



Established 2008

Art is for everyone. The Artist. The Viewer. The Point is ART.

Introducing...

THE ARTS OF POINT RICHMOND (AOPR) NEWSLETTER

You are receiving the AOPR Newsletter because you are a member of the Arts of Point Richmond. The purpose of the AOPR Newsletter is to provide regularly scheduled communications among AOPR members and a "virtual space" where members can "meet" to share information and ideas.

In this first edition you will find a calendar of upcoming AOPR events, information from the new AOPR Board of Directors, an interview with AOPR founder, Altha Humphrey (it's

AOPR's 10th anniversary!) and announcements from other AOPR members on the Member-to-Member Bulletin Board.

The AOPR Newsletter is a work-in-progress. The Editor welcomes constructive criticism and new ideas to improve the utility and quality of the Newsletter. Please contact the editor at AOPReditor@gmail.com.

Thank you!

AOPR CALENDAR

FEBRUARY:

Through March 5: *Shelby Sampson*, acrylic landscapes in the Point Richmond Post Office windows, 104 Washington Avenue.

Through April 30: *"Food"*, a mixed-media group show at El Sol Restaurant. 101 Park Place. Artists: *Alan Chao, John Warhus, Claudia Randel, Sharon Taylor-Ward, Bob Colin*, and *Mary Lee Cole*.

February 23: Submission deadline for March *Member-to-Member Bulletin Board* items. Send submissions to AOPReditor@gmail.com.

MARCH:

March 2- April 30: *Recent Photography and Works on Paper*, George Tomberlin and Betsy Kellas, at Kaleidoscope Café, 109 Park Place.

March 9, 4:30-6:30pm: **ALL MEMBER EVENT!** *Recent Photography and Works on Paper*, reception for the artists at Kaleidoscope Café, 109 Park Place. This is an opportunity to meet and mingle with other AOPR members.

March 12: Second Art Tag Exchange (Theme: *Self-Portraits*)



Work by Shelby Sampson in the Point Richmond Post Office

Announcements from the AOPR Board of Directors

Executive Director

Irene Hightower

I am pleased to announce that the Arts of Point Richmond now has a six-person Board of Directors to enable the work of the organization. In addition to the Executive Director, there is a Director for each of the following areas: Membership, Communications, Finance, Exhibitions and Activities. Below you will see brief announcements from the Directors. These newsletter announcements are the only way the Directors have to share current information with the entire membership. The announcements will be a regular part of each newsletter, so please take time to read them.

The Board of Directors needs a Recording Secretary to take minutes at the monthly meetings. The meetings are 1 - 2 hours long and are generally held on the 3rd Monday of the month. If you can volunteer to be Recording Secretary or if you would like more information about the position, please contact Irene Hightower at irene1328@comcast.net

There are many reasons to be optimistic about the future of AOPR. I look forward to sharing them with you!

Finance Director

Irene Hightower

Financial support for AOPR comes from annual membership dues and from fees collected from members who participate in special activities like the AOPR Holiday Fair. The Board of Directors carefully monitors our finances to ensure that we stay within our budget.

Membership Director

Mary Lee Cole

Here's to a great year of making and enjoying art together! Now in its 10th year, AOPR has grown from a handful of members to almost 100 visual artists, writers, and creatives of all kinds.

It is time to renew your annual AOPR membership, so be on the lookout for a renewal envelope in the mail. The renewal packet includes a registration form for updating your information and a self-addressed envelope for easy renewal return. Questions? Please feel free to contact me at mlcole@yahoo.com or 510.334.6779.

Exhibitions Director

Bob Colin

I am pleased to announce AOPR's current exhibitions in Point Richmond. The Post Office display windows feature acrylic paintings by **Shelby Sampson**, whose work reflects the beauty of California's built landscape. The exhibit runs through March 5.

A new exhibit at El Sol Restaurant features the work of AOPR artists **Alan Chao, John Warhus, Claudia Randel, Sharon Taylor-Ward, Bob Colin**, and **Mary Lee Cole** and is fittingly titled "Food." The exhibit runs through April 30.

We invite everyone to enjoy the shows. As always, if you are interested in being considered for an exhibition in one of our venues, please contact me at bobcolin@sbcglobal.net

Activities Director

Gretchen Blais

AOPR members imagine and bring to life many wonderful activities. AOPR's current activities include:

- Art Tag - Chaired by **Gretchen Blais**
- Pot Luck (Autumn) - Chair OPEN
- Pot Luck (Spring) - Chair OPEN
- Holiday Fair - Chaired by **Gail Eierweiss**
- Artful Conversations - Chair OPEN
- Writer's Group - Chaired by **Michael Fitzgerald**
- Photography Group - Chair OPEN

AOPR is a member supported organization and *you* are encouraged to get involved. If you would like to chair an activity or support someone who is already a chair, please contact Gretchen Blais at gblais@sbcglobal.net

10th Anniversary Interview with APOR Founder Altha Humphrey



For the inaugural issue our Newsletter, it seemed fitting to feature our founder, Altha Humphrey, who conceived of Arts of Point Richmond ten years ago. I sat down with Altha recently to get her story.

