain, that within this group of talented colleagues, there are those of you who will find this role as rewarding as we have.

With appreciation,

Jackie Allen

Barb Aigen

SAG Hospitality

Before Barb Aigen and I tender our resignation in June 2014, we are beginning, in February, to allow members of SAG to take over the responsibility for refreshments and beverages for the general meetings. Should you need mentoring we will be available to respond to your questions and or offer suggestions and send reminder emails. It is our hope, Barb's and mine, that over the last year and a half we have presented Hospitality to you in such a variety of ways that you have already begun to think of other ways in which you can contribute, using your own unique and artistic abilities.

To that end, at the Jan. 2014 General Meeting of SAG, sign-up sheets will be available at the Hospitality table. Please stop by and avail yourself of a particular month in which you will be in charge of refreshments and or beverages [reimbursement by SAG]. And, if you find, at a later date, that you will be out of town, etc., for the month you signed up for, you will have a list available, posted in the SAG newsletter, from which you may find someone to switch months with. And, when "Election of Officers" takes place in June, whomever chooses to assume the role of Hospitality will already have a list of volunteers who have committed themselves to helping him or her.



**Festive SAG Holiday Party
Door Prize....
Holiday Skirt, won by Don Bass,
modeled by his wife Barbara Bass.**

Criticism, like rain, should be gentle enough to nourish a man's growth without destroying his roots.

—Frank A. Clark

The Value of a Critique

By Teresa T. Brunson

January is the month for SAG's annual Artwork-In-Progress critique. At our January 8th meeting SAG members can bring in one piece of artwork to be critiqued by Bobbi Pratte, a professional artist. The idea is to bring in an unframed piece of artwork you are either not satisfied with or are still working on (but not wet) that you would like to have Bobbi critique to provide some suggestions and insights on how to proceed and complete it.

A critique can be a scary thing but at the same time we rely on the result of the critique which is constructive criticism. It is not easy to have our artwork displayed and evaluated but it is an important

process to help our work evolve and improve. Some artists cringe at the mere thought of having their work critiqued. The important thing to remember is that the critique is of the painting, and not the painter. It's not personal. There are advantages to having our work critiqued by an art professional because they offer their expert opinions based on extensive training and/or experience, and can be an invaluable addition to our overall art education. As individuals, we learn just as much from seeing someone else's work being critiqued, as we do from a critique of our own work. In a group environment, it's like receiving numerous 'little lessons' for the price of one, so to speak.

The person on the receiving end of a critique has the option,

of course, of whether or not they decide to make use of any suggestions being offered by the group, or by an individual critic. But usually there is at least one suggestion that we can learn from and often times there are things pointed out in our artwork that we never noticed, and it is those things that broaden the knowledge of our own talents. We are so involved with our artwork we often need someone's "fresh eyes" to "notice" things for us. Overall there are many opportunities for growth when our artwork is critiqued. I hope you will all take advantage of the critique we have scheduled for Jan. 8th. If you do not have a piece of art you would like to have critiqued, we invite you to come and use this session as a learning opportunity to hear Bobbi's comments and suggestions.

5 Min. Spotlight

Jan. 2014:	Barb Aigen	
Feb. 2014:	Judy Isaacs	"My Art"
Mar. 2014	Shirley Edwards	
Apr. 2014:	Stephanie Bianco	
May 2014	Darlene Kaplan	"Art"
June 2014	NO 5 MIN. SPOTLIGHT	
	[ELECTION OF OFFICERS TO BE HELD.]	

Art Exhibit: Feast for the Eyes

Jan. 2014:	NO ART FEAST FOR THE EYES DUE TO SAG MEMBERS ART CRITIQUING EVENT	
Feb. 2014	Susan Butler	Plen Air Oils
Mar. 2014:	Darlene Kaplan	Oriental-Chinese Art
Apr. 2014	Judy Wengrovitz	Watercolor
May 2014	Shirley Edwards	Watercolor
June 2014	NO ART EXHIBIT	
	[ELECTION OF OFFICERS TO BE HELD.]	

SAG Board of Directors

President:	Teresa Brunson
Vice President:	Stephanie Bianco
Secretary:	Shirley Edwards
Treasurer:	Sy Wegrovitz
At large:	Reggie Garrett, Jackie Allen, Gloria Benedetto, Lydia Jechorek

SAG Volunteers

Advisor:	Judy Wengrovitz
Franconia Gov. Center Show Chair:	Reggie Garrett
Webmaster:	Reggie Garrett
Gmail account:	Gloria Benedetto
Hospitality:	Jackie Allen
Librarian:	Charlotte Landis
Membership:	Lydia Jechorek
Newsletter:	Reggie Garrett
Contributing Editor:	Stephanie Bianco
Contributing Photographer:	Jon Strother

