

First meeting in “Gray Building” agenda
Our hardest task will be to get people to turn that corner and enter the gallery.

Monthly show rules:

- Monthly Show Only
(no “Wall Renters” and “Floor Renters”)
- One wall reserved for juried work
- Partial wall for “Artist of the Month” fee to be determined
- Use a diagonal measurement:
up to 24 (on the diagonal) is \$10,
up to 35: is \$15, up to 48” is \$20, over is \$25

- Allow Giclee and Calligraphy
- 2 Shrinks & 1 Card Slot (free for members)

Not required to sit but strongly encouraged

- Jewelry/glass/scarves etc. - monthly rate:
1 ft by 2 ft = \$10, 2ft x 2ft = \$20 per month
- Each person showing in monthly show must sit one shift per month per piece entered including board

Sitting hours:

- 10am to 6pm
- open evenings when there is an event
- Sat & Sun if we have willing sitters
(need 60 shifts + 8 if Sat/Sun)
- May close Monday

Sales:

- If not familiar with computer, sitter may use just the receipt book and simply staple bar code tag to receipt so Joanne Chambers can scan later

Take-In

- First take-in, Friday, March 31 for sure
- If possible first take-in = Friday, March 17
(It would be a 6-week show with first 2 weeks free)

Grand Opening:

- Sunday, April 2, 2-5pm (with ribbon cutting)
- Invitations (Instead of postcards, suggest a phone tree committee call and personally invite past customers)
- Encourage the artists to bring a family member, friend or neighbor to the reception
- Invite local press
- Invite Art Commissioners, City Council and DEMA

Monthly student wall in hallway.

- Parents will hang art

- Parens will provide reception
- Guild will provide PR

Space layout (Rooms are numbered as you come in the main entrance. Room 1,2,3,4

- Room 3 = desk, computer etc.
- Room 2 = jewelry, scarves, glass
- need jewelry cases
- Room 4 = paintings
(Soravia paintings and storage in closet)

Wish List:

- Jewelry Cases or shelves
- wheeled plant movers for card racks, one 15” round, one 18 “ round, one 12” square
- Can white spray paint (for card racks)

Job list

- Clean gallery space and rest rooms
- Move furniture from Kirk’s shed and storage
- Paint walls where needed
- Hang shelves for jewelry
- Paint footsteps (bare feet) on sidewalk
- Paint faux door
- Card rack person
- Shrink wrap person
- Move furniture (need truck)
- Website updater person

- Join DEMA (extra \$80 for website-hold off)
- Approach each local business with reciprocal information
- PR to go out every 2 weeks

Signage

Outside wall signs:

- board approval of outside sign design (still discussing)
- temporary sign until city approval (takes 30 days)
- painting of sign - who to do?
- Footsteps on sidewalk leading to front door
- A-frame, 2 sides with direction arrow

- Fake door on 101 side with
“Please use other door”
- What day to move phone (how long takes?)
Need extra line for charge machine

When we move to “E” Street the children’s gallery had a small area all it’s own. I also taught a successful workshop “Creative Watercolor Class” on a Saturday funded by the Art Commission with lots of children and the paintings were displayed in the main gallery for the month. Later on a grant was gotten from the Art Commission to fund a director of the Children’s Gallery. She contacted the local schools for shows. What that did for the Colony was to bring in children and parents and extended families as well as their neighbors to the Colony/Gallery/Giftshop to visit the reception for the children’s work and introduce the Colony to many new neighbor hoods of people in our community who bought and came back again and again. This was wonderful PR for the Colony and a plus towards getting a 50c3 status in the future so big grant money can be received. I would strongly recommend designating a area for a Children’s Gallery even if it is in the office or just a wall.

About a soft opening at the new location I would suggest having a reception and a large show where paintings would be hung for \$10.00 each and \$20.00 for large paintings. Everyone who enters the show would be required to sit and bring refreshments for the reception. Same for jewelry or other floor displays.

*

In the future local restaurants will donate free food for special receptions & shows once they know us if approached properly and given proper signage.

The San Diego Art Institute has it Children’s Art Corner and it is a very successful part of the Gallery. I want to really encourage this venue to introduce us to downtown Encinitas.

