

# VERDUGO HILLS ART ASSOCIATION

JANUARY 2011

Verdugo Hills Art Association, P.O. Box 8059, La Crescenta, CA 91224-0059 • [www.verdugoarts.com](http://www.verdugoarts.com) • Nikki Thomas, Editor

## Artist of the Month

# Osamu Saito to demonstrate at VHAA in Jan.

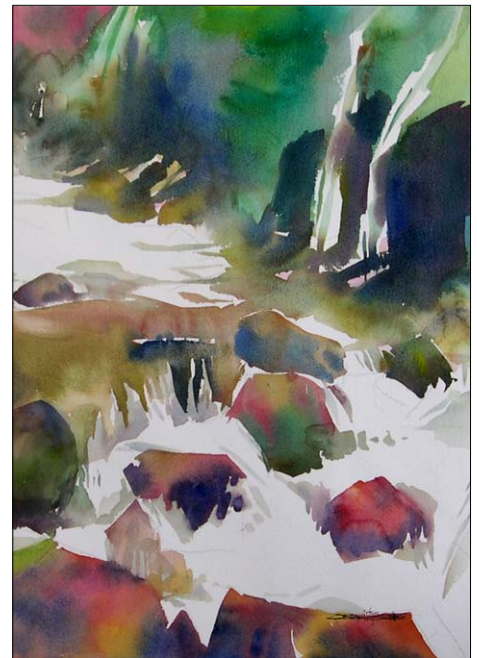
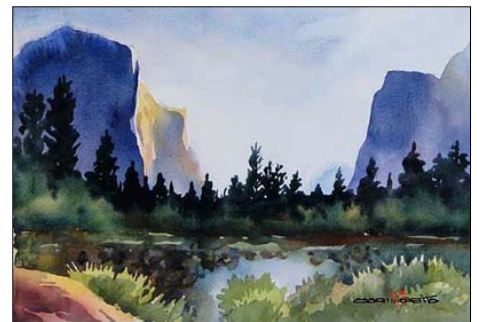
**W**e welcome Osamu Saito as the demonstrator for the Verdugo Hills Art Association's January meeting. Osamu was born in Hokkaido, Japan and studied Sign design, Sumie (Japanese ink painting), Calligraphy, Watercolor, Acrylic and Oil painting, both in Japan and the U.S. He moved to Southern California in 1975 to study and broaden his creative ideas and techniques while working as a sign painter to support himself. During that time he worked as a production designer for movies such as "Karate Kid 2."



After 35 years of study in various media, Osamu found Watercolor to be the medium he loves best. He is the recipient of numerous awards from art competitions throughout California. He was a member of Rental and Sale gallery at the Los Angeles County Museum for the Arts for five years where his watercolor paintings had been exhibited. In 2001, his watercolor paintings were in three watercolor books published in Japan.

Osamu teaches watercolor at Yosemite National Park Art Center on the first week of September every year and currently at Ken Nakaoka Center in Gardena, 1670 W 162nd St. on Wednesdays from 2-5 p.m.. He is currently showing his work at the Torrance Public Library with other artists in TAG and SBWS.

Contact info:  
14024 Kornblum Ave. Hawthorne, CA 90250  
T: 310 676-0888 F: 310-676-0888  
Web: <http://watercolorbyosamu.blogspot.com/>



Two paintings by Osamu Saito  
Above: "El Capitan"  
Below: "Taki5"

On a recent visit to the fascinating Japanese Museum across from Little Tokyo in Los Angeles, I was intrigued by the watercolor paintings in a booth set up on the sidewalk. The exciting landscapes, florals, and people drew me into a conversation with the artist, Osamu Saito. You will be able to enjoy this talented and delightful artist as our January Demonstrator. How fortunate I was to find him and my way to a dim sum adventure.

—Joyce Peterson

## NEXT ART ASSOCIATION MEETING

Friday, January 7, 2011 • 7:00 P.M.  
La Cañada Community Center  
4469 Chevy Chase Dr., La Cañada

## NEXT BOARD MEETING

Monday, January 10, 2011 • 7:00 p.m.  
at the home of Mary Jane Klune  
4905 Carmel Rd., La Cañada

## 2010-2011 OFFICERS & COMMITTEE CHAIRS

### 2010-2011 Officers

**PRESIDENT** .....**MARY JANE KLUNE**  
818/790-1270  
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**2ND VICE PRESIDENT** .....**G. BEYER**

**RECORDING SECRETARY** .....**GABRIELLE REYNOLDS**

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### 2010-2011 Committee Chairs

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**JOYCE PETERSON**

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**WORKSHOP** .....**SANDRA ROONEY**  
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sandrarooney@yahoo.com

## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

I don't know how you all are doing this month, but I am kind of going spastic, which I guess is normal for me in this season. It always seems that I am ahead of it all and making good progress in my readiness for the holidays, then all of a sudden Christmas Day is almost here and I am way behind. Somehow I always do seem to get it all done and it comes together in the end. So have faith we will all survive.

