



# New Hampshire Chapter Newsletter

Vol. IX No. 6

December 2008

## HUES AND VIEWS

### WCA/NH Shows Its True Colors

Kudos all around to the artists, organizer, and exhibition hosts of WCA/NH's collaborative art journal experience, Hues & Views! After a tremendously fun, yearlong round-robin exchange between 24 artists, our color-themed journals were on display at The Gallery at WREN in Bethlehem, NH, from October 17 through November 3. The lush journal pages were eagerly pored over, delighting and inspiring many viewers.

The driving force behind the project, Laura Morrison, is quick to credit Fran Blazon with the inspiration that brought joy to so many people. After savoring Kathryn Bold's *True Colors: A Palette of Collaborative Art Journals*, Fran knew she wanted to do a similar exchange with fellow WCA/NH artists. Laura accepted Fran's baton and ran with it.

Laura announced the round robin and "...magically, I had exactly 24 artists," which she divided into two 12-artist teams. At the start of the new month, each artist, after fashioning her own book (for example, Tangerine or Canyon Colors),

passed it on and in turn received a journal from a designated artist on her team. The cycle continued, so that by the end of one full year, 23\* color-specific journals had been created, each one containing at least one decorated page from each artist on a team.

The buzz around this project could be heard around the state! Laura deftly handled the vital behind-the-scenes orchestration, including setting matters straight after one artist unexpectedly needed to drop out (\*thus 23 finished books). Artists eagerly anticipated the next color/book and wondered how their own journals were coming along. They stretched their wings, trying out new techniques and media. Hues & Views was a highly interactive art experience, one that connected us artist-to-artist, with communication occurring through color, media, and echoing themes.

When the round robin ended, the interaction continued at The Gallery at WREN, the perfect setting to have the colorful journals invitingly exhibited on all-white chairs. The game of "musical chairs" that started on reception night



continued throughout the exhibition period, with folks taking a seat to immerse themselves in Red, Plum, White, and so on down the line.

With two dozen enthusiastic artists in withdrawal since Hues & Views ended, and many more wanting to join in the fun, I asked Laura the question on everybody's lips: "When's the next exchange?" We'll take a yearlong breather, Laura told me. Remember, a version of the fun is currently being carried out with the WCA/NH round robin exchange *Charmed!* and for those who simply can't wait, Laura suggests visiting [www.swop-bot.com](http://www.swop-bot.com), an exciting online source for art exchanges occurring throughout the country.



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# President's Message: Deborah Skinner-Perez



Dear Members,

It's that time again: time to renew our memberships! If you renew before January 2009 you will still pay just \$15.00 for NH Chapter dues and \$30.00 for National

dues. Starting January 1, 2009, however, National dues will increase to \$45.00 ... so please get those checks in the mail today! (Membership renewal forms are available in this newsletter and at [www.wcanh.org](http://www.wcanh.org) and get sent to Deb Claffey.)

We are facing an urgent challenge, Members: we need to fill two board positions, those of Vice President and Second Vice President. Michelle Lutz, our current VP, is stepping down, having recently ac-

cepted a demanding full-time teaching job. Thank you, Michelle, for your service on the Board and best of luck to you—don't be a stranger!

The role of Vice President on the WCA/NH Board is critical, since traditionally she goes on to serve as Board President. The structure is designed to allow for continuity during transition times, and with my own term ending in just nine months, we are eager to have someone enthusiastic and motivated join us on the Board as VP as soon as possible.

Enthusiasm and motivation are also desirable qualities for the position of Second Vice President, whose primary responsibility according to the by-laws is to "communicate the activities of the organization to its members." The Second VP also supports the President and is instrumental in carrying out the WCA mission.

