

Ouachita Artists Gallery & Studio Newsletter

Volume 2, Issue 5, September/October 2015

SEPTEMBER						
S	M	T	W	Th	F	S
		1 10:00-12:00 Oil painting class with Allie Graves	2 1:00 meeting	3	4 10-6 Open Studio	5
6	7 Happy Labor Day	8 10:00-12:00 Oil painting class with Allie Graves	9	10	11 10-6 Open Studio	12
13	14	15 10:00-12:00 Oil painting class with Allie Graves	16	17	18 10-6 Open Studio	19
20	21 3:30 Hodge Black will demo tools he uses to create different pieces that he carves, then we get to tour his studio after the demo	22 10:00-12:00 Oil painting class with Allie Graves	23	24	25 10-6 Open Studio	26
27	28 10:00-3:00 1-day Pastels workshop with Marlene Gremillion	29 10:00-12:00 Oil painting class with Allie Graves	30			

OCTOBER						
S	M	T	W	Th	F	S
				1	2 10:00-6:00 Open Studio	3 10-12 beginning beginners' oil painting class with Martha Koelemay
4	5 Movie at the library TBA	6	7 1:00 meeting	8	9 10:00-6:00 Open Studio	10 10-12 beginning beginners' oil painting class with Martha Koelemay
11	12	13	14	15	16 10:00-6:00 Open Studio	17 10-12 beginning beginners' oil painting class with Martha Koelemay
18	19 Demo TBA	20	21	22	23 10:00-6:00 Open Studio	24 10-12 beginning beginners' oil painting class with Martha Koelemay
25	26	27	28	29	30 10:00-6:00 Open Studio	31 Happy Halloween no class--next class Nov. 7



Mark your calendars for all the above! Come in or call 870-867-3115 for more information on classes or to sign up and get a supplies list.

August 27-October 29: Ouachita Artists celebrates artist members by dedicating an entire back wall to their work. Come in and take a look at Vonda Vines' work.



The gallery changeover is done and new works are displayed. Thanks Carol Carpenter and Patti Presley for making the gallery look great every time.

Ouachita Artists assisted with the registration of art at the Montgomery County fair. Many nice entries were received.

Ouachita Artists Gallery & Studio

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Hours:

Tuesday-Saturday 10:00-3:00
Friday 10:00-6:00

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Ouachita Artists Highlights

by Allie Graves

The members of Ouachita Artists have such a good relationship with each other because of the relationship we have formed with lots of the individuals that are in this art organization. It's because of this type of relationship that we opened a gallery. We know each other personally and professionally and can work together in a business relationship. We have a story to tell with our art and it is translated to a visual image that our customers can relate to.

A landscape of a familiar place can establish a conversation about what we painted. This can connect an artist to their customer. People love to hear how we relate to what we paint. They love the stories behind the work an artist does. When we connect with people and their emotions, and they understand what we see and what we feel, the art becomes more precious and there is a real value to that. Life is about relationships. Painting is about life.

Our "Open Studio" on Fridays gives our artists a chance to relate to the public when we welcome them into our studio to be a part of creating art in so many different mediums, whether it is drawing, painting, sewing, etc. Our gallery stays open late on Fridays specifically so the community can come and work with our local artists. We take the time to understand people, what they like, their particular interests and what they would like to see happen at our gallery.

On the third Monday of the month we have a program meeting where we invite a special guest to come and demonstrate their art work and the public is always welcome to attend this meeting. The time is 3:30 p.m. in our studio. Please park in the back.

Artists Tip: Remember, for every highlight, there is a corresponding shadow.

The Fruit Plate Project

by Patti Presley



When freelance photographer Roger Rowley couldn't get his kids to eat their breakfast, his artistic skills kicked in. Fruit in a cereal bowl became much more than just fruit in a bowl. Longing to have more time for creativity and hoping his children would eat healthier before going off to school, Roger began arranging fruit in the bowl and photographing it. "Visual attraction would lead to larger consumption" Roger hoped. So from January 1 through December 31, Roger allowed his children to change his art expression. It just made sense. "I was forced to figure out a way to keep

making images within the context of a daily routine that left little room for the mental time my earlier working style had afforded."

Recently on view at the Kennedy Center for Performing Arts in Washington D.C. was Roger's photo exhibit for gallery display. Over 200 images, 12" x 12" each mounted on a grid. It's a visual treat captured and set chronologically and it's easy to guess what season it is judging by the brightly colored fruit. The "Fruit Plate Project" was also featured as a new segment on CBS Sunday Morning.

Roger's fruit plate photography can be purchased for as little as \$600 up to \$50,000. Those figures might make you think beyond what shows up on your plate at meal time. You might want to say "pass the camera, please".

