

VERDUGO HILLS ART ASSOCIATION

FEBRUARY 2010

Verdugo Hills Art Association, P.O. Box 8059, La Crescenta, CA 91224-0059 • www.verdugoarts.com • Nikki Thomas, Editor

Artist of the Month

Chuck Kovacic: elementary, my dear Watson

For our demonstration artist this month, we are pleased to welcome Chuck Kovacic, whose oil paintings, rendered in the impressionistic *plein air* approach, investigate the changing landscapes of Southern California.

Chuck hails from Cleveland, where he received his BFA at the Cleveland Institute



of Art. With an energetic character, he has followed multiple interests ever since

completing his education. He began his career focusing on graphic design as art director for several advertising agencies. At the same time he was involved with the National Trust for Historic Preservation, contributing to their "Main Street" revitalization program.

Meanwhile, he pursued his talent and interest as an actor in Ohio. That pursuit led him to relocate to Southern California, where he has acted on local stages and in numerous television and film roles. On arriving in Los Angeles, he turned his art

interests towards restoration, specializing in items associated with pre-1950 merchandising.

He is an avid fan of Sherlock Holmes, has painted portraits of many characters from the Holmes canon, and is the creator of *221b Baker Street – LA*, a detailed recreation of Holmes living quarters as described in the original stories and illustrations.

Several years ago Chuck began to study at the Los Angeles Academy of Figurative Art, rekindling his passion for painting. He renders portraits in a style reminiscent of John Singer Sargent and Gilbert Stuart. Now he energetically pursues *plein air* painting, studying the subtleties of light and foliage that distinguish the Southern California landscape from those he finds on frequent trips to his native Ohio.

Chuck describes his present journey as, "reconciling the traditions established by past masters with modern sensibilities."

We look forward to his demonstration and discussion of his *plein air* techniques.



Eaton Canyon, Leo Carrillo Beach and a colorful tree are three paintings by Chuck Kovacic (left) our February demonstrator.

NEXT ART ASSOCIATION MEETING

Friday, February 5, 2010 • 7:00 P.M.
Citibank Community Room
2350 Honolulu, Montrose

NEXT BOARD MEETING

Monday, February 8, 2010 • 7:00 p.m.
Home of Jane Higley
4638 Vineta Ave., La Cañada

2009-2010 OFFICERS

PRESIDENT**MARY JANE KLUNE**
818/790-1270
janemaryart@yahoo.com

1ST VICE PRESIDENT**SHERI GARWOOD**
818/293-0901
shereamore@yahoo.com

2ND VICE PRESIDENT.....**GLORIA BEYER**
818/248-4890
gloriabeyergcc@yahoo.com

RECORDING SECRETARY.....**MANON WASHBURN**
818/957-2414

CORRESPONDING SEC.**KAREN CARTER**
818/248-6551
hiswork@earthlink.net

TREASURER**BOB RUBY**
818/249-5053
rubyrobert@charter.net

AUDITOR**ULLRICH RUMOHR**
818/790-6996

PARLIAMENTARIAN**LORRAINE RUBY**
818/249-5053
rubyrobert@charter.net

2009-2010 CHAIRMEN

ARTIST OF THE MONTH**SANDRA ROONEY**
818/249-9006
sandrakrooney@yahoo.com

EXHIBITION**LEONA SANDERSON**
818/790-7449
leesanderson@charter.net

HOSPITALITY**KAREN HORN**
818/240-6979
ihorn@aol.com

HOSPITALITY**JOYCE PETERSON**
626/793-4581

.....**JEANNE BERGERON**
818/507-8122
jbergeron11@netzero.com

MEMBER AT LARGE**JANE HIGLEY**
818/7909-6198
plumaseurturtlebuck@yahoo.com

MEMBERSHIP**SUZANNE BITTERMAN**
818/249-5684
sbitte8670@aol.com

NEWSLETTER**NIKKI THOMAS**
323/257-3817
nikkithomas1@gmail.com

PUBLICITY**FRANK DE LUCIA**
818/951-6640
f.delucia@ca.rr.com

SCHOLARSHIP**GLORIA CLARK**
818/507-7899
hwandgclark@sbcglobal.net

VIDEO LIBRARIAN**SUE PEACOCK**
626/282-2852
sue-p@pacbell.net

WEBMASTER**KAREN WINTERS**
818/790-4201
gwprod@pacbell.net

WORKSHOP**MARY HOEHN**
818/790-3134
lablvmmary@sbcglobal.net

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Wasn't Ted Nuttall fantastic? What a wonderful artist, with such a sensitive approach to portrait painting! His great sense of humor was entertaining and lighthearted. It seemed as if you all really loved his presentation. Ted enjoyed the evening with our club so much that he would like to return — he remarked how welcoming and comfortable our members and guests were. We are going to try to sign him up for next year to demonstrate again. I thought you might like to know that he is scheduled to teach a workshop at Brand Library in September. Thanks also to Karen Winter and her spouse, Glenn, who did such a great job of projecting, while Ted painted and lectured.



