



New Hampshire Chapter Newsletter

Vol. XV No. 2

June 2009

Super Spring Meeting!



Dear Members,

Our Spring Meeting was a great success! A large group of artists turned out for a fun day of art and networking. After a great morning business meeting,

we enjoyed an excellent potluck lunch (artists really know how to cook!). A raffle of art supplies, generously donated by Kay Steen and **Sandy Bartholomew** of Wingdoodle, and Deb Damboise of Say It With Letters, added to the fun. In the afternoon, we soaked up an inspiring art share. We also delighted in having this year's schol-

arship winner, **Jaime Mudgett**, among us (see page 6).

Exciting news! Several board positions were filled at the meeting for the 2009–2011 slate of Officers. **Natacha Sochat** has volunteered to serve immediately as Vice President and will move into the Presidency this coming fall. In the fall, **Sue Whittaker** has agreed to serve as the new Vice President, **Elizabeth Towle** will be the Secretary, and **Cilla Sheehan** will be our new Member at Large. We thank these wonderful artists for stepping forward to fill these positions as WCA/NH continues to grow and thrive.

Our meeting was held in the gorgeous boardroom of Rath, Young and Pignatelli,

P.C. in Concord. Thank you to **Sandy and Ken Bartholomew** for organizing our meeting space and to the law offices of Rath, Young and Pignatelli for donating their space to us for free. Their offices are beautiful and filled with original art—a fitting setting for a group of artists!

We have a very busy calendar for the second half of the year! Our exhibitions include the juried exhibitions *Resurgence* at the Emporium Gallery and an exhibition of small works at The Derryfield School. Our signature 6 x 6 invitational show will be at The Paper Tree this year in Manchester. *Hues and Views* will travel this October to the New Hampshire Institute of

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WCA/NH members share the results of the Charmed round robin exchange at the 2009 Spring Meeting. From left, Sandy Bartholomew, Phyllis Hofman, Elaine Morrison, Pat Davis, Laura Morrison, and Jen Swett.

From the Editor



Spring Meeting 2009: "She-roes" Shine!

How important it is for us to recognize and celebrate our heroes and she-roes!

—Maya Angelou

President **Debbie Skinner-Perez** kicked off our 2009 Spring Meeting with this quotation, paying homage to all her sisters in WCA/NH and recounting the many ways serving as President of the Board has enriched her life. Former President **Laura Morrison** also gave a moving testimonial about her tenure as President. Both women offered active support to any volunteer who might step forward to lead our great organization come

fall, when Debbie's term ends.

Debbie tells you all about our great meeting day in her quarterly letter to the membership (page 1), but she left out one key thing: Grouse Medicine! In closing the meeting, Debbie better understood the meaning of the Native American grouse medicine she had invoked early that morning. The grouse, with its wild, whirling dervish "dance," stirs us to movement. And by day's end, that's what this awesome bunch of "She-roes" had done, volunteering left and right to fill up our Board as we move forward into a bright future. "She-roes," indeed!

Super Spring Meeting! continued

Art and the "Tattoo Gnu" we zentangled for the *Gnus of Gnu London* will be on display all summer long in New London. Other activities include our ongoing ATC exchanges, the Art Gatherings at Borders and the Mixed-Media Yard Sale Fundraiser this coming fall. To keep current with the whirlwind of WCA/NH activities, periodically check out the "Events" page on our

website at www.wcanh.org.

A final thank you to everyone who worked behind the scenes to make the Spring Meeting a great success. WCA/NH volunteers are the backbone of this organization and all of the exhibitions and events we sponsor would not be possible if it weren't for the dozens of women who step forward to do their small part in making WCA/NH the thriving arts organization it is. Thank you all!

Sincerely,

Debbie

Debbie Skinner-Perez
President



Diana Talbot created this Spirit Jar at the Art Party—learn more on page 8.

"Member News" is Coming Back!

