



# THE WELL-CRAFTED WORD

news from del ray artisans' center

january 1993

## \$ THE ART OF TAXES \$

Susan Harvey Dawson, Esq., the author of "The Tax Workbook For Artists and Others" will present a tax workshop for artists:

March 10, 1993  
7 PM - 8:30 PM  
\$7 Members, \$10  
Non Members

at Del Ray Artisans Center,  
2210 Mt. Vernon Avenue,  
Alexandria, VA 22301

For More Information Call  
Chris Penn (703) 519-7253

## Temples To Teapots Reception Notice

While the invitation suggests a \$5 donation, please know that this does not apply to members. The time, energy and resources you donate to make the Del Ray Artisans' Center a success are greatly appreciated. Enjoy the reception!

## In This Issue...

What's "ARF"?	p. 2
Upcoming Events	p. 4
New Members	p. 4
Member Opportunities	p. 5
1993 Calendar	p. 8
Business Supporters	p. 8

Editor & Publisher: Mart Larson  
Contributing Editors: Christina Penn,  
Lauren & Peter Smirniotopoulos,  
Layout: Bob Larson

## FROM TEMPLES TO TEAPOTS OPENS FEB. 2ND AT DEL RAY ARTISANS' CENTER

We are pleased to announce the opening of **FROM TEMPLES TO TEAPOTS: The Architect as Artisan** February 2nd. The exhibit will feature selected student projects from the Materials Workshop at the Washington-Alexandria Architecture Center, an extension of the School of Architecture and Urban Studies at Virginia Tech in Blacksburg, Virginia. Graduate student Michael Vallen is collaborating with the Curating Committee to present the best projects produced last semester by students in his Materials Workshop class. Through the workshop Michael introduces future architects to the use of various materials and the process of making (not just designing). The overall design and construction exercise required each student to create a scale model of a structure or environment to be illuminated; a light and shadow study depicting how that structure or environment would be illuminated; and the full-scale, working prototype itself. All three components will be on display at Del Ray Artisans' Center. In progressing from two to three dimensions - idea to object - the students learned new respect for the materials and the process of making. The results speak for themselves!

## General Meeting

Thursday, Feb. 4, 1993-7:30 p.m.  
Del Ray Artisans' Center  
2210 Mt. Vernon Avenue, Alexandria  
703-684-6549





## WHY ARE WE NOW "ARTS RESOURCE FOUNDATION"?

It is amazing to look back and realize that it was only one year ago (January 19, 1992, to be precise) when the idea for creating DEL RAY ARTISANS' COOPERATIVE was first conceived. In fact, most of our current members - and even many Founding Members - are not aware that the organization was originally named Town of Potomac Artisans' Cooperative, to take advantage of the recent historic district designation for the Town of Potomac, which lies within the boundaries of the Del Ray community.

However, the nucleus of what ultimately became the Founding Members of DEL RAY ARTISANS' COOPERATIVE (Terry Atkin, Nick Bayus, Ann and Steve Campbell, Dennis Reeder and Lauren and Peter Smirniotopoulos) decided that Town of Potomac Artisans' Cooperative would quickly be confused with Potomac, Maryland. To avoid any potential confusion it was decided shortly after the idea for the organization was first proposed, to change the original name to DEL RAY ARTISANS' COOPERATIVE.

The willingness to be flexible, to be open to new ideas, to consider the needs of the community, and to constantly reevaluate and reshape the goals of the organization, have been the hallmarks of our organization since its inception, and in many respects have led to our meteoric ascent. And it was those same principles which led to changing the organization to **ARTS RESOURCE FOUNDATION**.

As early as last spring, when we began to solicit general members from within the community, we learned that even the name DEL RAY ARTISANS' COOPERATIVE had its shortcomings. We learned that the phrase "ARTISANS' COOPERATIVE" misled many potential members to conclude that the organization was limited to professional craftsmen only.

