



WCA Newsletter

October, 2005

www.WomenContemporaryArtists.com

CALENDAR

Sept 13 – Oct.14 – WCA Exhibition at Art Center Sarasota
Oct 3 - Lunch Bunch – Bernice Gaines
Oct 17 – Selby Gardens Receiving at Mansion, 10-3.
Oct 17 – WCA Kick Off Workshop - 4 PM
Oct 19 –December 5 – WCA Fall Exhibition at Selby Gardens – Prospectus at web site
Oct 25 – 28 – WCA Retreat
Oct 31– Deadline for Renewing Member Packets and payment of Dues
Nov 10 – Selby Reception to meet the WCA Artists 6 to 8 PM
Nov – New Member application – deadline November 30
Dec 4 – Holiday Party – Pinebrook Clubhouse, Venice
Jan 16 – 4 PM Program – Presentation by Kim Northrop on Marketing, Computer
Feb 27 – 4 PM Program – Presentation by Jill Dye on China and the Arts
Mar 27 – 4 PM Program – Presentation by Judy Lyons Schneider & Judy Kramer on Russian Art Program
Apr 23 – New Officer Installation and Student Awards Event
May – Exhibition at the Ringling School, Selby Gallery

President's Message – page 1
Member Notices – page 3
Lunch Bunch Directions – page 5 and 6
Board Member Contact Information – page 8

All board meetings and general membership meetings are held at Art Center Sarasota. Please join ACS and support Sarasota's community art center.

Please consult the WCA web site frequently for announcements, updates, general information, achieved newsletters and directions to all events.

www.WomenContemporaryArtists.com

Send newsletter info to Kathleen McDonald by October 15 for inclusion in the November newsletter.

KathleenArtist@aol.com, 800 Blue Crane Drive, Venice, FL 34285

Disclaimer: It is impossible for your editor to verify the accuracy of items sent by members for newsletter inclusion. Please call each venue to check date and time, especially for receiving of work.

FROM THE PREZ: Barbara Schicitano

It's amazing how quickly the summer passed and we are already in to "season" with the start of our Fall Exhibition at Art Center Sarasota. The Award Winners are: First Place-Kim Northrop, Second Place-Kathleen Piunti, Third Place-Judy Kramer. Merit Awards go to: Sandy Frick, Jackie Cully, and Julie Trigg. Congratulations to you all for your excellence in artwork, making WCA proud!

Our "Kick-Off" meeting is on Monday, October 17th @ 4 PM at Art Center Sarasota. There will be information regarding every WCA Committee with the Committee Chairs there to answer any questions. Kim will be there to answer computer website issues and you will be able to speak with her about having your personal page on the WCA site. Grace will have info about the Helping Hospice thru Art Program. You can bring your Membership Packets to me and also pay your dues at the Membership Table. Once your packet and dues are received, you will be issued a membership card. We will also have lots of food and fun, gabbing and catching up. PLEASE REMEMBER This is the same day as receiving for the Selby Exhibition (10-3) so plan accordingly.

If you have any articles about WCA that you have cut out of the papers or magazines, please bring them to Kim. Any history you may have about WCA should be brought to our new historian, Genevieve. Speaking of publicity, have you seen our WCA announcements in the Sept and Oct issues of SRQ Magazine? We are attaining more and more media contacts for our organization. That's one reason why it's so important to have your personal page on the website. That's where we are steering our contacts to view the works and talents of our members.

Those who have sent in their membership packets, thank you. Some have forgotten to include all of the necessary items. Anita will be contacting you to inform you as to what you left out and we will hold your check until your packet is complete. **BE SURE TO HAVE EVERYTHING IN BY OCTOBER 31st.**

EXHIBITION NEWS: For those of you volunteering for the Selby Exhibition who did not come to the planning, please be advised of the following:

There will be four tables set up and manned for receiving -

1. Review table to check condition of work according to our regulations. This table will also include a document regarding a Storm Waiver that is mandatory for you to read and acknowledge. You will also sign an addendum that will be attached to this document and given to the Selby administrator. It states that the Marie Selby Botanical Gardens will not be responsible for any damage that may occur from the result of a storm. Paintings will remain as installed in the Museum. You will sign the addendum and then Trish and I will sign the document. You may not exhibit without signing this addendum.
2. Entry Forms to be filled in
3. Treasurer Kathie will collect entry fees and check membership. Next person will collect forms and give you your pink receipt copy and your yellow copy to bring to table 4 with your entry(s). And one person will be entering data.
4. Leave your painting and your yellow copy with the person(s) at this table.