Please get back to me with you ideas.....Barb

PRESS RELEASE

San Dieguito's first Art Guild is coming to old downtown Encinitas and brings with it the popular Off Track Gallery with the move. The Gallery is where the Guild members sell their original art for reasonable prices and hang out. On any given day you might meet one of your favorite local artists there.

The Off Track Gallery is known for its quality local paintings as well as cards, reproductions, sculpture, glass art and jewelry.

Most people remember the Off Track Gallery from the basement of the Pannikin Coffee & Tea in Leucadia where they had a gallery for ten years.

The Guild was conceived in 1965 by a handful of artists to promote greater understanding and appreciation of the fine arts in the San Dieguito area.

Today that mission remains the same. Through the years the Guild has done many volunteer projects for the arts and artists in our north coast community. To find out more go to the Guilds website www.offtrack-gallery.com under the title About SDAG/History of the Guild.

Part of the Guild's Community Service is a regular monthly meeting and demonstration by a well known artist. The meeting is open and free and the public is encouraged to attend. It is always held at Quail Botanical Gardens on the first Thursday of the month.

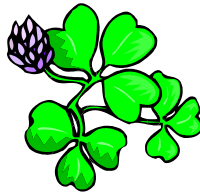
One of the most popular venues that the Guild does is the Mothers Day Tour of local Artists Homes and Gardens. Tickets will be on sale (date is needed) at the new Off Track Gallery that will be located in the large old Metal Industrial Building 687 South Coast Highway 101 and open to the public in April 2006.

The Guild is currently looking for new members who would be interested in showing their work at the Off Track Gallery.

Contact: Grace the Gallery Manager for more information. Don't know if you want to make your information public? I would if it was me!

P O Box 235853
Encinitas CA 92023
760-942-3636

The Paint Rag



March 2006

Mark Your Calendar:

- ♦ **Solana Beach City Hall show-**
March 1 – April 15 '06
Reception: Weds., March 8, 5:30-7:30

- ♦ **MARCH GENERAL MEETING**
6:30 - 8:30 pm
Thursday, March 2nd,
Ecke Hall, Quail Gardens

- ♦ **Board Meeting 9:30 am Thurs,**
March 2nd, Larabee House,
Quail Gardens
- ♦ **Carlsbad Street Fair-** Sun, May 7
- ♦ **Mothers' Day Tour-** May 13 & 14
- ♦ **Encinitas City Hall show-** June 1-
30'06
Reception- Weds, June 14 '06



Environmental Painters

PAINT OUTS - ALWAYS TUESDAY

Feb. 14 and 21 -- Buena Vista Lagoon,
parking lot on Jefferson St.

Feb 28 and Mar.7 -- Torrey Pines State
Reserve, meet at Visitor's Center

Mar. 14 and 21,-- Torrey Pines State
Reserve, parking lot in front of the
Lodge,(visitor's center)

Mar. 28 and April 4, --Marian Bear Park,
south of Highway 52, Call for directions
Call Joan Grine (858-481-8783)

March Demonstrator Valli McDougale

DEMO: 6:30 – 8:30 p.m., Thursday,
March 2nd, Ecke Hall, Quail Gardens

After an exciting career that spanned 10 years on the staff of a United States Senator, a stint as an editorial writer for a CBS-owned radio station and 14 years as an academic administrator at the University of California San Francisco, Valli fulfilled a lifelong dream to study watercolor.

When she moved to La Jolla, she sought out teachers and fellow artists, quickly becoming immersed in the world of art and indulging her passion for colors, textures and designs. For the past four years, she has studied with many well-known artists that include Joan McKasson, Cal Fortbrook, Robbie Laird, Elaine Harvey, Norma Soulé, Walter Bruning, Frank Webb, Jane Burnham and Dale Laitinen.

Valli explores the many facets of watercolor, pastels and mixed media and revels in the glorious vibrant colors and happy accidents.