Many of you are probably aware of the fact that our overhead mirror was broken when we tried to set it up at the December meeting, and because of that it may have been difficult for many of you to see Joe Cibere's wonderful demo. I apologize for that; it was an unexpected complication. As I write this, we have ordered a new acrylic mirror that is unbreakable, lighter in weight and more easily maneuvered into place. A big thanks to Frank De Lucia for spearheading and working on that project. Along with that, we are also hoping to project the demonstration on a screen for most of our meetings. This may lead to making a video, and possibly voice-over which would give us better audio when the speaker is soft spoken and the attendance is large. Gabrielle Reynolds and her spouse Patrick are putting this together. Anyone who has experience in this field and would like to help, please call Gabrielle.

January of 2011 will be a new beginning for all of us as always, and that seems stimulating and exciting, along with the feeling of relief that follows all the holiday fever. This is a time to plan for goals for the new year. What would you like to accomplish? Start a new class, join a plein aire group, do live model drawing, use a new medium or if you have other interests what will you do with 2011?

In January we will benefit from a demo provided by Osamu Saito, a talented watercolor artist who is planning to do a landscape. This is a painter I have not met before so I am excited to see what he does.

We are always in need of your help, before the meeting, and after the meeting for setting up and taking down tables and chairs. Member cooperation has been wonderful, thank you !

May your holiday be a pleasant and happy time for all of you, and the New Year bring you health and happiness.



**Mary Jane Klune**  
*President*

## VHAA News

### 2010-2011 DIRECTORIES ARE HERE

With much thanks to Bob and Nikki Thomas, the 2010-2011 VHAA Directories are now available. If you will not be able to pick them up at a General meeting in the next couple of months, let me know and I will send your copy to you.

Suzanne Bitterman  
Membership Chairman  
818) 249-5684

### MEMBER NEWS

■ Did you know that **MAURINE HIXSON** turned 90 in December? It is so wonderful to see our "young" members painting and showing their work.

■ **CADDIS ROBINETTE** (age 91) has fallen. She would enjoy your calls and cards.

### DIRECTORY CHANGE

**CHERRIE O'HAGAN**  
phone: 818/864-6288

## Virginia Robertson honored

VHAA has its own National Treasure – in fact we have several, but this month we honor our own Virginia Robertson. In November, her La Canada home was included in the “Sticks and Stones Tour,” unique because it was originally ordered from the Sears and Roebuck Catalogue, shipped by train, and erected on the five-acre lot where she – and it – still live.

Virginia came to La Canada with her parents and two younger siblings in 1933.



They boarded a boat in New York and came thru the Panama Canal to Los Angeles. Virginia attended La Canada Schools where she joined a plein aire art class to paint the antique shops on Meridian in South Pasadena, a painting that hangs in her bedroom now.

After High School, her mother became seriously ill. Instead of going to college Virginia joined the La Canada Post Office, allowing her to care for her ailing mother who always encouraged her to travel the world. She started a

pen-pal friendship with a girl in Patagonia and much later was able to visit her in her South American travels. Another trip, to join former La Canada residents who went to South Africa to live, found Virginia and a friend living there for a year with sketchbook in hand, a reminder today of the wondrous sights of that beautiful country.

Through the Brand Studios, Virginia took painting trips to Italy, England, Europe, and China — all carefully noted in sketchbooks lining the bookcases in her La Cañada home.

Virginia was an active member of VHAA – most recently remembered for her faithful service as “Artist of the Month Chairman” – coming early and encouraging members to show and compete each month. She also brought many new members into the club. When asked for any words of advise she had for our artists of today – she said ... DRAW EVERYTHING — IN INK!

Come and see Virginia and her sketchbooks at one of our coming meetings in our new location in La Canada, and thank her for contributing to our club, as many of our longtime members have done.

—Joyce Peterson

## News on regional art exhibits and events

■ View works 6-inches by 6-inches and smaller by artists from Disney, Pixar and Dreamworks at the **Gallery Nucleus**, 210 E Main St, Alhambra. Information: 626/458-7477

■ Another miniature artwork called “5th Annual Tiny Treasures” with 40 artists is at the **Cactus Gallery**, 4534 Eagle Rock Blvd, Eagle Rock. Info: 323/256-6117.

■ Ralph Hulett, member of California Watercolor, is showing his Christmas cards at the **Animation Guild**, 1105 No Hollywood Way in Burbank. Contact the guild for dates.

■ “The Art of Milford Zornes” from December 12, 2010 — February 20, 2011 at the **CCAA Museum of Art**, 12467 Baseline Rd, in Rancho Cucamonga in the J. Felippi Winery.

