



# Newsletter

## February 2019

Verdugo Hills Art Association, P.O. Box 8059, La Crescenta, CA 91224  
[verdugoarts.org](http://verdugoarts.org) Jeanne Windoffer, Editor, [VHArt\\_News@yahoo.com](mailto:VHArt_News@yahoo.com)

### Elizabeth B. Tucker, Oil Painting Demo

February 1, 7:00pm at the La Canada Community Center, 4469 Chevy Chase Dr.



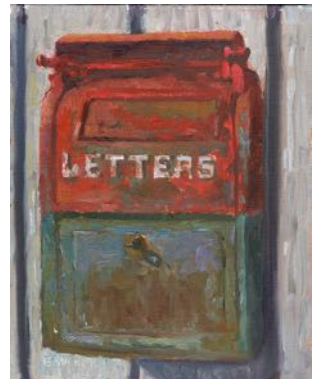
Originally from upstate New York, [Elizabeth B. Tucker](#)—“Lizz”—moved to Southern California in her early 20s. While she was primarily working in the needle arts, Lizz’s husband encouraged her in drawing and painting when he gave her an easel as a gift. Knowing she wanted to pursue a classical tradition Lizz sought out teachers who would help develop her skills in still life and portrait work.

When starting a new painting, Lizz uses a structural tool called rebatement. It sets up a composition that can be pleasing to the eye, or it can create a dynamic unrest. The Rule of Thirds is a rebatement tool. In her demonstration she will show how she uses rebatement .

Lizz is a certified instructor in the Michael Wilcox School of Colour. This gives her a deep understanding of how and why colors work the way they do. She teaches color mixing both online and in workshops.

She is a juried member of Women Painters West, has won several awards for her work, and she is currently the president of the Angeles Crest Art Guild. Lizz teaches workshops and classes on line and at art centers. You can contact her for private lessons as well. Come enjoy the demonstration by this talented artist!

You can see Lizz’s work at <http://www.etuckerart.com>. Her email is [lizz@etuckerart.com](mailto:lizz@etuckerart.com), or call (818) 517-2406. On instagram: ETUCKERART

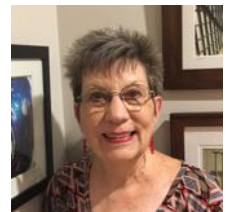


### President’s Letter

*by Sue Peacock*

I hope all of you had the opportunity to watch John Byram at our January meeting. I loved his loose style. I want to paint like that! It might help if I practiced! And that has brought me to this message.

As you know, I sing with a competitive Sweet Adeline chorus. In many ways VHAA and VHC are similar: Both are encouraging of their members to do the best we can. Our members want the other person to succeed. Both give praise willingly. Both have very positive enjoyable times together. To be successful in any endeavor we need to practice; not just willy-nilly but by putting thought, energy and conviction into our work. We need to turn our efforts into our passion.



*President's Letter - continued from p. 1*

“Art is when you hear a knocking from your soul — and you answer.” ~Terri Guillemets

“Art is not a thing, it is a way.” ~Elbert Hubbard

“Art enables us to find ourselves and lose ourselves at the same time”. ~Thomas Merton

“The whole culture is telling you to hurry, while the art tells you to take your time. Always listen to the art.”  
~Junot Diaz

“Go and make interesting mistakes, make amazing mistakes, make glorious and fantastic mistakes. Break rules. Leave the world more interesting for your being here. Make. Good. Art.” ~Neil Gaiman

Make this your art day. Make everyday your art day, whether it is with an artistic medium or using your eyes, your words or your voice. Choose art.

“To draw, you must close your eyes and sing” ~Pablo Picasso

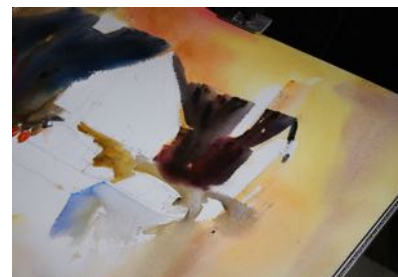
Sue Peacock, President

## John Byram - Demo Review *by Angela Alvarenga*



**John Bryam** gave a remarkable demonstration on his watercolor technique, beginning with a blank piece of watercolor paper and completing a finished, vibrant painting within 2 brief hours. John's Masters in Architecture and Urban Design has given him a keen eye for structure and composition. To begin, John explained what he liked about his black and white reference photos of old lobster houses and boats on the coast of Maine. He lightly sketched out his drawing, determining where to put white spaces around the boats. It is important to layout the composition so the viewer's eye moves across the paper. He prefers to use a soft pencil for the sketch so it does not dent the paper and the line work will

disappear once its painted over. He paints on a slope and tries to maintain the same angle with every painting.



John prefers his paintings to be cool or warm dominant. He feels it's important to have the right values and then the color will not matter. Since his reference photos were black and white he was not confined to matching his color scheme to the photos. He confidently used raw sienna and Van Dyke brown in the sky and reflected the same colors into the water. Aware that certain colors will dry very light, he was attentive to apply more pigment and less water. He likes to blend his colors on the paper.

