



Women Contemporary Artists:  
New Members Tea  
Feb 6<sup>th</sup>

## WCA Newsletter March 2011

### President's Letter

Dear WCA Members,

It's March and Spring is finally here. Those of us who have been with Women Contemporary artists for a while, have now welcomed our new members. Fifteen women joined us this year. Thank you for joining and thank you to those who have returned.

This new year of 2011 has brought a more professional level of art work, in my opinion, to our first WCA exhibition, held at the Venice Art Center's Altman/Voght Gallery. Although it seemed a small space, we fit in over 50 paintings, etchings, sculpture, and photography. The members who entered the exhibition helped to put together a very professional one. We have a lot to be proud of and this show indicated that we can do great work. We can truly be appreciated by our peers and our public.

We, as Women Contemporary Artists, a volunteer art organization, have some very dedicated members. They put their heart and soul into their jobs, be it hospitality, exhibitions, coordinators, awards coordinators, board members, and all chairs. We wouldn't exist without your dedication. I'm grateful to you who give your time and to those who participate and make us who we are.

On March 21 we have a General Membership Meeting, and on May 10 a show at the Selby Gallery, Ringling College of Art and Design. Please add these dates to your calendars.

Women Contemporary Artists, continues to strive to be a better organization. We continue to grow and to bring our artistic talents to the organization. Thank you for making us a vital organization.

I look forward to seeing you soon. Sincerely,

Genevieve Perkins,  
President, Women Contemporary Artists



L-R Nancy Turner, VP, Genevieve Perkins, Pres., Maggie Nevens, Hospitality and PR, and Bernice Gaines, Exhibition Chair,



L-R Susan Miller Thompson, Susie Covert, Keats Whitcraft, Mary Fiore, Mary Louise Hooper, Karen Bushold, Nancy Rose, Diane Hill. sitting L-R Kate Lowman, Gloria Goodman

**Additional pictures on WCA Website.....**  
<http://womencontemporaryartists.com/index.htm>

**Lunch Bunch** All the information about the Lunch Bunch is on the WCA website. The informal get-togethers and critiques are held in members' homes on the first Monday of each month. Here are the upcoming hosts.

<b>April</b>	<b>Nancy Faris</b>
<b>May</b>	<b>Elisabeth Stevens</b>
<b>June</b>	<b>Trish Robbins</b>
<b>July</b>	<b>Kathleen McDonald</b>

### **News from Members who Teach**

**Nancy Heart** teaches sculpture classes at home in her studio, "Corrymeela Sculpture Studio" and also at the Venice Art Center. Contact Nancy at [sculptornan@comcast.net](mailto:sculptornan@comcast.net)

**Gail White** has a solo exhibit "Pleasures in Paradise" that started on Feb. 1 and runs through Mar. 30. It is at the Women's Resource Center 340 South Tuttle Avenue, Sarasota. Also, for information on her workshops, classes, and exhibits, Please visit [www.gailwhite.com](http://www.gailwhite.com)

**Helene Hirmes** will be teaching "Discovering Collage" at Art Center Manatee this summer. Classes start Wednesday, May 18th through June 15, from 1:00 PM - 3:30 PM. Any questions and supply list, call Helene at 941-358-7779.

**Pat Talbot** will be doing a trip to see The Jersey Boys on 3/24. Call All Around Tours @488 9393

**Mary Louise Hooper** has events at the Venice Art Center.  
Feb 28, 11-Noon: Power Point Presentation "A Field Trip through Impressionist France"  
March 28:11-Noon Demonstration and Discussion "Classical vs Modern" Techniques in Painting

There are even more classes opportunities listed on our website:  
<http://womencontemporaryartists.com/index.htm>

### **Exhibits**

**Barbara Colangelo** won Third Prize for "Chat Line II" in the Venice Art Center WCA exhibition. She will be on display again at Simons Coffee House in May for six weeks. Her gallery representation continues at The Dancing Crane Gallery. Retail representation continues at Tesori Gifts and Home Furnishings from Italy, San Marco Plaza, Lakewood Ranch.



**Ellen Mason** had a painting accepted into the "Feed The Soul" exhibit at Art Center Sarasota. The show was juried by Allyn Gallup and Diane Shelly.

