



The Steering Committee has been suffering from the winter blahs, and feared that this usually dynamic newsletter might not be quite as spicy and exciting as we hoped. Then came the February Gallery opening and talk, and we all pepped up. The crowd was huge; the talk was good; and the food quite tasty. And we started to remember all the creative work Art League members have been up to over the past few months.

Dana Carr started the season with a very successful one-person show in Minnesota. Karen Currie had a beautiful exhibit at the Workshop. Several other members, such as Ellen Cornett, Jim Black, Astri Kleivdal, Mary Croft Curtin, and Delila Katzka, have been showing their work on the Hill. Antonia Macedo is in the new members show at the Touchstone Gallery and will have a one-person show in April at Cosi, on Pennsylvania Avenue. Ardath Hill was the

January "Artist of the Month" at the Torpedo Factory in Alexandria. Congratulations to you all! Everyone is invited to let us know when you are having a show, so that we can announce it at the Second Saturday openings, or in this newsletter.

POTLUCK DINNER AND MEETING

Mark your palm pilots! The annual Potluck Meeting is coming up on Thursday, April 22 from 6:30 to 8:30 pm. It will offer members a chance to meet new recruits and visit. We will also do some serious business. As usual, the dinner will be held at the Capitol Hill Arts Workshop. With so much advance warning, you have lots of time to think about working on the Steering Committee (elections of new members will be held that evening...see below), and collect your thoughts on what the

Art League should or should not be doing. Also you have weeks to plan some fabulous food treat to bring! We do the drinks.

CHANGES

Just to keep you all up to date... the Capitol Hill Arts Workshop has a new director, Jonathan Darr, and a new program director, Megan Cheek. We welcome both, and thank them for their help and support. Jonathan and the Chairperson of the CHAW Board, Laurie Gilman, have already attended an Art League Steering Committee meeting so that we could all become better acquainted. Megan works hard on our behalf, printing the "Call for Entry" cards, and handling a million other administrative details. Her efforts have certainly enabled the Art League to operate more smoothly.

CANDIDATES FOR THE STEERING COMMITTEE

The Steering Committee is working on putting in place new procedures to handle our own staff changes. The purpose of this initiative is to have the Art League members elect the members of the Steering Committee. We will have three vacancies on the committee at the end of May. Our goal is to have replacements chosen by the membership at the annual potluck membership meeting in April. We ask that everyone who serves on the Steering Committee commit to at least two years.

It takes a fully staffed and energetic Committee to manage all the events the Art League has to offer over the year, or to begin anything new. If you would like to run for one of the positions or nominate a fellow Art League member, please send a message, including a personal statement that tells about you (or the person you recommend) to



California Landscape
Gayle Krughoff
Photo

THEMES FOR 2004-05

To help you plan—

October 2004:	<i>Extraordinarily Ordinary</i>
November 2004:	<i>Go Figure</i>
December 2004:	<i>Wrap It Up</i>
January 2005:	<i>Untitled</i>
February 2005:	<i>A Private Passion</i>
March 2005:	<i>Narrative</i>
April 2005:	<i>Untitled</i>
May 2005:	<i>Grass Roots</i>

Gayle Krughoff at gaylekrughoff@aol.com, or mail it to the Capitol Hill Arts Workshop, Attention: Megan Cheek, 545 7th Street, SE, Washington, DC 20003. All submissions must be postmarked by March 29. The names of the interested artists will be e-mailed to the membership during the first week of April, and their statements will be available at the front desk of the Workshop, so you can check them when you deliver your work for receiving. PLEASE PARTICIPATE.

To help you plan, note that anyone elected will probably have to attend only one or two meetings over the summer, and that your service would begin in October 2004. The Steering Committee will meet in the evenings if that proves most convenient for members.

By the way, if you cannot attend the Potluck, you may send an e-mail vote to Megan@chaw.org, to be received by April 22.

SUBMISSIONS

The Holiday Show was a tremendous success. Members submitted 109 pieces, and a third of them sold. Most of the buyers were looking for gifts, so the less expensive pieces flew out the door. When people were buying a more expensive art gift (priced between \$100 and \$250), the whole package, particularly the framing, had to be perfect. Please begin to think about work for the next Holiday event, in December 2004.

So far this year, submissions of works for shows are running at about the same rate as last year. In October of 2002 we had 65 submissions, of which 35 were accepted. In November of 2002, we had 92 submissions, but only 81 in November 2003. This January's submission rate was "sluggish," but February's was good. Please keep those pieces coming in!

WORKSHOPS

The Art League has sponsored two excellent and well attended workshops so far this season, one involving watercolor and the other collage. We hope to do more of this and welcome members' suggestions for topics for future workshops. We will sponsor a workshop by artist Susan Abbott (see her website at www.susanabbott.com) on March 19 from 10 am until 4 pm. The subject will be color. Please contact Michele Hoben (mphoben@aol.com) for more information.

OPENINGS

Please keep in mind that our openings are on the second Saturday of each month, from 5 to 7 pm. We try to introduce the speakers/judges at about 5:25 pm so that you can plan your time there.

Also, please pick up your work as soon as

you can so that the storage space at CHAW does not get over-crowded and to minimize the possibility of something getting damaged. Returned work from Skadden Arps will also be located in the closet, on the side marked "old work."

SHOULD WE DO AN AUCTION?

In years past, the Art League occasionally held fund-raising auctions of art works donated by the members—something like the Patrons Show at the Alexandria Art League. The auctions were held outside the Workshop, and the evenings were festive, with refreshments and door prizes in addition to the drawings. Tickets were sold all over Capitol Hill. The buyers' names were written on slips of paper and placed in a large bowl. As each name was drawn, that person was allowed to choose whatever piece he or she wished from among those still hanging. It is a wonderful fundraiser and generates great publicity for the artists and the Art League. So, the question is: Should the Art League do this again in the 2004-2005 season? We will discuss this at the Potluck.

Have a wonderful late winter and spring. For a good time, come to the next opening, in March! See you soon.

A NEW OPPORTUNITY TO SHOW

In December 2003, the Art League entered into an arrangement with Skadden Arps, a downtown law firm, under which we will lend them paintings on a short-term basis for them to hang in their offices and offer for sale. For starters, we lent them 13 paintings and photographs to hang. One piece sold.

Hereafter, we will send Skadden Arps one piece from each artist juried into alternate Art League monthly shows. Each of the artists will be asked by e-mail or phone whether they wish to participate. Thus, most of the juried January show was transported to Skadden in early February, and will remain on display for about seven weeks. It will be replaced by works juried into the March show.

We will try this arrangement for the remainder of this season, and then consider how to handle it in the future. Please bring any thoughts you have about it to the Potluck for discussion. Skadden Arps is very cooperative with us, but it is a high security organization, so it is not possible for members to drop by or send friends to visit the show.