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FLORIDA ARTIST GROUP NEWSLETTER



Volume 56, Number 2

June 2006

Area Chairs

Area I	Anjal Soler, Ft. Lauderdale
Area II	Cecily Hangen, West Palm Beach
Area III	Judy Lyons Schneider, Bradenton
Area IV	Cassandra Gordon-Harris, St. Petersburg
Area V	Carol Frye, Lakeland
Area VI	Sydney McKenna, St. Augustine
Area VII	Joan Klutch, Sanibel

From the President continued from page 1

Board meeting, Joan Lyon of Area III agreed to fill the vacant Recording Secretary's job. She was then duly elected to become one of the officers. Thank you so much, Joan.

There is a constant need for FLAG members to involve themselves by volunteering to fill vacancies or to find a useful place by contributing their expertise where it is needed. Most important is that we have a common bond and will not only reach our goals but will exceed our goals under a light of unity, good will and cooperation.

Joyce Novak

Memorial

Our Past President **Don Carmichael** passed away on February 12th in Sarasota. He was a veteran of WWII, a noted artist, teacher, and a volunteer for many non-profit organizations. He served as President of Kiwanis twice and in many other elected positions, and was Past President of the Venice Art Center. From Indiana, Don moved to Florida in 1985 and became a vital member of his community. Not only in the many art

organizations he served, but also in his church where he was involved in the Men's Prayer Breakfast, Men's Pancake Breakfast and served as church artist. The church's semi-annual Fine Arts Show was named after Don and there was a booth there devoted to his work.

Of particular note is the painting he did for Kiwanis a few years ago that was the "Thank you" gift to the outgoing National President of Kiwanis.

Don's biography is included in Who's Who in American Art, Who's Who in the South and Southwest and the Dictionary of International Biography.

Florida Artist Group

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special note
new e-mail address for news

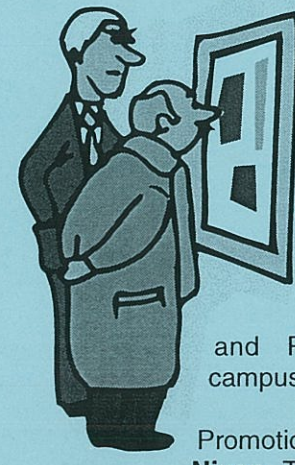


From the President

The 56th Annual Exhibition and Symposium at the Ridge Art Association were excellent. Both events were well attended. They were capably organized by the Exhibition Chairman, **Carol Frye** and assisted by **Elizabeth Clement**. FLAG added three awards to commemorate the memories of the recently deceased **Don Carmichael, Jean Dean** and **Ralph LaVigne**.

Our awards Judge was James Yood, Professor of Art History and Criticism at the Art Institute of Chicago. He is an author of many books, an art critic and has written numerous articles for art magazines. We are pleased that he took time from his busy schedule to jury our art and present an insightful and interesting lecture about the relationship of Art and Money throughout the ages.

We can anticipate an outstanding 57th Exhibition/Symposium in May 2007 at the Daytona Beach Museum of Arts and Sciences, chaired by **Sydney McKenna**, of Area VI. The Exhibition will continue in the main gallery through the summer of 2007. Our awards judge and symposium speaker is the internationally known art critic, author and speaker **Dr. Donald Kuspit**. He is also Professor of Art History and Philosophy at Stony Brook campus of New York University.



New to FLAG is the Publicity/Promotion committee chaired by **Joan Nixon**. This committee has been asked by the Board to seek professional advertising and promotional materials allowing us to gain better recognition in the art community and with the public. Good promotional materials will help us attract some of the finest Florida artists to our FLAG membership as well as to enable us to have our annual Exhibitions in some of Florida's best museums and galleries. Also, it will assist us in attracting more outstanding national and international art award judges and Symposium speakers.

Ahlin graciously took the minutes for the Annual Members meeting. At the subsequent



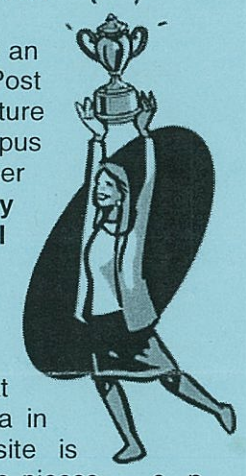
Members' News

Area II

Along with board members **Joyce Novak, Ahlin, Carol Frye and Joan Nixon**, Area II has an exhibit May 16 to August 7, 2006 at the Eissey Campus Gallery of the Palm Beach Community College in Palm Beach Gardens, FL.

