

VERDUGO HILLS ART ASSOCIATION

DECEMBER 2011

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

Chris Van Winkle returns for VHAA Dec. meeting

Chris Van Winkle, one of the most popular and best-known artists and teachers in Southern California, will demonstrate at the VHAA monthly meeting on Dec. 2 and lead a plein-air workshop on Dec. 3 in La Crescenta.

Chris Van Winkle is a California artist with roots in Canada. His art studies include Ontario College of Art, Toronto; Citrus College, Glendora; and the Art Center College of Design, Los Angeles. He has studied with Robert Hallett, Robert E. Wood, Frank Webb, Henry Fukuhara and the legendary Milford Zornes.

Attend Chris Van Winkle's plein-air workshop

Plein Air Workshop with Chris Van Winkle
Saturday, December 3; 9am-4pm
\$50 Members/\$65 Non-Members

There are just a few spots still available for this workshop. While transparent watercolor is Chris' favorite medium, you may use acrylic or oils if you wish. We will paint outdoors in a park setting in the La Crescenta area. Registered participants will receive a supply list and directions to the location.

The workshop is limited to 20 people. To register or for more information, please contact:

Sheri Garwood
shereamore@yahoo.com (leave phone number)
(818) 293-0901

NOTES:

- If you had paintings in the Fall Show at the La Cañada Library, you **MUST** pick them up prior to going to the workshop. Pickup opens at 8:30 a.m., which should leave you enough time to get to the workshop site.
- See the last page for an informative article on painting in plein air; this is especially useful if this is your first time.

For the past 30 years, Chris has been teaching watercolor at Citrus College. He has conducted workshops and has led painting trips to Spain, Holland, Britain, Ireland, Middle Europe, Russia, Canada and throughout the United States. He

is an award winning artist in both the National Watercolor Society and Watercolor West. Chris has served as president of NWS for three years. He was selected as one of the "top twenty" art instructors by *Watercolor Magazine*.

"All art is abstract," says Chris. "The minute we use line, we are abstracting. Some art is more realistic, some more non-objective, but all art must be poetic. The artist does not just report. He re-interprets, he experiences his subject with all his senses. He sees art through 360 degrees. He is touched by sounds, smells, colors and a myriad of other elements. And from all of this, he paints the essence of place and time."

"I enjoy art in all its forms and isms," says Chris. "I like to experiment in abstract and non-objective themes. But I love to travel, see new places, meet new people. I like the music, color and dress in foreign cultures. I react to the country's landscapes, animals, architecture and machines. My art tends to reflect this interest. I want my art to communicate."



Chris Van Winkle will demonstrate at the VHAA monthly meeting on Dec. 2 and lead a plein-air workshop on Dec. 3

NEXT ART ASSOCIATION MEETING

Friday, December 2, 2011 • 7:00 P.M.
La Cañada Community Center
4469 Chevy Chase Dr., La Cañada

NEXT BOARD MEETING

Monday, December 5, 2011 • 7:00 p.m.
at the home of Sandy Rooney
5125 Finehill Ave., La Crescenta

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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

We have such a wonderful Fall Juried Art Show at the La Canada Library. If you haven't seen it yet, better hurry. It closes December 2. We pick up our paintings on Saturday December 3. I want to thank Sandy Rooney and her crew who put the show together with the help of Bob Ruby and Suzanne Bitterman. It was a job well done. Lynne Fearman was an excellent judge and we appreciate her expertise.



Nikki Thomas
President

Now is the time to get excited about our workshop with Chris Van Winkle. See the workshop article in this newsletter with information and instructions. Chris will also be our demonstrator on December 2. We will have many guests, so please if you are one of the refreshment crew, bring extra food. We will need other members to arrive early to set up extra chairs. We also have our silent auction with the Jimi Hendrix painting and other donations (see Kimberly Ann's article on page 4 for details).

Wasn't Julie Snyder exciting watching her develop her portrait of Dolores? The colors she used for the face were new to me. I loved it when she painted and talked at the same time. She was very informative and her oil painting was so realistic. Dolores was a fine model.

I get an email almost every day from Artistdaily@interweave.com with painting tips. The site also offers art books and DVD's on art instructions which can be downloaded, for a price.

In the latest email Courtney Jordan writes an article about impressionist Charles Hawthorne and artist Camille Przewodek. "[Their] main focus is painting the effects of light in nature through color relationships —using color and not tone to capture the effect of light in the landscape and in the studio. Hawthorne, and by extension Przewodek, believe in the importance of color masses — that if you get the color notes in accurate relationships to one another, everything else in a painting will fall into place from there. Przewodek discusses how to build a palette that can be used to capture all the effects of light, whether you are indoors or out; how using color comparisons in block studies pays off in a heightened ability to see color; and what colors are in shadows and in light."

