

MONTGOMERY COUNTY ART ASSOCIATION

MCAA News

MEMBER SPOTLIGHT

Connie Ward Woolard

Acrylics on Paper

Connie Ward Woolard recently rejoined Montgomery County Art Association and we welcome her back.

Connie brings a lifetime of painting experience, gallery management, and artist association leadership to our organization. Throughout Connie's life, she never went without crayons, pencils, or paints in her hands. After high school, she began her career working for an engraving company, ultimately becoming the Art Director. After marrying in 1952 and starting her family in 1960, Connie began freelancing as a graphic designer for commercial art. Eventually, she managed the Town Center Gallery—initially in downtown Rockville—and later the Air Rights Building in Bethesda. Town Center Gallery was a well-known, local gallery featuring different artists monthly, including Connie. The gallery was also acknowledged for its annual Christmas Shop, remaining in business until 2000.

Since that time, Connie has been painting from her home in Silver Spring, making her mark on the communities around her. In the beginning of her career, she painted in oils, but then developed an allergy. Connie switched to an acrylic medium—first on canvas and later on paper. Her



11 Laird Street by Connie Ward Woolard

favorite is Arches 300 lb paper in sizes ranging from miniature to full sheet to partial roll. Acrylics suit her watercolor style perfectly, glazing beautifully and drying quickly. The other advantage acrylics offer is they do not fade, can be easily scraped with a razor blade, and can replace whites areas with an opaque, white paint wherever needed. Connie is equally enthusiastic about rendering pencil drawings, using detail to the utmost extent of her capability.

Her favorite subjects are house portraits and architecture. Woolard has an appreciation for architectural detail and

the patina of old surfaces. However, she never buries her personality under the history. Connie says, "My goal is to interpret what I see in a manner that shares with others; the treasures I find in my surroundings, be it old houses, buildings, rural scenes, portions of the countryside, or small towns are fast being altered or disappearing entirely. I hope to capture these scenes with emotion and sensitivity, evoking nostalgia in the viewer."

Her talents have led to an interesting array of commissions including the City of Rockville, the National

see page 3

OCTOBER MEETING

Wednesday
OCTOBER 8th, 7:00 PM

V.P. of Programs, Alejandra invites members to the October meeting for a roundtable discussion, welcome of new members, refreshments and door prizes. New members are encouraged to share their thoughts on what they would like to get from MCAA. We will also talk about art shows and art work done in different media. They all have different techniques and maybe they need to be separated in future competitions. Other items for discussion may include: shows at different venues or times of year, how to raise more money, whether to limit the amount of awards per person at each show or any other issues that come up.

Plaza Art is located across from Congressional Plaza on Route 355 in the Pier One Plaza, behind Duron Paints and Twinbrook Metro Access Road. There is plenty of parking and Plaza is easily accessed via Metro (the Twinbrook station is a 3-4 minute walk). As a courtesy to our guest presenters, please plan to complete your shopping by 7:00 PM. Our meeting begins promptly at 7:00 PM and concludes at 8:00 PM.

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Once again, your show chair, Debra Halprin outdid herself in organizing our Kensington show this year. We had markedly increased revenue over recent years. Debbie and Vicky went all out with publicity and increased advertising that really paid off! Saturday and Sunday pulsed with more business than ever before. Monday was at the usual strong pace as well. The new banner at the beginning of Howard Avenue at Connecticut Avenue seemed to attract many new visitors to our show this year. There was an exceptionally good response to our requests for donations from local merchants and all the prize categories were easily allocated. Everyone seemed to enjoy the reception as well. Our partnership with Plaza Arts in Rockville was a huge boost to our success too. We are also very grateful to the Town of Kensington for continuing to provide us with the use of their Town Hall for this event each year. Congratulations to all the prize winners and the many artists with sales of their artwork.

I'd like to thank Ann Gordon for leading the critique at the September member meeting. After some discussion of the Kensington show (including a report from Jacques our Treasurer) and other ideas all of the members present were able to receive very insightful comments from Ann and the group on their artwork. I personally gained a better understanding of color relationships, use of negative space and composition from Ann. Her tips on how to evaluate and best determine layout and composition will be useful with future projects. We are lucky to have such a knowledgeable person who is willing to share her training and experience with us.

Preparation is beginning for our annual holiday party which will again, this year, be combined with a month long show at Kensington Framing and Design. We had so much fun last year that we arranged with the new owner, Jason Miller, to do it again. Additional information will be available as soon as members start volunteering for show preparations and details are planned. As always I look forward to seeing you at our next member meeting on Wednesday, October 8th.

