



SPRINGFIELD ART GUILD (SAG)



A place for a creative experience

June 2015 Newsletter

Meeting Schedule

Wed. June 10, 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 – Art Show Judging

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****Reminder:** June will be our last meeting until September.**



Don't Miss SAG's Annual Art Show This Month!

Finish up that painting, sculpture, photograph, weaving, drawing or whatever art piece you are working on and bring it to the June meeting.

Every June SAG holds an informal membership art show. All SAG members are encouraged to bring in **one** finished piece of art to be displayed during our meeting. All paintings and drawings must be framed. We are not able to hang any of the artwork in our meeting room so if you can bring a table top easel or a standing easel to set your artwork on that would be helpful. We have hired a judge, Ms Theodora Tilton (bio on next page), to award 1st, 2nd, 3rd and Honorable Mention. She will also discuss her process for selecting artwork for awards.

Judge for SAG's June Art Show is... **Theodora Tilton**

Professional Artist

The natural environment and solitude are two themes that Theodora T. Tilton continues to explore in her work. She focuses on what she terms environmental landscapes—paintings that combine the reality of the natural environment with personal interpretation. Ms. Tilton is interested in the real and perceived power of nature; the healing, rejuvenation and symbolism found through and in nature. The images are derived from a single or several journeys where she explores—primarily—the outside world. Earth forms and places discovered on these journeys are the primary inspiration for her work”.

Ms. Tilton's work has been shown throughout the United States and published in major artistic journals. Reviews and feature articles appear in the American Artist Watercolor magazine; the Mount Vernon Gazette, the Alexandria Gazette, Washington, DC's Metro Weekly, and the Cumberland Times-News. She received her BFA from the Hartford Art School and her MFA from Syracuse University.

Ms. Tilton has taught painting, drawing, design and illustration for Marymount University, Montgomery College, Northern Virginia Community College and Fairfax County, Virginia.

Awards include: Montana Watercolor Society Margo Voermans Award 2013; National Watermedia Oklahoma Merchandise Award 2010; Georgia Watercolor Society Da Vinci Paint Award 2007; Juror's Award of Merit, The Visual Arts Center Watercolor Annual 2003, Panama City, Florida; Honorable Mention, The Visual Arts Center Watercolor Annual 2003, Panama City, Florida; the Georgia Watercolor Society Traveling Show, 2002; Juror's Award of Merit, West Virginia Watercolor Society Regional Aqueous 1999. Her work is published in The Best of Watercolor, Rockport Publishers Inc.; and Encyclopedia of Living Artists, 11th Edition, ArtNetwork. Commissions include portraits and illustrations for individual and corporate clients.

Ms. Tilton's paintings have been shown in more than one-hundred and fifty juried and individual shows across the country, including the National Watercolor Society Annual. Individual exhibitions have been held in Raleigh, NC; Washington, DC; Baltimore and Cumberland, Maryland; Wilmington, Delaware; Woodstock, Virginia; Naples, Florida; and Birmingham, Alabama. She is a signature member of the Virginia Watercolor Society, the Alabama Watercolor Society, the Baltimore Watercolor Society, the Georgia Watercolor Society, the San Diego Watercolor Society, the Missouri Watercolor Society, the Mississippi Watercolor Society, the Montana Watercolor Society, the Southern Watercolor Society and Watercolor West.



A Big Thank You

to Claire Bently and Terry

Holman for volunteering to be trained and mentored by Ruth Ensley and Charlotte Landis to learn how to be curators for the 2016 Fall SAG Green Spring Gardens Art Show.

Mark Your Calendars!

It's SAG's "Art in the Garden" Art Show

In cooperation with
The Friends of Green Spring Gardens Park presents



"Art in the Garden"

Springfield Art Guild 2015 Fall Art Show & Sale at Green Spring Gardens Park
Alexandria, Virginia 22312

Tuesday, August 25th – Sunday, October 25th, 2015

This is a Juried Show with 1st, 2nd, 3rd, and Honorable Mention ribbons to be awarded.
Artists must register and volunteer by August 14, 2015.

