



Laurel Art Guild Highlights

www.laurelartguild.org

April 2017

Jon's Journal

A week until Spring is supposed to be here! But I forget, did Punxsutawney Phil see his shadow or not? I have seen a whole bunch of daffodils. That is a good sign that Spring is around the corner. They also make good subject matter for painting.

A big "thanks" to those who assisted with receiving art for the LAG Open! The afternoon drop off crew received forty-four entries, so we were quite busy the whole time.

It was wonderful to see so many members turn out for the Opening Reception, and Awards Ceremony for the Open, which was held on March 12th. If you missed the reception, this is a fabulous show to view! I believe Walt Bartman, through his selections, has put together an outstanding exhibit.

The March Member Meeting will be held on Saturday, March 25th, from 1:00 – 3:00 pm. April Rimpo, will be demonstrating techniques involving fluid acrylics. Come be inspired by this talented artist and/or learn a thing or two. It is our intention to hold this meeting at The Montpelier Art Center. However, please watch for an email (from me) if a location adjustment is necessary. I will pass that along just as soon as possible.

You still have nearly four weeks to create a new piece to bring to the April Member's Meeting. That night, Monday, April 10th, will be an opportunity for LAG members to have their work critiqued by professional artist, Susan Avis Murphy. Each attendee can bring two items. I don't think it ever hurts to have a fresh set of eyes tell you what they see.

Some of you may find a bit of humor in my ending. But here goes: I recently bought my first phone! Up until now, I have simply been working with an old "flip phone" that is my work leash. However, a few dear friends (spread around the country) and a growing collection of grandchildren have kind of forced my hand, to join the 21st century. The friends wanted me to join them on facebook. I'm up to a whopping twenty-nine. But, with just those few individuals, my box is constantly flooded! It is sometimes difficult to pick out what I actually like – and even more so - what I would want to share. So many questions as I dive into facebook.

This made me think about all the art that's out there. What is it that will make our work garner a second look? I would ask you to consider what it is about your creations that make them unique. Maybe some of you, who have been painting longer than me, have already figured this out. If so, that's great! If not, I hope the Laurel Art Guild's attempt to help you interact with other artists, learn and attempt new techniques, try out new materials, present opportunities to exhibit, and enlist professionals to constructively critique your work, will assist you in developing as an artist. And perhaps, help you take what is uniquely you, and make it visible in your art.

See you soon,

Jon

Member News

On the home front, you can see **April Rimpo's** and **Deanna Willifords** art in the March and April Exhibitions at the Columbia Art Center in Columbia, Maryland. March is the Faculty/Student Show and April is "Healing Hands" a fund-raiser that is part of Blossoms of Hope.

April also had paintings selected for two national exhibitions: the Louisiana 47th International Exhibition and the Missouri International Juried and Judged Exhibition.

Lastly, April invites you to see her solo exhibit *Common Threads* at Touchstone Gallery, 901 New York Ave NW, Washington DC, which continues through April 2. An encore reception will be Sunday, March 26, from 2 - 4 PM, where she will speak briefly about her artwork and a violinist will share her muse.

Diane Shipley's art can be seen all over the region. In March she is exhibiting as part of 42nd Annual Art Show and Sale at the Women's Club of Chevy Chase. You will find her paintings at Brookside Gardens Visitor Center in April and she will have prints, cards, and original art at the Montpelier Herb, Tea, and Arts Festival held on the Montpelier Mansion grounds

Exhibitions

by Diane Shipley

2017 Exhibits

Plans are on hold at the moment for the **Paint Branch Unitarian Universalist Church**.

I have scheduled a show for May 1 through June 30 at the **Bowie Senior Center**. The Senior Center is hosting a reception on Tuesday, May 23, from 5:00 – 6:30 pm. Please invite your family and friends and plan to attend to show our appreciation. See Entry Form on Page 5.

Exhibitions (continued)

2018 Exhibits:

Looking ahead to June 2018 – **Patuxent Research Center – National Wildlife Visitor Center, Laurel, MD**. It is a long ways off, but start thinking about painting wildlife, nature, and/or environmental conservation issues. Subject matter should include endangered, threatened, or native species (to North America), wetlands, oceans, woodlands, prairies, or other habitats that are recognized as symbols of the earth's vital resources. No domestic animals. More guidelines from the Center will follow at a later time.