Best Regards,
Sara

Membership Renewal Time

September is the Montgomery Art annual renewal month. If you haven't already done so please send your renewal to MCAA Membership Chair Sandy Cepatis, P.O. Box 2154, Kensington MD 20891

Kensington Labor Day Show Review

Debbie Halprin thanks all who participated in our annual "Paint the Town" show this year.

Here are Debbie's thoughts on the show outcome:

It was a great show this year and I believe we did better financially than any year that I remember. We can chalk this up to the media coverage (2 interviews in the Post and one in the Gazette) as well as the sign on Connecticut Avenue. I also sent out e-invitations to every client on my email list. I hope all the other artists did as well.

Next year, the one change I would like to make, is that when the registrar receives the applications, she will call the artist and have the artist sign up for their volunteer position at that time. If they don't volunteer in some way, they can not enter. The earlier the applications arrive the better chance the artist has in getting their first choice of volunteer positions. Anyone who is not here over the Labor Day Weekend will have the choice to go around town and hang posters inviting people to the show, or helping with set up.

Sue Moses and Marlene did an incredible job getting donations this year. Due to the great prizes they were able to get, I believe more artists will be interested in entering the show in the future. I really see this show growing.

We do need to talk about the growth of the show. This year we had about 200 paintings. We used easels to accommodate them all. However, if we have more money in the kitty, it would behoove us to purchase another set of hanging walls. Each set of hanging walls can hold up to 24 small to mid size paintings. Fewer if the paintings are full sheets. Anyway, it's something to talk about at in the future.

Here are the award winners:

In the Kensington Category

First Place, The Bertha Clum Award:

Debra Halprin — *"The Shulman Estate"*

Second Place: Loriann Signori — *"Around the Bend"*

Third Place: Megin Walsh — *"Summer Eve – Carroll Place Fence"*

Honorable Mention: Connie Ward Woolard —

"Kensington Treasure"

Honorable Mention: Jackie Hoysted — *"Passing Thru"*

Honorable Mention: Jack McCrory — *"Kensington Neighbors"*

Landscape

First Place: Loriann Signori — *"Shenandoah Stream"*

Second Place: Carol Vorosmarti — *"Beach Walk"*

Third Place: Julie Smith — *"Autumn Fire"*

Honorable Mention: Debra Halprin — *"Waterlilies"*

Honorable Mention: Carol Leo — *"Hidden in the Past"*

Honorable Mention: Cathy Hirsh — *"Surf"*

Still Life

First Place: Debra Halprin — *"Peaches in Candlelight"*

Second Place: Nancy Wu Downing — *"Sunny Side Up"*

Third Place: Margaret Millman — *"Home Sweet Home"*

Honorable Mention: Sara Becker — “Whimsical Wine”
 Honorable Mention: Connie Ward Woolard —
“More Tea with Beleek”
 Honorable Mention: Elizabeth Zeisler — *“Add Yellow Still Life”*

Portrait: People and Animals

First Place: Julie Smith — *“Shady Ladies”*
 Second Place: Debra Halprin — *“Portrait of Molly”*
 Third Place: Gale Bell — *“Lynn”*
 Honorable Mention: Julie Smith — *“French Market”*
 Honorable Mention: Sue Moses — *“Kyla’s Dogs”*
 Honorable Mention: Debra Halprin — *“Into the Distance”*

Experimental – 3D, digital, abstract, mixed media

First Place: Elizabeth Zeisler —
“Day and Night Template Integration”
 Second Place: Debra Halprin — *“A Retrospective of Carl Jacobsen”*
 Third Place: Laura-Leigh Palmer — *“Year of the Rat”*
 Honorable Mention: Lieta Gerson — *“Seeing Beyond”*
 Honorable Mention: Debra Halprin — *“Sunset Reflections”*
 Honorable Mention: Jackie Hoysted — *“Gentle I”*

Plaza Art Awards

In the Kensington Category

Judith Levine — *“Fall in Kensington”*
 Helen Eliot — *“Before Dawn”*
 Jacques Bodelle — *“The Circle”*

Landscape

Susan Moses — *“Dock of the Bay”*
 Helen Eliot — *“Fleeting”*
 Jack McCrory — *“Hidden Behind Hawkins”*

Still Life

Margaret Millman — *“Home Sweet Home”*
 Debra Halprin — *“Tulips”*

Portrait: People and Animals

Judith Levine — *“Robert Backlit”*
 Julie Smith — *“Kylie’s Vision”*

Experimental – 3D, digital, abstract, mixed media

Elizabeth Zeisler — *“Day and Night Template Integration”*
 Laura-Leigh Palmer — *“Year of the Dog”*

