



January-February, 2014

BRAG Newsletter

From the Editor.....

This newsletter will serve for both January and February. Winters in the mountains are pretty quiet. Since there is always a chance for bad weather, there isn't much going on. It's a good time to take a break from the newsletter. But.... this means no excuses for not getting into the studio and painting! March will bring warmer weather and art openings, so now is the time to get all caught up. Or even better yet - get ahead!!

I've been painting every day since the January 1st, as part of a 30 Paintings in 30 Days Challenge. It's a wonderful way to get back into painting after the busy holiday season. Laurel Lovrek is painting in the 30 in 30 Challenge, too. Read more about it and find links to our paintings below. (and if you'd like to join in, please do!)

Happy New Year!! I wish you all the best of years - healthy and happy, with lots of smiles, and creative time.

Paint on....

Susan Garriques

News....

There was **no meeting in December**. The next scheduled meeting is Monday, January 20th, 2014.

The January BRAG meeting will be held on **Monday, January 20th, at the Burnsville Town Center at 6:30 pm**. Carol Bailey will share with us a painting critique method developed when she was teaching. In her own words: "Just ask everyone to bring a painting they are struggling to resolve – it doesn't have to be current but shouldn't have cobwebs draping it either! I will provide a sheet with review info concerning design elements/principles. Each participant should also bring a short list of questions/struggles they are having concerning this painting. These should be quite specific and not generalities such as "it's not very good" or "I'm so frustrated". Everyone who comes will have an opportunity to participate."

Both Laurel Lovrek and Susan Garriques are participating in the 30 Paintings in 30 Days Challenge. Part of the fun of this Challenge is sharing your work with others. After finishing a painting, it is photographed and then uploaded and posted on the artist's blog. Links are also added to Leslie Saeta's blog (the organizer) (<http://lesliesaeta.blogspot.com>). With about 400 artists participating this year, there are hundreds of new paintings every day. Be sure to follow both Laurel and Susan as they paint through the Challenge. You can following alongLaurel's blog is <http://rosebaylaurel.blogspot.com/> and Susan's blog is <http://suzun.blogspot.com>

Ongoing News.....

BRAG members Gaylene Petcu, Rolf Holmquist, Sandra Gates and Susan Garriques have paintings in the **'Regional Art Leagues: Selected Works', juried exhibition at The Bascom: A Center for the Visual Arts, Highlands, NC** opening on January 11th and continuing through March 30th.

As you may remember, **BRAG's very first exhibit** took place at the Spruce Pine Library. BRAG members, at that time, had recently placed art in the Burnsville, Spruce Pine and Bakersville libraries. Since that time, the art has been removed from the Burnsville library (in preparation for its move to its new home), but there is still art in the Spruce Pine library and the Bakersville library. There was a short discussion about this during the meeting in November. This is where an Exhibition chairperson would come in. And a committee of helpers. How about 2 members together holding the chair position? All volunteers are welcome! It would be a great idea to refresh the art in the libraries. We have quite a few new members now and their work would be a great addition. Please contact Sandra Gates if you are interested.

Website Updates - John Elsegood, our volunteer Webmaster, has made time in his busy schedule to update the member pages of the BRAG website. This is mostly for our new members, but if your page is sorely out of date you may update your information, too. After the update the only pages that will appear are those who have paid membership for the 2013-2014 fiscal year. Please send your completed information to Laurel Lovrek (llovrek@ccvn.com) by January 15th, 2014. Laurel will forward all the collected information to John. If you have questions please send them to Laurel at llovrek@ccvn.com. (and a big thank you to John!)

Committee Chairs are still needed for both Exhibitions, Publicity and Programs. Please contact Sandra Gates if you are willing to volunteer. (and thank you very much to Laurel Lovrek, our secretary, who has taken on several of the chores of these missing chairpeople!) Also - if someone is willing to take over the **Newsletter**, it would free Susan Garriques, our current editor, up to be able to take over the website.

Internet Tidbits...

Free ebook from Richard Robinson - Painting Hawaii....

<http://www.livepaintinglessons.com/Hawaiibook/index.php>

(editor's note:... if you aren't familiar with Richard Robinson, you are in for a pleasant surprise. He is a very good artist and also very generous with sharing his knowledge. Look for his free daily painting lessons on his web site.)

The world's art at your fingertips..... <http://www.google.com/culturalinstitute/about/artproject/>

Check out all the great radio shows from Artist's Helping Artists on Blogtalk Radio. This link will take you to the page of shows, organized by topic. Click a link, sit back, and get ready to learn something.

http://www.saetastudio.com/Leslie_Saeta_fine_Art/AHA.html

4 Rules for Drawing Reflective Objects.... <http://emptyeasel.com/2013/12/16/4-rules-to-drawing-reflective-objects/>

Classifieds....

From TRAC - New classes for artists are beginning in January. Get a head start on the new year, learning new "stuff" that will enhance your business. The Mayland Community College Small Business Center has tailored the following NEW classes for artists. These classes will be held at the Arts Resource Center [ARC] in Spruce Pine [above the TRAC Gallery]. The classes are on Wednesday and are FREE [*Please note length and times for the different classes], but you must register; call 828.766.1295 or e-mail rbranch@mayland.edu.

<http://www.toeriverarts.org/artists/art-business-classes/>

JURIED PLEIN AIR EVENT EASELS IN FREDERICK JUNE 16-21, 2014 FOURTH ANNUAL JURIED PLEIN AIR EVENT in charming historic downtown frederick, maryland & the surrounding countryside \$15,500 in cash awards entry deadline january 31, 2014 online application <http://easelsinfrederick.org/informArtist2014.cfm>

From the Transylvania Art Council...

Theme: Exploring The Great Outdoors All mediums accepted. This exhibit will be on display at the TC Arts Council from March 7 - 28. Entry deadline is March 4.

Theme: Walk on The Wild Side - animals in art This is an open art exhibit at the TC Arts Council from May 9 - 30. Deadline to enter is May 6.

The Transylvania Community Arts Council is a 501 - c3 non-profit arts organization that promotes all ARTS in Transylvania County. The TC Arts Council is located at 349 S. Caldwell Street near downtown Brevard. The TC Arts Gallery is open Monday - Friday from 9:30 am - 4:30 pm. To learn more about the TC Arts Council or to

learn more about the ARTS in Brevard and Transylvania County go to www.artsofbrevard.org.

Did you know that Jerry's Artarama has online art contests that are FREE to enter? Here's a link to the contest page...<http://www.jerrysartarama.com/art-contests/index.htm?gclid=CLSbu6ue3roCFenm7Aod-xcA0g>

Wrapping up.....

One last note - it's about the Money Jar. You may have noticed a vase or a jar placed near the refreshments at each meeting and you may have assumed that was to help pay for the coffee and cookies. BUT..... BRAG pays the Town Center \$30 for each night that we meet. The "Money Jar" is meant to help pay the rent. If each member attending the meeting will contribute \$1 it will just about cover the cost of the rental. Please don't forget to add your dollar when you come to the meetings. Every dollar helps!