15% Commission on all sales will benefit the Friends of Green Spring Gardens Park.

Schedule

Friday, August 14 – Registration & payment must be received
(This show is open to **SAG MEMBERS ONLY** - up to 2 pieces \$15 whether you enter 1 or 2 pieces) Make sure your membership is up to date.

Monday, August 24th - Receiving 11:00 am - 12:00 pm,
Juror 12:00 pm-1pm; Show installation from 1:00 pm to 4:00 pm.

Pick up unselected art from 2:00 pm - 4:00 pm

Sunday, August 30 Reception and Awards 1:00 pm – 3:00 pm

Monday, October 26 – show take down and pick up art 10:30 am to noon. *Artists must pick up on this date or arrange pickup by a friend.*

There is no storage space at the venue.

Submission Criteria

For more than 20 years, the Springfield Art Guild (SAG) has partnered with the Friends of Green Spring Gardens Park to create a juried public exhibition and sale of original artwork and photographs based on a horticultural, natural or local history theme.

Artwork must be for sale and if selected stay on exhibition from August 25 to October 25, 2015 in Green Spring Gardens Park.

SAG members may submit up to [2] pieces of artwork no larger than 40" x 40" (including frame)

Only hand painted, hand drawn or other "original" 2-D art will be considered. Traditional photographs and digitally enhanced photographs are welcome. **Drafts, photocopies, offset prints, lithographs or copies of already published art will not be permitted.**

All artwork must be for sale and suitable framed. Entries must be ready to hang with hooks and wire and be protected by glass or plexi-glass when necessary.

Saw tooth hangers, clips, wet canvases, soiled or poorly matted works will not be accepted, nor will artwork previously shown at a SAG sponsored Green Spring Gardens show. Exposed nails must be covered by a backing and or tape.

Artists making sales shall submit a 15% commission to Green Spring Gardens Park at the close of the show and are responsible for Virginia sales tax which Green Spring Gardens Park will collect. All sales will be made through Green Spring Gardens Park. Artists will be provided sales details when work is accepted for the show.

“Art in the Garden”

SAG’s 2015 Fall Art Show & Sale at Green Spring Gardens Park
Alexandria, Virginia 22312 (703-642-5173)

Prospectus & Registration Form (*Continued*)

Registration and payment must be received by August 14, 2015. **Make checks payable to SAG** and send with the registration/volunteer form to **Ruth Ensley, 9008 Fort Craig Drive, Burke, VA 22015** Questions: rensleyart@verizon.net

Submission Criteria (*continued*)

Please complete the registration form below carefully, as no changes can be made after submission. This information is used to create labels for the show in advance.

Artists must pick up unselected pieces on August 24 between 2 and 4 pm.

-----Cut here and send in with check-----

Registration Form

(Must be received by Aug. 14, 2015)

One fee of \$ 15 for up to 2 pieces (Checks payable to SAG) Send form and check to Ruth Ensley, 9008 Fort Craig Drive, Burke, VA 22015

Artist’s Name _____ Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone _____ Cell Phone _____ Email _____

Title 1 _____ Medium _____ Price _____

Title 2 _____ Medium _____ Price _____

VOLUNTEER FORM (ALL artists MUST volunteer to be in the show)

1 VOLUNTEER TO MAKE LABELS FOR ALL THE ARTWORK IN THE SHOW

___ YES, I can make the labels for all the artwork pieces

Receiving and Hanging Volunteers

6 VOLUNTEERS TO HELP WITH RECEIVING August 24 11-12 pm.

___ YES I can help with the receiving process. These volunteers can leave after receiving or stay to help hang and or help call the members that have to pick up their rejects

