

Valley Art Association
2022 Main St. — P.O. Box 333
Forest Grove, OR 97116
Phone 503.357.3703

www.valleyart.org

FROM THE GALLERY

Valley Art Association — January/February 2007

A nonprofit organization promoting art in the community since 1966.

+ IRON RUSTS FROM DISUSE,
STAGNANT WATER LOSES
ITS PURITY, AND IN COLD
WEATHER BECOMES FROZEN;
EVEN SO DOES INACTION SAP
THE VIGORS OF THE MIND.
...: LEONARDO DA VINCI ...:

Valley Art is dedicated to supporting working artists and encouraging beginning artists, while bringing out the artist within us all by exhibiting exceptional artwork and offering art classes for the entire community at affordable prices.

Valley Art general meetings are held on the fourth Thursday of the month at 6:30 p.m. All Valley Art members who would like to attend are invited. We welcome your input and look forward to your interaction.

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“Coming Home” — An artist’s return to her first love

Ingrid Zahl-Thomas will be the featured artist during Valley Art’s January-February show at the gallery, 2022 Main St. in Forest Grove.

The reception for the artist will be on Jan. 27, from 2-4 p.m. at the gallery, and the work will be up through February.

Zahl-Thomas says the painting exhibit represents a certain “homecoming,” since it marks her return to studio work which had been put on hold for approximately 13 years.

Before putting her painting on the back burner — after the birth of her second child — she was a full time practicing artist preparing regularly for solo and group exhibitions in Portland, Hillsboro, Sheridan and Bend.

When her oldest son was about to enter school, Zahl-Thomas stumbled upon a small, brand new private school in Gales Creek

— Swallowtail School. Based on Waldorf principles, the school emphasized the value of a child’s imagination and “enlivening” it. The teaching methods also valued creativity as a significant path for learning. She strongly believed in this holistic, meaningful and rich educational model and wanted her children to learn from it.

Zahl-Thomas became a dedicated worker at the school and found a new focus, training and commitment. She was on her way to becoming a teacher and was able to use her artistic background every day in a different light.

Her children are now in high school and she still feels a deep commitment to Swallowtail School — but inside she had always known she would return to painting.

As she nervously stepped back into the studio, she found herself wondering what the content of her work would be. Technically, the first few painting sessions were a bit awkward. However, it didn’t take long before images and brushwork began to flow. What she



Pink flowers bending low in a meadow demonstrate Ingrid Zahl-Thomas's observations of nature's brightly colored structures and rhythms.

Continued on page 2

Future thinking: What are your plans?

As this new year begins, we want to take one last quick look back on the year just past. After an extensive brainstorming by Valley Art members during the summer and fall of 2006 – with Vergie Ries directing and taking extensive notes – members came up with many ideas for the future of Valley Art.

To make those ideas work, follow-through is needed. Ries is working on grant funding for Valley Art projects. These include plans to improve the pottery and storage areas in the back at Valley Art, and eventually doing something about the flooring in the main gallery.

Pottery classes are well-attended, so having a better facility will definitely be a benefit. It is hoped a new kiln, with cheaper, more efficient firing capabilities, can be purchased. New flooring in the gallery would also give the entire building a much needed upgrade to its overall look.

Looking toward the future, have you considered how you might provide for the future needs of Valley Art? A general bequest is a gift payable out of the general assets of your adjusted gross estate.

Future generations of art lovers will thank you.



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Coming home, continued from page 1

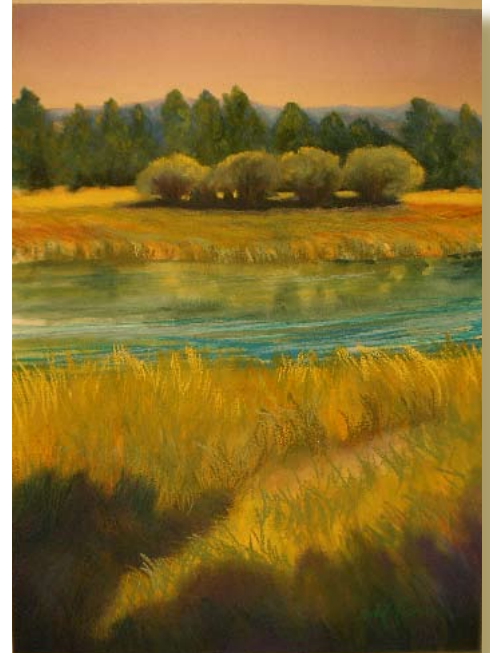
discovered was that her focus of expression continued to come from the same inner core as it did 13 years – and many life experiences – before.