**Joan Lyon** is the featured artist during the month of March at the Bolivar Gallery at 506 South Pineapple Ave. Sarasota, FL 34236. The hours are Tues. - Thurs. 11AM to 5PM, Fri. and Sat. 11AM to 6PM. The telephone no. is 941-366-1649.

**B. Aline Blanchard** had a sculpture in the last WCA show entitled "Jewel of the Garden".

**Mary Louise Hooper** is exhibiting at the art show at Mangiafoca Restaurante on Miami Ave. in Venice Fl. to continue until the 30<sup>th</sup> of March. And in April she will be in a show at Roseart in Port Charlotte and Dancing Crane in Bradenton

**Carolyn Ritter** will be one of the twelve artists participating in the Galleria portion of the Creators and Collectors Tour at Ringling College March 11 - 12. The Galleria will be in the Roskamp Exhibit Hall from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. both days. There will be a reception Thursday March 10th from 5 to 7 p.m. Carolyn Ritter's work will be on display the month of April at Simon's Coffee House, Tamiami Trail south.

#### **Carolyn Ritter**

Intimate Portraits of Nature

<http://www.carolynritter.com>

**Pat Howard** (formerly Pat Atkinson) received a third place award at the Venice Art Center's portrait show entitled "Anything That Breathes."

**Marge Bennett** will be having a show "Branching Out" at the Elizabeth Stevens Gallery, 1945 Morrill St. 365-4222. It is her recent series of paintings and monoprints. She will speak about her work at the opening reception which will be on March 18 at 6pm. The exhibit runs thru the 31<sup>st</sup> of March.

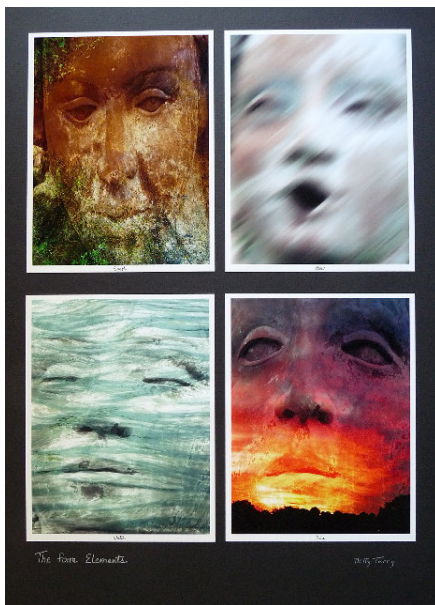
This dark and brooding painting by **B. Aline Blanchard**, a long-time WCA member, entitled, "It Rained All Week in Tuscany" inspired G.Paul Naeger's tone poem for solo harp and orchestra. It will be premiered in May by the Orchestra on the Hill based in Ipswich, Massachusetts to be conducted by Tomas Palance.



Another painting by B.Aline, *Phantom's Fire*, inspired a movement from a symphony from the same composer entitled "Four Seasons in New England".

**Art Center Sarasota** published a 2011 calendar. Three of our members had their artwork featured. Congratulations to **Dottie Terry, Sandy Frick and Dorothy Von Rhee**.

**From Dotty Terry** During the exhibit "The Fiber of our Being" at Art Center Sarasota, 15 poets, a group known as the Gulf Gate Poets, composed 30 original poems based on artworks they were inspired by. Dotty's photo montage "The Four Elements" inspired the poet Tom Mawn. Here is "Elemental Elegy."



#### Element - Earth

I'm learning to live without  
You, but you are everywhere.  
In the forest, you taught me  
Trees' names. I hear echoes of  
Your voice in memory, as  
Birds' call each to each to each,  
Looking for what we once shared.

#### Element - Water

I walk along our river,  
You swam here, flipping, diving,  
Or close to me, slow and sweet.  
You are near; I know your scent.  
It's so strong that I taste it.  
I seek along the streamside,  
But find only lilacs there.

#### Element - Air

Here, the air is thick and wet.  
It squeezes through screens, bleeding,  
Fevered, too heavy to move.  
You hated language like that.  
The breeze is from the north now,  
Pines whisper and whistle low,  
You loved to listen to them.

#### Element - Fire

I can see and feel you here,  
Bright, hot, and not to be shaped.  
"Do not move too close, you have  
Been warned, my thoughts and time  
are mine, I may or may not  
share them." You did or did not,  
but never lied. I miss you.