We have also been confirmed for **The Slayton House in Columbia**. That show is scheduled for October 18 – December 15, 2018. It is a large space and we will need lots of paintings.

Art Opportunities

Mary Pritchard Pastel Workshop March 22-24

Mary Pritchard is teaching an Intro to Pastel workshop for RiverArts in Chestertown, MD. It will be 3 days, 9am to 4 pm March 22, 23, 24. It will be total pastel immersion and her students come away invigorated and with a great foundation for future work. Mary recommends that this workshop is great for people new to pastel or those who have been frustrated by earlier attempts.

Registration is through RiverArts at www.chestertownriverarts.org but don't hesitate to contact her if you have any questions.

The Havre de Grace Art Show

A Juried Art Show held
August 19-20, 2017

The Havre de Grace Art Show is now soliciting applications for their juried Art Show held August 19 - 20, 2017. Visit their web page, hdgartshow.org, for more information.

Herbs, Teas, and the Arts Festival, Saturday, April 29, 2017

Every year at this time, we begin focusing on the annual Festival of Herbs, Teas, and the Arts held on the grounds of the Montpelier Mansion. LAG will once again be participating in this event.

This outdoor Festival is open to the public, and includes vendors of crafts, plants, and food, as well as community service providers and musicians. The Laurel Art Guild provides art opportunities for all interested guests by setting up art "stations" in our tent that offer hands on experience with various artistic media.

We also display our own small works including originals, prints and cards and receive many interested onlookers and customers at our tables.

The event this year will take place on Saturday, April 29, 2017. The time is 10 am to 4 pm. Set up begins at 9 am. The take down process begins at 4 pm and usually lasts about an hour. We will once again enlist our young helpers from the community to assist with the setup of the equipment.

LAG volunteers are needed. If you would

New LAG Members

LAG welcomes new members **Karen Benedetti** and **Faye Selkin**, both from Riderwood. Karen, who has a piece in the current LAG Open, paints with fluid acrylic and can be reached at 301-273-0936 or kbbenedetti@gmail.com. Faye works in pen and pencil and can be reached at 301-273-9116 or fayeselkin@gmail.com.

Also welcomes new member **Sally Davies**, of Greenbelt. Sally, who has worked as an illustrator, graphic designer and art teacher, is concentrating on her own art work in watercolor and acrylic. She can be reached at 301-441-1645 and sallyjdkdavies@hotmail.com.



"Herbs, Teas, and the Arts Festival" sketch by late LAG artist Donna Aldridge

like to participate, please contact Carol Leo at:

paintoutdoors@laurelartguild.org or
240-475-4219.

We will need help with setup from 9-10, manning the booth from 10-4, artwork sales from 10-4 and takedown at 4 pm.

This event is a wonderful opportunity to share our artistic influence with the community and to reaffirm our partnership of 50 years with the Montpelier Arts Center.

Laurel Art Guild's 48th Annual Open Juried Exhibition

This year LAG is celebrating its 50th Anniversary and the 48th Annual Open Juried Exhibition. It is amazing to me that it only took two years for this organization to decide to sponsor the LAG Open and that it has continued this exhibition ever since.

Walter Bartman, founder of the Yellow Barn Studio, Glen Echo, Maryland, selected a wonderful range of artwork types resulting in an exhibition that celebrated: oil on canvas, photography, acrylic, watercolor, mixed media, monoprint, collage, colored pencil, polymer clay on canvas, and quilt, fabric, paint, pencil, and thread. Talk about diversity, you will see it all here.

Be sure to stop by the Main Gallery at Montpelier Art Center before the end of March to see this wonderful exhibit. A few photographs of the reception and award winners follow.



