

The Well Crafted Word

Del Ray Artisans
.....since 1992

www.delrayartisans.org

April 2005



Do you know what's being said?

How about, "...very upscale bohemian neighborhood, very much in support of the arts"? This by artist, **Eric Nelson**, who is negotiating to lease the closed dry cleaners at the corner of Bellefonte for a gallery, wine bar and artists' studio space.

Or this, "People want it (Del Ray) to be this vibrant, funky, kind of down-home unique place..." by **Kimberley Fogle**, Alexandria's Chief of Neighborhood Planning.

This and other quotes, including ones by Board President **Susan Slattery** are from a March 23rd *Washington Post* article by Jerry Markon. The article addresses the Alexandria City Council's newest

development plan and the 129-page Mount Vernon Avenue Business Area Plan. Short story? Mt. Vernon Avenue is what is happening!

Building on successes such as Art on the Avenue and the Farmers' Market (*and no small measure to DRA*, ed.) Del Ray is exploding with growth and redevelopment. We are very excited to see this and it's a wonderful time to anchor gallery space in Del Ray.

To read the full text of the article or to forward it to someone you want to make very jealous go to:
www.washingtonpost.com/wp-dyn/articles/A59690-2005Mar23.html

Litter control stroll

What better way to see and be seen helping out the community?! That's right. It's time to sign up to help police the grounds around the Gallery AND help DRA earn bucks from the City.

The past 2 years we've been very good at helping Alexandria and Del Ray be a litter-free place...and earning DRA over \$900 each year.

Starting April 1st we need volunteers to spend a few minutes on the weekend to help out. This is a great way to support DRA and show off your newest Spring and Summer fashions.

Please contact **Marlin Lord** at 703.836.2724 or mglai@aol.com to review the schedule.



Special plans for the Spring All Member Show

This is the one. The show for which our members wait six months. Our annual Spring All Members Show is one of only two shows per year where any member can enter recently created works or old favorites. The opening reception takes place Friday, April 8 (7-10 PM). The show continues through April 24.

Curators **Jane DeWeerd** and **Leslie Wilder** have been planning this show for months. They are very pleased to offer a flower arranging demonstration and workshop to be given by floral design genius **Royce** of **Royce Flowers**. The

demonstration will be held Wednesday, April 13 (7-9:00 PM). The cost is \$10.00 per person which will help cover the cost of supplies. Please call Leslie Wilder today 703.549.1896 to reserve your spot.

Jane and Leslie have also tapped talented watercolorist **Alice Kale** to demonstrate flower painting Thursday, April 21 (7-9:00 PM) at the gallery. There is no fee and reservations are not necessary. Incidentally, Alice's watercolor of the intersection of Del Ray and Mt. Vernon Avenues graced the front page of the *Post's* Alexandria/Arlington Weekly's March 23rd story mentioned

Contributors this month include: **Rob Rudick, Jane DeWeerd, Susan Slattery, Dave Nicholson** and **Kathryn Brown**.

Many thanks to our monthly sponsor: **Royce Flowers**-the lovely arrangements seen at every opening

Thanks to the **Alexandria Commission for the Arts** for their continuing support.

Edited by: **Dave Nicholson**
Submission deadline-20th of month preceding (4/20 for May)
email to: f8photog@yahoo.com

Website: www.delrayartisans.org

9th annual student show in May

Linda Silk who once again is curating the annual student show is recruiting volunteers. Help is needed in several areas, most notably help with the installation.

This show typically sees the showcasing of hundreds of works of art from Alexandria school students. If you haven't

experienced floor-to-ceiling art, you are in for a treat.

Meanwhile, newbies are welcome to get their feet wet in the world of show curating by working with Linda who has a huge amount of experience, especially with this show. Contact her at: Im silk@worldnet.att.net

Alex Award reception volunteers needed

The upcoming Alex Awards is in need of volunteers. There is a need for decorators and stagehands, ushers and ticket takers.

