

AREA CHAIRS

Area I	Anjal Soler, Ft. Lauderdale
Area II	Cecily Hangen, West Palm Beach
Area III	Judy Lyons Schneider, Bradenton
Area IV	Cassandra Gordon-Harris, St. Petersburg
Area V	Carol Frye, Lakeland
Area VI	Sydney McKenna, St. Augustine
Area VII	Joan Klutch, Sanibel

Special Notice

The slate of Officers that the Nominating Committee will place before the assembly at the Annual Business Meeting in June is as follows:

President - Joyce Novak
 Vice President - Cassandra Gordon-Harris
 Recording Secretary - Fern Samuels
 Treasurer - Nan Griffin
 Assistant Treasurer - Susan Stair Stephens
 At-Large - Shirley Frank



Florida Artist Group Newsletter

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From the President



The January 2005 Directors and Officers meeting in Sarasota was also the site of FLAG's Annual Membership Selection Committee, headed by Jan Miller of St. Augustine. I would like to welcome new members **Joan Sonnenberg**, Area I; **Emalee Andre**, Area II; **Jeffrey Baisden** and **Barre Barrett**, both from Area VI.

The group formed a new committee to help look after our finances. Our Treasurer, Nan Griffin of St. Petersburg, will head up the new committee. The Assistant-Treasurer, Susan Stair Stevens of Palm Beach, will continue to manage our investment account. The slate of Directors and Officers, if unopposed by other nominations, will remain for the new term, except for Vice-President, **Joyce Novak** of Nokomis, who has been nominated to serve as our new President. The proposed slate will be presented for a vote by the general membership at our Annual Membership Meeting at Florida Gulf Coast University in June. **Cassandra**

Gordon-Harris of St. Petersburg has been nominated for the position of Vice-President. Congratulations, **Cassandra**. Director, **Sydney McKenna** of St. Augustine was named as *Chair for Area VI* sometime last year, replacing long-time Director and Chair, **Jean Troemel**. **Jamie Friedli** is handing the Director's gavel for Area III to **Judy Lyons Schneider**. Thanks for your hard work, **Jamie**, and welcome to you, **Judy**, new Chair for Area III.

I have mentioned in past newsletters that the **55th Symposium and Exhibition will be held at Florida Gulf Coast University**, the newest university in Florida, at their magnificent new art gallery, **the first weekend in June 2005**. The prestigious Boca Museum of Boca Raton will be hosting with Area II, chaired by **Cecily Hangen**, a

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juried exhibition, also in early June. You should be expecting a prospectus of these two shows very soon. **Please plan to enter both exhibitions.**

Should you have ideas as to how FLAG could spark more interest for you, as an artist; then, get in touch with your area chair or other FLAG members and discuss the issue. You may be surprised at what a little dialog can do. Continue to send news of your area or individual accomplishments to **Roberta Schofield**, editor of the Florida Artist Group Newsletter; we're all interested in what you and your area are doing.

As your President, the last two years have zoomed by. Meeting the many wonderful artists that comprise FLAG has been a great experience, attending exhibitions and sharing ideas. I have

learned one thing about FLAG; the more involvement, the greater the experience.

Thanks again, for two great years.

ROBERT YORK



!! Welcome Newest Members !!

Area I - Joan Sonnenberg, Coral Springs
 Area II - Emalee Andre, Palm Beach Gardens
 Area VI - Jeffrey Smart Baisden, Live Oak
 Area VI - S. Barre Barrett, Jacksonville Beach



Members' News

Area I

New member **Jim Watson** is keeping ahead of the curve. He picked up a *Best in Show* at ArtServe Sale-a-Bration Exhibit in June. This got him the envied position of "Artist of the Week" with the local newspaper, the Eastsider. Then he won *Second Place* at ArtServe Expressions of Music show in August. Keep it up, Jim, we're sure glad you joined us!

