

HAL Art LEAGUE news

HUNTSVILLE

LEAGUE

news

WHERE LOCAL ART MEETS THE COMMUNITY

MARCH/2005

PRESIDENT'S CORNER

by S. Renee Prasil

This month is going to be short and sweet, because everyone needs to be busy creating! HAL has lots happening and two great opportunities for our artists/members are:

- Panoply: coming soon! Please come out and support our artists who were accepted into this juried annual event and show our city that we appreciate their support. We have a HAL Tent; stop in and say 'hello.'

- Huntsville's Bicentennial Celebration: more information is in this newsletter, but everyone should want to participate in one of the events HAL has in store for this summer! Annette and our Advisory Board have been hard at work preparing these events, so please take advantage of their efforts to support HAL and the many talents of our artists by submitting your application to the juried event or by participating in one of the many painting events around Huntsville. Start painting now (or sculpting, making jewelry, etc) to show your unique vision of our fair city!

There are many more opportunities to exhibit, teach, demonstrate your talent. Check at the HAL gallery for more information and stay tuned! ☰

March Limelight: Billy Herrin

by Billy Herrin



I grew up in Savannah, Georgia and I recall drawing at a very early age. From pre-school through high school I was drawing when I probably should have been spending more time on math and English. I also built model airplanes and cars. It was a reasonable path that I would attend Alabama Polytechnic Institute (Auburn) and study architecture. This allowed me to channel my interest in drawing and my interest in building things into a profession at which I could hopefully make a living.

My last quarter at Auburn Liz and I got married and I did manage to see her a few times while completing my thesis. Upon graduation I

Billy Herrin's watercolors include: "Trees Observing Low Tide," top, "Malta Boat," lower left and "New Girlfriend," lower right.

received a commission as a second lieutenant in the US Army Corps of Engineers and we spent two great years in Germany and France supervising building projects. This was wonderful in that it allowed us to visit, photograph and sketch those classic buildings that I had studied for 6 quarters of architectural history.

In 1964 we returned to Huntsville and I began an architectural career. Over the next 35 years Harvie Jones and I created an architectural firm which produced more than 3000 projects. The firm was Jones and Herrin, and in 2001 it morphed into JH Partners. I officially retired in 2002 and then had to decide what I would do "when I grew up."

While in architectural school I enjoyed learning watercolor techniques to supplement drawings for presentations. As a surprise in 2000, Liz

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Education Director

Susan Christian

Bookkeeper

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Dick Binger 533-3473 dbin5@mac.com

Gallery, Co-Chairs

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Special Events

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Outside Exhibits

Huntsville Times and Arts Council

Julia Hawk 830-1390 jhawk@knology.net

Heritage Club

Dorothy Montgomery 881-9527

Executive Realty

Linda Morton 721-1601

Gallery Tour

FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR / GALLERY DIRECTOR

by Annette Tecza

Thanks to **Martha Montgomery** and **Kay McWhorter** for organizing HAL's participation in the Trinity Market Place arts and crafts fair at Trinity Methodist Church on Airport Road. **Cindi Branham** (who serves on our Advisory Board and is a long time supporter of HAL) spoke to the DuMidi women's organization about HAL in January and got the connections started. What a great opportunity!

And, speaking of opportunities, be sure to read (in the article by **Billy Herrin**) about the wonderful plans under way for HAL members to participate in the art show at the Huntsville Museum of Art. He and the Advisory Board are hard at work to make this event, a part of the Huntsville Bicentennial celebration, a great success. More details will be available soon. ☺

EDUCATION NEWS

HAL will be offering a Spring Break Camp for elementary (grades K-5) school children on March 21 through 25, from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. each day. In addition to art classes, the camp day will include dance/exercise at the Huntsville Dance Academy. Be sure to sign up soon, as the camp enrollment is limited to 16.

Other children's classes during the month of March include Japanimation for Kids with **Paul Rufe**, Multi-media Art with **Sharon Albright**, and Drawing for Homeschoolers with **Karen Young**.

Adult art courses beginning in March include Pastels with **Marcia Leonard**, Watercolors with **Heike Covell**, Drawing with **Karen Young**, Photography (Digital or Film) with **Walt Schumacher**, Classic Oil Painting with **Gabrielle Dempsey**, and **Ron Hogan** is offering three classes: Stepping Stones, Mosaics, and Copper Foil Stained Glass.

Information about all of these classes is in the new schedule, and you can sign up by mail, phone, or in person at the HAL gallery. ☺

MARCH LIMELIGHT: BILLY HERRIN

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gave me a series of watercolor classes with **Chuck Long**. I am proud to say that I am still attending Chuck's classes!

After 5 years, I am just now beginning to understand a little about this fickle medium. With a strong drawing background, my inclination was to "draw" with the paint brush and then direct the paint exactly where to go and what to do. This does not work with watercolors, which is more like "herding cats." The paint does pretty well what it wants to do, depending on the kind of paper, the amount of water, the consistency of the paint, and the type of brush. In a perverse sort of way, this is the excitement of doing watercolors. Each painting creates a special effect as the paint, water and paper merge to produce unique art.