10 VOLUNTEERS TO HELP WITH HANGING - August 24, 1:00 - 4:00

___ YES I can help with the hanging process following the jurying of the show.

15 to 20 VOLUNTEERS TO BRING REFRESHMENT OR HELP WITH THE RECEPTION

___ YES I can bring a dessert or appetizer for the reception, Sunday, August 30, 1:00 3:00pm

___ YES I can help with the reception (serve, set up/clean up)

Take Down Volunteers

5 VOLUNTEERS NEEDED Oct 26, 10:30-11:30pm

___ YES I can volunteer to take down the art show on Oct 26, 10:30-11:30 pm \



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 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

Virginia Fernbach

As a young child and with no instruction I became proficient in doing portraits. I had no idea that they could be difficult to do. To my surprise I also did some fine graphic work. Thanks to my older brother, who saved some of the art work that I sent him when I was only nine years of age I have some of the original work. It was then, that I informed him that I wanted to be an artist! But, those dreams faded away as a very busy career unfolded.



I received my first art award in grade school and then was part of the Art Club in High School. I did little in the way of creative art until nine years ago other than acquire some wonderful original art from my travels. In addition to a lot of higher education, I received a Certificate in Western Art History at the Smithsonian several years ago and continue to study the great artists whenever I can. I began Watercolor Classes about 6 years ago.

I now love the challenge of working in different media including Watercolor, Gouache, Ink and Acrylic and with a dash of collage and Pastel injected along the way. Never thought that I would be entering



art shows but it has been a helpful learning experience and the recognition of being juried into some 13 art shows over the last several years and receiving awards on a number of occasions never ceases to give me a boost and I never take it for granted. My work has been frequently exhibited in local galleries and a number of my paintings have sold. Being part of a vibrant and creative art community is an integral part of my life and I cannot imagine living without it. Still so much to learn...





Art Tips

Make business cards

- Make business cards with your full name, contact information, and website address, and always have some on you. Whenever you meet someone who expresses interest in your art, give that person a card.

What to do when your painting cap is stuck

- Keep a small pair of pliers among your tubes of paint to use for stuck paint caps. The hardest part of the process is generally finding them!
- Try placing the cap of the tube in between a door frame, then close the door over enough to hold the cap, then turn the tube!
- When the cap on an acrylic paint tube sticks, just invert the tube and soak it for a few minutes in hot water; it should then loosen up nicely.
- If you can't get the cap on your tube of paint off, heat it with a match *ever so carefully* to loosen. After the cap is off, clean the rim and the cap, rub Vaseline (petroleum jelly or glycerine) around the rim and cap; it will work perfectly for years to come!
- A simpler way to get a resistant cap off a tube of paint: hold the cap under the hot water tap for a minute or so, then turn it (possibly using rubber gloves for grip). It works every time.

Mixed Media Art Tips

- Use the plastic bags from your cereal box as a drop sheet or surface cover so you don't get paint everywhere! After you've emptied the cereal, carefully open it along the seams, give it a wash to get the crumbs off it and set it aside to dry. Now you will have a drop sheet at hand, whenever you need it. I've also attached one to a piece of thick cardboard, to create a paint board; great for painting those little embellishments, so you can move them aside to dry.
- 2. Use the cereal box cardboard as your inexpensive substrate – cut it open and you are ready to go!
- 3. With the credit card painting techniques, for making your own unique backgrounds, you can experiment with any paints you have on hand. Different brands and colors will have varying thicknesses. Mixing different colors together will bring unexpected results that will surprise and delight.

ART TIP FOR HANGING PANELS *by Lydia Jechorek*

As I was inventorying my paintings for a recent show I quickly realized I needed a plan. Each artist was allotted 4 (four) 3'x6' flats/screened panels for their work. I needed to figure out how many paintings could I hang and what paintings worked together. I also needed to figure how to get my paintings up quickly.