I strongly encourage people to apply. This organization gives back 110 percent

more than I could ever have imagined. Some of the rewards of being part of the Board are the ability to help shape the goals of WCA/NH, to have input into the decisions that are made about exhibits, themes, finances, activities, conferences, and so much more. Come to a monthly board meeting (open to everyone) and get a feel for what it's all about before making a commitment. Serving as Vice President and Second VP are great personal and professional opportunities and we need your talent, vision, and leadership to carry our great organization forward.

Thank you for your ongoing commitment. I know how deeply our membership values WCA/NH and am confident you will respond to my urgent call for continuous leadership.

Sincerely,

*Debbie*

Deborah Skinner-Perez

## It's Contagious! Hues & Views Altered Book Workshop

by Debbie Skinner-Perez

The art journaling bug has definitely bitten in the North Country! We had a full house and a full day of connecting with women through art at the Altered Book Workshop WCA/NH held in conjunction with our Hues & Views exhibit. On Saturday, October 25, a dozen participants and six WCA/NH presenters happily squeezed

into the workshop at the Gallery at WREN in Bethlehem, NH.

After explaining the how-tos of a round robin exchange, Laura Morrison demonstrated how to do packing tape transfers and how to soften the emulsion on a photograph so that it can be altered in fun ways. Pat Davis gave helpful dos-and-don'ts and explained how to correct common mistakes. Diana Talbot shared mixed media tips and introduced a variety of clever uses for matte medium. Elaine Morrison reflected on the spiritual aspect of creating altered books, commenting, "Altered books [express] a specific part of your identity that will come out in the book as you create it."

Creating an altered book/art journal can be a terrific therapeutic tool; I described how William Glasser's choice theory, which emphasizes themes of love and belonging, can enhance the creation experience. We were also grateful to have Jen Swett on hand as our official photographer.

Inspired by the Hues & Views journals on exhibit

and armed with a bevy of new techniques and inspiration, the enthusiastic artists attending left with a vow to start an art journal exchange of their own, and to meet regularly for Art Gatherings locally (Borders in Concord is a pretty long haul!). Our exhibit, paired with this fun-filled, informative workshop, went a long way toward sharing the joys and benefits of WCA/NH membership with our Northern artist-sisters.

For more details about specific techniques shared at the workshop, visit ArtGenda, the WCA/NH blog at <http://wcanh.blogspot.com>.

The WCA New Hampshire Chapter Newsletter is published five times per year by the Women's Caucus for Art - New Hampshire Chapter.

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Design: Marcia Santore

Please send submissions to Susi and photo JPEG files to Marcia. See the Board list on page 3 for contact information.



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Open position  
**PLEASE VOLUNTEER!**

## 2d Vice President

Open position  
**PLEASE VOLUNTEER!**

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## Welcome Newsletter Editor Susi Richardson

At Fall Meeting, mixed-media artist Susi Richardson joined the WCA/NH board as Newsletter Editor, working in tandem with Marcia Santore, our talented Newsletter Layout Editor. Before concentrating her creative output in the visual arts, Susi practiced the writing craft, enjoying success as a published poet and short story writer. No matter the context, Susi has always been the go-to person for proofreading, writing, and editing advice and is happy to now share her experience with WCA/NH. "I'm so happy to be able to give back to WCA. WCA was there for me when I started exploring art and has continued to shape my identity as an artist in the most positive of ways. I'm having the best time putting together a record of all the fantastic things we do!"



## Yard Sale Fundraiser a Success!

by Laura Morrison

We had a great Mixed-Media Yard Sale on September 27 and netted \$335 for WCA! The torrential rain they had predicted held off for most of the event, and the customer traffic was busy all morning.

Thank you to everyone who donated items to the yard sale. Thank you also to everyone who stopped by and bought materials. I hope you are inspired to make some great art! I would like to also thank Pat Davis for coming out to help man the cash box early in the morning.

The yard sale is an annual fundraising event every autumn. So, if you couldn't donate to the sale this time, there will be another opportunity next year. Just keep a box in your studio marked "For WCA" and start collecting!

