



October, 2013

BRAG Newsletter

From the Editor.....

October is always a treat in the mountains. Each day, the palette changes. The dogwoods outside my window are an amazing mix of magenta and orange with bits of green and yellow. Chilly mornings and warm afternoons. Absolutely delightful.

The Made to Measure exhibit is closing this month. Unfortunately, since I was on the road, I missed the reception, but I've been told it was a success. Gaylene Petcu's husband, Dave, took lots of photos that really made me feel like I was there. Thanks, Dave! The photos were so much fun to look at, I decided to include them with this newsletter. Be sure to look below for a link.

I'd like to send a special "thanks" to Laurel Lovrek. Without Laurel this newsletter wouldn't have much news. I've hijacked Laurel's words from a recent "email to members" or two. Thanks, Laurel!

Paint on....

Susan Garriques

News....

The October meeting will be held on the 21st at 6:30PM at the Town Center in Burnsville. The guest artist will be Elizabeth Ellison, coauthor of "The Blue Ridge Nature Journal: Reflections on the Appalachians in Essays and Art". Her mediums include watercolor, oil and mixed media. Elizabeth was recently commissioned to paint mountain landscapes for each of the governors attending the Southern Governors' Association which took place in Asheville. More about her diverse accomplishments can be seen at elizabethellisonwatercolors.com She is represented by The Design Gallery in Burnsville.

In September our guest artist was Ray Byram, who discussed his printmaking techniques. Ray explained the difference between giclee and offset lithography. Etching plates and linoleum blocks were circulated to demonstrate other printing processes. The serigraph process in which Ray's paintings are translated into prints was illustrated in detail with examples of the numerous sheets needed to separate the colors for the silk screen printing. Ray also recounted the history of his painting and printmaking career. Discover more about Ray at www.RayByram.com.

The new "Hang It Up" frame shop in Micaville is offering a 10% discount to BRAG members. Archival framing is a specialty, with twenty years of experience. They intend to be open year round. Please contact Laurel Lovrek for your personalized discount card.

Kathleen Deasy would like everyone to know that Wendy Outland's "Creating Your Artist Statement" scheduled for October 30th at the Energy Exchange needs two more registrants to make this class happen. Wendy gave an overview of this subject for BRAG this past spring, but this will be a focused two hour class that includes writing. Please call the Small Business Center at 828-766-1295 to enroll, there is no charge.

Additionally some of the "art business" classes given at Spruce Pine TRAC are being repeated through the Small Business Center at Mayland Main Campus. Of special interest is Navigating Social Media on October 22 and Social Media Marketing on October 29. There is no fee for these courses but registration is required by calling 828-766-1295.

Roadtrip? The Watercolor Society of North Carolina's annual exhibition is being held now through November 2, 2013 in Blowing Rock at the Blowing Rock Art and History Museum. Please contact Sandra Gates if you are interested in going.

Peggy Horne is no longer able to continue as Program Chair - effective immediately. We need another Program Chair now rather than January. Peggy says "I would happily share a source list and how I go about finding prospective artist for our programs with anyone interested in taking on this fun and rewarding endeavour. Please contact me at maghorne@gmail.com".

Internet Tidbits...

Keep Your Eyes on the Trail...<http://slpeterson.blogspot.com/2013/08/keep-your-eyes-on-trail.html>

Expand your exposure...<http://faso.com/theartedge/66368/the-hidden-world-of-art-discovery-at-your-fingertips>

Secrets for a successful art career - <http://artprintissues.com/2013/08/secrets-successful-art-career.html>

Eight Elements of Composition in Art - <http://painting.about.com/od/artglossary/c/g/defcomposition.htm>

Classifieds....

Mayland Small Business Center is running a series called "Craft Business Classes". Most of the programs would be of interest to fine artists as well. Wendy Outland is presenting four programs: "Cultivating Collectors", "Pricing your Work", "Critiquing your Work" and "Creating your Artist Statement". Other programs include NC Sales Tax filing, reaching customers through social media and yet another on photographing artwork. There will be a panel on approaching galleries. The programs are either at TRAC in Spruce Pine or the Energy Exchange. For information see www.mayland.edu or call 828-766-1295 to register. These classes are all free. Be sure to call and register.

TRAC is looking to update their Tour Logo. It's been around for years and served TRAC well. Now it's time to retire it in favor of something updated, in tune with our goals of building our community through the arts — making our artists, where they live, what they do — events, accessible twice a year to all visitors. Must be high resolution. All submissions must be original camera-ready line art in EPS format. Logo MUST be usable in color and black and white. Deadline is October 31 at 5pm. Winner will receive a \$25 gift certificate to either TRAC Gallery, a free 1/6 page ad in the next two Guides, and our sincere thanks. Logo may be seen at the TRAC website, www.toeriverarts.org/community-programs/trac-studio-tours. Call 828-682-7215 or email toeriverarts@gmail.com.

BRAG Member, Kathleen Deasy, is offering painting and drawing in her studio. She paints with both oils and acrylics. Classes are geared to new painters and artists that want to explore new techniques using texturing and adding dimension to their work using cloth and other natural materials that create 3 dimensional paintings. The cost is \$18 for an hour and half session and I am doing the classes by appointment. Kathleen's studio is White Oak Art Studio in Bakersville at 46 White Oak Rd. Call 828-688-1882 for more info or to schedule a lesson.

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!

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