Virtual Reality

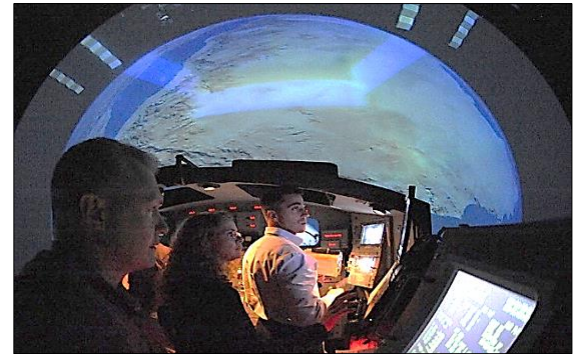
by Patti Presley

"Time" magazine's August cover reads: "The Surprising Joy of Virtual Reality, and why it's changing the world." The article, entitled "Palmer Luckey Isn't like Other Silicon Valley Nerds," is about a homeschooled, college drop-out who at the age of 22 sold to Facebook his company, Oculus VR for \$2.3 million. "Time" calls Palmer Luckey a tinkerer and a nerd who goes barefooted and likes to wear shorts. To me he sounds like other multi-millionaires in California's think tank valley, many of whose genius has had enormous impact on how we live our lives.

Imagine taking a virtual tour of the hacienda in Mexico where its agave is distilled. Or surfing the waves in Hanalei. How about flying a helicopter? Currently there are very useful purposes for putting on VR goggles. Therapists are using animated situations that allow clients who have anxiety disorders to virtually sit on a plane or ride in an elevator. James Blaha, a game developer with severe lazy eye - a condition that affects about 2% to 3% of the world's population - has used virtual reality to basically cure the disease in 30-minute sessions over three to four weeks.

Developers are working on and making virtual-reality entertainment. In a small studio in Montreal, they've built their own camera to capture video: it's the size of a person seated and the body is a battery. Sounds like a robot. It has microphones for ears and cameras for eyes. They use the device to allow viewers to slowly explore a place. They're documenting nomadic tribes around the world so you can sit in a Mongolian yurt while a family cooks.

The virtual technology for gaming will be on the shelves in time for Christmas 2015. VR entertainment in the form of virtually visiting the art galleries of the world couldn't be far behind.



Lt. Cmdr. Chris Cassidy, center, practices docking the space shuttle with his shuttle commander and pilot in a virtual reality simulator at Johnson Space Center.

NASA

The Making of Gone With the Wind

by Patti Presley

When David O. Selznick was looking for his Scarlett, Americans, having just read the 1936 Pulitzer winning novel "Gone With the Wind" were holding their breath. After interviewing 1400 actresses for the part it was still unclear who would play the role of the wealthy, Southern plantation owner's spoiled daughter. Bette Davis turned down the part because she thought Errol Flynn would play the part of Rhett. She refused to work with Errol. So beloved were author Margaret Mitchell's characters that America was almost indignant at the thought of anyone other than Clark Gable playing the role of Rhett Butler, and Clark didn't want the part. Mr. Gable finally agreed to take the part and after two years went by, the little-known English actress Vivien Leigh was given the part of Ms. Scarlett O'Hara and the rest is film making history. "Gone with the Wind" was selected for preservation in the U.S. National Film Registry. Over 200 million tickets were sold in the United States and Canada and 35 million in the United Kingdom. The film grossed \$390 million and with a 2007 inflation adjustment, that equated with \$390 million globally. The Book sold second only to the Bible and the film was second to no other film in its popularity.

"Gone With the Wind" would bring home 8 Academy Awards including best picture, actress, supporting actress and best adapted screenplay. There were 99 separate pieces of music written for the film resulting in a nomination for best music and sound recording. Noteworthy were the Honorary awards given for outstanding achievement in the use of color for the enhancement of dramatic mood. And for pioneering in the use of coordinated equipment.

The Tara plantation didn't really exist except as a painting. The studio lot wasn't big enough to accommodate such elaborate settings. In fact, the back lot had to be cleared of the "King of Kings" set that had also been used in the movie "King Kong." The first scene shot in "Gone With the Wind" was the burning of Atlanta. False fronts were placed on the large wooden structures and all was put to blaze. With no room for retakes, Selznick made sure everything was in order to create the visual effects of Atlanta on fire. It was one of Hollywood's most interesting spectacles. The film is a true piece of American film art.

Famous for its appearance in the opening credits of the 1939 classic movie *Gone with the Wind*, the Old Mill in the five-acre T. R. Pugh Memorial Park in North Little Rock (Pulaski County) contains the work of noted Mexican sculptor Dionicio Rodriguez, who perfected the folk art style known as *faux bois* (fake wood) by crafting reinforced concrete to resemble petrified logs.

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