# Exhibitions Corner

by Edith Weiler

WCA/NH finishes out the 2008 calendar year busy and with great success. **6 x 6** and **Vision Keepers** are currently hanging, and **Figure It Out** will kick off our 2009 series of shows in January. On behalf of the Exhibitions Committee, I'd like to recognize and thank all those who participate through extra volunteer work and by taking advantage of WCA/NH's exhibition opportunities. Let us all commend the small state of New Hampshire for having such an active and diverse chapter!



## Vision Keepers

*Women sharing their vision through art*  
Mill Brook Gallery, Concord, NH

Show Ends: Dec. 24, 2008

Pick-up: Dec. 26-30, 2008 BY APPOINTMENT ONLY!

Contact Pam Tarbell at

(603) 226-2046 or [artsculpt@mindspring.com](mailto:artsculpt@mindspring.com)

Thanks to WCA/NH member, Mill Brook Gallery owner and director Pam Tarbell, for hosting this juried WCA/NH exhibit. The beauty of the multi-level exhibition space, the scenic delights of the surrounding property and its sculptured gardens, all make for a show of its own. WCA/NH also appreciates Pam's contribution of the design, cost, and most helpful distribution of postcards. Clear driving directions, hours, and descriptions can be found at [www.themillbrookgallery.com](http://www.themillbrookgallery.com).

The exhibiting artists, selected by juror Pam Tarbell, are *Sandra Bartholomew, Janice Basiletti, Carol Belliveau, Judith Cassell, Donna Catanzaro, Elizabeth D'Amico, Patricia Desmarais, Daniela Edstrom, Susan Lirakis, Annette Mitchell, Laura Morrison, Suzanne Pretty, Wen Redmond, Susi Richardson, Gail Smuda, Elsa Voelcker, and Edith Weiler.*

If you are exhibiting (or when participating in any WCA/NH activity) you can help us out a great deal by simply staying informed. Make copies of your show information, check WCA/NH's website for information or updates, re-read ALL specifics regarding locations, times, and dates. Checking email and responding to members working on an event is always a plus!

WCA/NH is completely booked for next year! Watch for a complete listing of 2009 exhibitions in the first WCA/NH newsletter of the new year.

Thanks to all from the Exhibitions Committee!

## Figure It Out

*The Human Female Form – Realism to Abstraction*  
French Building Gallery  
New Hampshire Institute of Art  
Manchester, NH

Show Dates: Jan. 21-Feb. 10, 2009

Opening Reception: Jan. 21, 2009 5-7 p.m.

Mark your calendars for this long awaited and well deserved juried opportunity for WCA/NH to exhibit at NHIA. Many WCA/NH members have taken classes, received certificates or earned BFAs from NHIA. If you have not been around the Institute for a while, you will be amazed at its growth and broadened opportunities.

Except for the cost of producing and mailing the entry and prospectus, NHIA is supporting WCA/NH 100 percent for this highly energized exhibition. NHIA support includes WCA/NH's exhibition listing in the yearly school catalog, postcards, reception, and exhibition listing on their website ([www.nhia.edu](http://www.nhia.edu)), local PR for in-state newspapers, jury fee, and (wow!) a WCA/NH banner hung outside the French Building Gallery for the public. We are grateful and very excited.



# Artist Trading Cards

## Same Great Fun, New Trade Coordinator

by Pat Davis

When the ATC trades started in the winter of 2004, the theme was “Sisterhood.” Since then, Fran Blazon has carried us faithfully through five trades a year. I think it is appropriate that the first theme of 2009 (when I take over for Fran) should also be a woman-related theme: **“Women: Conventional, Unconventional.”** Laura Morrison, a past WCA/NH president and active ATC trader, helped me choose this subject from my list of potential themes. I can hardly wait to see what all of you ATC lovers come up with! Let’s keep building

our archive of sample cards from each trade. Let’s keep the great momentum going. Let’s keep having fun making and collecting these wonderful mini-works of art!