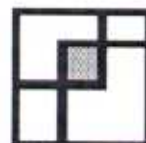
We also learned that people living in McLean, Virginia and Bethesda, Maryland and Adams Morgan in the District of Columbia thought that membership was limited to residents of the Del Ray community. And even though we have a respectable number of members who live outside the Del Ray community, we wonder how many potential members did not pursue us further because the organization's name told them they could not join.

As our numbers grew we also took a look at the changing composition of the evolving membership - looking particularly at those new members who expressed a keen interest in actively participating in activities at Del Ray Artisans' Center. It became obvious that - despite our express emphasis upon craftsmanship and functional art - DEL RAY ARTISANS' COOPERATIVE had attracted many visual artists, including painters, printmakers, illustrators, graphic designers and photographers.

Things that evolve tend to survive and flourish. Things that cannot or will not evolve soon become extinct: just ask a dinosaur the next time you run into one. A self-evaluation last fall of what the organization had become revealed several simple truths: **our members had a strong interest in a broad range of art, not just three-dimensional or functional art; our members had seemingly limitless energy and enthusiasm to devote to programs and exhibitions of interest to them; and, above all, our members had a sense of community from within the organization, and were genuinely interested in what Del Ray Artisans' Center could do as an engine of community redevelopment.**

In recognition of the direction in which the group was naturally heading, the Executive Board decided that a new umbrella organization should be formed under the name **ARTS RESOURCE FOUNDATION** - "ARF" for short, a





tongue-in-cheek nod to the canine influences on the organization's creation. **ARTS RESOURCE FOUNDATION** is the 501(c)(3), public membership organization which funds, manages, and operates the Del Ray Artisans' Center.

The organization will act as a **resource** for new and emerging artisans and artists interested in enhancing their talents and promoting their work. The organization will act as a **resource** for individuals, organizations, and the general public by making the work of artisans and artists - and the artisans and artists themselves - more readily accessible. And the organization will serve as a **resource** for community development and revitalization.

If you were a member of DEL RAY ARTISANS' COOPERATIVE you are now a member of ARTS RESOURCE FOUNDATION. Do not despair, however, if you are an artisan and joined DEL RAY ARTISANS' COOPERATIVE because of our initial focus on craftsmanship and functional art. As you will see from the article elsewhere in this newsletter about exhibition opportunities for members, **ARTS RESOURCE FOUNDATION** will continue to feature three

dimensional works by artisans. In fact, as a happy consequence of the decision to expand the organization's focus to include visual arts and building arts - in addition to applied arts- **ARTS RESOURCE FOUNDATION** has expanded Del Ray Artisans' Center's focus on three-dimensional art to include fine crafts such as jewelry and textiles.

It is our sincere hope that as the number of artisan-members increases a spin-off organization can be formed under the name DEL RAY ARTISANS' COOPERATIVE to fulfill some of the original goals articulated by the organization. In the meantime, however **ARTS RESOURCE FOUNDATION** will promote applied arts, visual arts, and building arts through exhibitions, programs, workshops and lectures at Del Ray Artisans' Center.

We hope that all of our members will participate in our expanded range of artistic endeavors, and we look forward to making a difference in the quality of the lives we touch throughout the coming year. ■

### ARTS RESOURCE FOUNDATION Membership Form

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

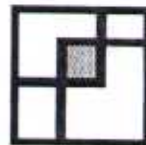
Home Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Work Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Membership Type  
 Student/\$25       Individual/\$35       Household/\$50       Corporate/\$100

I am :  
 a fine artist      I'm interested in:  Classes/Lectures  
 an artisan       Exhibitions/Programs  
 interested in the arts       Events

Please make check payable to "ARTS RESOURCE FOUNDATION" and send to 2210 Mt. Vernon Avenue, Alexandria, VA 22301  
Attn: Terry Atkin, Membership Director





## **WELCOME NEW MEMBERS!!**

We extend a warm welcome to all of you who have joined since our last edition. We look forward to meeting you in person at the General Meeting February 4 and at the Temples to Teapots Reception February 5. Glad to have you.