“On the surface the work may appear slightly different in technique, (but) the source of inspiration that compels me to paint and create remains the same. I continue to look for finding imagery that offers a sense of calm, a piece of time to get lost meandering through, and – breathing deeply – crystallizing an awe inspiring moment in nature; be that grand and bold, or minute and quiet.

Zahl-Thomas says in her work she strives to celebrate the beautiful and develop appreciation for the magnificence of life. “My



Snow-topped mountains – with white clouds fanning out into the blue sky from behind – are edged with golden fields, while green trees anchor the bottom of this painting.



wish is that in this fast-paced lifestyle we work through every day, my work can offer a sense of calm to the viewer for just a few fleeting moments.”

Various locations in Oregon inspired her work in this show. Most are done exclusively in acrylic on heavy watercolor paper. This past fall she began using chalk pastels in some of the pieces.

Please join us on Jan. 27, 2-4 p.m., as we welcome Ingrid Zahl-Thomas to the Valley Art gallery. Our receptions are world famous!



Upcoming events around town & county

Theatre In The Grove will present “**Rumors,**” a comedy by Neil Simon, from **January 12 - 28, 2007**

Next up will be “**Into the Woods,**” Stephen Sondheim’s Tony Award winning show, **February 23 - March 18, 2007**

Pacific University: At the **Kathrin Cawein Gallery of Art**, located in the Harvey W. Scott Memorial Library, **January 5 - February 5, 2007**, Rick Regan’s Photography, Tokyo, 2006, will be on view.

A **closing reception** for Regan will be held **February 1**, from noon to 1 p.m. **Pacific University Performing Arts Series** presents **Steve Riley and the Mamou Playboys, Saturday, February 3, 7:30 p.m.**

Influence Gallery, 231 E. Main St. in Hillsboro, will be **open late** downtown on the **first Tuesday of the month**. Artwork, music, poetry ... you never know what you’ll find going on.



Valley Art January/February 2007 Art Classes and Studios

Learn something new!

— NEEDLECRAFTS —

E400 QUILTING STUDIO

This is an ongoing class and may be joined at any time. All levels from beginning to advanced are welcome. This is the time to do your own work, get advice on a special project and meet with other local quilters. Class meets **FRIDAYS, 9 a.m. - 1:30 p.m.** \$28 for VAA members first term; \$43 for non-members (includes one year membership). Only \$5 per term thereafter.

— THE ART OF FLOWERS —

E410 IKEBANA

The art of Japanese flower arranging, including philosophy based on Eastern culture, with occasional field trips. Class meets **THURSDAYS, 1 - 3 p.m.** This ongoing class may be joined at any time; \$10 surcharge for student's first class, \$25 for non-members (includes one year membership), \$7 per each additional class payable to the instructor, Margaret Harshbarger — 503-357-5504.

— HARDANGER ARTS —

E411 HARDANGER STUDIO

The Hardanger Studio is open to anyone who is interested in a non-structured environment where they can work on personal knitting, crochet, hardanger or embroidery projects at Valley Art. This is an ongoing studio that can be joined at any time. Class meets **THURSDAYS, 9:30-11:30 a.m.** The cost is \$28 for VAA members first term; \$43 for non-members (includes one year membership). Only \$5 per term thereafter.

— PAINTING, DRAWING and SCULPTURE —

E422 MULTI-MEDIA PAINTING STUDIO and CRITIQUE GROUP

This open multi-media studio has developed a friendly and supportive atmosphere where a person can work on their own projects in watercolor, acrylics, colored pencil, graphite, pen and ink or almost any other painting or drawing medium with the exception of oils. Each session begins with a voluntary critique. There is no instructor and we do our own clean-up. This studio is every **SECOND & FOURTH TUESDAY** of the month, **Noon - 3 p.m.** Come join us! First time attending, \$20 for VAA members; \$35 for non-members (includes one year membership). Only \$4 per session thereafter. Contact Lisa Zietz at 503-324-0910; moon@hevanet.com.

