

MAG

Manassas Art Guild NEWSLETTER

February 2011

Manassas Art Guild, Inc. • PO Box 3565 • Manassas, VA 20108 • www.manassasartguild.com

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Publicist: Maureen Guillot

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Thursday, February 3, 2011 7:00-8:45 pm MAG Membership Meeting at Bull Run Regional Library 8051 Ashton Avenue, Manassas, VA

The following MAG members will be sharing their hidden creative talents at this meeting. They include:

Michele Frantz - collage boxes made from recycled materials

Rosemarie Wunderlich - "handanger" or pierced embroidery

Dennis Dubois - Native American artwork

Kay Breeden - crocheting and knitting

Morgan Breeden - fretwork or scroll-saw woodwork

Marcia Marshall - wooden creatures made from "found" wood



A Few Words from the Prez:

Happy New Year! I hope everyone had a pleasant and re-invigorating holiday season. You may need a little extra energy this year, because we have a busy, busy time coming up. As most of you know, the 150th anniversary of the Civil War is looming, and Manassas is slated to be a top tourist destination during the festivities. MAG committees are currently exploring ways to tap into this potential market. In the meantime, as you'll see elsewhere in this newsletter, we already have a number of activities scheduled to get your creative juices flowing.

*We're starting off with a bang in February by casting a spotlight on the "hidden talents" of some of our members. I hope you'll join us at the February membership meeting and check out the more offbeat **objets d'art** your MAG colleagues have come up with. It should be fun and different, and as always we'll have some refreshments to tickle your taste buds during the proceedings.*

Also at the meeting, we'll take some time to look over the submissions to our logo contest -- and YOU get to choose the winning logo. A new logo will be a big step in helping MAG establish a more coherent identity, which in turn will help us to keep moving forward. So show up and let us know your preference -- the winning artist will receive \$200, so we'd like to have as much input as possible into the selection process.

Finally, it's time once again to take nominations for board members. We've been short-handed all year, and in any case we'd welcome a fresh perspective from some new members. The job descriptions have been updated and can be found on our website, www.manassasartguild.org. (Look under the "Media" heading.) If you can volunteer for the board, please contact a current member -- we're listed on the membership directory attached to this newsletter. Nominations will be taken at the February meeting, and elections will be held at the March meeting.

As you can see, the February meeting is going to be an important (and fun) one ... so don't miss it. And NO SNOW!!!!

That's all for now. I look forward to having more fun with you all this year. Never a dull moment when you're with the Manassas Art Guild!

-- Michele Frantz

UPCOMING EVENTS

Art Challenge - The MAINE Event!

Exact dates TBA, but the exhibit will take place throughout May



How it works:

First, you need to get hold of some of Michele's photographs of Maine.

The photos are online. To find them, go to MAG's website, www.manassasartguild.org, and look under the Events heading. From there, go to The Maine Event page. This page will contain links to all of Michele's photo albums. There are 10 to 20 photos in each album.

You may download and/or print out any photo. (Right click on the photo to save it to your computer.) If you don't have internet access or have problems obtaining a photo off the 'net, contact Michele at 703-791-5767 and she will send a couple photos to you.

Create up to 3 works inspired by these photos. Any media. (**Photographers**, this includes you! - submit your own Maine photos :-) or any photos *inspired by* Michele's photos: rocks, sunsets, sailboats, wildflowers, etc.)

OPTIONAL: Submit jpegs of your creations, and we'll post them on our website! Email to Jackie Judge, jacqueline.judge@gmail.com.

More stuff you need to know:

- **Deadline to enter:** April 23, 2011.
- **Entry fee:** None. For MAG members only.
- **Commission on sales:** 15%.
- **Volunteerism:** Exhibitors are asked to help hang the exhibit.
- **Entries:** Up to 3 pieces per artist, any media. 2D pieces up to 30," and framed with wire on the back (no sawtooth hangers). 3D pieces up to 12" in diameter and 18 " high. Small works (8"x10" or less) also encouraged, as we will have display cases as well as wall space to fill.
- **Location of exhibit:** Bull Run Regional Library, 8051 Ashton Avenue.
- **Drop off:** TBA, but typically a Saturday morning.
- **Labeling:** All pieces must be labeled with artist's name, title of work, medium, and artist's telephone number. MAG labels will be provided in drop off area.
- **Pick up:** TBA, but typically a Saturday morning.

TO ENTER: Contact Maria Briganti at 703-590-1437, mariarts@comcast.net and inform her of your intent to exhibit.

More Info on The MAINE Event!!

Part I: Art Challenge!

Straight from the mind of Maria Briganti (so look out!) As some of our readers may know, MAG prez Michele Frantz spent most of the summer in Maine last year, taking hundreds of photographs. Upon seeing some of these photographs, Maria was inspired to arrange an exhibit at Bull Run Regional Library called -- ta da! -- "The Maine Event."

Your mission, should you choose to accept it -- create some artwork for this exhibit, using one or more of Michele's photos as inspiration. All media welcome. MAG members only.