This is the expected and most efficient procedure for every receiving. The only thing different here is the Storm Waiver document.

Regarding the handling of sales, all sales will be processed through the Selby Gift Shop. Prepayment is required. Shipping and handling will be charged to the purchaser's account at the time of shipping which will beat the end of the show. Selby's shipping company will provide the gift shop with exact costs. All artwork is to remain as installed until end of show. Any work left at Selby unclaimed after 30 days from dismantling will become the property of Selby.

A note on submission of dyptichs and tryptichs: They must be entered and priced as one painting. Please mark clearly as dyptich or tryptich and provide a label on each piece with directions for hanging, for example beside or above.

**OCTOBER 17th ANNUAL MEMBERS MEETING /SYMPOSIUM
4:00 PM @ ART CENTER SARASOTA
ALL MEMBERS PLEASE BE THERE!!!**

TABLES to VISIT:

1 Membership – Kathie Stewart & Judith Nadler

Drop off your Packets, Contents will be checked for completion
Pay Dues. Receive your WCA Membership Card
Supply of apps and info for prospective member guests

2 Exhibition - Kathleen McDonald & Trish Robbins

Procedure and Receiving Rules documents

3 Publicity & Public Relations – Kim Northrop

4 Computer & Website, Member Web Pages info

5 Programs & Student Awards – Ellie Merritt & Elizabeth Van Riper

General info / Program Info for upcoming Season

6 Arts Day - Judy Lyons Schneider & Bernice Gaines

Sign onto a committee to assist the Board in planning and day of

7 Historian & Scrapbook - Genevieve Perkins & Ginny Salerni

All books laid out for display

8 Nomination Committee Table – Nancy Gray and Marge Bennett

9 Social Hospitality and Lunch Bunch – Helen Pfeifle, Norma Froechl, and Fran Henley

10 Hospice Art Program – Grace Landon

General info on how WCA members can help this cause

FOOD & BEVERAGES TABLES - Nancy Heart & Suzanne Coogan

HOW TO GET YOUR OWN WEB PAGE ON THE WCA WEBSITE

YOU GET: 1. One large image of artwork or publication images. 2. A nice photo of yourself – maybe at work 3. Your name and contact information and a link to your own website (if you have one) and/or other sites where you may be represented. 4. Your resume or bio, creative statement, and product information 5. Seven (7) images which will be added as thumbnails. Click on the thumbnails and visitors will get a supersize image. Be sure to send all pertinent info regarding the images you send. We're using the same layout/format/template for each person as in the sample page.

ADDITIONAL FEES: If you don't have digital files of your images or product and Kim has to scan from photographs or slides, there is an additional charge of \$1 per picture or other image. Same for any information. If it's something Kim has to type in it's \$35 an hour (you are charged by whatever increment of an hour it takes. One round of changes. Kim will notify you when your draft page is ready and you can edit and make corrections. There is no charge for this initial change. Additional changes \$35 an hour (you are charged by whatever increment of an hour it takes.) If Kim needs to modify images (lighten, brighten) it's at the hourly rate. **Contact Kim Northrop for pricing and arrangements:** info@kimnorthrop.com 953-7791

MEMBER NEWS

Amy Webber will be teaching, for all those interested in clay- pottery and sculpture, Raku & Pit Firing class at Venice Center on Monday eves beginning Oct.17, 5:30 pm - 8:00 pm, 8 week series. We have a new professional, propane fueled raku kiln. Call the center for details 485-7136 Beginners and advanced welcome. Limited enrollment.

The Women's Caucus for Art Central Florida Chapter presented the Florida Lifetime Achievement award to Eleanor Merritt at an exhibition at the Deland Museum Saturday, July through September. At the same time, there also was a separate exhibition at the African American Museum in Deland of Eleanor's work. See page 4.

Joyce Novak's Exhibition: Wetlands Triptychs Series, is being exhibited in a solo show in conjunction with the season opener at Venice Art Center, September 16th through October 1st.

Maggie Nevens *Interpreting Nature*: Original watercolors. September 11 to October 16, 2005 Unitarian Universalist Church Gallery, 3975 Fruitville Road, Sarasota, FL 34232. Gallery hours 10:00 to 2:00 weekdays.