The event will be at the Rachel M. Schlesinger Concert Hall and Arts Center. Date for the event is Friday, May 20th.

Please contact **Cheryl Anne Powalisz** at the Alexandria Commission for the Arts offices at 703.838.6344 or cherylanne.powalisz@alexandriava.gov.

Incidentally, the Potomac West Business Association has put forward DRA's name for possible Alex Award nomination!

2005 Calendar of Events



| | |
|----------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Apr. 1-3 | <i>Twelve Story</i> multi-media exhibit- Steve Crossett , preview of national show |
| Apr. 8-24 | <i>Spring All Member Show</i> – Curators Jane DeWeerd & Leslie Wilder |
| May 6-22 | <i>9th Annual Student Show</i> – Curator Linda Silk |
| May 7 | <i>Spring Art Sale</i> – Rob Rudick 301.270.2323 |
| May 17 | DRA General Meeting (7:30 PM) |
| Jun. 10-26 | <i>Bead It! Show</i> – Curator Barbara Brecher 703.548.2878 |
| Jun. 5-9 | Annual Columbia Pike Blues Festival 703.892.2776 |
| Jul. | <i>Multi-artist Invitational Exhibit</i> |
| Jul. 25-29 | <i>Art Camp 2005</i> |
| Aug. 5-28 | <i>Splash Exhibit</i> – Chappell, Schmitz & Slattery |
| Aug. 16 | Annual DRA <i>Pool Party</i> |
| Sept. 9-Oct. 2 | <i>Fall All Member Show</i> |
| Sept. 10 & 11 | Alexandria Festival of the Arts |
| Sept. 25 | DRA's <i>BBQ'n for Art</i> fundraiser – Theresa Kulstad 703.914.1517 |
| Oct. 1 | Art on the Avenue (10 AM-6 PM) |
| Oct. 7-30 | <i>3rd Annual Del Ray Dozen Exhibit</i> – Curator Rob Rudick |
| Oct. 18 | DRA General Meeting and Elections (7:30 PM) |
| Nov. 4-27 | <i>Washington Woodworkers' Guild Collaborative Show</i> Co-curator Martin Angebrannt |
| Dec. | <i>Holiday Arts & Craft Sale</i> (9 AM-4 PM) – Liz Martinez & Linda Silk |

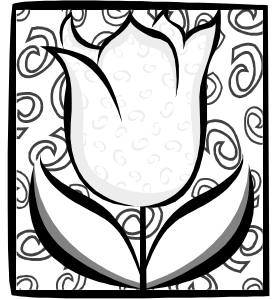
Spring art sale Saturday-artists needed

Building on last year's very successful Spring Art Sale, curator **Rob Rudick** is issuing a call for artists to participate. This year's date is May 7th, the day before Mothers' Day, rain or shine.

Artists must provide their own shelters and tables. Space may be limited, so respond

early. We are looking for a wide diversity of disciplines. Artists may share a booth. A participation fee of \$35 plus 10% of sales is required. We also need a few volunteers to help with putting on the sale.

Contact **Rob Rudick**, at 301.270.2323 or email robrudick@yahoo.com.

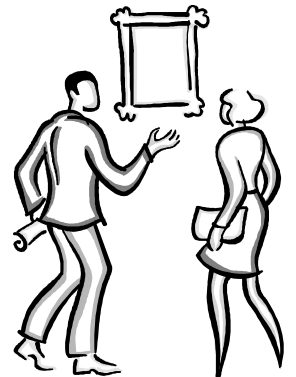


Calls for Entry

Saturday, May 1– Titan Expo 2005's Art on the Green– Contact titanexpo@yahoo.com or Paulette Burdett 703.549.1231

Saturday, July 16, 11:00-5:00-Arts in the Alley-Purcellville, VA. No commissions, \$25 fee for judging 3 works-digital photos only. Apply online by June 15th at www.loudounsbest.com/art

September 10 to October 1-Northern Virginia Regional Artist Exhibition. Open to all artists in all media in Alexandria, Arlington, Fairfax, Prince William or Loudoun counties. \$15 fee to judge 3 works. Awards to \$300 Deadline June 1st. Prospectus-phone 703.838.6348 or email festivalofthearts@comcast.net



Don't put that hoe down !