The exhibit is in May. Everything you need to know is in the entry form attached to this newsletter, and on the MAG website. Now go forth and create!

* * *

Part II: Workshop

Need help getting started on some paintings of Maine? Michele is conducting an all-day watercolor workshop on March 19, also called ... "The Maine Event." (Amazing how that works, isn't it?) Michele will supply some of her favorite photos, and show you how to capture many of the aspects of a Maine summer; glorious sunsets, sparkling surf, mysterious fog, bobbing sailboats, and more. The workshop is open to non-members as well as members, so tell your friends.

You do not have to take the workshop in order to participate in the May exhibit.

(The registration form for the watercolor workshop is attached to this newsletter email)



April 9 & April 10, 2011 (6 Hours: 2 - 5pm) - MAG member Jill Brabant will teach a two day workshop that focuses on creating fun and interesting compositions using the rose as the primary subject. The workshop will begin with a demonstration using real flowers, and then students will set-up their own still life. Students will examine the flower structure of the rose and paint the interplay of light upon the petals, stems and leaves. Students will learn how to paint alla prima focusing on color and edges. Register online at www.center-for-the-arts.org or call (703) 330-2787. [Class Supply List and Suggested Reading Material](#) can be found at <http://www.jbrabantfineart.com/events.html> www.JBrabantfineart.com 571-643-5782



Mother's Day Tea
By Jill Brabant

CALENDAR OF EVENTS (continued)

Attached to this newsletter is the most recent Calendar of Events -- please print it out and post it where you can find it! If you can post a few extras around the community, in churches or in workplaces, that would be even better.

We have so much happening this year, we couldn't fit it all onto the Spring/Summer Calendar of Events ... so there will be a separate Summer calendar later on this year! (Notice we couldn't even fit the February membership meeting onto THIS calendar.) In the meantime, here's a heads up on some of the things we're working on for later in the year....

In April, May & June -- paint-outs and/or some sort of field trips to Civil War sites, where we can paint and photograph our hearts out.

The last weekend in April -- the County is planning an arts festival. We just received the announcement about this and don't have any details yet.

The first weekend in June, an exhibit at the Railway Festival. We plan to have paint-outs beforehand to prepare for this, also.

Paint! Manassas will be extended to cover most of the year; including the aforementioned paint-outs, but also an exhibit in July at the new Hylton Center at George Mason (Manassas Campus). We also hope to have some other exhibits in the community as part of the hoopla surrounding the 150th anniversary of the Civil War. All summer - First Fridays in Old Town. More opportunities to get your work in front of the public. Also, there is always the possibility of exhibiting again at the Farmer's Market -- this was our best-selling venue the times we were there.

As the spring progresses more is bound to crop up, as the City itself is planning numerous event. It's going to be a busy year! Tie yourselves in, and hang on!

Michele Frantz, Artist
www.myarcadia.8m.com

REPORT FROM THE MAG BOARD & COMMITTEES

Although it doesn't always seem like it, the board and committees have been up to quite a bit in the past few months, all in the interest of making MAG's organizational structure a little stronger, and by extension, making MAG a sounder organization as it moves forward. We hope this will in turn make it easier for volunteers to understand their role in the Guild, and for members in general to have a better understanding of and relationship to the organization.

Here's an update on some of the things we've accomplished and/or are working on:

Job descriptions! If MAG ever had any, they have long since disappeared into the dust of time. So far we have completed the descriptions for the officers of the board, and for two of the committees (newsletter and membership). The rest are underway; as they become available, you'll be able to access them on our website. We're hoping this will make it easier to attract and retain volunteers, since they will have a more clearly defined role in the organization from now on.

We have also acquired a phone number! Up until now members have had to publish their personal phone numbers in the media as a point of contact. Besides being somewhat unprofessional, it's also not always the most comfortable position to be in (Michele, for one, has received a couple of VERY strange calls). Because it's an internet phone number, we'll have to get a little training to put it into use, but pretty soon you should see it implemented in most of our publicity.

Accounting software. Shane was able to find a terrific deal on this, and once we work out the kinks it should enable us to take a much more detailed look at MAG's finances, and just provide better management tools overall. This will become particularly important as our budget continues to grow and become more complex.

Goal setting. This is proving to be more difficult than we would like but should bear the most fruit in the long run. So far we have been studying what MAG wants, what it has, and what it doesn't want or have. Once we've figured this out, we should be able to start addressing the issue of what to do about it. Expect to hear more about this as the year progresses; we'll be looking for your input.

Internet presence. Thanks to Allen Pearson, MAG now has a Facebook page! Also you can follow us on Twitter. So all you social networkers out there, get busy and friend us, and tell your friends to do likewise. This will be a great way to reach an ever-growing audience and hopefully attract new members. Also thanks to Jackie Judge, we are now going to be able to keep our own website more up to date. In fact, Jackie has already posted job descriptions, entry forms, photos and more... this in addition to the visual revamp that Shane completed a couple months ago. If you haven't been to the MAG website recently, make a visit -- it's looking fine.