

September 2013

From the editor.....

As I type this, I am in New Brunswick, Canada and on my way to Prince Edward Island, where I should be about the time this gets posted to the website. Traveling and staying "connected" is always a challenge. This time, my wifi adaptor has been an "on again off again" item, which is totally frustrating - at least when it is in its "off again" stage. Until today, I thought I would be creating and sending this from my iPhone. Yikes. One finger typing the newsletter just wasn't something I was wanting to tackle. So, before I lose my connection again, I'm going to do my best to get this newsletter online. (And since I may not get to be online again, this newsletter is not going to have any paintings in it. If my wifi card is still working when I get to PEI, I'll add some then.)

I'm sorry to be missing the Made to Measure exhibit opening. Our plans have us back in Burnsville before it closes, so I hope to see it then. I'm sure it will be a wonderful exhibit.

Paint on...

susan garriques

News....

The Made to Measure exhibit opens on Friday, September 13th, with a reception from 5pm to 7pm. Please be sure to spread the word.

Our guest artist for the September meeting (on the 16th at 6:30pm) will be Ray Byram. Peggy Horne, who arranged for this presentation says: "Ray plans to discuss the many types of print making. A fascinating subject. Check out www.RayByram.com for his Bio and examples of his work." The time of the next meeting is Monday, September 16th, at 6:30PM.

At last month's meeting, John Mac Kah demonstrated his oil painting techniques. He worked on paper and talked about traditional gesso and preparation of the surface. He discussed using linseed oil and walnut oil and turps as mediums to capture luminosity. Working on a painting that had already been started and was now dry, he first coated it with a light layer of his medium tinted with a bit of pigment. This gave him a foundation to paint on. "Paint loves paint". He applies several thin layers to a painting, explaining that "Every layer of oil adds to light refraction and luminosity." He finished the painting by brushing it very lightly with a dry soft brush, softening edges.

We still need volunteers for the Exhibit committee and the Programs committee. Peggy Horne is the current Program Chair, but will only be able to fill that position till the end of the year. We have no Exhibit Chair (and that fact has been obvious during the prep for the Made to Measure exhibit).

Also - we still need people to help take down the Made to Measure exhibit. Please contact Sandra Gates if you can help with this.

BRAG member, Gaylene Petcu, has been juried into the Appalachian Pastel Society Juried Member Exhibition to be held at the Black Mountain Center for the Arts, Black Mountain, NC. from October 18 - November 25: 2013. The reception is Friday Oct. 18, 6-8 p.m. (editor's note: Black Mountain isn't too far away, anyone else interested in going? Let me know!)

Member dues were due in July. If you plan to pay your dues during the meeting on Monday, September 19th, in order to have as much time as possible for our demonstrator please download and complete your membership form. It can be obtained at:

<http://www.bragwnc.com/membership.html>. Please make out your check to BRAG in the amount of \$25 for individuals or \$40 for families.

Judy Larkins, Treasurer, will accept the checks and membership forms and issue a membership card. Paper membership forms will be available at the meeting.

Internet Tidbits.....

About focusing..... <http://slpeterson.blogspot.ca/2013/08/keep-your-eyes-on-trail.html>

About Scams and Vanity <http://burtsart.com/blog/58352/scams-and-vanity>

Can Music Help Your Art.... <http://faso.com/fineartviews/64652/can-music-help-your-art>

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!