

# RARITAN VALLEY ARTS ASSOCIATION

established 1939

**President: Linda Arnold**

Newsletter: Diana Patton

**September 2011 Newsletter**

497 Stony Brook Drive  
Bridgewater, NJ 08807  
[diana@dianapatton.com](mailto:diana@dianapatton.com)

## **Hanging onto Summer Greetings!**

After Hurricane Irene swept through, we are rewarded with totally fabulous weather. And the idea of "endless summer" seems beautiful. But fall is great, too, and you must celebrate with us **Monday, September 19<sup>th</sup>, 7:30 pm** at the Somerset County/Bridgewater Library. We have something special for you. **Colby Krolak is a wildlife and animal artist** who specializes in scratchboard illustration. Traditional scratchboard is a unique, highly detailed, black and white drawing medium that has been used since the 19<sup>th</sup> century. During her demonstration; Colby will go over the elements of a scratchboard, show some basic etching tools and how they are used, explain the process of putting together a scratchboard drawing, and display some of her finished wildlife illustrations. Colby is very interested in the preservation of wildlife and your editor knows you will have a most interesting evening. ***We still need hospitality for this evening so please volunteer by phoning Linda at 908/647-3610.***

**DUES ARE DUE!** Please send your checks made out to RVAA to our Membership Chairman **Doug Axmann, 16 Schoolhouse Lane, Somerville, NJ 08876**. Dues are \$30. for Individual, \$35. for Family, and \$15. for Student (through high school). Doug is at 908/722-1925. Dues will get you all these demonstrations, two or three exhibits a year, the annual Big Apple Trip, the newsletters, a presence on the internet (<http://www.raritanvalleyarts.org>), and last, but not least, lots of camaraderie.

We are very sad to tell you that Bob Erdman, member Amy Erdman's husband, died recently. Many of you know Bob from him helping us touch up and fix frames at our Holiday Show at the library where he always lent a helping hand. And you may also know him as Somerville's jovial Santa Claus for many years. He is missed and we send our sympathy and prayers out to Amy. You may want to contact her at 17 Schoolhouse Lane, Somerville, NJ 08876.

Much has been accomplished for the **Bridgewater Monument Presentation and reception**. It will be held **Sept. 22<sup>nd</sup> from 4 to 7, with the ceremony at 4**. There will be a children's art show, special musical performances, and once again "A Taste of Bridgewater". Over ten restaurants will be giving out samples of food and drink. If you went to the Opening of the

Municipal Building, you know this is a cool reception. A history of Bridgewater video will run during the whole time. "The Mayor would like you to invite your Art Association to attend the Presentation," comes the invite via the Bridgewater Twp. Arts Commission.

### **Somerville JazzFest and Art Exhibit**

The town of Somerville has offered artists a wonderful opportunity to exhibit and sell their artwork at the annual Somerville JazzFest. The event is Sunday, September 11, 1:00 - 6:00. It will be held on the grounds of the courthouse/church/administration buildings, and promises to be an exciting event. You can find full details at the following website.

<http://findsomerville.com/pub/gen/event/1055/fulltext#.Tl4odAMA41E.email>

No fees or commissions! *"And all that jazz"*

*Looking ahead....* Frieda Helmstetter will be demonstrating painting with watercolors using Sumi Ink on Masa Rice paper Monday, October 24th. Save the date, please.

### **MEMBERS IN THE NEWS**

**LINDA ARNOLD** has fantastic news your editor just had to put in. From an email from Linda, "Brianna Lynne was born on 7/24.....Cassidy calls her 'baby sista'." (Linda's daughter gave birth to Cassidy and Brianna Lynne) *Editor's note: Now that's worth celebrating!*

RVAA had a beautiful show at the Shimon and Sara Birnbaum Jewish Community Center in Bridgewater in June. RVAA artists in the show included Linda Arnold, Pat Barnabeo, Susan Boyd, Sherry Engelberg, Amy Erdman, Connie Gray, Judy Hummer, Linda Lam, Joan McKinney, Diana Patton, Christiane Silla, Donna Souren, and Rosemary Zangara.

**The Juried Sr Art Exhibit** at the Somerset Cultural & Heritage Commission Gallery saw a number of RVAA members in the show, including Donna Souren, Diana Patton, Sonja Weir, and Rosemary Zangara. A lovely reception followed by a tribute from the Somerset County Freeholders was part of this in August.

**CONNIE GRAY** will give a gallery walk of her show (watercolors) with Susan Antin (colored pencil) at Arbor Glen in Bridgewater on November 9<sup>th</sup> at 3 pm with a reception to follow. And you're all invited!

**LINDA LAM** had a successful one-woman show of her oil paintings at Arbor Glen in Bridgewater this summer. Linda gave a talk July 13<sup>th</sup> and demonstrated portrait oil painting

using a resident of Arbor Glen as a model. A lovely reception followed from 4 until 7 (editor's note: Linda's demo and the reception were enjoyed by several RVAA members. Very brave I think to just pick an audience member and then capture her likeness, which Linda aptly did).

**JOAN MCKINNEY** won an Honorable Mention Award in the Garden State Watercolor Society's Full Members' Show and also has work in their 42<sup>nd</sup> Annual Open Juried Show now being held at the D & R Greenway Land Trust Johnson Education Center August 6<sup>th</sup>-October 15<sup>th</sup> in Princeton, NJ. The Center is open Mon-Fri, 10:00 am-4 pm. (editor's note: a lovely show of handsome watercolors in a great building in a woodsy setting. Easy to find, as it's off Rosedale Rd, which is off The Great Road/Princeton)

**DIANA PATTON** has her work in the 42<sup>nd</sup> Annual Open Juried Garden State Watercolor Society Show in Princeton. To celebrate her new picture book, *Charlemagne to the Rescue*, there was a story-telling session at the North Haven Library, Maine in August. Diana is now available for children's talks and interactive sessions in the classroom. *Charlemagne* is available online (amazon.com) or by emailing [diana@dianapatton.com](mailto:diana@dianapatton.com) so you can have your book inscribed to anyone you wish. You are all invited to Diana's talk and demo "Painting My Way through Life" Wed., 9/21 at Arbor Glen, 100 Monroe St, Bridgewater (near the Pediatric Group in Somerville), at 3 pm and to the reception after until 7.

**DONNA SOUREN** had two paintings on exhibit in The Leonard J. Buck Art & Photography Show in Far Hills & a solo exhibit at Starbucks, in Bedminster. Her painting "Two Feathers" was accepted into the Bernardsville Library Annual Juried Show, in April. During the month of May, she had a solo show at Trinity United Church, Warren. Donna also displayed paintings with 3 group shows in June, the Peapack Gladstone Bank Art exhibit, in Bedminster, the RVAA exhibit at the JCC in Bridgewater & Arts on Division, in Somerville.

*Inquiring minds want your news; do please write or email me!*

*Happy Painting!*  
*Diana*