La Muse

January 2013

Docent Dates

January 9

Board Meeting

January 14

Book Group Meets 1:30-3:30

January 16

9:15 Docent Coffee 10:00 Meet/Lecture

February 6

9:15 Docent Coffee 10:00 Meet/Lecture

February 13

Board Meeting

February 20

9:15 Docent Coffee 10:00 Meet/Lecture

In This Issue

Pres Message 1
VP Message 2
Student Teams 3
Adult Teams 4
Book Group 4
Note from Shirley 5
Holiday Photos 6
The Last Page 13



Joaquín Torres-García Uruguayan, 1879-1949 *Composition, 1932* Oil on canvas.

Museum purchase with funds provided by the 20th-Century Art Acquisition and Endowment Funds, the Grace Jones Richardson Trust, Jon B. and Lillian Lovelace, and Les and Zora Charles

It is a new year filled with possibility, hope, and potential for wondrous happenings. This newness enables us to shed last year's worries and to look forward with anticipation and resolve. It is a time to take stock of our lives and to make resolutions to move things forward in a positive and purposeful manner. As your President, my New Year's resolution is to provide meaningful art education for you so that the public may be enriched by your carefully crafted tours. I look forward to attending docent led tours for the new exhibitions in January and February: *California*

Dreaming: Plein Air Painting from San Francisco to San Diego, Myth and Materiality, and Danny Lyon. I know that many of you are diligently preparing interesting tours as we speak.

We have only one meeting this month, January 16th, where we will hear from artist Dan Connoley regarding a recent museum acquisition. Mike Ramey will also be presenting information about accessing/using the new web site. There are many adjunct features included on this web site that I am confident you will



La Muse Page 2

appreciate and find quite useful. Mike Ramey, Loree Gold, Irene Stone, and Vikki Duncan are to be congratulated for their tenacious, dedicated, and visionary work on this new website.

This new site would not have been possible without Ricki Morse's unflagging and resourceful work on the current website, which she created and maintained for many years. While electronic communication was just beginning to be accepted in docent councils across the country, Ricki had both vision and drive I n supporting and expanding ours as a useful research and communication tool. This has been an immeasurable gift made available to us year after year by this remarkable docent.

The new website team recognizes that they are standing on the shoulders of a giant, taking what was already excellent and moving it into a more contemporary and user-friendly software program. Ricki has indicated that her work has been a true labor of love, and I believe her. Please join me in giving her a heartfelt thank you for her years of selfless dedication in blazing the trail for all of us as we made friends with the computer while our many museum docents around us were still making phone calls and mailing announcements.

The Holiday Party was a celebration punctuated with breath-taking views, beautiful California plein-air art, sumptuous food, and camaraderie. Thank you to Paul Guido for allowing us to enjoy his beautiful home and to Vikki Duncan for her impeccable organization of this event! It was delightful to meet our new Provisional class and learn a little bit about each of them. We are looking forward to their graduation, which will be here before we know it.

Happy New Year!

Message from Vice President Vikki Duncan

A shining and fulfilling new year to all of you! What a way to end 2012, with our Holiday Party with Paul Guido sharing his home, art, and Pacific views while we met our new Provisional docents. Thank you again, Paul, for your hospitality. Thank you, everyone, for the delicious dishes, and a special thanks to all who helped before, during, and after the party.

The Book Group meets January 9 at 1:30 pm at Irene Stone's, and is reading Modern Mexican Painters: Rivera, Orozco, Siqueiros, and Other Artists of the Social Realist School by Mackinley Helm. See pg 4 of this issue.

Tickets have been reserved for The Girl with the Pearl Earring and Rembrandt's

Century at the de Young Museum for our docents and friends trip to San Francisco on the weekend of March 2-3, 2013 (note new dates). Our itinerary includes a visit to the San Francisco Arts and Craft landmark Swedenborgian Church, and Saturday evening at the opera. If you did not previously sign-up you would like to join us in San Francisco, email me wikki.duncan@verizon.net for details. All sign-ups and reservations will need to be confirmed by January 15th to take advantage of special rates.

Experience California plein aire paintings in two local exhibitions complementing our own California Dreaming exhibit. *Carol Oscar Borg: Spirit of the West* is on view through March 10th at the Santa Barbara Historical Museum: http://www.santabarbaramuseum.com/Current Exhibition.html>. And in Ventura

La Muse Page 3

through March 3, 2013, "Island Treasures" at the Museum of Ventura County: http://venturamuseum.org/current-exhibitions-3/mvc-current-exhibitions/> includes work by Carl Borg, and features roughly 10 Diebenkorn paintings inspired by Santa Cruz Island where the artist was a frequent guest of his friend, Dr. Carey Stanton, then owner of Santa Cruz Island. Both announcements are courtesy of Isabel Downs.

For springtime travels, mark your calendars for Wednesday, **April 3**rd for a bus trip to Los Angeles (with details to follow), then for an early May docent and friends trip to Boston to visit the Boston Museum of Fine Art and the Isabella Stewart Gardner Museum. Email me if you are interested. An informal meeting meeting (date to be announced) will be held for those interested.

The major focus in Spring, of course, is our annual Provisional Luncheons. If you wish to host one, a sign-up sheet will be circulated starting at our January 16th meeting. You are also welcome to email me, if you're already interested in hosting. As you know, these small group luncheons offer a wonderful opportunity for our new Provisionals to get to know us in a relaxed and casual setting, and for us to meet them.

