



No. 1, Winter 2010

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From the President

I hope you all are planning to attend our annual Spring Luncheon at the Columbia Country Club on April 11 at noon. (Be sure to fill out the form on page 4.) It is fitting we do this in the early spring, a time for renewal and new growth. All luncheon attendees will receive a copy of the new Membership Handbook, in the first pages of which are listed the members of the executive board of directors and the chair for each of the standing committees. These people will be, mostly, folks who have served long and well and have once again renewed their commitment to PVW. We hope that numbered among this old guard will be some new names.

A first step in making this happen will be a welcoming event in March. Our newest members, who were selected in 2008 and 2009, have been invited to a luncheon where they will have the opportunity to learn of the many ways they can become more deeply involved in the organization. Hopefully, this will be the beginning of a long commitment to service for all of them. And we hope we will see some new names on the first two pages of the handbook. Renewal and New Growth...an unbeatable combination.

The board has been wrestling with an additional area of concern, and we can use your help. Last fall we had to cancel a workshop for insufficient response. To my knowledge, this cancellation is a first for PVW, and if not unprecedented, then certainly an extreme rarity. We on the board are, frankly, perplexed.

When we informally ask our members

See President, p. 4

Coming Up

Linda Baker Workshop

March 22 - 26

Spring Luncheon

April 11

New York Trip to AWS Show

April 15 - 17

Green Spring Gardens Show

April 26 - June 28

PVW Gains New Members

PVW welcomes eight new members! They are Karen Beach, Francesca Creo, Mary Eggers, Charlotte Landis, Judelle McArdle, Sue Moses, Anthony Neville, and Yolanda Koh. In this issue we introduce you to five of them, and hope to hear from Francesca, Charlotte, and Tony in the next issue.

Karen Beach

Karen is a graphic designer and sole proprietor of Red Clover Design, founded in Iowa in 1991 and relocated to Alexandria, VA, in 2003. She has retained many of her Iowa clients and gained new, local business.

Karen joined the Art and Visual Technology department at George Mason University as an adjunct professor in 2006, teaching information graphic

design and graphic design methods and principles.

Before pursuing graphic design, Karen had a 12-year career as a research scientist, specializing in animal and plant cell culture. She believes that science and art are interrelated, and keeping a fine balance between the left and right brain is a key to success in the field of graphic design.

Karen hopes her next career change will be when she can be a full-time painter, and she looks to the members of PVW to show her the way.

Mary Eggers

Mary says her artistic journey began in the late '70s, when she picked up her first SLR camera.

See New Members, p. 3

What's New with PVW Members

Jackie Dinora participated in "The Living Gallery" at Anne Marie Gardens in Solomon's Island, MD, which ran in January and February. Juried artists were each assigned a 15'x 20' space in a new art building to set up a studio for a one- or two-week stint. Jackie says, "I set up my studio, hung my paintings and worked there Feb. 23 - 29, along with four other artists. I would just paint and the public would come through and watch or ask questions. All work was for sale." The program culminated with a meet-the-artists show on February 14.

Catherine Hillis is offering watercolor classes and workshops in Leesburg and Lorton, VA, and in Frederick, MD. Please check her website for details: www.catherinehillis.com.

Chris Heyse was awarded a grant to be artist in residence in Dinan, France, for the month of April. In January, she completed a commission of nine canvasses in water-miscible oils to commemorate the 50th anniversary of the school in New York where she and her husband, Steve, met in the 7th grade on opening day. The paintings were installed together to form a wall "quilt," which is in the school's permanent collection. The paintings, along with three additional works by Chris from previous years, were also reproduced as a calendar.

Ardythe Jolliff had a painting juried into the Strathmore Hall 2010 Annual Membership Multi Media Exhibition, Feb. 27 - Apr. 10; the Laurel Art Guild Exhibition, Mar. 5 - 28; and the Southern Watercolor Society 33rd Annual Exhibition, Mar. 26 - Apr. 30 in Madisonville, KY. Her painting "Window Shopping on Main Street" is featured on the cover of *Exclusively - Greater Annapolis 2009* magazine, which features local businesses and benefits Maryland Hall for the Creative Arts. The cover can be seen at the website www.exclusivelyonline.com under the "Book" menu. In addition, her painting "Shells" will appear in a new book, *Artistic Touch 4*, by Chris Unwin.

LeAnn Kalita will present "Selected Work," a solo show of portraits, abstracts, landscapes, and still life, at the Applegate Gallery, 101 Church St., Vienna, VA, Apr. 3 - 28, with an opening reception on Saturday, Apr. 3, 6-9 p.m.

PVW members **Brenda Will Kidera**, **Catherine Hillis**, **Marni Maree**, and **Jill Poyerd** will join two other professional, female artists from the Washington D.C. area to present an exhibition called "Portraits of Life,"



which aims to capture moments in daily life through the eyes of different artists using different painting media. The exhibition will be on display at Columbia Art Center in Columbia, MD, May 6 - June 6; Glenview Mansion Art Gallery in Rockville, Aug. 8 - Sep. 7; and The Delaplaine Visual Arts Education Center in Frederick, Jan. 3 - 30, 2011. All exhibits are free and open to the public.

