



## The Paint-In *Official Newsletter*

### June 2009 Edition



#### President's Remarks

By Jill Ferguson

I am reflecting on these remarks on another of those early spring, wonderful sunny days. Not only does the weather do delightful things for me, but the camaraderie and inspiration at a Paint-In earlier today added so much to the day. Life is good.

During this time of year as the seasons change in many ways, I thought this quote was an interesting one to think about:

*Painting, like baseball, is a game of averages  
Artists try for a high batting average,  
but if you are batting a thousand,  
you are not pushing yourself.  
Your paintings will all  
start to look the same.  
(Charles Muench)*

Two months from now (remember Jackie asked us to submit things early this time) when this is printed in the Newsletter, we will be fast approaching our show season. I hope you have all been happily productive, been pushing yourself a bit, and are looking forward to participation, hopefully with entries but also as an RLAA supporter. We have a good thing going here but must remember that many hands make light work.

Keep painting, it's good for the soul  
Jill

### R.L.A.A. Workshops

#### Marg Grothier Workshop

By Judith Versavel

Marg Grothier gave her usual "ALL" at the *Bold Acrylics workshop* which was held at the Crosby Hall on May 30-31.



It was well attended with 17 participants who enthusiastically worked "out of the box" to create new, exciting and colourful paint-ings. With personal attention, critiquing, and de-monstrations, Marg challenged everyone to try something different from their usual methods. Can't wait to see the results. Everyone looks "Way Too Happy".

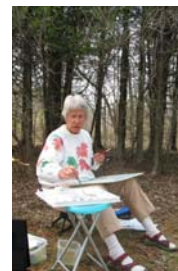


*Note: Joan Dales had signed up for Marg's workshop but unfortunately, due to illness was unable to attend. We all hope you're feeling better soon Joan and back to painting.*

### Paint-Out



The spring Paint-out was held at David Czops' on April 30. Weather was good, and the company too. Thank you David for opening your home to us.



## Shows

### *Westport*

By Linda Rush

June 6 to 7, United Church Hall, Westport

Well, this was my first show as show committee chair, and things seemed to go very well. Worried as I was about all the details, and the fact that I really had no idea what I was doing, everything pulled together. For this I have to thank both the many club members who DID know what they were doing, and went ahead and did it, as well as the newer members who pitched in to help too. It's dangerous to single out people to thank, since so many people contributed so much, but I do especially want to thank Sherry, who completely took care of the publicity and advertising, and Peter, who organized the set up and take down. Also Bernie and Rose who left behind all kinds of information and were ready to provide answers to my questions.

I was very impressed by the quality of the work that people submitted, and felt that the show looked very professional and certainly very interesting.

Now for statistics: - 25 people exhibited, 6 with outside tents. There were 351 people who attended the show, (9 on Fri. night, 227 on Saturday and 115 on Sunday). There were 6 paintings sold, for a total of \$2,043. In addition \$245 worth of cards and prints were sold from tents, and 7 packages of club cards were sold. Both the sales and the attendance were greater than for last year's June show.

The People's Choice ballots are a great idea, and almost everyone who attended the show made a choice and submitted a ballot. I think that every artist got at least some votes for best in show. However, there was a clear front runner, and that artist will be announced at this Friday's meeting.



### *Art On The Lawn*

By Bernard Beaudry & Rose Wilson

We hope everyone is getting ready for Art-on-the-Lawn this coming July 11<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup>.

We will be passing out brochures at the June meeting. As our membership covers approximately 18 areas we would like to get the brochures out to all these areas, and more. Please think about places to distribute the brochures in your area.

See you at the June meeting

### *Westport*

August 22 to 23, United Church Hall, Westport

## **Newsworthy Notes:**

### *Website Update:*

Anyone wishing to have their bio and two paintings on the website for the R.L.A.A. website can get in touch with Rose Wilson. There is a \$10/year setup fee which is good for one year, and any changes that are made during that year will be charged extra. The Bio can be as many words as you like, within reason, and sent via email is preferable. Two photos of your paintings should be included, and if you desire, a photo of yourself. These should be digital, however, Rose can scan photos.