DRA's Spring garden season opens this year on Saturday, April 16 at 10:00 AM. Returning and new gardeners are invited to come out to spruce up our landscaping, share ideas and fuel up on doughnuts. If you've ever wished for a chance to get your hands in the earth and watch your efforts bloom, here's your opportunity.

Free benefits include stress reduction, an upper body workout, fresh air, a chance to get better acquainted with other artisan members, and the satisfaction of helping maintain our garden, which is listed on the next Del Ray House and Garden Tour, to be held in May 2006.

New members may not know that we put in all the trees, shrubs, plants, the patio and the rear fencing ourselves. Our efforts earned a Beautification Award from the City and we want to maintain our standards.

Thanks are due to all those who have taken part

over the years and helped in the planning. For the past three years **Becky Heavner** has provided expert leadership. At present the contact person concerning the garden is **Jane DeWeerd**.

Among those who have worked on our landscaping are **Jordan and Roy Wright, Bob and Mart Larson, Elynn Ferguson, Jean Leyman, Alice Eichers, Marlin Lord, Kathryn Brown, Dorrie Wallace, Pat Braun, Brian Leister, Charlotte Corcoran, Sheila George, Karen Schmitz, Mitchell Helbrecht and Velma Grier**. Apologies to anyone we forgot to mention.



We look forward to new members joining the fun and welcome back all those who can get involved in bettering this area of the community. Even if you have two black thumbs, you can help by picking up stray trash as you pass by and pulling up the occasional weed.

Executive Board

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703.922.7290 /summerh@erols.com

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Programs - OPEN

Volunteers

Vivienne Lukacs
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Community Representative - OPEN

*-denotes a new person/responsibility
as of October, 2004

DEL RAY ARTISANS

GALLERY LOCATION : 2704 MT VERNON AVE.

MAIL: 2210 MT. VERNON AVE.

ALEXANDRIA VIRGINIA 22301

PH: 703.838.4827

The littlest member

Martin and Jennifer Angebranntd welcomed Collin Martin Angebranntd into their, and the DRA family, Saturday, February 5th.

Collin weighed 9 pounds 1.6 ounces and was 21.5" long at birth. Now with Board President **Susan Slattery's** daughter Castle, DRA will have to consider a special Infant Division!

Art by the Yard show

This year's collaborative show with Springwater Fiber Workshop had gossamer threads in the air. Literally.

Many new and unusual fabric creations were displayed on the walls and hung from the ceiling at the gallery during this annual collaboration.

Co-curators, **Linda Silk** and **Randy Scheessele**, reported many positive comments about the work as it floated around people's heads. Several sales were also made.

More information about the Springwater Fiber Workshop is available on their web site: www.springwaterfiber.org

Member benefits

Continuing the string of DRA member benefits we have previously noted, we bring yet another one! (to see previous benefit lists, please refer to the *Well Crafted Word* archive at our web site, www.delrayartisans.org.)

Stephany Wright, owner of Artifacts, Inc., located in Del Ray, is offering DRA members a 10% discount on complete framing jobs. Please call 703.519.1711 for details.

And as a follow-up to the mailing you should have received from our credit

union, CommonWealth One Federal Credit Union, **Susanne Waltmeyer** will be happy to answer your questions. Please call her at 703.236.7635.

Membership in DRA a great deal! Not only do you get to meet Del Ray's coolest people, but we bring you real benefits that no other arts organization can/does offer. If your membership has expired or you are reading this free copy of the *Well Crafted Word*, please drop a check in the mail to renew your membership or join the fun.