



SPRINGFIELD ART GUILD (SAG)



A place for a creative experience

April 2015 Newsletter

Meeting Schedule

Wed. April 8, 2015, 6-9pm

Richard Byrd Library
7250 Commerce Street
Springfield, VA 22150

6:00 pm – Doors Open
6:45 pm - SAGE
7:00pm – SAG Business
7:30pm – Featured Speaker

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Featured Speaker for April is... Martin Kotler

Frames Conservator

Martin Kotler has worked at the Smithsonian American Art Museum since 1981. He holds a master's degree in fine arts from American University. An accomplished artist, Kotler's paintings have

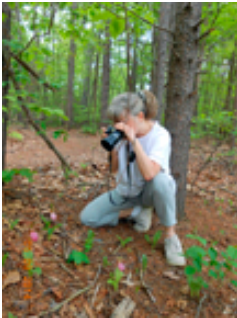
been exhibited nationally and featured in several solo exhibitions in Washington, D.C. In 2001, he was an artist-in-residence at the Maryland Institute College of Art's Alfred and Trafford Klots International Program for Artists in Rochefort-en-Terre, France. In addition to lecturing on period frames, Kotler teaches at the Washington Studio School. Previously, he worked at the Newark Museum.



SAG-Led, Local Plein Air Outings to Accotink Resume in 2015

by Elaine Sevy

SAG members who enjoyed participating in the two “plein air” outings offered in 2014 have asked about plans for similar local outings this year. Members who did not get to participate have expressed interest as well.



The outings allow us to join together in a natural — sometimes secluded — area to paint, sketch and photograph local wildflowers, creeks, meadows, wildlife and other landscape features.

As many of you know, Springfield’s Lake Accotink

Park and Accotink Creek are my passion, so the outings I lead focus on these areas or at least within or along the fringes of the Accotink Watershed.

The first plein air outing last year was to a spot along Accotink Creek featuring Spring wildflowers, including Virginia Bluebells, Violets and Spring



Beauties. This outing will be offered again about mid-April with the date to be determined once the Bluebells begin blooming. Once again, in May, we will visit a site where Pink Lady’s Slippers bloom. This large, exquisite orchid,



native to Virginia, is rare. Planning this outing will be tricky as it was last year and dependent on the orchid’s cooperation. They were a little slow to bloom last year, but oh when they did, they were magnificent.

Many of us are intimidated by plein air painting so I’m working with SAG’s

board to plan one or more plein air painting workshops to help us become more comfortable painting outside.



The experience alone is worth the effort. Painting with friends and enjoying each other’s company while enjoying nature is a healthy, healing activity.

Don't Miss the Plein Air Plus+ Art Event during Springfest

Artists are invited to join the Associate Artists of the Workhouse Arts Center in Lorton during SpringFest Fairfax 2015. It's all happening Saturday, April 25th.

The WorkHouse SpringFest activities event include a plein air paint off open to all artists. If you aren't painting, but want to learn more about plein air there will also be "Panel Discussion and Q&A." The Panel Discussion runs 12:15 to 1:30pm. Participants are asked to come a few minutes early for check in. The cost for attending the panel discussion is \$10 per person which includes a complementary lunch at 12:00 noon.

To learn more, go to the new Associate Artists' website at www.WorkhouseAssociateArtists.weebly.com

★ **Plein Air Plus+ Art Event**



Saturday ★ April 25, 2015
8:15am – 1:45pm

Sponsored by the Associate
Artists of the Workhouse ★

Calling all Plein Air artists & enthusiasts!

- ★ 8:15-11:30am--Create art at the WORKHOUSE ARTS CENTER & nearby
- ★ Submit your art to a Pop-Up Art Exhibit 12noon, Awards at 1:30pm
- ★ \$25 donation includes Panel Discussion with Lunch 12:15
- ★ 12:15-1:30--Workhouse Artist Panel Discussion/Q&A on Plein Air techniques

Details – www.WorkhouseAssociateArtists.weebly.com

Register 8:15-9:15am for all activities \$25;

Register 12noon for Panel Discussion & Lunch ALONE \$10.