Connie Ward Woolard

Acrylics on Paper

from page one
 Academy of Science, Town of New Windsor, Town of Westminster, the Fire Department of Carroll County, Georgetown Prep School, and Gonzaga High School. Examples of her work hang in diverse places such as the U.S. embassies abroad and in the Rockville City Council Chambers nearby. One of her commissions for Georgetown Prep was a painting of 12 windows from the campus chapel. Each window was 8”x10” high

and on a single sheet of water-color paper. The original was used as a fund raiser in the gala of the school with the final bid at \$12,000. Friends were on hand to pick Connie off the floor as the purchase price was called out by the auctioneer. Connie’s approach to a house portrait begins with studying the structure. She observes the light on the house and narrows down the best angle mixed with the lighting. A regular, medium sized house portrait takes a full three days of work.

A larger piece takes more time and meticulous attention. While painting is a great outlet and can be very satisfying, Connie admits that even after a lifetime of painting, each project is a challenge. Her advice to younger painters is, “don’t give up, just keep going.” The majority of artists are perfectionists and critical of their own work- feeling that their work is never done and could always be better. However, Connie assures the beginner painter that your eyes become accustomed to seeing things differently over time and you will naturally “see” the highlights and shadows easily.

studying the light against the building carefully, Connie painted a 48 inch painting on 300 lb Arches paper. The painting was hung over the mantel in the main study, where it remains today. Through the “Art in Embassies” program of the U.S. State Department, Connie’s artwork is displayed in the U.S. Mission Residence in Havana, Cuba and the U.S. Embassies of El Salvador and Tanzania.

One of Connie’s favorite commissions was for the National Academy of Science. The Academy arranged for her transportation and visit to their Cape Cod facility, Woods Hole. The facility serves as a “think tank” and study center for scientists. Originally, the facility was built as a resort so it is very scenic. After taking many photographs, touring, and

Connie Woolard is a member and has been an officer of many artists’ organizations including: Rockville Art League, Washington Watercolor Association, Potomac Valley Watercolor Society, Philadelphia Watercolor Club, National Society of Painters in Acrylics and Casein, and the Miniature Painters, Sculptors and Gravers Society of Washington, D.C. While she calls herself the “Grandma Moses”, we call ourselves grateful to have her join our group.



Little Tavern by Connie Ward Woolard

Call To Artists

The Miniature Painters, Sculptors and Gravers Society of Washington, D.C. cordially invites you to attend the 75th annual international exhibition of fine art in miniature-Diamond Anniversary at the Strathmore Museum in Rockville, MD. The show opens on Sunday, Nov. 16th with a reception from 3-5pm. The exhibition runs from November 17 to January 3, 2009. The admission is free.

Travel Exhibit at Towson Arts Collective-Whether you have traveled to the East or West, North or South, or even to your favorite vacation spot, artists are inspired by what they see –

beautiful scenery, different cultures, and uncharted territory. Share the art that came from your inspiration from travel. Imagery may be created in any mode or media. Juried by: Kristine Buls (Chief Photographer at the Baltimore Examiner), and Duane Sabiston (Artist and Educational Consultant). For more information, or to request an application form, please contact: Kate Mansperger, Vice President: kmansperger@hotmail.com Application Deadline: Monday, Nov 10, 2008.

The Artist' Undertaking Gallery in Occoquan, Virginia-Here is a galley looking for artists work-

ing in colored pencils, collage, pastels, drawing, oil, acrylic, or mixed media. Show experience is desirable. This is a cooperative gallery with a monthly fee, but the gallery does not take a sales commission. You must be able to gallery sit two weekdays a month and attend the monthly business meeting. Juried entries are the first Monday of the month. The gallery is open seven days a week from 11 AM to 5 PM, and its artists enjoy meeting visitors and answering questions. The Artists' Undertaking Gallery offers quality, original works at reasonable prices directly from the artists themselves. For more information and an appointment to jury, call Charlene Fuhrman-Schulz 703-815-1031 or David Cowdrill 703-430-2629.

