

President: **Marge McGovern**

Newsletter: Diana Patton

497 Stony Brook Drive

Bridgewater, NJ 08807

diana@dianapatton.com

February Newsletter 2017

Valentine's Day Cheers to you all!

Our program chairperson Donna Souren is delighted to announce that the demonstrator for our February 22nd meeting, 7:00 pm at the Somerset County/Bridgewater Library, will be Najwan Zoubi, who will be working on an oil painting. Donna says that she works from photos and is amazingly fast.

Najwan Zoubi was born in Nazareth, Israel, 1988; she has a B.A. Degree in Fine Arts from Oranim College, Israel. Najwan says, "I started painting over twenty years ago. The real artist in me appeared later when I started to grasp a deeper meaning of the complexity of the Israeli Culture; Arab Israeli and Jewish Israeli. A hope in unity among the diversity of people in Israel was what I experienced as a young Arab woman artist. Art conquers the space, maps and reshapes it. Art celebrates people's complicated coexistence. The Art World of the complex Israeli society will hopefully reach people here and beyond. So empathy will translate into compassion and find sensitive hearts. The harshness of public voices, political, ethnic, religious at times makes art indiscernible; but the artistic landscape gives a different hope." **Do come watch this artist work, Feb. 22nd.**



Above: "Dusting" Right: "Sweet Harmony"
which is oil on wood. Below left: "Busy
Morning" oil on wood and below right:
"Somewhere in Between" oil on wood



From the President's Desk

A short and pithy message. Looking forward to discussion on how we can make our time together even more enjoyable. We have a talented group and to get to know each other better is always a plus.

Marge McGovern

February's meeting...witnessed a large and enthusiastic audience for demonstrator Linda Lam as she did an oil painting sketch of Rona, which we all enjoyed. After the meeting all members present gratefully accepted the wonderful art supplies donated by Sid Dalal, which had belonged to our late President Alka Dalal. He knew that our friend Alka would want us to have them. So RVAA members were happy to receive watercolor papers, oil painting canvases, trays, and a huge easel. Thank you, Sid!



Somerset County Cultural & Heritage Show

Several RVAA members are in the exhibit at the Somerset County Cultural & Heritage Commission Gallery in Somerset County's Admin Bldg on Grove Street in Somerville. The show will be up until March 17th. RVAA members in the show are Susan Boyd, Alka Dalal (in memoriam), Mary Lou Guididas, Maneet Kaur, Eleanor Morehouse, Diana Patton, and Donna Souren. Ellie's work "The Cotswolds" was chosen for the exhibit postcard (and you might recognize my "Cabbage" on the exhibit's sign at the exhibit). RVAA thanks Kaitlin Bundy, Program Coordinator for the Somerset County Cultural & Heritage Commission, for inviting us, and curating and hanging the exhibit.





Big Apple Bus Trip Yes, our wonderful trip to New York City will be here before you know it, **Saturday, April 22nd** & President Marge McGovern is once again good enough to organize this trip (Thank you so much, Marge!). So hurry and sign up and leave the rest to us. (or at least, Marge McGovern). The AWS (American Watercolor Society) exhibit is of course at the Salmagundi, but we'll go to the Metropolitan Museum of Art before it. The bus leaves at 8:30 am from the upper parking lot of the Somerset County Library (same spot as usual). We leave the Met about 3:00 to go to the Salmagundi Club for the American Watercolor Society Show, and we leave there at 5 to arrive back in Bridgewater at 6. This is a fantastic day, with all sorts of wonderful art to see and inspire us, as well as the camaraderie of art friends. And the bus, with comfortable seats and a bathroom besides, only costs \$40. Everything door to door for us! If you were to go by train and taxi, or train/subway/bus, you would spend about as much and waste ever so much time, time that can be used looking at art. **This is a marvelous trip, trust your editor!** Please send your check made out to RVAA to Marge McGovern, **PO Box 399, Martinsville, NJ, 08836**. For about what will be showing at the Met just go to <http://www.metmuseum.org/exhibitions>. Please art lovers, please reply by March 15, as then we open it to other watercolor clubs. Also you do know that you can bring friends/ relatives/etc., don't you?

