



Newsletter Fall 2004

FRESH START IN FALL

Well it's September again, and as a former school teacher I always get that "Back to School" feeling of excitement about meeting new and old friends, and getting back into a regular routine. Do you remember those clean new scribblers and sharpened pencils and crisp new textbooks? As your new chair, I dutifully went out and bought some file folders in watercolour pastels and sorted through my accumulations of past minutes and newsletters and filed them for easy reference. I sharpened my pencils and put fresh paper on my clipboard. I'm ready now!

We've had our first Executive Meeting, with an enthusiastic cast. Our objective is to provide an interesting year for you. We will be continuing with our Coaching Sessions and plan more for the New Year. Note the date for the Critique Evening in November. And we hope to have an interesting workshop after the holiday season.

We are so pleased that Ann Stirling has taken the position of "Exhibitions" chair, and we are working on a BAC portfolio of some of our members' works which could then be presented as we search for venues for future exhibitions. If you have any suggestions for venues or sponsors for exhibitions, Ann would appreciate hearing from you.

Do let us know how we can keep our Association vibrant and how we can fulfill your needs as an artist and member of BAC. We need the participation of everyone, so please get involved whenever you can. Happy Painting.

Lynda Bryden

SPECIAL INVITE TO BAC MEMBERS

You are invited to a special evening of "Origins" 2004 exhibition "*Fragmentos Botánicos*" On **Thursday October 28, 7pm** at 8 Wilket Road, Toronto, (Bayview and York Mills). The show includes originals from three artists in the Shirley Sherwood Collection. See page 2

BAC FINANCES

Bank balance at September 1, 2004 which includes the 2004/5 membership dues is \$7,283.49

BAC COORDINATING COMMITTEE

- Lynda Bryden, Chair
- Louise Chenier, Secretary
- Donna Greenstein, Treasurer;
- Emily Luks, Workshops;
- Ann Stirling, Exhibitions;
- Raquel Baranyai, Membership;
- Jan Mok - PR & External Communications;
- Lynette Logue, member

**Next Critique Night -
November 3rd at 7 - 9 pm
see page 3**

JOIN BAC - IT'S EASY, IT'S FUN, IT'S INFORMATIVE: Know someone who wants to join BAC: send a cheque for \$25 made out to Botanical Artists of Canada to Raquel Baranyai, 203 Shaughnessy Blvd, #403, Toronto, Ont M2J 1J9. Tel: 416 498-9279. Email: raquelbaranyai@sympatico.ca

MEMBER NEWS

'SHERWOOD COLLECTION' ARTISTS JOIN 'ORIGINS' SHOW

As part of their third "Origins" exhibition, this time featuring small botanical studies and themed *Fragmentos Botánicos*, BAC members Emily Luks, Hannah Levitt, Lynda Bryden, Peta Lomborg and Gerry Jenkison have created a major event for botanical aficionados. Some internationally renowned guest artists are participating: **Katie Lee** and **Sheila Siegeman** are in the Shirley Sherwood Collection. **Priscilla Baldwin** is at the Hunt. This is the first time Katie and Priscilla's original work will be shown in Canada. **Pamela Meacher** is well known for her whimsical work often featuring botanicals and faeries. **Lee Hayden-Kraemer** is a photographer, currently concentrating on macro photography of flowers.

BAC members are invited to a special showing on Thursday October 28 from 7pm. Guest speaker will be Paul Zammit, perennial expert at Plant World in Toronto. Paul has appeared on *Indoor Gardener* and *Calling all Gardeners* and is a regular guest speaker at Canada Blooms. His own garden has won an award for "Best use of plant material in Toronto West".

The exhibition continues on Saturday October 30 from 11 to 5pm at 8 Wilket Road, Toronto. (Bayview and York Mills)

Tasira Strimban opens second art school on Eglinton / Bayview

In September 2004, the second location of the Barishev Art School opened its doors in the Bayview and Eglinton Avenue area. Along with other visual art subjects, the school will be offering **Botanical Art Classes** taught by Tasira Strimban. Tasira is a BAC member and professional botanical illustrator with several album publications and international experience and recognition. Due to the small class sizes and individual attention, the needs of each student will be quickly determined and accommodated. Beginner students will learn the fundamental concepts and techniques of Botanical Art. More advanced students will build on their previous knowledge and continue to enhance their skill by working on innovative projects and experimenting with new techniques. Students can work on in-class projects or continue to work on independent projects with the instructional guidance and feedback of the teacher. These classes are designed for all those with a passion for the beauty of nature and the desire to express their artistic vision.

