



The Well Crafted Word

Del Ray Artisans
.....since 1992

www.radiodelray.com/artisans

February 2004

RED2 fundraiser kicks off fabulous February

Plan to attend the RED2 Fundraiser and Dance Party, Friday, February 6th, 8 PM to midnight. It features a Silent Heart Auction of unique, decorated hearts created by DRA members and celebrity artists.

Enjoy desserts, champagne, a coffee bar, and rocking to the tunes of award-winning band Ruthie and the Wranglers.

Desert island art opens Feb.13th

Trapped on a deserted island, the artist is challenged to create art using only a box-full of found objects. That is the premise of the Creative Challenge Art Exhibition on view from Feb 13 through February 29. Back in September show curator **Linda Silk** distributed boxes, wrapped to conceal their contents, to the thirty participants of the challenge.

Following the rules of the challenge, artists were to refrain from using any of their normal art supplies, and fashion the necessary tools and supplies to create a piece of artwork from the contents of their box. The only thing they could add--beyond their own creative juices--was water. Silk assembled 3 versions of The Box, ten of each version, filling them with sundry non-art-related items, such as a toothbrush, soap, assorted paperclips, a charcoal briquette, discarded carbon paper, a drink umbrella, a balloon, etc. In other words items that might wash up on a beach or be found on a desert island. The only bonding agent in the box might be a stick of chewing gum or a candle. "Even the vessel to hold water must come from the box. Beyond wanting adult artists to explore creating outside their comfort zone as they did as children", said Silk, "I wanted to pose the

question: Is an artist still an artist if you take away their paint brush; or, is an artist, first and foremost, a creative thinker who is not limited or defined by their tool of choice?" While some of the artists who participated in the challenge found it more hard work than satisfying, several commented that they had a lot of fun, and that shows in their results. "Many pieces on display are laugh-out-loud fun to look at", says Silk. One piece in particular, from an artist who typically is extremely serious and favors the school of realism, is a whimsical underwater cartoon diorama, a la 'Finding Nemo'. Also fun to look at are the different approaches taken by individuals with the same box contents: a wooden spindle is a squid in one piece, a woman in another, and a familiar part of a man's anatomy in another.

The Creative Challenge Art Exhibition runs from February 13-29, with the opening reception on Friday, February 13 from 7:00-9:30pm. The Del Ray Artisans Gallery is located in the Nicholas Colasanto Center 2704 Mount Vernon Ave, Alexandria, VA. Gallery hours are Saturday 10am to 4pm and Sundays from noon to 4pm.

Contributors this month include: **Linda Silk, Karen Schmitz, Julie Geschwind** and **Dave Nicholson**.

Several of the images used this month are from Tack-O-Rama, <http://www.anzwers.org/free/tackorama/>

Edited by: **Dave Nicholson**
Submission deadline-20th of month preceding (2/20 for March)
email to: f8photog@yahoo.com

email: delrayartisans@yahoo.com

Member meeting & white elephant swap, Feb. 17th

Continuing our fabulous February is the next Member Event, Tuesday, February 17th from 7:30-9:30 PM at the Gallery.

Use it or Swap it!!!! Bring any art supply items you don't use anymore and swap it for maybe something a bit more you...

Find a hidden treasure that has lurked in some else's studio. One artist's junk is another artist's joy!!!!

There will be food, fun and maybe some cool art supplies. Contact **Samatha Lentz**, twenstr@aol.com

Spring member's show curator needed

As flowers pop out of the ground so will the newest works from DRA members emerge from studios, darkrooms and workshops. Help put this show together and gain valuable experience as curator.

The curator is the quintessential drum major for gallery exhibits. Ample assistance will be provided to help newbys who want to gain hands-on experience in staging art exhibits. Contact **Karen Schmitz**, schmityk@yahoo.com

Renaissance show, unique and successful

The temperature outside the Gallery was freezing. Inside, however, it was another story. The Renaissance Show was sizzling with artwork. Detailed mosaics by **Gene Sterud**, DRA logo'd glass pins by **Patti North-Rudin** and even a lovely Chinese brushwork monkey by "**Jenny**" **Qian-Qing** helped illustrate the show's theme of the rebirth.

