

VERDUGO HILLS ART ASSOCIATION

APRIL 2009



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

Bill Washburn, *Editor*

Ernie Marjoram: quick sketches for travel

For our April 3rd meeting, The Verdugo Hills Art Association will host Ernie Marjoram who joins us again to discuss his quick sketching techniques with a slide show of images from his wonderful Travel Sketchbooks.



Originally trained as an architect, Ernie works in a variety of media: pencil, pen, watercolor, acrylics and oil while sketching architectural subjects in Europe, Asia and America. Ernie will also explain his simple approach to accurate perspective with a live sketch demonstration of an architectural

subject in oils on canvas. If you want to improve your perspective sketching ability as preparation for travel sketchbooks, finished art or just for the fun of it, this will give you a quick start during his inspiring and informative presentation.

Mr. Marjoram has traveled extensively to study the architecture of Europe, Japan and Egypt. Ernie says *I seek a creative outlet for my intimate knowledge of historical styles and my interest in exotic cultures.*

In 1995 Ernie began designing and sketching sets for TV, film and themed environments for entertainment industry clients such as Walt Disney Imagineering.

For the last eight years, Ernie has taught perspective sketching to the Production Designers at the *American Film Institute* and regularly teaches public classes on a variety of art and design related subjects. He enjoys experimenting with different concepts, media and subject matter and began to exhibit his own personal artwork in 2003. Since then he has participated in several group exhibits, held his first solo exhibit *Europe, Asia and the US* in 2005 and his latest one-man exhibit *Bell' Italia* at the *Ebell Club of Los Angeles* closed in February.

Ernie is an Artist member of the *California Art Club* and is proud to serve as a member of the Advisory Board.



Nara Pagoda, Japan, watercolor

For the raffle this month, he will offer the winner their choice of: a complimentary Associate Artist membership in the California Art Club for a year (a retail value of \$65), or one of a series of 18 giclee reproductions of Ernie Marjoram's original art, or choose his original demonstration sketch for the evening.

To view more of Marjoram's art, please visit: www.artsyplanet.com.

Don't miss this Friday night VHAA meeting. Ernie is always both entertaining and highly instructive. Join us on April 3rd at 7:00 in the CitiBank Community Room for a fascinating evening.

NEXT ART ASSOCIATION MEETING

Friday, April 3, 2009, 7:00 P.M.
CitiBank Community Room
2350 Honolulu Avenue, Montrose

NEXT BOARD MEETING

Monday, April 6, 2009, 7:00 P.M.
Home of Sheri Garwood
10535 Pinewood, Tujunga

2008-2009 OFFICERS

<i>President</i>	Frank de Lucia 818 241-8808 f.delucia@ca.rr.com
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2008-2009 CHAIRMEN

<i>Artist of the Month</i>	Sandy Rooney 818 249-9006 sandrakrooney@yahoo.com
<i>Exhibition</i>	Lee Sanderson 818 790-7449 leesanderson@charter.net
	Al Gmuer 818 548-7909 amgmuer@msn.com
	Art Racklin 818 244-9709
<i>Hospitality</i>	Karen Horn 818 240-6979 ihorn@aol.com
	Joyce Peterson 626 793-4581
<i>Historian</i>	Jeanne Bergeron 818 507-8122 jbergeron11@netzero.com
<i>Member at Large</i>	Sandy Rooney 818 249-9006 sandrakrooney@yahoo.com
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<i>Scholarship</i>	Jane Higley 818 790-6198
<i>Video Librarian</i>	Lorraine Ruby 818 249-5053 rubyrobert@charter.net
<i>Webmaster</i>	Karen Winters 818 790-4201 gwprod@pacbell.net
<i>Workshop</i>	Mary Hoehn 818 790-3134 lablvrmmary@sbcglobal.net

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

We had an exceptional evening with Quinton Bemiller, our guest artist. Quinton demonstrated his skills and art with abstracts using his favorite medium, acrylic paints. Listening was as magical as the demonstration as he helped us all remember when we were kids having fun painting anything including finger paint.