Christine Lashley will teach several classes in watercolor during spring and summer at the Yellow Barn in Glen Echo, MD, and the Loudoun Academy of Art in Leesburg, VA. She is teaching a plein-air workshop in oil and watercolor at Oatlands Plantation (near Leesburg) May 18 and 19. Her work will be featured in a special exhibit at Broadway Gallery in Fairfax, VA, during April. An opening reception and gallery talk are being planned. Details can be found at www.christinelashley.com.

Yolanda Koh had a solo show at the Slayton House Gallery in the Wilde Lake Village Center in Columbia, MD, Jan. 7 - Feb. 4. Her website is <http://picasaweb.google.com/yolanda.koh/BrushPoetI?feat=email#>

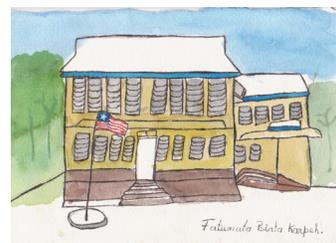
Marni Lawson is doing a watercolor demo on "Painting 'Ideas'" on Mar. 6 for the Fairfax Art League. The demo starts at 1:30 at the Green Acres Center, 4401 Sideburn Road, Fairfax, Room 112.

Pauline Lorfano had two paintings selected for the American Society of Marine Artists East Regional "Blue Water-Still Water" exhibit. The paintings, "Lowland Sunset" and "Quiet, Hear the Loon," will be on exhibit at the Biggs Museum of American Art, Dover, DE, Mar. 5 - June 20; Washington County Museum of Fine Art, Hagerstown, MD, Jul. 18 - Sep. 12; and the Naval and Military Park Museum in Buffalo, N.Y., Sep. 26 - Oct. 31.

Marni Maree will be the featured artist at Green Spring Gardens Park Horticulture Center, 4603 Green Spring Rd., Alexandria, VA, in March and April.

Tony Neville's watercolor "Blue and White Forever" was accepted for the Sesquicentennial (150th) Celebration for Blackrock College in Dublin, Ireland. The exhibition includes the work of 30 alumni. Paul Costello, the designer, will open the exhibition on March 7.

Elaine Nunnally went on a mission trip in November to Africa and the Bromley School, an Episcopal girl's school in Liberia. She says, "I had the most wonderful experience. I was asked to help set up an art program there. Of course, nothing goes as planned, and I was busy doing art with all the kids (they are



desperate for art!!) and never really set up a program, although I left a lot of art supplies. One of my highlights was when I spent a few minutes with a student and gave her a quick painting demonstration

with my watercolors. I left her to paint a picture of the school while I went back inside to work with the others. The results were so wonderful, that I had them made up into cards which my church sold to raise money for the school.”

Barbara Sullivan got best in show in January at the Workhouse Arts Center for an acrylic called “Old Man Cleaning Fish” and an equal merit award in the February show for a watercolor called “Iris Dance.”

Judy Wengrovitz is showing 30 paintings at the Fairfax County Government Center until the end of March. She is also in a group show at the Jewish Community Center in Fairfax Mar. 14 and 15, where she will exhibit about 30 miniature paintings.



Small World Story

Terri Rea reports the following:

As recording secretary, I was dutifully taking minutes at the Annual

Fall Meeting when our new members were introduced. I wrote down all the names, and noted the name Francesca Creo. Later I introduced myself to her saying, “I suppose this is a very long shot, but 42 years ago my husband and I bought ourselves an oil painting as a wedding present in San Francisco. The artist’s name was Leonard Creo, and he lived in Rome.”

To my absolute amazement, Francesca said, “That’s my father!!!!” We had a lovely conversation, and she told me he lives in England in the Wye Valley. We marveled at the “small world” connection.

And it gets even better. Leonard wrote to me after I said I had once taken a watercolor course in a place called Weobley in the Wye Valley -- and it turns out he knew the teacher who ran the school where I took the course. He was thrilled with the connection after so many years, and we all enjoyed such a nice little bit of serendipity.

New Members, from p. 1

“Although never thinking of myself as a “camera expert,” I developed a good eye for composition and color. At some point along the way, I began to play with paint, saying all along, ‘someday I’ll pick up watercolor.’ Someday took longer than I expected. My life and career as an independent change management consultant overtook my art. In the mid-’90s I turned to a new medium – stained glass. Today I spend most of my time with watercolor, acrylics and mixed media collage. The thread through all of my creative work is color – I love color, good composition, and the sense of stillness and peace that comes when working with my art.

“This quote from Rainer Maria Rilke sums it up for me: ‘Through such impressions one gathers oneself, wins oneself back from the exacting multiplicity, which speaks and chatters there, and one slowly learns to recognize the very few Things in which something eternal endures that one can love and something solitary that one can gently take part in.’”

