

April 2002

www.radiodelray.com/artisans

Thanks

Co-Curators **Ann Liddle** and **Debbie Mezzetta** would like to thank everyone for all of their great talents and support in making the "For the Home" show a beautiful success! Thank you to everyone that helped in setting up the exhibit, cleaning for the exhibit and reception, gallery sitting, bringing food for the reception, making keys and opening the gallery, advertising and promoting exhibit, Springwater Fiber Workshop taking phone inquiries. A special thanks goes to:

- **Julie Geschwind** for helping with receiving and hanging the show and bringing flowers.
- **Linda Prioleau** for receiving the show and running sales during opening reception.
- Radio hostess **Pat Parkinson** for promotions on Radio Del Ray.
- **Ginny Friend** for judging the show.
- **"L" Liddle** for organizing and creating the entire mailing lists for DRA and SFW.
- **"L" Liddle** and **Patrick Mezzetta** for bartending.
- all of the wonderful artists from Del Ray Artisans and Springwater Fiber Workshop for their beautiful array of creations.
- all those lucky few who were able to purchase some of the fine artwork available.
- And to all of you who attended the exhibits, encourage and support our arts.

In addition, the Del Ray Artisans would like to thank Springwater Fiber Workshop for their generous gift of a photocopier and extension.

Calling all Gardeners — Mark Your Calendars



Illustration by Becky Heavner

A Garden Meeting for the gallery space of the Del Ray Artisans is scheduled for April 2, at 7:30PM. Come to discuss ideas for improving the Del Ray Artisans' environment.

Garden clean-up dates:

4/6 and 4/13, 9-noon. In the event of heavy rain clean-up dates will be re-scheduled for 4/20. Questions? contact: **Becky Heavner** at 703-683-1544, or via email: becky@beckyheavner.com ■

Who Are We? Profile of a Del Ray Artisans Member

A Cut Apart

Mixing snippets of paper with bright daubs of paint, Del Ray Artisans member **Beverly Hansen** creates decoupage home accessories alive with vitality and whimsy. She calls it contemporary decoupage, and her style is very unlike that of many decoupeurs, because you can't always tell where the paper edges end and the paint embellishment begins.

It all began several years ago when Beverly was an interior decorator and as such had plenty of opportunity to see the trends in home decor accessories. After repeatedly seeing acces-

sories that she felt she could make herself, she began to experiment with decoupage and was immediately hooked. Boldly she quit her job and took the leap into self-employment as an accessories designer/craftsperson. With an inventory of a mere 5 decoupage plates, she met with the Gift Buyer at Nordstrom's to get an assessment of their marketability. The buyer was very enthusiastic and bought everything Beverly could produce!

For the next five years, Nordstrom's was a big client for Beverly, and along with doing trunk

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16th Annual "Young" At Art

July 21-August 1, 2002.

The 16th annual "Young" at Art show, sponsored by the Alexandria Commission on Aging, The Friends of the Torpedo Factory Art Center and the Retired and Senior Volunteer Program (RSVP), will be held at The Campagna Center 418 S. Washington Street from July 21-August 1. The show is open to all metro artists aged 55+. The fee for entering is \$10 for the first three works and \$5 for each additional entry. All mediums are accepted.

Intake is on Tuesday, July 16 from 10AM to 1PM. The opening reception and award ceremony, which is open to the public, will take place on Sunday, July 21 from 2-4PM at the Campagna Center. The Corporate Partner is The

Goodwin House Foundation. The "Young" at Art show has consistently attracted accomplished artists who work in all mediums. Works by teachers, professionals and amateurs have been submitted and accepted. To ensure fairness, a different juror is selected each year. Ellouise Shoettler, an award winning artist and former president of the Maryland College of Art and Design will act as the 2002 juror. Last year, 68 artists submitted 188 pieces; 77 were chosen for the show. Awards include cash prizes for 1st, 2nd, and 3rd places plus ribbons for 5 Honorable Mentions.

For entry forms and/or more information, please call RSVP at 703-549-1607. ■

Party Animal

DCRA member **Debbie Mezzetta** was recently selected as a winner of the national design competition through the Washington, DC Commission on the Arts and Humanities. The "Party Animals" exhibition will involve decorating donkeys and elephants to celebrate the familiar mascots of the Republican and Democratic national political parties. She is one of 200 artists out of over 1,500 entries from across the country who submitted their designs. Debbie will be painting an elephant in the studio space supplied to the artists in the old Woodward and Lothrop building in downtown Washington DC. All "party animals" must be completed by April 12! Each of the polyurethane icons stands 4.5 feet tall by 5 feet long.