Quinton's art was amazing and you can see he loves to share and teach. He has a very creative relaxing demeanor and I'm sure anyone who takes his workshops or lessons has a terrific time. He offers studio tours in various parts of the country and they sound exciting. You can learn more about Quinton's painting and studio tours by visiting his web site at: www.quintonbemiller.tripod.com.

We also had a terrific workshop with Julie Snyder and some of us who have never tried oil paints before had their chance during that day. She is an excellent instructor and the workshop subject was portraiture. We had a live model to work with who never complained when staying in position for such a long time nor when she saw my painting of her. I totally recommend any of Julie Snyder's workshops or classes whenever you can join them.

We are looking for volunteers for our 2009-2010 Nominating Committee this month. We need three individuals plus one alternate from the membership to join the two individuals and one alternate from the Board of Directors on the committee.

Please consider volunteering for a Board position in 2009-2010. If you have an interest or skill we can use, please let us know. We work so well as a group that we always have fun and enjoy each other's company. Plan to be a part of it for the next season. You won't regret it. It is a rewarding experience and a easy way to build new friendships. The positions that will be available are: President, Publicity, Newsletter, Scholarship, Treasurer and Secretary.

Life itself can't give you joy,
Unless you really will it;
Life just gives you time and space,
It's up to you to fill it.

unknown poet

Best regards,

Frank de Lucia, *President*



ATTEND A MASTER ARTIST'S WORKSHOP WITHOUT LEAVING HOME

Check out our video library for an inspirational, learning and renewing experience. With over 100 titles to choose from, you can kick-start your hobby or art career for a few dollars and no travel expense by renting a video or DVD workshop.

I challenge the watercolor painters to watch the new oil painting DVDs for inspiration and general painting ideas. Some excellent ones are: *COLOR MOVES*, *PAINTING WATER WITH OILS* by Caroline Jasper; *WINTER ESCAPE* by Kevin Macpherson; *MOOD AND ATMOSPHERE IN OIL* by Craig Lewis; and *ABSTRACTING THE LANDSCAPE IN OIL* by Ann Templeton.

Portrait and figure painters have some good choices. Among them are: *WATERCOLOR PORTRAITS* by Jan Kunz; *DESIGN WITH THE FIGURE* by Polly Hammett, and *FIGURE DESIGN IN GOUACHE* by Carla O'Connor. A new DVD; *DRAWING GESTURE IN CHARCOAL AND PASTEL* by Craig Nelson will be available at the April meeting.

We welcome donations of used videos and DVDs from members. For each donation VHAA will give you 2 certificates for free rentals.

Lorraine Ruby, *Video Chairperson*

ARTFUL TRAVEL AND WORKSHOPS FOR ARTISTS

Spring is here. Summer can't be far behind because I'm already checking my calendar and shopping for airline tickets for workshops with the painters I love.

Art and travel seem to have emerged as two of my favorite pastimes. And, there are some great deals out there for both "close-to-home workshops" and "art in exotic places" opportunities.

Brenda Swenson, a local artist and teacher, is offering a watercolor workshop *Tuscany En Plein Air* staged in Lucca, Italy April 18–28, 2009. For Brenda's complete schedule of local and out of town workshops, go to: www.swensonsart.net/events.html.

Brian Blood, a member of the California Art Club, has a number of exciting workshops for landscape painters starting in May 9–11, 2009 at Pt. Lobos, Carmel and Pacific Grove. There is more information on his web site at: <http://brianblood.com/other1>.

SCAPE: Southern California Artists Painting for the Environment offers a variety of workshops in and around Santa Barbara: *Plein Aire Pastel Workshop with Janenne Bebl*, June 14–15, 2009 and *Traditional Oil Painting Techniques with Rick Garcia* offered Oct. 3, & 10-11, 2009.

The California Art Club is offering four different workshops beginning this month, all taught by top artists: Junn Roca, Tony Pro, Scott Prior and Jove Wang. For more details call 626/583-9009 or visit their web site: www.californiaartclub.org/workshops/caam.shtml.