Starting with the September issue, members' professional accomplishments will be announced in the newsletter for all to celebrate.

Did you (or will you soon) ... have work in a show? Launch a new Web site? Win an award? Email us your news (with jpegs, if available) and we'll be sure the whole membership knows.

Remember, we are a quarterly, so be sure to also post all time-sensitive news online (see page 5 for options).

The deadline for submissions to the September 2009 newsletter is August 1.

SAVE THE DATE!

Ninth Annual WCA/NH Signature

6 x 6

Holiday Exhibition November 13, 2009 – January 8, 2010

The Paper Tree
Mallard Pond Plaza
865 Second Street
Manchester, NH
www.thepapertree.net

The prospectus will be available to artists in August and panels will be available in September.

Check www.wcanh.org, your email, and your mailbox for entry forms and details!

The WCA New Hampshire Chapter Newsletter is published quarterly in March, June, September, and December by the Women's Caucus for Art/New Hampshire Chapter.

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Editor: Susi Richardson
Design: Marcia Santore

Please send submissions to Susi and photo JPEG files to Marcia. See the Board list on page 3 for contact information. Submissions are due on the first of the month prior to publication (February 1, May 1, August 1, November 1).

We Ushered in Spring with *Flowers Interpreted*

by Claudette Gammon

From March 20 to May 2, our latest *Flowers Interpreted* exhibit turned the walls of the Epsom (N.H.) Town Library into a colorful garden of great beauty.

With the help of Epsom library volunteer Leigh English, WCA/NH was able to bring this exhibit back again for spring 2009, after its 2007 debut in Chichester. Leigh is great at putting together fascinating exhibits and we appreciated her help in making ours such a successful one.

Twenty-three WCA/NH members were well represented in the show, honoring all types of art from paintings to photography, and including all types of blossoms, from sunflowers to birds of paradise.

The opening reception was held on Friday, March 20. Delicious finger foods were served, and well over 50 people attended. The highlight of the evening



Donna Catanzaro signed her new book at the *Flowers Interpreted* opening on March 20 at the Epsom Town Library.

was WCA/NH member and guest **Donna Catanzaro**, who introduced her new book, *Do We Have Enough Stuff Yet? Visual Comments on Popular Culture*, and signed copies for grateful fans.

FemLink Fundraiser at Red River Theatres

by Diana Talbot

On Friday, March 20, a screening of women's video art was held at the Red River Theatres in downtown Concord to benefit the WCA/NH chapter and WCA National. More than 15 wonderfully dedicated members were present, making it a successful evening. The video collage piece is entitled *Resistance*, and it was produced by Massachusetts chapter member, C.M. Judge, who introduced both herself and the FemLink project.

FemLink was created in 2005 by C.M. Judge and Veronique Sapin of France to build a link throughout the world between women video artists and their work. Each year there is a different theme for the collage. The theme for 2009, for example, is "Man." The collage piece we saw, *Resistance*, included work by artists from as far away as Iran, Korea, Sweden, and Venezuela.

The international video collage is a fascinating compilation of work. For example, Nicoletta Stalder of Switzerland filmed a woman emerging out of the

ground, putting on make-up, doing her hair, wiping the make-up off, undoing her hair, and then going back into the ground. There were many other interesting pieces as well. If you weren't there for this part of the WCA/NH Night on the Town, you missed some really good, cutting edge art! At the end of the screening, C.M. took questions and an interesting discussion ensued. Many thanks to those members and guests who attended!



Still from *Resistance*, produced by C.M. Judge and shown at Red River Theatres to support WCA/NH and National.

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Exhibitions Corner

by Edith Weiler

There has been much excitement since April's Spring Meeting about WCA/NH's great achievements of the past and many future opportunities in the works. Several members have volunteered to fill future board positions to keep WCA/NH thriving and moving into the future.

