NEWS from the PALETTE

Louisiana Art & Artists' Guild www.laag-site.org 926-4657 **July Issue**

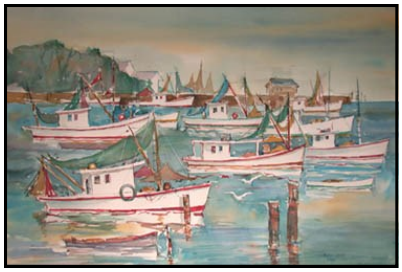
Byron Levy-Interviewed by Howard Hershberg & Tom Skillern



Tom Skillern and I recently had the pleasure of interviewing Byron Levy, LWS, who is healthy, hale, and hearty at 85 years young. Because Byron was my first watercolor teacher (after taking some night courses at Tulane's University College), and because he and his wife Carole are close personal friends, Tom and I wanted to provide Byron with a good opportunity to review his extensive artistic background and the factors that led him to it.



Byron was originally trained as a mechanical engineer, but when he enlisted in the Army Air Corps in 1943, he started keeping illustrated diaries and became interested in art. He has now been an artist for over 67 years. One of Byron's memorable quotes is "I'd rather paint than eat". He has been actively drawing, painting and exhibiting his art in various venues in New Orleans, and since he and Carole moved here after Katrina, right here in Baton Rouge.



Byron is a "self-taught artist" and has never taken any formal art lessons. His favorite art movement is the "Impressionist Period" because he feels that the Impressionists interpreted the scenes they painted rather than copying them directly from nature. Byron's favorite artists are Don Kingman, Edgar Whitney, Robert Wood, and Milford Zornes. Byron called the fact that Milford Zornes was an early illustrator for Walt Disney to our attention during the interview. Byron also pointed out that he admired the work of Raoul Dufy.

Byron's two favorite mediums are transparent watercolors and acrylics. His favorite place to paint is "en plein aire" if the weather allows.

Byron stated, "An artist has to show his work to approximately 200 people before he makes a sale." Byron volunteered to provide a "Watercolor Sketch Demonstration" at the LAAG reception on June 13 at the Independence Park Theatre.



Byron's most recent achievement is winning an Honorable Mention at a recent LWS art show. Byron's work can currently be found at Taylor-Clarke Art Gallery on Government Street in Baton Rouge.



Please excuse the recent problems with the LAAG website. At the beginning of May, LAAG's hosting company's server computer crashed, and new equipment had to be purchased and configured. This process took an extremely long time, and the LAAG website was either unavailable or not working correctly for over a month. Thankfully, everything is now back to normal. Due to this insufficient service and other minor problems, LAAG will be transferring our website to a new hosting company at the end of this year. We apologize for any inconvenience this outage may have caused our members.

It's time to start thinking about this year's River Road Show. The deadline to submit your entries is September 17. Entries will be juried in by the judge, Paul Jackson, and notifications will be sent out in October. The exhibit will hang at the LA State Archives during December and January. A Prospectus containing complete details has been mailed to all LAAG members. Last year we received entries from 98 artists in Louisiana. Let's see if we can best that number this year!



The Opening Doors Summer Art Camp will be held from June 14 through July 2. LAAG hosts this free camp every year for underprivileged middle and high school students from the Gardere area. The students create a themed mural that is exhibited for public viewing in the Baton Rouge area. This year's theme is Louisiana Music. Students work under the instruction of mural artist and EBRP public school Talented Art teacher Geeta Dave. The Opening Doors Art Camp provides students with the opportunity to experience the pride that comes from creating something beautiful and the joy of giving it back to the community for others to enjoy. More information and pictures of this year's mural will be available in the next newsletter and an email with links to the same will be coming soon.

Last year the students created a mural titled "Art in the Park" which was installed on the exterior front walls of our Studio in the Park building. Unfortunately, due to three separate acts of vandalism, we regrettably had to remove the mural. We are now looking for a new place to display this beautiful piece of artwork.



Members' Forums

The last members' Forum was held on March 7 and featured a demonstration by Margaret Koai. Thank you to all the members who showed up and shared their ideas.

The following are some of the suggestions made at the last Members' Forum and our responses.



Calling Tree
The Calling Tree will be reestablished in the very near future. The current member applications will be reviewed to identify persons interested in volunteering for this activity.