Sue Turconi has been invited to speak at The Hague this November for the European Council of International Studies. Check out www.ecis.org. **Sue Turconi** won the Elizabeth Upham Davis Memorial Award for her piece, *Lakeland*, at the 55th annual exhibition of the Florida Artists' Group held in the Art Gallery of Florida Gulf Coast University.

Nancy Heart Come on and try a sculpture class, a great opportunity to try your hand creating something 3'D in clay. It's fun and relaxing. Beginners and advanced students welcome. Nancy Heart will be teaching sculpture in Terra Cotta Clay at the Venice Art Center The first 5 session class starts Tuesday, 1-1:30 Oct. 4- Nov. 8.

Kathleen McDonald – monotype classes at Venice Art Center – 6 four hour classes, 11 AM – 3 PM, in each series: Session 1, Nov. 3 – Dec 15, Session 2, March 2 – April 6; Session 3 is a three week mini-class, April 20 – May 4.

Diane Schmidt has won 3rd prize in Artist's magazine annual competition in the experimental category. It will be mentioned in the December issue. Diane also won 2nd place in the San Diego Watercolor 25th International, and had paintings accepted in North East Watercolor Society, and Florida Watercolor Annual Exhibitions. She will teach abstracts in watercolor at both Longboat Key and Manatee art centers in Feb. 06. **Diane Schmidt** has won the Award of Excellence in Alabama's WC national, and Best of Show at Tallahassee's 17th Tri State, First Place Manatee Art Center's Interiors exhibit, 6th award at Western Colorado WC National. She has had paintings accepted in the Adirondack's 24th National exhibit of American watercolors, San Diego's National WC, Montana's National WC, and the 18th National all media at Mableton, GA. ("I've had rejects too, but they are too numerous to mention.....Ha!")

Helene Hirmes will have a class called "Clay Sculpture – Faces, Figures and Beyond" at Art Center Manatee, 209 9th St. W., Bradenton - 746-2862 Wednesdays, 9 am – noon. Session 1: Sept. 7, 14, 21, 28, Oct. 12, 19 Session 2: Nov. 2, 9, 16, 30 Dec. 7, 14.

Carol Doenecke had a pastel accepted for the 50th Annual International Open Exhibition "Bold Expressions" at the Sacramento Fine Arts Center October 4-30, 2005. It is sponsored by Northern California Arts, Inc.

Betty Altman has been nominated for Pen Woman of the Year. The award will be given at Pen Women's State Convention in Gainesville in October.

Margaret Murphy Reed was in a group exhibition that at Poto Gallery in Gulf Gate.

Pat Burlin showed her paintings at the Unitarian Church, 3975 Fruitville Road, Sarasota from July 31 to September 4.

Ruth Hook Colby exhibited in the MCC Venice Fine Art Gallery in August. **Ruth Hook Colby** received a Merit Award at the Dunedin Fine Art Center in Dunedin, Florida. **Ruth Hook Colby** was the recipient of a Distinguished Alumnae Award presented to her at a banquet on June 25 in Kenosha, WI. A commemorative plaque will also be placed on the Wall of Fame at Bradford High School.

Anne Abgott Please check out my new web site www.anneabgott.com . Many of you have requested my 2005 /2006 teaching schedule and I have included both the classes and workshops. I also have some great news about a book with Northlight Publishing.

Jean Germain The Florida artists group of which I am a member had a juried exhibit at the Boca Raton Museum in June - Aug. only 30 artists were accepted out of 85 state wide ...I was one of the lucky ones to be accepted....but I was especially honored to win 2nd place \$500 award...only God knows how this happened ..I certainly don't understand... but it was especially prestigious because the juror was from the Hirshorn Museum in Washington.....

Sandra de Nijs won a First Place Award with her painting "Wintergreen" at the Oval Gallery "Trees" exhibition. Oval Galleries is located in downtown Orlando, and has a monthly themed juried exhibition. See www.ovalorlando.org.

Kathleen Puinti was the featured artist at Dabbert Gallery on Palm Ave in Sarasota, in July and August. She was represented in the ACS summer Sizzler Show and is in the City Hall Galleries exhibition.