**Maria Cuzzocrea  
Matt and Sue Debevec  
David Gillikin  
Michael Hilker  
Mrs. Gant Redmon  
Marilyn Werkheiser  
Al Grande (ASAP Printing &  
Mailing Company)**

\*NOTE: Updated Membership Lists will be available at the General Meeting Thursday, February 4th.

---

## **UPCOMING EVENTS**

**FEB 4 - 27 Furn • Art• Ture - FEATURING THE WORK OF MEMBER CARL TESE & CRAIG NUTT, MEREDITH GALLERY, 805 N. CHARLES ST., BALTIMORE, MD. (410) 837-3575**

**FEB 13 DEL RAY COFFEE HOUSE - MUSIC, DESSERT. \$5 DONATION REQUESTED. DEL RAY UNITED METHODIST CHURCH, 100 EAST WINDSOR AVE., ALEXANDRIA 683-3360.**

**FEB 10 - 19 ARTSTRAVAGANZA - VIRGINIA TECH, BLACKSBURG, VA (703) 231-5617**

**FEB 16 - MAR 21 CHICAGO: MEMORIES & FANTANSIES - VIRGINIA TECH, BLACKSBURG, VA (703) 231-5617**

**NOW SHOWING PAINTINGS BY RUSSIAN BORN ARTIST OTARI SHIUK, VON BRAHLER GALLERY, 2216 MT. VERNON AVENUE, ALEXANDRIA. 683-7474**



### SMITHSONIAN CLASSES

JAN 28 - MAR 18 ARCHITECTURE AT A CROSSROADS: RESPONDING TO THE EARTH'S FUTURE (CODE: 306-400)

MARCH 8 ACHIEVEMENTS AND FAILURES IN STRUCTURAL ENGINEERING (CODE: 406-207)

MAR 8 HOW SURROUNDINGS SHAPE BEHAVIOR (CODE: 406-208)

FEB 3 - MAR 10 ILLUSTRATION: ART AS COMMUNICATION (CODE: 306-903)

FEB 6 BEAUTY LOST AND FOUND: RESTORING GREAT WORKS OF ART (CODE: 405-306)

MAR 7 MADONNARI-STREET PAINTING: LECTURE AND DEMONSTRATION (CODE: 806-691)

### MEMBERS IN THE NEWS

Local furnituremaker and **ARTS RESOURCE FOUNDATION** member **Carl Tese** (pronounced "tessie") will be featured in a two-man furniture show at Baltimore's Meredith Gallery, from Thursday, February 4 through Saturday, February 27. The opening reception for this "Furn•art•ture" show is Thursday, February 4. Meredith Gallery is located at 8305 N. Charles Street, Baltimore, Maryland 21201. For further information, call Meredith Gallery at (410)-837-3575.

### EXHIBITION OPPORTUNITIES FOR MEMBERS

One of the more significant benefits for artisans and artists who belong to **ARTS RESOURCE FOUNDATION** is the opportunity to exhibit their work. The Executive Board has developed an ambitious exhibitions calendar for 1993. The following is a brief run-down of the opportunities for members to exhibit their works at Del Ray Artisans' Center this year.

**"HOPE Springs Eternal": A Members' Showing of Visual Arts. March 23 through May 2.** Your guess is as good as ours as to exactly what the title means.

Is it yet another tired cliché referring to the new Democratic administration and the seemingly optimistic mood of the country or merely an even more tired cliché referring to the coming of Spring? We've already done enough damage by coming up with this predictable title, so surprise us by responding with something totally unexpected. This exhibition is open to ALL MEMBERS. The only restrictions on what gets shown are those dictated by the space limitations of Del Ray Artisans Center. This is one of only two 1993 members' only exhibitions for which all expenses are being paid by **ARTS RESOURCE FOUNDATION** without assessing a submission of exhibition fee. Please contact the Curating Committee through **Patsieann Misiti**, 703-549-1094, for more details.