BAC MEMBER JOINS U of T CONTINUING EDUCATION FACULTY

Karen Taylor has been appointed to teach **Advanced Botanical Painting in Watercolour** at the University of Toronto Continuing Education classes. Former lecturer Pamela Stagg, who has moved to Prince Edward County, had taught Karen and recommended her for the job. Tuesday evenings, October 5 through November from 6:30 pm to 8:30 pm. The fee is \$350, \$335 for Later Life Learners. Register at 416-978-2400, then press 2, Monday to Friday from 9:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. www.learn.utoronto.ca.

UNIVERSITY OF TORONTO COURSES WITH CELIA GODKIN

- REALISTIC DRAWING: THE BASICS: Tues or Wed 6:30 - 9 pm starting October 12/13
- BOTANICAL DRAWING: INTRODUCTION Thu 6:30 - 9 pm starting October 14
- BOTANICAL WATERCOLOUR: INTRODUCTION Sat 10 am - 12:30 pm starting October 17
- OPEN STUDIO Sat 2 - 4:30 pm starting October 17

For more information or to register call (416) 978-2400 x 2, Mon - Fri, 10 am - 4 pm or check the Continuing Studies website at learn.utoronto.ca

Please be sure to register by October 7th at the latest.

THE BEST NEWS!

Everyone who knows or has studied with Celia Godkin will be absolutely delighted to know that she and John Hawkins are getting married on December 18 at the Quaker Meeting House on Lowther Avenue in Toronto. John is a landscape painter and you can see his work at www.ojohnhawkins.com

Congratulations to you both from all your BAC buddies

North Toronto painting group?

Anyone from northern Toronto or surrounding area who is interested in forming a painting group, please contact Karen Taylor at 905-773-1506. She has facilities in her home in Oakridges (Richmond Hill, off Yonge Street immediately south of Aurora) for a group to meet once or twice weekly, evening or daytime.

ART TOUR OF COSTA RICA WITH PAMELA STAGG

An **Art Tour of Costa Rica** with Pamela Stagg, is being organized by Worldwide Adventures. Dates are February 26 to March 6, and will include visits to the Arenal Volcano, the Monteverde Cloud Forest Reserve and the Manuel Antonio National Park on the Pacific Coast, with opportunities to sketch and photograph the flora at all three sites. Costa Rica is a plant paradise, with over 300 species of orchids, for instance, and over 2,500 species of plants. Can you imagine a better way to escape the Toronto winter? For information and a full colour brochure, contact Sean at Worldwide Adventures, 416-633-5666, 1-800-387-1483 or by e-mail at sean@worldwidequest.com.

BAC CRITIQUE EVENING

Wednesday, November 3rd from 7 to 9 pm at 18 Wynford Drive, Suite 102 (north side). It is about one block north of Eglinton Ave/Don Mills Rd, and North and South Don Mills TTC buses are half a block away. There is lots of free parking on the side and back of the building after 7pm. Tell the parking attendant you are going to Don Heights (the name of the congregation).

All BAC members are encouraged to attend the Critique evenings and to bring completed works or those in progress. We usually have one or two 'mentors' to review and discuss the work and provide helpful advice, or sometimes everyone gets the opportunity to participate positively. Sound frightening? It is actually helpful and constructive, and inspiring to see what colleagues are doing.

If you'd like to bring a small appetizer or sweet, we'll have a feast again! BAC will provide juice, coffee and tea.

Heading for Algonquin in the Fall?

Remember that three of our members, Denise Hart, Aliya Ebrahim and Sara Carlisle are exhibiting over 50 paintings illustrating the flora of Algonquin Park at a show called "Treasures of Algonquin". It opens Nov. 6, 2004 - May 19, 2005 in the Algonquin room in the Visitors centre.

How to be an "Artist" - This was found and sent to us by Ely Whitlin.