Also, if you have any photos of R.L.A.A. activities you would like to see on our website, please send them to Rose and she will add them to the website. She says that she has room for up to 200 photos in the album. These photos can be from paint outs, paint ins, shows, trips and so forth.

### *Greeting Cards*

Approximately half of the 100 sets of cards that were printed have been sold, therefore, our costs of printing, etc. have been covered. Any profit from now on will be split 50/50 with the club and the local Food Bank.

If anyone would like to purchase a set, or two, they will be available at the meeting in March. If you would like to have a set in between meetings you can contact Jane Griggs as she has some at her home. The cost of the greeting cards is \$20 for 10 cards.

## **Best Buys for Art Supplies**

*By Shirley Mancino*

**Paper, canvas, w/c, acrylic paints:** Gwartzman's, Spadina Street Toronto

**Mystery 100 % Rag Board:** Woolfitt's Queen Street Toronto.

**Masonite Panels:** buy 4 x 8 sheets at Home Depot, have it cut to any size that you want. They provide 2-3 cuts free. Gesso both sides several times. Paint and/or wax the edges several times to keep the board flat when wet, and to act as an acid free barrier.

**Framing Materials (mat board, frames, hardware, and glass, foam core, framing equipment):** Triple Touch Moulding Toronto.

See [www.tripletouchmoulding.com](http://www.tripletouchmoulding.com) for their product line (available thru STMancino).

To help you choose your mats and frames, a great website is: [www.matshop.ca](http://www.matshop.ca); click on outer mat; select desired colour and size; click on inner mat, etc. (be aware that you can change the width of each mat to see whether a wide or narrower mat looks better) These are Bainbridge matboards and are one of the best you can buy.

If you want to save money by getting a Canadian made mat board and cutting your own mats, go to [www.tripletouchmoulding.com](http://www.tripletouchmoulding.com) and find the equivalent colours in the Peterborough mats section, then order through S. Mancino.

**Framing equipment:** Triple Touch, Lee Valley Tools, on line shopping.

**Foam Core:** The cheapest mat board was last ordered through Impact Molding. They deliver to Kingston so would need someone willing to receive

delivery if we repeat this order

**Framing:** Stephanie Davison, 11 Garrett Rd, 613-272-0128 or [picsncrafts@yahoo.ca](mailto:picsncrafts@yahoo.ca), Dawson Girdwood, Perth. Both of the above are reasonable and accommodating to artists. Some members use Chris at Carousel Gallery, Portland and others use Amy Blair, owner of Guilded Corners on Russell, in Davidson's Court, Smiths Falls.

**Clear Bags:** Crystal ClearBags you can order your own in larger amounts at - [www.crystalclearbags.com](http://www.crystalclearbags.com)) or call 1-888-436-6197:

For smaller amounts, Shirley Mancino keeps a supply of standard sizes e.g. 10 x 12in, 12 x 18, 14 x 18, 14 x 22, 16 x 20, 17 x 22, 2 x 30, 28 x 36, 5 x 8 and hang tabs at the same price as Crystal Clear Bags.

**Printing:** Giclee/greeting Cards: many artists in the area use Artech, south of Ottawa; they are not cheap but have been in business a long time. I use Images Interlialia, Perth, they are closer and cheaper; you have to monitor them to make sure you get exactly the colours you want. Also, Greeting Cards and/or prints can be done at Impression Printing, 51 Abbott St. N., Smith's Falls (613-283-2444) who are apparently cheaper.

**On line Shopping:** Many materials can be ordered online and delivered to your door thru:

[www.currys.com](http://www.currys.com) and [www.woolfitts.com](http://www.woolfitts.com)

Both have a good monthly/quarterly newsletter and quarterly discount Go online to sign up.

The U.S.A. has numerous mail order discount providers such as the following:

[www.cheapjoes.com](http://www.cheapjoes.com)

[www.jerry'sartarama.com](http://www.jerry'sartarama.com)

[www.dickblick.com](http://www.dickblick.com)

[www.rexart.com](http://www.rexart.com))

Or do a google search for "art-supplies". For USA providers, you may have to pay brokerage fees and GST at the border. For cheaters, find a friend with a US address willing to receive delivery for you in the

States and drive them across the border. Ina Black has catalogues from 3 – 4 of these US discounters.