Dorothy K. Bosco was featured in an article published in the Palm Beach Post describing her "out of the box" Neon Sculpture as "exciting" in the exhibit at Eissey Campus Gallery in Palm Beach Gardens. Other Members exhibiting from Area II were **Cecily Hangen, Emily Andre, Lois Barton, Carol Brillo, Fern Samuels** and **Joan Lustig**.

Fern Samuels is working toward a one person show at the Palm Beach Gardens City Hall which will be in January of 2007. She is now being represented at the Amsterdam Whitney Gallery in Chelsea in New York City. (WOW!) Their web site is Amsterdamwhitneygallery.com. She has two pieces on this web site. She is working on transforming board games. Working title is "Games people Play."



Lois Barton is exhibiting an encaustic painting in the 117th Annual Exhibition of the National Association of Women Artists, at the Goggle Works in Reading PA May 26 to July 9th. She also had a mixed media piece accepted into the 13th Annual All-Florida Fine Art Exhibition at the Cornell Museum of Art and History, Delray Beach, June 15 to September 9th.

Emalee Andre has had a piece accepted in the *American Art Collector Southeast* (Volume 2) to be released in August, 2006. She is also exhibiting with the Palm Beach Digital Imaging Group at the Eissey Theatre Gallery of the Palm Beach Community College from June 1 to August 7, 2006.

Eydi Lampasona had two installations accepted into the 55th annual All Florida Exhibition, Boca Raton Museum, Florida. She also had an assemblage accepted into the 14th Annual Exhibition 2006 International Society of Experimental Artists, DeVos Museum, Texas, and her work was exhibited in the Annual International Bakers Dozen Exhibition, Real Tart Gallery, New Plymouth, New Zealand. We are becoming internationally known!!

Cecily Hangen is going to enter the 21st Century! She is getting high-speed internet and will be available on e-mail by August. Congrats, Cecily!!

Continued on page 4

continued on page 2

Area III

Our President, **Joyce Novak** has been honored by being presented the *Women Contemporary Artists Lifetime Membership Award* at the WCA Annual Meeting. The certificate states: "Awarded on April 23, 2006 in Appreciation of Her Continuing Dedication and Valued Support to WCA" and she will be in the WCA Invitational Exhibition held at the South Florida Museum opening on October 9th. There was also some fabulous publicity on **Joyce** and FLAG in her hometown newspaper due to the efforts of our new Promotion Committee.

Sue Turconi won *Best of Show* at the annual portrait and figure exhibition at the Venice Art Center this March. The exhibition was juried by Area III member **Eleanor Merritt**.

Julee Docking was accepted in April in NLAPW National Show in Denver, California. She had 2 Half pages of write-ups in local papers with pictures (1st name misspelled!) and sold 1 in Venice Abstract Show and 1 in Longboat's Travel Show.

John Barends closed his Avenue Art Shop and is retired. (Congrats, John!) He discovered the Paint Button on his new Laptop computer and is lost to the rest of the world.

Nat Krate was the solo painting exhibitor in the Invitational Masters of Stone and Canvas Show at the Venice Art Center for the month of January 2006. Three of his paintings were included in the Invitational Exhibition at Longboat Key Town Hall from January through March, 2006. He was awarded *First Prize* in the Annual All-Florida Artists Showcase at the Art League of Bonita Springs held April 6-20, 2006. He won *Best in Show* in the 2D/3D All Florida Juried Exhibition held at the Alliance for the Arts, Ft. Myers, from June 2 through July 29, 2006.

Area IV

Cassandra Gordon-Harris was part of the juried National Association of Women Artist (NAWA) exhibit at The Armory Arts Center in West Palm Beach. She had a one woman show at Safety Harbor Library in Safety Harbor, was part of the NAWA annual exhibit at googleWorks Center for the Arts in Reading, PA and will be part of Area VI's exhibit at Arts on Douglas in New Smyrna Beach in July. She had a feature article in the *American Artist* in the Jan 2006 edition and two of her paintings were represented in *Pastel Pure Color: The Best of Pastel*, NorthLight Publications. It came out in December.