A media event will be held in Washington DC on April 23, 2002. These "Party Animal" statues will be installed at various sites throughout the Washington, DC area in April and

will continue to be on display until the autumn of 2002. The exhibition will culminate with the "Raucous Caucus Auction" and all proceeds will be channeled back to the DC Commission on the Arts and Humanities grant programs.

Says Debbie, "This is really a great honor for me, and will likely be less messy than painting an actual elephant!" Congratulations, Debbie.

Welcome New Members!

Shirley Marshall
Rob Krupicka & family
Theodore Tyler Stumpf
Kim Silhanek
Sarah G. J. Lennon
Joan DeCoste
Kurt Peterson
Judith Rogers
Barbara Harris
Joanne Bast
Cornelia Atchley
Maggie Tomasello

Resources

AMERICANS FOR THE ARTS www.artsusa.org/index.html. A national organization dedicated to making arts more accessible to all Americans; works with cultural organizations, arts & business leaders provide leadership, education & information that will encourage support for the arts and culture in communities.

ART BOOKS www.artsbib.com. Find that elusive art tome.

ART CALENDAR www.artcalendar.com. An on-line business magazine for visual artists.

ART DEADLINES LIST www.artdeadlineslist.com. Monthly on-line newsletter providing information about juried exhibitions and competitions, calls for entry/proposals/papers, poetry & other writing contests, scholarships, residencies, casting calls, auditions, grants, festivals, funding and other opportunities for artists, art educators, and art students of all ages. You may also submit announcements.

ARTNET www.artnet.com. Based in Germany, artnet.com has extensive arts-related listings including artists' web sites, magazine, bookstore, art research tools and resources, online art auctions.

ARTS WIRE CURRENT www.nyfa.org/Artists.html. A project of the New York Foundation for the Arts, artists can sign up for a weekly email newsletter that presents opportunities for individual artists of all disciplines. The site encourages new artistic ventures and lists funding opportunities, extensive fiscal sponsorship services, information resources and educational initiatives for artists.

CULTURAL ALLIANCE OF GREATER WASHINGTON www.cultural-alliance.org. Largest regional arts service organization, works with members to ensure the arts survive and prosper; provides a forum for addressing common challenges to arts organizations and individual artists; job listings in the arts.

Please submit your articles for the May newsletter by 5:00pm April 20th to Linda Silk, at LMSilk@aol.com

NEW WORK

by the Del Ray Artisans
and the Choreographers
Collaboration Project

April 5- 21, 2002

Dance Performance starts
Friday April 5, 7PM
Mt Vernon Recreation Center
2601 Commonwealth Avenue

Gallery Reception
Immediately following at 8PM
Nicholas Colasanto Center
2704 Mt. Vernon Avenue

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shows at their many area stores, she did special orders for their customers. It was through this arrangement that Beverly was able to build an affluent international client base which is still strong today. Special orders would vary from a set of plates for an Englishwoman, to a souvenir for a Japanese businessman to take back home. One special order that Beverly was particularly pleased with was a large decoupage glass platter commemorating the wedding between two champagne families in France. Starting with the wedding invitation, Beverly added pictures of the chateaux, images of goblets, and other papers that inspired her to end up with a memorable heirloom. She has since used this technique of framing

an announcement for many other special event gifts.

Of course, finding the perfect scraps of paper is critical to create the kind of lush, cohesive decoupage "tapestry" that Beverly favors. She has boxes upon boxes of novelty papers in her home, and files of images under the headings of FACES, CATS, etc. "I have been saving scraps of paper for, like, 25 years," says Beverly. (Considering that Beverly started collecting paper nearly 10 years before she began working in decoupage, you might wonder why. The answer is simple enough—she has always loved to paint and her paintings typically had an element of collage in them.) So when Beverly first starts a decoupage piece she spends hours, sometimes days, seeking out the perfect elements from her stash. Then she spends just as long figuring out the arrangement, fitting each snippet together like a puzzle. A special order piece could take anywhere from 2 to 4 weeks to make.

A self-taught decoupage artist, Beverly is very open in teaching others what she has learned. For the last 2 Offbeat auctions Beverly has taught public workshops on decoupage, assisting the process of creating unique furniture from castoffs. But though she can demonstrate the process she goes through, her eye for composition, color, and yes, humor, is a talent that just can't be copied.

