

April 2005

Artists of Cambria

The voice of the Allied Arts Association
A non-profit organization

MEET THE ARTIST.....JUDY SCHUSTER

Judy Schuster is one of the most impressive and most delightful artists among the many talented people residing in our small town. A native of Rochester, New York, Judy completed her undergraduate degree at Cornell, majoring in textiles and clothing. This prepared her for her first job with Xerox in the Human Resources Dept! Although she became one of their first female managers, she decided that that was not where she wanted to build her career.

After marrying and moving to California, Judy took a weaving class at a local art center.

Fascinated with the process, she decided to pursue a Masters degree at Cal State Long Beach in the textile department where mentor Mary Jane Leland encouraged her continued interest. At first designing a weaving required careful planning all done by hand. But Judy discovered and conquered a new fangled device called a "computer" and was soon volunteering in the computer graphics section of the Museum of Science and Industry in Los Angeles.

Now all of her figural tapestries are planned on the computer, the resulting black and white "cartoon" placed under the warp strings of her loom. Judy weaves the chosen colors using the cartoon as a guide. She sees only the back of the weaving as she works—a leap of faith for this artist.

Judy's work has been photographed for inclusion in many craft books, journals and magazines. It has also been included in a film on weaving. Her shows include venues in Germany, Russia, France, Australia, Canada as well as the United States. She has received many awards and currently is owner of a graphic arts business, which combines her fine art training with current electronic publishing technology.

—*Mary Anne Rapuano*



California Sculptors to Convene in Cambria

The Third Annual California Sculptors Symposium 2005 will be held here in Cambria the week of April 25 to May 1 at Camp Ocean Pines. The symposium will focus on specialties such as hand & power stone-carving, clay sculpture with life model, drawing and welding. There will be demonstrations and hands-on instruction with nationally-known sculptors.

Near the end of the week, there will be a Symposium Sale and Exhibition to which the public is invited. For past two years, sculptors from Cambria, including Allied Arts' Nevenka Schumaker, have received top honors at the show. Those interested in learning more about the Symposium, including registration information, should go to Camp Ocean Pines' web site: www.campoceanpines.org.

A Word from Jeff

Petals & Palettes is fast coming upon us. Though we have the help and support of many members and garden lovers (including last year's co-chairs **Mary Ann Zirretta** and **Millie Wolfshagen**), no one has taken on the chairmanship. So by executive directive, this year's show will have a Hawaiian motif. Hawaii to me says flowers; rich, luscious colors; surf, cliffs, volcanoes, island royalty, displaced natives, hula girls; spam and, of course, leis for days. The official theme should be decided shortly, but in any case entries will be accepted Friday, April 29 from 9:30am to 2pm with the show open Saturday, April 30 and Sunday, May 1. Details will included in the entry form to be mailed out shortly.

After two years of coordinating the display of AAA members' art at the Joslyn Center, **Rod McDaniel** and **Astko Risque** are passing the baton to **Bill Bowen** and **Rosemary Pisciotta** (our next featured artist at the Schoolhouse Gallery).

Bob and Fay Kennedy have returned from Mexico and Fay has jumped in as our ArtReach grant coordinator.

We need a chairperson to insure another successful Home Tour this fall. Last year's chair **Fay Kennedy**, along with **Donna Hoppe** and **Kathy Main**, have all agreed to contribute again this year.

Have you checked out the Allied Arts website lately? Find it at www.artistsofcambria.com.

Jeff Mar., President
927-4742

The Mystery of the Red Dot

Did you notice a red dot next to your name on our mailing label? That's our clever (and subtle) way of letting you know that we (Allied Arts) have no record of your having paid your 2005 membership dues. Sadly, if you take no action to change this, this issue of the newsletter is your very last one. Adieu—but we still love you.

YOUR NEWSLETTER STAFF

Editor: **Penny Russell**
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Experimenting with a New Medium

--An artist's tale by Shirley Kirkes Mar

My husband, Jeff, who had just finished framing a piece for a client, brought some suede mats to my studio one day. He asked me if I could do anything with this. I said, Suede? I have no idea.