In group shows, you usually are allowed 2-4 paintings so selecting and transporting aren't a problem. Those shows are usually hung in a simple line or doubled up. In a show with lots of artists, we lean the paintings up against the walls as they were dropped off and rearranged them so they work together, then hang them. For groupings of multiple rows of paintings on a large wall, I've laid out paintings on the floor so they could easily be moved around until they worked as a group. With 9 artists in a small space, laying them on the floor or along the wall wasn't going to happen.

I always do some pre-planning to get a layout in my head before a solo show, but that usually changes to some degree once I start hanging. This time, I fell back on my former government training and decided I needed to create a written ops plan.

A couple of ideas

Idea #1 was to get a cloth the size of a panel and lay it on the floor. A cheap solution for that is to cut an old shower liner (heavier than cloth, so easier to work with) that artists didn't toss out because we don't throw away stuff we might be able to use in an art project!! Once you get an arrangement that fits, take a picture with your cellphone and off you go.

Plan #2: I remembered I have panels stored in my garage that I don't use, but loan out to other artists. If you don't have panels and have time you might be able borrow one. It was great to set one up in the climate controlled comfort of my basement. I lined up all the paintings I was considering along the wall and floor. Then I went to

work deciding what worked together and more important... what fit together on one panel.

After I got an arrangement done, I took photos. Since I had multiple panels, I also assigned each grouping a number and wrote the group # on a piece of blue tape on the back of each painting. Then I boxed up the paintings for each panel together. Since most paintings were 20" or under I could get them all into a box. It worked like a charm!

FYI: Whenever I transport a lot of smaller paintings, I take a sturdy box or large plastic container and place a piece of cardboard on both sides of every painting. Once the box is full, but not too heavy, I use bubble wrap or something light to fill in the rest of the space so the paintings do not flop when I'm transporting them. I found that boxing them instead of laying them out flat saves me a lot of trips to my car.

Even though I had the photos on my phone, I also printed a working size black & white copy (1/4 page) which allowed me room to make notes. I hung a copy on each panel (much to the amusement of the experienced artists...although they hid it well!) so that I didn't have to keep pulling out my phone.

It was a bit more work on the front end, but it turned out to be a life saver for someone who hadn't hung on panels in a long time. Those 27 paintings went up fast!



Russell Kirk Has Us All Looking Up to the Air Force Art Program



The motto of the U.S. Air Force: "Aim High ... Fly, Fight, Win." Many artists of the 10,000 works that comprise the USAF Art Collection know this Air Force derring-do by having lived it.

According to the SAG's May guest speaker, Russell Kirk, the Collection's artists are overwhelmingly comprised of civilians. Yet many created their art in the thick of Air Force battle or rescue operations. Some accompanied Airmen engaged in heroic ground missions, others flew alongside Airmen in combat planes.

One gutsy artist captured the scene while hurtling through the sky with a plane under fire--except he wasn't IN the plane, exactly. To the bug-eyed astonishment of Airmen, he'd tucked himself and his sketch equipment beneath the plane's wing. GAH! And we think WE have a tough time painting plein air!

The Director and Curator of the Air Force Art Program at the Pentagon since 2002, Kirk oversees the care, security, and whereabouts of the collection with the help of two assistants. Pieces are on public display in venues throughout the country and overseas. Others adorn the office space of high-ranking Air Force staff. They convey courage, strength, beauty, and spirit. In hot demand, they also serve as status symbols.

Do any of these coveted creations relocate or retire along with their admirers? It happens. But when it does, Kirk and his staff make it their dignified but uncompromising mission to retrieve them.

All art commissioned by the US Air Force remains Air Force property. The relatively few items not on display elsewhere are housed in climate-controlled Room 5D855 at the Pentagon.

How does a staff of three keep track of 10,000 world-traveling items? With the help of technology.