Today, local retailers such as Artisans in McLean and Crystal Galleria in Tyson's Corners Shopping Center carry Beverly's work and take special orders for her. Plus, she is usually a vendor at Art on the Avenue and DRA's Holiday Show & Sale. And as a member of the National Guild of Decoupeurs, she will be exhibiting her work at their annual convention and exposition in Old Town this month (April 10-13). A first for her, Beverly is entering 2 platters for judging there. Good luck, "Beffie." ■

Adopt A Park

Can you help clean up the grounds around the Gallery?
Contact Marlin Lord at 703.683.1112

Become a Member, Join Del Ray Artisans

(or Renew your membership)

Name: _____

Street: _____

City: _____ State: _____ ZIP: _____

Telephone(s): _____

E-mail: _____

I am an artist (medium): _____

I am a supporter of the arts

Is this a membership renewal? Yes No

I am interested in volunteering. Yes No

Do you wish to be placed on the email mailing list? Yes No

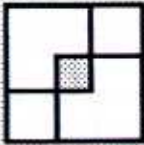
Membership Categories for One (1) Year:

Individual: \$35 Household: \$50 Corporate: \$100

Student/Senior/Disadvantaged: \$10

Please make check payable to *Del Ray Artisans*.

Mail check and membership form to *Del Ray Artisans*, Attn: Membership,
2210 Mount Vernon Avenue, Alexandria, Virginia 22301



Del Ray Artisans
 Mail: 2210 Mount Vernon Avenue
 Alexandria, Virginia 22301
 703.838.4827
 www.radiodelray.com/artisans

Thanks to the Alexandria Commission for the Arts, the Virginia Commission for the Arts, and the City of Alexandria

Next General Member Meeting

Tuesday, April 9, 7PM
 at DRA Gallery Space
 Nicholas A. Colasanto Center
 2704 Mount Vernon Avenue

**DRA Meetings are held on the
 2nd Tuesday of every month.**

Officers and Board of Directors

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Karen Schmitz, *PR Co-Coordinator*,
 703.836.0035

Susan Downs Slattery, *PR Co-Coordinator*,
 703.922.7290

Jen Whitman 703.765.1510

Beth Wrightson 703.683.0222

The Well Crafted Word newsletter is published monthly by the Del Ray Artisans. Newsletter Staff: Mart Larson, Liz Martinez, Linda Silk. Contributing writers: Kathryn A Brown, Debbie Mezzetta, Patti North-Rudin, Susan Downs Slattery.

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 exhibits, lectures, and instructional classes in the community. **Del Ray Artisans** is funded, managed, and operated by **Arts Resource Foundation**.

DRA Calendar

2002

- April** "New Work" Spring All Members Show*, April 5-21, curator Tom Nyerges (703-739-5839 or tomnyerges@aol.com)
 "New Work" Spring All Members Show Opening Reception & CCP's Dance Recital, April 5, 7PM; Dance performance at Mt Vernon Recreation Center followed by reception at DRA gallery space
 Garden cleanup, April 6 and April 13, 9AM-Noon. In the event of heavy rain clean-up dates will be re-scheduled for 4/20. Questions? contact: Becky Heavner at 703-683-1544, or via email: becky@beckyheavner.com
- May** Student Art Show, May 10-26, curator Linda Silk
- June** Fun 'n Games: From Belly Laughs to Bocce Balls, June 7 - 23, co-curators Karen Schmitz (703-836-0035) and Susan Slattery (703-922-7290)
 Elections of DRA Board of Directors, June 11
- July** Art Camp, July 29-August 2, coordinators Liz Martinez & Barbara Robinson ISO a volunteer with grant writing experience
- August** Watercolors of the Northeast by Bob Gilbert, August 16-September 1
- September** Fall All Member Show, September 13-29, ISO curator
- October** Reincarnations: Making Refound Objects into Art, October 11-27, curators Marie Niemberger & I.Tonya Tobin
- November** Seasons, November 8-24, curators Sue Kulesher & Vivienne Lukacs
- December** Holiday Show and Sale, December 7, limited vendor space due to the small venue—Vendors on a 1st call basis. Contact Liz Martinez 703-683-1969 or catriphaze@comcast.net
 A Tribute to All Things Magical, December 13-29, curator Sarah Pearson

Many thanks to Royce Flowers for the lovely contributions to our opening receptions and to Randy Allen and Radio Del Ray for hosting our Web pages.