Kim Northrop, our web designer, had a solo exhibit opening at the Women's Resource Center in Sarasota in July; work in Invitational Salon of Small Works in May show *New Arts Program Kutztown, Pa* ; 2D/3D Annual Statewide Competition, *William Frizzell Center for the Arts*, Fort Myers, Fl. in June; *Man and Nature 2005* International Juried Photo Competition Rolling Meadows, Il., July; American Art Collector. Juried Competition of New Work. Volume 1, Book 4, Southern States. <http://www.alcovebooks.net/> Alcove Books' focus is contemporary art by region. Our publications *Craft of Northern California* and *Art of Northern California* were described as "stunning" by the *San Francisco Chronicle*. Both titles are in book and museum stores throughout the Bay Area. *American Art Collector*, our new quarterly, presents a juried selection of art and craft—each edition covers a region of the country and profiles 150 to 200 artists. **Elizabeth Van Ripper** is in American Art Collector also! Congrats Elizabeth!

MEMBERS' NEW EMAIL ADDRESSES:

Nancy Heart - sculptornan@access4less.net

Dori King - peterking4744@peoplepc.com

Julee Docking – jbarends@webtv.com

Maddie Ginsburg - stanmad7528@msn.com

Sally Sloan - villasloan@verizon.net

Judy Kramer - fotofan716@comcast.net

Dorothy Van Rhee - dorothy@vonrhee.com

Rosalie Silver - RosalieSilverArt@comcast.net

Anne Winsom new e-mail address as well as a new name
annsburroughs@aol.com My new name is **Ann Burroughs**.

ART CENTER SARASOTA UPCOMING SHOWS

“**Secrets of the Sea**” members’ Exhibition at Art Center Sarasota in partnership with Mote Marine Aquarium. Oct 25 – Nov 26. Receiving Oct 18, pick up Nov 29 & 30. Opening Reception, Oct 27.

“**Holiday Show**” **SMALL WORKS** – Open Juried Show – Dec. 6 – Dec. 3. Receiving Nov. 29, Pick up Jan. 3, 2006. Opening Reception Dec. 12.

VENICE ART CENTER UPCOMING SHOWS

“**Landscapes**” **Oct. 7 – 29**. Receiving Oct. 4. Pick-up Oct. 31. Opening Reception Oct. 7.

“Member’s Fall Exhibition” Nov. 4 – 22. Receiving Nov. 1. Pick-up Nov. 23. Opening Reception Nov. 4.

FROM SALLY SLOAN: ELLIE MERRITT AWARD CELEBRATION

In case you didn't know it, the weekend of July 30th was Ellie Merritt weekend! On Saturday Ellie was the recipient of the Women's Caucus for Art, Florida, Lifetime Achievement Award and on Sunday an exhibition of her work opened at the African American Museum of Art in DeLand, Florida.

The reception for the Lifetime Achievement Award took place from 7:00 - 9:30 at the beautiful DeLand Museum of Art. By 7:15 the lobby was filled with celebrants gathered to honor Ellie and her co-honoree, Anjal Soler. The large modern exhibition space was beautifully arranged to show off Anjal's sculptures on pedestals in the central part of the space, while Ellie's paintings were handsomely hung along the large expanse of surrounding wall. The assembled crowd, delicious desserts and wine in hand, had plenty of time to enjoy the exhibition before being called into the auditorium for the award presentation. After a few speeches by WCA women who had been involved with the struggle for establishing women as equals in the professional art world, the awards were presented and the awardees were given the opportunity to speak for themselves. Ellie's message? "Get out of your studios, get out of your homes, and work hard to get your art on display wherever you can!" At the end of the evening Ellie and Anjal received a standing ovation!

Here is the write-up in the gorgeously illustrated program that describes Ellie's contribution to the arts. Artist Eleanor Merritt of Sarasota Florida finds inspiration from her personal history. "My paintings are reflections of my life...memories of places and events as well as the affirmation of my strength as a woman and as a mother. My images emerge from my conscious/subconscious mind and just explode on the working surface through the combined use of acrylics, inks, fabrics and collage. I continuously use figures as a symbolic reference to my point of view...my exploration of a journey of discovery and excitement."

Merritt received her MA degree from Brooklyn College CUNY in fine art education. She is a tireless advocate for women and African American Artists. She attended her first WCA National conference in Houston in 1988 where she exhibited "Women of Soweto". Merritt is a former Board Member and Vice President of Women's Caucus for Art. She became a key member of the WCA Women of Color Caucus (WOCA) in 1993. In that capacity, Merritt organized and underwrote the first National WOCA Catalog. The concept of the WCA WOCA Catalog and the recognition of women of color was formulated at the San Francisco WCA national conference. Merritt is active in a number of arts organizations and served as the Chair of the Sarasota Public Art Committee. Eleanor's work is honored through two concurrent exhibitions: "Shadows, Sentinels and Spirit Dreams" at the DeLand Museum of Art and "African Influences, Symbols and Themes" at the African Museum of Arts, also in DeLand. Both exhibitions continued from July 15 through September 11, 2005.