Facebook page
This is a great idea. Anyone interested in setting up and/or maintaining a LAAG Facebook page, please contact Lane Downs at laned69@yahoo.com or 275-8835 to volunteer.



Suggested Theme for Open Studio
Beginning in July a series of themes will be implemented every Wednesday at Open Studio. In addition to the chosen theme, specific resources from the LAAG library will be laid out in the studio to support the chosen theme. Themes for July are Flowers, Architecture, People and Still Life Painting. Member artists will be encouraged to share their knowledge of the themes and to conduct short demonstrations.



Collection of Non-Art Magazines for Picture Ideas
A basket of magazines for use to generate picture ideas will be placed in the studio under the sign-in table. Feel free to browse the magazines and to drop off your old magazines to add to the collection.



Frequently Asked Questions
FAQs will be addressed in each newsletter. Look for this new section.

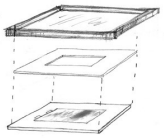


E-mail Calendar Reminders
These reminders are in the works presently. LAAG will have an announcement in the September newsletter. Both monthly and individual event e-mail reminders will be implemented.



Explanation of Judged and Juried Shows
Judged shows are art shows in which both members and non-members are allowed to show original work, executed within the last two years which is not based on published photographs, done as a class work or in workshops. A fee of $8 is charged per entry. Refer to the 2010 Membership Handbook for additional information.
Juried Shows – LAAG sponsors one juried show per year, the River Road Show. A prospectus with the rules of submission is mailed to all LAAG members. A juried art show has an individual or group acting as juror(s) of the submitted art work selecting which are to be exhibited. The artwork in the show is then judged.

The next Members' Forum is on Sunday, July 11, from 2 - 4 pm and will feature a demonstration by Tom Skillern on how to frame your paintings and make your own frames.



In order to better inform the membership, each newsletter will feature answers to Frequently Asked Questions.



How much does it cost to enter an exhibit?

Judged Shows cost $8.00 per entry.
Member Shows cost $5.00 per entry.
The annual River Road Show is $40 for up to 3 entries.
Displaying artwork in any of the ongoing exhibit locations is free.

What is an ongoing exhibit?

The exhibits at the Serops Express Restaurants, the Mayor's Office and the Atelier Rouge Salon are considered ongoing because there are always paintings hanging there. They are periodically changed out.

When and where do I drop off my paintings?

You should bring paintings to be entered into a show at Independence Park Theatre to the theatre on the first day of the exhibit (take-in/pick-up day). The take in/pick up day is always on a Thursday. The time now starts at 12 and lasts until 4 pm.

You should bring paintings to be entered into any ongoing exhibit to the Studio in the Park on any Wednesday (10am-4pm) or Sunday (1-4pm) prior to the hanging date.

When and where do I pick up my paintings?

You should pick up paintings that were entered into a show at Independence Park Theatre from the theatre on the take-in/pick-up day, which is the last day of the current exhibit and the first day of the next exhibit. It will always be a Thursday from 12-4 pm.

Paintings entered into an ongoing exhibit, such as Serops and Atelier Rouge Salon can be picked up from the Studio in the Park on Wednesdays from 10am-4 pm and Sundays from 1-4pm.

How are sales handled?

All sales are handled by the buyer contacting the individual artist directly. The artist's phone number is displayed on a card with every painting at every hanging location. Paintings sold from the Independence Park Theater are charged a 15% commission by BREC. No commission is charged at any other location, however LAAG will always appreciate a 10% donation.

Exhibits

Previous Exhibit

LAAG provided an exhibit at the Baton Rouge Little Theatre from May 3rd through May 26th. Paintings selected for the exhibit have all won prizes or been juried into various venues.

Current Exhibit

Twenty-five LAAG artists submitted 53 paintings for the Workshop Show. The paintings were completed in workshops from 19 different instructors. The reception for the Workshop Show took place June 13 at Independence Park Theatre. Byron Levy did a watercolor sketch demo at the reception. A thank-you goes out to all the artists whose participation helped to make the show a success.

Upcoming Exhibit

Take in for the Summer Judged Show will be held at Independence Park Theatre on July 22nd, from 12-4 pm. Cash awards totaling $500 will be presented as prizes for the paintings judged 1st, 2nd, and 3rd. The reception will be held on Sunday, August 1st from 2-4 pm.

On-Going Exhibits

In June, we changed the paintings on display at the Serops Express Restaurants. On July 9th, the paintings on display at the Atelier Rouge Salon in the downtown Hilton Hotel will be changed out.