The site is free to join; log onto www.artistdaily.com for details.

I wish everyone and their families a wonderful Thanksgiving with food, friends and family, and being thankful for our abilities and our loved ones.

IMPORTANT DATES TO REMEMBER

- **DEC. 2:** Chris Van Winkle will be the demonstrator. Silent auction for items to be donated, including the painting of Jimi Hendrix painted by last year's scholarship winner, Taylor Perdue. Proceeds will benefit the scholarship fund.
- **DEC. 3:** Chris Van Winkle will give a plein air workshop (see the box on page 1 and the story on the back cover for more details).
- **JAN. 6:** VHAA meeting. Frank Lennartz will give a demonstration on landscape in oil.
- **JAN. 7-28:** VHAA Fundraiser and Non-Juried Art Show (details on page 5)

Gretel Merkel wins "Best of Show" in VHAA 2011 Fall show

Congratulations to all of our winners in the VHAA 2011 Fall show. Lynne Fearman was the judge for this year's show. Gretel Merkel, a long-time member, won "Best of Show" honors for her watercolor "Mountain Girl."

Lots of people pitched in to help. Bob Ruby as treasurer was there to take the money. Nancy Weeks, Peterfield Turpin, Mary Jane Klune, Nikki Thomas, Sue Peacock, and Suzanne Bitterman were all on hand as helpers. Miracle worker Sandy Rooney worked her magic and helped organize the proceedings. Lee Sanderson and Al Gmuer hung the art with skill and humor after judge Lynne Fearman did the difficult job of choosing the winners. Thank you all who entered.

For our next show, we would like to encourage everyone to contribute. We need to have more entries in order to give more prizes.

Please remember that fall Show pick-up is 8:30-10 a.m. Saturday, December 3 at the La Cañada Library Gallery. If you can't pick up your art on that date, please get a friend to pick it up for you.

— The Exhibition Committee

BEST OF SHOW	Gretel Merkel	Mountain Girl	Watercolor
HONORS DIVISION			
First Place	Cherrie O'Hagan	Purple Heart	Watercolor
Second Place	Cherrie O'Hagan	Backlit Roses and Oranges	Oil
Third Place	Devorah Friedman	Renaissance Man	Watercolor
Honorable Mention	Sandra Rooney	On the Vine	Watercolor
	Lucille DeThomas	The Family Tree	Oil
PREMIER DIVISION			
First Place	Gretel Merkel	Tranquility	Mixed Media
Second Place	Mary Jane Klune	Shipwreck	Watercolor
OPEN DIVISION			
First Place	Dolly Kelly	Desert Hacienda	Watercolor
Second Place	Grant Wood	San Felipe	Watercolor
Third Place	Grant Wood	Berkshire Bridge	Oil
Honorable Mention	Nancy Bearce	Koi Tranquility	Watercolor/ Chinese Brush
	Dolly Kelly	Fonterutoli, Tuscany, Italy	Watercolor
NON-REPRESENTATIONAL			
First Place	Sandra Rooney	Autumn Bounty	Mixed Media Collage
Second Place	Caddis Robinette	Untitled	Watercolor

About the classes and divisions ...

Ever wondered about why we have classes and who is what division and why? Find the answers on the next page or in the back of your membership directory.



2011 VHAA Fall Show winners were (from top) Gretel Merkel's *Mountain Girl* (Best of Show); Cherrie O'Hagan's *Purple Heart* (Honors); Gretel Merkel's *Tranquility* (Premier); Dolly Kelly's *Desert Hacienda* (Open); and Sandra Rooney's *Autumn Bounty* (Non-representational).

What's a division, who are in what divisions, and why? A basic primer

Ever wondered about who is in what division and why? Believe it or not there is a method to all of this (which is outlined in the back of your membership directory), but here are some basics about the system:

- Entries in VHAA juried competitions (currently the Fall Show, Small-Image Show and the Spring Show) are first separated into one of three CLASSES:

Photography, *Sculpture* and *Painting/Graphics*. Not all shows will have every class.

Within the *Paintings/Graphics* class, entries are separated into divisions in order to provide opportunities for

artists on all levels of competence.

Additionally, the *Paintings/Graphics* class is divided into *Representational* and *Non-Representational* works.

- Points are awarded in each Class and Division in each competition: 5 points for *Best of Show*, 4 for first place, 3 for second, 2 for third, and 1 for honorable mention.

- The **Open Division** is open to any VHAA member who has not earned the required minimum of 10 points to move to a higher division, as well as new members who are assigned to this division upon joining the association.

- The **Premier Division** is for artists

who have earned at least 10 points in the Open Division and any new members who are assigned to the division by the Exhibition Committee. Members who currently work or have worked in a professional capacity, including teaching, are initially placed in the Premier Division.

