

President: Alka Dalal

Newsletter: Diana Patton

497 Stony Brook Drive

Bridgewater, NJ 08807

January Newsletter 2016

Happy New Year to all!

diana@dianapatton.com

And if you are making resolutions, please do resolve to come to our next meeting, **Tuesday, January 19th** (because Mon. 18th is Martin Luther King day and library is closed at 5) **7:30 pm at the Somerset County Library meeting room B**, where you'll be treated to a demo by **Susan Antin**. Susan Antin's work expresses the joy of life. She uses a variety of media, but primarily acrylic paint, colored pencil and ink. She received a BA in Fine Art from the University of Wisconsin, Madison and an MBA from the University of Massachusetts, Amherst. She is an Art instructor for the Arts Council of Princeton and the Farmstead Art Center in Basking Ridge, NJ. Susan is the Artistic Director for Gallery-NJ, an on-line gallery selling fine art by New Jersey artists. www.gallery-nj.com. She is an Executive Board Member of Arts on Division, Somerville, NJ and is a member of: The Arts Council of Princeton, NJ; Farmstead Arts Center, Basking Ridge, NJ and The Printmaking Center of NJ, Branchburg. Do check out Susan's work at www.antinart.com.



Cirque De Sole (one of your Editor's favorites of Susan's colored pencil Series)



Susan at Arts on Division June 2015

Susan says: "There is an endless list of processes and tools that can be used with acrylic paint. For those who like to experiment and try new and perhaps unusual approaches to painting, this topic will be of special interest. Artists of all styles can find this useful for their work, whether they prefer realistic, abstract, surreal, or impressionistic. Curiosity and a willingness to take risks are all that are required. Some of the techniques presented are sgraffito, impasto, drip & splash and scumbling. You'll see an assortment of samples and descriptions of their processes. For those who are interested in learning more, I offer this class at the Arts Council of Princeton. Questions and comments are very welcome!"

Do come, watch, listen, and learn; you'll be glad you did! If someone would like to volunteer for hospitality, please email Alka at alkadalal@hotmail.com

Last month RVAA members enjoyed Jeri Greenberg's demo. If you missed the demo, you can check out her website <http://www.jerigreenbergart.com/>)

Holiday Dinner We had a small, but happy group of celebrants at our annual Holiday Dinner December 12th. We totally missed our President Alka Dalal, as she was not well, but we did enjoy the camaraderie at Maggiano's, as well as the terrific food. Diana Patton read her latest Christmas story *It Happened in the City*, and we had our gift exchange. However, it was thought that next year we would have a potluck Holiday Dinner because the noise in the restaurant made it hard to hear until late.



Holiday Show Many thanks go out to those RVAA members who were part of our annual Holiday Show at the Somerset County/Bridgewater Library: Susan Boyd, Alka Dalal, Eleanor Morehouse, Diana Patton, Olga Phelps, Donna Souren, George Straka, Peg Tombro, Rosemary Zangara, and Eric (Zhichdeng) Zhao. It was a beautiful show, with about 100 works in the Circular Gallery, on racks, and with "small" in the three display cases. Unfortunately we didn't sell anything from the actual show, only a few small things from when people showsat.

Opportunities for Exhibition RVAA members have some lovely opportunities for exhibiting and they're both close by. In fact I hope to mount a special group show at the Somerville Library in the fall.

The **Somerville Library Gallery Space** Available at Somerville Public Library

The Somerville Public Library, a branch of the Somerset County Library System of New Jersey, now has gallery space available for artists' exhibits. The Library is located at 35 West End Avenue in Somerville.

The newly renovated main floor of the Library offers space for up to 40 paintings, sketches, drawings, photographs, and the like. Works may be hung in the Ray Taub Reading Room, the glass enclosed Community Room, and the balcony stairwell. The space is available for exhibits at no charge. Artists have the option of hosting an "opening night." The Library also offers exhibitors an opportunity to present a program about their art.