First Place Award Winner



Second Place Award Winner



Third Place Award Winner

Award Winners

1st Place	Karen Norman	"Unlocked"	Watercolor
2nd Place	Mary Beth Akre	"Smokehouse Valley"	Oil on Canvas
3rd Place	Kevin Mitchell	"Female Head Study"	Oil on Canvas
Merit Award	Fran Abrams	"Summer Becomes Fall"	Oil on Canvas
Merit Award	Frances Borchardt	"Sopat Reflection"	Photography
Merit Award	Sally Davies	"Entering the Great Hall"	Acrylic on Canvas



Merit Awards: Sally Davies



Frances Borchardt



Fran Abrams

Bowie Senior Center

Exhibit Location: 14900 Health Center Drive, Bowie, MD

Coordinator: Diane Shipley

Exhibit Dates: May 1 – June 30, 2017

Reception: **Tuesday, May 23 – 5:00 – 6:30**

Deadline to enter: **April 15, 2017**

Drop off: Monday, May 1, 11:00 – 11:30 am

Pick up: Friday, June 30, 11:00 – 11:30 am

Specifications: Artwork should measure no more than 36 inches in width, must be clean, framed, and securely wired for hanging. Paintings must be labeled with artist information on back (name, title, medium, and price). Up to three (3) pieces per artist will be accepted in order of receipt of entry form until 30 paintings have been received. **No religious themes, politically offensive images, or nudity is allowed in your art work.**

Send one **\$5.00** check (hanging fee) made payable to LAG, along with this signed form and the Agreement to:

Diane Shipley
3600 Dunnington Road
Beltsville, MD 20705

Exhibition Agreement

I acknowledge that in the event of damage, loss, injury, or theft, neither the Laurel Art Guild, nor its officers, volunteers, nor any receiving agent or gallery will be held responsible. Insurance, if desired for exhibition, is the responsibility of the individual artist. LAG will not be responsible for any artwork not picked up at the designated time.

Name: _____ Phone: _____

E-mail: _____

Title: _____

Medium: _____ Price: _____ Size: _____

Title: _____

Medium: _____ Price: _____ Size: _____

Title: _____

Medium: _____ Price: _____ Size: _____

Signature: _____

Date: _____

List your medium as: A=acrylic, C=color pencil, K=casein, G=graphite, O=oil, Pa=pastel, Ph=photography, M=mixed media, S=scratchboard, W=watercolor.

2016-17 Executive Board

President	Vice President	Secretary	Treasurer/ Membership/ Scholarship
Jonathan Shields 301 252-9267 or 240 387-0075 president@ laurelartguild.org	Melissa Price 301 464-1261 lagopen@ laurelartguild.org	Phyllis Ross 301 725-0627 secretary@ laurelartguild.org	Mary Ellen Simon 301 776-6721 treasurer@ laurelartguild.org or membership@ laurelartguild.org
Exhibits	Webmaster	Workshops	Plein Air
Diane Shipley 301 586-0705 exhibits@ laurelartguild.org	John Cholod (301) 755-7879 webmaster@ laurelartguild.org	Deanna Williford (acting) deannawilliford@ yahoo.com	Carol Leo 301 423-6466 paintoutdoors@ laurelartguild.org
MAC Liaison	Laurel Arts District Liaison	Historian	Program Speaker Coordinator
Marleen Cunning- ham 301 776-7084 tedmar1@msn.com	Ada Ghuman 301 490-8003 Adaspace@gmail. com	?HELP NEEDED?	Mary Ellen Gordon 301- 509-8290 maryellengor- don17@gmail.com
Publicity	LAG Open	Festival Activities	Newsletter Editor
Barb Mertens barb.mertens@ gmail.com	Melissa Price 301 464-1261 lagopen@ laurelartguild.org	?HELP NEEDED?	April Rimp 443-766-0148 newsletters@ laurelartguild.org

Items with ? are in need of a Volunteer



At Left: Congratulating
Kevin Mitchell at LAG Open



At Right: Jon Shields (Pres)
with
Sally Davies (Award Winner),
and Carol Leo (Former Pres)

Newsletter Input Due the 10th of the Month

Please provide items you would like to have included, as space allows.

Any work in a show? Pictures welcome to brighten our newsletter!

Recent sales?

Your upcoming exhibits?

Calls for artists that you know about and others should know.

Suggestions for Plein Air location?

Laurel Art Guild Highlights
Montpelier Arts Center
9652 Muirkirk Rd.
Laurel, MD 20708