Each piece of Air Force artwork contains a chip that enables inventory and identification. In the Pentagon holding room, art is stored on mechanized racks that can rotate through the room and bring forth a requested item on command. Electronic apparatus can instantly confirm the presence of all artwork that is supposed to be there. It can also identify items that have unexpectedly flown the coop.

The Air Force Art Collection continues the long military tradition of using art to record for posterity the experiences of soldiers and sailors at war and in peace. To this end, the Collection covers Air Force participation in battles and, as well, in humanitarian efforts like those conducted in 2010 in Haiti. Kirk remarked that his personal favorite among the Air Force Art Collection might be a painting made of US Airmen and Haitians working to restore life, order, and hope amid the ravages of Haiti's 2010 earthquake.

The Air Force has the third largest US Military art collection, behind the Navy's and the Army's. The youngest of the three branches,

the Air Force began collecting art in 1950 when it acquired 800 paintings from the Army.

Kirk spoke of the program's long relationship with the prestigious Society of Illustrators of New York. A select group of artists culled from this Society was established to further the artistic ambitions of the Air Force. The Air Force has dispatched this civilian group to Air Force installations all over the world.

Others who participate in the AF Art Program are the Society of Illustrators of Los Angeles and San Francisco, a contingent of cartoonists, the Midwest Air Force Artists, the Southwest Society of Air Force Artists, and numerous independent artists have also joined the Air Force Program over the years.

When appointed to his position, Kirk brought a background in communications and public relations but not in the field of art. Even so, he has clearly become a passionate supporter of the Air Force Art Program. He sees it as an important part of military history for generations to come. He continuously explores better business practices, efficiencies, and ways the Air Force can tell its story through the medium of art.

The Air Force does not pay for artists' time or materials, those are donated by the artists. The Air

Force does transport the artists to and from the action they seek to depict. Determined to depict the full and accurate truth of their subjects, some artists have taken up to a year to research the details of their artwork. While photographs are very important to document military missions, it is the artist going into the scene or reliving an event and putting that experience to canvas or paper that allows the viewer to get a sense of the event that can't always be conveyed in a photograph.

Would you like your work to become part of the Air Force Art Collection? To merit acceptance into the Air Force Art Collection, an artwork must portray the people, equipment, activities, facilities, and other historically significant

subjects related to the United States Air Force and meet recognized professional standards. Check out the Air Force Art Program website for additional information.

Most of the Air Force collection can be viewed on their website. [See www.afapo.hq.af.mil/] The site lists the artwork by artist, subject, or theme. There is also a 325 page coffee table book in the works, with art from the Air Force collection on every page. The book will be published by the U.S. Government Printing Office (GPO) and hopefully will be available to the public later this year.

Many thanks to Russ Kirk for a great evening of highlighting the

program's exciting aspects for a captivated audience.

SPECIAL NOTE: SAG is planning to arrange a tour of the Pentagon Art later this year. Once a date is established, the membership will be informed for anyone wishing to participate.

The Arts program also has a FaceBook page. See: [Air Force Arts Program on Facebook](#)

ART Opportunities

Fairfax 50+ E-News

Subscribe Now and receive lots of art opportunities, shows and classes! It is free. Go to: www.fairfaxcounty.gov/olderadults

Join Lori K. Gordon on Thursday, June 4, 2015 at 7pm, for her talk, "Bridging Worlds", at Del Ray Artisans gallery, 2704 Mount Vernon Avenue Alexandria, VA 22301

This event is a special opportunity to hear about Gordon's personal journey as an artist in the ten years since Hurricane Katrina ravaged the Mississippi Gulf Coast. This decade has been filled with exhibitions, artist's talks and workshops across the U.S. Her journey has also expanded to Haiti, throughout Europe, and to the Middle East and North Africa, where she recently opened an art café in the fabled city of Marrakech, Morocco.

