

March 2005

Artists of Cambria

The voice of the Allied Arts Association
A non-profit organization

Folk-Art Demonstration Planned for March

Shown here creating another type of folk-art work, Mary Pallister is coming to the Gallery at the Old Schoolhouse to give a lecture-demonstration on Folk art, including Tole painting.

The event, set for noon on March 29, will focus on the fundamentals of Folk art and decorating objects. Mary's methods, she says, are directly descended from the decorative techniques of bygone ages, back to the beginnings of the Christian era and beyond. She claims, "You do not have to have 'artistic talent', only a desire to paint. How talented you *become* depends solely on how much you *desire* to paint."



Mary Pallister

Tickets for the demonstration are \$7 (including a light lunch) and are available at the Schoolhouse Gallery through the day of the event, Tuesday, March 29. Please reserve your spot by calling the Gallery at 927-8190 or Shirley Kirkes Mar at 927-4742

2005 Cambria Art & Wine Festival Another Roaring Success

Over \$10,000 worth of art was sold at this year's Art & Wine Festival, according to Dorothy Prychoda, Allied Arts Treasurer. Of the 98 pieces of art shown, 42 went home with their proud new owners. This event has become a major Allied Arts fund raiser with 25 percent of the profits from all of the events going into our coffers.

Allied Arts members who contributed their expertise and labors to the event were Jim and Pat Babcock who were up into the wee hours hanging the art show; Shirley Kirkes Mar whose original artwork graced the show poster; Jeff Mar who played the piano; Dorothy Prychoda who served as the Allied Arts liaison on the planning committee and manned the ticket table and tabulated the results; and last but not least the faithful crew who tirelessly assemble and disassemble the flats on which the art is displayed.

Now is the best time to start thinking about your entry for 2006. It's a great way to get your art out in the public eye—and maybe even sell a piece or two.

The Art Spirit

A big two-fold welcome to **Penny Russell**, who has returned to edit and produce our newsletter. **Steve Wayne** and **Mary Anne Rapuano** will continue to make their contributions with Penny at the helm. Penny will also be our first guest lecturer at Santa Lucia Middle School for the ArtReach program. She will be working with teacher Ann Rodgers and the yearbook production class on photographic techniques.

Going forward, we would love to include in this newsletter stories, impressions, quips etc., garnered from the world-wide travels of AAA members. If you would like to contribute, please email your story (preferably as a Word attachment) to pmrussell@hcwe.com.

Gallery Director **BJ Bettencourt** and the Board are looking for ways to get more traffic and sales at the Schoolhouse Gallery. The Gallery, which features original art by local artists, is our biggest commitment and should be a very good source of funds. While we are very proud of what is being accomplished there, we think it would be great to have a publicity head to bring our activities there more into focus. If you have any ideas or interest in being a part of this, please call me at the number below.

As a great new benefit to AAA members, the official AAA website is up and running at www.artistsofcambria.com. If you would like to show your work on line, we will post a head shot, short bio and link to your website at no charge. Or for an initial charge of \$25 plus \$3 per subsequent year, we will create a four-picture page specially for you on our website. Those interested should call me at the number below.

Special thanks to vice president **Steve Kellogg** for taking charge of the telephone tree. He says that more callers are needed so if you are interested in being a leaf-calling branch, please phone Steve at 927-2840.

Final note: Good Luck to **Char Purdin** and husband Phil as they move out of the local area to be closer to family.

Jeff Mar. President
927-4742

No matter what your choice of media, there are books that seem to speak to every artist. Written in 1923 by Robert Henri, *The Art Spirit* is still fresh and inspiring. The subtitle informs us that this book comprises "Notes, Articles, Fragments of Letters and Talks to Students, Bearing on the Concept and Technique of Picture Making, the Study of Art Generally, and on Appreciation."

Robert Henri was an American painter and an inspired teacher. His students urged him to put his thoughts into book form although he states in his forward that no effort was made to follow the form of a regular book. "In fact, the opinions are presented more as paintings are hung on the wall, to be (looked at) at will and taken as rough sketches for what they are worth."

Not only did Henri believe in the close relationship of art to life, he believed that art is a matter with which not only professionals and students but everyone is vitally concerned, a rather revolutionary view in the early 20th century. He worked at a time when the "art officials" were still in power and had a strangle hold on the neck of originality. Henri fought for freedom and gave his students the courage to combat officialdom.