Professional Affiliations - San Diego Watercolor Society,, Pastel Society of San Diego, American Watercolor Society Associate Member

Juried Shows - San Diego Watercolor Society, monthly shows (2000-Present) Awards received (March and June 2003), Foothills Methodist Church Festival of Art (May 2003), Pastel Society of San Diego Annual Juried Show (May 2003)

Exhibitions - Pacific Beach Art Guild Fine Art Garden Show (July 2002), NTC Foundation (2002, 2003), Wesley Palms Gallery (2003), La Jolla Art Association, "Creative Expressions", Six-Member Exhibition (Apr/May 2003)

Mothers' Day Tour

**You'll be happy to hear
our efforts are well
under way to make this
year's Tour a spec-
tacular event.**

Jo Ann and Faith have the itinerary worked out; major jobs are assigned; print publicity is launched; the poster and webpage are in development; and tour hosts are putting their plans together.

**There is ONE BIG AREA
where we need your
help: being a Tour
Docent --**

It's a great way fulfill your co-op responsibilities to the Guild, getting to know your fellow artists and contributing to the Guild's future. Please contact Docent Chair, Joan Grine (858- 481-8783), or her assistant, Lia Kondilis (858- 509-8520) to be added to the list.

**Remember, this is the
big fund-raising event
of the year.** This is how we will build a fund to be able to eventually open a new gallery. With your help, we will all be successful.

**Faith Fleury (619-794-
4333) and Jo Ann
Ginepra (858-527-0040),
Co-Chairs**

San Dieguito Art Guild
est. 1964

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Feb 28 and Mar. 7 -- Torrey Pines
State Reserve, meet at Visitor's
Center
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of the Lodge, (visitor's center)
Mar. 28 and April 4, --Marian Bear
Park, south of Highway 52, Call for
directions
Call Joan Grine

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Faith Fleury and Jo Ann Ginepra,
Co-Chairs

Member Announcements

- **Bobbi Harrington** sold her painting, "Little Wolf", at the Museum of Natural History first Annual Invitational Art Show which ran from Aug. 1st to Jan. 1st '06.

She also had one piece juried in to the Wildlife Art Show that ran from Oct. to Jan.

- **Jim Roespe** will be giving a talk entitled "The Artist's Guide to Digital Imaging". As time goes by, the artist needs to interact more and more with a computer or with someone with a computer. In this presentation, many examples of those interactions will be discussed and hopefully demystified. Included in the discussion will be: how to take digital (and non digital) photos of your artwork; how to prepare images for the web; how to prepare images for submission to shows; how to get giclée's prepared. There will also be a short introduction into making art using digital methods. February 15, 7 PM Village Gallery, 7932 Ivanhoe Avenue, La Jolla.

- **Studio of Art & Design** March Workshops:
Richard Hawk will teach Finding the Figure: Extended Study Sessions on four Mondays, March 6, 13, 20 & 27, 9am-3 pm. Cost for four classes is \$250.
Kae Rodriguez will teach Painting with Personality in Mixed Media on March 18 & 19. The cost is \$125.
Claire-Lise Matthey Anderogg will teach Exploring Your Creativity in Watermedia on March 11 & 12, 9am - 3pm. The cost is \$140.
Call the Studio for registration forms and material lists. Class size is limited, apply early. The workshop will be held at 616 Stevens Ave., Suite C, Solana Beach. 858-755-6202 or visit nikki-studio.com

- **Annette Lotuso Paquet and Carol Thomason NWS** will host their 1st annual Open Studio Exhibit and Original Fine Art Sale FOR ONE DAY ONLY on Sunday April 9, 2006 from 9 am to 4 pm at the Annette Lotuso Paquet Home Studio, 5131 Del Mar Mesa Rd., San Diego, CA 92130
Email: carolarts2@aol.com or 619/460-5413 for information.

- **Rancho Santa Fe Art Guild** March workshops.
"Expressive Impressionism in Oil for Contemporary Painters." Mar.

1-3, (Robert Burridge)
"Marketing: How to "Cash In" without Selling out" Mar. 4, (Kate Burridge)

Held at the Rancho Santa Fe Inn, Sponsored by the Rancho Santa Fe Art Guild. Call the Art Guild's gallery for the details. 858-759-3545

- **Rancho Santa Art Guild** announces the opening of their new art Theme Show, "Figures in Art" on March 7, 2006. The show may be seen from March 7th thru April 30, 2006 in the main gallery as well as the Wells Fargo Bank next door.