Roberta Karpinecz, president of the Somerville Public Library Board of Trustees, said, "Libraries are more than books. They are cultural centers of the community. What better place to create a gallery than the Library? We welcome artists and patrons to this new space and look forward to many exhibits."

To obtain a copy of Somerville Public Library's Art Policy and Exhibit Application, please log on to <http://somerset.lib.nj.us/PDFs/ArtExhibitPol&App.pdf>. Or, contact Roberta Karpinecz at rkarpinecz@yahoo.com for more information.

Quantum Floats in Pluckemin Quantum Floats is a new float center in Bedminster Township that is offering local artists the opportunity to exhibit and sell pieces on commission. We currently have room for a few more wall pieces and will have more opportunities in March. We expect to be in a larger building later in 2016 that can also take sculpture as well. Artists receive 75% of the sale price plus the opportunity to float at 20% off the regular price. Any artists interested in being considered for current or future exhibitions may send an email with samples of their work (through a link or attachment) to quantumfloats@gmail.com. We also welcome artists to stop by to see our office at 1 Robertson Drive Suite 13, Bedminster, NJ 07921. Call 973-782-3227 with any questions. www.quantumfloats.com.

And finally, I just rec'd this notification.... "I wonder if any of your artists from the Raritan Valley Arts might be interested in going to Portugal for a couple of weeks in April. I am taking a group and have room for 4 more in our villa. Our flight together departs from Philadelphia so I thought it would be convenient for your members if any are interested. The information is on my website. Also it seems my Ghost Ranch workshop is already filling for the last week of September if anyone might like to join us. All the info is on my website: www.darlabostick.com .

And for those of you interested in new artistic territory, also from Darla: **Society of Watercolor Artists 2016 International Juried Exhibition in Fort Worth Deadline: 20 February 2016** Frank Eber is the juror for this prestigious exhibition scheduled to show in the Atrium Gallery of the Fort Worth Central Library. He will also conduct a 4-day workshop in conjunction with the exhibit in Fort Worth 26-29 April. Online entry is simple and conducted through Calls for Entry (CaFE). Deadline for entry is 20 February with notifications of

acceptance following on 29 February. Prizes equal \$4000 in cash and merchandise. No more than 50 pieces will be chosen. The Society of Watercolor Artists also awards Signature Status to those artists who are accepted and show in 5 juried exhibitions. Details and prospectus can be found on the website at: www.swawatercolor.com

A Retrospective for Scott Noel 2000-2015 is currently at the rider University Art Gallery from Jan. 28-Feb. 21st, with an opening Jan. 28 from 5-7 and his talk Feb. 4th at 7pm. Scott Noel is an excellent realist oil painter; you can google him to view his work, and for the exhibit hours and more info: www.rider.edu/artgallery or 609/896-5168.

If you've not paid your dues yet, please do! RVAA has 8 wonderful demos a year, *free*, exhibits, the bus ride to New York City, newsletters....**We need more of you to mail your membership dues to our Membership Chair Susan Boyd, asap. Please, artists, let's respond. We need to get out of the *red* and into the *black*.** The ball is in your court; please send your dues to our Membership Chair Susan Boyd, 437 Washington Ave., Martinsville, NJ 08836) Individual \$35. per year Family \$40. per year Student (through high school) \$20. per year. Please make your check payable to RVAA. Oh, yes, we even have our own website www.raritanvalleyarts.org where you can post your paintings in the "Members Gallery". So please mail your check to Susan asap! Thank you!

Demo Artists needed. We are always looking for good artists who would like to demo at RVAA. If you know anyone, please refer them to us. If members want to demo their art, techniques, photography etc., please contact Alka alkadalal@hotmail.com .

We'd like to hear what *you've* been doing. Do write or email me! The next issue will be in February but I will save your news for sure! So send me news any time.

Happy Painting!
Dana