



# Blue Heron News

Blue Heron Chapter of the Sumi-e Society of America, Inc. January 2012

## A note from the newsletter editors

John says, "I enjoyed my visit to the Blue Heron December meeting very much. In addition to wonderful snacks, I was very impressed with the activity and the enthusiasm, as well as with the talent I saw on display, especially in the holiday cards.

"At various times during the meeting, I overheard people say, 'we have to put that in the newsletter.'" That's wonderful, but it has to be passed along. In Joe's minutes, and in the Co-President's letter, there are references to upcoming events, but we would like to be able to spread the word (and pictures) about events and activities, and contribute in a small way to their success.

So we would appreciate it if, when you have one of those "this should go in the newsletter" moments, you would act on it. Send in those announcements, drawings, paintings, and reports. Let us know what's going on, both with members and with events that are of interest to members. You can route it through the co-presidents or send it directly to one of us.

While we are glad you like the newsletter, it is only going to be as good as the material we have to put in it. So be generous. Share your gifts and talents with your fellow club members!

*John & Ann McCarthy*

<http://www.blueheronsumie.org/>  
[Blue Heron Sumi-e Facebook page](#)

## January Meeting on the 22nd

This month's Blue Heron meeting is **Sunday, January 22**, from 2-4 PM, not January 15th, as was mistakenly listed in the December newsletter. The location will be the Pretlow Library.

Featured this month will be a demonstration by Norene Spencer, who will be demonstrating Sea Scapes, a technique she learned in China.

### And a gentle reminder:

January is dues renewal month. At \$20, it's one of the best values in the area!

### Inside

Co President's Message	2
Workshops and Events	3
Meeting Minutes-Dec.	4
Exhibits and Displays	5
Calendar	6

# Co-Presidents' Message

By Nancy or Jill



**We** greet the New Year with a lot to do this month! Joan Grosch and Joe Nicholas both start a new series of classes. Norene Spencer is demonstrating at our January 22<sup>nd</sup> meeting, and Barb Battelle's one women show opens this month at Titustown, with a reception on Saturday, January 28<sup>th</sup>. Meanwhile we need to be painting, mounting, and framing to prepare for the annual Sumi-e and Bonsai exhibit at Titustown in February, and clearing our calendars for the External Workshop with Joan Lok in March.

I don't know about you, but I am always a bit relieved to have the holidays behind me, so I can get back to simpler, calmer times. I love to see the bare branches of the trees silhouetted against the winter skies, see the grass and small green leaves brushed and outlined with frost early in the morning. It was last year at this time that I walked my dog very early on a cold morning. Dawn broke and color flooded the sky and rooftops. Suddenly hundreds of geese flew past, in formation, so close I could hear the beating of their wings. That cold early morning seemed like a gift...

On NPR I heard a discussion about the strength of branching trees, how they are able to resist most winds and rains. Leonardo da Vinci had proposed that as each trunk splits into 2 or more branches, the new branches' circumferences, when added together, equal the circumference of the parent branch they grew out of. Lo and behold, new studies confirm this observation and attribute trees' strength to this phenomenon. I plan to remember this principle when "writing" trees, to give them more strength and vitality.

Happy winter!

*Nancy*



# Workshops and Events

## Big Cats with Lee Gerry Wertheimer

---

**Come** have lots of fun painting big cats – tigers and lions – in their natural habitats. Step up to the challenge! We'll learn how to paint cats' eyes and focus on the fur technique.

**PLACE:** Algonquin House

**DATE:** Thursday, February 16, 2012

**TIME:** 1 pm to 4 pm

Lee Gerry Wertheimer is an Award-winning artist of oriental paintings. She is an excellent trainer of Sumi-e, has had her work displayed at many prestigious institutions, and has studied with both Chinese and Japanese master painters for the past 26 years. Lee has her Master of Arts degree from New York University.



To attend this workshop, make your \$10 check payable to Blue Heron Chapter SSA and mail it to:

Cathy Peyton  
5941 McClure Road  
Norfolk, Virginia 23502

A special thank you to Heide Schwartz for arrangements at the Algonquin House.