With many fresh new faces on the Board, 2009 is the year of change! **New volunteer interest for Exhibition Coordinator would really contribute to the momentum WCA/NH has built up over the past few years.**

The diagram below is a simplified look at 2009 Exhibition activities. The Exhibition Committee consists of approximately 12 active members, who will continue to offer their experience and support to this vital part of our organization. Several shows are booked for 2010, making the transition for the new Coordinator seamless. Anyone interested in the position of Exhibition Coordinator is invited to attend any Exhibition committee meeting; they take place every third

Thursday at Borders in Concord at 10 a.m. (There will be no July meeting.) For more information, contact **Edith Weiler** at eyeofthemakerphotography@comcast.net. Thank you!

Exhibition Notes

Flowers Interpreted

Some viewer comments about *Flowers Interpreted*:

"So lovely to see something as diverse and beautiful right here in our little Epsom."

"Lovely, beautiful, terrific, wonderful art work."

"Beautiful, Goddess inspired."

Thanks to Leigh English and everyone at the library for their admiration of and interest in WCA/NH. WCA is already



Flowers Interpreted at the Epsom Town Library.

booked at The Epsom Town Library for 2010!

Read **Claudette Gammon's** piece about the show on page 3.

Resurgence

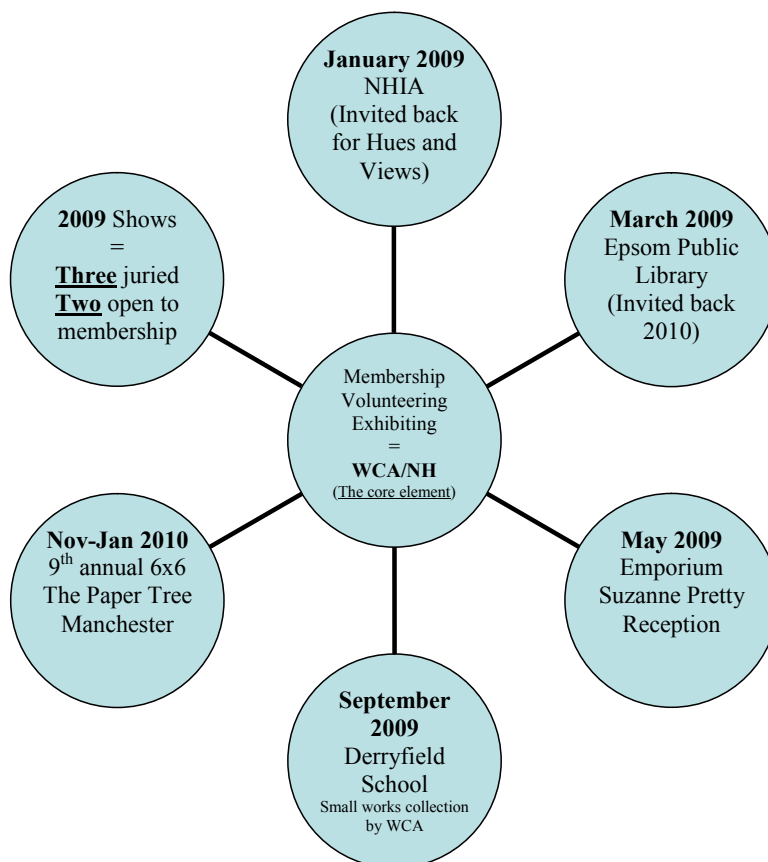


Resurgence is on exhibit until June 12; please visit this wonderful show! WCA/NH thanks **Suzanne Pretty** for this terrific opportunity. Pick-up dates are Friday–Saturday, June 12–13, 11 a.m.–4 p.m.

Small Gems

Begin your work for the upcoming juried show entitled *Small Gems*! This exhibit will feature small works up to 14 inches in any dimension (including framing), and is well suited to the delightful gallery space in the lobby of the Theatre Building at The Derryfield School in Manchester. Andy Moerlein is the curator and juror. The reception date is Saturday, September 26, 2–4 p.m., during the school's Alumni Weekend—a great opportunity for new viewers! The deadline for entry is July 18 and drop-off is August 14. Please review all information on your entry/prospectus, which will also be available online.