Remember to make your six ATCs 2 1/2" by 3 1/2" in size, sign and date them on the back, and include a self-addressed stamped envelope when you mail your cards to me at:

Pat Davis  
514 Buck Street,  
Pembroke, NH 03275-3054.

I will add one of your cards to the archive and mail five cards back to you.

For the first trade of 2009, ATCs will be due to me no later than **January 31, 2009**. If you have any questions, contact me at [fpdavis@comcast.net](mailto:fpdavis@comcast.net) or call me at 485-9953.



Pat Davis, new ATC coordinator. Artist trading card by Louise Parmenter-Hammerman.

## It's 6x6 Season!

by Pat Desmarais

Interior Additions at 38 North Main Street in Concord is the setting for our Eighth Annual Signature 6 x 6 Holiday Exhibition this year—a wonderful venue with great potential for sales. The retail space is perfect for showing art, and while this is a departure from our typical exhibit space, we found the location warm and inviting. We have 37 artists exhibiting and 148 panels displayed in a 12-foot wide space! The exhibit is running as we “go to press” all the way until December 18—the perfect time to shop for the holidays.

Our gracious hosts, Tom and Elizabeth Hitchcock, welcomed us with a reception on November 14 from 5 to 7 p.m. (Watch for all the juicy details in our next newsletter!) If you have not visited the exhibit yet, please take time to browse the location— it’s a winter wonderland.

**Participating artists: please remember that pick-up for unsold panels is December 19 or 20, 8:30 a.m.–10 am or 6–7 p.m. ONLY.**



6x6 entries from six WCA/NH artists.

## Great Gnus!



WCA/NH’s proposed “Tattoo Gnu” has found a home: Colonial Place, a high-traffic commercial location in New London that houses the town’s pharmacy.

In case you haven’t yet heard about this exciting project spearheaded for WCA/NH by Sandy Bartholomew, here’s a brief summary:

The town of New London, NH, has joined the likes of New York City, Washington, DC, and other locales in a creative fundraising event that brings art to the public. Remember the Cows of New York? Washington had its panda bears, Seattle had fish ... and now “Gnu” London will have gnu—including one decorated by our very own WCA/NH!

Identical life-size white fiberglass gnu will be brought to color and life by area artists, then exhibited all over New London throughout the summer of 2009, and finally auctioned off to raise funds for the new Kearsarge Community Center. (For more details, visit [www.gnusofgnulondon.org](http://www.gnusofgnulondon.org))

Gnus, also known as wildebeests, are not the prettiest creatures on earth, but take a look at Sandy’s proposal illustration. By the time our team of eight WCA/NH artists is through “Zentangling” every nook and cranny of a “gnude” gnu, “Stunning! Gorgeous! Beautiful!” is all we’ll be hearing.

Congratulations on having your proposal accepted and on finding a sponsor, Sandy and the members of WCA/NH’s team, and best wishes for a great time “tattooing” your gnu!

# Fall Meeting 2008

## Lively, Inspirational, Productive

by Diana Talbot

On Saturday September 20, we held our WCA/NH Fall Meeting at Plymouth State University in Plymouth, NH. What a lively, inspirational and productive meeting! Debbie Skinner-Perez, our chapter president, began the meeting with a promotional DVD by National WCA, followed by a PowerPoint presentation featuring the New Hampshire chapter, a great tool to inform and welcome new members and art students from PSU interested in joining WCA/NH. This excellent production highlighted how our organization benefits so many women artists through personal and professional support, as well as through varied exhibition opportunities and professional skill building.