From new member **Mary Louise Hooper** It is a pleasure to be a new member of WCA. I am a professional artist/teacher and moved to Venice 2 years ago [and loving it]. Since I arrived, I am in several galleries and have been having art shows and doing demonstrations in various venues along the gulf coast and mid-Florida. In Jan., I had a one-Person Show at Art and Frame of Sarasota, and in Feb. an art demonstration on, "Form, Value, Color: Classical vs Modern at the Melange Art Gallery in Venice. Dr. Mary-Louise Biasotti Hooper  
Visual Artist/Teacher  
[www.hooperart.com](http://www.hooperart.com)



### **Museum News**

By **Susan Turconi**

This past fall on a transatlantic cruise, the ship docked at Malaga, Spain, Picasso's birthplace. Naturally, I was excited and planned to see the Cathedral of the Incarnation known locally as the

"Woman With One Arm" because of a missing tower and the Museo Picasso Malaga. I left the ship early and went into town with my map and sense of adventure. I went to the cathedral and there was very long lines for tickets, 5 euros, leave it to the Catholics, I thought but in fairness, all of these beautiful buildings need a lot more than 5 euros. I did the exterior and walked to the Picasso Museum.

Teachers always get discounts in Europe and I was ready with my SCF ID card. The young woman at the desk said: "Madam today is the museum's birthday and it is free to all. I will print your ticket." She then said "Madam, you have been chosen for the special gift and it is heavy so please visit the galleries first." I did and saw works never before seen such as a small unfinished 8" x 10" classical study of the figure in oil painted at age fourteen. It was as if his Mama called: "Pablo, supper!" He never went back to the painting. I went through the entire museum, visited the café, and then went to the gift shop to claim my gift. The attendants were sweet and assured me the shopping bag was strong enough for the 5kg. (or 11.2 lbs.) book covering everything in the museum. I left and found a cab and the driver immediately knew I was the recipient of the gift. I then told him I was an artist and teacher of art history for many years and he proceeded to detour and give me an archeological tour. When we arrived at the ship, I paid my fare, tipped him my change, an apple and a box of frosted flakes. We both had big smiles. Needless to say, I gave away some clothing to fit the book in my luggage. It was a great day.

**Remember that we are interested in your museum news. Please send any information on your shows, classes and awards, as well as museum visits of interest to others, to [valerikerwin@verizon.net](mailto:valerikerwin@verizon.net)**

**The next deadline is September 15**

### **Wild Artists and the Animals of Myakka**

Hosted by The Friends of Myakka

To benefit Myakka River State Park

March 27th 2011

Myakka River State Park

13208 State Rd. 72

Sarasota FL

**Exhibit Dates & Silent Auction:**

Saturday March 26, 2011 10-6PM

Sunday March 27, 2011 4-7PM

**Exhibit Curator:**

Evelyn McCorristin Peters

**Exhibit Juror:**

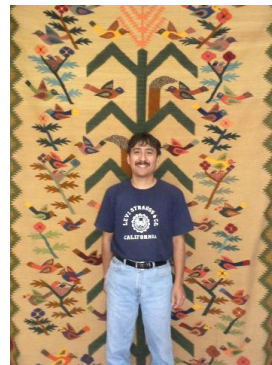
Mark Ormond

The *Friends of Myakka River* partners with the Florida Park Service to assist with protecting, restoring and preserving the natural and cultural resources of Myakka River State Park and the "Wild and Scenic" river. This event showcases the natural beauty of the parks fauna and the amazing talent of regional artists. Funds raised will help ensure future generations will have the opportunity to enjoy these resources.

This project was designed to bring together the local community of artists and the extraordinary natural environment of the Myakka River watershed. Entry form is here:



wild\_myakka\_entry\_form\_2011.pdf



There is an exhibit of the rugs from the the village of Teotitlan del valle, Mexico and includes photography and hand-woven rugs from the village of Teotitlan del valle, Mexico. It is at the Unitarian Universalist Church of Sarasota 3975 Fruitville

Rd.) until April 27. The Gallery Hours: 10 am to 2 pm, Monday thru Friday. Admission is free.

**See:** [www.dondemaio.com/wbOaxaca/](http://www.dondemaio.com/wbOaxaca/) for more info and digital photos.