

RARITAN VALLEY ARTS ASSOCIATION established 1939

May 2011 Newsletter

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Beautiful Weather Greetings!

The trees are outdoing themselves in pinks and plums, lavenders, cream, and rose. And don't we all want to be out in gardens, rooting around with baby plants, and then painting? But you'll want to be in the **Somerset County Library Monday, May 16th, 7:30 pm, for a pastel demo by Christina DeBarry**. RVAA has hosted this award-winning artist before and we are in for another treat as Christina works her magic. You simply must come, learn, and enjoy an evening of art and camaraderie. This will be the last meeting until September.and.....Pres. Linda Arnold would really appreciate someone coming up to bat for Hospitality for May 16th. You may call her at 908/647-3610.

Our show at the **Senior Wellness Center** is now over and again we thank **Judy Hummer** for running it. In turn, Judy thanks Linda Arnold, Sherry Engelberg, Donna Souren, and Rosemary Zangara for their help hanging and taking down the show.

Our trip to New York City, including the Metropolitan Museum of Art and the Salmagundi Club (and the Forbes Museum, for some) **was a huge success**. Thank you so much, **Debbie Hughes**, for running it. Your editor believes about 37 of us were on the bus and we all thoroughly enjoyed the day. Debbie provided "treats" of soda, water, cookies, chips, etc. The American Watercolor Society Show was one of the better ones your editor can remember. The Met had so many excellent special exhibits it was impossible to take them all in. And don't even ask about the bookstore/gift shop. We had beautiful weather for all of this as well.

Our Show at the Jewish Community Center is almost upon us! Your editor will be chairing this and I need to know ASAP how many of you will be entering work. There is room for about 30-35 pieces, depending on size, and depending on the response to showing, you may enter one or two pieces (\$7. entrance fee). The Shimon and Sara Birnbaum Jewish Community Center is at 755 Talamini Rd, Bridgewater. The exhibit runs from June 1-23. The Center takes 20% of the sale price. Please email me

diana@dianapatton.com or call—908/722-0562 (but it's truly easier to reach me by email) and let me know if you'd have one or two pieces for the show. All pieces must be framed and wired securely. Thank you!

Terrific news! Eleanor DeMott is home from the hospital and from rehab---Eleanor had heart valve surgery and was away from home March 3-April 22nd. We are so glad to hear that she is feeling much better, although she certainly will need to take it a little easy for a while.

Bridgewater Township Show—since our group meets in Bridgewater, you can enter (but don't forget our JCC show too, please!). Delivery is May 19th from 10-12, at the Municipal Building, two works is fine, but please let me know if you are submitting and how many pieces. No fee. If you already have work up there, hey, you can take that down, and you'll be ready for the JCC Show, which we want to make really lovely, as well. The Bridgewater Twp. Show is supposed to be through August. **According to the mayor, many people have complimented her on the wonderful art that is there now.** Do please email me if you are also submitting to Bridgewater Municipal Bldg show on Garretson Rd, and how many pieces. Might be we'd use 3 each.

Arts on Division May 13-May 21st celebrates art, live music, theater, dance, and literary arts, all on Division Street in Somerville. Huge opening Friday, May 13th from 5-9. Saturday the 14th the street will be closed to car traffic and the celebration continues. Arts on Division is sponsored by Downtown Somerville Alliance and Borough of Somerville. FOR MORE INFORMATION VISIT findsomerville.com. RVAA members who are participating are Susan Boyd, Amy Erdman, William Gilbert, Connie Gray, Linda Lam, Joan McKinney, Diana Patton, and Donna Souren. (RVAA artists are in the Hughes Bldg—if you're not familiar with Somerville, there used to be antique shops there.)

A special Thank You! to Susan Boyd, who takes this Newsletter and has it printed and mails it out, and/or emails it to you all. Your editor only researches it and writes it.

The Farmstead Arts Gallery (450 King George Rd, Basking Ridge) will host an exhibit of animal paintings May 22nd-June 25th. This is sponsored by FOSRAS (Friends of Somerset Regional Animal Shelter) Art4Paws, to benefit the Shelter. Your editor will have several works in it; please contact me, you RVAAers who are in the show, so I can put you in the next Members News..... Also offered, **Colored pencil drawing lessons**, taught by Susan Antin, will begin on April 27 and take place on Wednesdays from 10 AM to 12 noon. To register, visit www.farmsteadartclasses.eventbrite.com, or call 347-927-8748.

The First Annual "Blossomfest" Millington Arts and Crafts Show will be held on Sunday, May 22, on Long Hill Road in Millington from 10:00 AM to 5:00 PM. Local artists who would like to participate and to sell their original arts and crafts are encouraged to exhibit. Find the vendor application on the Chamber of Commerce website, www.longhillchamber.org. For questions, call the Chamber office at 647-2900. Visitors can expect high quality original artwork and crafts, and a relaxing experience. The Chamber has added this event to their calendar in response to many requests from residents for an event that is a little "classier" than the Street Fair. There will be no children's rides or events, but there will be refreshment vendors and appropriate light entertainment.

The 31ST Annual Mountain Art Show will be held from October 21-30th. The deadline for the Juried Show section is August 26th; the deadline for "small treasures & portfolios" is September 30th. As most of you know, this large and important show is held at St. John on the Mountain, 379 Mt. Harmony Rd (off Rt. 202), Bernardsville. On-line info from www.mountainartshow.org; email from mountainartshow@yahoo.com or phone 908/221-1535 for an application. The show is juried with slides or CDs, and includes all kinds of art, from paintings to photography to fine jewelry, sculpture, and art glass. Receiving is Oct. 16th. Meet the Artists Reception and Awards Presentation is Sunday October 23rd.

MEMBERS IN THE NEWS

LINDA ARNOLD was in the Farmstead Arts Gallery's inaugural show and now the Farmstead is being interviewed and photographed Friday, May 6th by Channel 12.....Linda emailed me that "I get to put my paintings back on the wall as well as the others from the first show....hopefully they may get on the news!"

ALKA DALAL had a successful Art show in New York this past month. She sold a few paintings and also her new book, "Creative Genius, TIPS to unleash yours". The Japanese Consulate representative for cultural affairs visited the show and the profit was donated to tsunami victims of Japan. She was interviewed by an Indian TV station and newspaper.

DIANA PATTON will be doing three watercolor workshops for the Somerset County Teen Arts Festival on May 18th and she will also be demonstrating and having interactive watercolor sessions with the children of the Delaware Township K-8 School (Hunterdon County) May 26th as well as for their PTA program that evening.

Please remember to continue sending me news. No newsletter until September when we'll announce the September and other dates and demonstrators and catch you all up on everything!

Happy Painting!
Dana