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2005-2006
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Studio Tour Where Art Happens/ Small Disjointed Spaces

By Debbie Skinner-Perez

This month we have two studios to review that focus on where art happens in spite of space restrictions and disjointed areas for creativity. These studios belong to Phyllis Hofman and Davida Cook.

Welcome to Phyllis Hofman's home and studio. Entering Phyllis's home is like entering a small gallery. Phyllis leads me downstairs through a sliding door to her living space. A Japanese stepped cupboard that appears to be a pedestal for sculpture greets me. Inside, it houses many household supplies and a large screen TV.



The artist installed cupboards where containers are stacked and filled with materials. Under the shelving, plastic storage drawers open to display a treasure trove of segmented compartments.

One of my favorite features is the spice rack made from large cylinders that pull out to reveal twist off lids...full of more great stuff.

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Yard Sale a Success!

We had a great Mixed-Media Yard Sale and netted \$375 for the WCA Scholarship Fund! We had a gorgeous spring day for 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 Fran Blazon for coming out to help man the cash box for the morning and to Carol Currier for lending her tabletops.

We are going to make this an annual spring event. 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!

Call for Articles, Artwork, Exhibitions, Opportunities, etc..!

Please send newsletter submissions to:

Donna Catanzaro
51 Kendall Pond Rd.
Windham, NH 03087
Tel 603/595-2797
catdt@aol.com

the Sept-Oct 2006
Issue Deadline is 8/15/06

Direct all address changes to:
Ethel Hills

473 Winnacunnet Rd.
Hampton, NH 03842
Tel 603/926-6370
ehills@breezy.com

President's Message

It has been a very busy spring for WCA. We had our "Open Doors" exhibit, mixed media yard sale and our "Food and Fiddles" fundraiser....each was a success and the amount of work we put into each event was well worth it.

Things seem to be finally drying out after last week's horrific floods....I know that a lot of us were affected by mother nature's fury and I for one am grateful that we all made it through without serious injury. It is a scary and awe inspiring thing to be at the mercy of the weather...it reminds us how delicate we truly are and how fragile life is and at the same time it also shows how strong we can be when need be. The yin and yang of life.

Have a wonderful lazy summer full of sunshine and lemonade and art! I for one will be found lounging in air conditioned comfort! See you in September!

-Fran



Why WCA?

by Carol Currier

With this new feature we ask you to tell us

Why WCA? What does WCA mean to you?

One night in 2002, I happened to see the notice at Borders for something called a WCA Gathering. At that time I hadn't done any painting in over 30 years! I was newly retired with a goal of starting the second half of my life, a life in which I did what I loved. That included a specific direction for art, but I didn't have a clue on how to start. My BFA from Massachusetts College of Art provided technical skills, but little else. Neither did my "real jobs" that included teaching math in the Peace Corps-Philippines, art in two elementary schools in "up-State" New York, math workshops to the teachers, and a variety of roles mostly with Medicaid for this State.

The Gatherings opened many doors for me. The first was the Baker's Dozen. A fun project and now when you "Google" me, I have work on display in Mexico and France! With the pressure to have something for "show and tell" at the gatherings, I finally had enough inventory to consider a web site. And along came Donna Cantanzaro. The web-site lead to prints, sales and an inquiry from an international magazine to use some of my work to illustrate articles. Participation in exhibits lead to a solo show. But I think one of the most influential things was participating in No Limits. The very first question, "What is your highest vision of yourself as an artist?" threw me for a loop. If I had to describe something that was true about me all my life, it would be my artistic side. And yet I came to realize that I thought of myself as artistic rather than an artist. I also discovered that I linked being an artist to job and exclusion of all other work. Something that would never work for me! I need variety and the other work that I do creates aspects of personal growth that are reflected in my artwork. But this issue was something I had to recognize before I could move forward in presenting myself professionally. And along came the Business of Art Group. And so it goes. The support, the acceptance, the networking, the friendships and the opportunities provided by WCA, created the foundation I needed and would never have found through any other, single venue.

One of the great things about being an artist is that you can see your own growth in your work. I'm ready to change my web site and who knows what else. Whatever that is, WCA is bound to be a major resource. In part, this is also because and I know our NH chapter is very special.