The Sedona Arts Center, in Arizona, offers field expeditions for artists and photographers in Tuscany, New York City, Antigua, Guatemala, Grand Canyon and various River trips. They also offer 40 or more workshops in Sedona with master artists, photographers and sculptors. A catalog of their 2009 and 2010 offerings is available on their web site or by phone (928) 282-3809, (888) 954-444.

Open Box M, in Cody Wyoming, is offering a diverse set of seven workshops around Yellowstone this year from May thru September. They are taught by artists such as Carol Guzman; *Figure Painting Workshop and Gourmet Retreat*, Dan Young; *Outdoor Landscape Painting*, John Budicin; *Plein Air Workshop*, Jeanne Mackenzie; *Plein Air Workshop*, Andrew Lattimore; *Outdoor Landscape Painting*, Richard McDaniel; *Plein Air Workshop*, Carolyn Anderson; *The Essence of Reality: Figurative Studio Class*. For information call 307-250-7648.

Robert Burrige, in Arroyo Grande, (on the central Calif. coast) teaches a variety of painting workshops to professional and emerging painters throughout the United States. Bob's a contemporary painter, writes a monthly newsletter and teaches classes with an artist's sense of humor. His workshops run from April 2009 to November 2010 in locations as close as Palm Springs or Mendocino, or fly to Raleigh, North Carolina and Texas. For questions on workshops contact Robert Burrige at 805-489-9649. He will be at the *Learning & Product Expo* in Pasadena during October 2009 if you want to meet him face-to-face.

Photography Workshops

There are really exciting digital photography workshops offered this year. The best I found are from National Geographic Expeditions. The locations are San Francisco to India. Here's a chance to shoot in Provence, France with Catherine Karnow,

for seven days. Catherine shoots for National Geographic and describes the workshop as follows: *step into a Provençal tableau of sculpted hills, Roman ruins, and vibrant towns that once inspired Vincent van Gogh*. Avignon and St. Remy in October—wow! For more information on photography workshops call toll-free (866) 797-4686 or visit their web site listed at the right.

(Continued on page 4)

WORKSHOPS

Brenda Swenson

Tuscany En Plein Air

April 18–28, 2009

Watercolor Workshop Italy

Lucca, Italy

Web site: www.abbondanzatoscana.com

E-mail: abbondanzatoscana@gmail.com

Painting with Watercolor

May 15, 16, & 17, 2009

3-Day Workshop \$250.00

VIVA Gallery

Sherman Oaks, CA

Workshop Info: www.vivagallery.org

Info: Brenda@swensonsart.net

Brian Blood

Plein Air Painting Workshops

May 9–11, 2009

Pt. Lobos, Carmel and Pacific Grove

July 18–19, 2009

Pebble Beach, Pacific Grove, Carmel

October 10–12

Pt. Lobos, Pebble Beach, Pacific Grove

Web site: <http://brianblood.com/other1>

E-mail: bbfineart@aol.com

SCAPE

Workshops

June through October

By mail: SCAPE, P.O. Box 30932

Santa Barbara, CA 93130

Web site: www.s-c-a-p-e.org/workshops.html

E-mail: info@s-c-a-p-e.org

California Art Club

Master Artist Workshops

April through October 2009

For information call (626) 583-9009 or

www.californiaartclub.org/workshops/caam.shtml

Sedona Arts Center

Field Trips for Artists & Photographers

From May through September 2009

For information call (928) 282-3809 or

www.sedonaartscenter.com/visitingartistworkshops/sections/field-expeditions.htm

Open Box M

Yellowstone, WY Workshops

May through September 2009

For information call (307) 250-7648 or

www.openboxm.com/workshop.html

Robert Burrige

Workshops

April November, 2010

For information call (805) 489-9649 or

www.robertburrige.com/Workshops/schedule.html

National Geographic Expeditions

Photographic Workshops

For information call toll-free (866) 797-4686

www.nationalgeographicexpeditions.com/572.html

Stephen Johnson

Digital Photography Workshops

For information call (650) 355-7507

www.sjphoto.com/workshops.html

Preserving Your Memories

Painting on Mohegan Island in Maine, the Umbrian countryside in Italy and on the Greek Isles of Santorini, Mykonos and Rhodes were wonderful experiences. But, like most experiences they fade slowly as the months and years slip by.

