



SOUTH CENTRAL ROUNDUP

SUMMER, 2009

Teachers & Educators
of Art Materials

SOUTH CENTRAL REGION OF



CAROLYN'S COMMENTS

It's way too hot for me. I'm hibernating in the air conditioning until October. But, I have been getting some new class pictures ready.

I am also recovering from cataract surgery. I'll have the other eye done in August. I can't believe how much better everything looks. What everyone says about colors being brighter and clearer is very true – especially white.

All of us have been dealing with the loss of our dear friend, Rita. It was a terrible thing and really hit me hard. She will be greatly missed by all of us.

We have set a date for the 2010 South Central Regional meeting: March 27th and 28th in Richardson, Texas. We also have a guest instructor. Gail Ruth joined our Region this year and lives in Louisiana. Her work is just gorgeous. She will be giving our classes in oils. Gail is working on some new class pictures so we will have them in the next newsletter. Go to her website – www.gailruthfineart.com – to see her beautiful work.

Stay cool – paint a lot.

Love ya'll.

Carolyn



MARK YOUR CALENDAR



HOMECOMING HUES
September 8-13, 2009
North Bend State Park
Cairo, West Virginia

**2010 LAS VEGAS CREATIVE
PAINTING CONVENTION**
February 21-27, 2010
(National TEAM Meeting
Thursday night, February 25th)
Riviera Hotel, Las Vegas

**2010 SOUTH CENTRAL
REGIONAL MEETING**
March 27th and 28th 2010
Richardson, Texas



"When I have a terrible need of – shall I say the word – religion, then I go out and paint the stars." (Vincent Van Gogh)



I'm sure you all know by now that we lost our friend and teacher, Rita Huscher, earlier this month in an automobile accident. A young man driving a truck hit her from behind, causing her car to hit a bridge abutment. He left the scene of the accident but later turned himself in. He is presently in jail awaiting trial.

With the help of Rita's daughter, we held a "celebration of life" where her friends and family gathered to remember Rita.

It has been a difficult time for us at The Art Shack as we try to make sense of our loss and to go forward without Rita. We (her students) have decided to continue our weekly painting classes. Only now, they won't exactly be classes—just friends getting together to paint. We will continue Rita's habit of encouragement to each other and offer advice when we are asked.

It will be a long time before we are able to stop grieving for Rita, but by continuing to paint at The Art Shack, it will be a little easier to face the future without her.

Many of you in TEAM knew Rita and had painted with her over the years. She was an accomplished artist and friend to people all over the United States and will be missed by everyone who knew her.

Thank you all for your kind thoughts and prayers.

Kitty Gorrell writes that it is not too late to sign up for HOMECOMING HUES Painting Retreat in Cairo, West Virginia. Some classes are full but there is still space available in others. If anyone is interested in attending HOMECOMING HUES, now is the time to get signed up. Go to www.KittyGorrell.com to find out more about what classes are still available.

You may call Kitty at 304-684-7975 between 9 a.m. and 8 p.m. Eastern time.



The NATIONAL T.E.A.M. meeting will be held in conjunction with the 2010 Las Vegas Creative Painting Convention as it was this year. The meeting at the Riviera Hotel in Las Vegas will be held February 21st to 27th and the National Team meeting will be Thursday night, February 25th. For information about the meeting, write to carolearte@sbglobal.net.

"I found I could say things with color and shapes that I couldn't say any other way. — things I had no words for." (Georgia O'Keeffe)

Take a minute to visit the TEAM website at www.artteachers.org. It's nice to see what the other regions are doing. You can read their newsletters as well as our own *South Central Roundup* on the website.



It's time to start making your plans to attend the 2010 South Central Regional meeting. As you know, we were unable to have a meeting in 2009, so it is doubly important to attend next year's meeting if you possibly can. Carolyn has been able to get one of our own members to be our instructor for the two-day meeting in March.

Gail Ruth lives in Pride, La. and has agreed to teach both days. She will paint in oils.



ARTIST BIOGRAPHY

Gail brings the old master's multi-layer techniques into her paintings, giving them an old world appearance. Gail studied art from many renowned artists over the years, attending many workshops, and conducting research on the old master's techniques of painting. She has taught her special techniques to develop her own painting style. She especially enjoys oils, and is a versatile art instructor painting and teaching in any medium and technique.

