

Don't know why the printer didn't print a picture

the instinct of artists, we were drawn inward to the vistas of the mind created by our own hands. Greeted effusively by the agent of the Department of State in the person of Sandy Shaugnessy, we were also greeted by the exhibition of 90 pieces of art that were an exuberant display of a myriad of possibilities. As we wandered from one wonderful piece to another we were almost taken by that feeling one gets of saturation after being in a museum for several hours. This is an exhibit that needs to be seen over a period of hours, not of minutes. Before we could possibly have taken in the whole of the experience, we gathered to hear the Juror, William Hennessy, Director of the Chrysler Museum in Norfolk, Virginia, talk about the choices he made and why he made them. This was most enlightening, about the pieces themselves as well as the Juror. He was most taken by composition and by light, but did not fail to say that the decisions were difficult.



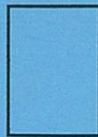
We certainly hope that everyone who was not there to share this experience, will at least get the chance to see the exhibit. The smaller group gave us a chance to get to know each other better, but we missed getting to see and know the rest of you.

H I have been asked by a member to publish an article on censorship. Since this is relevant not just to our particular situation in Tallahassee, but also to the Arts in general throughout history, it has seemed an overwhelming task. I am asking for your help. Please send me (Roberta Schofield, Newsletter Editor) your thoughts on the subject.

E Is this the forum for an opinion section (usually referred to as the Op/Ed section of newspapers)? Would you be willing to write for that section? Please send letters or e-mail. (artists@aol.com)

Florida Artist Group

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Next Newsletter Deadline:
January 15, 2002

FYI: Area Chairs
 Area I..... Anjal Soler, Ft. Lauderdale
 Area II.... Cecily Hangen, West Palm Beach
 Area III... Joyce Novak, Nakomis
 Area IV .. Nan Griffin, St. Petersburg
 Area V.... Carol Frye, Lakeland
 Area VI.. Jean W. Troemel, St. Augustine
 Area VII. Janis M. Balabon, Cape Coral

Changes

Roger McMullen's New Phone # is (941) 747-9585 - Area Chairs need to note this particularly in arranging for the Pick-Up of the work from Tallahassee.

Cecily Hangen's new Phone # is (561) 802-9969. Her new address is 208 Fern Street, Apt. 1401, West Palm Beach, FL 33401.

Newsletter Editor, Roberta Schofield's e-mail address has changed to: artists@aol.com. Please direct all your e-news to that e-mail address.

Gallery



Florida Artist Group Newsletter

Volume 51, Number 2

July 2001

BUSY, BUSY Members' News



Area II

Our beloved **Cecily Hangen** received the **Third Place** award in sculpture at the Artist's Showplace Cooperative Annual Competition juried by the Director of the Palm Beach Institute of Contemporary Art in Lake Worth. Also, her Gallery continues at 326 Peruvian Avenue in Palm Beach. (561) 832-1717. She'd love to see FLAG members. She also says it is going to take her a year to recover from her recent move! She hopes you all have a happy and creative summer.

And we've added new member **Fern Samuels** from Palm Beach Gardens. Welcome to our group, Fern! We hope you enjoy it as much as we do.



Area III

On March 10th, 2001, our own **Lois Tracy**, at the age of 99, celebrated her life and her work by sharing her gallery and home with "all the art lovers who couldn't see my art work when (the gallery) was locked up." she said. She is considered the *grande dame* of Englewood Art, garnering her first accolade at the 1939 World's Fair in New York and being dubbed "an excellent emerging modern artist" by a New York Times art reviewer.

Our new President, **Don Carmichael**, has participated in three juried shows and one invitational at the Venice Art Center since January. He was in *Winners Circle* at the VAC June 4 to July 12. He will have a solo exhibition in July in Jackson, Tennessee at the new Ned McWherter Cultural Center. Also, he will conduct a 3-Day Workshop at the center July 10, 11, 12. The month of June will find Frances and Don in Capetown, Africa, visiting their daughter and family who are serving as missionaries there.