Start the chart at the top and work your way around clockwise:



Fabulous ConFab!

2009 National WCA Conference in Los Angeles

by Diana Talbot

WCA members from more than 33 states around this great country of ours convened in the City of Angels from February 25 to March 1, 2009. Sandra Mueller of the Southern California chapter came up with the idea of calling the conference a “ConFab,” sending a message to the universe and to the world of feminist art to expect a fabulous conference—and, I dare say, it was fabulous! I attended the confab as National Liaison for WCA/NH and WCA Regional Vice President, Northeast Region, proud to be part of this fantastic gathering of women artists.

I wish I had arrived at the conference in time for the “Eco Arts Meet Up” with eco artist Kim Abeles, and the “Metro Art Tour of Public Art by Women,” but I can tell you that we were all very impressed with the public art sculptures, waterfalls, and other art works we saw scattered around Los Angeles. I was also impressed by the many public art museums in LA. We just don’t have enough of these kinds of things in New Hampshire!

My weekend began with the *Women Artists on Immigration* show at the Korean Cultural Center in downtown LA. Wow! I was so impressed with the commitment on behalf of the Korean Center, and by the art work in the show! What impressed me the most was a true banquet cooked for us by the Korean women at the Cultural Center. The food was the most amazing I have ever had the pleasure of consuming! Sampling delicious dumplings and other homemade treats was like being over in Korea while enjoying the company of

In Memoriam

We are sad to share news that member **Bridget Fontaine** died on May 6, 2009 after a long illness. She was the first WCA/NH artist to sell a piece when the 6x6 exhibit was held in Dover. Her passion for art included drawings and sculptures of angels. **Anna Smith** is planning an event to honor her memory. Please watch for updates regarding this occasion on the Web site and Yahoo group.



New Hampshire Chapter members meet up at the LA ConFab: from left, Debbie Skinner-Perez, Diana Talbot, Janice Basiletti.

WCA members from around the country. C.M. Judge’s Video Shorts Festival of international women video artists finished off a perfect evening.

The next day I showed up early to help Holly Dodge with the Lifetime Achievement Awards Dinner and Ceremony. It certainly was an inspiring evening, listening to and honoring the artist/awardees, who this year were Maren Hassinger, Ester Hernandez, Joyce Kozloff, Margo Machida, and Ruth Weisberg. Recipients of the 2009 President’s Award included Susan Fisher Sterling, Director of the National Museum of Women in the Arts, and Catherine Opie, well-known artist and Professor of Photography at UCLA.

Sunday was a glorious day as we travelled out of town to the American Jewish University and the JWAN Exhibit, *Like Water on Rock*. The Town Hall Meeting was productive and generated many ideas for the future of WCA. (Someone is no doubt sorting through all those words and ideas right this minute ...) We also travelled to see the workshop of famous mural activist Judy Baca, which was fascinating. As the director of the Social and Public Art Resource Center, she addresses

the plight of migrant farm workers, Latinos, and women, among other topics. Ms. Baca creates her designs on the computer before hiring mostly students to paint the murals outdoors. So many inspiring women!

At Monday’s board meeting, we discussed plans for the New York Conference in 2011. Our major task was to come up with a theme for the entire conference, which we did: “Live Space: Art. Women. Activism.” Very New York, very sophisticated, very digital. As a member of the NY Conference Committee, I then proposed an idea to the Committee of a possible bus tour to see Judy Chicago’s “Dinner Party” at the Brooklyn Museum of Art, and also to an alternative art space in Brooklyn. Keep your fingers crossed that this proposal goes through!

One other exciting development at the board meeting was the creation of a new Eco-Art Caucus, similar to the JWAN caucus. Sandra Mueller agreed to organize an ensemble of board members interested in participating. Some eco-art exhibitions might result from this new group in the next year or two. Yea! Or should I say “fabulous?” Because that’s what the entire LA confab was: fabulous!