At this point in my painting career I have no specific philosophy or style. But it's exciting to see things beginning to emerge in the similar manner of placing watercolor paint on wet paper. ☺

ARTIST'S SERVICES

by Mary Champion

Juried Show Opportunities

Texas Visual Arts Association National Open, Irving Arts Center (Dallas area). Slide deadline April 22, 2005. Show dates July 16 – Aug 14. \$4000+ awards. Prospectus: TVAA.org or SASE to TVAA, PO Box 141551, Irving, Texas 75014-1551. Juror is Ted Pillsbury, former director of the Kimball Art Museum, now at Meadows Museum. Jury fee not given.

3rd National Juried Exhibition Rome, Georgia. \$1000 Awards, Slide deadline April 8, show June 17-July 1. Rome Art Coterie, c/o Margaret Ingram, 106 Deerbrook Dr. SW, Rome, GA 30165. \$25 for three slides. No juror specified.

26th Annual Mini Works on Paper Exhibition, Jacksonville State U. Slide deadline April 11. \$1000. + awards. \$20 for 3 slides. (Max size of work is area of dollar bill!) Juror Darius Hill, Chair Visual Arts Dept., Alabama School of Fine Arts. Show

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Exhibitions

Times Gallery

Katrina Weber will exhibit recent works in oil, watercolor, and pastel at the Huntsville Times Gallery from Feb. 25 through March 25. This collection includes portraits, landscapes, and still life motifs painted in a unique, spirited style which is grounded in reality, but takes a step beyond photorealism.

The Huntsville Times Gallery, located at 2317 S. Memorial Parkway, is open Monday through Friday from 8AM to 5PM. For more information about the Gallery, call the Times at 532-4494. To see examples of the artist's work, visit www.knology.net/chuckkat.

Arts Council Gallery

Mary Ellen Davidson is displaying her paintings at the Arts Council Gallery during the months of January, February and March. The Arts Council Gallery is located in the von Braun Center at 700 Monroe, Suite 2.

As a child growing up on the Mississippi Gulf Coast, Mary Ellen was interested in various forms of art. Her formal education in Fine Art at the University of Southern Mississippi and later a commercial art degree led her to an apprenticeship with engraver Alvin Sharpe, creator of the Mardi Gras Dubloon. The work in graphics led to her enduring interest in the meticulous techniques of etching, creating realistic images from copper plates and she has worked in the field for over 25 years. She recently branched out to watercolor painting, mineral coated clay board, and even papermaking as she experiments with texture. She enjoys showing at juried art festivals in the South and her works can be found in permanent collections throughout the United States.

The Executive Group, REALTORS

HAL artists **Malinda McCleary, Kay McWhorter, Peggy Montano, Martha Montgomery, Katrina Weber, Maria West,** and **Dr. Peter Yu** will be exhibiting their work at Executive Realtors during the months of March and April. Stop in to peruse the fruits of their labors at the Executive Group, REALTORS office at 2304 S. Memorial Parkway. For more info. call 533-7210.

Heritage Club

Jerry Brown is the featured artist at the Heritage Club during the months of February and March. The Heritage Club is located at 111 Washington St. NE.

April Limelight

The artists of the Vision's gallery will host a reception for their limelight exhibit in April. The reception will be Sunday, 10 April, from 2-4. Mark your calendar!

HAL Membership Meeting Speaker: Ed Starnes and the Fine Art of the Business of Art

Ed Starnes sold his first watercolor in Chuck Long's Student Show in 1989 for \$250.

In the fifteen years that followed he has sold more than 1000 watercolors for more than \$500,000.

His works are in private, corporate, public, museum, and university collections in this country, Europe and Asia, including the University of North Carolina and the White House. Twenty-six of his paintings have been reproduced into more than 17,000 prints and 25,000 note and postcards by various institutions and corporations.

Ed will share with the HAL membership some basic business principles that he has used to sell his art – ideas he brought to the business of art from his many years as a successful financial planner. "Just about everything that happens in my art world is the result of careful planning and consistent application of the plans. You can build a solid support team to assist you with the application but, at the end of the day, YOU have to paint and YOU have to sell. If we didn't charge for our art it would all fly off the walls. But we want to exchange our art for money. Selling is creating a mindset that owning your art is more important to a patron than the security of money in a wallet. It's not magic... and it's not pressure. It's all about making buying less painful than not buying."

Awards

Katrina Weber recently won a Merit Award at Decatur's Colors of the Season juried exhibit.

Nikki Chenault won two awards at The Tennessee Valley Art Association's art show: an Award of Merit for "Gateway to Boston" and an Award of Excellence for "Katherine Picks Sunflowers".