She resides in Central Louisiana where she currently teaches ongoing weekly classes and workshops. She also takes her talent nationwide, teaching oil painting workshops throughout the United States. She travels to various clubs and shops, conducting seminars and demonstrations. Gail teaches any style and subject, offering the best approach to the subject and technique making it fun and easy to understand in her step-by-step instructional method, encouraging the beginner and enhancing the talents of the more intermediate and advanced artist while they paint in a relaxed atmosphere. Her classes are available to all student levels.

She has been painting as a professional artist for over 22 years and teaching since 1995 both in her home studio and throughout the Baton Rouge area. She has authored over fifteen instructional packets in oils and acrylics for all skill levels in a variety of subjects.

Gail's future plans are to work on instructional painting books, and set up a certification painting course of study, videos and, of course, more packets.

Her art work has won numerous awards. She has been exhibiting her art work throughout Louisiana in selected galleries, art shows, and in private and solo exhibitions.



Gail is working up some new paintings and will submit them to Carolyn when she's finished with them. As soon as the painting she will be teaching is chosen, we'll publish it in the newsletter.

To view Gail's art work, you can visit her website at www.gailruthfineart.com.

I hope you will all plan to attend our meeting in 2010. We need to keep up our membership and increase it if possible.

"The artist is nothing without the gift, but the gift is nothing without work." (Emile Zola)

2010 AT SOUTH CENTRAL

We hope you will all try to attend the 2010 South Central meeting in March. Your input is very important and we need to hear from you.

On the agenda and very important: **ELECTION OF OFFICERS**. Officers will serve a 2-year term (until 2012) so please consider your vote very carefully. Officers now serving are: Carolyn Vandeventer, President, June Head, Treasurer, and Neva Shaw, Newsletter. Rita Huscher, who had served as secretary for many years will, of course, need to be replaced. Please be thinking about this and consider whether or not you feel you might be able to accept this job. While an extremely important position, it is relatively easy—you must take notes at the annual meeting and keep track of the business conducted there. The minutes are then later published in the newsletter.

If any of you are willing to be secretary for the next two years, please let Carolyn know so your name can be introduced at the meeting. Hopefully, someone will volunteer to fill this slot before next year's meeting as the duties of recording secretary will commence immediately after Carolyn brings the meeting to order, since everything after that will be a matter of record.

Some of you have suffered setbacks with the economy, but with gas prices down (hopefully even lower by March 2010), we are hoping for a big turnout at our meeting. Carolyn has been in contact with Homestead Suites and we believe their rates are still very affordable at \$69.99 for a double and \$89.99 for a suite. We will confirm these prices later in the year. When sharing a room, this is a relatively minor expense.

And--- another important reason for attending is of course, getting to paint with Gail Ruth for the first time.



Please keep in mind the

"ARTIST OF THE YEAR" competition.

In the past there have been few entrants, so we're hoping this next year will bring out all the artists in our group with an entry in the contest. Previous winners are ineligible in 2010. The first place winner receives \$50.00, 2nd place gets \$40.00 and 3rd place receives \$30.00. Ribbons for 1st, 2nd, and 3rd place will also be awarded as well as a ribbon for Honorable Mention. For those of you who have not entered a painting before, please remember it can be in any medium and must be unframed.

Charcoals and pastels may be covered with plastic to protect their surface. It does not have to be an original work, but it must have been completed by you alone. You may get advice from a teacher or friend, but no hands-on assistance is allowed.

We hope to have an entry from every member (excluding last year's winners) so it will be a real competition. All members present at the meeting will vote on the entries. The names of the artists will be covered and you will vote by number so no one will know who painted any of the pictures.



Also included in the activities will

be the **SILENT AUCTION**. It's always fun to see what items members bring to donate to the silent auction.

As always, your ideas and suggestions on how to improve South Central Regional's activities are most welcome. Please feel free to bring your suggestions to the meeting.

What's happening at South Central-----



Naomi Armstrong is getting married and created this clever announcement. Congratulations, Naomi!



Anne Ballard's painting on glass. Very nice, Anne.



Neva Shaw's nude. (Not a self-portrait)



Lorena Green's latest painting.



Katie McCarty's beautiful beach scene.



Margaret Johnston is starting a new painting.



June Head just completed a painting of pears.