Stay Connected with WCA/NH Online!

Web site: www.wcanh.org

Blog: ArtGenda at <http://wcanh.blogspot.com>

Yahoo Newsgroup: <http://groups.yahoo.com/group/WCANH>

For Web site or blog questions, contact Webmaster
Sandy Bartholomew at beezink@tds.net.

To learn more about the Yahoo group, contact listserve mom
Bette Abdu at babdu@metrocast.net.

And the 2009 Winner is ...

Jaime Mudgett!



Congratulations go out to our latest scholarship winner, **Jaime Mudgett**, a junior majoring in graphic design at Plymouth State University. Jaime, from Moultonborough, N.H., will receive a \$1,000 scholarship from WCA/NH.

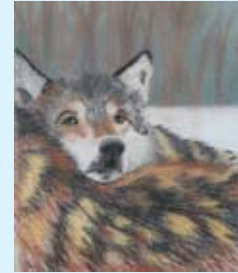
This is the fourth consecutive year WCA/NH has offered the scholarship to a woman studying the visual arts. The scholarship would not be possible without the dedication of our Fiddles and Food fundraising committee, organized by **Janet King** and **Fran Blazon**; the mixed media yard sale, organized by **Laura Morrison**; and generous donations from **Diana Talbot**.

We were introduced to Jaime—and she to us!—at Spring Meeting. Jaime has been on a lucky streak: besides the scholarship, she also won art supplies in our lunch break raffle! And even though finals had just wrapped up, word

has it that Jaime made it to Fiddles and Food, too. How quickly she's come into the WCA/NH fold! We are awfully glad to have her.

Jaime is grateful for our scholarship award; she writes:

Thanks to the NH Women's Caucus for Art's gracious generosity I will have less of a financial burden. I will have no out of pocket expenses next semester and a lower student loan final total. I will also have more money to use towards books and food for the semester. Although I work throughout the semester, my hours vary and are not guaranteed. Your scholarship will greatly reduce my weekly paycheck-to-paycheck stress and allow me to focus more clearly on my studies. Perhaps the greatest benefit of the scholarship has been being welcomed warmly into the WCA. I thank you whole-heartedly for this opportunity and, in advance, for the many



Above: Scholarship recipient Jaime Mudgett and her art work "Gaze" (left).

more that are sure to arise as a result of my new association with your great organization.

Come get to know Jaime at Fall Meeting '09, when she will share some of her art with us.

ATC Trades

by Pat Davis

Let this wonderful sampling of cards from the Wings trade speak for itself!

ATCs on The Ocean will be traded shortly, on June 5—watch for those mini-wonders in the next issue.

Start thinking of how you will interpret the theme Pets, due on September 1. Send entries to: **Pat Davis, 514 Buck Street, Pembroke, NH 03275-3054**. Remember to send me six cards, 2 1/2" by 3 1/2" in size, signed and dated on the back, and include a self-addressed stamped envelope. I will keep one of your cards for the Archive, and send five cards to you.

Join in the fun—the more, the merrier!

Artists' Trading Cards: (top row, from left) Susi Richardson, Kathy Freeburn, Eileen Alexander, (center) Debbie Skinner-Perez, and (bottom) Joanne Balcom.

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This Just In—4th Annual Fiddles and Food Best Yet!

Hearty thanks go out to organizers **Janet "Zebra" King** and **"Lasagna Queen" Fran Blazon** (and to their crew of amazing volunteers) for putting together a record-breaking event. The night's \$1,117 in profit is a fantastic boon to the 2010 Scholarship Fund. Thanks, too, to Speed the Plough—what a concert! Watch for a full report in the September newsletter.