One of LAAG's goals is to provide exhibiting opportunities for our members. We have secured several new locations and are currently working out the details. Art work will be displayed at the following businesses: The Home Store on Perkins Road, Monjunis Restaurant on Highland Road, the Forum Salon at Town Center, and Derek Chang's Koto Japanese Restaurant on Corporate Blvd.

Currently we have on-going exhibits at the Mayor's Office, Serops Express Restaurants and The Atelier Rouge Salon. With the addition of any new locations, it may become difficult to keep track of upcoming exhibits. In an effort to organize all the dates, a complete exhibit schedule is now available on the LAAG website (www.laag-site.org/exhibits.html).

Upcoming Workshops

Annie Strack - Painting Seascapes in Watercolor



July 15-17, Thursday - Saturday
Fee: $250.00 members / $300.00 non-members

Louisiana Art and Artist's Guild will host celebrated Lacombe watercolorist, Annie Strack as she conducts her workshop "Painting Seascapes in watercolor" from July 15 - 17 at the Studio in the Park located in Baton Rouge, Louisiana.



Participants in this workshop will learn the techniques to paint realistic water and skies. They will learn how to create convincing reflections and shadows in water, and how to paint various types of waves and water movement. Participants will learn multiple watercolor techniques including glazing, washes, dry brush, masking, lifting, etc., also composition design, values, and use of color temperatures.
Please contact Caroline Smack at 925-5764 for more information or visit www.laag-site.org/Workshop_Schedule_10.html For workshop description and materials list visit www.anniestrackart.com/2006/03/annie-strack-



Elayne Kuehler – Oil workshop

August 13-15, Friday – Sunday, 9:00am – 4:00pm
Fee: $150.00 members / $200.00 non-members

Elayne Kuehler will teach an oil painting workshop on how to paint cloth or drape in the still life and how to paint white on white. Elayne will begin classes with a demonstration. To register contact Caroline Smack at 925-5764. Visit www.elaynekuehler.com to see Elayne's work.





Here's the inside story—direct from Larry Downs—about what is covered in his on-going classes:

Drawing for Beginners and Intermediate Artists:
2nd Monday through the last Monday of each month, 6:00 pm to 8:00 pm
Fee: $45.00 per month



Classes are informal, month-to-month lessons covering various subjects. Included over time will be contour drawing, gesture drawing, values, composition, elements and principles of design, perspective, and people. Classes are structured to suit the needs of the individual as well as the class as a whole.

Acrylic for Beginners and Intermediate Artists:
Every Thursday, 6:00 pm to 8:00 pm
Fee: $60.00 per month
A Supply list can be found at
www.laag-site.org/Artists/Downs/Supply_list2.html



Classes are informal, month-to-month lessons covering various subjects, including what you'll need to get started, basic techniques such as opaque and glazing methods, and special techniques such are texturing and pouring. We'll also study color, color mixing, and color composition. You'll learn to paint still-lifes, landscapes, abstracts, and more. Classes are structured to suit the needs of the individual as well as the class as a whole.

Larry Downs can be contacted at 275-8835 or larrygdowns@yahoo.com

Life Drawing Sessions

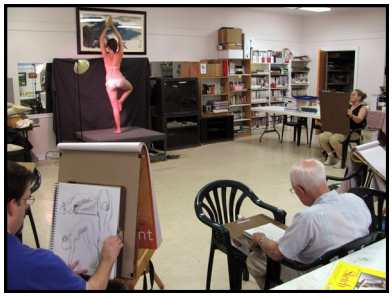
Every Wednesday, 6:00 pm to 9:00 pm
Fee: $10.00 per night / $30.00 per month

Sessions are open studio, no instruction provided.
Artists are welcome to draw or paint a live model in different poses for various durations.

Contact Steve Shamburger at steve@steveshamburger.com







How to register for LAAG Workshops

1. Contact our Workshop Chair, Caroline Smack, via email at carolinesmack@hotmail.com or telephone at 925-5764.
2. Caroline will put your name on the workshop list. If the workshop is full, you will be put on a waiting list.
3. If you left or emailed a message, Caroline will respond and tell you that she's placed your name on the list or the waiting list.
4. Mail in a $50 non-refundable deposit to LAAG to reserve your spot. Please make checks out to "LAAG". Mail to: LAAG, 2490 Silverest Ave, Baton Rouge, LA 70816. Do not send your checks to Caroline. Your deposit must be paid within a week of the workshop or you could forfeit your spot to someone on the waiting list. Please write on the memo line of your check which workshop you are attending.