Curator **Richard Wyvill** hung 49 pieces of art like a pro. Over \$1,700 in sales by the artists were realized from this first show of the New Year.

Also, thanks to **Christopher Wright** for his creation of the show's postcard.

2004 Calendar of Events



Feb. 6	<i>RED2 Fundraiser</i> , (8:00 PM-midnight), co-chairs- J. Chappell/S. Slattery
Feb. 10	Board meeting (7:00 PM)
Feb. 13-29	<i>Desert Island Challenge</i> , curator- Linda Silk 703.533.7689
Feb. 17	DRA General meeting & swap meet (7:30-9:30 PM)
Mar. 13-28	<i>Conceal/Reveal</i> , Springwater Fiber Art Collaboration, curator- Julie Geschwind 703.768.3897/ DRA co-curator- Dianna Diatz 703.549.9949
Mar. 9	Board meeting (7:00 PM)
April 9-25	<i>Spring All Member Show</i> , curator needed
Apr. 13	Board meeting (7:00 PM)
May 6	1 st Thursday Preview <i>Students Art Show</i> (6:00-9:00 PM)
May 7-23	<i>Students Art Show</i> , curator- Linda Silk
May 11	Board meeting (7:00 PM)
Jun. 3	1 st Thursday Preview <i>Fun 'n Games Show</i> (6:00-9:00 PM)
Jun. 4-Jul. 18	<i>Fun 'n Games</i> , curators- Jen Chappell, Susan Slattery, Dave Nicholson
Jun. 8	Board meeting (7:00 PM)
Jun. 15	DRA general meeting (7:30 PM)
July 1	1 st Thursday event (6:00-9:00PM)
July 13	Board Meeting (7:00PM)
July 26-30	Art Camp- L'Tonya Tobin , camp coordinator, Still needed are art teachers . Contact Samantha Lentz twinstar@aol.com
August 5	1 st Thursday (6:00-9:00 PM)
August 6 - 29	OPEN – CURATOR NEEDED
August 10	Board Meeting (7:00 PM)
August 17	DRA General Meeting & Pool Party (6:00 PM)
Sept. 4 1 st	Thursday Review of <i>Fall All Members Show</i> (6:00-9:00 PM)
Sept. 10 - 26	<i>Fall All Members Show</i> – CURATOR NEEDED
Oct. 1 - 24	<i>Asian Influence</i> / Curator Darlene Wood-Harvey 866.651.1128
Oct. 2	Art on the Avenue (10:00 AM-6:00 PM)
Oct. 12	Board Meeting (7:00 PM)
Oct. 19	DRA General Meeting & Elections (7:30 PM)
Nov. 5 – 28	OPEN – CURATOR NEEDED
Nov. 9	Board Meeting (7:00 PM)
Dec. 4 & 5	Holiday Art & Crafts Show (9:00 AM-4:00 PM)
Dec. 11 & 12	Holiday Art & Crafts Show (9:00 AM-4:00 PM)

Here's something to really sink your teeth into

Yes, folks you've attended those fabulous gallery openings, viewed the artworks and enjoyed all the luscious food provided. You may even have been one of those special persons who contributed food.

Well now there is a chance to be a star. Have your culinary talents recognized far and wide. The Del Ray Artisans are going to put together a cookbook!

Early plans are underway to combine what is best about our openings, art and food into a printed volume of...art and recipes. At this stage we are issuing a Call for Recipes. They will be assembled into a cookbook format and then will be illustrated with DRA members' artworks throughout. One idea under consideration is to choose works of art and build menus around each of the works.

Visualize Renoir's *Luncheon of the Boating Party* and imagine the food served during that afternoon on the water or even Hopper's *Nighthawks*, "...cuppa joe and a slice of apple pie with cheddar."

So toque up and let the imagination fly. Send in your favorite recipe along with a short note describing yourself or why this is a favorite recipe. We will be collecting recipes in all categories: appetizers, salads, soups, main courses, vegetables, breads, desserts and beverages.

There is a rumour that DRA might stage "tastings" of the recipes submitted. Did we say that there already is a chocolate eggnog recipe floating around? Stay tuned. Send an MS Word document to **Dave Nicholson**, f8photog@yahoo.com



Are you good with other people's money?