HOLIDAY PARTY 2005

WHEN: Sunday December 4th at 2 PM **WHERE:** Pinebrook South Clubhouse, Venice. Close to I-75 @ Exit 195

BRING: Food – Last Names A-J bring Hot & Cold Appetizers Last Names K-R bring Main Dishes Last Names S-Z bring desserts. **ALSO BRING:** A Handcrafted Artsy Item, Artwork, Sculpture, Pottery, you get the idea. The gift should be wrapped in the Holiday Spirit and we will have a Game of choosing and stealing gifts from each other that will get your blood boiling. *There is no money restriction on this gift ... it is your choice of what to bring.*

LUNCH BUNCH INFORMATION

***Be sure to RSVP to the host artist
5 days in advance.***

**Bring your lunch and an unfinished piece for critique.
Do NOT bring framed work.
Refreshments and dessert will be provided!
Lunch Bunch begins at 11:00 AM**

**Oct. 3 Lunch Bunch will be at Helene Hirmes' house.
RSVP Helene at 358-7779 or hirmes@aol.com.
Directions to Helene Hirmes Home:**

From University Parkway and Whitfield Ave. (entrance to **PalmAire**)
Proceed on **Whitfield Ave.** to 4-way blinking stoplight.
Continue on Whitfield Ave.
Turn into the **3rd development** on the right, **Mote Ranch**.
Once in **Mote Ranch**,
take first left turn into **Meadowlake**.
Continue to stop sign, continue straight through stop sign to
the **second house on the left**.
6888 Corral Circle.
Please park away from mailboxes so as not to impede mail
delivery.

Telephone: 358-7779
Email: hirmes@aol.com
Web site: www.helenehirmes.com

**Nov. 7 Lunch Bunch will be at Judy Lyons Schneider's
house. RSVP Judy at 907-2907 or
JLSArtStudio@aol.com.
Directions to Judy Lyons Schneider's Home:**

University Parkway going east (exit 213 on the Interstate
75) until you pass Lakewood Ranch Blvd. About ½ mile
beyond the light at LR Blvd, make a left turn into Edgewater
Village. Go past the gatehouse and make a right. Continue
on Waterview Blvd. for about ½ mile, and #8013 is on the
right. If you come to the end of the street, go back 3 houses.
Please RSVP as I need to leave a list of people attending
with the gatehouse.

**Dec. 5 Lunch Bunch will be at Bernice Gaines's house.
RSVP Bernice at 358-4931 or bpgaines@aol.com.**

**Jan. 2 Lunch Bunch will be at Kathleen McDonald's
house. RSVP Kathleen at 497-5549 or
KathleenArtist@aol.com.**

**Feb. 6 Lunch Bunch will be at Deborah Seter's house.
RSVP Debbie at 941-505-5659 or mdseter@mns.com.**

The Lunch Bunch continues throughout the year. If you are
interested in hosting this affable group in any future month,
particularly March, April, May or June, please contact our
Lunch Bunch Coordinator, Helen Pfeifle at 488-4147 or
hmpfeifle@comcast.net.

ART CENTER SARASOTA RECEIVING DATES:

Last year WCA handled receiving at ACS in exchange for
the current exhibition on display at the Art Center. Thank
you to all WCA members who volunteered and helped
with this job. WCA's obligation is over. However,
Kathleen McDonald is the ACS board member who is
coordinating receiving for this year. She calls upon those
WCA members who are also ACS members to volunteer
to help with receiving for the 2005 – 2006 exhibition
season. We will have one day receivings this year,
rather than the two days in the past, which will lighten the
burden. If you can assist with this very important function
on any or all of the dates below, please contact Kathleen
at KathleenArtist@aol.com or 497-5549.

ACS receiving dates:

October 18 – "Secrets of the Sea", with Mote
November 29 – Holiday Show, "Small Works"
February 7 - Watercolor
March 14 – "The Art of Travel", Members' Show
May 2 – Photo Show
June 13 – "Dreams", Open Exhibition

THIS IS THE LAST NEWSLETTER THAT WILL BE SENT BY EMAIL.