Fiddles & Food Fundraiser Was Fun!

The Fiddles & Food fundraiser was lots of fun. We got to do a "barn dance", led by The Two Fiddles, a local professional couple who play and call dances. The F Holes were excellent! The food was great (Fran makes the best lasagna in NH)! Almost everyone left with a piece of artwork, a tray of lasagna or both. We had about 40 diners and raised about \$250. Thank you, everyone for helping and/or attending!!!

The following donors helped make our fundraiser a success:

Ice cream from Arnie's Place, Concord

Printing by Capital Press, Inc., Concord

Promoting WCANH by Concord Community Television

Event listing in The Concord Monitor

Event listing also in Canterbury Newsletter (thanks Beth Blair!)

Ground organic beef from Miles Smith Farm, Loudon

Tons of bread from Panera's, Concord (after dinner, was donated the rest to the McKenna House, Concord)

Canterbury Country Store stored our ice cream (thanks, Tony)

Cathy Lucana (Janet's sister) donated tons of salad (which part of was also donated to the McKenna House)

Fred Portnoy (Janet's husband) donated lots of his time and lots of ice

Bob Drew (helped with lighting the gas stove - we couldn't get it going!)

Thanks to Judy Patterson, Canterbury Parish, rental of the hall



Scenes of eating, dancing and fiddling from the Fiddles and Food fundraiser.

The following WCA members donated artwork and those with asterisks helped with the evening:

Anna Smith

Fran Blazon*

Donna Catanzaro

Carol Currier*

Elizabeth Erickson D'Amico (also thanks for PR work, Liz!)

Pat Davis*

Pat Desmarais

Phyllis Hoffman

Janet King*

Annette Mitchell

Laura Morrison*

Kendra O'Donnell

Debbie Skinner-Perez*

Edith Weiler*

Judy Elliott* (a helpful friend and neighbor, not a WCA member yet)

Opportunities

Women Made Gallery Anthropomorphism

Call for artwork in all media, including video/DVD whose artistic concepts give human form and/or attributes to a being or thing not human: deities, animals, toys, products, and/or machines. Deadline June 17. www.womenmade.org for more info.

Friends of the Northern Rail Trail

Andover, NH - Area artists are invited to participate in the *Artists on the Trail Exhibition and Silent Auction*, scheduled to take place on Sunday, Oct. 1 at the Andover Elementary Middle School in Andover, NH. Guidelines for submission to the exhibition and silent auction as well as the Call for Entry form are available to all interested parties and can be accessed on the Friends website at www.fnrt.org. Deadline for submission is June 30.

3Ten Haustudio in Atlanta is accepting works of art on a CD. Artwork should be created on the surface of a CD disc. Any medium or mixed media. Artist must also submit a blank CD case and a stamped padded envelope to be used for mailing the sold CD to the purchaser or for sending the unsold CD back to the artist. Opening Reception Friday, July 14, 2006. Exhibition Dates: July 14-August 12, 2006. Deadline for submissions: July 1, 2006.

Arts in Education Fall Partnership Conference.

Drawing from Nature: Arts, Peacemaking & the Environment. Oct. 6-8 at the Sargent Outdoor Education Center in Hancock, NH. Register for the full weekend, or as a commuter. More info at www.nh.gov/nharts or www.aannh.org For a conference brochure, send a SASE to: Catherine O'Brian, NH State Council on the Arts, 2 1/2 Beacon St., Concord, NH 03301.

WCA-NH OPPORTUNITIES

WCA-NH Archives

WCA-NH member, Linda Gilbert-Schneider, is compiling an archive of WCA-NH's members resumes along with an image or two of their artwork. This archive will eventually be stored at WCA National headquarters. Send your resumes along with a postcard or printed image that best represents your work to: Linda Gilbert-Schneider 1045 East 35 Street Brooklyn, NY 11210

WEB Mistress Wanted

We need help updating the WCA-NH website. Some web experience required. Email Donna at catdt@aol.com for info.

Save a tree!