**Stores/Galleries for Art Supplies:** Shirley buys her art supplies from Gwartsmann's on Spadina Street at College in Toronto. They are a big supplier to art students at OCAD so they always have the cheapest prices but not necessarily all the brand names.

Art supplies can be purchased at Wallacks, two locations in Ottawa, and one in Kingston. Also, at .Brush Strokes at 129 Bridge Street, Carleton Place (1-613-253-8088) web: [www.brushstrokesart@bellnet.ca](http://www.brushstrokesart@bellnet.ca)) and Art Guys on Bank Street just down the street from Wallacks in Ottawa.

*Editor's Note: Best Buys is a regular feature of the Paint-In. If you know of any other suppliers, etc. that could be added, please contact Shirley Mancino or the editor for future editions*

## More from DebbieOttman-Smith

### Image to Canvas Techniques

- a) Drawing free handed with your brush and paint is the method used En Plein Air, however, for other subjects it takes a lot of confidence. I've only just begun using this method for my portraits after many years struggling with believing in myself! Try this technique with a very simple subject so that you can see for yourself (understand) why it is a good one to use. It saves so much time!
- b) If your drawing skills leave a lot to be desired, first work out the details on a sheet of paper. After establishing proportions and perspective, and so on, transfer this image to your canvas by tracing it. You can use Carbon Paper for acrylic and oil paint not for watercolour! For any media you can trace with graphite transfer paper or seamstress' chalk marking paper. (make your own by coating the back of tracing paper with charcoal, graphite or chalk).
- c) Draw directly onto the canvas with a compatible material; such friendly mediums are:

*In order of my favourites*

A 2B Soft Vine charcoal - *because you can easily wipe it off with your fingers*

A 4-6B pencil, *the softer b pencils more easily erase from the canvas*

*Use an h pencil only for watercolours*

Chalk Pastels; some artists use these to under-paint with. (*BEWARE - be sure to use the exact colour to draw with because they do not erase and are difficult to scrub off or paint over as they contain strong pigments*).

- d) NEVER use spray or fixative to set the lines, use your paint. Once your image is drawn out whether traced, or by free-hand, set or 'fix' it there with a thin outline of paint. Do not leave brush marks behind at this stage.
- e) MOST IMPORTANT: Before you put the image on, decide your under-painting method (see next paragraph); if you are using a ground, you must do that first. Sometimes it makes sense to block in the values first and then draw on the image. Common sense applies again.

*Use very little detail!*

*Draw only the contour information you need.*

### Under-Painting

The purpose of an under-painting is to quickly cover the canvas. An impasto knife-painter like James Keirstead, may not have to under-paint. Unlike watercolour, where the support is used in place of white pigment, the white of the paper is the light of the painting and where it all begins. In oil and acrylic, painting begins with the darkest values and ends with the light and white pigment. These are classical approaches and my personal preference; today anything goes! Under-painting in blocks of colour can also very quickly establish important values and can be used for all media. It is the light and shadow [or values] that create form. That is how our brain interprets an object, by its values. When Monet said, "Paint the Light", he was

referring to the values you see.

There are many different styles of under-painting and reasons for doing so:

**Grisaille:** French for gray and is the study of values like in a black & white photograph. *I use this for still life when my objective is to study the light, or when the light and shadows are the focus.*

**Monochromatic:** Value study in tints and shades of one [mono] colour [chroma]. *I use this method when the objective is colour in a still life. I will choose the complimentary of the focal object's colour to work with.*

**Ground:** One value of one colour. Priming a canvas can also be called a ground. No brush strokes should be visible at this stage. *Many landscape artists use this method and choose yellow ochre.* The idea is that the ground colour will show through in tiny spots, unifying the finished painting.

**Colour Block:** Blocking in the major shapes with its major colour value. *This is the technique I use for portraiture where the skin, hair, background and foreground are all blocked in first.*

***The trick to making a transparent pigment opaque is to add a touch of Titanium White.***

## Meet Our Members



**Don Pyne**

Drawing came to me quite naturally, from a child drawing pictures from the calendar by the light of the coal oil lamp to spending many hours on a drafting table, producing working drawings for my Design/Build Construction Company.