### Origami Demonstration

At the December meeting, Nancy Milner, co-President, demonstrated the art of origami by leading a group in creating cranes with just a few folds in a piece of paper. Be warned—it's harder than it looks!

# Blue Heron Meeting Report

## Minutes of January 2012 meeting

---

**The** regular monthly meeting of the Blue Heron Chapter, Sumi-e Society of America, Inc. was held on Sunday, December 18, 2011 at the Pretlow Library in Norfolk, VA. Co-President **Jill Brunner** opened the meeting at 2 p.m. Eighteen members and one guest were present. Jill opened the meeting with holiday greetings to all the attendees.

### Treasurer's Report:

**Margaret Mitchell** reported a bank balance of \$3245.98 and reminded members that annual dues (\$20) are due in January.

### In house Workshops:

**Cathy Peyton** reported that the next workshop would be on 16 February. Topic: "Big Cats" with Instructor **Lee Wertheimer**.

### Chapter Facebook:

**Ann McCarthy** provided the membership with the latest info on the Blue Heron Facebook.

### NEW Business:

Co President **Nancy Milner** noted that **Charlotte Shepard** has provided us information that the Norfolk Consortium was offering grants for organizations involved in cultural programs. **Ken Nowitzky** volunteered to look into the issue and report back.

**Joe Nicholas** will be conducting a class on Flower painting at the Senior Center starting 12 January.

**Joan Grosch** will start a new 10 week course at Titustown starting on 11 January.

Lee Wertheimer reported that a 3 day workshop by **Joan Lok** (President of the SSA) has been arranged for April 27, 28 and 29. Details will be in future newsletters.

Jill Brunner introduced guest **Jenny Wong**, a former student of Shaw-Mei Shen.

### Meeting Program:

Following a brief refreshment break, the Chapter annual Note Card Exchange began with lots of excellent quality cards on display.

Concurrent with the note card exchange, Co President Nancy Milner conducted a mini work- along on how to make an origami crane. Lots of folks participated!

### Next Meeting:

The next meeting will be held at the Pretlow Library on Sunday, 22 January 2012.

Submitted:

*Joe Nicholas*



# Exhibits & Displays

One woman show by Barbara Battelle, January 23 through February 13, with opening reception Saturday, Jan 28, 1 - 4 pm. Paul Street Gallery at the Titustown Visual Arts Center, 7545 Divan Street, Norfolk.



7545 divan street - norfolk, va 23505 - 757-441-1227

january 23 - february 13, 2012

exhibition opening: saturday, january 28, 2012 1:00pm-4:00pm

 City of Norfolk, Recreation, Parks & Open Space

Individuals with a disability are entitled to participate in programs offered by the Department of Recreation, Parks & Open Space. If you require any special accommodations, please call 757-441-1704.



# Blue Heron News

1040 Spotswood Ave. #203

Norfolk, VA 23507

[www.blueheronsumie.org](http://www.blueheronsumie.org)



January 2012

---

## Blue Heron Chapter 2012 Calendar of Meetings

January 22	2-4 PM	Pretlow Library
February 19		TBA
February 20	1-4 PM	Titustown Center
		<i>Reception for Annual Sumi-e and Bonsai Exhibit</i>
March 18	2-4 PM	Pretlow Library
		<i>Lee Wertheimer demonstrates</i>
April 29	2-4 PM	Algonquin House
		<i>Joan Lok demonstrates</i>
May 20	2-4 PM	Pretlow Library
		<i>Calendar selections and tea party</i>

## 2011-2012 Blue Heron Chapter Board Members:

Jill Brunner and Nancy Milner	Co-Presidents
Joe Nicholas	Secretary
Margaret and Pete Mitchell	Treasurers
Joan Grosch	Programs
Lee Gerry Wertheimer	External workshops
Norene Spencer	Web site
Cathy Peyton	Internal workshops