Partners in Art

Looking for a chance to get together with other creative people to discuss art and exchange ideas? Then, come to a meeting of our cooperatively led Partners in Art group. This program is free of charge and open to all. Contact Millie Mateu (milaenartes@gmail.com) or Katherine Rand (katherine@katherinerand.com) with questions. Monday June 8th 2pm-4pm, Del Ray Artisans, 2704 Mount Vernon Ave. Alexandria, VA 22301

LIFE DRAWING SESSION - GESTURE

These sessions operate on a drop-in basis so there is no need to register in advance. Bring your supplies and join us at the gallery to draw or paint our live models. We don't supply easels - only plenty of chairs - but you are welcome to bring your own if you want to use one. All skill levels are welcome. Come to the gesture sessions to loosen up and participate in a fun, fast-paced drawing experience. These two-hour sessions are composed primarily of multiple series of dynamic 1-5 minute poses. Occasionally we throw in a continuous motion drawing exercise to keep things interesting. Fees for each two-hour session are \$8 for members and \$10 for non-members. If you have any questions, please contact Katherine Rand at 703.836-1468 or LifeDrawing@TheDelRayArtisans.org Wednesday June 10th, 11am-1pm, Del Ray Artisans, 2704 Mount Vernon Ave. Alexandria, VA 22301

SOCIALLIGHTS FEATURING GUY JONES: A VERY SILLY MAN



Tuesday, June 16 from 7-9pm

**Social
Lights**

Come listen, explore, and be inspired and entertained! SocialLights is an informal program designed to provide a positive and motivational environment for artists to network and share ideas. This month SocialLights gets a new twist with a featured program by Del Ray Artisans member artist Guy Jones.

The presentation, "Guy Jones: A Very Silly Man", will take you on a journey into the wacky world of Guy Jones. From his experiences as a children's book illustrator to how he conjures his pen & ink images, you will be enthralled by his story. But, wait, there's more—a slide show and a 'Stump Guy Doodle Challenge'! You can see more of this artist's imaginative work at Studio 334 in The Torpedo Factory Art Center.

Members and non-members are welcomed at SocialLights. This is a special opportunity to learn more about Guy and for members, new members, and visitors to meet other artists!

This not-to-miss event is on Tuesday, June 16, 2015 from 7-9pm and is FREE. Light refreshments will be served. For questions about Social Lights, contact Tamara at Programs@TheDelRayArtisans.org

http://calendar.thedelrayartisans.org/view_entry.php?id=2187&date=20150616&user=__public__

Shiho K. Rice – July 2015 – The Art League in Alexandria, VA

Exhibit dates: July 9 – August 3

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

Kirié is the Japanese artform in which a single piece of black paper is cut to create an image, resulting in a piece that can look at first glance like an ink drawing or a woodcut. With this simple material Rice creates complex and surreal worlds of mystery and delight.



Gatherings – July 2015 – The Art League in Alexandria, VA

Exhibit dates: July 8–August 3, 2015

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

Juror: Jennifer Lindsay, independent curator and fiber artist

Opening reception: Thursday, July 9, 6:30–8:00 pm

“Gatherings” is works about groups of things, people, objects or abstract shapes. Artists are encouraged to use repetition or multiples in their imagery.

'Scapes - The Art League in Alexandria, VA

- Exhibit dates: August 5–September 7, 2015
- Juror: Elizabeth Peak, printmaker and mixed media artist
- Receiving: Monday, August 3, 6:30–8:30 pm & Tuesday, August 4, 10:00 am–12:00 noon
- Opening Reception: Thursday, August 13, 6:30-8:00 pm

Taking Shape Annual Sculpture Exhibit - The Art League in Alexandria, VA

- Exhibit dates: August 5–September 7, 2015
- Juror: Jessica Beels, sculptor
- **Online jurying deadline July 18, 2015**
- Receiving: Monday, June 1, 6:30–8:30 pm & Tuesday, June 2, 10:00 am–12:00 noon
- Opening Reception: Thursday, June 11, 6:30-8:00 pm