**ARTS & CRAFTS On the Avenue: An Arts & Crafts Fair on Mt. Vernon Avenue. Saturday, May 22, 1993.** This Arts & Crafts Fair will take place along two blocks of Mt. Vernon Avenue, as one of the featured events of the Third Annual Mt. Vernon Avenue Block Party. A registration and booth fee will be charged for all entrants. However, **ARF** members will be given an opportunity to register for this event well in advance and reserve their booth location at that time. Last year's Block Party drew approximately 7,500 people, and this year's event has been extended two blocks to accommodate **ARTS & CRAFTS On the Avenue** and the approximately 10,000 people expected to attend from all over the Metropolitan Area. If you earn all or a portion of your income using your artistic talents - or if you have ever considered making and selling crafts as a hobby or income supplement - **ARTS & CRAFTS On the Avenue** may provide the perfect opportunity for you. Contact **Terry Atkin** at 703-836-0264.

**State of the Arts. A Community Celebration of the Arts in Varied Media (Juried). May 22 through July 3.** This exhibition, which will open on the day of the Third Annual Mt. Vernon Avenue Block Party, is intended to present the best examples of applied and visual arts being created by local artisans and artists. Submissions by members and non-members alike, working in the broadest range of media, are encouraged to assure that this exhibition is truly representative of the **State of the Arts** in Alexandria. A fee will be required for each submission, and selections will be made by a Jury to be empaneled by the Selection Committee. For further information contact the Selection Committee through **Kathryn Brown**, 703-549-5227.

**A Showing of Ten Metro-Area Furnituremakers. July 20 - Aug. 22.** Improving on the strength of last year's **Into the Woods** show, this exhibition will feature the best works of ten Washington-area furnituremakers, to be chosen by the Selection Committee through a Call for Submissions. If **Into the Woods** is any indication, this show is certain to generate a tremendous amount of excitement and receive substantial media coverage. **If you are a professional furnituremaker or a skilled amateur, this is the show for you.** A call for Submissions will go out sometime in April or May, and we expect to receive entries from several dozen of the area's best furnituremakers, from which ten will be selected. Each of the ten selected will be required to contribute an exhibition fee of \$50 to defray the costs of curating and promoting the exhibition, including the opening reception. Contact the Selection Committee/**Kathryn Brown**, 703-549-5227, for information.

**Selected Works from DEL RAY ARTISANS' COOPERATIVE. A Showing of Fine Crafts and Functional Art. September 7 - October 17.** This exhibition also is open to ALL MEMBERS, whose submissions will be restricted only by the space limitations of the Del Ray Artisans' Center. This is a very important exhibition for Del Ray Artisans' Center and for the future development of **DEL RAY ARTISANS' COOPERATIVE** as an independent entity. By showcasing the considerable talents of many of the members of **ARTS RESOURCE FOUNDATION** who create three-dimensional and functional objects, Del Ray Artisans' Center hopes to further the public's interest in and respect for fine crafts and functional art. This is the second of this year's two members' only exhibitions for which all expenses are being paid by **ARTS RESOURCE FOUNDATION** without assessing a submission or exhibition fee. Please contact the Curating Committee through **Patsieann Misiti**, 703-549-1094, for more details.





**FAUX LOVE OF MONEY: Preview of Live Auction Items for the OffBeat Auction. November 23 through December 11.** Anyone who attended last December's OffBeat Auction knows that this show will be very well received. Faux-finished-furniture from the furniture workshops and faux finishing classes to be held in the Fall will be on display at Del Ray Artisans' Center three weeks before this year's Second Annual OffBeat Auction, as well as Adopt-a-Piece submissions from members and other local artisans and artists. The inaugural OffBeat Auction fundraiser generated an incredible range of artistic transformations of "Del Ray Roadkill" collected at the Center in September of last year: "From the curb to your collection" is clearly an artistic statement whose time has come. We are hopeful that the high caliber of the pieces auctioned off last December will inspire an even broader range of donations by local artisans and artists for the Second Annual OffBeat Auction. This will be an excellent opportunity for area artisans and artists to showcase their talents to the general public. ■

**For the Record  
Del Ray Artisans' Center  
Exhibition Hours Are:**

**TUESDAY, WEDNESDAY,  
THURSDAY: 6 PM - 9 PM  
SATURDAY: 10 AM - 6 PM  
SUNDAY: 12 PM - 5 PM**

**Del Ray Artisans' Center  
1993 Exhibitions  
Calendar**

**02 FEB - 07 MAR FROM TEMPLES TO TEAPOTS: The Architect as Artisan.**

Selected Works from the Materials Class at Virginia Tech's Washington-Alexandria Architecture Center.