Congratulations to **S. Renee Prasil** for being selected by the Arts Council of North Alabama to be the poster artist for Panoply Arts Festival 2005. (and the T-shirt artist, too!)

Directory Reminder

If your membership is valid and you don't have a current HAL Directory, visit the HAL Gallery to pick yours up. Due to high postage costs they were not mailed out this year.

Huntsville Bicentennial

By Billy Herrin

OK! This is what you have been waiting for... HAL is sponsoring a juried exhibit at the Huntsville Museum of Art in July 2005!

It is open to all HAL members, using any medium, any size, and any interpretation. The only requirement is that it be "Unique Views of Huntsville" (within the city limits). This will be our contribution to the Huntsville Bicentennial. Selected art will be displayed at the Huntsville Museum of Art 16-22 July 05.

You must submit a slide of each entry to be received no later than 06/28/05. The cost is \$15 per entry, non-refundable. Jurors will select the artwork to be accepted for the exhibit and prizes will be awarded for the five most outstanding examples. Selected artists will deliver their work to the museum and pick up their work at exhibit close. We will not accept mail or carrier deliveries.

There will be a reception/pre-sale at the museum 07/21/05. Tickets for this event will be \$25 per person. This provides the opportunity to purchase art prior to the public sale the next day and it will include hors-d'oeuvres and wine.

The Plein Air group will be painting in each of the Huntsville districts prior to the exhibit. All HAL members are invited to participate. These paintings will be displayed and for sale during the exhibit.

We do not know all of the details. As things are decided information will be passed along to you. The primary purpose for this notice is to provide as much time as possible for you to create something wonderful! This allows over 4 months to have your work completed and your slide(s) submitted.

We'll be asking for help so start thinking of what you would like to do. I will serve as the artist/artwork coordinator so direct your questions directly to me. I prefer email so I have a record and can get out another letter refining all of those millions of details that will surface. I can be contacted at wherrin@comcast.net, 256-881-0654.

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Where Local Art Meets The Community



Non-Profit Organization
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Permit No. 370

UPCOMING DATES

Gallery Change-Out

End of April. Call for details.

Figures, It's Tuesday

Every Tuesday Morning
9am-12pm • HAL Gallery

Plein Air Group

Call Anne Southard for details, 881-2179

Peer Critique

Every 1st Wed., 7:00 pm, HAL Gallery

Board Meeting

Every 2nd Mon., 11:30 am, HAL Gallery

Standards

Every 2nd Mon., 2 pm, HAL Gallery
Call Annette for directions, 534-3860

General Membership Meeting & Program

Every 3rd Tues., 7 pm, HAL Gallery

Newsletter Submissions

Please submit articles and photographs for submission in the next issue of HAL News by the 15th to **Margaret Handley**, jhandley1@comcast.net

Please send us information on recent acceptances into local/state/regional/national/international juried shows along with any awards/recognition received. We want to acknowledge your achievements!

Should We E-mail Your Newsletter?

If you would like us to e-mail your newsletter, please contact us at HAL351@hiwaay.net. You'll know all of the HAL news first and the saved costs in printing, postage, etc., could be used to garner additional patrons/members!

WELCOME!

New & Renewing Members

Tom & Patricia Cogdill

Marty Garrett

Carl Roberts

Susan & Tom Wright

Louis DeFiore

Maggie Little

Sara Grace Thompson

MEMBERSHIP NOTES

HAL General Meeting

Ed Starnes will speak about art and marketing at the March general membership meeting on March 15 at 7 p.m. at the HAL gallery. Please see the related article for more info.

Plein Air

The Plein Air group is beginning to formulate plans to join the Huntsville bicentennial celebration with painting forays into the

districts of the city. Call **Anne Southard** 881-2179 for more information.

Well Wishes

A speedy recovery to **David Kirwin's** mother who is hospitalized after a serious auto accident. We appreciate David's work as HAL's Vice President and hope to see him back again soon.

Our kind thoughts are also with **Patti Eldridge** whose mother is seriously ill. ☹

ARTIST'S SERVICES

dates May 3-23. SASE to Art Dept. Jacksonville State University, 700 Pelham Road N, Jacksonville, AL 36265 or 256-782-5626

Tip: Always send for a prospectus before submitting slides for any exhibition. This could save you time and money! Need slides for jury presentation? Remember Walt Schumacher will photograph your art and provide a slide for \$2 each. Details on the HAL bulletin board.

Exhibition Opportunities

Here at home be ready for events celebrating Huntsville's Bicentennial. There could be several opportunities to showcase work depicting all facets of Huntsville, past and present. Very often HAL gets word of these exhibit opportunities at the last minute, so keep this event in mind.

The Bailey Cove Library will host an art exhibit of HAL artists during the month of April. While details of this exhibit opportunity are being finalized, again be thinking of whether or not you would like to participate. HAL artists sold several paintings from the exhibits at the downtown library last year, so there is potential for sales. More important, it is excellent publicity for HAL, both the gallery and the organization in general. ☹

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