Betsy Lester lost her husband of 36 years, Ken Lester. Air Force pilot, published author, and exceptional athlete, he is so missed. Ken would say that a family that

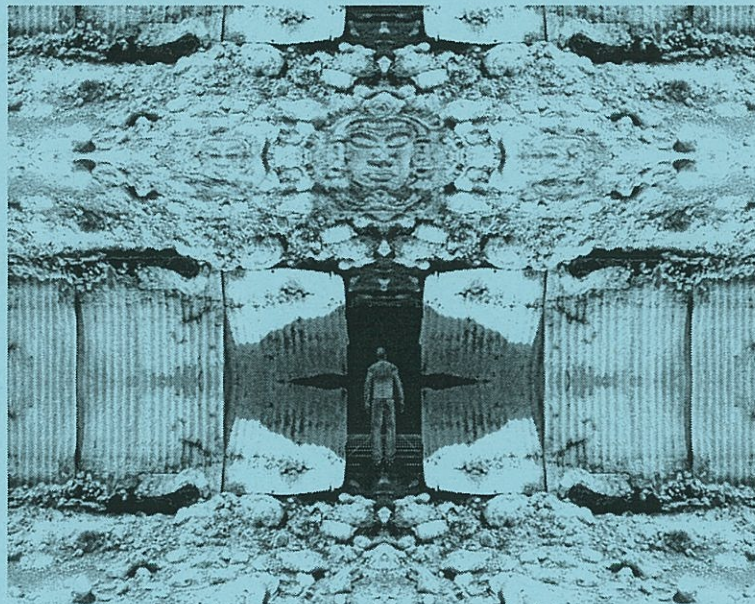
hangs together stays together and that is what we did, as preparators for the Arts Center, St. Petersburg, 20 plus years. The Ken Lester Memorial Fund, attention the Arts Center's Laura Shelton, 719 Central Ave., St. Pete, 33701, will turn dollars into scholarships. This education fund sends needy kids to an artful summer camp. Perfect homage to Ken, the perpetual happy camper.

Area V

Carol Frye, Chairman of Area V won *Best In Show* at the Texas Watercolor Society Annual Exhibition and earned Carol signature membership in the organization. Her Painting "Tapestry: SW" showcases the Texas Watercolor Society traveling show until the end of the year. Carol also won *First Place* in Photography in the Cornell Museum 2006 All Florida Fine Art Exhibition with her digital collage "Bob Enters His Past".

Mari Conneen, former FLAG member, has moved to 457 Crystal Tree Drive, Waynesville, NC 28785, 828.926.4765. She's very happy being a hermit at her new studio in the mountains. Mari's studio will be on the 'Artist Studio Tour' of the Haywood County Arts Association. Her work is presently on exhibit at the Alabama Watercolor Society and she was a recent prize winner at the Louisiana Watercolor Society.

Mindy Z. Colton will be included in the *American Art Collector Book II*, Vol 4. She was accepted in the Deland Museum of Art Annual Juried EQUUS and won an *Award of Excellence* and she represented the Deland Museum of Art at the EPCOT International Flower & Garden Festival Outdoor Sculpture Exhibit through June 11.



Bob enters his past, Carol Frye

Area VI 2006

Area VI is having an exhibit at "Arts on Douglas" in New Smyrna July 1-29. **Maribel Angel, Barre Barrett, Gretchen Ebersol, Wendy Tatter, Heidi Edwards, Linda Blondheim, Jo Sinclair, Sydney McKenna, Cassandra Gordon-Harris, Beau Redmond, Sam Dee Thomas, Trish Thompson, Jean Troemel, Jeffrey Smart- Baisden, and Jan Miller** will be included. Area IV Chair **Cassandra Gordon Harris** will be participating as well. *Ahlin*

Linda Blondheim has added career coaching to her offerings - her website is thorough and worth a visit - www.lindablondheim.com

Jan Miller will be in a three person exhibition Sept 6 - Oct. 13 at the Florida School of the Arts in Palatka titled "Structure, Form and Meaning."

Maribel Angel is having a show at Butterfield Garage in May called "Innerwoven". Her work explores colors and textures found in works with ornamental motifs

! 2006 Symposium !

by Carol Frye

The vote is in and this year's annual symposium and exhibition were a success! Donna Kelly, of The Lakeland Ledger wrote "The 81 piece exhibit is as varied as the locations of the artists whose work comprises it." The show was on exhibit from May 1 thru May 30, 2006.

A full schedule of symposium activities filled the weekend of May 5th through the 7th. Out of town members arrived in Winter Haven and registered for the symposium, where they were served refreshments and old and new friends were greeted and given the opportunity to socialize. Early raffle tickets for the results of the PaintAround were available for purchase.