Stay loose. Learn to watch snails. Plant impossible gardens. Invite someone dangerous to tea. Make little signs that say "yes" and post them all over the house. Make friends with freedom and uncertainty. "Look forward to dreams. Cry during movies. Swing as high as you can in the moonlight. Cultivate moods. Refuse to be responsible. Do it for LOVE. Take lots of naps. Give money away. Do it now. The money will follow. Believe in MAGIC. Laugh a lot. Celebrate every gorgeous moment. Take moon baths. Have wild imaginings. Transform dreams and perfect calm. Draw on walls. Read everyday. Imagine yourself MAGIC. Giggle with children. Listen to older people. Open up. Dive in. Bless yourself. Drive away fear. Play with everything. Entertain your inner child. You are innocent. Build forts with blankets. Get wet. Hug trees. Write love letters."

EXHIBITION ALERT!

BAC is planning an exhibition in May 2005 to be held at the Faculty Club of the University of Toronto. So start painting now for it. Details to be announced later.

COMMUNITIES by © Pamela Stagg

This has been a summer of great change for me. After 21 years in the same house, I moved away from Toronto to eastern Ontario. Now when I sit here at my computer, I can look out of my office window at the sailboats on Lake Ontario, and the gently rolling hills and idyllic farmland beyond the water. (And just in case you're feeling jealous, there's also a garden full of poison ivy, broken glass and rusty bits of metal!)

Soon after I arrived at my new house, I became aware of some of the communities around my new home.

The first was a community of neighbours, many of whom I met for the first time when I went out to put up a mailbox. I wasn't having much success hammering a 4x4 into the dry, stony soil; the neighbours noticed my plight and quickly arrived with a bigger sledgehammer, a couple of wedges, some intelligent advice and many pairs of extra hands. Since then, my new neighbours have come over with bottles of wine, copies of the New York Times, offers of help and a touching gift of a porcelain cat, which looks a lot like my little Alyssa. Their generosity has shown me how much they value community, and how willing they are to pitch in whenever their help is needed.

The second community I met was the arts community, a wonderfully helpful group of people who keep providing me with names of people I should meet, shows I should enter and galleries I should explore. The arts in Prince Edward County are very much alive and well, thanks to the leadership of the local arts council, which has put together a jazz festival, music festival, crafts fair, art studio tour, authors' festival ... the list seems endless.

For a small county, it's an impressive program. The volunteers, sponsors and supporters have shown that the arts area valued in this region.

I know that once I've got all the boxes unpacked and the house painted, I'll want to be part of that arts community. It has certainly got me thinking about what I can contribute and how I can benefit from a healthy arts community.

The Prince Edward arts community is not that different from BAC.

For us botanical painters, BAC is an important arts network – and unique in Canada. Because we're entirely volunteer-based, everyone's help is not just welcome, but needed to keep our organization healthy. And because BAC is relatively new, all of us have an opportunity to shape BAC to help the organization meet our needs.

In the past, we've been very fortunate that a number of exceptionally hard-working members have been willing to spearhead many exciting initiatives. Now we need more members to help out on a regular basis. The original idea was that each member should volunteer for three different events or programs per year. For instance, you might show in a BAC exhibition, update the mailing list and bake cookies for a meeting. If there's a new project you've always wanted to do and which you think would benefit BAC – even better. Go for it!

As we head into another year of BAC programs, this is a great time to take a moment and think about the BAC community – what we want from it and what we are prepared to give. Then when you know how you want to help, contact Lynda Bryden or any Coordinating Committee member. 'There are operators standing by waiting for your call'. A strong organization with a good program of relevant events will help all of us.

[See page 1 for a list of the Coordinating Committee members.](#)