Much later when my family and I were living in Bath, which is a charming Roman city in the west of England, I began taking painting classes which were given by some local talent. This inspired me to continue. Several courses at St. Lawrence College

in Brockville, and more recently in Smiths Falls have increased my incentive to keep trucking.

There are a number of talented artists in the R.L.A.A. that have encouraged me, perhaps as much as my admiration of the *Group of Seven* and the *French Impressionists*, to continue to express my ambitions with a paint brush, a palette and a sheet of watercolour paper.

*Note: Don is also an avid wood carver of shorebirds and songbirds and some ducks.*

*Note: Don likes to recreate his paintings over by using different mediums. Below are examples of how he has done one painting in watercolour and a second of the same scene in acrylic.*



## News From the Members

**Wintergreen Studios**  
by Aileen Merriam

A new facility has opened up in our area, it is an interesting straw-bale studio west of Westport and north of Sydenham.

“Wintergreen Studios” is located at 9780 Canoe Lake Road on 204 acres of mixed forests, meadows, and granite outcrops. The facility is described as *an off-grid education and retreat centre where artists and craftspeople offer courses and exhibitions in the fine and domestic arts.*

Perhaps this is a near-by site where some of our plein-air artists would like to arrange a painting get-away? (Quite a few other workshops have already booked at the site, so we would have to plan well in advance).

I visited the site in November 2008. There is a network of over twenty trails through the property, with woods and meadows, ponds, marshes, and a

glacier carved lake. Its natural beauty rivals the area around Val David, Quebec.

Comfortably powered by solar, propane and wood, the main lodge can host 40 people for day meetings. The facilities may be rented with or without the provision of meals. The open-plan lodge has a spacious “great room” and a fully appointed kitchen. The lodge and two cabins can accommodate up to 14 persons overnight.

For more information  
[www.wintergreenstudios.com](http://www.wintergreenstudios.com)

### **Congratulations:**

Congratulations to Sharon Fox Cranston who has been recently elected into the Society of Canadian Artists. As she says - *Very exciting times*

### **Member Activities:**

#### **Saturday & Sunday, July 4 – 5, 2009**

Some of our members will be participating in the 11<sup>th</sup> Annual Rideau Lakes Studio & Garden Tour.

They are: Margaret Kelk, Eleanor Pinsonneault, Sjerru-Lynn Rogers, Jim Rowat, John Shea, Jane Topping,

#### **June, July and August**

Shirley Mancino will be exhibiting at the D’Omma Gallery, Superdome in Nepean.

### **Invitations**

#### **July 11 & 12**

Donnah Camerson will be offering a Watercolour Workshop on Saturday & Sunday, July 11 & 12 from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. This will be held at the Crystal Beshara Fine Art Studio in Ottawa.

*To register, call Eileen 613-591-8585*

### **July 25, 10 a.m. – 5 p.m.**

The Arden Artisans – Sarah Hale, Judith Versavel and Joanne Pickett will be having their 2<sup>nd</sup> annual Garden Party and Open House Saturday, July 25<sup>th</sup> from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Their three studios are located in the village of Arden, 20 minutes west of Sharbot Lake, off Highway # 7.

R.L.A.A. members are welcome to come and paint around the village, bring a few paintings or cards to sell, or just join in all the events. There will be a Barbeque at the Fire Station, music, book signings and more.

Don’t forget to wear your favourite hat to qualify for three chances to win in our FREE draw!

Hope to see you there.

*For more information call 613-335-2032*

### **Obituaries**

It is with sadness we note the passing of –

Sandra Yaxley recently lost her mother Marion Claire Coote on April 10, 2009.