But, I've found a way to keep those memories alive and share them with family, friends and other artists.

Photo Books made by Kodak Gallery and a number of other companies offer an inexpensive way to preserve the magic of your artistic journeys and vacations. With just a little effort you will wind up with a commercial quality book you'll be proud of, not something looking like it came from the local copy store or Kinkos!

Producing these books may seem daunting at first glance. But they are quick to produce with basic computer skills, easy to afford and most of the sources offer toll-free tech support to get you started and keep you going.

Prices for the books start at about \$5.00 and go up to \$35.00 for most formats. Nearly all the companies offer choices of hard-bound or soft-bound covers, page sizes from 5"x7" to 13"x11", themes and concepts for color image backgrounds, hundreds of pre-designed page layouts, space for stories and captions about your adventure and even free software to compose your memory book or photo book. Priced at \$10.00 or \$20.00 a book, I've made different versions of my memory books to tell a story from several different perspectives.

Let's say you've just returned from two weeks on the island of Mykonos, Greece. Armed with several hundred images and a full sketch book; you might choose to illustrate a photo book about the people culture of the island, one about the culinary delights and restaurants, one about the Icons and frescoes of the monastery, another about your drawings and paintings as the major theme, and another about the shipboard journey of getting

there. There are endless possibilities once you begin thinking about how to tell your story of art, travel and experience.

It will pay to shop around when you're ready to begin your book. During the research for this article, I found two different companies that offer a free second copy of your photo book when you buy the first. They are very hungry for your business—it is a competitive marketplace out there.



There are dozens of manufacturers offering this service. I'll give you five of my favorites at the bottom of this page.

These memory books are not just for photographers. On our art journeys, I seem to always bring back museum and tour tickets, magazines, menus, posters, local brochures and pounds of paper memorabilia from each expedition. Think about combining digital scans of your drawings, paintings and memorabilia with the photos of your workshop or journey. It is easy and most flat-bed scanners you have at home will provide surprising results if used with image editing software to fine-tune the scan.

With a little effort and a few hours of time you will have your own gorgeous coffee-table Memory Book of your workshop or travel experience which you will treasure year after year.

One of my super-secrets for shopping on the Internet is; go to: www.couponmountain.com then type "photo books" in the search box. You'll be presented with several companies who make them plus you'll see 20 other search criteria for even more companies.

Coupon Mountain is a great starting point for all your shopping. They consistently provide discounts, free shipping or rebates on almost everything you will buy online. Add it to your Favorite Places in your browser.

Memory Books will give you another medium to add to your artistic endeavors.

Bill Washburn, *Editor*



Links and Reference:

http://www.kodakgallery.com/View_All_Photo_Books.jsp
<http://www.blurb.com/>
<http://www.picaboo.com/photobooks/index.html>
http://www.shutterfly.com/shop/Photo_Books/product_c18000
<http://www.mypublisher.com/>
<http://www.couponmountain.com/>

ART SAVES LIVES

One of the duties of the Board of Directors is to listen to the concerns of each member of the Verdugo Hills Art Association. In the past months, longtime member, Sandra Rooney suggested we consider increasing our visibility within the community by providing our members, and other artists with bumper stickers with a logo such as: ART SAVES LIVES, along with our website. Other Board members provided examples of the fact that, indeed, physical and mental pain can be



alleviated through the creative process.

We invite you to give us your input, either verbally or in writing of your experience or suggestions. Or, if you wish to join the committee to help make decisions on format, price and how any profit would be distributed, contact me.

Suzanne Bitterman
Chair, Bumper Sticker Committee



Julie Snyder's Portrait Workshop was an amazing experience according to the workshop attendees. If you are interested in having Julie back soon for another workshop, call Mary Hoehn (818) 790-3134 and let her know you want to paint with Julie again soon.

ARTIST OF THE MONTH

Once more there was a great variety of art during the take-in for Artist of the Month. This month we had eight entries.