The Jubilee Association of Maryland is sponsoring a Client Council Carnival on Saturday, October 4 from 10 am to 2 pm. Jubilee Association is a 30 year old non-profit based in Kensington. The organization provides residential and support services to adults with developmental disabilities. At the Carnival there will be various local vendors, games for children, and food. This event will be a great opportunity for artists to gain more exposure. The vendor tables are only \$25. Please contact Carolyn Seegers at 301-949-8626 to reserve a space or for more information Address: Jubilee Association of Maryland Parking Lot: 10408 Montgomery Avenue, Kensington, Md 20895

Nods to Newcomers

Chip Cecil owns Autech, an automobile detailing store and he restores cars for himself. He favors oil painting and 3'x4' canvases. His subject matter is usually figurative with water and automobiles in the painting: both having the common theme of reflections. Chip has found success with commission work for both his figurative artwork and automobiles. Chip has taught a class on painting from photos at the Yellow Barn. You can catch some of his artwork on their web site at www.yellowbarnstudios.com. You can reach Chip at 301-229-5293 or chiplovescars@aol.com

Dianne Crosby has been studying and creating mosaics and fused glass art for the last 10 years. Recently, she began studying painting with Trinka Simon at the Smithsonian and Walt Bartman at the Yellow Barn. She enjoys making mosaics from a variety of materials and has copied a number

of ancient Greek and Roman mosaics. Dianne is on the board of directors for the Society of American Mosaic Artists. Her work has been exhibited in its annual juried mosaic show and other shows in the mid-Atlantic region. Dianne was a government lawyer for over 28 years and now practices in Maryland on behalf of non-profit organizations. Dianne may be reached at either 301-564-4945 or DianneCrosby@comcast.net.

Helen M. Eliot paints in watercolors and occasionally in acrylics using traditional and experimental techniques. She has studied under Margaret Kranking, Phil Metzger, Michael Harrington, and Firouzeh Sadeghi. After 30 years of working as a microbiologist and a cancer researcher, she retired to pursue painting and playing recorders. Helen sold three paintings at the Labor Day Show - one Kensington paint-

ing and two others. You may reach Helen at 301-593-0061 or by mail at 203 Thistle Drive, Silver Spring, MD 20901.

Mizi Eliot grew up in Istanbul, Turkey and studied under a master oil painter. Over the years, she explored other mediums and crafts. She switched five years ago to watercolors. Mizi has studied under Phil Metzger, Judy Hanks Henn, and Firouzeh Sadeghi. She is open to painting any subject, and prefers to work in a 16 x 20 format. Her watercolor paintings have an old classical oil painting feel. You may reach Mizi at mizoskipper@comcast.net or 301-947-0786.

Eileen Haley has a background in painting with watercolor. Currently she is mastering oil painting by studying under Alejandra Hucek. Her phone number is 301-718-5125 and her e mail is ehley@mindspring.com.

Jackie Hoysted is Irish and has lived in Gaithersburg for

the last ten years. Following a career in information technology, she recently completed an Associates degree at the Corcoran College of Art & Design. Her works are generally experimental in nature. Her favored mediums are encaustic, digital printmaking and acrylics. You may reach Jackie at 240-506-6910 or jackiehoysted@aol.com.

Perry Kapsch is willing to help with shows for our organization. He can be reached at perykapsch@aol.com or at 301-221-1107.

Phil Lucara Please change your records for Phil's e mail to plucara2@comcast.net.

Chris Luckman can be reached at cluckman@earthlink.net or 301-589-2564.

Connie Ward Woolard, can be reached at 3922 Havard Street, Silver Spring, MD. 20906-4311 or 301-946-4217- see this month's interview.



Exhibits & Member Shows

Sandra Cepaitis' painting "*Summer in Sonoma*" was accepted for The Miniature Painters, Sculptors & Gravers Society of Washington, D.C.'s Diamond Anniversary 75th Annual Exhibition of Fine Art in Miniature show at Strathmore Mansion. The show is open from November 17 until January 3, 2009.

Dianne Crosby's mosaic, "Chanteuse," will be included in a show entitled "Inspired By . . . Contemporary Mosaics and the Historical Tradition" at the duPont Gallery of University of Mary Washington in Fredericksburg, Virginia between October 17 and December 7, 2008. Her work employs a modern image, but uses an ancient Greek method of outlining the form with lead strips. There will be a preview reception on October 16, 2008 from 5 - 7 pm. Address: 1301 College Avenue, Fredericksburg, VA 22401

Natalie Falk will be exhibiting at the Activity Center at Bohrer Park in Gaithersburg from August 22 until November 2, 2008. Falk's exhibition includes artwork in colored pencil and in oil. Natalie's paintings invite the viewer to share in her wide range of interests from flowers and Maryland's Eastern Shore landscapes to sports figures. Viewing hours are Monday through Saturday from 8:00 AM -9:00 PM and Sunday from 8:00 AM to 5:00 PM. Address: 506 South Frederick Avenue, Gaithersburg, MD 20877

Alejandra Anastassiou-Hucek is participating in the Artists in Hospitals internship at Suburban Hospital in Bethesda, specifically working with Ortho-Neurological patients. Alejandra provides therapy through art

and classical guitar music. For the past five years, Alejandra has been teaching the classical style of oil painting to private students and now patients in Suburban Hospital can benefit from her experience.