	<b>Helen Benda Art Studio</b>
	266 Harper Condie Road Smiths Falls, ON K7A 4S6 (613) 283-6000 <a href="http://www.helenbenda.ca">www.helenbenda.ca</a>
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## MEMBERSHIP WEB SITES

Helen Benda	<a href="http://www.helenbenda.ca">www.helenbenda.ca</a>
Stephanie Davison	<a href="http://www.Picturesncrafts.com">www.Picturesncrafts.com</a>
Peter Gillespie	<a href="http://www.petergillespie.ca">www.petergillespie.ca</a>
Shirley Mancino	<a href="http://www.shirleymancino.com">www.shirleymancino.com</a>
Wayne Williams	<a href="http://www.waynewilliams.ca">www.waynewilliams.ca</a>
Rose Wilson	<a href="http://www.rosewilson.ca">www.rosewilson.ca</a>



***The Paint-In*** is the official news-letter of the Rideau Lakes Artists Association, Westport, Ontario.

Our activities include water colours, oils, acrylics, computer assisted and other art mediums. We're located at the North Crosby Hall, North Crosby for our monthly meetings, which are scheduled for the second Friday of each month at 1 p.m. except February and July in which there are no monthly meetings held. For "Paint-in" schedule please see following. "Paint-outs" are organized several times a year as well as art trips and other events (see Program). The Association also hosts courses by known artists and sponsors exhibits and shows featuring members work.

To have your business card included in the newsletter for one year, send your card and a cheque for \$25 to the above address.

To find out about becoming a member call: Membership Chair, Claire Brouillard at: (613) 275-2433

**Email Edition.** All members with email addresses will receive their RLAA newsletters in Adobe Acrobat (PDF) Adobe Acrobat Reader. A "free" copy of Adobe Acrobat Reader may be downloaded from:

<http://www.adobe.com/products/acrobat/readstep2.html>

Members without email will continue to receive hard copies of the Newsletter at the monthly meetings.

**Editor:** Jackie Coldrey (613) 284-0462,  
Email [randjcoldrey@sympatico.ca](mailto:randjcoldrey@sympatico.ca)



*Just a couple of photos taken by Jackie Coldrey on her trip to Scotland and area this past May. Top: Tintern Abbey in South Wales Below: Piersland Inn (home of Johnny Walkers' grandson) in Troon, Scotland..*

## R.L.A.A. 2009 –Spring/Summer

<p>June 12 -1:30 p.m. Speakers: Georgia and/or Bonnie from Artemesia Gallery, Westport</p> <p><i>What a gallery is looking for gallery %</i></p>	<p>June 6 – 7 Westport Show</p>	<p>Annual RLAA Picnic, June 26<sup>th</sup> at 9:30 a.m. to 4 p.m.. To be held at Wintergreen Studios on Canoe lake, south/West of Westport.</p> <p>Paint-ins. 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesday and 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Wednesday of the month.</p>
<p>July</p> <p>No meeting</p>	<p>July 11 – 12 Art on the Lawn</p>	<p>Paint-ins. 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesday and 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Wednesday of the month.</p>
<p>August - 1:30 p.m.</p> <p>Critique Day: Bring a painting</p>	<p>August 22 – 23 Westport Show</p> <p>Cove &amp; Stagecoach Changeovers, Friday, August 14</p> <p>Fiddleheads Changeover Tuesday, August 18, 10 a.m</p>	<p>Paint-ins. 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesday and 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Wednesday of the month.</p>
<p>September 11 – 1:30 p.m.</p> <p>Speaker: Stephen Rothwell demo/talk on painting on canvas wrapped watercolour paper</p>		<p>September 12, 8:30 – 9 a.m. International Plein Air painters – Pakenham (check Sharon Cranston’s web site for applications – <a href="http://www.sharonfox.ca">www.sharonfox.ca</a> )</p> <p>Paint-ins. 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesday and 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Wednesday of the month.</p>
<p>October 9</p> <p>Speaker: Ann Gruchy - Acrylics</p>		<p>Paint-ins. 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesday and 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Wednesday of the month.</p>
<p>November 13</p> <p>Speaker: Marje Fletcher – on her approach to painting Plein Air in oils</p>	<p>Cove &amp; Stagecoach Changeovers Friday, November 13</p> <p>Fiddleheads Changeover Tuesday, November 17, 10 a.m.</p>	<p>Paint-ins. 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesday and 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Wednesday of the month.</p>
<p>December 11</p> <p>Christmas Party Luncheon</p>		<p>Paint-ins. 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesday and 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Wednesday of the month.</p>

**R.L.A.A. Website:**  
[www.rideaulakesartists.com](http://www.rideaulakesartists.com)