A few excerpts from the book:

"If in drawings you habitually disregard proportions, you become accustomed to the sight of distortion and lose critical ability. A person living in squalor eventually gets used to it."

"There are mighty few people who think what they think they think."

"Artists deal with gestures. They get to know a great deal about people. A sitter may not say a word for an hour, but the body has been speaking all the time."

"Things being what they are, the life of an artist is a battle wherein great economy must be exercised—the kind of economy which will result in moments of the purest freedom in spite of the world's exactions."

Mary Anne Rapuano

Meet Steve Kellogg, Allied Arts VP



Our affable veep is a man of many talents. Born and raised in the Los Angeles area, Steve earned a BS from University of Redlands and an MS from San Diego State in biology. Thereafter he was a biology prof at Chaffey Community College in Rancho Cucamonga for 37 years before retiring in 2000 and moving to our little town.

Steve's initial artistic endeavor was in clay sculpture, culminating with a show in Ontario in 1989. He switched to painting because of the equipment-intensive nature of working with clay. His forte today is watercolor (with the Wednesday Irregulars) and figure drawing (Monday mornings at the Schoolhouse Gallery). Steve has had a number of shows at venues including Villicana Winery in Paso Robles, various Borders bookstores and—currently—several pieces at

the SLO Art Center. He will share a show with Shannon McNamara at the Heritage Oaks Bank in Cambria in April.

Steve's other interests include photography, woodworking (he built in much of the furniture in his Cambria home), bird watching, tennis and be sure to check out his shirts—he sews his own!

Steve reports he is looking forward to working on the AAA Board this year as VP and, like Dick Cheney, he has no desire to be prez.

Mary Anne Rapuano

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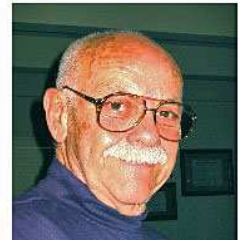
Schoolhouse Gallery News



BJ Bettencourt, Gallery Director

Next Show: Mar 1 thru Apr 10 Exchange Days: Feb 28, April 11
Featured Artist: Harry Hamburg Artist Reception: Mar 1

We are delighted to present the work of Harry Hamburg. His "Industria" series, done in gouache and ink, has a unique and mysterious ambience. Harry says that he discovered his industrial theme when he happened to drive by a cement plant in Watsonville at night. The moonlit factory complex, which looked to him like an amusement park with a magical aura, became the inspiration for the "Industria" series.



Harry began his career as a newspaper cartoonist and illustrator. Subsequent pursuits included photography for Esquire magazine, teaching in the department of moving-image arts at the College of Santa Fe and sculpting, among others. Harry welcomes change and moved here from Monterey with his wife Joanna just two months ago. Harry is always seeking new adventures in art.

Plan to attend the featured artist's reception from 6:00 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. on Tuesday, March 1, 2005. Please join us in celebrating the art of this very welcomed recent addition to our community.

Other Gallery Happenings: Life Drawing

Grab a pad and your favorite medium and join us for each Monday (except Exchange Days) from 9 am until noon to sharpen your skill with representing the human body. We provide the live model; you provide your materials, artistic ability and a small fee of \$7. This is an excellent opportunity at a very reasonable price. We look forward to seeing you there.

SLO Wind Orchestra Returns to Cambria

The SLO Wind Orchestra, conducted by William Johnson, is returning to Cambria. The ensemble will unleash its glorious sonorities at 3 pm on Sunday, April 10th at the Community Presbyterian Church. The orchestra comprises forty musicians ranging in age from teens to seniors and includes Cambria's own Rachel Carpentier, flutist. The afternoon concert will include selections by Rossini, Saint-Saëns, Vaughan Williams and Sousa

With some of the most accomplished wind and percussion players in the area as its members, the orchestra is dedicated to performing the finest works at the highest possible artistic level. Its aim is to foster a better appreciation of the wind ensemble repertoire and make an important contribution to the cultural vitality of the Central Coast community. The support of Allied Arts members is encouraged and deeply appreciated.

The Norman Miller Scholarship award, won by Rachel Carpentier in 2004, will be presented to a young musician at this concert. Tickets for the event are \$12 general admission and \$8 for students and seniors and are on sale at the Schoolhouse Gallery.