Starting in November, the newsletter
will be on the website for all to view and/or print. Click
'Newsletters' to access. The same goes for Board
Messages. You will receive email updates for outside
events and opportunities but all WCA email will be on the
website under 'Board Messages'. Member
announcements will also be sent by email but ONLY if
they are limited in size to just the facts. Kathleen does
not have the time to edit your announcements so please
send them short and to the point and exactly how you
want them distributed. Thanks for your cooperation.

Members who do not have email must arrange for a
friend to print and mail it to them.

Barbara Schicitano

To the LARGE crew of the EARLY FALL SHOW of WCA Art at Art Center Sarasota...

Thank you.....We had a wonderful opening last night. The
crowd was large and very pleased with the artwork and
the hanging job. The show looked stunning. The work
was wonderful. The crew we had was there. Everyone
showed up. Everyone smiled. Everyone over stayed their
signed on hours and no one griped. Wow! What a treat
that was for us co-chairs!! You were great to work with.
The food crew did a grand job. The photo people came
through and the clean-up members were around doing
their efforts too. We never saw a build up of junk
anywhere. ACS did a great job hanging it and the book
looked nice too. You all outdid yourselves from A to Z.
Thanks!! It was great working with you.....

Your Exhibition Coordinators **Carol Doenecke & Grace
Landon**

NEWS YOU CAN USE

Gulf Coast Community Foundation of Venice invites area artists to submit work through their arts organizations for inclusion in the next "Art at the Foundation" exhibit. Kathleen McDonald is the WCA coordinator. If you are interested in submitting two pieces for this six month exhibition please contact Kathleen at KathleenArtist@aol.com or 497-5549. The opening reception is on Tuesday, November 11, 2005 from 4:30-6:00 p.m. Arrange pick up and delivery with Kathleen.

FLORIDA WEST COAST SYMPHONY HARMONY GALLERY ANNOUNCES ARTISTS FOR 2005-2006 SEASON (All listed artists are members of WCA. Congratulations to each. What an amazing bunch of artists we are!)

Ten exciting locally based artists have been selected for this season:

October: Joyce Novak - "Wetlands Triptych" Artist Reception - Oct 4

November: Dorie King, paintings and Myra Weisgold, sculptures - "Images: Scapes & Sculptures" Artist Reception - Nov 8

December: Ruth Höök Colby - "Pastels Only" Artist Reception - Dec 5

January: Peppi Elona - "Rythym and Hues," Artist Reception - Jan 10

February: Ellen Kaiden - "Sensual Symphonies" Artist Reception - Feb 7

March: Janet Mishner - "Acrylic Paintings and Collage" Artist Reception - Mar 7

May: Gail White - "Petals and Places" Artist Reception - May 2

GRANT MONEY AVAILABLE FOR THE ART\$ AND ARTIST\$

Details and applications on line, please visit www.sarasota-arts.org

ART ON THE STREET PROJECT

This Event is the result of community partnerships that enable project organizers, artists, sponsors, local businesses and social groups to work together toward the common goal of enriching the community. Artists receive 50% of the auction price and it supports the arts community. It is also a great boost for tourism because it is public, family-friendly art. Artists can either incorporate their own signature style or do something fun and different than they normally would. THE GREAT BIG GECKOS! Measuring 4' x 6', they are made of fiberglass -- hollow and light weight. They lay flat, can be easily mounted on a lanai wall, slanted rooftop...a garden fence...side of a cargo van...office exterior wall...the possibilities are endless. Dotted throughout Bradenton, and put on view for 3 months, tourists and locals alike will have the opportunity to choose their favorites. They will be auctioned off in April to the highest bidders. GECKOFEST 2006 -- WHO, WHAT & WHY! The decorated Geckos will be placed for display throughout the streets of downtown Bradenton from January through April, and where feasible, at the location of the sponsors. And at the end of April, all the Geckos will be collected and brought to a Gala Event (site to be determined) where they will be viewed and auctioned off. This is a fund raising event created by the Artist's Guild of Manatee, Inc. in partnership with the City of Bradenton. Proceeds from the sale of the geckos will be used to fund the Guild's various community art projects. The Artist's Guild of Manatee, Inc. is a non profit organization dedicated to promoting community involvement through the arts. ARTISTS, RESERVE YOUR GECKO NOW! For more information, or to sign up as a sponsor or donor, email Miki Boni, event coordinator, tomi@together.net, or call 941-747-0823. The geckos cost the artists \$150. However, we are finding sponsors for \$500 each, and the artist will be reimbursed.