Judelle McArdle

Judy says, “I enjoy all aspects of watercolor but, in the end, color is king for me. I like to create paintings that feel peaceful but every now and then I get a strong urge to be whimsical. My favorite subject matter is waterfowl, especially large birds who exhibit dynamic personality. I love to witness people smiling at my paintings ... when it happens, I think to myself, ‘mission accomplished.’”

“My life as a watercolorist began after I retired. I was 59 years old with no previous art experience except for a brief skirmish with acrylics 30 years earlier. Serendipity was at its best ... on a whim I enrolled in a watercolor workshop to be held in Provence, France. I knew so little about watercolor and art in general that I didn’t know enough to be intimidated. Since then I have participated in class after class, and I look forward to continuing to learn about this elusive medium.”

Sue Moses

Sue traces her interest in art back to childhood, when she joined her mother on painting trips in Pennsylvania and Maryland. She says, “Later, East Coast and Finger Lake water scenes inspired me. In 1966, I earned a BS in Art Education at Buffalo State Teacher’s College, NY, and in 1976 completed a Master of Fine Arts Degree at MICA in Baltimore.”

Sue taught art for 16 years in the New York and Maryland school systems, including three years teaching shop in Maryland, while raising a family and pursuing her own interests in silver jewelry, batik, and watercolor.

She has steadily gained local and regional attention, winning a number of awards and appearing in several publications. She has conducted watercolor workshops and served as artist-in-residence at a local school.

Sue has studied with many fine artists, among them Carolyn Grosse Gawarecki, Martha Seigel, Ross Merrill, and Skip Lawrence. She says, “My goals are to learn as much as I can about watercolors, continue to hone my skills, paint regularly, share my knowledge with other artists, donate my talent for charitable organizations, and to work toward membership in the national watercolor societies.”

Yolanda Koh

Yolanda attended the University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign College of Fine and Applied Arts and holds an degree in architecture. She has studied with nationally acclaimed watercolorists, including Jean Uhl Spicer, Skip Lawrence, Frank Francese, Nicholas Simmons, and Debi Watson. She takes Chinese brush painting lessons with Freda Lee McCann.

Yolanda is an art instructor at the Columbia Arts Center, in Columbia, MD. She has also taught watercolor, Chinese brush painting, and “one stroke” acrylics classes at the Michaels Arts and Crafts Stores in Ellicott City. She taught Chinese brush painting at the Howard County Chinese Language School, in Columbia, MD. Yolanda is a board member of the Baltimore Watercolor Society and the Howard County Art Guild.

President, from p. 1

what is most attractive about membership in PVW, high on the list is the opportunity to attend local workshops led by the top watercolor talent in the country. Yet, lately, when these workshops are offered, the trend in member interest is definitely downward. Marilyn Milici reports that whereas in the past she had to deal with the problem of a long waiting list, now she and her committee scramble to find enough participants to make it a viable event. Thus, we need data to uncover what is going on here. We will be creating a survey to determine how we can offer a product that will garner stronger support from you, the membership. The survey will probe issues of cost, schedule, location, length, subject matter, desirable instructors, and so forth. Please watch for this questionnaire in your email inbox and give it some serious thought. We are

especially looking for some new ideas. Our old ones don't seem to be working well.

That's all for now. See you at lunch!
Peter

St. Andrews Winners

Congratulations to the winners in the St. Andrews Show. You can see their work on the PVW website.

Best in Show - Jill Poyerd, "Horse & Barn"

2nd Prize - Julie Smith, "Prairie Thunder"

3rd Prize - Jane Thomas, "My Space"

Honorable Mentions - Carolyn Grosse Gawarecki, "Nightlight"; Jacqueline Saunders, "Ringo, 1"; Barbara Sullivan, "Garlique"; and Peter Ulrich, "Contemplating Calder."

Opportunities

The AIM Gallery at the Lorton Workhouse Arts Center is looking for artists. AIM is a coop of 10 members who work within a range of media and styles. Wall space is divided among the members, and each person is responsible for his or her own wall. There are also opportunities to show in the hall and front gallery.

The gallery is open eight hours a day, Wednesdays through Saturdays, and Sundays noon - 5 p.m. This works out to about 16 to 24 hours per month per artist. The space also functions as a studio and artists are encouraged to work there whenever they wish. For more information, email Liv Rodgers at livingstonva@comcast.net.

PVW Spring Luncheon

Columbia Country Club
7900 Connecticut Ave., Chevy Chase, MD 20815

Sunday, April 11, 2010

12:00 Reception

12:45 Lunch

Menu

baby spinach, raspberry and brie salad
chicken piccata
rice pilaf
zucchini with red peppers
creme brulee
fresh breads and rolls

\$35 per person

purchase wine and sodas at luncheon

Name _____

Name of Guest _____

Telephone number _____

No. of reservations @ \$35 _____

amount enclosed (check made to PVW) \$ _____

check here to request vegetarian meal

Please clip and mail with payment **by April 1** to
Brenda Barthell, 4136 South 36th Street, Arlington, VA 22206

Contact Brenda Barthell at bcbart@verizon.net or 703-671-4930 if you have questions.