



Newsletter

May 2016

Verdugo Hills Art Association, P.O. Box 8059, La Crescenta, CA 91224
verdugoarts.org Dave Crandon, Editor, dave_vhaa@yahoo.com

Tim Solliday, one of California's top plein air artists Demonstration on May 13

by Sara Griggs



The Verdugo Hills Art Association is honored to have California landscape and figure painter Tim Solliday do an oil demo for the May 13 meeting. Tim was inspired by his artist father and was winning competitions by the time he was fourteen. He studied with the early California impressionist, Theodore N. Lukits and his style is said to be reminiscent of the Taos Society of Artists painters William Herbert Dunton and Ernest Martin Hennings. I like to think Solliday's work is comparable to the great Southern California plein-air artists, Frank Bischoff and Hanson Puthuff.

A resident of Southern California Tim and his family reside in the foothills of Southern California which are such an inspiration to all of us local artists. His paintings have been in numerous group exhibitions including the Frederick R. Weissman Museum of Art at Pepperdine University in Malibu, California Art Club's Gold Medal Juried Exhibitions, Autry National Center's Masters of the American West, The Prix de West, Carnegie Art Museum and Maynard County Exhibition.

Solliday's paintings are in the collections of important American and Western art collectors. Tim's work has been featured in national publications including Art of the West, Southwest Art, Western Art & Architecture, International Artist and American Artist. He has won numerous awards. Tim Solliday is an honorary member of the Laguna Art Association and a Signature Member of the California Art Club. He is featured in the book, California Light, A Century of Landscapes: Paintings of the California Art Club.

Let us enjoy this rare opportunity. Please bring guests.



Amber Hills

Presidents' Letter

by Sue Peacock and Nikki Thomas

We really need your help. Please help us ensure that VHAA continues to offer an exceptional service to its members



VHAA provides one of the best art club experiences around - great demonstrators, offering their experiences and wisdom at a first rate venue, using top notch technology to ensure that everyone will have a good view of our artist demonstrators at work. Add to that, we have food and drink and a good social mixer at every one of our meetings. Plus, we have a range of programs, including several exhibitions every year, affordable workshops with member-favorite artists, our Artist of the Month program, paint-outs once a month, and more.

We do all of this with the help of members who serve the Association's needs, including arranging for our demonstrators and workshop teachers, setting up the Community Center for our meetings, communicating with members about our meetings and activities, and more.

While none of these roles consumes too much time, and many of them can be fun, we really need to give a break (temporary, probably) to some of the members who have served the rest of us so well. We need for other members to get more involved. The way to do this is to join our board, the small group of volunteers who do so much to make our club work. In particular, we have three important positions to fill - President, Exhibitions Chair, and Workshop Chair.

Can you get involved but are not sure how much time or work is involved? Perhaps you would you be interested in job sharing a position. Please get in touch with Nikki Thomas and let her know what you can do. Don't wait for the nominating committee to call you. You can reach Nikki at home (323-257-3817), on her cell (323-394-2165), or by email (nikkithomas1@gmail.com).

We are having a party!

We are having a party! To celebrate another good year for VHAA, and to enjoy the work of our members entering our Spring Show, we are having an Artists Reception and pot luck party (finger foods only) at the La Canada Library (4545 Oakwood Ave.) on Saturday, May 21, from 1:00 - 3:00 PM. This will be our first ever reception at the Library, and we are hoping that it is as much fun, and as well attended, as the one we had this past fall, at our very successful exhibition and display at Whites Gallery in Montrose.

Of course, we would like to have plenty of good work gracing the walls of the Library's Community Room for our party. So please, enter your artwork. You can find details about the exhibition on the fourth page of this newsletter.

Please plan to attend and invite your friends to honor our artists who have their work in the Spring Show. Everyone is welcome! Also, since this will be a pot luck, please plan to bring snacks or refreshments, excluding alcohol, which the Library does not permit. We will have a sign-up sheet for party goodies at our May 13th general meeting.



April Artist of the Month

by Judie Apablaza



Arda Derian
Turbulent Coastline at Pebble Beach

This month's water theme seems to be mirrored by our demonstrator as well as our accomplished Artist of the Month, Arda Derian. Arda's recent trip to Monterey's famous "17 Mile Drive" near the Asilomar's picturesque conference center, presented a perfect setting for Shere Garwood's three day workshop. Pacific Grove and the surrounding area offered a unique painting opportunity to combine beaches, driftwood, pines and pounding ocean spray on rugged rocks. Shere's workshop pushed Arda to produce and accomplish more than she anticipated.

