

THE Well-Crafted Word

news from the del ray artisans

march 1996

GALLERY TALK AND PARTY A FEBRUARY HIT

DEL RAY ARTISANS first gallery talk was not only a feast for the eyes but for the body, thanks to **Marlin Lord's** great idea of making the evening into a potluck dinner as well! Many thanks to everyone who brought food. But it was the artists who provided the high points of the evening. **Susan Slattery, Ted Eichers, Peggy Kaufman, Julie Ann Miller, Kathryn Brown, Marlin Lord and Helen Ottaway** each had a chance to explain their pieces and field questions from other artists and visitors. Also on display was artwork by **Walter Hock, David Nicholson and Susan Weaver**. It was a rare opportunity to get insight into the creative process. Look for more gallery talks in the future. Thank you to all who participated.

DEL RAY ARTISANS WELCOMES THE FIREHOOK POETS

March 19 marks the kick-off of an expanded use for the gallery space. The Firehook Poets will be holding twice monthly poetry readings and discussions at the gallery. The meetings are open to any and all who have a passion, fancy or passing interest in poetry. Jean Leyman, a DEL RAY ARTISANS member, is the person to contact if you need more information 548-9127. The gatherings typically last from 7:00 PM 'til 8:30 PM.

GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING

The next general membership meeting is scheduled for March 26th at 7:00 PM at the ARTISAN CENTER, 2003B Mt. Vernon Avenue, Alexandria. Come and share your ideas for **your arts organization**. We would love to hear suggestions and comments on how DEL RAY ARTISANS can better serve your artistic needs. Come on down for an hour or so on the 26th.

ONE MAN'S ART OPENS MARCH 22ND

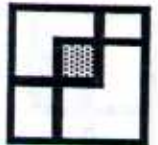
The DEL RAY ARTISANS CENTER is proud to present a retrospective exhibition featuring the artwork of member **Matt Debevec**. **Matt** lived and worked in Del Ray with his wife, Sue and son Derek, for the last fifteen years. A skilled painter, sculptor and student of nature, **Matt** created beauty out of ordinary materials. He had faced considerable adversity, having lost an arm to cancer in his 20's. Last summer he was diagnosed with leukemia and died this December.

Matt was a remarkable man who overcame great odds whether he was creating artwork, repairing his truck, building cabinets or trimming trees! A lover of nature he planted a profuse garden of butterfly bushes, berries, bonzai, six foot tall roses and fruit trees. He dug out four feet of earth to create two beautiful fish ponds in his Randolph Avenue backyard.

However, he was very private about his artwork. **Matt** studied at the Cleveland Institute of Art and at Kent State University in Kent, Ohio. Though he created sculptures in wood and bronze and paintings both abstract and realistic, **Matt** wouldn't talk about his artwork. Now, his friends are mounting an exhibition to honor his artwork and his life. Donations in **Matt's** memory can be made to further the leukemia research of Dr. Geraldine Schechter, Institute of Clinical Research at VA Hospital, P.O. Box 29545, Washington, D.C. 20017.

Be sure to mark your calendar and plan to attend the Opening Reception Friday, March 22 from 7 - 10 PM at the Artisan Center. The exhibition will run March 22-24 and March 30 - 31, Saturdays from 10 AM - 5 PM, Sundays 12 - 5 PM. For more information call **Bob Larson** (703) 548-1378.

Editor: **Mart Larson** Contributors: **Bob Larson, Dave Nicholson, Daniele Piasecki**



DIGITAL ART CLASSES WELL RECEIVED

Last month 14 eager students latched onto lots of great ideas for creating digital artwork thanks to the efforts of **Bryan Leister**. **Bryan** set up shop at the ARTISAN CENTER and demonstrated tricks of the trade using a variety of software including Alias Sketch!, Pixel Putty Solo and RenderMan on his Macintosh. Thanks **Bryan** for being our very own cyber-pro.

YOUR BOARD IN ACTION

On March 19th members of the Board will make the trek to the Alexandria Commission for the Arts for the second interview regarding our Grant Application. We passed (our first interview and application were graded like an exam) the preliminary stage and have been invited to discuss our plans with the full Commission. We have tentatively been recommended for funding at 90% of our Grant's request. Stay tuned for developments.



Field Services

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FOR THE SELF-EMPLOYED
AT AFFORDABLE RATES!

SHARON ROTHSTEIN

703-356-3117

Ms. Rothstein has agreed to donate \$25 to ARF for each new client she obtains through this ad.

SAD TO SEE YOU GO

Unfortunately, the Hannibal's Coffee Company at the Duke Street Hechingers Plaza location has closed causing us to lose on of our Gallery Without Walls spaces. For the past year the space had been the home for works by Del Ray Artisans members: **Steve Crossett, Susan Slattery, Daniele Piasecki and Dave Nicholson**. We hope to locate new space that is open to the public and continue this popular program.