The exhibition judge, James Yood, Adjunct Full Professor of Art History at the Chicago Institute of Art, was given a few hours before the reception to select the awards. After careful examination and deliberation, the winners are:

Florida Artist Group Best In Show -

Melissa Miller Nece

Elizabeth Morse Genius Memorial Award - **Kas Turner**

Ru Israels Memorial Award - **Gregory Jones**

Don Carmichael Memorial Award - **Jan Miller**

Jean Dean Memorial Award - **Joan R. Lustig**

Ralph LaVigne Memorial Award - **Carol Frye**

Fonchen Lord Memorial Award - **Betty Altman**

Earle W. Epps Memorial Award - **Joan Lyon**

Nancy Stair Karish Memorial Award - **Lee Ackert**

Elizabeth Upham Davis Memorial Award -

Joyce Novak

Richard Dean Andruk Award for Oil or Acrylic Painting -

Elizabeth S. Clement

Theatre Winter Haven is located directly across the hall from the art gallery and theatre goers joined the large number of people who filled the gallery with

MEMBERSHIP NEWS continued

and classic patterns in textiles, tiles and architecture of world cultures.

Jo Sinclair exhibited three of her small mixed-media chairs which incorporate poetry books, paint brushes, pencils in "Book Em", a book art show at Piedmont Community College in Charlottesville, Virginia, in April.

Butterfield Garage Gallery is holding a Tribute to **Jean Troemel** in June and July. Three Galleries will be showing her work starting in June, then Butterfield will continue the show through July. Also, **Jean** will be included in a ceremony in June to commission a new Navy ship, the USS Farragut, in Jacksonville. At the ceremony, a portrait of the Civil War Admiral David Farragut will be given to the ship by The Admiral Farragut Academy of St. Petersburg, that owns the original oil portrait painted by **Jean Wagner Troemel**. The Academy has made a replica of it to hang in the Ward Room of the ship.

viewers during the opening reception. Much of the food, provided by Ridge Art Association volunteers, reflected that it was Cinco De Mayo.

For the PaintAround, three Area V artists, **Elizabeth Clement, Chrissy Taverides and Carol Frye** were given blank canvases and ten minutes to paint on them. The canvases were passed and work continued. The final result was three wonderful paintings produced by all three artists. Raffle ticket sales soared. *Winners Ruben Ahlin*

After lunch, the judge, James Yood, spoke on "Art and Money."

The awards banquet was held at the Gift Mill. This country style restaurant served our meal in a fairy-like environment. After-dinner entertainment included the awards presentations preceded by a brief talk from the judge. Following the drawing of the Raffle tickets, past presidents in attendance were invited to share some of the highlight and antidotes from their reigning years. We enjoyed talks from **Jean Troemel, Elizabeth Clement, Cecily Hangen, Robert York and Joyce Novak**.

The Sunday morning board meeting capped the weekend. Board meetings are always open to all members, and several general members, including two new members were in attendance. The next board meeting will be held the first Saturday in October at Selby Library in Sarasota.

! 2007 (The next) Symposium !

Jan Miller and Sydney McKenna believe they have found the most appropriate one for our 2007 Daytona Beach Museum exhibit and Symposium. Hotel prices in Daytona are somewhat higher than we have experienced at Symposia in other parts of Florida. The Plaza Resort and Spa at 600 North Atlantic has offered us a package with a rate of 124.00 double occupancy per room per night, down from their normal average room rate of 179.00. There is an elegant seaside banquet room with an attached bar and outdoor poolside patio, as well as a flexible choice of meeting rooms for our speaker. There is also a wonderful spa on site, and anyone wishing to add a day to their reservations to take advantage of the elegant facilities and use the trip as a vacation may do so at the same reduced room rate.

Also, as an option, **Jan and Sydney** are considering reserving one of the rooms at the poolside level to sponsor a hospitality suite with complementary cold sodas and snacks available for our members when events are not scheduled. We also are exploring the possibility of using the room as a site for an after dinner party on Saturday with live music (we will bring in) on the pool deck. Members wishing to avoid the higher cost of bar orders could bring their own bottles of wine or liquor to store in the refrigerator, and we will supply snacks and sodas.

This hotel has a rich history of over 100 years, and old black and white photos are hanging in the lobby showing the hotel at different phases of its development. It has an "old world style" blended with modern elegance. To get an overview, you may visit their website at www.plazaresortandspa.com.