What's Gnu?

by Susi Richardson with
Sandy Bartholomew

The WCA/NH "Tattoo Gnu" has made its way from Wingdoodle in Warner to its summer home in New London. The once plain white fiberglass wildebeest is now in its full glory, ready for a season of display in the *Gnus of Gnu London* fundraiser. Come October 3, our gnu, along with 26 other decorated gnus, will be auctioned off; proceeds will go toward the new Kearsarge Community Center.

The "Tattoo Gnu" was elaborately and meticulously embellished with Zentangles by the following team of WCA/NH artists: **Bette Abdu, Sandy Bartholomew, Donna Conroy, Carol Currier, Liz D'Amico, Kathy Freeburn, Laura Morrison, Debbie Skinner-Perez, and Jennifer Swett.**

We divided the gnu into sections and each of us drew her own patterns. All the designs were done using black Sharpie oil-based paint markers. Debbie added a few touches of color with acrylic paints, and

Sandy added acrylic shadows and shading to integrate the patterns.

Who knew at Spring Meeting 2008 that Zentangling would prove so popular among us that together we'd be Zentangling—of all things!—a gnu? (And who would have guessed that by Spring Meeting 2009, five WCA/NH members would be Certified Zentangle Teachers? So cool!)

Since its May 24 debut, our "Tattoo Gnu" has been on display at the Colonial Pharmacy in New London, where it can be seen through the month of September. Please go check it out! For more



Top: WCA/NH's "Tattoo Gnu."
Below, Debbie Skinner-Perez and Jen Swett add a few details.

information, visit www.gnusofgnulondon.org.

WCA Membership 2009

Join now! Your membership runs through Dec. 31, 2009

- Renewal New Membership Address Change

Name: _____

Phone: _____

Company: _____

Email: _____

Address: _____

Web site: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____ Country: _____

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 or contact media 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 proposals or research funding 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!)

National Membership

- \$40 Regular (To be a chapter member, you must also pay national dues.)
- \$25 Student/Subsidized
- \$500 Lifetime National Membership

Chapter Membership

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

\$ _____ Friend of WCA/NH

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

Total \$ _____

Questions? Contact WCA/NH Membership Coordinator Debra Claffey at (603) 487-3661 or debclaffey@artist-services.com

Mail completed form to:
Debra Claffey
238 Bedford Rd
New Boston, NH 03070-4321

Make a tax-deductible donation to:

- \$ _____ WCA Artist College Scholarship
- \$ _____ Membership Scholarships
- \$ _____ Help send a WCA/NH board member to the National Conference

SPIRIT JARS: An Art Party

by Kathryn Antyr

*On her inspirational blog, www.collage-diva.com, new WCA/NH member **Kathryn Antyr** recounts the fun she had at our latest Art Party, graciously hosted by **Anne Boedecker** on Saturday, March 29. Kathryn is kind enough to share excerpts with us here. First, altered pizza boxes; next, spirit jars. What great art-party-fun can we anticipate next?*

Sunday I played with a group of delightful women who are all members of the Women's Caucus for Art, New Hampshire Chapter (WCA/NH). Pictured is the spirit jar that I made at the party. Isn't Quan Yin just lovely!? We altered jars and vases with papers. Our hostess, Anne, has the best stash of papers and ribbons and she so generously brought it all out to share with us.

#56 on my list of 101 Things in 1001 Days is to join an artist association and network with local artists and “creatives.” I had considered a couple of different associations in the area and settled on WCA/NH. The organization comes highly recommended, not only because of what the national organization stands for, but for the wonderful women who are members of the local chapter. The outing on Sunday proved that I made the right choice— we had so much fun “arting” and talking. It reminded me of what I imagine a quilting bee would be like. As much as I love my blog connections, there is nothing like connecting in person with other creatives.

Many thanks to Anne for hosting this great day. A WCA/NH art party is a great way to meet and greet and decide if you are interested in joining.



Kathryn Antyr created this spirit jar evoking the goddess Quan Yin at the Spirit Jars Art Party on March 29.

WCA/NH Newsletter
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