

Desert Artists' League

NEWSLETTER

The next meeting of the **DESERT ARTIST'S LEAGUE** will be **Monday, March 5th 2012** at the Kerr McGee Center, beginning promptly at 6:30 p.m.



OUR

MARCH

PROGRAM artist will be Greg Gilbert who will be demonstrating mostly in oils. He describes his Works of Art as Visually Exciting, Both Close-Up and At a Distance Documenting the Disappearing American West

Gilbert is a Ridgecrest native, with an interest in art dating back to his grade school days. Back then, he says that all the other kids would pick him when it came time for art projects, such as making signs or bulletin board displays. His interest was sustained in high school where his artwork brought him a Bank of America Achievement Award and a scholarship to the Art Center College of Design in Los Angeles. Greg worked his way through college by selling his paintings, earning a BFA in Advertising and Communication Arts. Following college, he worked at the Cabrillo Marine Museum, then at Cerro Coso College as a graphics designer. He described his work at Cerro Coso as "loads of fun. Some of the instructors get mad 'cause they say we're having too much fun."

Since then, Gilbert has traveled the trails and back roads of America's West, using pencil and paint brush to capture the rugged beauty of its mountains, canyons, and deserts. Today he loves to paint scenes from the Mojave desert, as well as the canyon lands, Indian ruins, and landscapes of New Mexico, Colorado, Nevada, Arizona, and California. The "Disappearing American West" is a theme found throughout his artwork. Creating both paintings and photographs, many scenes recorded in the '60's and '70's no longer exist today. Searching the southwest's most remote ghost towns and back roads for lost and forgotten vintage relics of a bygone era, Greg finds beauty in anything antique: the bold simple geometric shapes of weather worn cars, trucks, trains, trees, windmills, pueblos, "Old Wild West," "Historic Route 66," and "Scenic Highway 395" themes. Greg has recently been exhibiting his theme "Dead Cars: A New Life" at the California Museum of Art, and is currently showing (and selling!) his work at the Randsburg Art Gallery.

Join us for an exciting evening program covering Greg Gilbert's work in oils, acrylics, and other media.

HOSPITALITY/REFRESHMENTS

Thanks to Dolores Hoffman for bringing refreshments to the February meeting. Bert Howmann and Rhonda McIntire will be bringing refreshments to the March meeting.



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HELP STILL NEEDED



DAL is still in need of a **president**, a **treasurer**, and **someone to handle workshops**. **Please** consider any of these tasks. We have only nine regular meetings a year which consist mainly of presenting any business to discuss, and nine board meeting to prepare for these, Plus, we have a great board who would be willing help set up these meetings, and to support you if you would take one of these positions. Our bylaws outline the duties of each office, making your task easy to follow. Donnie Woods may be able to work on getting programs but would like someone to do all the rest of the VP programs job, which is handling workshops.

It would be sad if DAL wasn't able to meet the needs of our artists!!!

March Show & Tell



SOMETHING GREEN !!

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TRIP TO LA QUINTA ARTS FESTIVAL.

Juanita is organizing a trip to the LA QUINTA ARTS FESTIVAL at the Civic Center Campus. Attend the award winning nationally renowned La Quinta Art Festival. This is interactive art experience featuring a colorful line up of over a hundred artists. Creative talents and innovative mediums including sculpture, photography, painting, ceramics, jewelry and much more. The La Quinta Art Festival is nationally recognized by artists and patrons alike as the second best in the nation The 13 acre La Quinta Civic Center campus surrounded by the rugged Santa Rosa Mountains is located adjacent to the west side of the City Hall at the corner of Washington street and Calle Tampico.

The trip is scheduled for March 10th. The plan is to rent a van that will carry 14 people. If we have more than 14 people sign up, we can rent a a van that carries 25 people. This is a three hours trip, with at least one 20 minute rest break On the return home, we will stop for dinner The cost will be \$30 for transportation plus \$12 admission to the festival. There will be a sign-up sheet at the March meeting, with the deadline for this trip by **March 7 at 12 Noon**. Your \$30 payment will hold your place on the van.

However, you can sign up now. Just call Juanita at 1-760-375-5649, or E-mail her at yogi93555@yahoo.com

Take advantage of this wonderful opportunity to attend this event!



OUR APRIL PROGRAM

will feature Cheryl McDonald, who will be demonstrating watercolor.