Recipients of Tokens of Appreciation at the annual SAG Holiday Party, Dec. 11, 2013

1. Teresa Brunson: SAG President, general support....her gift delivered to her later.
2. Stephanie Bianco: SAG Vice President, Hostess
3. Shirley Edwards: SAG Secretary. who, due to illness, sent her regrets that she would not be attending and that she would not be able to be a Hostess or supervise the Early set-up....her gift delivered to her later.
4. Sy Wengrovitz: SAG Treasurer and general support.
5. Judy Wengrovitz, Founder of Springfield Art Guild and general support.
6. Lydia Jechorek, SAG Membership, Hostess; provided an extra table, email communication, distribution of Appreciation letters, clean-up, closing up of the meeting room, general support, and so much more!
7. Reggie Garrett, SAG Newsletter...his gift delivered later.
8. Barb Aigen, SAG co-Hospitality, Hostess, Appreciation Letters, wrapping of Urn of Fate and Fortune gifts, Early Set-up, Hot & cold Beverages
9. Susan Butler, Hostess, prepared gluten free chicken with red sauce
10. Barbara Bass, Early Set-Up
11. Georgi Deneau, Hostess, sent her regrets, unable to attend due to illness. Will deliver her gift at the Jan.2014 meeting.
12. Carie Cole, provided a much needed card table.
13. Mary Rose Janya/Heller, Dessert, with Barb Aigen, affixed the colors of the Italian flag to bottles of water, general support, Appreciation letters, Early Set-up
14. Judy Isaacs, Hostess, with husband Ray
15. Mary Exline, Hostess, co hostess with the Isaacs
16. E. Ann Cox, prepared Italian green beans
17. Karen Chin, Co-planner of party, provided an extra much needed table, performed MC duties. And, along with me, baked the Lasagnas, purchased and prepared salads, salad dressing, bread and butter, SAG Mailbox, Urn of Fate and Fortune printing of English to Italian. Thank you!!!!!!
18. Virginia Fernbach, Early Set-up, Hostess
19. Alice Merritt-Hostess and Early Set Up Coordinator, covering duties that Shirley Edwards's absence necessitated.

Thank you, each and everyone, for making my job as your party planner easier. I hope that the party favors and door prizes that I purchased and wrapped provided all who attended the SAG Dinner Party with an enjoyable experience.

Jackie Allen, Hospitality

Rest in Peace

I would like to take this time to acknowledge the passing of my mother, Gertrude Garrett in November of 2013. She left behind her husband of 59 years. She and dad, now 85 years old, have five children, eight grandchildren, and one great-grandchild.

I love you mom, you will be missed.

Reginald Garrett



SAG Welcomes a returning member

Monna Kauppinen

E-mail: mkpastel@hotmail.com

Mediums: pastel, watercolor, graphite,
trois crayon, silverpoint

Reminder of SAG standard

When sending any e-mail correspondence to SAG members please remember to include the acronym "SAG" in the subject line.



SAG Holiday Party

11 December 2013



The 2013 SAG Holiday Dinner Party..... Behind the Scenes

Photos: Courtesy of Karen Chin

How it all happened.....A dream formed in the minds of your party planners, Karen Chin and Jackie Allen... “Let’s do something different, something special, something spectacular!” The SAG Board generously accepted my proposal and agreed to reimburse expenses and the planning began in earnest. And in respect of their trust, I made every effort to keep expenses as low as possible, both for the food and for the party favors and door prizes.

My co-party planner, Karen Chin and I met several times for planning purposes, the two of us researching themes and activities to provide inclusivity for everyone who attended the party. She and I purchased and prepared the lasagnas, the salad, and the bread and butter when it became clear that no one had any interest in doing this even though the expenses would be reimbursed by SAG. Thank you so much, Karen!!

A special thank you goes out to Susan Butler and Ann Cox who stepped in and offered to help when

I became ill in November. Ann prepared the side dish of green beans and Susan Butler prepared the main dish of chicken with red sauce. You may thank them for their still being on the Italian themed menu!

Thank you, Alice Merritt, for your generosity in giving up much of your day on the day of the party to supervise the Early Set-up. Reservations via Barb Aigen and Mary Rose Janya are also due thanks for the efforts they expended, to use a cliché, for this much “larger than life” SAG event. Additionally, I cannot say thank you enough to Alice Merritt, for stepping in at the last moment and for taking over the duties of a volunteer who became ill.

I am sure that I have failed to mention someone who deserves a special thanks, but in lieu of that, please find the list, in this newsletter, of those receiving Tokens of Appreciation.

And, to all of you who made reservations and attended, to those

of you who made reservations but were unable to attend due to illness, hospitalization and or surgery, I personally thank you for making the time and effort, to communicate with Hospitality or to send your regrets with other members. All who attended the party deserve a special word of thanks, because it was the combined effort of those present whose efforts contributed to making this 2013 Holiday Party a most memorable success.