The WCA-NH Newsletter is now available via email! If you would prefer to receive future newsletters by email in Adobe Acrobat PDF format, please email info@wcanh.org and include your name.

Display Racks Available! Have you thought about exhibiting in an outdoor show but didn't want to invest in expensive display racks? WCA-NH owns a set of display racks available free to members. Contact Laura Morrison if interested in borrowing.

WCA-NH Membership Dues Scholarships

There are four full WCA-NH Dues Scholarships available each year for members who are unable to afford the \$45 membership, available to new and existing members. In exchange for receiving the scholarship, applicants are asked to volunteer time for an existing WCA project or they may propose and implement a project for WCA. For an application, contact: Ethel Hills, Membership/Treasurer 603-926-6370 or ehills@breezy.com.

WCA-NH Members News and Exhibitions



Annette Mitchell and ▲ Davida Cook are exhibiting in "*Gardens & Galaxies*" at the Chi Lin Gallery, 17 Lake St, Meredith, NH. 603 279-8663. Till June 18.

Over 30 paintings by Pam Tarbell or on exhibit in "*Spirit of the Dance*" inspired by Native American Indian Clothing, at the Robert M.

Larsen Gallery, Sulloway & Hollis Law Firm, at 29 School Street, Concord, NH. The exhibit continues until Sept 1st. Call: 224-6535 for times

Donna Catanzaro and Gail Smuda have a collaborative piece in the juried show, *Large Works/Small Works*, at Gallery 181, 181 Canal Street, Lawrence, MA. The Opening Reception is Friday, June 16, 2006, 5:30-8:00pm. The show runs from June 11 - August 10. For more info go to: www.caladangallery.com/sites/gallery181 or call 978-741-7979

Rosemary Conroy is exhibiting in *Ponderings: A Group Art Exhibit*. May 16 through June 30, 2006, Conservation Center, 54 Portsmouth Street, Concord N.H. Presented by the Beard Pond Art Group. 603/224-9945 or visit www.forestociety.org.

Gail Smuda's work is being included in, San Diego Book Arts', "*First National Juried Exhibition*" which runs from August 14 - Sept. 8.

Artist's Trading Cards Let's Trade!

Hosted by Fran Blazon

The "White and Black" trade was awesome! We'll be taking the summer off from ATC's and will continue in September with the theme "What I did on my summer vacation" The cards will be due on September 5th...after that our next trade will be "Secrets" and those cards will be due on November 6. You can interpret secrets in any way or you can even write secrets on your cards. It's all up to you.

Remember the only rule is that the cards be 2 1/2" x 3 1/2". Send 6 to me along with a self addressed stamped envelope and I'll send you back 5. We keep one for archiving and have recently bought 50 frames in which to display the cards. You should see how amazing they look!

Send your cards to:

Fran Blazon 118
Mountain Base Road
Goffstown, NH 03045
If you have any questions
e-mail me at:
hickorywind1@
mindspring.com.



*White and Black ATC's by
(clockwise starting at top left)
Elizabeth D'Amico, Sandy
Steen Bartholemew, Gail
Smuda, Donna Catanzaro and
L. Parmenter Hammerman.*

Open Doors Exhibition

by Edie Weiler, Exhibitions Coordinator

This was another true success story of artist coming together as one. The Open Doors experience offered over 200 guests to view WCA's fine examples of hard work and dedication. Seventeen artists participated; the reviews and comments were stimulating to all involved. Guests always enjoy meeting the makers; we had a terrific turn out of artists, this helps any show.

Top reviews on the reception set up, food, and the socializing was also another hot topic! The Trolley night allowed a lot of us to roam around and see other Exhibits in the Langer Place Building, in return WCA made new friends with art lovers in the space that evening. Althea's studio atmosphere added a lot to the mood, gave space, light and beauty to all our art. With over 30 pieces of varies topics, the presentation style was impressive.

Thanks everyone for everything. Without help, we are helpless...Future Exhibitions are in the works!



Edie Weiler at the Open Doors exhibit

Studio tour *continued from page 1*

Phyllis uses a spray bottle for water since there is no sink in this space. On the closet door is a hanging bar with a dog's ball at the top used to secure her free hanging wire sculptures as she paints them.