Eydi Lampasona will be a contributing artist in the new art book titled: "COLLAGE IN ALL DIMENSIONS" due out in May 2005. Recently, Eydi was nominated and accepted into *Who's Who in American Art*. She exhibited an assemblage in The International Society of Experimental Artists annual international exhibition, at the Alliance for the Arts Center, in Fort Myers, FL, and had another assemblage accepted into

the National Collage Society 20th annual exhibition, in Rockville, MD

Area II

Our Recording Secretary does more than just record! She shows! **Fern Samuels** had a one person Show at Florida Atlantic University and at Mos Art Gallery in Lake Park. She garnered *First Prize* at Northwood University in West Palm Beach, *First Prize* at the Cornell Museum of Art in Delray and yet another *First Prize* with the Artist Guild, Inc.. Congratulations, Fern! She exhibited in the School of the Art Institute's Alumni Show in Chicago, Illinois, at the Rosetta Stone Gallery in Jupiter, Florida, the Ann Norton Sculpture Gardens in West Palm Beach and The Arts Club in Chicago. She is now associated with Rosetta Stone Gallery in Jupiter.

Cecily Hangen has been juried into the Women in Visual Arts Art Exhibition in the Palm

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Florida Artist Group

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Beach Gardens Town Hall. The show is February 16 to March 30. Hope Y'all Come!

Area III

Jamie Friedli worked very hard to put together a show of Area III and Area IV at the Longboat Key Art Center. There were 36 members exhibiting.



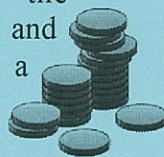
Eleanor Merritt and **Jamie Friedli** are having a two person exhibition at the Venice Art Center March 18 through April 7, 2005. The opening reception will be on March 18 from 5:00pm to 7:00pm. All are invited

Our own Vice President **Joyce Novak** earned the *Technologically Integrated Media Award* in the 47th National Exhibition of American Art at the Chautauqua Center for the Visual Arts in New York. There were 13 awards given in a show with 73 pieces. The juror was Donald Kuspit.

Joyce's work is digital painting that expresses nature in linear abstractions.

Area IV

Rachel Stewart received the Pinellas County Arts Grant in 2003 and received money in Jan. 2004 for a studio in her back yard. She also won *Third Place* for her sculpture at Artists Unlimited in Tampa.

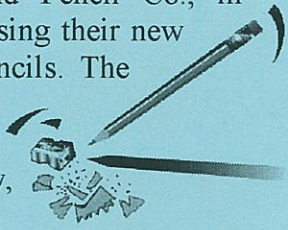


Melissa Miller Nece opened a new show, *Illuminated Landscapes*, on December 11 at Visual Poetry Gallery (2438 Central Ave) in St. Pete. The show features her work along with two other artists. The show ran through January 3. She had five pieces accepted into the Miniature Art Society of Florida 30th Annual Miniature Art Show, which will be at Dunedin Fine Art Center January 16 - February 13, 2005. She won an *Honorable Mention* in September at the annual Autumn Artfest sponsored by the Live Oak Artists' Guild, in Live Oak. At the Third International Competition of the World Federation of Miniaturists, she received a

Judge's *Award for Excellence*. The show, sponsored by the Miniature Painters, Sculptors and Gravers Society of Washington DC, featured 1,127 entries from 18 countries and ran from June 19 to July 12, 2004, at the International Gallery of the S. Dillon Ripley Center of the



Smithsonian Institution. **Melissa** was also commissioned by the Cumberland Pencil Co., in Keswick, England, to do a piece using their new Derwent Signature Watercolor Pencils. The finished artwork will be used in advertising and other promotional materials for the company. Wow, **Melissa**, that's great!



Nan Griffin was asked to serve on The Arts Center's Board of Trustees and she accepted. Thanks, **Nan**, for making a wonderful contribution to the quality of life in Florida! **Nan** was also in the invitational summer show at the J. Harrison Smith Gallery, along with some other FL.A.G. members - **Melissa Miller Nece**, **Brooke Allison** and the late **Mary Bowler**.



Marjorie Greene had 2 paintings featured in an article in the Special Interest Issue of *Better Homes and Gardens Decorating* this summer. She looks forward to the Sarasota show being organized by **Sydney McKenna**, Area VI.

Cassandra Gordon-Harris sold 6 large paintings before Confidant Gallery closed its doors in September and was one of 5 winners of the Arts Centers' Holiday Card Competition. She says this wasn't one of her best years. Many of us can sympathize!

Roberta Schofield has been invited for a solo show at the Turner Center for the Arts in Valdosta Georgia. Her Tampa dealer, Clayton Galleries, has scheduled a show of her Italian inspired work in September. Florida Gulf Coast Museum will be adding a piece "Schofield" to their collection soon. She was the featured guest speaker at the High School Art Competition conducted by Hillsborough Community College in Tampa. **Roberta** also won the *Aleta Goodson Community Service Award* (awarded by her Krewe) for her many hours of service to non-profit organizations including FLAG and the James A. Haley Veterans' Hospital.