Mary Jane Klune
President

This month we will be visited by a *plein air* oil painter, Chuck Kovacic. Chuck paints with the midvalley group on Thursdays. This will be relevant to any medium you may be using because of the content of composition and design.

Congratulations to Sue Peacock, one of our recent new members who has agreed to become our new video chairman. Thanks Sue — I know you will enjoy this jobs as much as we will enjoy having you.

Thanks to all who helped out with refreshments in Karen Horn's absence in January. It seemed like a real team of experienced hands.

Try to visit La Canada Library before the end of the month and see our members display of paintings that Joyce Peterson and Lee Sanderson hung on January 9. Thank you all for participating in this fund raiser that will benefit our scholarship fund. Don't forget to pick up your paintings on January 30 between 9 and 10 a.m. if you participated.

Hearts and flowers to all of you in this month of February!

VHAA NEWS AND INFO

NEW MEMBERS

DIANE BERNSTEIN
14011 Rabbit Rd
Sylmar, CA 91342-1865
desianer@hotmail.com
818/943-8159

watercolor

MINA PRIETO
7622 Apperson St # A
Tujunga, CA 91042-1725
818/433-4475

Oil

CHANGES

Phone number: **SUE PEACOCK**
626/282-2852
Address: **ALYCE COX-SMITH**
P.O. Box 219, Willard, MO 65781-0219

RETURNING MEMBERS

NANCY BEARCE
1932 Waltonia Dr., Montrose 91020
818/249-7270

CLAIRE STARRETT
234 Kenwood, St. #306, Glendale, 91206
818/243-3519

Watercolor

Exhibits

From the Rose Parade Magazine 2010:

■ THE FAMILIAR FACE

At the Norton Simon Museum through March 22.

Explore a revelation of the masterful work of Rembrandt van Rijn, whose reputation as a painter of portraits preceded, and centuries later still follows him. *The Familiar Face* is one in a series of exhibitions celebrating the profusion of Rembrandt's works in Southern California museum collections. Norton Simon Museum, 411 West Colorado Blvd, Pasadena. (626) 449-6840; rembrandtinsocal.org or nortonsimon.org.

■ DRAWN TO SATIRE

At the Huntington Library through March 29.

Raucous behavior and silly plot twists take center stage in *Drawn to Satire*, a selection of John Sloan's satirical etchings from the early 1900's." Sloan is "a truly American artist known for later capturing the energy and vivacity of street life in New York City," etc. Chandler Wing, Virginia Steele Scott Galleries of American Art, the Huntington, 1151 Oxford Rd, San Marino, (626) 405-2100, Huntington.org.

■ MAR HOLLINGSWORTH

At the Fine Arts Building through February 5.

The curator Mar Hollingsworth has put together a show of nine exhibitors with paintings, sculptures and photographs in the lobby of the Fine Arts Building, 811 W. 7th St, Los Angeles 90017. The Fine Arts Building is a Romanesque Revival treasure from 1927 and is one of the city's most beautiful Historic Cultural Monuments with its Batchelder tile floor and fountain. Exhibiting artists are: J. Michael Walker, Chukes, Cola Smith, Yolanda Gonzalez, Pola Lopez, Leticia Martinez, Teresa Tolliver, Timothy Washington, and Wendell Wiggins.

From Westways, January-February

■ MOCA'S FIRST 30 YEARS

Through March 7.

A comprehensive exhibition, which includes works by Diane Arbus, Willem de Kooning, Alberto Giacometti, Claes Oldenburg, Robert Rauschenberg, and Mark Rothko occupies galleries at both of MOCA's downtown locations: MOCA Grand Avenue and MOCA at the Geffen Contemporary. 213/626-6222; moca-la.org.

■ RAUSCHENBERG AT GEMINI

At the Armory Center for the Arts in Pasadena through March 21.

There are approximately 50 editioned multiples that American artist Robert Rauschenberg created from 1967 to 2001 at Gemini G.E.L., the internationally recognized printmaking studio in Los Angeles.

■ MASTERS OF THE AMERICAN WEST

At the Autry National Center, Griffith Park through March 21.

