



# Floral Park Art League

NEWSLETTER

April 2012

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## *Juried Competition and NYRA Equestrian Competition - May 7th*

**Our Juried Show and Equestrian Competition will be held on May 7th** at the American Legion Hall in Floral Park. **Paintings must be dropped off starting at 7 PM with no exceptions. JUDGING WILL BEGIN AT 8 PM.** The deadline for entering this competition is April 30th. In conjunction with our Juried Art Show on May 7th the NYRA will hold a separate painting competition "The Equestrian". Members of the Floral Park Art League will submit any artwork that features a horse or horses. If you wish you may submit two paintings for this competition. The artwork does not have to be of racing horses (although it could be). A landscape with a horse or horses would also be appropriate. On Sunday, June 10<sup>th</sup> an Official from the NYRA will award a "Certificate of Recognition" to the winner and their painting will hang at the Clubhouse of Belmont Park for the season. The Juried Art Competition will be separate from "The Equestrian" and the winner of either would not be effected by the other.

While the judge is judging these competitions we will go to the basement of the American Legion Hall and enjoy refreshments and lively conversation. Good luck to all who will be in the competition. Only members will be able to participate in either one or both of these competitions. **If you are not a member, or wish to become one, an application is attached with appropriate fees which must be postmarked by April 30, 2012**



## *Annual Belmont Stakes Show and Sale - June 9th and 10th*

This year's Spring Show and Sale will again be sponsored by the New York Racing Association in conjunction with the Belmont Stakes. The Belmont Stakes Day for Floral Park will be held on the afternoon of June 10<sup>th</sup> from 2PM until? This day is well attended by the folks of Floral Park. We will have a manned booth along Tulip Avenue to encourage people to visit us at Memorial Park. We will have a raffle of works of some of the artists. This sponsorship will include publicity in local papers, and, hopefully attract more participation in our Show and Sale. The Show will be held at Memorial Park, Tulip and Plainfield Ave., Floral Park - Saturday and Sunday, June 9<sup>th</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup>. There is no limit to the number of paintings an artist may display within a reasonable space. Please be considerate of the other artists regarding space. Prints are allowed for sale, but must be marked "PRINT". No nudes, collages, or photography are permitted. Set up will be before 10 AM each day. If the weather isn't clear, please use your own discretion. There are no rain dates. **NO PAINTINGS ARE TO BE REMOVED BEFORE 4 PM.**

**Only member artists with dues paid and postmarked by April 30<sup>th</sup>, 2012 may participate.**

If you know of an artist who is not a member who might be interested in participating, you may pass on the application that is attached to this newsletter. Hopefully the weather will cooperate to make this a wonderful event.

## April Demo - Lillian & Cliff Forziat



Lillian & Cliff Forziat shared with us their experienced expertise at our March demo

“Preparation for Exhibits and Shows; Procedures & Business Know How’s”. This was posted in the last newsletter for the demo for April. We had that, and so much more! We were very happy to have Lillian and Cliff Forziat as our presenters for our March meeting. Cliff had prepared hand-outs so that the many topics discussed could be covered as thoroughly as possible. They covered all that there was to be covered in regard to display of art work: professionalism, appearance of display, Galleries, use of Credit Cards, Art Supply sources, tax issues, etc. We really got the inside scoop of what works and what doesn’t. All questions from the attendees were answered and expert advice was given based on Cliff and Lillian’s experiences.

For those of us who might want to venture out to shows we were given the names of some publications where these events would be listed. We were given helpful tips for preparing for such events.

How about packing your gear and protecting your precious artwork? The suggestions were practical and useful. We are indeed fortunate to have both of these professionals who were willing to share with us their expertise. Thank you Cliff and Lillian.

Again refreshment were on hand for the enjoyment of all. Thanks to Pat Lee and Dorothy Webster.

## Rob Silverman - Judging at our May 7th Competitions



We are happy to announce that the judge for our Juried and the Equestrian Competition will be Rob Silverman. His easygoing way of instruction and his accomplishments as an artist will bring a level of excellence to the judging of our member’s artwork.

Rob Silverman has recently been featured in *American Artist Workshop Magazine* and *The Art of the Portrait*, the official publication of the Portrait Society of America. Among numerous awards he was given First Prize as the official portraitist of JFK and Family, Aaron Shikler at the Common Thread Portrait Exhibition. His work has appeared at Crosby Street Gallery and Spring Studio Gallery in Soho, Edward Hopper House, and the Lockwood-Matthews Museum, as well as the National Arts Club, Salmagundi Club and in the New York Times among other prominent publications. He has a BA from the School of Visual Arts and has studied with Harvey Dinnerstein, Burton Silverman, Nelson Shanks and David Leffel. He is a member of

the PORTRAIT SOCIETY OF AMERICA from whom he was awarded an Honorable Mention in their 2009 Members Competition. He currently teaches Portraiture and Portfolio Prep at the Northshore Art Academy in Glen Head.