Area V

Penny Gay has had a great year!! She has taken a *Merit Award* at Arts on the Park in Lakeland in May, September and October, and a *Second Prize* at Ridge Art in Winter Haven in September. To top it all off, though, she took *Best of Show* at Ridge Art in November at their "Black and White and Read All Over" Show. Congratulations, Penny! Great Job!



Area VI

Area Chair, **Sydney McKenna**, is gathering slides and résumés of area members to use to promote FLAG and to make exhibition proposals. We hope all members of Area VI have given her your best slide!

As for her art work, **Sydney** had a show at Mt. Dora Center for the Arts called *It's in the Details* (with two other artists) in October, and a solo show at the Steinway Hall in Jacksonville called *Vapors* (an exploration into Florida's humid climate) in December. She is now being shown at Butterfield Garage Art Gallery in St. Augustine, as well as continuing with her own gallery. She has a new and very impressive (remodeled, she calls it) website. Be sure to take a good look at it at <http://www.SydneyMcKenna.com>!



Linda Blondheim, dba Landscape Art Studios, has a new address and hours effective August 1, 2004: Landscapes Art Studio, 25 NE 1st Avenue, High Springs, Florida. Phone: 386.454.5610. Hours: Tuesday-Saturday 1:00AM-5:00PM. They are located in the old Paddiwack Gallery Space at the corner of 1st Avenue and US 27. They



will have a much larger space and David will be increasing his studio classes. They will also have more art supplies to offer their students and friends as well as *Plein air* equipment. **Linda** will continue to teach *Plein air* lessons out at various locations around North Florida. She will have more hanging space for paintings and will be increasing her selection of original fine landscape paintings. Please come see their new and improved location! **Linda** will be conducting "Plein Air Workshop" sponsored by the Thomasville Cultural Center in Thomasville GA on October 30th. She will be exhibiting the work done at the new studio in a solo show at Lake City Community College and at the Museum of Natural History in Ocala.



Beau Redmond appears in an article in September 2004 issue of *Skirt Magazine* -

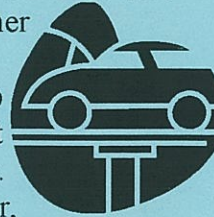
wearing a skirt. Beau says about wearing a skirt: "It feels on the edge of unbridled creativity." Best thing about reading *Skirt!* "Its fresh, vital sensibilities." (Take a look: <http://skirtjacksonville.com/editorial/sept2004/HeIsSoOriginal.shtml>)



Jean Wagner Troemel's Impressions of Asia exhibition in September & October at Old St. Augustine Village inaugurated their Fine Art Gallery of continuous exhibition schedules. AND, her painting *Lorelie* was the published theme for a large, glass condominium building being built in Jacksonville Beach. That sounds like a really big FIRST, Jean. Congratulations!



Gretchen Ebersol had an exhibit at the Haskell Gallery at the Jacksonville International Airport this year and had one of her book pieces published in the magazine, *Somerset Studios*. She also had 2 paintings at the Cummer Museum for Garden Week this year.



Jan Miller, our Membership Chair, was the featured artist at Butterfield Garage Art Gallery, St. Augustine for the month of November, 2004.

Area VII

Area VII artists have been very active. **Bill North**, **Carl Schwartz** and **Bob York** had a 3 man show at Royal Palm Gallery in Fort Myers; **Carl Schwartz**, **Bob York**, **Joan Klutch**, **Lee Ackert** and **Peg Cullen** were juried into the "Paradise" show at BIG Arts on Sanibel and **Bob's** piece sold in that show. He was accepted in a Naples (Von Liebig) exhibition in October. **Rose Webber**



Brown is involved in various mural projects in Naples. **Bill North** was selected to illustrate a greeting card cover. **Carl Schwartz** has been featured in several periodicals in South West

Florida. **Ralph Bigletti** has been selling his sculpture right and left. **Joan Klutch** has done a several workshops, teaching people bunches of stuff and has been working to make the 2005 FLAG Symposium at Florida Gulf Coast University a success --- our President **Bob York** spent two days with her trying to pin down galleries, restaurants and hotels.