McDonald will also be holding a two-day watercolor workshop on Expressionist Landscape, scheduled for March 31 - April 1. She will share ways of expressing a landscape beyond realism, discovering ways to abstract what you see and add interest and emotion to your art. Cheryl's tentative plan is for people to bring in photos of things or places that they love, to learn how to abstract an intuitive expression of the photo. The cost of the workshop is \$75 for DAL members, for both days and includes the space rent. The workshop location is the DART building on Gold Canyon. Note: There are still openings and if we don't get enough artists in this workshop, it will have to be cancelled, and possibly the April program! Please let Mike Mumford know if you're interested ASAP, at j.mumford@mchsi.com, or at 760-375-5876.

CHECK THESE OUT: DAL's DVD library. Contact Jim Murray for details. And contact Lura Zimmerman about DAL's WEBSITE at <http://www.DesertArts.org>.

Ridgecrest Regional Hospital (RRH) donation: At a recent meeting, our president Juanita asked the membership to consider a donation to the RRH from DAL, to show our appreciation in their support of our art work on display there. The RRH gave DAL permission to set up the art gallery along one of the often visited hallways, and they also purchased the hanging rods to hang the art work. So it was suggested we donate \$250 to purchase a leaf for their donator's wall. So please be prepared to take action on this at the March meeting. And the gallery has been successful, as several of our members have sold their art work from this gallery!

DAL'S art shows: Background: For many years, DAL held an annual art show, which always seemed successful. Eventually, for various reasons art shows were discontinued. I believe, around 2000, we were able to begin holding shows again, when DAL took part in events at the fairground. And for a couple years, it seemed like most of the members took part in this, and the shows were successful (that was when the shows were in a building by themselves!) But eventually, for whatever reasons, fewer members took part. And for a couple years we had to share space with vendors, etc., which didn't work out too well! Eventually, we dropped out of the Spring Festival event (it was a freebee for us), which led us to sign up for a booth at Santa's Art Shop

Santa's Art Shop: For the past three years, DAL has rented a booth at Santa's Art Shop. DAL paid about half the cost, with the participants paying the rest. This has given DAL a chance to inform the public of our group and members a chance to show and sell their art. At this time, however, we need to look at the possibility of continuing to use this venue, or not.

Here are a few pros and cons:

- At the present, except for the galleries, DAL members have no other venues to show and sell art. (Speaking only of DAL as a whole. Some individual members have their own outlets.)
- So far, only a few members have signed up for this event.
- It takes a lot of work for just a few people to put this together. Is it worth the effort?
- Is it worth while for DAL to pick up half the cost?
- Should the participants divide all the costs between them (although it would still be under DAL'S auspices.)
- Should DAL be involved at all?
- The shows have been fun. There has been some sales, but not many.
- As mentioned above, it lets the public know we're out there!

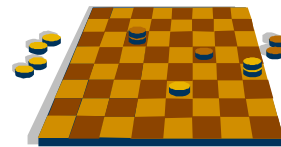
↪ We need to make a decision soon, as probably this spring or early summer we will be getting an application for the December event. So during the March meeting, we need to explore the subject of remaining -- or not remaining -- with Santa's Art Shop. What do you think????

p.s. Of course, if we don't get a president, we may as well forget all of this!

MISCELLANEOUS At the IKEA store last weekend, I found a couple of interesting and inexpensive art items: a light/work table, and a small flat file. The flat file is a product that they call ALEX, a 6-drawer file, \$119. I can't find the work table listed on their web site, I need to run off right now -- I'll look it up later. But: it is a work surface of about 30" x 60", with a built-in glass section to use as a light table Mike

More Miscellaneous: I was recently contacted by a lady looking for a painting that was in the RRH gallery. It was of a chickadee in a decorative frame, with a price of \$65 on it. She wanted to purchase this, but it was no longer there. Is this yours? Did you sell it? Please contact me so I can let her know what the status is. Thanks. Joan

DAL BOARD MEMBERS for 2011-2012



President: Juanita Willis (1-760-375-5649)

VP of Programs: Mike Mumford (1-760-375-5876)

VP of Membership: Frank Armogida (1-760-447-0362)

Secretary: Elaine Jones (1-760-375-9041)

Treasurer: Robert Jornales (1-760-384-1160)

Gallery: Jerry Mattox (1-760-384-3214)

Historian, Martina Camphausen (1-760-446-2834)

Hospitality: Rhonda McIntire (1-760-371-2477)

Newsletter: Joan Welsh (1-760-375-2954)

Publicity: Lura Zimmerman (1-760-371-7827)

Sunshine: Pat Kleinschmidt (1-760-446-2097)

DVD's: Jim Murray (1-760-377-4446)

Website: Lura Zimmerman (1-760-371-7827)

Art Hobos: Juanita Willis (1-760-375-5649), Robert Jornales (1-760-384-1160, 1-760-375-3400), Penny LePome (1-760-375-5287),

