

HAL Art news

HUNTSVILLE LEAGUE

WHERE LOCAL ART MEETS THE COMMUNITY

JULY/2007

NOTES FROM THE PRESIDENT

by Dan Tatum

What is HAL's "Focal Point?"

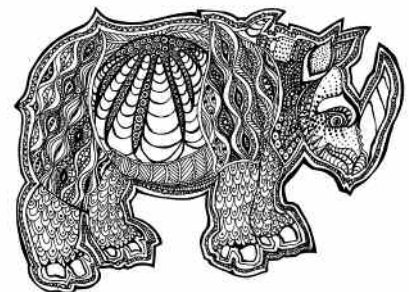
In a pastel workshop I recently attended, Terry Ludwick, the instructor, kept emphasizing that each painting should have a specific "focal point" that helps make it a better painting. Focal point is being defined as a spot on the painting that is completely in focus and that stands out from anyplace else. I wonder what the members of HAL consider to be the focal point of our organization. Is it selling our works, is it education, is it socializing, or is it something else? At a "HAL visioning" meeting of eleven members this past winter, a number of questions were discussed. The summary was that the primary reason (focal point) for exhibiting members to belong to HAL is to sell art with education being a distant second. The assembled group was of the opinion that about 57% of available resources should be devoted to art sales and marketing, with education receiving 16%, art display 15%, and social activities 12%. So the question is: "What is the most cost effective way to market HAL art?" I often hear that HAL



needs to be in a location to get walk in traffic. Then the question arises as to how much are the exhibiting artists willing to pay for a prime location. Our current rent is a bargain at about 50 cents a square foot. Your thoughts and input on HAL's focal point are needed and welcome. It's your organization, but I'd ask that you be prepared to back up your ideas with your support and action. HAL still needs and requires that the few who have not found their place of service on a specific committee give it some thought and take some action. ☰

July Limelight: Collector's Draw Artists

The July limelight will feature HAL participants in the Collector's Draw. The reception will be on Thursday, July 26, 2007 during The Gallery Tour.



Examples of artwork from a few of the many Collector's Draw participants, clockwise from top left: Kay Basiago, Hal Cronkhite, Barbara Barnett, Jerry Brown and Dorothy Montgomery.



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Education Director

Walt Schumacher

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Ad Hoc Shows*

Collector's Draw*

Grants*

*Open – Please call Walt or Dan

FROM THE ACTING GALLERY DIRECTOR

by Walt Schumacher

I'm going to forego my space this time to re-print (with permission) something from the Canadian painter I told you about, Robert Genn. You can sign up for his twice-weekly emails and poke around his website (which has a wealth of information) at www.painterskeys.com — art is good for your health!

Creativity and the onset of dementia have recently prompted a great deal of study and speculation. Dr. Luis Fornazzari of the St. Michael's Hospital, University of Toronto, stated, "Art should be understood as a cognitive function with its own neural networks." His findings include the discovery that painters, musicians and writers who develop brain disorders may continue to be competent in their art for some time after losing other faculties. Our main brain, it seems, is vulnerable to attack just as a computer hard drive is to viruses, while our art brain is like

an external memory card—somewhat protected or at least delayed in its potential corruption. French composer Maurice Ravel, for example, composed "Bolero" and other significant pieces well after his dementia began in 1927. The main characteristic of all artists seems to be that skills, techniques and methodologies need to be well learned or self-taught. Ingrained skills persist and can be the last to go. All this is based on new understandings of Brain Reserve Capacity — neuroscientists call it "BRC." The building of extra capacity, which largely happens in the early and middle years, is a clear catalyst to a longer, more contributive, and more fulfilling life. Many researchers are now suggesting that there is a "tremendous potential for preservation of brain functions induced by the visual arts."

So... do your art! It's good for you! ☺

EDUCATIONAL OPPORTUNITIES

by Walt Schumacher

There is a lot happening at HAL in July! Four Adult classes, and five Kids Camps are starting.