— POTTERY —

E466 CHILDREN'S POTTERY

Children's Pottery (ages 7-12): This six-week class will be in session from **January 20 to February 24** on **SATURDAYS** from **10 a.m. to noon**. Children learn to make and decorate their own pottery. We will make masks, vases, dinner place-scapes and much more. Class will be taught by Barb Gookin (503-357-9441 if any questions). Tuition is \$65 for VAA members; \$70 for non-members (includes one-year membership). Includes clay, glaze and firing. Siblings get a \$5 discount.

E486 POTTERY MAKING

All skill levels welcome. Learn a variety of techniques for forming decorative and utilitarian objects from clay. Hand building and wheel throwing methods will be explored, and students may use terra cotta clay and low-fire decorative techniques or high-fire stoneware. Class meets **THURSDAYS, January 4 — February 22** (8 weeks), **6:30 to 9:30 p.m.** \$97 for VAA members, \$112 for non-members (includes one year membership). Clay (\$11.50 per 25# bag) and tools (\$13.50) may be purchased in class, or bring your own tools. Instructor: Ginger Steele at gingersteele@insomniapottery.com.

SPRING SPRITE WORKSHOP: It's time for the Spring Sprite Workshop at Valley Art! Hey, kids, ask your parents to sign you up for this fun two-day workshop so you can have fun making lots of special gifts for the spring season: Easter, Cinco de Mayo, Mother's Day and Father's Day, to name a few. Register early because there is a limit of 16 lucky kids. Workshop fee is \$45, with a \$5 discount for siblings. No membership fees. Ages 6-11. **March 17 and 24, from 12:30-4:30 p.m.**

REGISTRATION FORM ON PAGE 4



Valley Art Board of Directors

The Valley Art Association board members are: Carol Berget, Joan Bolen, Erin Brist, Jeane Canon, Mary Easton, Jerry Hoerber, Christine Kidd, Jeanne Levy, Isabelle McDaniels, Roylene Read, Lois Rifkin, Maurine Scott, Philip Thias, Pat Truax, Mona Ward and Catherine Wildt.

President is Pat Truax, treasurer is Jerry Hoerber and secretary is Christine Kidd.

If you, or someone you know, would like to serve on the nonprofit's board to fill any of the open positions, please contact Valley Art at 503-357-3703, or President Pat Truax at 503-357-6506.

Members of the community are welcome to sit in on board meetings to find out more about the organization's goals and purpose.

Meetings are the fourth Thursday at 6:30 p.m. at 2022 Main St. in Forest Grove.

Plan ahead — Upcoming spring pottery classes, taught by Ginger Steele:
E586 Pottery Making
Thursdays, 6:30-9:30 p.m., eight weeks; March 22-May 10, 2007. Member, \$97; non-member, \$112 (includes one-year VAA membership).



First Wednesday continues in downtown

First Wednesday of the month in Forest Grove continues through the fall and winter. On Dec. 6, the first annual Light Parade took place in Forest Grove.

Marching in the parade on behalf of Valley Art were two "art angels" – Mona Ward and Jeanne Levy, below. They looked heavenly with their sparkly appendages. Come join them next year.



Parade participants had fun carrying glow sticks and walking through town north from 19th Avenue up Main Street, then to College Way and back south to the starting point. Over 40 entries – floats, log trucks and marching groups – made this first-ever parade a success.

Inside Valley Art the fun continued with a Christmas elf from Sake One offering samples of "saketinis," and two authors – Debbie Bybee Gravley and Christopher J. Kemper – who talked with visitors about their books. Gravley's book

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January/February 2007 — Registration Form
Mail or drop off form at Valley Art Gallery

VALLEY ART CLASS REGISTRATION FORM
MAIL TO P.O. BOX 333 – FOREST GROVE, OR 97116

Please note: Pre-register in person at Valley Art no later than five (5) days before your class starts, or mail your registration to arrive no later than five (5) working days before your class starts. This allows time for teachers to prepare for every class, knowing how many students are registered. If classes don't fill five (5) days before each class starts, teachers will notify registered students of class closures before the class date.

PRINT CLEARLY

Class number _____ Class name _____ Class begin date _____

Student name _____

Adult Teen Child Age: _____

Signature of Parent of Minor Student _____

Mailing Address _____ City, State, Zip _____

Home Phone _____ Alternate phone _____

E-mail address: _____

I learned of this class through: VAA Newsletter VAA Web page

Prior VAA class Hillsboro Argus Another person Other

PAYMENT DUE AT REGISTRATION

Class Tuition \$ _____ Cash Visa Check Check No.