News at <https://www.facebook.com/associate.artists>

*Plein Air Plus+ 2015 is sponsored by the Assoc. Artists at the Workhouse
& takes place during SpringFest Fairfax 2015*

Questions? Contact Kathleen Gillmann, 703-644-6512

Share this opportunity with your artist friends and art groups!



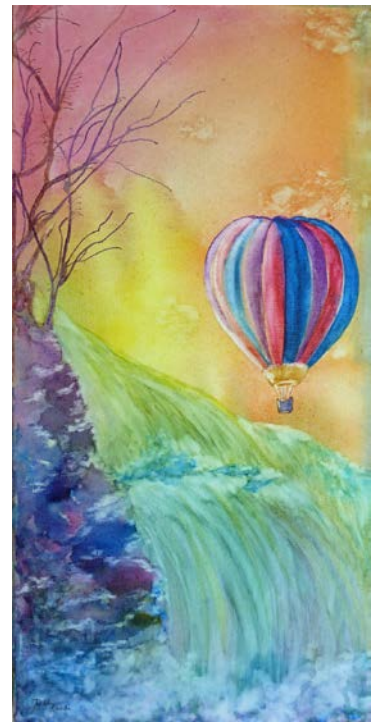
Be Artist of the Month

SAG is looking for members to be in our 'Artist of the Month' column. SAG would love to have members show off their artwork in the newsletter. Anyone can be the artist of the month. If you are interested in sharing a few pictures of your artwork in a future newsletter with a short bio, please email Teresa Brunson at teresatindlebrunson@gmail.com to be added to the Artist of the month list. Artist will be signed up in the order they respond. Everyone will be notified when to send Teresa your photographs and write-up.

Artist of the Month spotlights 2 of our new members!

Dee Landi

I was born and raised in Springfield VA. Yes, I am a local for Springfield Art Guild! I started painting years ago taking classes through Park takes rec centers, and schools. I stopped when I got a couple kittens that wanted into everything. I took it up again in 2009. I enjoy Watercolor, Acrylics, Mixed Media, and Chinese Watercolor. I retired in 2013 with almost 32 years in the USPS in Springfield and Burke. I went to France this past summer with Marni Maree and a group of wonderful ladies to "Plein Air" paint. I have learned so much since that experience and hope to keep learning more in the years to come.



Artist of the month (continued)

Francoise Dickson



Francoise Dickson is a native of southern France. She has lived in the US since 1979 with her Scottish husband Allan and moved to Woodbridge, VA in 2009.

Francoise returned to painting after a hiatus of many years raising two daughters and following her husband in multiple corporate moves across the

US and France. Drawing has always been one of her favorite pastimes. While in school, she enjoyed advanced drawing and painting classes as extra curricular activities. As an expatriate, her travels have allowed her to enjoy visiting many art museums around the globe.

Francoise returned to her art when she began taking art classes at the Lorton Workhouse when she joined Marni Maree's art class, "Finish those paintings." With Marni's encouragement, Francoise was able to complete her painting of Collioure, a little harbor town on the most Southern part of the Mediterranean coast of France. Painting this very special place was also the catalyst of a new adventure for both Marni and Francoise. It was Francoise's beginning of a second career as watercolorist.



In the summer of 2012, Francoise continued her art experience in the village of Laroque des Alberes, near Collioure, where she owns a home. She even joined a local art group "les Couleurs du Temps."

The high point of these experiences for Francoise was to organize a trip to Laroque in the summer of 2014 with a group of Marni's students to paint scenes from the village and the surrounding countryside. While visiting and painting they also participated in joint activities with local artists. This trip was so successful and appreciated by the mayor of the village, a second trip has now been organized to take place in August 2015.

ART TIPS

Removing Paint from Your Brushes and Clothes

Brushes are expensive so you don't want to accidentally ruin one. It happens to everyone...You meant to clean your brushes later and get busy doing something else. Its a shame to throw them away or even put them in the "old" brush container if they aren't a solid mass. The solution is to buy brush cleaners that will remove dried paint from you brushes.

Winsor & Newton Brush Cleaner and Restorer is reasonably priced and works like a charm for both oil and acrylic. Just make sure you only use a little in a jar and don't get the wooden part of your brush in the solution. Remember...it removes paint so you will have a naked brush if you get it on the wooden handle.