**Become a Member
Join Del Ray Artisans Now!**



Name: _____

Street: _____

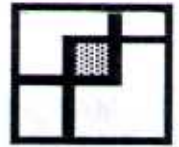
City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Telephone: _____

I am interested in volunteering. Yes No

Membership Categories: Student - \$25 Individual - \$35 Household - \$50
Corporate - \$100

Please make check payable to Del Ray Artisans and mail it to 2210 Mt. Vernon Avenue, Alexandria, VA 22301, attn: Membership



ART DIRECTORY COMMITTEE FORMING

At the February Membership meeting **Sarah Pearson** laid out plans and a suggested timeline for creating an Artists Directory for publication this year. The directory would present a color photo and a biography or marketing information about each artist. The fee for participating would be approximately \$40. The directory would be used by artists to market their work and be distributed to a variety of businesses, organizations and individuals. **Sarah's** idea is to contact 96 artists to participate in the project which is tentatively known as '96 in '96. This large undertaking will require the talents of many of us. **Sarah** has generously agreed to coordinate the project but she is seeking others to form a committee to handle various aspects of the job. These are the areas where you can get involved:

Campaign Phase (March - May 1) - outreach to artists, distributing forms, explaining the concept to them and then following up to collect the photo, text and fee. This should be a fun phase which will involve meeting and talking to lots of new and old acquaintances, and then encouraging those artists to draw in their friends as well. (Isn't this how Amway started?)

Administrative Phase (March - May 15):
Track the entries, coordinate with **Marlin Lord**

and **Kathryn Brown** our Treasurers, Prepare a Master Copy of the Data to give to Design/Production folks.

Design/Production Phase (May 15 - August 1): Be the brains behind the directory. Decide how it will be organized. Design the cover. Make decisions about the overall look of the directory...A wonderful artistic opportunity.

Distribution Phase: (August - October 15)

Work closely with the artists featured in the directory to develop a list of prospective recipients of the directory. What can we do to get them into the hands of clients, businesses and individuals who will use the directory to hire our artists? Decide how best to announce the distribution of the directory...a kick-off reception with a local celebrity?

We are very excited about this undertaking and feel that it will be an excellent opportunity for DEL RAY ARTISANS to serve the art community and meet many prospective members. A portion of the entry fee will go to DEL RAY ARTISANS. We hope to generate funds as well as good will with this venture. To get involved call **Sarah Pearson** at 703-690-0260.

ENCHANTED NEW MEXICO

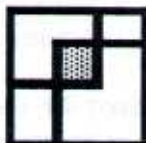
15 DAYS-14 NIGHTS= \$1489.00

MAY 10 - 24, 1996

Catch the spirit of a magic land with DEL RAY ARTISAN member **Daniele Piasecki** as she leads an exciting two week trek to the beautiful Southwest! Immerse yourself in the multi-cultural world where Spanish, Native American and Anglo influences mingle and Art & Craft are bountiful. Call **Daniele Piasecki** (703) 519-0878 for a complete itinerary. **Daniele** will donate \$10 to DEL RAY ARTISANS for each person who takes the trip thanks to this newsletter.

DEL RAY ARTISANS CALENDAR

MAR 19 FIREHOOK POETS MEETING 7 - 8:30 PM
MAR 22 OPENING RECEPTION "ONE MAN'S ART" 7 - 10 PM
MAR 23,24 ONE MAN'S ART EXHIBITION
& 30,31 SATURDAYS 10AM- 5PM
SUNDAYS 12 - 5 PM
MAR 26 MEMBERSHIP MEETING 7 - 9 PM



Del Ray Artisans' Center
2210 Mt. Vernon Avenue
Alexandria, Virginia 22301
703-684-6549

**ONE MAN'S ART
OPENING RECEPTION
MAR 22nd 7 -10 PM
2003B Mt. Vernon Avenue
Alexandria, Virginia**

ARTS RESOURCE FOUNDATION is a 501(c)(3) public membership organization formed to create and support community based arts organizations and promote the arts as a resource for community development. DEL RAY ARTISANS is a community arts group featuring two and three dimensional works of decorative and functional art and fine crafts through exhibitions, lectures, and instructional classes in the community. DEL RAY ARTISANS is funded, managed and operated by ARTS RESOURCE FOUNDATION.

EXECUTIVE BOARD MEMBERS

Nick Bayus, Community Involvement Director, (703)-549-1094
Kathryn Brown, Selection Committee Chair & Ass't Treas., (703) 549-5227
Charlotte Corcoran, Assistant Membership Director, (703) 548-1521
Ellyn Ferguson, Director, (703) 549-2660
Martha Larson, Communications Director, (703) 836-0413
Marlin Lord, Treasurer (703) 549-5227
David Nicholson, Executive Director & Public Relations (703) 836-2975
Helen Ottaway, Director (703) 549-6947
Sarah Pearson, Membership Director (703) 690-0260
Les Perkins, Marketing & Graphics Director (703) 836-7731
Dara Schumaier, Mailing List Director, (703) 836-7731
Lauren Smirniotopoulos, Children's Programming Director (703) 548-9530