Class Fee \$ _____ Fee Description: _____

Total: \$ _____

Payment received by (print name) _____ Date paid _____

Send registration and check for tuition and class fees to Valley Art, P.O. Box 333, Forest Grove, OR 97116. Visa payments must be made at the Gallery, 2022 Main St. in Forest Grove.

New Year's walk and contemplation

Forest Grove is home to many special things: art galleries, sake distilleries, wineries, live theater.

This new year, you may have goals in mind, and on the Pacific University campus, at the corner of Pacific and College Way, there is something that may help – a labyrinth to clear your mind. A small section is shown.

Walk well – and enjoy!



Annual Artist Event 2006

This year's Annual Artist Event marked the 40th anniversary of Valley Art. To celebrate we invited the public to our gala opening night, "Nuit Blanche."

Heather Pearl-Cromie and Michael O'Neill, from Nomadic Theatre, arrived to help get things going, and the members of Valley Art met the need for wonderful goodies to eat.

CJ Stuart read palms and tarot cards in her exotic "Tarot Tent," and Adam Hurst, cello and guitar player, entertained in the front of the gallery, which was filled with lots and lots of art.

Some of those who helped with inventory count and unwrapped all the delightful art



Catherine Wildt and Els Abma visit at the registration table.

were: Mary Welch, Marilyn Dolby, Nancy Bond, Catherine Wildt, Sabien Osterhoff, Donna House, Joan Bolen, Lois Rifkin, Eloise Green, Mae Hada, Rosalyn Matheson, Laura Frye, Linda Wilke, Nedra Hathaway, Margaret Hoerber and Jerry Hoerber.

On members' night those who helped with purchases, memberships, and wrap-



A group of Valley Art members and friends watch closely during the gala Member's Night opening as Michael O'Neill from Nomadic Theatre does tricks and sleight of hand.

ping were Isabelle McDaniel, Lois Rifkin, Marie Farr, Betty Farr, Mary Ann Mellbye and Nancy Bond.

Mona Ward and Roylene Read dressed the front windows for the occasion and constructed the tarot reader's tent, and many others helped during the actual event, and before, also.

Lisa Duncan and her group of helpers set up pink

and black tables in the back of the gallery where everyone could enjoy the memorable food and conversation.

Four \$25 gift certificates were given away during the Member's Night event.

There were good sales during Member's Night, when members received a 10 percent discount on everything they bought that night, and ongoing sales throughout the annual event – which ended on Nov. 12 – were comparable to the previous year.

The gallery was then dressed up for holiday sales. Jeanne Levy, Cindy McIntyre, Roylene Read and Mona Ward reworked the front windows for Christmas, and a beautiful tree that reached the ceiling was brought in by Jerry and Margaret Hoerber. Thank you so much to both of them for their help – once again – in transporting

the tree to the Valley Art gallery.

Everyone enjoyed it. Several members, whose names were not available at press time, got together to decorate the tree and put finishing touches on the

Continued on Page 7



Mary and John Welch, Valley Art volunteers, examine the fine artwork.



Thank you to our gallery sitters. Without them no one would be able to shop at the gallery and Valley Art would not be able to promote the arts and artists in our community.

If you have one hour a week, you could help out at the front desk in the gallery. Call 503-357-3703.

Thank you, Isabelle McDaniel, for all the work you do scheduling our sitters.

BIG THANKS GO TO OUR OCTOBER MAILING PARTIES

For our Annual Artist Event we needed to mail out member packets with tickets and these folks showed up: Linda Wilke, Lois Rifkin, Catherine Wildt, John Welch and Mary Welch. For the bigger newsletter mailing we have these people to thank: Linda Wilke, Art and Els Abma, Jack and Pat Howard, Gwen Sagar, Warren and Betty Lancaster, Cliff Kennedy, Mary Ann Mellbye, David Saucy Jr., Joan Bolen, Mary Welch, Lois Rifkin, John Welch and Jeannette Saucy. Thank you for all you do to help Valley Art and our members!

Another sitter was trained for desk sitting at Valley Art. She is Suzanne Ebert, and is also an artist. In November Valley Art has been very fortunate to meet new members and find persons interested in sitting and keeping the doors of our gallery open. Christmas will have come and gone by the time you get this newsletter. We hope you've opened your hearts and joined Valley Art in 2006. If not, plan on doing that in 2007.

Thanks again to all our sitters!



