

Bethlehem Art Association

May/June 2023
Newsletter



Hello Fellow Artists:

At this point in our program year, I usually focus on communicating our activities for the next two months. As usual, the month of May is a busy one for the BAA. We have our annual Spring Show at the library and our One-Day Show and Sale at the Delmar Reformed Church on May 20th. More about these activities are included in this newsletter. However, even if you are not participating as an artist in either of these events, I hope that you will plan to attend them both. The strength of our BAA community depends on our supporting one another. So, I hope you will be there to congratulate our awardees for the Spring Show on Tuesday, May 16, and on greeting and mingling with both your fellow artists and the general public on May 20th.

Also, please plan to catch up with your fellow artists in a more casual environment by coming to our June picnic which will be at Five Rivers on Thursday, June 15th.

Upon reflection of this program year, I believe we had an exciting and interesting series of presenters, programs and workshops. Our planning group just met to outline next year's programs, and while we have not finalized everything, we remain challenged to exceed our past successes. Some ideas are still needed to fill some of the gaps we have, so please contact anyone of our officers with your suggestions. I will state, however, that we did decide to do something special for our January, 2024, meeting which will be via zoom.

If the summer season allows you to read a good book about art, or to attend a workshop, please plan on sharing your reactions and experiences. Our website is always open for member news!! Just let Peter Keitel know.

Lynda

BAA Mission Statement

The BAA is a focal point for all kinds of visual art activities in Bethlehem.
We promote art, art activities, and artists in Bethlehem.

www.bethlehemartassociation.com

President

Lynda Spielman

718-463-5679

lyndaspelman@aol.com

1st Vice President

Peter Keitel

pjkeitel@gmail.com

2nd Vice President

Sal Aiello

salaiello93@gmail.com

Treasurer

John Moser

Recording Secretary

Open

Community Spaces

Jacqueline Smith

TShock1882@aol.com

Membership Chair

Gary Mehlum: 482-8606

gmehlum@gmail.com

Newsletter

Ellie Prakken: 439-7559

ellieprakken@gmail.com

Exhibitions/Shows

Ellie Prakken

Publicity

Lynne Kaiser

Student Scholarships

Lynda Spielman

Webmaster

Peter Keitel

Susan Trottier

Workshops

Denise Crisafulli

Refreshments

Sue Nye

Please welcome new members: Oksana Burr and Blanche Santa Ana



Meetings

Tuesday,

May 16, 6:45 p.m.

Spring Show Reception Judge's Comments with Anne Manzella

Come enjoy the comments! Guests invited and refreshments available!



Anne Manzella has been the District Supervisor of Visual & Media Arts for the North Colonie Central School District for 20 years, where she oversees an award winning department from which many advanced high school students graduate on to college art & design degrees and careers in the creative economy. She is co-chair of region 6 for the New York State Art Teachers Association, and has served on the Visual Arts standards writing team at the NYS Education Department. Anne has adjudicated members' exhibits of the Colonie Art League, and recently has partnered with the faculty of the Visual and Performing Arts department at Russell Sage College and the Upstate Alliance for the Creative Economy to facilitate a Creative Career Expo for area high school students and parents. As she can carve the time, she enjoys visual journaling and working in mixed media, collage and exploring encaustics.

Thursday, June 15, Annual Picnic

Five Rivers Environmental Center Large Pavilion

4:00p.m. - dusk

Located at 56 Game Farm Road, Delmar
The Pavilion is covered, so come rain or shine!
There are around 10-12 picnic tables,
but bring a chair for extra seating.



*Pavilion is wheelchair accessible with parking, paved sidewalk,
and restrooms are available in the Guided School Program Building.*

- This will be potluck, as in the past, so guests are asked to bring a dish to share based on the alphabet.
- Bring your own beverage.
- **Only non-glass containers are allowed.**
- Water, paper plates, utensils, napkins, table cloths will be provided.

| | |
|----------------------------------|-----------|
| If your name begins with, bring: | |
| T-Z | Appetizer |
| A - F | Salad |
| G-M | Casserole |
| N - S | Desert |

RSVP to Sue Nye by June 9 at suenye54@gmail.com or 518 577-0024

Directions: Five Rivers is located about 3 miles southwest of the Bethlehem Library. Take Delaware Ave. - NY 443 for 2.1 miles, passing the High School and the Y, and turn right onto Orchard St. There is a sign for Five Rivers and Wildlife Viewing at the intersection. In 0.4 miles turn left onto Game Farm Rd. and in 0.2 miles turn right into Five Rivers. Follow the arrows thru the parking lot and the pavilion will be on the right.