■ January 30, 2010 – Redlands Art Association 215 E. State Street, Redlands, CA Contact: Susana Beck: 909/792-8435 [www.redlandsartassociation.org](http://www.redlandsartassociation.org)

## Non-juried show/fundraiser set for January, 2011

“New Beginnings,” a non-juried art show featuring all VHAA members, will be on view at the La Cañada Library Gallery from January 8 to 29, 2011. This will be a fundraiser for the club with a \$10 entry fee, and a limit of two works per member.

**WHAT:** VHAA Fundraiser and Non-Juried Show

**WHERE:** La Cañada Public Library, John L Clarke room

**WHEN:** Take in Sat. January 8, 2011 from 9-11 am. at the back of the library

**TAKE DOWN:** January 29, 2011 from 9-10 am.

**WHO:** All VHAA members in good standing are welcome to participate in a NON-JURIED show on a first-come-first-served basis.

**HOW:** Bring ONE or TWO paintings for entry at a cost of \$10 per entry as a donation to our Association Fundraiser. The entry fee would guarantee acceptance of the paintings for the duration of the exhibit.

**WHY:** This is a time when those of us who don't wish their paintings to be judged can have an opportunity to exhibit. With no juror to pay or prizes to award, all the money raised can be added to the Treasury.

\*\*\* Don't forget that the “Exhibition Standards and Procedures” rules say “a 15% donation will be accepted by VHAA on sales at VHAA-sponsored shows.” Sell, sell, sell!

## Congratulations to:

**BARBARA THORN-OTTO**, whose artwork entitled “Mardi Gras Madness #1” won the “People's Choice Award” in the Watermedia Category of a competition sponsored by the Pasadena Society of Artists. “Thank you to everyone who voted for me!,” says Barbara.

REGIONAL ART SHOWS/EXHIBITS  
continued from page 3

■ February 14, 2010 – Fallbrook Art Association, Fallbrook Public Utility Bldg., 990 E. Mission Road, Fallbrook, CA 92028. Contact: Pattie Fontaine 951/698-7990 or email to: pattielefc@yahoo.com.

Web: www.FallbrookArtAssn.org

■ **Tom Fong demonstrations:**

• January 26, 2010, 7:00 p.m.  
Redlands Art Association'

215 E. State Street, Redlands, CA  
Contact: Susana Beck: 909/792-8435

• February 8, 2010, 7:00 p.m.

Fallbrook Art Association  
Fallbrook Public Utility Bldg  
990 E. Mission Road, Fallbrook, CA  
Contact: Pattie Fontaine 951/698-7990

■ **Armory Center for the Arts:**

Through January 9, 2011, Steve Roden:  
In Between, a 20 Year Survey. Mezzanine  
Gallery: Through January 9, 2011

■ **NewTown: Convergences.**

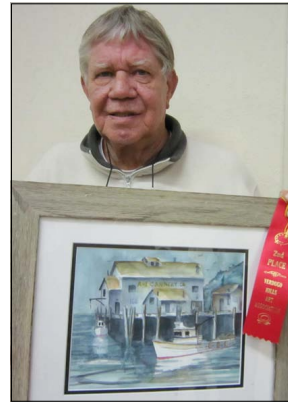
Art Center College of Design's Alice de  
Rouet Williamson Gallery: Through  
January 9, 2011, Energy.

**MUSEUMS**

■ **Huntington Library, Art  
Collection and Botanical Gardens:**  
Through February 14, 2011, Charles  
Bukowski: Poet on the Edge.

■ **Norton Simon Museum:** Through  
March 28, 2011, Not Wanting to Say  
Anything About Marcel: An Artwork by  
John Cage.

## Three win *Artist of the Month* awards in December



Again, this month, we had a wonderful showing of our member's work. All were deserving of Awards, but three member's art shined this night. Congratulations to a new member of VHAA, Armida Schneir, as she won First Place for her watercolor "Alhambra Loquats" (left). Second Place went to Grant Wood for his watercolor "A-I Cannery" (middle). Roland Clark not only celebrated his 90th birthday, he took Third Place for his watercolor "Falling Leaves" (right)

Remember, if you have previously won First Place, you are not eligible to enter the Artist of the Month competition for this "year." All first place winners are to present their entries to be judged for Artist of the Year at the June 2011 meeting.

— Mary Hoehn, Chairman, "Artist of the Month"

■ **Pacific Asia Museum:**

through February 6, 2011, China  
Modern: Designing Popular Culture.

• Apply distortion, either humorous or grotesque.

• Create a mysterious ambience with unusual colors.

• Push colors and value contrasts to the extreme.

• Use your sense of humor to make your viewers smile.

### How to Become of More Creative Realist

continued from November newsletter  
by Nita Leland

• Superimpose lines or patterns to create decorative texture or playful movement.

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**DATED MATERIAL  
PLEASE PROCESS IMMEDIATELY**