- The **Honors Division** includes artists who have earned 10 points in the Premiere Division and any new members who are assigned to the division by the Exhibition Committee.

- Points do not transfer from one division to another.

For further details, consult your membership directory.

HONORS DIVISION

<u>Artist</u>	<u>Points</u>	<u>Artist</u>	<u>Points</u>	<u>Artist</u>	<u>Points</u>
Lana Blades	10	Jane Higley	66	Virginia Robertson	14
Gloria Clark	14	Maurine Hixson	67	Caddis Robinette	63
Roland Clark	46	Deane Klahs	8	Sandra Rooney	127
Lucille DeThomas	25	Mary Jane Klune	10	Lee Sanderson	34
Devorah Friedman	16	Gretel M. Merkel	*	Dorothy Shepherd	*
April Drew Foster	3	Cherrie O'Hagan	7	Peterfield Turpin	57
Sheri Garwood	3	Kendra Page	*	Sandra Van Berkhout	*
Al Gmuer	6	Marilyn Pepper	*	<i>* Advanced from Premier Division</i>	

PREMIER DIVISION

<u>Artist</u>	<u>Points</u>	<u>Artist</u>	<u>Points</u>	<u>Artist</u>	<u>Points</u>
Joan Doyle	2	Hovik Khodabakhshian	5	Manon Washburn	5
Betty Glass	*	Gladys Pettibone	4	Brenda Welsh	7
Dolly Kelly	*	Anne Stephens	7	<i>* Advanced from Open Division</i>	

OPEN DIVISION

<u>Artist</u>	<u>Points</u>	<u>Artist</u>	<u>Points</u>	<u>Artist</u>	<u>Points</u>
Nancy Bearce	1	Haruko Fukumori	4	Joyce Peterson	5
Benla Bennett	9	Shree Hingnikar	3	Amalda Rossi	6
Gloria Beyer	3	Karen Horn	7	Cindy Rutherford	4
Suzanne Bitterman	9	Elin Lund Jensen	1	William Say	9
Karen Carter	4	Trish Kertes	6	Nikki Thomas	2
Al Casler	5	Nancy La Croix-Toyne	9	Barbara Thorn-Otto	6
Lolita Chin	4	Gisele Lapointe	7	Izabella Wardas	6
Anita Colvin-Coates	3	Jeanne LeFevre	6	Nancy Weeks	5
Julie Crouch	1	Marie Mustard	7	Grant Wood	7
Nancy Freeman	6	Liz Perrigue	5		

PHOTOGRAPHY DIVISION

<u>Artist</u>	<u>Points</u>	<u>Artist</u>	<u>Points</u>	<u>Artist</u>	<u>Points</u>
Dana Bouton	7	Robert Ruby	65	Corrine Venit	7
Roy Dundas	67	Dorothy Shepherd	14	Joan Whitmore	4
Albert Gmuer	3				

VHAA News

December meeting raffle and silent auction

We will be auctioning off the following items in a silent auction: the Jimi Hendrix painting, a portrait in oils by Ernie Marjoram (valued at \$400-\$900), a set of collectible books on Hollywood Stars, a book of paintings by Julie Snyder, a photograph by Bob Ruby, and a few other items.

The raffle will be in two parts. You will have a choice on which item you want to win, by placing your ticket(s) in a cup marked specifically for that item. When the winners of those items have been chosen all of the remaining tickets will be put into one bag and winners will be chosen for our guest artist's donation. In that segment, we will be raffling: a box of pastels, 2 how-to art books, a set of acrylic paints, 2 14 X 17 sketch pads and a few other surprises.

- I am looking for a donation of a sturdy/heavy-duty luggage dolly. Printed materials tend to weigh a bit and I'm having a difficult time moving the boxes/bags of books and magazines back & forth for the meetings.

- Do you have unused art supplies, art books in good condition, art work you no longer display? Why not donate them to VHAA for our monthly raffle? Beginning in December I'll be passing around a sign-up sheet asking for raffle prize donations. Remember you are eligible for a tax-deduction form for your donations. Also, remember that when you make a one-time donation of \$25 or more to the scholarship fund you will receive a tax-deduction receipt.

- I'd like to take this opportunity to thank those of you who have generously donated art items, books and magazines used in the raffles, however at this time we have no more storage space for magazines at the community center, so until we sell the magazines on hand, please hold onto yours for a few months.

Thank-you for your support.

— *Kimberly-Ann Talbert*
Ways and Means Chairman

Verdugo Hills Art Association Fundraiser and Non-Juried Show

Show Dates: January 7-27, 2012

Where: La Cañada Library John Clarke Room, 4545 North Oakwood, La Cañada

Take-in: Saturday, Jan. 7, 2012, 8:30-10:00 a.m., La Cañada Library

Takedown: Saturday, Jan. 28, 8:30-10:00 a.m. at the library

Who: All VHAA members in good standing

How: Bring one or two paintings. Remember to have your work framed according to the rules found on the back of your roster. All frames must have hanging wires.