Painting plein air presents several challenges - wind, temperature changes, glare and a rapidly changing light source. Arda accomplished her blue ribbon winner, titled "Turbulent Coastline at Pebble Beach," by finding a picnic table that allowed her to paint flat. She taped down her watercolor paper on a wooden board to prevent the wind from carrying her painting-in-progress into the sea! The painting reflects Arda's ability to capture a moment in time with skill and spontaneity.

Arda Derian is not a dabbler in the arts. She has combined a formal education in fine art and applied her skill and training to a career in teaching art. Arda has also been a credentialed "master teacher" in training elementary and middle school teachers in the application and joy of teaching art to children. Her hands-on seminars were a revolutionary departure from typical rote copying and "cookie cutter" art activities. Teachers and students alike came away with a sensitive approach to the arts. Children were encouraged to express their individuality and add their own unique and creative ideas.

Retirement has allowed Arda to travel to exotic places and paint for pleasure. Verdugo Hills Art Association is very pleased to include Arda Derian as one of our members.

Artist of the Year exhibition in June

Our annual Artist of the Year exhibition, in which members who have won Artist of the Month competitions share selections of their work, will be on display in the La Canada Library in June. Take-in will be at the Library on June 4, between 8:30 and 9:30 A.M. Take-out will be on June 25, also between 8:30 and 9:30 A.M.

Other News of Note

The Mid-Valley Arts League's 63rd Annual Exhibit is on display through Saturday, June 4, at the Chaffey Community Museum of Art, 217 South Lemon Avenue, Ontario. VHAA members Lee Johnson, Sandra Rooney, Devorah Friedman, Mary Jane Klune, Carol Hendrickson, Julie Crouch, and Rosina Maize won prizes. Sandy and Mary Jane won two each.

The Mid-Valley Arts League is sponsoring "Saturday in the Park with the Masters," where all art enthusiasts are invited to come and learn from and paint with some of this area's finest painters and instructors. The event takes place on May 21 at Maranatha High School in Pasadena from 10:00 AM to 4:00PM. The cost to attend is \$15 if you register ahead of time, or \$20 if you elect to pay at the site. To pre-register, mail your name, and address/email information to Janet Christmann, 1959 Harding Ave., Altadena, CA 91001, along with a \$15 check made out to the Mid-Valley Arts League

2015 - 2016 Key Contacts

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Artist of the Month - Judith Apablaza
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Two More Open Exhibitions

by Sandy Rooney

We have two remaining open exhibitions - our Spring Show in May and our Small Image Show in June. We are very fortunate to have prime display space for these exhibitions, at the La Canada Library and the Pasadena Public Library.

Our Spring Show will be on display from May 2nd through June 4th at the La Canada Public Library. Take-in is at an unusual time for us - Monday, May 2, from 3:00 - 4:00 PM. Take-out will be on Saturday, June 4, from 8:30 - 9:30 AM. If the take-in or take-out schedules are a problem, please arrange for help from a friend, or call Sandy Rooney. Also, we have scheduled an Artists Reception for this show on May 21, from 1:00 - 3:00 PM at the La Canada Library. The judge for this show will be Mark Wood, a member and former President of the Mid-Valley Arts League, and a juried member of the Pasadena Society of Artists, Watercolor West, and Valley Watercolor Society. Various art organizations have invited Mark to judge their annual art exhibitions and assign awards.

Our Small Image Show will be on display at the Pasadena Public Library through June. Take-in is at the La Canada Library on May 28th, from 8:30 - 9:30 AM. **Take-out is at the Pasadena Public Library** at 285 E Walnut Street on Thursday, June 30, from 9:30 - 11:00 AM. If the take-in or take-out schedules are a problem, especially since Take-in is during the Memorial Day weekend, please arrange for help from a friend, or call Sandy Rooney. The judge for this show will be Fealing Lin, an award-winning watercolorist. Fealing was an annual guest instructor at Yosemite National Park for more than ten years, an instructor at Brand Art Studios at Brand Library in Glendale, and San Gabriel Recreation center in San Gabriel. Fealing is a signature member of National Watercolor Society, Transparent Watercolor Society of America, Watercolor West, San Diego Watercolor Society and the Missouri Watercolor Society.



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Upcoming Meetings
May 13, June 3

Board Meetings
June 6

**Artists Reception for
our Spring Show!
La Canada Library
May 21, 1-3PM**