Joyce Novak was selected as one of four "Venice Visionaries, A Tour of Artists' and Collectors' Homes and Studios" to participate in a Venice Art Center fund



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From the Presidents

From Cecily

I have really enjoyed my tenure as President and look forward to Don's leadership. I do want to express my heartfelt thanks to my Board of Officers, Membership Chairmen (both worked so hard), all 7 area chairmen and certainly not leastly newsletter editor. Without their assistance I could not have survived!

I would like to remind you that we are a unique organization, probably in all the 50 states. The opportunity to meet fellow working artists and see what is happening in other parts of the state is something to be treasured by all of us. I know I look forward to it every year, especially from here on!

Cecily

From Don:

This 51st Exhibition at the Florida Capitol Complex is certainly a celebration of our talented membership. With 90-works exhibited, it was masterfully installed. After ascending 22 floors, the viewer has the dual pleasure of viewing art and taking in the vista of downtown Tallahassee. I would hope the membership that could not make the opening will take the opportunity to see this exhibit before it ends August 11.

Next year, 2002 Symposium and Exhibition will be in St. Petersburg with the Exhibition at the Arts Center, May 10 to June 28. Area IV will be our hosts and plans are under way with more information after our October Board Meeting.

Don Carmichael

raiser. She opened her home and studio for an art tour, tea and demonstration of her digital art on Saturday March 10.

The work of award-winning artist, **Nat Krate**, was on exhibition at the Venice Art Center. His solo show entitled "Figures and Florals" was March 12 - April 1, 2001.

Our late and much missed member, **Connie Heller**, was honored at the Temple Beth Sholom with an expansive retrospective show of her work on May 3rd and 4th at the Temple in Sarasota. Her family has generously donated the bulk of her estate of paintings and collage work to the Justin Lee Weisner Early Childhood Learning Center and Goldie Feldman Academy. We hope our Area members were all able to attend the opening!

Leona Sherwood won **Second Prize** at Art Target's Flora/Fauna Show at Selby Gardens and has a new painting showing at the WCA Show at the Selby (Ringling) Gallery.

We extend the heartiest welcome to new member **Betty Carmell Savenor** of Sarasota!

Area IV

Roberta Schofield received an Individual Artist grant from the Arts Council of Hillsborough County to purchase a laptop computer, printer and scanner in order to self-publish promotional materials to be sent to museums and galleries. This is the first time the County grants have been available to mid-career artists. Previously they were only awarded to Emerging Artists and Roberta had been declared "emerged" for some time. She is making good use of the new tool which she hopes results in a visually more interesting Newsletter for FLAG. Also from this effort, the distribution of the promotional material resulted in a solo exhibition scheduled at Cudahy's Gallery in Richmond, Virginia for October of 2002.

Area V

In December (2000) **Nancy Cockerham** had two pieces accepted in the 50th Annual Fine Art Competition of Ridge Art Association in Winter Haven where she won **Best of Show**. In 2001, she was included in the Arts on the Park May Exhibition in Lakeland, and had a solo exhibition at the Third Street Centre Art Gallery in

Winter Haven in March. She is scheduled for another solo show in Mexico in August and at the Kligerman Gallery and Polk Community College in November. She will be guest artist at the P. A. St. A. Gallery in St. Augustine in December (2001) and January (2002).



Chryssie B. Tavriles won the **Ru Israels Memorial Award** at the 51st Annual Exhibition of the Florida Artist Group hanging at the Capitol Gallery on the 22nd floor of the State Capitol Building in Tallahassee. Continuing the governmental theme, she has also been working steadily on portrait commissions and recently finished a commissioned portrait of Governor Lawton Chiles which is hanging in the newly named and dedicated Lawton Chiles Middle Academy in Lakeland.

Greg Jones may be our busiest member, with 34 awards during the past 10 months in all sorts of shows. Let's find out if any of our members (do we feel a little like Ripley?) can match his string of 40 consecutive art festival awards going back to October of 1999. We now know that we haven't heard from him as often as we'd like because he is so busy with shows! But his honors are more impressive as the following sampling shows: * **Best of Show**, Anna Maria Island Winter Show * **Best of Show** at the Melvin Gallery Juried Show in Lakeland * **First Place** at the Gainesville "Thornbrook Village" Show * **Award of Excellence** at the Ridge Art Assoc. Fine Arts Competition in Winter Haven * **Award of Excellence** at their Members' Exhibition * **Award of Distinction** at Mainsail Art Festival in St. Petersburg. We should all be proud that **Greg** is a member of our group! He makes us all look good.

