



The Well Crafted Word

a monthly publication of the **Del Ray Artisans...** since 1992 www.thedelrayartisans.org

Art Supply Swap

Trade your unused art supplies! Bring them to the gallery on Tuesday, February 20 at 7:30 p.m. for DRA's annual Art Supply Swap and General Member event. Refreshments served. Volunteers needed for set-up and breakdown. Contact Jamee Telford at wrecker17@yahoo.com, 703.842.7542 or Barbara Robinson brobins123@gmail.com.

Farewell from DRA President Susan Slattery



Dear DRA members & friends: It is with mixed emotions that I bid all of you "Adios" as my family and I head West for our next adventure. Having spent more than ten years with the Del Ray Artisans, I take great pleasure in recalling all that we've accomplished and look forward to hearing about all the exciting things in store for DRA! I'm proud to have worked with so many talented, dedicated and fun people on so many projects, fundraisers, shows, website, and newsletter. It is satisfying to know how much we have grown in both membership and in organizational maturity. And, when I realize that we've now garnered not only regional, but statewide recognition for our exhibits and programs, I am immensely pleased!

I leave you in the capable and creative hands of our Board. Many hugs and kisses to all of you hard-working folks! And remember, if you're traveling through Austin, our doors are open and we'd love to see you! Best, Susan

Southern Surge Promises Art, Programs and Entertainment for All

March brings us a **Southern Surge** of art, crafts, programs and entertainment in DRA's most ambitious outreach project in recent memory. Hancock County, Mississippi was among the many Gulf Coast communities hard hit by Hurricane Katrina in August, 2005, and is the home of our visiting artists. Much of the work shown is inspired by the devastation and recovery experiences of these artists.

After meeting with Southern Surge committee member Leslie Wilder, General Manager Mary Ann Russell of Embassy Suites Olde Towne has generously donated a suite of rooms which will accommodate up to three visiting Hancock County artists for Surge's opening weekend and workshops. We are extremely grateful for Embassy Suites' generosity and support.

We are pleased that some of the Hancock County artists have agreed to offer workshops to our members. The opening weekend March 3-4 (10 a.m.-4 p.m.) features an all-out expressive, hands-on workshop with Lori K. Gordon, mixed media artist. Lori will share her unique collage process which combines "pour painting," monotype, and polymer clay relief.

Monday, March 5 at 7:00 p.m., painter Liz Schafer will give a free presentation titled "Visual Music." She will discuss

music appreciation touching on art history, the birth of the blues and New Orleans jazz, her Bay St. Louis environment, along with the evolution of how she came to "paint music."

On Friday, March 16 at 7:00 p.m., artist Schonda Sweeney will speak

about the Southern culture of the five cities of Hancock County,

in a free presentation called "Community and Hospitality—Southern Gulf Coast Style."

The documentary film, "The Art of the Storm" (running time 55 min.) will be shown Saturdays and Sundays, March 3 - April 1 at the gallery at 4:30 p.m.

The *Southern Surge* show opens with a reception on Friday, March 2, and closes Sunday, April 2. In addition

See **Southern Surge** on page 3



Altar • Lori K. Gordon

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