MA6 July 3, 10 (2 Tues) 6 - 8PM

Digital Photography 101

Walt Schumacher

MC9 July 9 - 13 (M-F) 9AM - 12 noon

Half Day Art Camp -Tym Davis

MC4 July 9, 16, 23, 30 (4 Mon) 5-6:30PM

Japanimation for Kids - Paul Rufe

MC10 July 16-20 (M - F) 9AM - 3PM

Full Day Art Camp - Tym Davis

MA7 July 17, 24 (2 Tues) 6 - 8PM

Digital Printing with Photoshop

Elements - Walt Schumacher

MA2 July 21 & 22, Sat & Sun Beginning

Flameworked Glass Bead Workshop

Kay Basiago

MC12 July 23-27 (M - F) 9AM - 3PM

Full Day Art Camp "Come See what

you can Make!" - Vinchenza Sweet

MC11 July 30- 31, Aug 1-3 (M-F) 9AM-3PM

Full Day Art Camp - Tym Davis

MA8 July 31, Aug. 7 (2 Tues) 6 - 8PM

Website Construction

Walt Schumacher

EDUCATION OPPORTUNITIES

Dynamic Design Workshop with Kathryn Lansing Vaughn on July 28, 2007

Ms. Vaughn holds a BFA with a concentration in painting and printmaking, as well as an MA to allow her to teach at the university level. As an undergraduate she studied in the US and Italy. She has worked as a professional freelance Graphic Designer/Illustrator in Texas and Connecticut. For the past 15 years she has taught as an adjunct professor at Calhoun, ASU, Oakwood and UAH. She is currently teaching full-time at the Decatur and Huntsville campuses of Calhoun Community College. She is represented in five galleries in Alabama, Mississippi & Connecticut.

Learn the principles of design and composition that will improve the impact of your artwork, no matter what medium you work in. This is an intensive one-day workshop that will cover several two dimensional Design Systems. The class will include lectures, diagrams and demonstrations, hands-on application, five short projects and casual, constructive critiques. Time permitting, there will be a clinic to apply what you have learned to analyze an existing piece of your artwork.

Cost is \$75 for HAL members and \$80 for nonmembers. For more information call the Huntsville Art League at 534-3860.

Exhibitions

Times Gallery

Times to Show Works of New Artist

The Huntsville Times Gallery will be displaying a potpourri of watercolor works by local artist **Sid Brannon**. Sid's paintings are a collection of local and traveled scenes. He has just completed a show as featured Limelight Artist at the Huntsville Art League for the month of June.



by Sid Brannon

The Times Gallery showing is free and is open 8 am to 5 pm Monday through Friday. These works will be on display beginning July 3rd (Closed July 4th) through July 31st at The Huntsville Times, 2317 South Memorial Parkway. For additional information, call Huntsville Art League (HAL) at 534-3860

Heritage Club

The Heritage Club will feature Huntsville Art League artists **Glennis Black** and **Dan Tatum** during June and July. The Heritage Club is located at 111 Washington St.

Awards

Four photographs by **Sam Tumminello**, HAL member and Huntsville Photographic Society Master, are included in a State of Alabama exhibition along with fifteen other Alabama photographers. The exhibition, Alabama Originals: A Sense of Place continues through July 29th in Montgomery.

The Alabama State Council on the Arts is proud to showcase the work of Alabama artists in its gallery in the RSA Tower Montgomery, Alabama. Hours are Monday-Friday 8 a.m.-5 p.m. This exhibition is the fourth in a series titled ALABAMA ORIGINALS, honoring living Alabama artists for the YEAR OF ALABAMA ARTS. Others to follow during 2007 will include Contemporary Craft and Expanding Perspectives. This photography exhibition addresses themes connecting with Alabama land, community, people and custom. It features the work of 16 Alabama artists.

Cindy Cummings and **Janet Schumacher**, both HAL members, have been accepted for the Clay House Museum's "Southern Shutters" Exhibit. "Southern

Shutters" opens on July 11th at 11 AM with the awards announced on July 15th at 2PM. The exhibit will close on July 15th at 4PM.

Other News

"Unique Views" Report

The following have volunteered for Sub-committees:

Connie Cook, Sponsorship; **Fred McBride**, "Call for Art"; **Mary Ellen Davidson**, Jury committee; **Martina Dyer**, Art Hanging; **Sam**

Tumminello, Publicity; **Walt Schumacher**, Signage; **Heike Covell**, Art Labeling; **Shirley Barnes** and **Maria West**, Reception; **Renee Prasil**, Check in and Sales Coordinator. **Sid Brannon** has volunteered for Invitation Committee Chairman.

We have a tentative date for 2008: September 9-13.

The Jury committee has met and made its major decisions. These are the high points... details will be contained in the "Call for Art", issued very soon:

All entries (including Plein Air) will be juried, and each will require a \$15 entry fee. There will be a separate jury for Painting (2D), Photography, and 3D. The actual art will be juried, not slides. Applications are due at 6PM, September 7, 2007. Open to current HAL members, or those who wish to become HAL members. The geographic scope is described as the "Greater Huntsville Area." Non-representational art, especially jewelry, pottery, etc., need not depict the area, but should instead be representative of area art.

