



February, 2013 Newsletter

Hi LAG Members and Friends of LAG,

Well, its February...I always think of February as a turning point. Still winter, but, the signs of spring are hinting at us. It stays light later, its light earlier...and I know I will see a cardinal in my backyard soon. I am not sure if they leave for the winter or not, but I always love when I see the first cardinal of the year in my yard. Speaking of birds, congratulations to William Brisick. He won our bird carving raffle give-away at last month's meeting. We had the beautiful bird carving donated to us from a past meeting program speaker and finally we were able to do the raffle. William was excited to win, he said he already had a place for the bird carving in his home.

If you like to make your own jewelry, set your calendars for Saturday, March 23rd. Our Vice President, Lynn Rozycki, has worked hard to coordinate a 9 am to 4 pm workshop with Patty Pulliam, on Polymer Clay. We have the sign up form on our website and have made a deadline to sign up for it for March 10th, just so we know how many can make it. Contact Lynn or myself for more information about it. It will take place at the Lemont Library.

We had two members showing their artwork at local libraries in January. One was Gene Mark, photography, at the Indian Prairie Public Library at 401 Plainfield Road, Darien, IL 60561 and the other was Kelly Kopacz, showing her mixed media and paintings at the LaGrange Library at 555 N. La Grange Road, La Grange Park, IL 60526. Kelly's show is up through February 22nd, so if you haven't been able to check it out, you still have time. A lot of these local libraries book their galleries in advance, but it would be worth checking out if you want to show your work at them. It usually is free and they don't usually want any commission if someone is interested in purchasing your artwork. The Lemont Artists Guild members will be showing in August of this year at the Woodridge Public Library. Stay tuned for more details on it and getting your artwork in for that show.

We enjoyed our Member-Show-and-Tell Meeting this past January! What a pleasure it was to see what so many of our LAG members are up to in their artistic worlds. We also showed the LAG website and the Member Gallery that we are currently building. It is taking some time to "tweak" the final version of the Members Gallery. We will e-mail a website form with information on how you can get your artwork in our members gallery if you are a LAG member. This is a free service to current LAG members and we are excited to get more members artwork uploaded to the members gallery. If this interests you, please check out the members gallery form when we send it out. Contact me if you have any questions about it.

I can't wait for the February 20th LAG member meeting. Betty Burian-Kirk will be doing the program on Felt Painting. Betty has been a LAG member for many years and she always

does an informative program. She is so knowledgeable in her field of fiber and we are lucky to have her do a program for us. See you Feb. 20th...and as always, we appreciate non-perishable/non-expired food contributions to the Lemont Food Pantry.

Sincerely,

Liz Popp, Lemont Artists Guild President

Pictorial Felt

Presented by Betty Burian Kirk

The February 20th Lemont Artists Guild meeting, will begin at 7 PM at the Lemont Public Library, 50 E. Wend Street. Betty Burian Kirk will talk about making pictures on felt using a wet felting technique and painting with wool to create beautiful and stunning floral pictures on purses and wall hangings. The lecture will be in 4 parts. The first part Betty will discuss techniques and equipment used in felting. The second part will be a slide show of textile artists using felt to create images. The third part will be a presentation of how to create a pictorial piece step by step and the fourth part will be group participation in creating a felted pictorial piece.

Betty was introduced to the fiber arts as a child. Her grandmother did marvelous crochet work and her mother taught her embroidery. In college she majored in the field of art education and was bitten by the "weaving bug." Betty also has an MA from Northern Illinois University and continues to study under National and International textile artists at places like Arrownont School of Arts and Crafts, Peters Valley and John C. Campbell School of Folk Art.

Betty taught elementary school art for 13 years, weaving at Joliet Junior College for 3 semesters and multiple workshops for guilds. She has taught at 3 Midwest Weavers Conferences and is contracted to teach at this year's Conference in Emporia KS. She was an instructor 4 years at Midwest Fiber and Folk Art Conference and twice at Convergence (national conference of Handweavers Guild of America) as well as a conference in Alberta Canada. Betty presents lectures and workshops in weaving, spinning, felting, kumihimo, design and color

Kirk has exhibited her work in the Midwest and participates in regional art shows and festivals. She is an Illinois Artisan and her work can be seen in the Artisan Shop in Chicago in the Thompson Center as well as the Artisan Shop in the Southern Illinois Art and Artisans Center in Whittington. Her website is www.bbkirk.com.

**Upcoming 2013
Calendar of Events for LAG:**

| | | |
|------------------|--|-----|
| Feb. 20 | Pictorial Felt, Betty Burian Kirk | - |
| Mar. 19-April 26 | Best of the Best | |
| Mar. 20 | Work in Transition, Eric Gorder | |
| Mar. 23 | Polymer Clay Workshop (flyer attached for details) | at- |
| April 4 | Best of Best Reception | |
| April 10 | Scratchboard, Annette Leiber | |
| May 15 | Photographing Nature, Darcy Berg | |
| June 2013 | LAG members art exhibit at McCord House in Palos | |
| August 2013 | LAG members show at Woodridge Library | |

Athens Gallery-Be sure to stop in at the Athens Art Gallery (in the Lemont Public Library, 50 East Wend St.). February 1-28, 2013 "My Incredible Life, So Far" photographs by Jim McGloin. March will be photography by Bill and Nancy Uznanski. Contact Jim McGloin (708) 710-5243 with any questions.

DON'T FORGET FOR EACH MONTHLY MEETING:

- *Your Artwork for the Back of the Hall Competition
- *Bring donations for the Lemont Food Pantry
- *Your Hand-Made Name-Tag (did you make one yet, if not, check someone's out at the next meeting!)

New Members

Dianne Krachey, skrachey5186@att.net, medium - glass painting
Art T. Fox, arttfox@earthlink.net, medium - glass

Notes from the Editor:

Information for the LAG newsletter should be sent to Betty Kirk by the first of the month (630) 257-0565, or Betty@bbkirk.com

* Our Hostess for the February meeting will be Gene Mark and Shirley Sobol will bring the beverages (Please arrive early to set up.) Thanks so much!

* Solo Show, Kelly A. Kopacz, at the Lagrange Library, January 10, 2013 – February 22, 2013,

* January **Back of the Hall** 1st place, Nancy Uznanski, 2nd place Chuck Wright's "Hornets Nest" and 3rd Betty Burian Kirk's "Felt Scarf".

* William Brisick won the drawing for the carved bird.

* Nancy Uznanski won the door prize.

* **Need a chairperson or co-chairs for Love of Art Show 2014.** There will be no 2013 show.

Alliance of Fine Art (AFA) - March 5, 2013, meeting at Denny's, 17 W 660 22nd Street in Oakbrook Terrace, Illinois. LAG Members are welcome to attend AFA Meetings. www.allianceofflineart.org

Price is what you pay and value is what you get.

The distance between dreams and reality is called discipline.

An artist is not paid for his labor but for his vision.

James McNeil Whistler

I saw the angel in the marble and I carved until I set him free.

Michelangelo