Judith Levine received a first and second place in the professional category at the recent Montgomery County Agricultural Fair juried show. The first place went to a pastel portrait and the second to a conte and ink drawing of a dancer. Well done!

Beatrice Mellinger will be exhibiting her artwork at the 2008 Caribbean International Art Fair in New York, from November 6 to November 9, 2008. The Art Fair will be held at The Waterfront in New York, NY. Information about her work can be found on her website at www.belafineart.com Address: The Waterfront- 269 11th Avenue, New York, NY 10001

Sue Moses will be having a solo exhibit and sale, as a member of Rockville Art League, in one of the upstairs galleries of Glenview Mansion from November 1 to November 30, 2008. A reception will be held November 2 from 1:00-4:00 pm. The exhibit is open Monday, Wednesday, and Friday from 9:00 am to 4:30 pm as well as Tuesday and Thursday from 9:00 am to 9:00 pm. The Glenview Mansion is located at Rockville Civic Center Park. For further information call 240-314-8660 or visit their web site at www.rockvillemd.gov/glenview. Address: Glenview Mansion- 603 Edmonston Drive, Rockville, MD 20850

Sue Moses is teaching a watercolor workshop on October 18th on "Composition and Shadows" for the Charles County Arts Alliance in Waldorf. The class is located at the Corner Studio in La Plata and runs from 10:00 am to 4:00 pm, with a cost of \$45 for non-members. Call the CCAA office to register, 301-392-5900. Address: Corner Studio Artworks- La Plata, MD 20646, for directions call 301-358-2255



Chanteuse by Dianne Crosby

Elizabeth Stecher has been selected to exhibit one of her watercolors in a Senior Artists Alliance Show at the City Hall Gallery in Gaithersburg from September 19-November 9, 2008. In addition, Elizabeth had a successful show at the Barnes & Noble in the Washingtonian Center at Rio and sold one of her paintings. Address: 31 South Summit Avenue, Gaithersburg, MD 20877

Nar Steel recently won first prize for her painting "Symbols of America" at the Red, White, and Blue Show at Friendship Heights. Congratulations from all of us.

news you can use ...

Jackie Hoysted provides a fine art print service on an Epson 9800 44" wide printer. The prints are archival using Epson Ultra Chrome pigment inks. She charges \$13 per sq. foot (1 linear foot 12 x 44" min. order - you can print several images across the width of the paper) and prints on either canvas or Hahnemuhle fine art paper. For more information contact JackieHoysted@aol.com or call 240-506-6910.

For previous members who have not had a chance to pay their membership fees for this coming year, this may be your last newsletter. Please take a few moments to renew your membership by filling out a membership form available at our website www.montgomeryart.org and sending a check for \$30 to Montgomery Art Association, PO Box 2154, Kensington, MD 20891.

If you have updated or changed your e mail address please forward the information onto **Sandra Cepaitis** at slcep@msn.com.

www.montgomeryart.org

All winning artists from the Paint the Town 2008 and the Plaza Art Awards please forward a jpeg of your winning entry to Laura-Leigh@asapgraphics.com. Your award winning art will be posted on our website for everyone to enjoy. Since the show was on Labor Day, some members could not attend and see the final artwork in person. Posting your artwork would be a big favor for the people who did not make it to the show and the people that want to revisit the show. Thank you for your help.

December Show and Sale

Kensington Framing and Design
10805 Connecticut Ave. • Kensington, MD 20895
Owner: Jason Miller
Tel: 301-933-6806 • email KFD@Millerland.com

All members are welcome to participate once again in the Holiday Show and Sale at Kensington Framing and Design. The new owner is Jason Miller and the shop is at the same location as last year. If you are interested in exhibiting please contact Alejandra Hucek, richandalej@verizon.net 301-588-2927 or Edelweiss Calcagno, edelweiss101@yahoo.com 301-256-7561 to sign up for your choice of volunteer help which is required to participate in the show. We need volunteers to help with show preparations, publicity, registration, delivery, hanging, decoration, reception, Holiday card contest and take down at the end of the month. Space is limited so, the sooner you sign up the better to ensure a successful show



MCAA Board for 2008-2009

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MONTGOMERY COUNTY ART ASSOCIATION



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December MEETING

We have the Millers Gallery in Kensington for another MCA-Holiday Art Show during the whole month of December. The monthly meeting will take place at the party which will be pot luck. More details to follow soon. The gallery is now operated by the Miller Family and is located at 10805 Connecticut Avenue, Kensington.