Finally, for those who sent regrets due to illness, hospitalization or surgery, and thus were unable to attend the party, you should be receiving a gift bag soon, delivered by a friend, or at the very least, at the January SAG meeting. Should you not receive yours, please let me know and I will see that you, too, get a little surprise at a later date.

Thank you,
Jackie Allen,
Hospitality

Oriental Brush Painting Class Schedule

Darlene Kaplan/Soft Brush Studio

4609 Franconia Rd, Alexandria, VA 22310

chineseart@darlenekaplan.com

703-922-4175

www.darlenekaplan.com

Soft Brush Studio is changing the Class schedule. The new schedule is below. It will consist of 6 weeks of classes, off for two weeks. The schedule will follow this pattern throughout the years (6 weeks on, two weeks off).

Price is \$120 for 6 weeks (one day a week). Payment must be in advance. No refund on classes missed, you have the option to make up your class in one of the other days. Classes cannot be carried over to the next session.

Classes are held 3 days a week. Each day of classes must have no less than 4 students per class. If any one of the 3 days has less than 4 students then that day will be cancelled for the 6 weeks session;

Soft Brush Studio follows the Fairfax County School Closing schedule.

Please use the form below and specify what session you are signing up for.

Next Session--6 weeks

Class Days: Please check the day.

- Wednesday- 1-3 pm
- Friday- 1-3 pm
- Saturday- 2-4 pm

Schedule Dates 2014: Please check the session. Payment due 1 week before start date.

- January 8 - February 15
- March 5 - April 9
- April 30 - June 7
- June 25 - August 2
- August 20 - September 27
- October 15 - November 12

Please fill out and mail along with your check to Darlene Kaplan, 4609 Franconia Road, Alexandria, VA 22310

Name: _____

Address: _____ State _____ Zip _____

Home Phone: _____ Cell: _____

E-mail: _____

SCAD Museum

By Stephanie Bianco

Larry and I traveled recently, and one destination was *Savanna College of Art and Design*. Fifteen years ago, I was a curious tourist discovering a building of student artists working in studios. A colony much like Torpedo Factory, but on a modest scale. That was one big catalyst in my resuming an art practice in my own life, and I deliberately chose to view this again—now through my working artist eyes.

Well, I didn't find that colony at all. It may have been there somewhere, but what we actually encountered was a sensational two year young exquisitely designed building complex containing classrooms, a large gallery, and a six dollar entrance fee. Past the opulent lobby with impressive trompe l'oeil'd ceilings were some contemporary works of photography, sculpture—including an intriguing interactive coin and magnet marvel—and video.

Let me tell you about the thought-provoking video. An enthusiastic student docent scooted us towards a room that had several large photos. A woman grimacing. A group of townspeople looking fierce. A stray cat narrowly escaping an approaching train. Uncertain what more to make of it, we circulated next to the adjacent darkened area from which loud sounds of a locomotive emanated. Oh, a film.

Actually there were two: one about two minutes long, another seven or eight minutes, and they were related in subject: a contemporary, surrealistic leap through death's door. You know video is my current interest, and that there's a story to be told. So. How did someone else enact that? I am wondering.

There's a youthful woman wandering through a crowd without relating to you, the viewer, nor to her surrounding humans.

She spots an apparently attractive red door, is next seen via successive windows running through the top floor of a brick building and inexplicably bursts out the side—six stories up.



That mystery introduced, she then appears in the next film languidly facing a locomotive barreling towards her, pops into a brilliant blue sky upon impact, and we experience through her eyes disapproving scowls and stares from the humans. Those who prompted her actions? Misunderstood her? Collectively created her?

Feeling both sorrowful and curiously amused, viewers move along with her as she swims underwater in her modest and proper 1960 outfit... her curled hair is not getting wet...and I invite you to dream up your own ending.

Top of the line in its execution, we learn from the rolling of copious credits it was filmed in Hollywood. I didn't learn why my path intersected with this dazzling odd film there at SCAD. On this November 22nd the museum displayed about a dozen very large sculptures, the videos described, a handful of photos, a dark theatre—we found no more.

“The Savannah College of Art and Design is the most comprehensive art and design university in the world.” —Website

**Small Treasures 2013 Paintings by the Washington Society of Landscape Painters
November 23, 2013 through January 26, 2014**

at

American Painting Fine Art
5118 MacArthur Blvd., N.W.
Washington, DC 20016
<http://www.classicamericanpainting.com>



WASHINGTON SOCIETY OF LANDSCAPE PAINTERS

~since 1913



" Snow Dance "
by featured artist Meg Nottingham Walsh



Springfield Art Guild

Box 221

Springfield, VA 22150