Artist's "Painting the Light" Cruise to the Western Caribbean January 15-22, 2006. The Carnival Miracle leaves from Tampa and sails to Grand Cayman, Costa Maya, Cozumel, Belize, and back to Tampa. On board will be renowned artist, Lois Griffel. Please call 941-371-8535 or email robin@overthemoontravel.com. HURRY!!! Space is limited. Bon Voyage

Memo from Sue Anderson: To all you gals getting your work ready for upcoming shows: if you need mats cut, contact my daughter, Sarah Phillips. She's a pro, has samples and will come to you if it's not too far. She'll also frame. Her rates are very artist-friendly. You can reach her by email at Sphil34896@aol.com or call her at 927-3728.

Applications are now available for the **Fifth Annual Venice Annual Show**, Feb. 25 & 26 at the Venice Community Center. Betty Volpe (484-3349) and Marilyn Cassidy (493-2744) will be co-chairmen this year. Applications are available from the Venice Art Center, 390 Nokomis Ave. S., Venice 34285 or call 485-7136.

Great Upcoming Opportunities to promote your artwork in our community. ONE: Later this month, we're opening the Peter Paul Gallery on Palm Avenue (at 53C, next to the new jazz club). This gallery will feature individual international professional artists as well as two group shows a year for local artists. Opening dates and exhibition schedules will be announced soon. TWO: ARTinBUSINESS premieres a new show on Thursday, November 3 in a local well-established home furnishings store. In 2006, AiB will also have three other openings as a part of an exciting Palm Avenue business venture. Our AiB curator will again select artists for these shows. Look for updates and details from me soon. You could be listed on our ARTinBUSINESS website (<http://www.artinbusiness.org>). E-mail or send us images of your work for review by our head curator. On notification of acceptance, send us a 100-word bio with a \$50 check payable to ARTinBUSINESS. Please call me or Sandra Castro at 365-5200 with any questions. Peter Paul www.interagency.com

ARTIST OPPORTUNITIES

Fifth Biennial NATIONAL ART EXHIBIT", Charlotte County Visual Arts Center, Punta Gorda, FL, February 4 to March 17, 2006. This exhibit is limited to two-dimensional paintings and drawings. Each artist may submit up to 3 slides. Deadline: November 1, 2005. Over \$7,500 in prize money (Best of Show-\$2000, First Prize-\$1,500, Second Prize-\$1,000, Third Prize-\$750, etc). The judge is M. Stephen Doherty, Editor-in-Chief of both "American Artist" and "Watercolor". Please write for prospectus: Charlotte County Art Guild, Inc, The Visual Arts Center, 210 Maud Street, Punta Gorda, FL, 33950. or call Michelle Valencourt, Director, at Ph: 941-639-8810 or vac@daystar.net and www.visualartscenter.com.

Once again the Village of the Arts will be holding the **FRENCH MARKET FESTIVAL** on Saturday, October 15. Last year's event was very well attended, over 2000 people. Outdoor spaces will be available on my property at the Graciela Giles Studio, 1014 12th St. West. There are spaces under the oaks and near the fountain. All the spaces are within the grounds and are available first come-first served. The fee is \$25. for the day. If you would like to participate, please send your check to Graciela Giles at the above address and if you have any questions, please call me at 746-4469. Graciela

FSWS Annual Juried Open Aqueous Show The Florida Suncoast Watercolor Society is starting the season with their Annual Juried Open Aqueous Show held at the Longboat Key Center for the Arts, 6860 Longboat Drive South off Broadway Street at the north end of LBK. Since the show is open to the public, the members and other artist of the public will submit their work to be juried and awarded. The paintings will be hanging for viewing and gallery sales until October 21, 2005. The reception and the awards will be held on Friday, September 30, 2005, at 5:00pm until 7:00pm in the Joan M. Durante Gallery. The juror for the show will be Margaret Cornish, a watercolorist who has received many awards for her paintings. Her work is represented in many collections. Ms. Cornish is a signature member of the Florida Watercolor Society and also the National Watercolor Society.

Fine Art Show Opportunity Englewood United Methodist Church will host an Invitational Fine Arts Show on Friday and Saturday, November 25 and 26, 2005. The location is inside the church Fellowship Hall at 700 E. Dearborn Street, Englewood, FL. Weather will not be a problem. The event will be widely advertised. Paintings, prints, photography, sculpture, fine art ceramics, jewelry, glass, wall hangings, etc. are welcome. No crafts. Please contact event Chair Nancy Prins at 941-474-7344 or jnprins2@msn.com for information and an application.

