

RARITAN VALLEY ARTS ASSOCIATION

established 1939

President: Linda Arnold

Newsletter: Diana Patton

October 2011 Newsletter

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Autumnal Greetings!

Cool weather just in. Leaves just starting to change color and float down. Great weather to investigate a new way of watercolor, so you'll really want to watch **Frieda Helmstetter who will be demonstrating painting with watercolors using Sumi Ink** on Masa Rice paper at our next RVAA meeting, **Monday, October 24th** at the Somerset County Library. If you've never tried this, it's a lot of fun and you get very special effects. You may have seen some of Frieda's lovely paintings on Masa rice paper at the Bridgewater Township Art Exhibitions. Frieda is a graduate of the College of St. Elizabeth with a B.A. degree in Elementary Education and a B.A. degree in Art. She taught 3rd, 4th and 5th grade in the Bridgewater-Raritan School District for 34 years. She is a member of the National Society of Decorative Painters, The Brushing Violets Decorative Painters and the New Jersey Goldfinch Chapter of Decorative Painters. For the past 11 years she has attended the H.O.O.T. Conference (Heart of Ohio Tole Painters) in Columbus, Ohio where she has had an opportunity to paint with many of the National Decorative painters from throughout the U.S. and Canada. At the present time, she has a private studio called Strokes and Stitches where she teaches several days a week and she also teaches for Brushing Violets and Goldfinch. Save the date, please. Maria Moch will be doing Hospitality for this meeting and RVAA thanks her.

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, newsletters, a presence on the internet (<http://www.raritanvalleyarts.org>), and lots of camaraderie.

President Linda Arnold tells me that there is a good article about Scratchboard in the new Artist's Magazine.....it is used to do illustrations for children's books.....since last month RVAA had scratchboard artist Colby Krolak demo, you may want to read the article.

There is still time to see the children's art show at the Bridgewater Township Municipal Building, very impressive. Done by elementary school children, the subjects and techniques are

well worth a look. As for the very handsome **Bridgewater Monument**; it is really interesting to "read" the history of the town all along the expanse of the curved wall monument.

Planning ahead, in December Raritan Valley Arts Association will have its annual **Holiday Show** at the Somerset County Library. Details to follow in the November Newsletter. And our annual **Holiday Dinner** will be Monday, December 5th or 12th with Doug Axmann again, thankfully, in charge. **November 28th** is our November meeting with watercolorist Mark DeMos.

Several interesting exhibits are up right now at the Zimmerli Museum right in New Brunswick, including, until October 28th, *Mystics and Moderns: Painting in Estonia before Glasnost* in the DuBrow Gallery, *Two Venetian Masters: Canaletto and Domenico Tiepolo Etchings* from the Arthur Ross Foundation until January 8th, Voorhees Special Exhibition Galleries, *Cast Me Not Away: Soviet Photography in the 1980s* from the Norton and Nancy Dodge Collection until November 13, 2011, and *Popcorn & Starbaby: Children's Book Illustrations* by Frank Asch until June 24, 2012. An early Frank Asch "Bear Book," *Popcorn* (1979) is about Sam Bear hosting an impromptu Halloween party when his parents are out; there's too much popcorn, which keeps on popping. Some of you might be familiar with this book.

MEMBERS IN THE NEWS

ELEANOR MOREHOUSE was not only in the Juried Senior Art Exhibit at the Somerset Cultural & Heritage Commission Gallery in Somerville, but her oil painting "Daisies" was the painting on the invitation postcard, which is a lovely honor.

CONNIE GRAY will give a gallery walk of her show (watercolors) with Susan Antin (colored pencil) at Arbor Glen in Bridgewater on Wednesday, November 9th at 3 pm with a reception to follow. And you're all invited! Arbor Glen does a wonderful reception and the walk and talk with Connie and Susan will be fun and interesting.

Several members have work in the annual juried New Jersey Watercolor Show—**ELSA HERRMANN** with "Tuscany Revisited", **JUDY HUMMER** with "Sunset Beach", and **JOAN MCKINNEY** with "Surge". This show is at the Monmouth Museum, Brookdale Campus, through October 30th.

New member **MARIA MOCH** had a show of her paintings, both oils and watercolors, at the Tewksbury Library, from June through September 25th, and she sold a couple of them. Maria reports that the library is interested in displaying other artists in the future. Maria was recently accepted into the Friends of the Delaware Canal Art Show in New Hope, Pa, and she received Honorable Mention at the Hunterdon Watercolor Members Show in June.

DIANA PATTON had a successful talk and show at Arbor Glen; her work will be there until November 4th. You might want to mark Saturday, November 19th for picture book readings, puppet shows, and a book signing of her *Charlemagne to the Rescue*, as well as a holiday sale at Christ Presbyterian Church, Martinsville, from noon until 4. All ages welcome.

ROSEMARY ZANGARA has a one-woman show of her paintings in the Manville Library, 100 South 10th Ave. Manville, for the month of October.

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