During his demo, he switched to a round brush and added water to soften some edges; he enjoys pushing the balance between tight and loose brush work, and hard edge and soft edged brush work. He feels that an art piece is not that interesting if the viewer could recognize a common shape, for example an obvious triangle or circle. “Pure shapes lock the viewer's eye,” he said, and encouraged us to create interlocking shapes or “lost and found edges.” He also shared a tip to always paint with tepid water because it causes the paint to dissolve better.

During his demonstration, John turned his painting upside down to paint sections or adjust shapes. He used a spray bottle to help blend colors, or get them to move. He shared that he sometimes adds extra paint at edges so when he sprays the paint it will run downward. He uses a few non-traditional tools to finish his painting: a stenciling tool to scratch out lines or move paint, or a box razor to create sharp lines, dragging it sideways along the paper. *continued at bottom p. 3*



## Artist of the Month by Angela Alvarenga



**Armida Schneir** won first place in this month's Artist of the Month competition for her watercolor painting, *Poppies*. Armida painted a large, grand watercolor painting of two poppies. She was inspired by a few photographs she had taken of poppies from her neighbor's yard. She fell in love with how beautiful the poppies were. Armida said she usually paints on a smaller scale but was interested in trying something different. Even though it was tedious, she enjoyed the hard work.

Armida has been painting for about 10 years. She always liked the look of paintings and decided to get into art. She enjoys working in watercolor and has been a member of the Verdugo Hills Art Association for a few years.

**Bill Washburn** won second place this month's for his drawing, *Melancholy*. Bill was inspired to draw this piece after observing the close relationship that his wife had with her sister. He observed that the bond and comfort is different than that between brothers. He said the image came to him one night. Bill chose to make the drawing a monochromatic green because he had always been fascinated by the monochromatic drawings of Leonardo DaVinci and his peers. He feels that monochromatic pieces are more challenging to move the viewer's eye. He chose to use green because he felt it complimented the fairy theme.



Bill enjoys painting various subjects from landscape to figurative drawings. This summer he focused on close-cropped and full-figured portraits. Bill graduated from Art Center and worked in advertising for 35 years. About 5 years ago, he and his wife decided to take art classes at night together. Together they take four big art adventures a year to place from Italy to Greece, or just travelling up the coast.

**Small Image Show** will be held at the Pasadena Library during the month of February 2019. Remember the size limitation for this exhibit: nothing over 15 inches, height or width, **measured on the outside edge of the frame**. If the framed piece is larger on any side, it won't be accepted, so double check the outside dimensions. There is space for a few 3-D pieces, but they also must fit within the 15 inch size limit height and width, and 8 inch depth.

Bring your entries to our February 1 meeting, wrapped, ready to be transported. Limit 2 entries, \$10 each. Exhibition helpers will take the artwork to Pasadena library for display the next day. For this exhibition, there are 4 Categories: Painting/Graphic-Representational, Painting/Graphic-Non Representational, Photography and Sculpture.

Our next art exhibit will be in March at the Alhambra City Hall gallery. We are still working out details as the number of paintings we can hang is limited.

*John Byram demo, continued from page 2*

He created more contrast in his painting by adding sharp lines to soft washes, and adding finishing touches with a dry brush. He suggested that these marks help the viewer's eye move where the artist wants them to look.



John shared great tips and gave a memorable demonstration. His talents were brought to life through his vibrant colors and strategic technique. At times, the audience would ask, what is he doing or what is he thinking. However, John was in control of his painting the whole time and has mastered a beautiful technique. It was a pleasure to watch him paint from beginning to end.



*REMINDERS and NOTES*

**Something Revealed: California Women Artists Emerge, 1860-1960** is currently on exhibition at the Pasadena Museum of History, 470 W. Walnut St., Pasadena through March 31, 2019.

**Creative Arts Group** in Sierra Madre offers many classes and workshops. Check out their website <https://www.creativeartsgroup.org> for details.

“There are two kinds of artists in this world; those that work because the spirit is in them, and they cannot be silent if they would, and those that speak from a conscientious desire to make apparent to others the beauty that has awakened their own admiration.”

— Anna Katharine Green



Make a Note:

**Upcoming Events**

Jan 19 - Workshop - Jay Ewing, drawing  
Feb 1 - Elizabeth B. Tucker - oil demo  
Feb 1 - Take in, Small Image Show  
Mar 1 - Shaney Watters - demo

Like us on **FACEBOOK!**  
Verdugo Hills Art Association

**2018 - 2019 Key Contacts**

**President** - Sue Peacock  
626-282-2852  
[suesingsbass2@gmail.com](mailto:suesingsbass2@gmail.com)

**Demonstrators** - Nikki Thomas  
323-394-2165  
[nikkithomas1@gmail.com](mailto:nikkithomas1@gmail.com)

**Membership** - Suzanne Bitterman  
818-307-2485  
[sbitte8670@aol.com](mailto:sbitte8670@aol.com)

**Newsletter** - Jeanne Windoffer  
818 240-2104  
[VHArt\\_News@yahoo.com](mailto:VHArt_News@yahoo.com)

**Workshops** - Arda Derian  
[aderian5@yahoo.com](mailto:aderian5@yahoo.com)

**Artist of the Month** - Angela Alvarenga  
[angela.roberson@gmail.com](mailto:angela.roberson@gmail.com)



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Next Meeting  
February 1

Next Board Meeting  
February 4