News of Our Members

Diane Wozniak is having a show for the month of May at the Voorheesville Public Library. She will be having a reception on Sunday May 21 from 1:30 to 3:30 pm. Refreshments will be served and all are welcome.



Late Winter Bloom



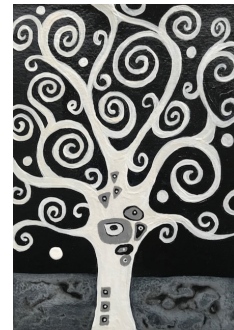
Twilight Descending

Kris Kelly is pleased to announce that she will be having a solo show at the Voorheesville Public Library during the month of June. The theme of the show is "The Light That Surrounds Us". "Twilight Descending" is one of 10 paintings that will be featured in the show. It is an abstracted landscape measuring 20 x 20 on canvas painted in mixed media.

Lynda Spielman was awarded an Honorable Mention in the Colonie Art League Spring Show at the Pruyn House in Latham, NY. The show is continuing through the month of April.



Tree of Life
by **Ellie Prakken**



BAA Members **Ellie Prakken, Bev Braun, Joan VanAlphen and Rose Knightly**, also members of the Firehouse Artists, will be participating in the final show titled "Until We Meet Again" at the Art Associates Gallery on Railroad Ave. in Albany for the month of May.



Wicky and Bicky
by **Michael Joyce**



Art on the Rail Trail (ART) a volunteer committee of the Mohawk Hudson Land Conservancy, is sponsoring a Summer Sculpture Hunt on the Helderberg-Hudson Rail Trail for the month of July. The theme this year is Fantastical Creatures and **Michael Joyce** and **John Smolinsky** are participating. (More information is available at mohawkhudson.org)



Devil Dervish
by **John Smolinsky**



Meeting Recaps

March meeting with Ritvik Sharma

Ritvik gave a wonderful watercolor demonstration of a picture he had taken in Gloucester Harbor. He has his reference photo on his iPad and paints from that. He uses 140 lb Arches rough watercolor paper which he tapes to a board and props up at an angle. He pencils in a few lines of reference on his paper and takes out a lot of the detail in the image. He likes to keep his colors limited to create harmony, therefore he did not paint the water blue. He works on dry paper, with a lot of water on his brush and keeping the board on a slant prevents the watercolor paint from pooling. He uses both synthetic and natural brushes. He works very quickly and has a very steady hand!



April meeting with Billy Fillmore

Billy Fillmore, who teaches in the Art and Design Department at Russell Sage College, began his presentation with a slide show of his extensive collection of work done in his career. He has participated in numerous Artist in Residence programs. Billy teaches drawing, painting, printmaking and sculpture, which he enjoys and he likes to challenge his students to do what they want to do, not what is expected of them. He has spaces in the College where students can paint on the walls and when they graduate, they have to repaint and leave clean spaces for the next student.



With his artwork he likes to make people stop and wonder, he shows pain and beauty and likes grotesque surrealism. His latest series is of clowns, some of which evoke his childhood memories. The one in the picture is a memory of one of his father's friends that passed away.

Billy also gave a demonstration of printmaking, making stamps by carving rubber stamp blocks. This is a form of relief printmaking in that he takes away what he doesn't want to print. He also showed us that if printing words or numbers, you have to carve those backwards.





News

Spring Workshop

Watercolor with Ritvik Sharma

On April 15, Ritvik started the Spring Workshop with a value study of a landscape first. Using a dark color for a total of five grades of hue based on the dilution of water with pigment, we did a light wash on the entire paper, 5x7 or larger, starting at the top and working the wash down. Please remember that white is the lightest color and usually means the paper is left blank of any hue. Then the first level was a light tone for sky, in the second level we put in the hills behind on the horizon level using the second lightest tone. The third level was using mid-tones for the foliage in back while the fourth level was the shadows in back among the foliage to create "an illusion of lights" by dubbing the color to make a contrast among the trees. The fifth level was two dark shades in the foreground. A value study, while a suggestion, is a useful way to begin any painting.