Cost: \$10 each piece. The entry fee will guarantee acceptance of the painting for the duration of the exhibit.

Why: This is the time when those who don't wish their paintings to be judged can have an opportunity to exhibit their art. There will be a People's Choice Award from votes cast by the library patrons.

Subjects: All subjects and media are allowed. We would love to see one of your entries include some drawing, a sketch or partial sketch to show off the skeleton of your work. Don't forget that, according to our rules, all pieces should have been done within the last three years, and if you sell your work VHAA expects a percentage of the proceeds.

Questions? Call Sandy Rooney, 818/249-9006

OTHER SHOWS:

- **Spring Small Image Show:** March 1-31, Pasadena Library

Please note: take in at La Cañada Library, February 25

Works will be returned at the April meeting

- **Spring Show:** May 5-June 2, La Cañada Library

- **Artist of the Month Winners Show:** June 2-June 30, La Cañada Library

— Sandy Rooney, Exhibitions Chair

■ We are looking for someone to act as a contact person with the Crescenta Valley Arts Council. Not a lot of work, just a local artist to let us know about their events, like the recent "Paint Out/art exhibit" that some of us would like to have known about in time to participate. See Suzanne Bitterman if you're interested.

MEMBER CHANGES

DIANE BERNSTEIN

15134 Carey Ranch Lane, Sylmar 91342

NANCY BEARCE

1932 Waltonia Dr, Montrose 91020,

818/736-7492

nancybearce1@att.net

■ **Joan Whitmore** has her mixed media on display from Dec. 3, 2011 to Jan. 3, 2012 at the Jose Vera Fine Art Gallery, Gallery X-43. The opening reception is Dec. 10 from 6-9 p.m. Info: www.joseveragallery.com

VHAA— There's still time
left to receive 20% off
Custom Framing at

FASTFRAME[®]
of La Canada

Located at 2222 Football Blvd.
in La Canada 918-249-7883
(in El Pollo Parking Lot)

This is one of your benefits as a VHAA member. There is no limit on the quantity and can be used for competition, a gift for others or for your own walls.



www.fastframeoflacanada.com

Expires 12/31/2011.
Must be an active member at time of order. Cannot be combined with any other order.

Tips on plein-air painting

by Joyce Peterson

VHAA's next workshop will be a one-day Plein Air paint-out with Chris Van Winkle on December 3. If you are new to this workshop style, there are some unique challenges faced with painting on location, including the climate, changing light, insects, and on-lookers to name just a few.

Here are some pointers from our plein air artists.

1. Keep your supplies as light as you can. Don't forget you are carrying them to a painting site.
2. Some supplies I recommend are:
 - a standing easel (the French box is great) and a folding stool;
 - a small folding table is helpful;
 - a palette (small if possible) and paints — think of a warm and cool red, blue and yellow with a few earth colors;
 - brushes (pick four in assorted sizes with strips of brightly colored tape or paint on the handles to keep them from getting lost in the grass);
 - a foam-core board (lightweight) as backing for your paper or canvas;
 - paper — several pieces of 140 or 300pd paper cut to size — or canvasses for oils;
 - a sketchbook and pen, pencil or charcoal;
 - a small sharpener; view finder;
 - a single edge razor blade;
 - masking tape;
 - a plastic bag for sitting on the ground;
 - water container and water;
 - water atomizer/spray bottle;
 - turpentine for oils;
 - paper towels; and tissues.

Optional items might be a Pentel waterbrush, water soluble pencils and crayons; camera (many people capture the scene for later); a large brimmed hat, sun screen and bug spray; alternatively a parka or jacket; snacks, a packed lunch and drinking water.

Happy Painting!

Two win Nov. *Artist of the Month* awards



Congratulations to one of our newest member, Ken Johnson, who captured First Place for his wonderful oil painting "Bodie Sentinel." Maurine Hixson won Second Place for her beautiful watercolor "Fantasy." Thank you to everyone who shared their work with us!

A reminder: Each member may enter ONE piece of art per month. Entry fee is \$2.00. When there are: 1-5 artworks entered a First Place ribbon will be awarded; 6-10: First and Second Place ribbons will be awarded; and with 11 or more, First, Second and Third Place ribbons will be awarded

First-place winners may not enter again for the remainder of our "year" (the Artist-of-the-Month year is from September to May). At the June meeting, all first-place winners will present their art for the Artist-of-the-Year competition.

Mary Hoehn
Chairman, Artist of the Month

VERDUGO HILLS ART ASSOCIATION

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**DATED MATERIAL
PLEASE PROCESS IMMEDIATELY**