Everyday I walked by and stared at the lovely rich color and texture that this material offered. But the prospect of working with it remained a puzzle. I decided to set some time aside to experiment. I chose to use watercolor and pastel. Lo and behold. I put down, took off, swashed around, and fell in love with the tolerance of the suede. It's a perfect element for me. I start with a plan, make mistakes, and go from there. I discovered how to maneuver over the texture through trial and error.

Not long ago **Jeanette Wolff** and **Rosemary Pisciotta** came by to ask if I could give a demo for the Watercolor Society in SLO. I was astonished by this compliment. I was reluctant at first until I told them I had been working on suede. They had never heard of it. Well, my confidence rose. Thinking I might have something new to offer, I said yes to the adventure.

As time went on I asked other artists if they knew of working on suede. So far no one has. In the meantime I started selling horses painted on suede at Every Cowboy's RanchHouse Gallery in Cambria as they had never heard of it either.

So now you are all invited to come to my demonstration at 7 pm on Tuesday, April 26 at the SLO Art Center, 1010 Broad St. across from the museum. For more information, please call 543-8562.

Schoolhouse Gallery News



BJ Bettencourt, Gallery Director

Current Show: Apr 12 thru Apr 25 Featured Artists: Cambria High School

Featuring art by students at Coast Union High, Leffingwell and home-schooled students. Award reception at 6:30 pm April 12.

Next Show: April 26 thru May xx Featured Artist: Rosemary Pisciotta

There is a beautiful strand that runs through Rosemary Pisciotta's life. Sometimes whimsical, sometimes defined but always artistic, it has traveled with her from her early beginnings at St. Joseph's Academy in Bay St. Louis, Mississippi when to the chagrin of the sisters she doodled on her homework. And the artistic strand became a guiding force, which led her to major in art at L.S.U.



After moving to California and after raising her children she again enrolled in art at Harbor College in Los Angeles. And later on the central coast in Cambria she was a student in figurative painting and figurative sculpture classes at Cuesta College. In addition to her classroom training and her inherent talent Rosemary has been involved in scores of workshops with nationally known artists. Her paintings in both acrylic and oil are silent testimony to her creativity.

Next Exchange Day, Apr 25.

More Artists on Display



Jan Walker

Two Cambria artists and members of Allied Arts will be featured artists at the Morro Bay Art Association Gallery, located at 835 Main Street, from April 7 through May 15. Jan Walker will show her luminous watercolors and Clarence Weiss will have his wonderful acrylics and oils on display. The reception for the exhibit is scheduled for April 10 from 1 to 3 pm. Please join them for their reception.

Jan has been an active member of Allied Arts, Morro Bay Art Association and San Luis Obispo Art Center for many years. She is a signature member of the Central Coast Watercolor Society. Clarence, a well-known Cambrian artist, who can often be seen painting along the coast, will show some of his oil portraits as well as his acrylic landscapes. Clarence was recently featured in Senior Living magazine.

Allied Artists' Bulliten Board

The AA Board has authorized a new feature this newsletter. For those of you who would like to advertise your art-related commercial enterprise, event and for-sale items in this space, here's how to do it. Just mail your printed copy along with a check for \$10 to Dorothy Prychoda, PO Box 184, Cambria 92428 and we will see that the word gets out.



Our "Many Thanks" Column

The Community Center asked if we could furnish talent for their up coming Art-O-Rama festivities to be held April 16 from 10 to 4. Class Act Dance, in Paso Robles as agreed to perform Class Act has been one of our main sources for dance performances at the Vets Hall. We hope you will check out their new Summer ballet, *Creon*, coming this June.

A big round of applause for our two most recent art demonstrators. On February 22 Cynthia Wittmeyer shared with us her expertise on the uses and effects of aromatherapy. Our March event featured Mary Pallister demonstrating the history and techniques of folk art. We hope you are availing yourselves of these wonderful opportunities to learn and mingle with your fellow AA members.

*Allied Arts
Association*
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