Each board member who was present at the meeting spoke in turn about her specific job on the board, starting with Edie Weiler, Co-Chair of the Exhibitions Committee. Edie spoke about the upcoming NHIA show. Laura Morrison spoke about the Hues and Views exhibit scheduled to run from Oct. 17 to Nov. 3 at the Gallery at WREN, and Diana Talbot encouraged members to attend the National WCA Conference in Los Angeles from Feb. 25 - March 3, 2009. Marcia Santore was thanked for her efforts on newsletter layout and Susi Richardson was welcomed to the board in her new role as newsletter editor. A thank-you also went out to Carol Currier for all her hard work as interim newsletter editor, and I also have to mention Pat Davis, who is always there working at every event, no matter what. To all of our members who were not able to attend the Fall Meeting (you know who you are): we missed you!



After a delicious potluck lunch, Julie Mento from the New Hampshire State Council on the Arts spoke to the membership. She demonstrated, step by step, how to apply for state grants, fellowships, and public art opportunities in the State of New Hampshire. Ms. Mento brought us via computer to the Council's website ([www.nh.gov/nharts](http://www.nh.gov/nharts)) up on a large screen.

Awards for artist fellowships are \$5,000 and grants are typically between \$500 and \$1,000, and are given to artists to pursue the marketing of their art, or other art-related projects. Julie said that she welcomes phone calls or e-mails at any time from member artists who have questions about the application process. What some artists don't quite grasp yet is that the NHSCA is there to help us, not to intimidate us. So, go girls—get in the game!

Thank you to the PSU staff for hosting our Fall Meeting, and a special thank you to Catherine Amidon, Curator of the Karl Drerup Gallery and Exhibitions Program, along with her amazing assistant, Jan Serfass, who helped coordinate our show, **Making Her Mark**, at the Silver Center for the Arts. Catherine has kindly offered to speak to the membership at Spring Meeting 2009 about how artists should best approach galleries, different techniques for submitting to group shows, and many more tips for artists from an "insider" gallery perspective. We are looking forward to it!

WCA/NH members catch up with the news and with each other.



Above: Julie Mento of the NH State Council on the Arts addressed the WCA/NH Fall Meeting, speaking about opportunities for artists offered by the Council.

Below: Catherine Amidon, director of the Plymouth State University Karl Drerup and Exhibitions Program, welcomed WCA/NH to the PSU campus.





# 2009 Membership

- Renewal  New Member
- Change of address/name
- Don't post my name/email on the Web site or in the directory

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Company: \_\_\_\_\_

Street: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_

Zip: \_\_\_\_\_ Country: \_\_\_\_\_

Day Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Eve. Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Fax: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Web site: \_\_\_\_\_

Accessibility needs: \_\_\_\_\_

## National Membership

Regular (To be a chapter member, you must also pay national dues. You may join more than one chapter)	\$ 30	_____
<b>After January 1, 2009</b>	<b>\$ 40</b>	_____
Member at Large (only where chapters aren't available)	\$ 40	_____
Institutional	\$ 75	_____
Subsidized (limited income)	\$ 25	_____
Student (with verification on school letterhead)	\$ 25	_____
Lifetime National Membership	\$500	_____

## Chapter Membership

New Hampshire	\$ 15	_____
Boston	\$ 20	_____
Central Massachusetts	\$ 15	_____
Connecticut	\$ 20	_____
Pennsylvania	\$ 15	_____
Washington, DC	\$ 20	_____

## Friend of WCA/NH

Friends of WCA/NH help to support women working in the visual arts in New Hampshire. For a tax-deductible donation of \$25 or more, you receive our newsletter five times each year as well as notices of our exhibitions.

\$ \_\_\_\_\_

**Total** \$ \_\_\_\_\_

## Professional Area

(check all that apply)

- Artist (A)
- College Art Association member (B)
- Art educator (F)
- Art administrator (D)
- Art critic (C)
- Art collector (E)
- Art historian (H)
- Librarian/slide curator (L)
- Museum/gallery professional (M)

## Participate in WCA/NH

- Exhibitions (help hang shows, maintain slide library, or coordinate publicity)
- Publicity (help write and send press releases for WCA events)
- Newsletter (write articles, take photos, or send mailings)
- Events (help set up, clean up, or coordinate food for events)
- Fundraising (help organize events for the scholarship fund)
- Grant writing (write or research opportunities for WCA/NH projects)
- Continuing Education (help organize professional development opportunities)
- Art Gatherings (set up art gatherings in your area)
- Other (Let us know what you would like to do!)

