



## The Well Crafted Word

www.thedelrayartisans.org

December 2006

Del Ray Artisans...since 1992



Del Ray Artisans Treasurer Marlin G. Lord presenting Del Ray Artisans' artist-designed T-shirt to City Manager Jim Hartmann, right, with his wife Marcia Hartmann and Mayor Bill Euille looking on.

### The Del Ray Artisans Host a Reception in Honor of Jim Hartmann

A reception was held in Honor of **Jim Hartmann**, City Manager of the City of Alexandria, at the Del Ray Artisans gallery on November 16, 2006. *The Alexandria Commission for the Arts*, the *Alexandria Arts Forum* and *The Del Ray Artisans* hosted the reception. Thanks to the many individuals and businesses that made this reception a welcoming success.

### Bead it! 2 was a Rousing Success

Over 50 artists were juried into the Bead it! 2 show by judges Carol Supplee of *Imagine Artwear* and Susan Klock of *Arts Afire Gallery*. A big thank you goes to both of these local business owners who supported the show by providing gift certificates for the first place winners.

During the show, a lampworking workshop was held with local bead maker Lisa St. Martin. Anyone visiting the gallery that weekend got an extra treat with the opportunity to watch glass beads being made.

Sales were brisk and those who attended were very impressed with the work.

Thank you to all who entered the show. The quality of work was exemplary, which made judging difficult. Congratulations to the Bead it! 2 prize winners

*Non-wearable Beadwork*

**Leslie Harris** for her wire beads, "Grapes of Wire"

*Wearable Artwork*

**Caroline Faiella** for her necklace of Yellow Jade and Jasper, "Cleopatra"

*Original Bead*

**Deborah Gibson** for her glass bead, "Artifact"

Contributors this month include:

**Barbara Boehm, Barb Brecher, Kathryn Brown, Mara Burk, Theresa Kulstad, Susan Slattery and Daniel Wise.**

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

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

**Submission deadline** 20<sup>th</sup> of month preceding (12/20 for January)

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**Website:**  
www.TheDelRayArtisans.org

### DO YOUR HOLIDAY SHOPPING...

and support the **DEL RAY ARTISANS** while you shop!  
The Del Ray Artisans are participating in a Barnes & Noble BOOKFAIR

**BARNES & NOBLE-POTOMAC YARD • DECEMBER 8, 9 & 10!**  
*Sunday Craft event – 12-4 p.m.*

Barnes & Noble will donate 15-25% of your total in-store purchases to The Del Ray Artisans!



## The Del Ray Artisans Membership Renewals

Thanks to those of you who renewed your membership this year. Please check your mailing label to determine if your membership expires this month and renew your membership by contacting:

Membership Co-Directors Mara Burk at maraburk@hotmail.com or Jennifer Webb at mdjm5660@aol.com or Co-Treasurer Kathryn Brown at (703) 549-5227.

## Cards are in the HOUSE in February!

The House of Cards exhibit is making a comeback February 2-18, 2007—just in time for Valentines Day. This popular exhibit features handmade, one-of-a-kind cards—each a mini work of art.

Call for artists, crafters, stampers and cardies (people who make cards): this is an all

medium show, as long as your work of art is in the format of a card.

To learn more, visit [www.thedelrayartisans.org](http://www.thedelrayartisans.org) and click on "Calls for Entry" or contact: Karen Schmitz at schmityk@yahoo.com or Barbara Boehm at (703) 838-6265.

## Your Creative Input Needed!

The Del Ray Artisans is having an in-store demo and creative activity to promote our fundraising weekend. Your creative input and assistance is needed to help folks with this simple and fun bookmark project, promote DRA and help bring together an artful community. Additionally, do some gift shopping while you're in the store using the

Barnes & Noble fundraising vouchers that give back a percentage of voucher sales to benefit the Del Ray Artisans. Join us Sunday, December 10 from noon until 4 p.m. at Barnes & Noble in Potomac Yard Shopping Center. For more information or to volunteer please call Theresa Kulstad at (703) 283-0399.

## DRA Hosts *White Whale* for First Night Alexandria

The Del Ray Artisans will host the White Whale New Orleans Rhythm Band for First Night Alexandria. Get a front row seat as a volunteer at the gallery that night! We need volunteers for two-hour shifts from 6 -11:30 p.m. on Sunday December 31, 2006.

This truly is a jazzy way to earn those volunteer hours. Come to the gallery for your shift and then sample another First Night venue before or after. If you're interested in helping, please contact Barbara Boehm at barbxb@yahoo.com or (703) 838-6265.

## *A Note of Thanks*

*"My family joins me in thanking all of our wonderful friends at Del Ray Artisans*

*for their many expressions of sympathy upon the recent death of my husband, Richard Lukacs. Your prayers, donations, flowers, visits and caring messages were such a comfort to us at such a sad and difficult time. Your kindness will always be remembered."*

*Fondly, Vivienne*



## Knowing When to Stop—Sometimes it Takes Two or More

Like many artists, it's difficult for me to seek out the advice of my closest friends and family much less take my paintings to a group of artists where I'm subjecting myself to criticism of many. Unsure of what might be said I hesitated to share my work with **The Del Ray Artisans Peer Critique Group**—I overcame.

