

Andovers Artists Guild



A Community of Artists in the Greater Merrimack Valley

P.O. Box 254, Andover, MA 01810

May 2010

From The President

And here we are at the onset of our last annual meeting. Is it only my feeling or has time gone by really fast this year? The season in review was exciting and I hope you all concur with me. You are wrong if you think you are not going to hear from me again until the new season starts! There is still so much more planned for the year and before Art in the Park begins in September!

The scholarship Committee met on May 1st and awarded 3 scholarships to students from Andover, North Andover and Boxford. It was a tough decision as the body of work from the students was exceptional. It was agreed to divide the scholarship amount into 3 equal parts. The students will be awarded their scholarships at the AAG Annual Meeting at Rolling Ridge, on May 16th. June and I are looking forward to the luncheon and to the Kimberlee Alemian demonstration. By now you must have read the menu but, if not, I will still post it in the newsletter. Please make reservations directly by calling Rolling Ridge!

The project at the East Mill is moving forward. There are some members that are not enthused about moving the Guild to a permanent space. I ask that you please think of this as a new adventure. Change is sometimes good allowing us to grow artistically enriching our lives and that of others.

An art guild replete with projects and exhibits is a positive dynamic for any community. I believe that being an artist is a gift and a gift that should be shared. It is the arts that enrich the world.

Having our own meeting place will not confine us to just one monthly meeting. It will allow us to pursue other activities like a "movie night" or a workshop with live figure drawing. The possibilities are more expansive and we should build on this excitement!

On behalf of myself and June, thank you to all that participated in the East Mill Project and your attendance at the reception. It was fun! We created so much "buzz" and the



Hydrangia & Pussywillows

30" x 30", Oil on Canvas

by Kimberlee C. Alemian (See her bibliography on page 2)

management is impressed with the quality of work. A big "thank you" to Caroline Cole for working so hard to make the night memorable. Additionally, a big "thank you" to David Steinbergh for giving us the opportunity to exhibit. Caroline also did a great job advertising for the Guild by giving us much needed exposure. Exposure and publicity is what we need for the organization. Public awareness that the AAG exists and that we are proactive in advancing the arts in our community needs to be advertised! In case you haven't heard, 2 paintings were sold the night of the reception! I am confident more will be sold before the show is over.

This will be the last newsletter until September. I hope that all of you will be attending the Annual Luncheon at the Rolling Ridge. It will be fun! See you there!

- Nella Lush

From the Vice President

Dear AAG Members,

It is truly hard to believe that the Annual Luncheon is right around the corner. I do hope you will all attend the meeting because we have so much to do, i.e.: discuss, vote, share and celebrate. I hope you all agree that we have made some strides this year at the Guild and it is just the beginning with the prospect of the East Mills. We will be making some decisions on the by-laws and we need the input of our members. We need your support and involvement in order to progress. We need you—there is always a position which could use new and fresh ideas. Sandra Weissenhoff and Donna Fedele, our program coordinators are working on another exciting program for next year.

Nella and I have high hopes for the future at the Mills and we hope to cause a stir in the Andovers setting our sights on building our very own Artist Community. How exciting to have this opportunity in our very own back yard.

It has been a pleasure getting to know many of you and I look forward to another another exciting year at AAG. Who knows what possibilities next year will bring?

Hope to see you at Rolling Ridge on May 16th, at the Annual Luncheon. I think all who attend will not be disappointed- Our Guest Demonstrator is very talented and inspiring, Kim Alemian. You can find her art on the web.

See you there,
June Munro, AAG, VP

News From Our Members

- Congratulations to **June Munro** for being juried in the prestigious organization of Women Artists (NAWA) in New York City. The National Association of Women Artists was founded in 1889. It is the oldest professional women's fine art organization in the United States. June Munro's paintings of her roses have been featured in the Summer Edition of North Shore Life in the gardening section of the magazine, make sure you pick up a copy!! Congratulations June!!
- **Steve Lush** had a marine WC accepted into the Watercolor USA 2010 Exhibition to be held at the Springfield, Missouri Art Museum from May 12, 2010 until mid-June. Steve had another marine WC accepted into the 29th Annual Adirondacks National Exhibition of American Watercolors Exhibition to be held at the Arts Center Old Forge, NY from August 21 until October 3, 2010. Steve has also been invited to exhibit his WC's at Mass Maritime Academy during Maritime Day, May 19, 2010. Steve will have 3 of his ship models on display at the Cape Cod Maritime Museum, Hyannis, MA. from May 28 until July 7, 2010
- Two paintings were sold at the recent East Mill artists' reception. One was a painting by **Betty Pogor** and the other a watercolor by **Jerry Smith**

Kimberlee Alemian Bibliography

Kimberlee Connelly Alemian was born in Spokane, Washington, USA. Trained in Boston and New York, she studied with George Nick, Paul Rahilly, and Rob Moore at the Massachusetts College of Art for her BFA. She received a

full scholarship to Boston University, College of Fine Arts, School of Visual Arts where she studied with David Aronson, John Moore, Richard Raiselis and Graham Nickson. After receiving her MFA at BU, Alemian went to the New York Studio School to continue her studies with Graham Nickson.

While at Boston University she was introduced to the work of the Bay Area Figurative Artists. This group of painters included Richard Diebenkorn, David Park, Elmer Bischoff and Nathan Olivera. The dynamic force of their powerful compositions, the way they use light, color, and the process of applying paint—leaving abstract passages to describe the subject—are elements that have always interested her. She studied their works, the work of Willen de Kooning and contemporary artist Cynthia Packard, adopting their methods of strong, gestural brushwork and aggressive color.

In working from observed surroundings, my objective is not necessarily physical likeness, but rather to aim for the most concentrated form of a felt visual experience. The realistic rendering of numerous visual facts does not necessarily bring a painting to completion. George Nick used to say to us, "Don't render the motif, let cameras do that kind of work." Guided by a developed sensibility, countless conscious and subconscious choices are made through the process of creating a work. In my view, it is this process of careful selection and repositioning of the developing paintings' elements that is at the center of the creative act.

The focus of my painting, therefore, is about process and search. I am drawn to a certain rawness in the making of a mark. My paintings evolve over a period of time and their history can be glimpsed through the construction and reworking of them creating surfaces that reveal preexisting stages, as in a palimpsest.

Dates to Remember

- **May 13, 2010**
Spring Art Show Reception at Rolling Ridge from 7 to 9 PM
- **May 16, 2010**
AAG Annual Luncheon at Rolling Ridge, \$20 pp, Lunch @ 1PM, Scholarship Presentation @ 2PM - AAG meeting Kimberlee Alemian Demo @ 2:30 PM
- **June 6, 2010**
Arts Festival - Glimpse of Europe 2 - Plein Air Event - Sponsored by the Andovers Artists Guild, the North Andover Cultural Council at the Rolling Ridge Retreat Center - more information to come.

Menu for AAG Annual Luncheon

May 16, 2010 at 1pm at Rolling Ridge, 660 Great Pond Road, North Andover, 978-682-8815 x10
Salad - Arugula Salad • **Entree** - Beef Tenderloin Tips
Vegetarian Entree - Eggplant Parmigiana
Starches - Au Gratin Potatoes • **Vegetables** - Stir Fry (Celery, Carrots, Peppers, Broccoli, Scallions, Mushrooms)
Dessert - Tiramisu with Strawberries