## Participate in WCA National ad hoc caucuses

- Jewish Women Artists' Network
- New Media Caucus
- Women of Color Artists (WoCA)

Send to:  
Debra Claffey  
238 Bedford Rd  
New Boston NH 03070-4321

We are committed to:

- Education about the contributions of women
- Opportunities for the exhibition of women's work
- Publication of women's writing about art
- Inclusion of women in the history of art
- Professional equity for all
- Respect for individuals without discrimination
- Support for legislation relevant to our goals.

## More from Our President

I have more to share! We had a very successful Fall Meeting at PSU on September 20—check out Diana Talbot's detailed summary on page 6. Our guest speaker, Julie Mento, recommended that our chapter start a Facebook account to increase our visibility. If anyone would like to do this, please let me know! Several students from the PSU Art Department attended the Fall Meeting and we are pleased to have some join the chapter. I want to thank everyone who helped make this event a grand success.

At Fall Meeting we got to hear an update from each Board member present. Edie Weiler should be commended for all her hard work on Exhibitions, along with her dedicated committee members and co-chair Fran Blazon. This has been an exceptional year of shows, with the promise of a full schedule straight through 2009.

We were pleased to have Susi Richardson step up to become our Newsletter Editor with Marcia Santore still doing a fabulous job on layout. Susi's experience as a writer will be a great asset. Newsletter articles can be sent to Susi Richardson at [suralijo.richardson@verizon.net](mailto:suralijo.richardson@verizon.net) or call

her at (603) 225-7955. Photos and images should go to Marcia Santore at [marcia@marciasantore.com](mailto:marcia@marciasantore.com) using standard jpeg format. Marcia can also be reached by phone at (603) 536-1558. Great thanks go out to Carol Currier for seeing us through so well as Interim Newsletter Editor.

Pat Davis is our new facilitator for the ATC trades as Fran Blazon is turning over the tiara after five wonderful years of keeping the trades going. Many thanks to you both!

Diana Talbot, thanks for keeping us current with WCA/National news and for sharing information about the February '09 conference—we all want to come to Los Angeles with you!

At Fall Meeting we also shared Sandy Bartholomew's idea to open a WCA/NH learning center/gallery co-op. Anyone interested in working on this project, please contact Sandy. Sandy has been doing a terrific job as Website Manager. We are also grateful to Sandy for opening her workshop above Wingdoodle, her store in Warner, NH, to host the monthly dinner board meetings. Sandy's also behind *Charmed!*, our current art exchange, and the "Tattoo Gnu" project ... wow, what

a bundle of energy and initiative! Thank you, Sandy.

Laura Morrison, thanks for running the yard sale fundraiser again this year, and for the drive and organization behind Hues & Views (see page 1), a fantastic experience for artists and viewers alike.

We missed those of you who could not make it to Fall Meeting! Join us next spring when Catherine Amidon, the Gallery Director at PSU, will be speaking to the membership about how to approach galleries as an artist hoping to exhibit. (Thank you, Diana Talbot, for your quick thinking in recruiting Catherine before Fall Meeting even ended!)

By the time you read this letter, we'll have two great shows hanging, our annual **6 x 6** at Interior Additions and **Vision Keepers** at Mill Brook Gallery, excellent showcases for our talented WCA/NH artists. **Figure It Out** at New Hampshire Institute of Art is just around the corner. What a great way to kick off 2009! I'm so proud of us all.

Best wishes for a great holiday season!

*Debbie*

Deborah Skinner-Perez

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