**First Wednesday,
continued from Page 4**

was entitled "Golden Lace and the Magical Mossy Woods," a story about a wood gnome, Golden Lace, and a land filled with sprites, fairies and magic. Gravley, a Hillsboro resident, was suitably dressed for the book signing.



Author Debbie Gravley, at table, talks with Mary Welch.

Kemper, a Banks native (below, with Forest Grove Camera Club member Jean Noren), has written "Clinging to Anonymity: A Collection of Creative Memories."



To quote the author, he is "5'10", 185 lbs., untraditional good looks, muscular/athletic build" with "to-die-for dimples" – all good reasons to read his very funny book.

Join us at Valley Art on the next first Wednesday – Feb. 7 – for another great gathering.



Annual Artist Event 2006 photos



Heather Pearl-Cromie (left) walks in the back door as Joan Kramer blinks in amazement. At left, Marie Farr and Mary Ann Mellbye (seated) take payments for AAE purchases.



At right, Jerry Hoerber, VAA treasurer, and Pat Truax, VAA president, visit during Members' Night.



Below, Pearl-Cromie, the stilt-walker, proves she is Adam Hurst's biggest (or at least tallest) "fan" as he plays guitar during the Annual Artist Event gala.



At left, Lois Rifkin and Isabelle McDaniel (seated) are dressed up and glowing for the gala Nuit Blanche evening.



At right, Joan Bolen and Nancy Bond handle sales at the front desk during the November Members' Night.



Left, the "Sake Elf" from Sake One, stands ready (in front of the beautiful Christmas tree) for the next taste-tester during First Wednesday on Dec. 6 in Valley Art's gallery.

Michael O'Neill, juggler and magician extraordinaire, has his umbrella ready as Pearl-Cromie blows bubbles up above him.



More on AAE 2006, continued from Page 5

gallery. Artwork throughout the building was a delightful mix of styles and media.

Large quilted works by Jan Brattain provided colorful work on the walls of the gallery, along with pastels by both Fran Richards and Jan Youngman.

Photographs by several artists graced the gallery walls, and the pottery was abundant and in many colors and styles.

Gallery thanks go to the artists who got their work in early so there was plenty of time for the "decorating crew" to get everything on the walls and shelves.

For a good look at just some of the 2006 artwork, check out this page.

Happy New Year to everyone. Now resolve to buy some real art for your walls at Valley Art!



The blues and greens of these shimmering plates (above) have to be seen to be appreciated. Below is a luscious fused glass bouquet in purple, green and pink.



Work by many artists combined to make the 2006 show one of variety, beauty and elegance. What a treasure we have in our gallery! Thank you to all our artists and volunteers for your donations of time and talent.

Annual Artist Event 2006:
Valley Art has the best artists!



Volunteers needed

We had some new volunteers in the Valley Art gallery during the fall and winter months.

Isabelle McDaniel heads up scheduling Valley Art gallery sitters; Linda Wilke helps head the mailing party. There is training for everyone who helps out at Valley Art.

Volunteers are needed for many chores and ongoing tasks. Some volunteers can give time on a weekly basis; some can only give one hour a month.

However, any time is appreciated and valued. The gallery we have is a great bonus to the downtown area and the county in general, as it offers many people the opportunity to attend affordable classes.

If you have time you can donate please call the gallery at 503-357-3703 or e-mail femminismo@yahoo.com. Someone will be in touch with you.

Be careful about reading health books. You may die of a misprint. — Mark Twain

I appreciate people who are civil, whether they mean it or not. I think: Be civil. Do not cherish your opinion over my feelings. There's a vanity to candor that isn't really worth it. Be kind. — Richard Greenberg





Valley Art Association — January/February 2007

Art teacher's alert!

Valley Art is always glad to hear from qualified art teachers. If you are interested in teaching at Valley Art, 2022 Main St. in Forest Grove, please submit a class syllabus along with your resume to P.O. Box 333, Forest Grove, OR 97116. If you have any questions, you may call Catherine Wildt at 503-357-8385

Elves workshop makes the holidays even merrier

Thank-you to Lorraine Warren and Barb Gookin for holding the Elves Workshop in December.

Those little elves worked quite hard and turned out quite a few presents for some lucky people on Christmas Day. They also made themselves some wonderful memories while doing it.

The Sprite Workshop is next to come on March 17 and 24. It will be here before you know it. Check the class listing in this newsletter on Page 3 for cost and registration information.