That's it! On the first day of class, you pay the class fee (minus your $50 deposit).

All workshops and classes are held in the Studio in the Park, 2490 Silverest Ave, Baton Rouge, LA (off Old Hammond Hwy, ½ mile east of Airline Hwy).

Recent Workshops

Carol Hallock Oil Workshop

"I had a fabulous time at the workshop. Everyone was friendly and welcoming to me. The venue was excellent with plenty of room to spread out. The paintings produced were excellent. I was flattered to be asked to teach and look forward to the next class next year!"
~ **Carol Hallock**





Wow!!! Carol Hallock's workshop exceeded my expectations. Carol is a warm, friendly, approachable professional. She has a unique talent and more than willing to share with us who are interested and much less accomplished. The two days were motivating, informative, and comfortable. In addition to Carol's willingness to share, those in attendance were most hospitable...southern hospitality at its best. I felt welcome and appreciated. Compared to the other participants, I was a novice and a beginner; yet, I was accepted by the group. I can't wait for the next workshop; hopefully, I will be able to attend.
~ Elissa Poel

Margaret Koai's Chinese Brush Painting Class



Margaret Koai's Chinese brush painting class culminated on May 6, 2010, with a field trip to Margaret's lovely home. Each class participant contributed to a delicious pot-luck luncheon around Margaret's huge solid stone dining table. Before lunch the class participated in a formal Japanese tea ceremony, demonstrated by one of the class members, Fukuko Kuo. Directly after lunch, the group was treated to a traditional Chinese tea demonstration presented by Margaret. The field trip concluded with Margaret leading the participants into the garage for a personal showing of her father's awe inspiring collection of scholar stones, which he brought to America from China. The entire adventure was a fun and relaxing finale to Margaret's very interesting and informative Chinese Brush Painting class.

Class Participant Comments

"Margaret is an excellent teacher: she demonstrates how to use the brush and ink to achieve desired effects in a painting, and she explains the history of painting while doing her demonstrations. She also makes the class fun while correcting or helping the student who has problems in developing an expressive painting."
~ Rose Howe

"The recently-ended Chinese painting class offered by Margaret Koai was my second study with Margaret. In the first class, I found Margaret to be a very warm person, interested in each person in the class, and very obviously qualified to be teaching in this medium, which I have come to enjoy very much. She is humorous and patient--it is not immediately easy for Westerners to adapt to Chinese brushes and working on absorbent rice paper--and generous with her expertise. Watching Margaret paint in class was a highlight of each session. For those who'd like to try their hand at using ink and color on rice paper, I heartily recommend Margaret as an instructor. I think everyone in the class enjoyed it. I hope she will offer this class again. Both times I took her classes, I had unexpected things that cut into my time between weekly classes. I really hope, next time, to be able to devote my time more completely to working on the interesting homework she gave us."
~ Sandra Pickering

"This art class provided a whole new way to look at scenery and the graduation/tea ceremony was wonderful. There was something new to learn each class."
~ Barbara Tetlow






Dotti Berry is one of 12 artists selected to participate in a plein air paint-out guided by American Impressionist painter Dmitri Wright at Weir Farm National Historic Site in Connecticut—one of two visual art sites in the National Park Service and home to three generations of American artists beginning in 1822. Dmitri Wright is a nationally recognized master artist whose work appears in private, corporate, and museum collections. Dmitri follows the Impressionist ideal of artists working together to explore ideas and develop techniques. Dmitri suggests "Be response-*able*. Try to create something in joy … but also try to find joy in it."

Vaughan B. Simpson writes: Fifteen participants greatly enjoyed the Tom Lynch Workshop, May 3 -6, sponsored by the Lafayette Watercolor Guild. Lynch's creative approach to watercolor and lively sense of fun made the workshop a success for everyone. Tom will be returning to Lafayette in early 2012. Workshops planned for 2010-2011 include Martha Guthrie, Robert Guthrie, and others. Information on up-coming activities can be found at www.lafayetteart.org. The Lafayette Watercolor Guild welcomes all regional watercolor painters interested in developing their skills.

Pat Macaluso held a show entitled "Deep Horizons" at The Oak Street Gallery during June.