The first piece I shared was a plein air landscape about which I was truly passionate. When painted, the sun shone through a veil of fog creating a luminous light that distorted detail and softened the colors of the morning landscape. Pleased with the piece, I took it back to the studio where I continued to work it until I realized that I had gone too far, it was overworked—the group agreed.

The second piece I displayed was a work in progress of a tree portrait taken off the easel as I was leaving for the critique. I was unsure that I was ready to share it much less invite people to comment on its composition, value,

color, line, etc. After explaining the piece and my plans, I was clearly told, "you are finished—sign it, frame it and show it." I consented to live with it for a while without touching it.

It's been a month since the first peer critique and I'm still living with both pieces, one tacked to the studio wall and the other on an easel. I've decided the overworked piece will serve as a sketch for a larger piece... I hope I know when to stop. What of the tree portrait? I plan to sign it, frame it, and show it.

Thank you to all who participated. Your thoughts and comments were professional and thoughtful, without malice, jealousy, or envy. And, thank you for telling me to stop.

The next peer critique will take place in January 2007. For more information, please contact Michele Reday Cook at (703) 548-2273 or [mredaycook@mac.com](mailto:mredaycook@mac.com), or Daniel Wise at [danielwise@verizon.net](mailto:danielwise@verizon.net).



## We're on the Verge of a "Southern Surge"

Hurricane Katrina wiped out nearly fifty galleries in Hancock County, Mississippi. Hundreds of artisans in these Gulf Coast towns were left without homes and studios. Many artists lost their portfolios along with the means to support themselves.

In joining the nationwide effort to help these artful souls get back to creating and provide them with exhibition opportunities, The Del Ray Artisans proudly host **Southern Surge**, which runs March 2 through April 1, 2007. Come see what emerged from their surge!

Southern Surge features hurricane-force art, the *Mississippi Market* (a collection of art pieces, suitable for gift giving, available for immediate purchase) and extended Friday evening hours during the month of March. Stay tuned as we continue planning other special events and workshops lead by visiting artists.

To join the efforts of this incredible outreach event contact Theresa Kulstad at [tkulstad@verizon.net](mailto:tkulstad@verizon.net), or Linda Elliff at [lElliff@aol.com](mailto:lElliff@aol.com) or (703) 360-1265.

## 2006 Calendar of Events

December 8, 9 & 10	Barnes & Noble BOOKFAIR & Ornament workshop
December 12	Board Meeting (7:00 p.m.)
December 31	First Night Alexandria venue – 6:30-11:30 p.m.

See enclosed **CALENDAR** insert for Del Ray Artisans' exciting plans for 2007!





**Executive Board**

**President**  
 Susan Downs Slattery  
 703.922.7290 /summarh@erols.com  
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 Joan Ulrich  
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**Volunteers**  
 Barbara Boehm  
 barbxb@yahoo.com / 703.838.6265  
**Community Representative - OPEN**

The Holiday Market Committee thanks Patricia Woodhouse for her assistance in judging entries. Patricia is the owner of *Bead Obsessions*, 619 S. Washington St., Alexandria, Va.

**Welcome New Del Ray Artisans Members**

**October:**

Amy E. Bruce	Cathy A. Dreher	Patrice Valle	Also, welcome back to Founding Member: Dara Schumaier
Romy E. Hosford	Sylvia E. Ellis	Jesse Walker	
Lynn P. Gillis	Jennifer Hill		
Kay Bailey	Maria Alexandra Salinas		

**Join DRA as an artist or supporter**

Renewal       New Member

Title \_\_\_\_\_ Name(s) \_\_\_\_\_  
First Middle Initial Last

Corporation Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_  
Street City State Zip

Home Phone ( ) \_\_\_\_\_ Work Phone ( ) \_\_\_\_\_ e-Mail \_\_\_\_\_

Artist  Media

Unless contributing as a Corporate entity or Friend of DRA, I understand that as a DRA Active Artist member I will contribute a minimum of 10 volunteer hours annually. These are hours non-related to the requirements of an exhibiting artist in a DRA show, as all exhibit participants are required to gallery sit or assist with other aspects of an exhibit in which they participate. Please indicate below your areas of interest:

- COMMUNICATIONS:**  Mailings  Newsletter  Public Relations; **FACILITY:**  Gallery Maintenance  Gardening; **FINANCE:**  Grants; **FUNDRAISING:**  Solicitation  Special Events; **GALLERY:**  Curating/Co-curating  Hanging Shows; **HISTORIAN/ARCHIVIST:**  Photograph Albums/Scrapbooks; **MEMBERSHIP:**  Data Input  Sponsor/Corporate Solicitation; **OUTREACH:**  Community Events/Activities; **PROGRAMS:**  Art Camp  Class Instructor  Member Events; **VOLUNTEER:**  Telephoning;  JUST ABOUT ANYTHING

Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_

**Dues:**  \$500 Gold Corporate;  \$250 Silver Corporate;  \$35 Friend of DRA;  \$35 Active Artist;  \$50 Household;  \$10 Student/Senior/Disabled

Dues payable to **DEL RAY ARTISANS** and mail with this form to:  
 Del Ray Artisans, Attn. Membership, 2704 Mt. Vernon Ave., Alexandria, VA 22301