**23 MAR - 02 MAY HOPE: Springs Eternal.** A Cooperative Showing of Visual Arts Open to All Members.

**22 MAY ARTS & CRAFTS On the Avenue.** An Arts & Crafts Fair on Mt. Vernon Avenue.

**22 MAY - 03 JUL State of the Arts.** A Community Celebration of the Arts in Varied Media (JURIED).

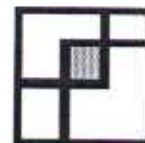
**20 JUL - 22 AUG A Showing of Ten Selected Washington-Area Furnituremakers.**

**07 SEP - 17 OCT Selected Works from Del Ray Artisans' Cooperative.** A Showing of Fine Crafts and Functional Art by Cooperative Members.

**23 NOV - 11 DEC Faux Love of Money.** Preview of Live Auction Items for the OffBeat Auction.

**THANKS TO...**

**Tony Lovelace, owner of Braddock Road Subway Sandwich Shop for donating two, six-foot subs for the January meeting and party.**



## DEL RAY ARTISANS' CENTER SEEKING SLIDES OF MEMBERS' WORKS

Peter has been asked to speak about Del Ray Artisans' Center at the March luncheon meeting of the Aurora Hills Women's Club. They are interested in learning about our work and other community revitalization efforts in Del Ray.

Peter would like to show slides of members' works and is seeking to establish a modest slide library at the Center for future presentations and public relations purposes. If you are a

member of **ARTS RESOURCE FOUNDATION**, and have good quality slides showing examples of your work, please send copies of your slides to **Peter Smirniotopoulos**, Executive Director, Del Ray Artisans' Center, 2210 Mt. Vernon Avenue, Alexandria, Virginia 22301. Each slide should include the name of the artisan or artist, title of the piece depicted, year created, and media used. Additional biographical information will be welcomed. For more information contact **Peter Smirniotopoulos** at (202) 775-0999 (office) or (703) 548-9530. ■

## GIVING BACK TO THE BUSINESS COMMUNITY

The early success of Del Ray Artisans' Center is in part a reflection of the support we received from the local business community. Whether it was the engraved guest book from Gianluca Chegai at Florentine Bookbindery, the custom floral arrangement for our opening reception from Scott and Rebecca Marchand of Marchand's Ltd., or catering donated by Jane Mulligan at Treats Custom Catering, we have benefitted greatly by the generosity of local businesses.

The following local businesses made a difference in our community by supporting Del Ray Artisans' Center. Show them your appreciation by giving them your business: let them know that the support is mutual!

**ASAP Printing & Mailing**/Al Grande/2805 Mt. Vernon Ave./Alex./836-2288

**Delancey Printing**/Leslie Perkins/444 Swan Ave./Alex./836-4112

**Del Ray Cafe**/Bruce Betzel/1603 Commonwealth Ave./Alex./683-3307

**Florentine Bookbindery**/Gianluca Chegai/2621 Mt. Vernon Ave./Alex./549-1277

**Maguire-Reeder, Ltd.**/Dennis Reeder/2001 Mt. Vernon Ave./Alex./ 519-9300

**Marchands Ltd.**/Rebecca & Scott Marchand/2619 Mt. Vernon Ave./Alex./739-0196

**Marvelous Market**/Birdgette Hibbs/2727 Pittman Dr./Silver Spring, MD./301-608-8282

**MinuteMan Press**-Chuck Mach/Crystal City/Arlington/418-1700

**OTV Inc.**/V. Rodger Digilio/1115 King St./Alex./548-6066

**Treats Custom Caterers**/Jane Mulligan/2603 Mt. Vernon Ave./Alex./548-2865