Artists Reception will be held March 9th on Thursday night from 5:00

p.m. to 8:00 p.m. at the Main Gallery. open Tuesday thru Saturday. Hours: 11:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. 6004 Paseo Delicias Rancho

Santa Fe, CA 92067

Ph. (858) 759-3545

www.ranchosantafeartguild.org

Gallery Quality Printing and Digital Artist's Services

- Gallery quality printing services using state-of-the-art Epson wide format printers and archival inks on fine art papers and canvas.
- Printing available on media up to 44 inches wide.
- Images for printing are custom edited and corrected to the artist's vision with proof approval.
- Digital artist's services, including file preparation (jpegs etc.) for submission to shows and galleries, are also available.

Source material can be original artwork, digital files or film from which high resolution scans can be made.

For information call or email:

Scott Graham

858-837-0115 or

scott@sgraham.com

Calling all artists!

The *Leucadia 101 Main Street Assn.* has scheduled the date of the Annual LeucadiaARTwalk for Sunday, Aug. 27, 2006. Please save this date, more information in next month's Paint Rag.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED TO FILL OPEN BOARD POSITIONS:

Publicity Chair
Off Site Exhibits Chair
VP Information

Please contact Laura Lowenstein or any other member of the Board if you are interested.

The Paint Rag is now delivered via email

Members without email will receive a printed copy via "snail mail" as usual.

PLEASE MAKE SURE YOU'RE YOUR INFO AND EMAIL ADDRESS IS CORRECT AND CURRENT in our directory records. Thanks!

Please contact Walter Derk to add/change your address or to request a "hard copy" instead. (760 942 0696) or wberk@sbcglobal.net

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A Message from Our President

If you didn't make it to our General Meeting this month on Feb. 2nd, you missed a great demo by our own Dot Renshaw. She gave everyone attending some wonderful tips on creating solid, well designed pieces of art, as well as demonstrating how she creates her own masterpieces. Many went home just itching to start painting themselves!

Don't forget to note in your calendars that our Monthly General meeting will be held in the evenings from now on between 6:30-8:30pm. We'll see how this goes for the next 6 months. Please contact Alessandra Colfi with any comments and feedback.

Our Board of Directors was surprised with the huge response from our members regarding the upcoming show at the City Hall in Solana Beach. With over 40 artists responding, we are almost forced to turn people away! Joan Grine has done a wonderful job setting things up for us. Because we are conserving money, we won't be sending out invitations for the show and reception. Instead, we ask that everyone notify their friends of the reception, March 8th 5:30-7:30 pm. Please bring at least one friend with you so we can socialize & see the results of the judging by Dot Renshaw of the show.

The Board of Directors is also seeking new locations for our gallery and is considering a temporary site in downtown Encinitas. We hope to have some good news soon and will be letting everyone know as soon as something is definite. Some of the Board met with Jim Gilliam, the Art Administrator for the City of Encinitas, and found a champion of the arts. He has been keeping our group in mind with any possible gallery sites within our budget. Now that's a challenge! Jim would like to see the art community come together and is going to start a web page to help keep us all informed and announce art events.

Our big event, Mothers' Day Art Tour, is moving ahead rapidly and coming together very nicely with the expertise and hard work of Faith Fleury and Jo Ann Ginepra. This year will be the best yet. Please contact either one if you would like to help with this wonderful event.

Our Guild runs with many helping hands. We are in need of assistance in some jobs or portions of jobs. If anyone is interested in becoming more involved and getting to know fellow artists, please contact myself at 760-753-3254 or Grace Swanson, Gallery manager, at 760-942-3254. We need help with PR, the newsletter, sitting calendar (for future gallery space), and attending monthly board meetings as an assistant to Board Members when they cannot attend. We also need someone to write up a tip from our demo artist each month for the Paint Rag.

Check out the "Opportunities for Our Artists" announcement in this issue. A big thanks to Grace Swanson for collecting and organizing this wonderful service.



Happy creating!