Events Calendar

Date	Event	Details	Contact
Sept 20	<i>Barishev</i> Art School classes begin	See information sheet attached	Tasira Strimban info@barishevartschool.com (416) 267 7030 (416) 801 7020
Oct 5 thru November. Tuesdays 6.30-8.30	Advanced Botanical Painting in Watercolour	With Karen Taylor at U of T. Continuing Education	www.learn.utoronto.ca
Oct 21,22,23	10th Annual ASBA conference. Coincides with the opening of the 11th international Exhibition of Botanical Art and Illustration at the Hunt Institute	Pittsburgh, USA.	The Hunt Institute
October 27, 28, 30	"Origins" 2004 exhibition "Fragmentos Botánicos"	By invitation/arrangement	Emily Luks (416) 441-1992
Nov 3	Critique Evening	7-9pm. 18 Wynford Drive, Suite 102	Raquel Baranyai raquelbaranyai@sympatico.ca
Dec 10	Deadline for entries for 5 th Annual Art Show at Canada Blooms	For full information and conditions of entry, email Margit	Margit Koritar (705) 944-5695 margit@nexicom.net
March 2005	Canada Blooms	Toronto	www.canadablooms.com
March 5-6 9.30-4-30	Botanical Illustration Workshop: "Fruit, the Seed Dispersal Agent of Flowering Plants" With Dick Rauh.	Toronto. \$250. Registration closes February 2005	Margit Koritar (705) 944-5695, margit@nexicom.net
May	BAC exhibition	U of T Faculty Club	Watch for information

Send information for the next newsletter (Winter 2004) and Events Calendar to: Peta Lomborg at peta@lomborgnetwork.com . Deadline November 15, 2004

5th Annual Art Show at Canada Blooms

September 01, 2004

Dear Fellow Artist,

It will be the fifth year that the Board of Directors of Canada Blooms has agreed once again to support our efforts in promoting botanical art at their show in 2005 and you are invited to submit original works of botanical art for entry into the **Fifth Annual Botanical Art Show at Canada Blooms, March 9 - 13, 2005**. Canada Blooms is the perfect venue for those with a passion for flowers. It provides an opportunity for both the gardener and the artist to share their passion with the public.

Our annual show is growing in popularity and we are beginning to have a regular clientele. They are eager to see new works from our perennial artists and happy to see new artists join the magnificent artwork on display. As many of you are aware the objective of the exhibit is to show excellent work not only from accomplished artists but beginners as well. So don't be shy.

We are very fortunate to have **Robin Jess, Mindy Lighthipe** and **Dick Rauh** as our jurors. All three are very much involved in promoting botanical art not only as artists, but also as instructors and very active members of the ASBA and the New York Botanical Gardens with very strong credentials in scientific illustration and botany.

The space for the exhibit will be located on the educational floor, in Room 711 of the Metro Toronto Convention Centre, separate from areas that are gardened or exposed to high humidity or sunlight. The space is conveniently located to encourage visitors and locked at night for security purposes.

The success of the show depends on you and both the public and Canada Blooms hope that you will join us again as an exhibitor and/or volunteer.

I look forward to hearing from you.

Sincerely,
Margit Koritar
Curator/Organizer
The Botanical Art Show at Canada Blooms

10 Maple Tree Crescent
RR 1, Fraserville, Ontario
Canada, K0L 1V0

Telephone: (705) 944-5695
e-mail: margit@nexicom.net

Fax: (705) 944-4090

**For entry forms and detailed information, contact Margit Koritar
For more information about Canada Blooms go to: www.canadablooms.com**

BOTANICAL ART CLASSES
in *Barishev* ART SCHOOL
with Tasira STRIMBAN

FALL SESSION STARTS
September 20th to December 18th

Monday	9:00 - 12:00am - 12 classes - \$396.00
Tuesday	7:00 - 9:30pm - 13 classes - \$358.00
Wednesday	1:00 - 3:30pm - 13 classes - \$358.00
Friday	9:30 - 12:00pm - 13 classes - \$358.00

LOCATION

411 Eglinton Avenue East, Room 101.
5 min to walk from Dominion store
on Eglinton and Bayview, south from Eglinton

For more information please go to the school website
www.barishevartschool.com

TO RESERVE YOUR SPACE PLEASE MAIL YOUR CHEQUES TO

**Tasira Strimban, 64 Phillip Avenue,
Scarborough, ON, M1N 3R2**

info@barishevartschool.com

416 267 7030

416 801 7020

STUDIO SPACE TO RENT

Barishev Art School, located at 411 Eglinton Avenue East is offering a studio-space for rent. Space has two rooms, windows, sink and private washroom. It can be used to hold art classes, presentations, one-day art shows and more. Capacity: approximately 30 people. Parking is available at the rear of the building and on near by streets.