## Happenings of the FPAL - May 2012 - August 2012

May 7 <sup>th</sup>	<b>Juried Competition &amp; Annual NYRA Equestrian Competition</b> American Legion Hall, 15 Elizabeth Street, Floral Park - 7:30
June 9 <sup>th</sup> & 10 <sup>th</sup>	<b>Annual Belmont Stakes Spring Show &amp; Sale - 10 AM - 4 PM</b> Memorial Park, Corner of Tulip & Plainfields Aves., Floral Park
July & August	<b>No meetings</b>



We are grateful to the New York Racing Association for sponsoring our Fall and Spring Shows

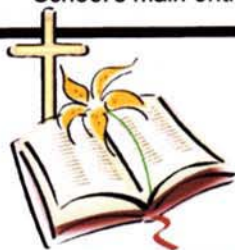
**\*All meetings in the American Legion Hall will begin at 7:30 PM with a business meeting and refreshments. The demo's will start at 8 PM.**

## Membership in the FPAL

Membership in the Floral Park Art League is for September 1st, 2011 through August 31, 2012. Membership dues are not like a subscription to a magazine. You must be a paid member to participate in the Spring and Fall Art Show and Sale, as well as, the Juried Competition in May. It also includes free demos throughout the year as well as a Newsletter and membership card entitling members for special discounts at both Utrecht and Dick Blick Art Suppliers. If you are interested in becoming a member, and participating in our Juried Competition and Equestrian Contest in May, as well as, our Annual Belmont Stakes Spring Show and Sale in June please see the attached forms for registration.

## Detailed directions to the American Legion Hall from the Cross Island Parkway

**From Cross Island Parkway** - Exit Jamaica Ave., Jericho Tpke., East. Make a right on 25 (Jericho Tpke). Go approximately 1 mile to **S Tyson Ave.** Make a right and go 2 blocks to **Elizabeth Street.** make a left. The American Legion Hall is a white building, #15, directly across from the John Lewis Childs Elementary School's main entrance.



**HAPPY EASTER  
BLESSED PASSOVER**



### FPAL Officers

President: Robert Rouge  
Treasurer: Lillian Forziat  
Show Chr. Pat DiComo  
Publicity: Open

Vice President: Cliff Forziat  
Secretary: Eileen Stattel  
Hostesses: Dorothy Webster  
Patricia Lee

## Potholes in the Mesolimbic Pathway

My last letter about getting euphoria from painting raised a few issues. Some folks were positively giddy reporting on the giddy positiveness they got from making art. Others told us the "pleasure centers" of their brains were too clogged with painterly problems to get much joy from the act. There were other acts that excited them more, they said, like eating, smoking, skydiving and you know what. One said his "mesolimbic pathway" didn't go through the art field.

Just to put us all on the same trail, the mesolimbic pathway is one of the dopaminergic routes in the brain. The pathway begins in the ventral tegmental area of the midbrain and connects to the limbic system via the nucleus accumbens, the amygdala, and the hippocampus. Now you know.

It's all about what causes us to get our kicks and how those kicks get passed around. Some subscribers pointed to the "add-ons" like "quietness in a noisy world" and "the happiness we give to others." Several mentioned the making of art as a branch of giving, an area that's fascinated me for some time. Knowing that a certain work is going to a worthwhile charity as a fundraiser turns my tiny crank.

Subscriber Gerda Hook of Greenville, South Carolina reported on altruism studies by the US National Institute of Health. "Using functional magnetic resonance imaging (MRI) technology," she wrote, "researchers gave 19 subjects real money (\$128) and asked them to make choices about keeping or spending the money."

They were given 64 popular charities to choose from. When they performed the act of giving, two areas of their brains, the mesolimbic and the subgenual, lit up. The mesolimbic is associated with the release of dopamine, a 'feel-good' chemical linked with life-affirming activities like reproduction and eating. The subgenual part of the brain is implicated in behavior involving social relationships and familial attachments—for example, this area is activated when we look at our babies and at romantic partners."

What's interesting in these findings is that both centers play key roles in the evolution of the human race (procreation and family bonds) as well as the daily sustenance of the species. Giving not only feels good, but is also associated with the survival of our species.

PS: "The fragrance always stays in the hand that gives the rose." ([Heda Bejar](#)) "Man is never so happy as when he giveth happiness unto another." ([Edward G. Bulwer-Lytton](#))

Esoteric: Catharine Compston of Edmonton, Alberta pointed out that a finished work of art as it marches out into the universe transforms from the pleasure of the artist to the pleasure of others. This thought alone might be the stuff of happiness and high excitement, she figures. At the same time, a few folks wrote of the fear that their art might be substandard and not give pleasure. Along with our "feel good" brains, we of the Brotherhood and Sisterhood are subject to nagging negative thoughts, maybe even neuroses. How do you feel?

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