Laura Lowenstein

(760) 753-3254
llowenstein@adelphia.net

February Featured Offsite Artists- Bank of America, Encinitas Blvd. & El Camino Real

Featured Exhibitors:

Faith Fleury	Acrylic, Mixed Media
Molly Lipsher	Pastel
Bobbi Harrington	Oil
Alessandra Colfi	Mixed Media Collage

Contact Lisa Reinhardt 760-753-5152 to get on the list.

Be a Mothers' Day Tour Docent

All you have to do is:

- Greet people as they arrive
- Sell tickets at the door
- Make it an enjoyable experience for our customers and yourself.
- Commit to one or two 4-hour shifts over the 2 days.

That's all we need.



Welcome new members:

Jan Janes
Carole Larson
Diamant Shaw



Feb Judge's Hint:

Dot Renshaw recommends painting a light wash of the complementary color under the main areas of your painting to make the colors "dance".

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Collage

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Gallery Manager's Corner

Since we do not have a gallery right now, the SDAG board has been looking for other venues for our members to display their art. We announced the Solana Beach City Hall show March 1 through April 13. We were not at all sure if people would want to participate so we sent out an email and made phone calls asking our members how many pieces of art they intended to show. We were simply overwhelmed by the response, and pleased. Unfortunately, we now have to limit the art to one piece per person so that we can include as many members as possible. The reception will be at the Solana Beach City Hall on Wednesday, March 8, 5:30 to 7:30. The City Hall will send out PR notices to promote this show and the Guild will be sending out flyers to selected Solana Beach, Del Mar and Encinitas Off Track Gallery patrons.

The week before our Mothers' Day Tour is the Carlsbad Street Fair (Sunday, May 7). The Guild will have a booth. If anyone wants to join in and share the expense, please email Grace at swanson121@cox.net or call 760-942-6109. In June, we will have a chance to display our art in the Encinitas City Hall.

And last, but certainly not least, is a wonderful opportunity for a temporary location. It may be for a couple of months, it may be a year -- we just don't know. We have a chance to take a couple of old office spaces in

what used to be the "Red Sand" building. Or if you are a long-time Encinitas resident, you will remember it as the printing plant for the "Coast Dispatch". It is a huge gray building on Highway 101 south of Encinitas Blvd. and north of the Lumberyard. The building will be torn down at some point and shops and townhouses are to be built on the site. Meanwhile, the owner is renting out space "dirt cheap". And there is no lease. If we find that it does not work for us, we can just leave. That does not mean that we will not still be looking for a permanent, ideal home for our Off Track Gallery. This gray building will provide us a temporary home so that we can show our art, stop by and have a cup of coffee or tea (the Guild will set that up) and reconnect with each other. It will also provide us a place from which to sell Mothers' Day Tour tickets.

What we need most at this point is a person to take on the PR/advertising job and someone to take on the task of scheduling the daily sitters.

For more information about the above please call or email either Joanne Chambers or Grace Swanson. We would love to talk to you.

Grace Swanson
760 942 6109



RULES FOR MONTHLY TAKE-IN

All work must be original and for sale. Artwork (including frame) is measured on the longest side with a maximum size of 44". *

Up to 28", the fee is \$10

Over 28" and up to 32", the fee is \$15

Over 32" and up to 38", the fee is \$20

Over 38" and up to 44", the fee is \$25

Please have your entry slip (page 5) already filled out.

Work must be framed unless you use the wrap-around canvas stapled in the back and should have some identification on the back.

Do not bring in wet paintings or frames.

The wire should be the multi-strand wire, attached approximately one fourth of the way down from the top of the frame, and slack enough to come up to approximately 2" from the top of the frame.

Please tape the ends of the wire, and please don't put tape or tubing in the middle of the wire. It will not fit our hangers if you do.

Be sure your work looks as nice as it can, with clean, well put-together frame, clean glass and a well-cut mat.

* An exception is the occasional unusual shaped artwork, ie, an extremely long and/or extremely narrow piece where a square inch size calculation will be substituted.

The Guild reserves the right to refuse entries that do not meet SDAG standards.