Area VII

Among the exhibits judged by **Bill North** this past season was the Cape Coral Art League. Show Chairperson, Janis Balabon, had organized a popular vote which gave a prize for each person who picked the same Best of Show award as the judge (Bill). The Judge's Choice was also the People's Choice with 11 of 40 making the same pick. Among those agreeing with the judge was the Art Critic reporter from the local newspaper.



SYMPOSIUM REPORT

by Cecily Hangen, President 1999-2001

Our 51st Annual Symposium and Exhibition at the Capitol Gallery was exciting, inspirational and fun. We had about 40 members, smaller than usual but that was due to the distance away from the majority of our members and the time of year. You all missed a good one!

At the Annual Meeting, we elected the following slate of officers: Don Carmichael, President; Bob York, Vice President; Shirley Frank, Treasurer; Eleanor Merritt, Recording Secretary; and Brooke Allison, Corresponding Secretary. Congratulations and best wishes to all of them.

The program started with Peg Richardson's inspirational talk on the *State of Art in the State of Florida*. Were you aware that Florida ranks third in state funding for the arts in the country? It should make us proud of our state. Peg is Director of the Florida Department of State's Division of Cultural Affairs and really informed us on the importance of the arts to the state. She was followed by Lee Modica, Administrator of the Art in State Buildings Program. The highlight of her talk was the showing of slides of the exciting art used in the buildings ranging from the very traditional to the most *avant-garde*. It was great to see such vitality and variety from Florida artists.

After lunch, we had a delightful excursion to the Mary Brogan Museum of Art and Sciences featuring the Red Grooms Show which was pure fun, but with a satiric look at contemporary society. The museum itself is a joy, colorful and modern.

Our 51st Annual Exhibition had 90 works. It is a good looking show, very well staged by Sandy Shaugnessy in the "penthouse" of the Capitol. The exhibition will be on view until August 11th with pickup at Roger McMullen's on August 18 and 19, noon to 6pm. This year, because of the shuttle charge, there was no entry fee, thus no FLAG Best of Show Award. But, the Elizabeth Morse Genius Memorial Award which is now an ongoing award of \$1000 took its place. This is a one-time-only change. Next year we will have both the FLAG Best of Show and the Genius Award. Congratulations to all the award winners.

Unfortunately, the Capitol does not hang nude painting or drawings. This information was not in

the contract I originally signed, happily it now is in the description of work acceptable. One of our members was asked to replace his work, understandably he was incensed and withdrew his piece and canceled his participation in the Symposium. Following the wishes of the membership at the Annual Meeting, I made a written and telephone protest against this policy to Peg Richardson. I think it was wise and imperative to do this but realistically I don't think it will change the legislators.

A pleasant buffet dinner with remarks on the Chrysler Museum by our juror, William Hennessey, Director of the Chrysler wound up Symposium day.



The Opening

by Roberta Schofield

As we loaded into the vans to take us to the Capitol for our Opening Reception, a feeling of anticipation and excitement permeated the air. We were on our way to see the work of 90 artists from all over Florida, to find out who won the awards, to see the setting and the gallery; for most of us for the first time! Many of us were accompanied by family and friends and we were looking forward with anticipation.

We were delivered to the back of the building and with some puzzlement made our way to the "front" door. This is in a courtyard bounded by two wings of the new capitol and the back of the old capitol. We found the right door - the capitol was officially closed, this being after 5pm - and followed the directions to ring the buzzer to be let in. Some wandering around a wonderful rotunda that had the Great Seal of the State of Florida embedded in the floor got us to the elevators, only one of which actually went to the 22nd floor. Some dancing with those (going into the ones that opened that wouldn't go there, punching a button for a floor and jumping back out to send it somewhere else so that the one we needed would arrive) finally got us the elevator we needed and to the 22nd floor. But what awaited us was well worth the dance.

All of North Florida was laid out for our perusal, but with