Downstairs in the basement, Phyllis shows me her L shaped studio that was a darkroom at one time and has since been converted into a jewelry-making studio. As a darkroom it was necessary to make the two spaces separated by a door. In the darkroom there is a large metal sink with storage shelves underneath at the far end. To the right is a countertop with fireproof surfaces for soldering jewelry and wooden storage drawers underneath. A handy space has been left open for a small stool to be tucked away. To the left is a shorter counter that holds tumblers for metal work. Window screens are secured against the wall and can be folded down to create three drying racks for photos or jewelry.



The other portion of this L shaped studio is where Phyllis puts the finishing touches on her silver and fimo clay jewelry. She has a magnetic bar to hold her pliers and other metal working tools. A special feature in this space are her two large colorful ball chairs that she can sit on comfortably to work at her multiple countertops...some that pull out to increase workspace.

Two rollaway toolboxes double as tool storage and extra surface area. The countertop itself has multiple drawers for storage with shelving built into the corner above for books. The room is well lit with track lighting, hanging adjustable lamps and windows that line the upper portion of the room on two sides. Phyllis finds it a challenge to coordinate materials because of the distance between the upstairs and downstairs studios. Thank you Phyllis for sharing your wonderful studio spaces.

Phyllis's studio is located, at 532 Shaker Road in Canterbury, NH. You can contact Phyllis at phofman@earthlink.net or 267-8546

Davida Cook is a printmaker. She uses Annette Mitchell's method of Styrofoam printing in combination with her own technique of layering ink and glitter to produce a raised design over a vivid watercolor background that resembles small luxurious sparkling tiles. Davida's studio is located in a corner of her kitchen in Meredith, NH. The artist was kind enough to let some WCA members tour her studio after the Spring Meeting at the Meredith Public Library on April 23rd. Her house just happens to be next door, so a few of us climbed her steep driveway to enjoy the warmth of her kitchen studio along with some freshly brewed coffee.

Davida has two work counters to the left of her food preparation area along with an antique drafting light table where she places her work to be transferred. She uses silverware organizers for glitter and glue along with a stepped spice rack to hold paint bottles and under the counter hanging baskets. Wood shelving open to the lighted window provides a multitude of space for brayers within close reach.

She has an unconventional countertop where she stands to register her prints, which is up high enough to keep small fingers from touching these delicate pieces as she challenges her printmaking with motherhood. Davida's large farm kitchen table doubles as a drying space during larger productions of prints.



Davida can be contacted at dakotaleather@aol.com or 279-4019

I am looking forward to touring more small spaces Where art Happens and Lynne Rand's fiber art studio in Plymouth NH. If you would like your art space to be featured, please contact me at jeangypsy@yahoo.com or at 927-6394.



Thoughts on Spring Meeting

by Janet King

I enjoyed the spring meeting today. Learned that woman invented white out and birth control. Heard a very cool short written piece by a Native American Indian read by Joanne Balcom about how when a man loses touch with nature, he loses respect for man. She read this and talked about her plen aire paintings. I also enjoyed Edie's Notre Dame U. photographs and the fact that Edie said she felt like a "Christian" in such religious surroundings. I also enjoyed listening to Loretta Hubley's concerns about how farm lands in Hong Kong will someday become resorts and seeing her pieces. I have to say that my highlight of the day was after the meeting when we went to the house next door to the library and to talk with Davida about her small studio. I joined Debbie and Edie to take a peek at Davida's studio. I was very excited to see Davida's work (she is having a show with Annette Mitchell on May 13th) and just had to share this excitement. Davida is a printmaker and, although she first creates an abstract watercolor to print on top of, she said she is not a painter. She took the time to answer our questions and explain about everything she

does. She was so open and willing to share. So many things that she does and the materials that she uses are things I have never heard about or seen. She gets her ideas from photographs of space, creates a sketch on transparent mylar, I think it is and then cuts up small pieces of foam that is sprayed with a light adhesive to prevent static electricity from taking control of it. She assembles this foam on her sketch and then lays sheets of double-sided tape over it and cuts them out to basically, create her print. She then uses an oil but water-based ink, many colors of glitter and actual gold and also a uv protection spray, and prints these plates on her watercolor abstract that she painted on yupo paper (see yupo.com). She ends up with an incredibly beautiful, cheerful, sparkly, richly colored print that is then trimmed (using a template) and mounted on a canvas stretcher board. Amazing, unique, beautiful end product.