Gallery Manager's Corner

Since we do not have a gallery right now, the SDAG board has been looking for other venues for our members to display their art. We announced the Solana Beach City Hall show March 1 through April 13. We were not at all sure if people would want to participate so we sent out an email and made phone calls asking our members how many pieces of art they intended to show. We were simply overwhelmed by the response, and pleased. Unfortunately, we now have to limit the art to one piece per person so that we can include as many members as possible. The reception will be at the Solana Beach City Hall on Wednesday, March 8, 5:30 to 7:30. The City Hall will send out PR notices to promote this show and the Guild will be sending out flyers to selected Solana Beach, Del Mar and Encinitas Off Track Gallery patrons.

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SAN DIEGUITO ART GUILD

TITLE _____

MEDIUM _____

ARTIST _____

PRICE _____

PHONE _____



Apprentice Wanted

Learn how the Paint Rag
is produced each
month – expand your
MSWord skills!

Contact Faith Fleury (619-
794-4333) or Laura
Lowenstein (760-753-
3254)

Opportunities for Our Artists

Grace Swanson has begun compiling a comprehensive list of opportunities for artists to show work. To find out more about each event, contact the event directly.

If you know of other events that should be added, please contact Grace.

DATE	OPPORTUNITY	COST OF ENTRY and/or commission	DEADLINE to ENTER
March 3	BAE Systems Artists Gallery	0	none
Mar 11 - May 5	The Flower Fields at Carlsbad Ranch	\$175 per weekend	
April 1	Scripps La Jolla Hospital	Details to follow	
April 8, 9	Art Under the Umbrellas (La Quinta)	\$60 + 20%	
April 22, 23	Art Under the Umbrellas (La Quinta)	\$60 + 20%	
Mid April	Dates Nut Farm Spring Fling	Details to follow	
Mid April	Oceanside Days of Art	Details to follow	
April 29-30	Encinitas Street Faire	non-profit = \$50/day	March 29
May 7	Carlsbad Village Faire	\$170	Jan 15
May 21	Escondido Street Faire	\$85 to \$115	April 15
June 1	Encinitas City Hall show	Details to follow	
June 24, 25	La Jolla Festival of the Arts	\$520	March 10
August 13	Carlsbad Art in the Village	\$145	July 13 (?)
August 27	Leucadia ArtWalk	Details to follow	
Sept 16, 17	Oceanside Harbor Days	Details to follow	
Late Sept	Art Splash	Details to follow	
Begin. of Oct.	Arts Crafts & Collectibles Market	Details to follow	
Begin. of Oct	Mira Mesa Street Fair	Details to follow	
Begin. of Oct	San Marcos Arts Fair	Details to follow	
Mid Oct 16	Escondido Downtown Street Faire	Details to follow	
Late Oct	Bernardo Winery Fall Arts & Crafts Fair	Details to follow	
Nov	Carlsbad Village Faire	\$170	Details to follow
Nov	Encinitas Street Faire & Poinsettia Festival	Details to follow	

NOTE: You will need a "SELLER'S PERMIT", usually referred to as a **reseller's license** (\$12.00 available from Calif. State Board of Equalization, info at 1-800-400-7115). The license allows you to purchase materials for your artwork without paying sales taxes at the time of purchase, the assumption being – **YOU are responsible to pay the sales taxes based on your sales each year.**

The March 1 – April 15 show at Solana Beach City Hall will be judged by our February demonstrator Dot Renshaw.

SAN DIEGUITO ART GUILD

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_ MEDIUM _____
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(?)

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Contact Faith Fleury or Laura Lowenstein

**The P.O. Box number on the cover of our new directory is incorrect.
Please mark your cover to read P. O. Box # 235853**

In this issue:

- Solana Beach City Hall show info
- Mothers' Day Tour update
- Possible temporary gallery

Reminders:

Sign up to be a Mothers' Day Docent

**MARCH GENERAL
MEETING: 6:30-8:30 pm**

Paint Rag Information

Send relevant information via e-mail to: Faith Fleury at
619-794-4333 or jgalatzer@sbcglobal.net

Newsletter info due on or before noon, 1st **SATURDAY**
following SDAG Board Meeting, **MARCH 4th**.