We next proceeded to do a tonal seascape with a boat using cool and warm pigments in it. Ritvik did a demo of the scene first. He said we needed to determine the best placement of the boat so that it looked right and did not affect the hills or skyline. When we sketched in the outline we also drew horizon lines for the hills and waterline. The boat was 1/3 down, but was not centered. The beginning washes were usually two pigments mixed together. We applied the colors,



such as blue then orange in the sky, ultramarine in the water and a dark blue/green hue for shadows at the same steps in the value study. After that we put a piece of masking tape at the waterline, then the boat, dark as it was back-lit, was the last item to be put in the painting.

After lunch we discussed transparent and opaque water color pigments. Sue Nye had a chart indicating the effect of the pigments over a black line which allows you to distinguish which is which. Then Ritvik did an urban street scene from downtown Albany which was more complex with cars, buildings and people walking in the rain. He provided some hints which helped: cars are rectangles, people's heads are level with each other. When he discussed the vanishing point, rule of thirds and other aspects of visual perspectives, he said that the middle area and the church steeple were the focal points. He mentioned that although it was rainy, there is still a light side, but the shadows are not as dark as in bright sunlight. He put details in buildings such as windows with some white (China White), etc. for texture. The cars in shadow were dark with white paint added to the windows for contrast.

Unfortunately we did not have time for a critique of the participants' artwork, but it was an interesting and informative workshop. Ritvik left us with this motto-

"Paint with freedom."





Plein Air Painting With Jacqueline Smith

These are free, non-instructional outdoor all-media sessions focused on a shared Plein Air experience. Sessions will begin in June to continue until Autumn as long as there is interest. We could meet on certain days, but usually on Wednesdays in the morning or after lunch. Sites will be at various locations such as Five Rivers, Pine Hollow Arboretum, Indian Ladder Farms, etc. Suggestions for other locations are welcomed.

If you wish to be on the list for notices and a tentative schedule, please email me at Tshock1882@aol.com.

BAA One-Day Show and Sale Saturday, May 20, 2023

The One-Day Show and Sale is Saturday, May 20, 2023, to be held at the Delmar Reformed Church. Even if you have not signed up for a table to sell your artwork, you can participate in the display in the front entry hall. The theme for this part of the show is "Movement". Bring your piece (1) to the church before 10am on Saturday, May 20. Also, we are looking for cookies or brownies to sell during the show. They can also be brought on Saturday morning. For further information, contact Dee Foley at deefoley3@mac.com or 518-727-1228

Bring your friends and family and support the BAA!

Bethlehem Chamber of Commerce

Many thanks to Peter Kietel, Rose Knightly, Lynda Spielman, Sue Nye, Denise Crisafulli and Diane Wozniak who participated in our theme show for April entitled "Welcoming Spring." Peggy Becker will show her spring photographs for the month of May and Laurel Petersen's whimsical artwork will be on the walls for June. July through the end of the year are available at this time. Please contact Diane wozniak to reserve your space. dcwozniak@gmail.com

Summer Art Challenge

The BAA Art Challenge provides an incentive for you to create new work. Here's a photo that is open to a lot of interpretations. Feel free to crop



the image and focus on any part that interests you. Go to www.bethlehemartassociation.com/baa-art-challenge for instructions on how to participate in the Challenge, or just to see how different artists have interpreted a given subject.

Call for Nominations

We're looking for an art historian/archivist. The BAA was established in 1966 and we presently have binders of paper material (and photos) covering all the years to the present of our meetings and programs. These are ripe for someone who can scan the documents or organize them for more careful preservation. Please contact Lynda Spielman if you are interested. lyndaspelman@aol.com



Venues

BAA Community Exhibit Schedule May 2023 through Aug. 2023

Sign up at a monthly meeting to schedule a showing of your work
or contact Jacqueline Smith at 518-489-1882 or TShock1882@aol.com

Please sign up!