When I was explaining all of this to Fran (she was in the car waiting with her puppies) she said, "I never heard you talk about an artist like this before." Davida's work is very exciting and Davida is a very committed artist working in her kitchen between caring for her children ages 3 and 5. I'm impressed!

WOMEN'S CAUCUS FOR ART- MEMBERSHIP 2006

Join now! Your membership will run till December 31, 2006.

If you have any questions, call our Membership Chair, Ethel Hills at 603-926-6370.

Mail completed form to :

Ethel Hills
473 Winnacunnet Rd.
Hampton, NH
03842

NATIONAL MEMBERSHIP

- \$30 Regular Membership
- \$25 Student/limited income

Students must submit official proof of full-time student status, such as a bursar's office receipt, or a letter from a faculty member on school letterhead.

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 each year, you will receive:

- our newsletter five times each year
- notices of our exhibitions

CHAPTER MEMBERSHIP

TO BE A CHAPTER MEMBER, YOU MUST ALSO PAY NATIONAL DUES.

- \$15 New Hampshire
- \$20 MA, Boston
- \$15 MA, Central

PROFESSIONAL AREAS: CHECK ALL THAT APPLY

- | | | |
|--|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> artist (a) | <input type="checkbox"/> collector (e) | <input type="checkbox"/> museum/gallery |
| <input type="checkbox"/> CAA Member (b) | <input type="checkbox"/> art educator (f) | professional (m) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> critic (c) | <input type="checkbox"/> art historian (h) | <input type="checkbox"/> student (s) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> art administrator (d) | <input type="checkbox"/> librarian/slide curator (l) | <input type="checkbox"/> other _____ |

VOLUNTEER

- Check here if you would like to be on an email list for volunteer opportunities.

NEWSLETTER

- Check here if you prefer to receive the newsletter by email.

DUES ENCLOSED

MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE TO: WCA-NH
(MEMBERSHIPS CANNOT BE PRORATED)

National Dues	\$ 30.00
NH Chapter Dues	\$ 15.00
Add'l Chapters (please specify chapters)	\$ _____
\$10 mailing outside USA	\$ _____
Total Amount	\$ _____

MEMBER INFORMATION

- renewal new member change of address or name
- I DO NOT want my name included in the membership directory

Name _____
 Company _____
 Street _____
 City _____ State _____ Zip _____ Country _____
 Day Phone _____ Evening Phone _____
 Fax _____ E-Mail _____

WCA-NH

c/o Donna Catanzaro
51 Kendall Pond Rd.
Windham, NH 03087



Be informed!
Join the
WCA-NH
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for up to
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WCANH@yahoo
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to join go to:
www.yahogroups.com
type in wcanh
and then set up your
own yahoo account.

For technical help signing
up contact Bette Abdu:
babdu@metrocast.net

Summer 2006 Mark Your Calendars!

- **Artist's Gatherings:**
Concord, 2nd and 4th Thursday of the month
Borders Bookstore in Concord, NH
June 8 & 22, July 13 & 27, August 10 & 24
at 7 p.m.
Lakes Region,
Meredith Library
91 Main Street, Meredith, NH, 603-279-4303
Second Wed., June. 14 cancelled because of Bike
Week, July 12, August 9 at 7 p.m.
North Country
The Gallery at WREN,
2013 Main Street, Bethlehem
Fourth Wed, June 28, July, August , 7pm
- **Business of Art Work Group**
Borders Bookstore in Concord, NH
First Wed., June 7, July 26, August 23 at 7 p.m.
- **Board Meetings**
Borders Bookstore in Concord, NH
June 15, July 20, August 17. 10 a.m.-12p.m.

WCA Statement of Purpose

MISSION: The mission of
the Women's Caucus for
Art is to support women in
the visual arts professions.

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 all individuals
without
discrimination...support for
legislation
relevant to our goals*