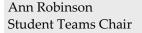
Any and all suggestions for additional activities are very welcome! Meanwhile, my very best wishes for the new year.

Vikki

Student Touring

SBMA classroom docents are often the first introduction to art for many elementary school students. Touring Docents are surprised, delighted and appreciative of the "intro to Art" power point presentations, which are vital to the success of the student tours.

January through May, 2013 has seen an increase in the number of schools scheduling classroom presentations. As a result, we are needing Angels to help with classroom presentations, possibly taking on 1 school a month. That would be very helpful.



Our team of 5 classroom presenters is ready to welcome and prepare docents for the team. We are offering a workshop in January (date to be determined). This workshop will offer an opportunity to see first-hand how a presentation comes together,

review power points from our own "techies" Rachael and Amanda, and be involved with the artful process by which this team brings art to SB elementary schools. It will make clear how the classroom presentations and touring docents work together in offering students a well-rounded museum experience, from seeing the images in the classroom to touring on the day of their visit.

Hopefully, this workshop will serve as a training program in the future as we add to the team those docents comfortable in doing classroom presentations. We are eager to increase our numbers on this team.

If you are interested in attending the workshop in January (date to be determined) with Rachael and Amanda, Sylvia Mabee and members of the Team, please contact Ann Robinson, student team coordinator for further information.



Adult Touring Molora Vadnais and Laura DePaoli, Co-chairs, Adult Teams

The exciting news in Adult Touring for the month of December was the continuation of the stunning exhibition, *The Artful Recluse*. It will be on view through January 20th, and if you haven't yet attended one of our docent tours, please consider doing so, it will be well worth your time. We also learned of some changes to our exhibition schedule for the spring of 2013. The planned European portraiture show was cancelled, and our California plein air painting

le le

Page 4

exhibition, *California Dreaming* was extended through June. Also, *Ten Talks* on Thursday evenings at 6:10 and 7:10 are ongoing. The docents who have been giving these talks report that they are very rewarding and well attended. If you haven't yet visited the Museum on a Thursday evening, please stop by and see what it's all about. We are looking to add more docents to the team to continue in the spring and if you think this is something you might enjoy please call or email Molora Vadnais.

Here are the numbers for November:

Highlights Tours: We gave 15 weekday and 4 Saturday Highlights Tours in November, touring 72 visitors, with an average weekday tour attendance of 3.8 visitors and weekend attendance of 3.5 visitors. Two planned tours had no visitors and both were on Friday.

Permanent Collection Focus Tours: We gave 8 weekday and 5 weekend regularly scheduled Focus Tours in November, and 1 special request tour, touring 99 visitors. Two planned tours had no visitors, one on a weekday, and one on a weekend. Average weekday tour attendance was 5.7 visitors and average weekend attendance was 8.8 visitors.

Special Exhibition Tours: We had one special exhibition in November, *The Artful Recluse*. The team gave 8 weekday tours, 6 weekend tours and 3 special request tours to a total of 239 visitors. Average weekday tour attendance was 13.4 visitors and average weekend attendance was 17.8 visitors.

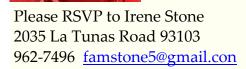
Ten Talks: We offered and gave 8 *Ten Talks* in November, to a total of 100 visitors. Average attendance per talk was 12.5.

Happy touring!

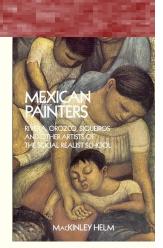
Docent Book Group

Book Group Meets Monday January 14, 1:30-3:30 at the home of Irene Stone

Modern Mexican Painters: Rivera, Orozco, Siqueiros, and other artists of the Social Realist School by Mackinley Helm.



Meeting Date Change: Feb 13 will be Feb 25. Remaining the same are: April 2 and May 14





Dear Friends,

Stephanie, Ken, and I would like to express our gratitude and appreciation for all the support, encouragement, and love we have receive during Stephanie's illness. Your many cards, emails, and calls of caring concern have helped to make

this challenging journey an easier one.

We can never thank each one of you enough for being there

for us. The docent council is an amazing family of friends and I am so proud to be a part of this compassionate and thoughtful group.

We celebrate the New Year with the fantastic news that no leukemia cells were found in Stephanie's latest bone marrow biopsy and that the stem cell transplant was a success. In celebrating we are also aware that she has a long journey of recovery ahead of her and must remain vigilant and always concerned. Like a painting, Stephanie's life is layered with dark and light, complexities that express beauty and meaning.

Together, we do our best to appreciate all that each day brings us.

With love, Shirley



Linda Adams in red jacket during the docent field trip to LACMA

Rosemarie C. Gebhart was accepted into the Los Angeles Printmaking Society on November 30, 2012. The image below is titled "Los Mundos" and is one of six that was juried and accepted.



















Sequeiros Mural, L.A.



Clockwise from the left, Joe Skenderian, Laura de Paoli, Adult Team Leader, and the Latin American Team: Steve Hiatt, Faith Henkin, Ricki Morse, Irene Stone, Loree Gold, and Sue Skenderian.

Submitted by Ricki Morse

Comments?

Mohrojai@aol.com

Lori Mohr, Editor