Calling all artists whose art or craft depicts automobiles in any media. This is a venue not to be missed. In this is a two day outdoor **Concours d'Elegance style Auto show on St Armands Circle** in Sarasota, FL. you will have the opportunity to display your work among some of the best cars in the country, and to an audience of automobile lovers. This is a juried by photo show. Please contact Rick Sanders for application and information. November 5th and 6th 2005. 941 366-6881 or cell 941 685-7058 E-mail StArmandsCarShow@aol.com

Call to Artist from **Embracing Our Differences**, a project of the Florida Holocaust Museum and its Sarasota-Manatee Arch Family Holocaust Education Center. Deadline for Submission -- November 8, 2005. You may direct questions to EmOurDifferences@aol.com or call 928-0567.

Katherine Cobb, owner of the furniture store, THE URBAN WAY, is looking for artists to display and sell their work (in 4-6 week segments) beginning this fall. As this store features contemporary, Asian, and exotic furniture and accessories, Katherine is looking to fill the walls and spaces with artwork that is compatible with that look. Artwork could be paintings, sculpture, fiber, monoprints, etc. She is not looking for the traditional floral, wildlife, or the beach and Florida-look. If booked, artwork will stay in the store until the end of the time period when buyers may pick up purchases. Artists receive 75% of the sale price with Katherine retaining 25%. If you wish to have your work initially considered for this venue, please email photos to Katherine at katherinecobb@comcast.net, or mail photos or a CD to her at The Urban Way, 2402 Manatee Avenue East, Bradenton, FL 34208. Phone number: 941-714-0428 Katherine will respond back to you regarding an appointment and to see your work personally.

John Myer at the JCC has exhibition space available for one person shows in the main lobby. Anyone interested should contact him at 378-5568 ext. 231 or email him at culture2flanzerjcc.com Also, any Muralist with experience and knowledge may want to contact him regarding a 3,000 sq. foot wall needing estimates for a mural.

Florida West Coast Symphony invites local artists to submit entries for the official 2006 Sarasota Music Festival poster. The chosen piece will also be displayed on T-shirts and related publicity. Artists must have a part-time or full time residence in either Sarasota or Manatee Counties. The artwork must include musical images or references to music as part of the overall design. The Sarasota Music Festival features classical music. Consideration will also be given to work that also incorporates a "Florida" feel. Artists can either submit final work or conceptual sketches along with samples of similar genres. Local artists are invited to submit entries for the official 2006 Sarasota Music Festival poster by December 31, 2005. Artists should submit quality photographs or concept sketches, along with background information on the artist, by December 31, 2005. Entries should be sent to: 2006 Festival Entry, Florida West Coast Symphony, 709 N. Tamiami Trail, Sarasota, FL 34236. Images can also be emailed to marketinglinda@fwcs.org.

WCA BOARD MEMBERS

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Corresponding Secretary Past President/Advisor	Joan Bisser, 922-6721 Judy Lyons Schneider, 907-2907 JLSArtStudio@aol.com

WOMEN CONTEMPORARY ARTISTS

WOMEN CONTEMPORARY ARTISTS is a strong regional cooperative organization of vibrant professional women actively engaged in the visual fine arts. Based in Sarasota, Florida, our goal is to provide visibility, encouragement and inspiration to women artists. Membership is available to women who will actively participate in the functions of WCA. Both exhibiting members in all media and non-exhibiting members are welcome.

WCA began in 1984 from the vision of 20 women committed to fostering recognition for women's artistic accomplishments and contributions to the visual arts, and to promoting professional equality for women artists.

WCA's many activities include at least two yearly juried exhibitions, programs scheduled for members and guests and a monthly "brown bag" Lunch Bunch, which is held at a member's home or studio. This event includes a critique of members' work in progress. We hold an annual fall art retreat and in the spring we present scholarship awards to outstanding women college students in the community who choose to continue their art education.

Every effort is made to publicize and recognize the awards and achievements of our members and other women art professionals. We also seek to educate the general public about the past and present contributions of women artists and to insure inclusion of women in the history of art.

New member applications with attached biographies and four slides, photographs or digital images are reviewed by the Board once a year in November and new members are accepted as space allows, to form a group of no more than 200 members.



**P. O. Box 25184
Sarasota, FL 34277**

**WCA KICKOFF WORKSHOP
October 17, 2005 4 PM ACS**

**Membership Packets and Yearly
Dues are due on October 31, 2005**

Save postage and bring the packets
and dues to the meeting on Oct. 17.