



The BVAA is Bouncing Back!

Meeting attendance has increased. The membership number is healthy and growing. Member benefits have increased, too. Inez and I have been talking about the BVAA's growth in the past year and all the signs are that we're bouncing back. One vital goal we have is to raise the communities' awareness of our group of talented artists. We've gotten it well on its way with our membership in the Blackstone Valley Chamber of Commerce. The BVCC Expo that Inez attended with several other BVAA member volunteers on March 5th was a great opportunity featuring our association as well.

We've always had wonderful speakers and demonstrators - and it's very satisfying to see more of you at the meetings. For those of you who took advantage of these wealths of skill and knowledge at the various meetings throughout the past year, you've got to admit that it was FUN! Martha Wetzel continues to be a remarkable supporter of the BVAA and her talk on the artist/gallery relationship, as well as new events shaping up in the Valley that would benefit our members was very informative. We are very fortunate, indeed, to have such a supporter of the arts working within the Chamber of Commerce and with promoting tourism in the Blackstone Valley. I had such a great time listening to Bob Jorgensen's tales of wildlife exploits - and those were the human ones! All the while as he worked on a lovely watercolor of flying geese in a snow fall. David Spatt again proved a wealth of knowledge regarding the legalities involved in protecting your copyrights and making sure you don't infringe on someone else's. Plus the handout has proved to be a handy reference - especially the "sample written contract terms" and "contract language to be avoided." (I'll see if I can have Ria put it in the Member's area of our website so those of you who weren't there can download it and print it for yourself.) The question and answer time was invaluable!

I'm looking forward to the next meeting. Besides discussing business, we'll also have things set up to take digital shots of your artwork if you haven't gotten it done already. We've got 14 members on the online gallery. I'd love to see every member up there! Don't forget to bring information for your bio. If you have internet access, do check out the members who already have their work on our website.

Think Spring! We've got the Annual Show coming up in May. Already we have been interest from almost 1 1/2 dozen members who said they'll enter and help out with putting on the show. That's great! I'm sure there are more of you out there who want to get involved, too. We also have new member Kari Kline who's looking into organizing a trip to visit some New York galleries!

Come to the March meeting. Let us know what you're thinking, what you'd like to see, and how you think you could help. Meet and mingle with your peers. It'll be fun! See you there!

Lori Grady, Vice President of the BVAA, [REDACTED] info@bvaa.org

Bulletin Board

◆ Digital Photo Session

Date: Monday, March 21st

Time: 7 - 9 pm

Location:

Visiting Artists Studios at the Bernat Mills Complex

19 Depot Street

Uxbridge, MA

Have digital photos of your artwork generated for the BVAA website!

Having a presence on the web can greatly benefit your career as an artist. As part of your membership, we provide you with a free intro page as well as a flash gallery page to help you market your work online.

Help us to keep our member better informed.

We welcome any news of your activities and artistic accomplishments plus any information you'd like to pass along to your fellow artists about upcoming exhibition opportunities, workshops, and events, etc.

Please contact [REDACTED]

BVAA Member News and Opportunities:

The BVAA recently exhibited at the 2nd Annual Blackstone Valley Chamber of Commerce Home and Business Expo held on March 5th at the Northbridge High School in Whittinsville, MA. Many thanks to our members who volunteered to participate including **Joanne & Ray Andreotti, Inez Gornall, Ria & Gary Hills, Vivian Podsiadlo, and Pamela Murphy.**

"Premier Image Gallery 2005 Open Exhibition" – Art Show to be held March 31st – June 2nd at the Premier Image Gallery, 290 Eliot Street, Ashland, MA 01721. Contact Don Gordon at [REDACTED] for more information.

Pamela Murphy will be exhibiting her paintings at The Alternative Gallery, Main St in Uxbridge during April. The opening reception will be held on April 8th at 4 – 8 pm. Please contact Pam Murphy by phone [REDACTED] or via email at [REDACTED] for more info.

The River Bend Farm, a Blackstone River and Canal Heritage State Park in Uxbridge, welcomes BVAA members to participate in its rotating gallery, which will feature a variety of 2D artworks by local area artists each month starting in May. Works depicting "themes" of the Blackstone Valley are encouraged, and artists can exhibit up to 6 medium pieces or several small works. Two artists can also share the gallery walls. The gallery will charge a 20% commission fee on pieces sold to support the River Bend Fund. For each participating artist, a "Meet the Artist Day" opportunity on a weekend is available to meet with the public. For more info, contact Val Stegemoen at [REDACTED] and The River Bend Farm, 287 Oak Street, Uxbridge, MA 01569.

BVAA Calendar:

All BVAA meetings will be held at the Visiting Artists Studios at the Bernat Mills Complex, 19 Depot Street, Uxbridge, MA from 7 – 9 pm. All members are invited to participate.

Upcoming events include: **April 18** – BOARD MEETING, **May 6 - 8** - 47th Annual BVAA Art Show & Sale, **May 16** - CLUB MEETING ANNUAL ELECTION OF OFFICERS, Speaker/Demonstrator TBA, **June 25** - Art in the Garden 2005 at Tapestry Gardens on Rivulet Street in Uxbridge, MA.

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