Start creating your masterpiece now!

New Site

Martina Dyer has launched a website, with information learned in Walt Schumacher's class on website development. In addition to samples of her artwork, her website also includes information about the Monday morning HAL figure drawing class, and the schedule of the HAL plein air group. Please visit her website at www.martinadyer.com

Peer Critique

Peer Critique for July will take place the second Wednesday, July 11th, at 7:00 pm.

Plein Air

The Plein Air Painters continue to paint in the open air. It is a tough job but someone has to do it.



Photo of Heike Covell painting, by Peggy Montano.

Figure Drawing Group

Figure Drawing Group meetings in June and July are cancelled. We look forward to resuming in August.

Thank You!

HAL wants to thank the family of "Tink" Selah, Huntsville artist, who recently passed away. The family thoughtfully donated Tink's many art books to the HAL library. Many people remember Tink, and we are very grateful for this donation.

Glennis Black would like to send a "Thank You" to all HAL members for embracing her and her art! She also say "TY" to those attending The Heritage Club reception recently held for her and **Dan Tatum**.

Jack Dempsey Reception

Tom Varnon recently attended the Jack Dempsey Reception held on June 19th, 2007. He reported that "there was a nice crowd in attendance that included a cross section of Huntsville including many artists that have been influenced by Jack's presence". Although Tom never met Jack, he felt "very fortunate to know and be friends with his family as well as learn from ALL those that Jack "touched." Tom took many photos of the reception which he recorded on CD and plans to present to Millie and Gabrielle. ☺

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Mon-Sat 10-6 • Sun 1-4

Where Local Art Meets The Community



HAL Members Meeting

No meetings in Summer

UPCOMING DATES

Gallery Change-out
End of August

Figure Drawing Group
Cancelled during June and July

Plein Air Group
See May Newsletter for complete schedule. Call Anne Southard for details, 881-2179

Peer Critique
Peer Critique for July will take place the second Wednesday, July 11th, at 7:00 pm.

Standards
2nd Mondays by Appointment.
Call Gallery Director for details, 534-3860

Newsletter Submissions

Please submit articles for next month's issue of the HAL News by the 15th of the month to
Martha Montgomery,
mjmskyjack@aol.com
AND **Susan Steinhauser,**
sksteinhauser@knology.net

Submit all digital photos to
Susan Steinhauser,
sksteinhauser@knology.net

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!

WELCOME!

New and Renewing Members

Carole S. Akin
Shirley Barnes
Ann Carter
Mary E. Crawford
Hal Cronkrite

Christa Evans
Zvart Grigorian
Christina Hargrove
Julia Hawk
Mary Ann Williams

See you at HAL for the

Gallery Tour

July 26th, from 5-9 PM

HAL 2007 CALENDAR

July

11 Plein Air Artists, To be scheduled July 18-
Old Town area of Huntsville
19 Sidewalk Arts Stroll, downtown Hsvlle
25 Plein Air Arts, Hays Nature Preserve
26 Huntsville Gallery Tour
Huntsville Times: Sid Brannon
Heritage Club: Glennis Black, Dan Tatum
Limelight: Collector's Draw Artists

August

16 Sidewalk Arts Stroll, downtown Hsvlle
Changeout: end of month
Huntsville Times: Sam Fara
Heritage Club: August/September: Judith Fields,
Sidney Brannon
Limelight: Kay McWhorter, MJ Montgomery

September

6 Free Art Law Workshop – Art Attorney,
Marcus Hunt – “Copyright and
Trademark Basics” at 12:30 PM,
The Arts Council, Huntsville
20 Sidewalk Arts Stroll, downtown Hsvlle
Huntsville Times: S. Renee Prasil
Limelight: Ed Starnes
Heritage Club: Sidney Brannon, Judith Fields

October

6-14 Unique Views of Huntsville 2007
Huntsville Museum of Art
Huntsville Times: Caroline Wang
Heritage Club: Doris Sisk, Carolyn Wheeling
Limelight: Peter Yu
Changeout- end of month

November

Thanksgiving - Collector's Draw tickets go on sale
Heritage Club: Doris Sisk, Carolyn Wheeling
Limelight: Mary Reed

December

Heritage Club: December/January:
Marcia Leonard, Teresia Reid
Limelight: Katrina Weber
Christmas Sale
Changeout - end of month



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