

# RARITAN VALLEY ARTS ASSOCIATION established 1939

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## January 2014 Newsletter

### January Happy New Year Greetings!

We've had our snowstorms, our Polar Vortex, and then a spring-like day with flood-causing rains, but in this uncertain atmosphere (pun intended), you can be sure of one thing...a great demo will be held **Monday, January 27<sup>th</sup>** when artist **Doris Ettlinger** will do a **watercolor demo** for us at the Somerset County/Bridgewater Library at 7:30 pm. Doris will be doing a floral from life for her demonstration. There are examples of her florals on her website and on her Etsy shop page <https://www.etsy.com/shop/DorisEttlingerStudio>. Doris has illustrated over 30 books for children, including the award-winning *A Book for Black-eyed Susan* and *The Orange Shoes*. Her books feature a sensitive drawing style and skillful watercolor technique. She graduated from the Rhode Island School of Design and holds an MFA from the University of Wisconsin - Madison. Doris teaches art in her home and studio - a 19<sup>th</sup> century gristmill on the Musconetcong River in Warren County. There she meets weekly with the Musconetcong Watercolor Group as teacher and coach. You can view her work and read more about her at [www.dorissettlinger.com](http://www.dorissettlinger.com) and at [www.facebook.com/DorisEttlingerStudio](http://www.facebook.com/DorisEttlingerStudio). Her students' and her demos can be seen at <https://www.facebook.com/MusconetcongWatercolorGroup>.

President Alka Dalal and her husband Sid Dalal hosted our lovely Holiday Party at their art-filled and elegant home on Saturday, December 7<sup>th</sup> from 4 until 8 pm. With great conversation, wine, cheese, hors d'oeuvres, and sweet desserts, and paintings and sculpture to view, a lively group had a lively time. We got to know each other better; we had our customary gift exchange;





and a good  
time was had  
by all!

and a new Christmas story was written and read by your editor (each year I am delighted to write a story for our dinner). Our thanks to Alka and Sid for this very special get-together!

Our Holiday Show at the Somerset County Library was indeed beautiful with the works of eleven RVAA artists. We thank them all for showing their work and for show sitting.....Susan Boyd, Sherry Engelberg, Bill Gilbert, Bill Metz, Eleanor Morehouse, Eleanor Nugent, Diana Patton, Olga Phelps, Donna Souren, Patricia Yuan, and Rosemary Zangara. Unfortunately we did not have many sales. In fact Bill Metz sold the only painting...this was fun, however, because Bill is a chemist by vocation and this is the first painting he has sold. As he said to me, "I guess now I can say I'm a pro artist?" Very cool! We were allowed to leave the price list for the show sitters and we could

sell the works within the library (unlike last year when we had to do it outside the library), although actual prices could not be on the paintings. Because of this, we did have a link to our website and the prices. Our webmaster, Gardner Patton, put our names and the titles and prices up on our website. Only those who saw the actual paintings had the link. This way, if there wasn't a show sitter present, people could use their phones or the library's computers to discover the paintings' prices immediately. Your editor supposes that people didn't access the link very much or we surely would have had more sales.

You might want to travel to New Brunswick to the Zimmerli Museum, a world class museum in our own neighborhood. Besides the permanent exhibitions there are several current shows, including Diana Burko: *Glacial Perspectives*, until July 31, 2014 (Machaver Gallery) For over 40 years, [Diane Burko](#) has traveled around the Americas and Europe, taking pictures and making sketches of volcanoes, hot spring fissures, glaciers, mountains, and rain forests in order to paint these landscapes in her Philadelphia studio. She has had more than 30 solo exhibitions in museums and galleries across the United States. This year (2013), Burko was selected to participate in a collaborative voyage to the Arctic in the company of other artists, scientists and journalists sponsored by the nonprofit organization [The Arctic Circle](#). This exhibition of paintings and photographs reflects Burko's interest in extreme landscapes and her ability to transform visual and technical data into dynamic views of some of the most sublime landscapes on earth. Please go to <http://www.zimmerlimuseum.rutgers.edu/information/visitors#.UtKfF7TAExg> for other exhibition news, hours, etc.

**Juried Show at the D & R Greenway Land Trust in Princeton.** Please go to <http://drgreenway.org/> for information or phone 609/924-4646. They are at 1 Preservation Place in Princeton. They have put out a call for Entries for their next juried exhibit, entitled "Oasis and Mirage: Disappearing Water", and the deadline for submissions is March 4<sup>th</sup> (online submission).

**The Center for Contemporary Art** right here in Bedminster, currently has an interesting photography show...**Photography as Painting** curated by **Mel Leipzig**: Christopher Fjelde, Aubrey J. Kauffman and Francesca Picone which runs from January 10 - February 22, 2014.

## MEMBERS IN THE NEWS

Oh, dear! No one has snail mailed or emailed me any. Please do! And until then, **HAPPY PAINTING!**

*Happy Painting!*  
*Diana*