

MONTGOMERY ART ASSOCIATION

MAA News

MAA Holiday Party



MAA MEETINGS

January 13th, 2010
Plaza Arts.

Jane Preece, award-winning artist and teacher in Montgomery County and curator for the art shows for the Sandy Spring Museum Art Gallery will be our guest presenter at our January meeting. Preece also teaches colored pencil drawing and watercolors at the Rossmore Art Guild. Additionally, Jane has a pet portrait business where her love of animals shines through as she conveys the spirit, beauty, and personality of pets in a relaxed setting. She will teach us about how to promote and sell art work. Preece will also discuss methods that can be employed to start up a commission business such as hers.

We meet at Plaza Arts on Rockville Pike (Route 355), across from Congressional Plaza. There is plenty of parking for those who drive. The shop is also a very short walk from the Twinbrook Metro station. Remember that, unless otherwise noted, all meetings start promptly at 7:00 PM and last until 8:00 PM.

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

To All,

I hope everyone had a wonderful holiday season, whichever ones you chose to honor.

First, I would like to thank everyone who gave of their time to plan and execute the many tasks that made the Holiday Party a wonderful success. I, of course had a fantastic time when I won the pastel set. A few people told me that my jumping up and down in delight was one of their highlights. I especially want to thank Sara Becker who planned and executed the event and even sent out the proper thank you's to people like Plaza for their generous donations.

Now that we have moved into a new year, I want to address a sensitive issue. MAA events are planned and offered to the membership by volunteers who give of their valuable time. As can be expected, sometimes the events do not meet everyone's expectations. As President, I respectfully ask that comments made to these volunteers regarding our events be offered in the most positive manner possible.

I realize that often things do not go as planned. Not everyone wins a prize, an award, or sells a painting. Constructive criticism in such instances is welcomed. However, when our volunteers are the targets of the criticism, it can take the fun out of the event and end up not being constructive. Volunteers do what they do because they are dedicated to the organization and the benefits it provides. If those same volunteers that we depend upon feel that they are wasting their time, the organization will suffer. Simply put, it's not worth the grief. Criticism should be directed to me or one of the other officers. The issues will be dealt with appropriately.

So, as we begin a new year, I want to challenge anyone who wants to make the organization better to volunteer. Advice is nice, but we need workers to make things happen. We often have too few people doing way too much. If you aren't sure how to help let me know and I will find a way you can contribute. E-mail is fine for this. (laura-leigh@asapgraphics.com). Make sure you put MAA volunteer in the subject line. Or, call me at 301-942-1121. I am the only one who answers the phone since the dog can't talk (or at least doesn't do so around me).

Take care,

Laura-Leigh Palmer
President, MAA
Laura-Leigh Palmer
Owner/Designer
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Notes and News

Congratulations to those who sold paintings at the very successful Brookside Gardens Exhibit. Many thanks go to Elizabeth Stecher for organizing and coordinating this show with Brookside. Brookside so pleased that they have invited MAA back to participate in the summer show of 2013. Kudos to our members who sold work include:

- **Jacques Bodelle**
- **Trisha Coghlan**
- **Debra Halprin**
- **Marian MacKerer**
- **Elizabeth Riorden**
- **Elizabeth Stecher**

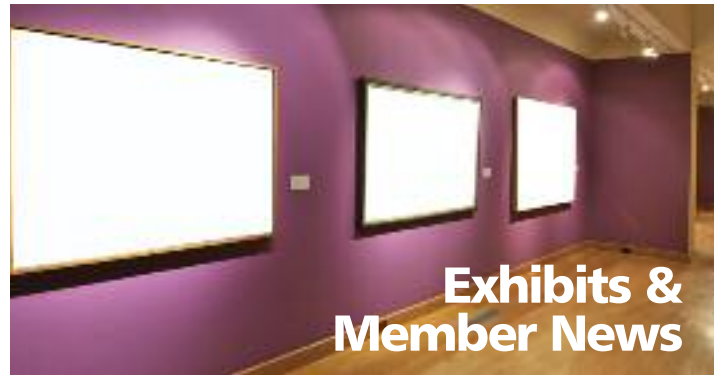
Further congratulations to the two artists that have sold artwork through the Tables and Chairs Store at White Flint Mall, **Natalie Falk** and **Emily Lane**. Melvin Bazensky, the owner, has generously donated his first commission to MAA. We will be turning over some of the artwork at the end of January. If you have large scale artwork- the dimensions must be greater than 20 inches per side- that you would like to exhibit please contact Sara Becker at thebeckers6400@verizon.net