What motivated you to organize this group in the first place?

I woke up on January 9, 2008 and said to myself “I have to do this!” I realized there were a lot of artists here in Point Richmond, but many of them didn’t know each other. So I publicized a meeting for artists at our local coffee store, and the place was packed! My intention was to encourage more connection among artists and the community. We soon were rolling. We got the Post Office space for displays, had annual dinners, and put on holiday exhibits with help from local businesses.

What do you feel is AOPR’s biggest contribution to the community today?

I’m thrilled we now have various venues to showcase member exhibitions, and new ways in which our community participates and contributes. I really enjoy the pot luck events. Another highlight is “Art Tag” – a popular feature that draws a lot of participants.

Tell me about your educational and art background.

I attended California College of Arts and Crafts on a scholarship. But, I had to work for a living so couldn’t become a full-time artist. I’ve always enjoyed creating my own designs in fiber art – whether knitting or sewing. I’ve exhibited my wearable artworks for years at the annual Marin County Fair, winning awards, and for 25 years led the “Knit and Such” group in the Point.

And what about today – how have your interests changed?

I’m having so much fun now making art from found objects – a whole different experience. I even raid what I call the “bins of opportunity” – where folks have tossed out all kinds of things that make me think: “Hmm, what can I do with THIS?” The answers always surprise me.

What are some examples? Well, a few examples: Turkey feathers and yarn became part of a wind charm in one of the Art Tag projects with the theme of Movement. A discarded chocolate candy container became something else entirely. Twigs and seeds, a beautiful hammered metal spoon – all manner of things become possibilities for art. I guess you could say I just look for the opportunity – and creativity happens. I’m quite enjoying it!

Thanks, Altha! I think the slogan you created says it all: “*Art is for everyone. The Artist. The Viewer. The Point is Art.*”

MEMBER-to-MEMBER

BULLETIN BOARD

- **Submission deadline for the March Newsletter is Friday, February 23**
- **Please send submissions to AOPREditor@gmail.com**
- **Only current AOPR members may submit information for publication**
- **The Editor reserves the right to edit submission copy to fit the space available**
- **The Editor reserves the right to refuse submissions that are not clearly aligned with the mission of the organization.**

Exhibitions

Joe Bottomly, exhibiting oil paintings in *California Landscapes* at the Dance Palace in Point Reyes Station

The Dance Palace, 503 B Street, Point Reyes Station, CA

January 20 – February 31, 2018

Gail Morrison, exhibiting her "Periodic Table of the Elements" in the *Consilience of Art & Science*, a bi-annual juried exhibit that explores the intersection of art and science coordinated by the Pence Gallery and the UC Davis Art/Science Fusion program,

[Pence Gallery](#), 212 D Street, Davis, CA

January 26 - March 2, 2018

Reception February 9, 6-9pm

Gallery hours: Tuesday-Sunday, 11:30-5pm

George Tomberlin, *Seeing Red*, a group photography exhibit selected by Ann M.

Jastrab that explores the color red,

[Gray Loft Gallery](#), 2889 Ford Street, Oakland, CA,

February 9 - March 9, 2018

Receptions: February 9, 6-9pm and March 9, 6-9pm

Gallery hours: Saturdays 1-5pm & by appointment

Suzanne Cerny, exhibiting jazz artworks,

[International Art Museum of America](#)

1025 Market Street between 6th and 7th Streets,

San Francisco, CA

February 15 - February 29

Reception: February 15, 2-5pm

Museum hours: Tuesday-Sunday 10-5pm

Help Wanted/Help Available

Pt. Richmond artist looking for AOPR member who knows how to use a sewing machine to help with a project related to women and social justice. Please contact Betsy at betsykellas@gmail.com Please use "sewing project" in the subject line.

There are still opportunities to participate in the Periodic Table of the Elements. Go to www.gailmorrison.com/pteindex for more information.

Arts of Point Richmond

MISSION STATEMENT

The Arts of Point Richmond is a community association established to enrich our community by promoting support, appreciation and exposure for the Arts.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Executive Director - Irene Hightower

Communication Director - Rita Gardner

Membership Director - Mary Lee Cole

Activities Director - Gretchen Blais

Exhibitions Director - Bob Colin

Finance Director - Irene Hightower

AOPR Newsletter Editor - Betsy Kellas

AOPReditor@gmail.com



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