Advertising Rates

Members receive 2 lines free. \$5 over 2 lines,
payable to "SDAG" due by 1st of the month.
Non-members \$15.

Membership Info

Contact Walter Berk with any address changes,
at 760-942-0696 or e-mail changes to:
wberk@sbcglobal.net



March 2008



The Paint Rag

**San Diego Art Guild
P O Box 235853
Encinitas CA 92023
760-942-3636
www.offroadgallery.com**

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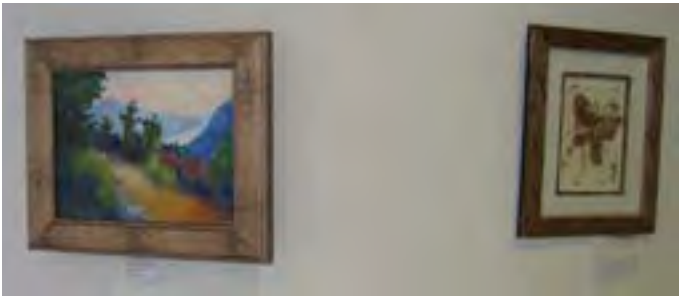
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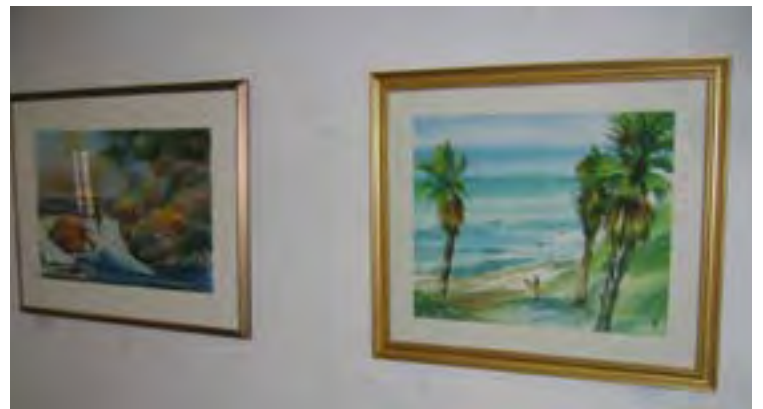
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Solana Beach City Hall Show









Former Leucadia gallery opens downtown

By Stephen Keller
STAFF WRITER

ENCINITAS — The gallery run by a longtime local artists group will soon have a new home in downtown.

The Off Track Gallery, which is a product of the San Dieguito Art Guild, closed its doors in Leucadia last December. While the group planned to simply have displays of art at rotating locations around town, it decided to jump when a new location opened up downtown.

"This just fell into our lap,"

said Grace Swanson, the gallery manager.

The new location is at 687 S. Coast Hwy. 101, formerly Redsand clothing company and old home to the Coast Dispatch newspaper.

The building's owners plan to tear it down, but Swanson said the gallery will operate there until that happens.

"It's a huge Planning Department permit process they have to go through and it's just begun," Swanson said. She said the guild expects to be able to

run the gallery there for at least nine months to one year.

The San Dieguito Art Guild was founded in 1965 and exists to promote arts in the historical San Dieguito area, which includes Encinitas, Solana Beach and Del Mar.

The Off Track Gallery received its name from its location in the mid-1990s, when it was located in the Santa Fe Railroad Station that is now the Pannikin coffee house.

Throughout 2005, the gallery operated near the intersection of Leucadia Boulevard and Coast Highway 101, but

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OFF TRACK GALLERY

Swanson said the location was not a good one because of limited foot traffic in the area.

After that, Swanson said the group decided to wait a while before opening a new permanent location, opting instead to display art around the area.

"We thought, 'We'll just take our time and find the perfect place.'"

The historic building downtown became available and the guild decided to go for it, Swanson said.

"We're pretty much thinking we can open April 1," she said.

On display will be a variety of pieces, including paintings, photographs, blown glass and jewelry.

"On the walls, we can put up at least 50 or 60 paintings or photographs," Swanson said.

She said the group hopes to be able to keep the gallery open most days during normal business hours.

More information is available online at www.offtrackgallery.com.

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