OPEN STUDIO FOR TWO-DIMENSIONAL ARTISTS:

This studio of artists will meet one day a week — perhaps on Wednesday. Oil painters must only use non-toxic paints with no fumes. Let's get together at 10 a.m. on Monday, January 29, 2007, at the gallery — 2022 Main St. — to discuss our needs and see what we can accomplish! Bring a piece of your original art work to share with others. Questions? Call Merrerie French, 503-357-7272



Barb Gookin is shown above with a few of her workers during the December Elves Workshop.



Lorraine Warren works above with an eager group of industrious "elves."

Upcoming shows:

Forest Grove High School

Artists, March 5 through April 28; reception to be announced

Nate Pendleton watercolors & Sue Orlaske, saggar-fired and other high-fired pottery

May 3 through June 29, reception to be announced

Become a Valley Art member

and get your newsletter in the mail. Call 503-357-3703 or stop by the gallery at 2022 Main St. in Forest Grove.

Public support of arts makes Forest Grove community shine



The Annual Artist Event gala opening night at Valley Art on November 1, 2006, was a wonderful time for everyone involved. There was beautiful art, great people, delicious food and fantastic entertainment.

Valley Art would like to take this opportunity to publicly thank the **Forest Grove Public Arts Commission** for their very generous grant of \$500, which enabled the association to pay for the Nomadic Theatre's performance. The entertainers — Heather Pearl Cromie, a stilt walker, and Michael O'Neill, a juggler and magician — added a new and exciting element to the evening's fun.

The City Club of Forest Grove also helped to support the evening's entertainment with a generous donation.

Thank you to both these Forest Grove groups for helping to underwrite an experience many will not soon forget. There were quite a few younger attendees than is normal — and we hope to continue offering events for the entire family to expose younger and more diverse audiences to art.



Valley Art Association

2022 Main St.

P.O. Box 333

Forest Grove, OR 97116

www.valleyart.org

Our newsletter and ... & charitable donations

Our customers and supporters are special people. We value all you have done to keep Valley Art in business for 40 years. We also understand the state of our local and national economy and the fact that prices for all goods and services continue to rise.

The Valley Art board has reviewed the cost of doing business and decided that printing and mailing our newsletter six times a year to everyone who asks for it is becoming prohibitive. From now on the newsletter will go in the mail to paid members only.

However, the newsletter is a great way to show what's going on at Valley

Art and tell you something about the people who keep it running.

We would like to offer alternative ways to keep up with Valley Art.

Our Web site, www.valleyart.org, is currently being updated and will be maintained with a copy of the current newsletter and information about our shows. We also encourage those who visit our gallery to pick up a copy of the current newsletter.

TAX TIME

April is coming around once more, and when you get your statement you might notice it would have been a good idea to make a charitable contribution to a nonprofit organization

of your choice. When you match charitable donations with a donation to the Oregon Cultural Trust, this becomes a *tax credit*, not to be confused with a tax deduction.

As 2007 goes by, remember that before December 31 you will again get the chance for a tax credit (money in your pocket) by matching a donation. Donate small amounts throughout the year – monthly, perhaps – and then match that amount before the end of 2007.

Once more, we thank you so much for all your generous contributions to our longevity and wish you a happy new year.

QUICK LOOK AT VALLEY ART CLASSES:

QUILTING STUDIO – This is an ongoing class; meets **FRIDAYS, 9 a.m. - 1:30 p.m.**

IKEBANA – Japanese flower arranging; meets **THURSDAYS, 1 - 3 p.m.**

HARDANGER STUDIO – Open class to work on personal knitting, embroidery, etc., **THURSDAYS, 9:30-11:30 a.m.**

MULTI-MEDIA PAINTING STUDIO AND CRITIQUE GROUP – work on personal projects in the gallery and participate in critique. **Third Thursday each month, noon to 3 p.m.**

CHILDREN'S POTTERY – **SATURDAYS, Jan. 20 – Feb. 24, Saturdays, 10:00 a.m. – noon**

POTTERY MAKING – **THURSDAYS, Jan. 4 - Feb. 22, 6:30-9:30 p.m.**

SPRING SPRITE WORKSHOP – **Saturdays, March 17 & 24. Register early!**

MEMBERS: Save the following 2007 date –

Arts & Flowers: June is the month. The date isn't set yet, but just remember it's coming. In time for Mother's Day flower purchases, and just in time to stock the garden with everything you'll need through the season. Keep your eyes open for more information in this newsletter.