MAA was well represented in the International Exhibition of Fine Art in Miniature at the Strathmore Mansion. **Nar Steel** received 1st place in the Levantia White Boardman Memorial Award for Ivory/Ivorine. (Nar is the new President of the Miniature Painters, Sculptors and Gravers Society of Washington DC. www.mpsgs.org) **Gale Bell** received a 2nd place award in Drawing. **Connie Wollard** received an Honorable Mention in the Landscape Category. **Elizabeth Stecher** and **Sara Becker** each sold pieces in this exhibit.

Michael Shibley Is New MAA Newsletter Editor

We are pleased announce that Michael Shibley has agreed to assume the role of Newsletter Editor beginning with the February issue. Michael is a relatively new member of MAA whose medium is watercolor. After a 35-year professional career, Michael retired in February of 2008 specifically to devote full-time to his passion for watercolor painting. He is an active member of a number of local art groups and associations and was recently juried into the Washington Water Color Association. His artwork can be found in both private and corporate collections in the Washington DC area.

We hope that you will join us in welcoming Michael as he assumes this important role for the MAA; and, that you will keep him informed of content worthy of inclusion in our Newsletter.



Exhibits & Member News

Congratulations to **Lois Levitan** for her entry "Synchronicity" that won first place in the sculpture category of the Rockville Art League's recent Juried Members Show at Glenview Mansion. The judge for the show was David Epstein, director of the Art and Design Department at the Montgomery College-Takoma Park Campus.

An Invitation:

Elisenda Sola-Sole, owner of the Kensington Row Bookshop, invites MAA artists to participate in the Day of the Book coming in April 2010. See their website for more detailed information <http://members.verizon.net/~vze4nbyt/dob.html>

Kensington Celebrates



The International DAY OF THE BOOK

The Book as Literature * The Book as Art * The Book as Music

**Sunday April 25th 2010, 11am-4pm
Howard Avenue, Old Town Kensington
Celebrate the Book • Street Festival • Rain or Shined**

**Authors • Children's Authors • Poets • Artists • Publishers • Groups • Booksellers
Readings • Activities**

**Sponsors
Pauli Bellet Foundation
Friends Donate
Kensington
More...**

For Information: <http://members.verizon.net/~vze4nbyt/dob.html>

**Newsletter
submissions
for February
newsletter
due January
15th.**

DATES TO REMEMBER

Members might want to take note of the following due dates for submittals to the following art shows and competitions in the Washington Area.

Art At The Mill, Spring, 2010

Millwood, Virginia

Due Date: Entries must be postmarked by **February 26**

Go to www.clarkehistory.org and click Art At The Mill for details

2010 Annual Membership Multi-Media Exhibition at Strathmore Mansion

February 27-April 10, 2010

All entries must be delivered to the basement of the Mansion

Friday, Feb 12, 3-5 PM or **Saturday, February 13**, 11 AM – 1 PM.

Artists will be notified of selection results by email or phone by Feb. 19

For more information go to www.strathmore.org and click on Fine Arts.

Plein-Air Easton 2010

Entries due 5 PM EST, **March 6** either online at www.pleinaireaston.com or by mail at Plein Air Easton, C/O Avalon Foundation, 40 East Dover Street, Easton, Maryland, 21601

We will keep you informed each month of upcoming deadlines. Deadlines will be repeated each month until the approaching due dates. If you know of events of interest to the members, please email Michael at mfs-art@comcast.net

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MONTGOMERY ART ASSOCIATION



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