

Surprising Saudi Arabia!**Charles Harper****Monday, April 7, 2008,****7:00 p.m.**

"I first set eyes on The Sea Ranch in 1974 and knew it was in one of Earth's special places. Its seeming perfection simply haunted me." Dr. Charlie Harper and his wife Carol became Sea Ranch owners the next year! Over thirty years later, following travel to over 30 countries in Europe, Africa, the Middle East and Asia, he's more certain than ever of its unique beauty and sense of place.

At one of their stops, the Harpers lived for almost 5 years in the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia. Physically and culturally, it is about as different from TSR as one could imagine. Charlie got hooked on close-up photography of flowers and amassed a catalog of several hundred different flowering plants, all of which lived and thrived within a mile or two of his home. Charlie will explain the paradox of so many flowering plants living in an area normally thought of as barren desert. He'll also be showing some of his favorite photos, getting down to pollen grain size in many.

While living there, the Harpers learned a great deal about the Saudi culture and political setting, much of which is very misunderstood by most Americans. He'll share some insights which may be interesting and useful for students of the Middle East. How well do you know Saudi Arabia?

The Figure in Watercolor**Don Andrews****Monday, April 21,****7:00 p.m.**

Addressing the figure as the subject for a painting with the same artistic freedom and looseness employed when attempting other subjects in nature is the central theme of Don's figure class.

Don Andrews is a graduate of the Ringling School of Art in Sarasota, Florida, and a resident of Fairhope, Alabama. He is an active member and past board director of the American Watercolor Society. His paintings have received numerous awards in national watercolor competitions, including three awards from the American Watercolor Society.

Don is author of the books, *Interpreting the Figure in Watercolor* and *Rough Sketches: Short Stories of a Traveling Artist* as well as the video *Making Watercolor Glow*. He is also featured in the Watson Guptill publication *Everything You Ever Wanted to Know about Watercolor* and has had numerous feature articles published in *American Artist* magazine, and the *Watercolor* issue of *American Artist*.

**Letters from the Library**

Thanks to many generous book donations, we have been able to add new books to our library every quarter. Here are some of the fun and interesting recent additions:

"Which Paper" by Silvie Turner
A guide to choosing and using fine papers for artists, craft people and designers.

"Simple Kaleidoscopes" by Gary Newlin
24 spectacular scopes you can make.

"Easy Origami" by Kazuo Kobayashi
A colorful introduction to practical paper folding.

"Creative Cards" by Yoshiko Kitagawa
Wrap a message with a personal touch.

"Making Soaps and Scents" by Catherine Bardey
Soaps, shampoo, perfumes and splashes that can be made at home.

"Papermaking with Plants" by Helen Hiebert
Creative recipes and projects using herbs, flowers, grasses and leaves.

Our library depends on donations from Gualala Arts' members to continue building our collection. What kind of books do we want? Art and craft-oriented books in excellent condition. If you have questions about donating, or suggestions for improving our library, please contact Sharon Nickodem (884-9611).