The *Masters of the American West Fine Art Exhibition and Sale* is an annual exhibition that presents new works by the nation's leading contemporary Western artists. 323) 667-2000, autrynationalcenter.org.

VHAA Second-Decade Exhibition a success!

More than 30 paintings were hung at the La Canada Library for this special exhibition. Please let friends and neighbors know that they can be viewed through January 29. Pick up will take place on January 30 from 9 to 10 a.m.

Many thanks from the Exhibition Committee. We are grateful to Mr. Klune, Nancy Freeman and Grant Wood for their help in hanging the show.

Important announcements

■ Congratulations to **KAREN WINTERS**, who has been juried into the level of Artist Member with the California Art Club. The California Art Club is celebrating its centennial year in 2010.

Karen also had three paintings accepted into the 85th annual show of the Pasadena Society of Artists. The artists' reception will be the afternoon of March 21 at the VIVA Gallery in Sherman Oaks. Exact time TBA.

■ **FROM THE EDITOR:** The President and the VHAA members would like to thank **GLENN WINTERS** for creating his magic with his electronics and the viewing screen. Everyone in the room was able to see how Ted Nuttal put every stroke on his paper and how he used his small, small pallet to create. Thank you, Glenn.

■ **THE MEDIA LENDING LIBRARY NEEDS YOU!** Most of the library is in VHS format and many of us no longer have that technology. Are any of you able to convert a few VHS tapes to DVDs each month? The DVDs will be provided and you will not have to pay the lending fee for the ones you take for that month.

The library is arranged by art media. There is one whole box of watercolor and another box of assorted media, acrylic, oils, mixed media, etc. A third box contains tapes on Art History and miscellaneous other information. Each section is labeled for your convenience, as is each tape. A big thank you needs to go to the Rubys for their wonderful organization of the library.

Donations of tapes and DVDs are welcome as well as your suggestions for future purchases. If anyone would like to write an article on one of our tapes for the newsletter, please send it to me. I hope to make this a monthly feature of the Newsletter.

Sue Peacock
sue-p@pacbell.net
626-282-2852

Four win *Artist of the Month* awards in January; new member Cherrie O'Hagan takes first place



Thank you for another great turnout. There were 19 pictures vying for the *Artist of the Month* awards. (Left to right) New member Cherrie O'Hagan won her first First Place with *My Little Snowman* in watercolor. Marie Mustard took Second Place with her watercolor and ink *Blue Moon*. There were two Third Places: Roland Clark with his watercolor *Homestead Ruins*, and *Arroyo Vista* in oil by Karen Winters. We have such a talented club. Thank you all for bringing your special paintings.

Small-Image Juried Show begins March 1; take-in is February 27

Members of VHAA have the opportunity to enter up to three pieces in the upcoming small image art competition and exhibit.

The size requirements limit entries to 15 inches in any direction including the frame. Sculptures may be a maximum of 15 inches high, 15 inches wide and eight inches deep.

There will be no Divisions. Classes will be Painting/Graphic (Representational and Non-representational) and Sculpture. The entry fee is \$7 per piece; fill out the entry form in this newsletter.

The works go on display March 1 at the Pasadena Central Library, located at 285 E Walnut in Pasadena. The Small Image Show exhibition will run through the end of the month. Take-in day for

the artwork is February 27 from 9-11 a.m. at the Citibank Community Room, 2350 Honolulu Blvd. in Montrose.

The entries will be returned to the participating members at the April 3rd meeting so there is no need to pick up your masterpieces.

The Verdugo Hills Art Association is so privileged to have Nancy Shiershke, well known watercolor and oil painting artist to serve as the 2010 Small Image juror. Nancy is an innovative artist who has received many awards for her work. She has studied under many leading instructors such as Robert Wood, Milford Zornes and Bob Hallett.

If you have any questions, please contact Joyce Peterson 626/793-4581 or Lee Sanderson 818/790-7449.

April Drew Foster classes

February starts the new semester at L A Unified Franklin Community Adult School with our own April Drew Foster still teaching classes in drawing, oil and acrylic, watercolor and portraiture.

Students supply their own materials and every student pays a \$5 class fee.

If you are over 60, the classes are free, and under 60 pays \$30 a semester.

To register, call 818/952-0212.

March VHAA meeting

The demonstrator for the March 5 meeting will be Bruce Trentham, who dramatically conveys his love of the ocean and it's environs in his pastel paintings.

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**DATED MATERIAL
PLEASE PROCESS IMMEDIATELY**