Louise Hansen was accepted into the Southern Watercolor Society's annual regional show for 2010 with her painting of "Autumn Forest Floor".

Roberta Loflin and **L**ouise Hansen will exhibit watercolors at Mansur's on the Boulevard from June 2nd to Aug 4th.

Howard J. M. Hershberg entered two paintings which are interpretations of Winslow Homer originals in the current LAAG Workshop Show.

Lin Bumgardner sold two paintings at the Hot Art Cool Night event: "Boston Butt" pigs, and "Psst...Hey Up Here!" giraffe. Lin also just sold the triptych, titled "Mystic Woods", at Circa 1857. Also, Lin entered a painting in the LPB Art & Travel Auction, and participated in the Wealth Planners Art Show which opened in June.

Gail Hope received two honorable mentions for her watercolor entries at the Jambalaya Festival. This is the second year she entered. Last year she received a fourth place.

2010 JAMBALAYA FESTIVAL ART SHOW - Six LAAG members won awards!

Best of Show: Joe Lackie

Water Media:
First—Joe Lackie
Second—Denice Cyrex Ducote
Third—Sarah Fergus
Fourth—Denice Cyrex Ducote
Fifth—Randy LaPrairie
HM—Sarah Fergus
HM—Joe Lackie
HM—Fay Milligan
HM—Gaynell Moore
HM—Gail Hope

Oils:
First—Kathy Daigle
Second—Muriel Prejean
Third—Kathy Daigle
Fourth—Kathy Daigle
Fifth—Kathy Daigle
HM—Muriel Prejean
HM—Gail Hope
HM—Vee Taylor
HM—Gaynell Moore
HM—Barbara Louque
HM—Muriel Prejean

Other:
First—Stan Routh
Second—Stan Routh
Third—Randy LaPrairie
Fourth—Kathy Daigle
Fifth—Randy LaPrairie
HM—L. J. Mayers
HM—L. J. Mayers
HM—Stan Routh

Mayor's Choice Award: Paulette Hoffner
Popular Viewers Choice: Barbara Louque and Joe Lackie

Iberville Chapter

The North Iberville Parish Youth Summer Program began on Saturday, June 5th, and runs through Saturday, July 17th. It meets each Saturday from 1:00 pm to 4:00 pm at the Art Guild in Rosedale. There are arts and crafts and games for the kids.



Also at the Rosedale Art Guild, every other Tuesday from 1:00 pm to 4:00 pm is Adult Art Day. They have worked in acrylics and will also work in other mediums. The cost is $15.00 per class for members, and $20.00 per class for non-members.

Feliciana Chapter

Feliciana LAAG artists with one-man shows at East Feliciana Parish Clerk of Court's office were Carol Shirley in May and Alice Kent in June.

McKnight's Gallery will feature beginning students' work from new LAAG members.

Beverly Hausey's entry won the contest for, and is being used this year as Clinton's official Red, White & Blueberry Festival poster.



For more information contact:
Carol Shirley, Clinton Main Street Manager,
225 603-9003

July 2nd from 7 p.m. to 10 p.m.
July 3rd from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Clinton's annual Red, White and Blueberry Festival is celebrating the Fourth of July Friday night, July 2, from 7-10 pm and Saturday, July 3, from 9 am to 3pm.

Visitors will enjoy a brief patriotic address and flag salute, "United We Jam" band, street dance, fireworks (8:30 pm), and open house at downtown businesses on Friday night.

Saturday we'll celebrate with gospel choirs and bands including "Rock the Flock", Mike McCain, and more, Bayou Blasters will be playing dassics induding movie and TV tunes, viewing of the Dukes of Hazzard car, blueberry cooking contest, blueberry plants and products, art show, inflatible amusements and games, and great shopping with the largest community market of the year displaying over 100 vendors of art, crafts, plants, produce, antiques, collectibles, gifts, etc.

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2490 Silverest Avenue
Baton Rouge, LA 70816

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This newsletter is produced by a Committee consisting of the following members:

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Iberville and Feliciana News: Trish Poynot
Exhibits: Charlene Kling
Workshops: Dotti Berry
Interviews: Tom Skillern and Howard Hershberg
Mailing: Leah Schwartzman and Charlene Kling

Information to be included in the newsletter should be sent to Trish Poynot at grannytrishp@yahoo.com by the first of every other month. The newsletter is then published and mailed on the first of the next month.