First Place was an oil painting by a new member Leslie Saeta entitled *Rooster*. Second Place was a lovely watercolor by Roland Clark entitled *Beautiful Colorado*. Third Place was won by Ullrich Rumohr with an oil painting named *Morning Walk*. Congratulations to all our artists who participated.

There are only two more months to enter before we vote for Artist of the Year. So, let's have a good showing this month.

Sandy Rooney,
*Artist of the Month
Chairman*



SMALL IMAGE SHOW: LONG TIME MEMBERS AND NEWCOMERS SHARE THE AWARDS

Capturing the prestigious Best-of-Show Award, returning long time member Gisele LaPointe headed the list of prize winners in the March 2009 exhibition with her painting, *Nature's Best*. First place in the Representational category was Lana Blades with *Should I or Shouldn't I*, in Second Place, brand new member, Nancy LaCroix-Toyne with *Rolling Hills*; Third Place went to another experienced artist, Gloria Clark, with *California Gold*. Another new member, Leslie Saeta received Honorable Mention for *City Hall Reflections*, as did Caddis Robinette for *Ghostly Stallion* and Joyce Peterson for *Color Study*. In the Non-representational category, Maurine Hixson took First Place with *Top of the Woods* and Jane Higley, Second Place with *Feathers*. First Place in Photography went to Robert Ruby for *June Lake Road* and Second Place to Dorothy Shepherd for *Water Buffalo Village #2*.

The VHAA *Small Image Show* is at the Pasadena Public Library and runs through March 31st. The Library is located at 285 E. Walnut Street with parking in the rear.

Winners are in the Pasadena Centennial Room located to the left (North). Other art work is in the Humanities Wing and the Reference & Business Wing on either side of the Centennial Room.

Joyce Peterson

SPRING ART SHOW

The take in date for the *Spring Art Show* entries is Saturday, April 25 10:00–11:00 A.M. at CitiBank in Montrose. This annual event is open to all VHAA members. There is a limit of three entries per artist and each piece must be original and completed within the last three years. The fee is \$7 per entry. There are two broad classifications: representational art and nonrepresentational, which means abstract and not featuring any recognizable subject matter. There will be awards for three different divisions: Open, Premier and Honors. The show is also open to sculpture and photography.

The VHAA spring exhibit will be hung in the La Cañada Public Library on May 2. Artists should plan to drop their work off between 10:00–11:00 A.M. All entries will be on display for the month of May. Work will be picked up May 30, 10:00–11:00 A.M. There will be no early pickups.

Lee Sanderson, *Exhibit Chairman*

NEW MEMBERS

Please welcome our new members and add these names to your membership list.

Debby Beck
8015 Glenties Ln
Sunland, CA 91040
818 353-3090
debby.beck@yahoo.com
oils, watercolor and various other media

Nancy LaCroix-Toyne and David Toyne

6634 Valmont St.
Tujunga, CA 91042
artist@solutionsfor.com
oils, watercolor, pen & ink, drawing,
landscapes and still life

Suzanne Bitterman
Membership Chairman



APRIL DEADLINES

- Apr. 3: Pick up your *Small Image Show* art at the monthly meeting
- Apr. 25: Take-in for the Spring Show, CitiBank Community Room, 10:00–11:00 A.M.
- May 2: Hanging for Spring Show, 10:00–11:00 A.M.

UPCOMING DEMONSTRATIONS

- May Justine Limpus Parish, Dynamic clothed figure drawing
- June Scholarship award, Artist of the Year award and members discuss the importance of art in their lives through personal stories
- July The club is dark for the Summer
Sherí Garwood
1st Vice President

We're passionate about art.

The Verdugo Hills Art Association's goal is to build a community where artists can develop and exhibit their work. We help forge relationships with other artists, provide a forum to foster enjoyment, growth, and a better understanding of all facets of the visual arts including painting, print making, collage, assemblage, sculpture, photography and digital art.

Guests are always welcome.

Join us for our next art-filled evening. See the front page for date, time and location.

Lines parallel to the horizon give breadth, that is, a section of nature. Lines perpendicular to this horizon Give depth. But nature is more depth than surface. Paul Cezanne

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**DATED MATERIAL PLEASE
PROCESS IMMEDIATELY**