Consider volunteering for the high-profile position of Fundraising Chairman. Use your ideas to pull in money to help the

DRA continue with its programs, classes, outreach and gallery exhibits. Contact **Susan Slattery**, summerh@erols.com



Thanks to our 2003 program sponsors

Royce Flowers
Radio Del Ray
Mr. Jack Taylor
Ms. Pat Miller
Ms. Nora Partlow-St. Elmo's Coffee Pub
The Honorable Bill Euille
Trader Joe's
Potomac West Business Assn. & Foundation
Choreographers Collaborative Project
Peruvian & Bolivian Dancers

Fannon Printing
Happy Photo
Bill & Pat Rohrer
Rob Gabriel
Nancy Sies
The Eicher's family
Chipotle-Potomac Yard
Great Harvest
Mt. Vernon Rec Center staff-Shelia & Alicia

Ohhhh, pluzzee make it stop

Our hard-working Treasurers, **Marlin Lord** and **Kathryn Brown** continue to struggle with receipts from curators and helpers who purchase materials for shows.

There is an expense form that must be completed and submitted with EVERY purchase where reimbursement is

requested. We do not want to sound harsh, but we must ask for everyone's cooperation.

A question asked is a problem avoided.

If you need guidance on this, contact either **Marlin**, mglai@aol.com or **Kathryn**, neonkanb@aol.com



Executive Board

President

Susan Downs Slattery
703.922.7290/summerh@erols.com

Vice-President

Jen Whitman Chappell
703.765.1510/jchappell@fsco.com

Treasurer

Marlin Lord
703.683.1112/mglaia@aol.com

Assistant Treasurer

Kathryn Brown
703.549.5227/neonkanb@aol.com

Secretary

OPEN

Directors

Communications

Dave Nicholson
703.578.6471/f8photog@yahoo.com

Facility

Deborah Peterson
703.799.2456dpeterson@aahp.org

Fundraising

OPEN

Gallery Coordinator

Karen Schmitz
703.317.9340/schmityk@yahoo.com

Historian/Archivist

OPEN

Membership

Doris Lockard
703.979.9229/doris-j-l@msn.com

Curator Coordinator

OPEN

Outreach

Darlene Wood-Harvey
866.651.1128 / tensho@harvey-intl.com

Programs

Samantha Lentz
703.455.3130 /twinstar@aol.com

Volunteers

Vivienne Lukacs
703.979.8996/viv703@msn.com

Community Representative

OPEN

Gallery sitting goals

Here's what one member/artist does when sitting the Gallery. **Patti North-Rudin** gives herself a goal every time she sits the gallery. For those two hours she tries to get at least one new member to sign up and join DRA.

And now with our new benefit, the availability to join the **Commonwealth One Federal Credit Union** as part of membership, we have an even stronger message for potential members.

If every gallery sitter achieved this goal we would have over 175 new members a year. Thanks Patti for the idea and your efforts!

Information on **Commonwealth One**, call COFCU at 703/823-5211 or 800/424-3334 about enrollment or services.

Membership form

Name: _____
Street: _____
City, State, Zip: _____
Telephone: (E) _____ (D) _____
Email: _____
I am an artist yes ___ no ___ My medium is _____
I will volunteer for : _____ gallery sitting ___ fundraising ___ phoning ___ clean-up ___ show hanging ___ exhibits planning ___ teaching a class ___ curating/co-curating ___ just about anything, contact me ___
This is a membership renewal yes ___ no ___
Membership dues: individual-\$35, household-\$50, corporate-\$100, student/senior/disabled-\$10
Make payment payable to Del Ray Artisans and mail with this form to:
Del Ray Artisans Attn: Membership, 2210 Mt. Vernon Ave., Alexandria VA 22301

About Our Organization...

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 that provides them to the community through exhibits, lectures and instructional classes. **Del Ray Artisans** is funded, managed and operated by **Arts Resource Foundation**.

DEL RAY ARTISANS
MAIL: 2210 MT. VERNON AVE.
ALEXANDRIA VA 22301
703.838.4827