Murphy's Oil Soap: A less expensive alternative for oil and acrylic paint is Murphy's Oil Soap. Unlike the Winsor and Newton cleaner, it can be used on your clothes too. Who hasn't gotten paint on their "good" clothes? You walk by a painting in progress and decide it just needs a

couple more strokes and the paint seems to migrate to your clothes every time. Murphy's to the rescue. Carefully rub a little at a time into the paint on your clothes with your finger or a clean rag until the paint looks loose. Then gently wipe as much as you can off and throw it in the laundry. For brushes, put about a 1/4-1/2 inch into a glass bottle and swish your brushes around. Unless the paint is really harden (then let them soak) it shouldn't take more than a couple of minutes to



have your brushes clean and in working order again. Once the bristles are pliable, rinse them in cool water (never hot). Don't forget its easier when you leave a little soap in your brushes for them to hold their edge.

COLOR TIP: USE RAINWATER FOR BRIGHTER COLORS

A color tip to add to your painting knowledge.

By Marion Boddy-Evans

Note: This article is from Painting.About.com (http://painting.about.com/od/paintingtipscolour/qt/tipsC_rain.htm)

When using watercolors or acrylics I was always slightly disappointed at the brilliance of the colors (or rather, the lack of brilliance) after the paint had dried. Until I came to clean out my water kettle and realized we have an amazing amount of calcium in our tap water. Then I started using rainwater to paint with... lo and behold, the brilliance of the colors would not disappear after the water

SAG's February Meeting: Stamp Making Activity

During our February SAG meeting members were given supplies and a short presentation to learn how to make a stamp. Below are photos showing our SAG members making all sorts of creative stamps. Thank you Lydia Jechorek and Stephanie Bianco for putting this stamp making class together for us.



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Art Opportunities and Art Events

GREGORY GADSON: LIFE IN THE INFRARED

Saturday, March 14, 2015 to Sunday, April 12, 2015

Lorton Workhouse Arts Center
W-16 - McGuireWoods Gallery
Cost: FREE

Public Reception: Friday, March 13, 7-9pm

In this, the first solo exhibition by Colonel Gregory Gadson (USA, Ret.), Gadson exhibits a new body of work after his retirement. Gadson retired as Garrison Commander of Ft. Belvoir in 2014.

Gadson, a former football player for West Point, became a double amputee in 2007 after his vehicle was hit by an explosive device in Baghdad. Not only was he the first double amputee to become a garrison commander of a major installation, he was also the first soldier fitted with a next-generation powered prosthetic knee. Gadson served as the director of the U.S. Army Wounded Warrior Program and, in 2012, made his acting debut in the film "Battleship".

"The photographs express a new perspective" said Gadson. He aims for photos that capture his scars, but also show his strength and resilience. Using photographic technology, Gadson explore new viewpoints and perspectives.

SATURDAY ART WALK

Saturday, April 11, 2015 - 6:00pm to 9:00pm

Lorton Workhouse Arts Center
Campus Wide
Cost: FREE!

The *2nd Saturday Art Walk* at the Workhouse showcases the diverse work of more than 100 visual artists in a unique historic venue, creating an atmosphere that encourages visitors to immerse themselves in the richness of this creative community.

Guests can tour seven unique studio buildings, mix and mingle with artists, buy original works of art, experience ever-changing exhibitions and meet featured artists, all while enjoying light refreshments and music. The social atmosphere of the monthly art walk makes it the perfect destination for a date night or

girls' night out, as well as for art collectors and art appreciation groups alike. These monthly events are also perfect for family art outings.

The Art League

105 North Union Street, Alexandria, VA 22314

www.theartleague.org

April 2015 at The Art League

Two group shows:

1. All-Media Exhibit
Juror: Jayme McClellan
2. Bits and Pieces (works made of or about found objects)
Juror: Millicent Young

Exhibit dates: April 8-May 4

Receiving: Monday, April 6, 6:30–8:30 pm & Tuesday, April 7, 10:00 am–12:00 noon

Opening Reception: Thursday, April 9, 6:30-8:00 pm

NOTE: Must be an Art League member to enter any art shows.