Come Print Your Own Valentine Cards! This news comes from Pat Franchino, the Interim Director of the Printmaking Center of NJ. They are having a free and fun Open House at the PCNJ on Thursday, February 9th from 6-9 pm. There will be cookies and hot chocolate as you get to try your hand at printmaking at this wonderful facility. **All are welcome to the "Print Your Heart Out Open House."** You can visit their website at <http://www.printnj.org/>

At the same time you can just catch the present show which is a Pop Up Exhibit showcasing the vibrant and colorful silkscreens of artists from **Kayrock Galleries, Brooklyn, NY** on view Jan 16- February 10. The Center is at 440 River Rd. Branchburg, NJ, 08876. Regular gallery hours are Tues. - Fri. 10AM - 4PM

Art after Hours—First Tuesdays Tuesday, Feb. 7th at the Zimmerli Museum in New Brunswick there will be two special exhibits, two talks, music and light refreshments, and it's all **FREE!**
Exhibition Talk / 5:45pm Christina Weyl, independent art historian and Rutgers alumna, provides insight into *Innovation and Abstraction: Women Artists and Atelier 17*. **Exhibition Talk at 7pm will be** photographer Terrence A. Reese (also known as TAR) discusses *Reflections: Photographs of Iconic African Americans*, his project that has spanned two decades and includes a book along with the exhibition. The Zimmerli's presentation includes 65 of the black and white photographs depicting pioneers from a variety of fields who shaped American culture & history. More info: http://zimmerli.pmailus.com/pmailweb/ct?d=ANHL_t0BoQABAAODwAJ7EK .

From one of our members...Judy Hummer EXPLORE THE WONDERS OF WATERCOLOR
Ever want to learn more about watercolor painting? How to achieve its wonderful textures and effects? Come paint with me and explore this beautiful medium. I have been painting exclusively with watercolor for some time and have earned signature statuses in various watercolor societies and also have received many awards. I am interested in sharing my passion through teaching. I currently have a few openings in my Thursday afternoon class held at the Bridgewater United Methodist Church in Bridgewater. Please contact me if you are interested to receive further details. Phone 908-872-9348 or Email -- jhummermom@aol.com.

And if you'd like to explore watercolor at night, your editor is teaching for the Jointure at the Creative Campus off of Old York Rd in the Old York School. Classes start Monday night, March 20th, and run for 8 weeks, 6:30-9 pm. You can register by going to www.jointure.org and clicking onto For Community, Community Courses. My course is called Watercolor Studio, and is suitable for both beginners and intermediate level. If you don't know my work and teaching background, please check out www.dianapatton.com . If you want more info on the course, just email me please, diana@dianapatton.com .

MEMBERS IN THE NEWS

JUDY HUMMER Judith Hummer has two paintings accepted into the Annual Juried Northeast Watercolor Society Members Show. It is being held at the Orange Hall Gallery at SUNY Orange County Community College in Middletown, NY. Dates for the show are from February 6 - March 22, 2017. The opening reception is on Sunday, March 5 from 1:00 - 4:15pm with a demonstration by Lana Privitera at 2:30pm.

DIANA PATTON'S picture book *Ronnie's Friend Trike* is out and available online from Amazon for \$10 but you can also get it autographed and dedicated to whomever you wish from me for \$10 by emailing diana@dianapatton.com.



DONNA SOUREN will have two paintings in the 10th Annual Leonard J. Buck Garden Art & Photography Exhibit, from February 21st through March 17th. The exhibit, which showcases four seasons of beauty, and will be on display on weekdays at the Visitor's Center at 11 Layton Rd. in Far Hills from 10 AM - 4PM.

What are you doing? Please write or email me your news!

Happy Painting!
Diana