VENUES RESERVED FOR BAA MEMBERS

| | MAY | JUNE | JULY | AUGUST |
|--|--|--------------------|------|--------|
| BANK OF COXSACKIE Rte. 9W, Glenmont - 10-13 spaces | OPEN | | OPEN | |
| MOHAWK HUDSON LAND CONSERVANCY Kenwood Ave., Delmar - 6-8 hangers | BARBARA SMITH | OPEN | OPEN | OPEN |
| BETHLEHEM CHAMBER OF COMMERCE 3 small 3 large paintings Main Square, Suite 27 • above Shogun 318 Delaware Ave. Delmar • 2nd floor Contact Diane Wozniak dcwozniak@gmail.com or 518-698-1819 | “Welcoming Spring” PEGGY BECKER | LAUREL PETERSEN | OPEN | OPEN |

VENUES FREQUENTLY AVAILABLE FOR BAA MEMBERS

NEW Berne Public Library, 1763 Helderberg Trail, Berne, NY

Contact Ann Hein at 914-953-0804 or ahein6711@yahoo.com Available to BAA July and August, 2023

The Massry Residence at the Daughters of Sarah Senior Community:

Contact Christine Vaughn at 518-724-3406 or Campc@doss.org. Space for 15 pictures

Merriman and Pfister, An Artisan's Marketplace. Located behind the Perfect Blend at the Four Corners.

Contact Kathy Agneta at 518-588-7268

Big Eye Gallery Fine Arts and Crafts, 270 County Route 405, South Westerlo, NY

Contact Hope Konecny at 518-66-5833

Bethlehem Public Library, Delaware Ave., Delmar:

Please use the Library website at “Book a Space” to reserve a date to hang paintings.

The system will send a confirmation.

Beverwyck Independent Retirement & Assisted Living:

Contact Jessica Steber, 518-451-2111 or Jessica.Steber@SPHP.com

Beverwyck Lane/Autumn Drive, Slingerlands, 15 spaces, availability.

Uncommon Grounds Coffee & Bagels, 1235 Western Ave., Albany:

Contact Saratoga-Arts.org for more information, but you must be a member of their group to show your paintings at any Uncommon Grounds location.

Voorheesville Public Library: 51 School Rd., Voorheesville

Contact Lynn Kohler at 518-765-2791 to schedule a show and reception.

Greene County Bank, Rte. 32 near Bryant's Plaza, Greenville: Contact Rita Buttiker, 518-634-2272



CALENDAR IS SUBJECT TO REVISION

This Year's Main Events

All Monthly Meetings begin at 6:45PM

Pay close attention to DAYS, DATES, and LIBRARY or ZOOM

| | |
|---------------------------------|---|
| Thursday, September 22 ~ | Oil Demonstration with Ken Wilson |
| Thursday, October 20 ~ | “Prosiac Realism” Demo with Matt Chinian |
| Tuesday, November 1 ~ | Fall Show Submissions Drop-off at Bethlehem Public Library ~ 4:00pm - 6:00pm |
| Saturday, November 12 ~ | Workshop with Matt Chinian ~ Oil |
| Thursday, November 17 ~ | Fall Show Reception ~ Judge’s Comments by Gary Shankman |
| Wednesday, November 30, | Fall Show Removal by 5:00pm (No Exceptions) |
| Thursday, December 15 ~ | Holiday Member Demonstration ~ Cheryl Wikstrom |
| Thursday, January 19 ~ | Color Theory with Eden Compton ~ ZOOM |
| Thursday, February 16 ~ | Member Critique ~ Oscar-Alberto Bogran |
| Thursday, March 16 ~ | Watercolor Demo with Ritvik Sharma |
| Thursday, April 13 ~ | Annual Planning Meeting ~ ZOOM |
| Saturday, April 15 ~ | Watercolor Workshop with Ritvik Sharma |
| Thursday, April 20 ~ | Printmaking with Billy Fillmore |
| Monday, May 1 ~ | Spring Show Submissions Drop-off at Bethlehem Public Library ~ 4:00pm - 6:00pm |
| *Tuesday, May 16 ~ | Spring Show Reception ~ Judge’s Comments by Anne Manzella |
| Wednesday, May 31 ~ | Spring Show Removal by 5:00pm (No exceptions) |
| Thursday, June 15 ~ | Picnic ~ Five Rivers Environmental Center |