



# NEWS LETTER

Vol. II, No. IX

March, 1965

## Calendar of Events . . .

MARCH 6 - 28

*Margaret Walthour Lippitt  
Retrospective Exhibition*

MARCH 9 - 10:00 A.M.

Hostess Committee Coffee Hour  
Gallery Talk by Director on  
current exhibition

MARCH 16 - 8:00 P.M.

Movie - *Flanders In The 15th Century:  
The First Oil Painting and Art And  
Life In Italy*

MARCH 28 - 3:30 P.M.

Sunday Musicale  
*Music Of The Romantic Period*

### IN MEMORIAM

E. Brown Towles

Henry B. Meier

*Gifts From*

Dr. and Mrs. C. J. Powell

## Items of Special Interest . . .

• New Members - Mrs. Oscar W. Burnett of Greensboro; Mrs. J. L. McManaway of Jacksonville; Mrs. E. C. Anderson, Mrs. Z. K. Bell, Mr. and Mrs. John Colucci, Jr., Mrs. Dorothy Bell Crouch, Dorothy Bell Crouch, Frederick D. Crouch, George M. Crouch, Mrs. G. Dudley Humphrey, Mrs. Harley Emery Vance, Dr. S. E. Warshauer, Edward J. Warshauer, Maxine M. Warshauer and Miss Mary Hannis Whitted of Wilmington.

• SPECIAL REMINDER - The exhibit, *The John White Drawings*, which opened at the N. C. Museum of Art on February 26, will continue on view through March 14.

• Each of the five lectures held at St. John's during January and February based on the theme, *Know Your State Art Museum*, was attended by a capacity audience. The Gallery is indebted to Mrs. George W. Paschal, Jr., president of the State Art Society, and Jack Berkman for making this series possible. Officials of the N. C. Museum of Art proclaimed February 19 "Wilmington Day" when St. John's sponsored a chartered bus trip to Raleigh for a guided tour of the Museum. The tour group was entertained at a coffee hour by the Art Society's hospitality committee and was greeted by Dr. Justus Bier, director of the Museum, Ben F. Williams, general curator, Charles W. Stanford, curator of education and other members of the Museum staff and Art Society representatives.

• APRIL EXHIBIT AT ST. JOHN'S - *American Paintings from the Collection of Mr. and Mrs. Harry Dalton* of Charlotte, N. C. opens Friday, April 2 at 4:00 P.M. Azalea Festival Queen XVIII and other Festival dignitaries will join with Gallery members to celebrate St. John's third birthday.

## SUPPORT YOUR ART GALLERY

The majority of membership renewals in St. John's Gallery are due in March and April and notices will be mailed accordingly. It is the hope of the Officers and Directors of the Gallery that all members will continue their show of confidence in the Gallery by renewing their memberships and by inviting others to become members. As a non-profit organization, the Gallery is maintained entirely by private funds. St. John's Gallery invites all who believe in the arts as a vital part of life, to participate, and by giving their support, help broaden the Gallery's program for betterment of the whole community of Southeastern North Carolina.

## Margaret Walthour Lippitt Retrospective Exhibition

The *Margaret Walthour Lippitt Retrospective Exhibition* consists of fifty-two paintings done by the artist from 1890 to 1957. With the exception of a pastel, a charcoal sketch and a conte crayon drawing, all works are oil on canvas. Subjects include portrait, landscape, flowers and still life.

Lenders to the exhibit are Mrs. Emmett H. Bellamy, Mr. and Mrs. Hargrove Bellamy, Mrs. Gilbert C. Dean, Dr. and Mrs. Charles P. Graham, Mr. and Mrs. Isaac B. Grainger, Miss Susan L. Hardin, Mrs. Cyrus D. Hogue, Mrs. Eugene LeGrand, The Lippitt Collection, Miss Sue Moore McQueen, Mrs. Julian W. Morton, Dr. and Mrs. David R. Murchison, Mr. and Mrs. Albert F. Perry, Mr. and Mrs. Haskell Rhett, Mr. and Mrs. Harmon C. Rorison, St. James Episcopal Church, Mrs. Alexander Sprunt, Mr. and Mrs. J. Laurence Sprunt, Mr. and Mrs. William L. Walker, Bishop and Mrs. Thomas H. Wright, all of Wilmington; Mr. and Mrs. Max-



*Clarendon House, 1931*

well W. Lippitt, Savannah, Georgia; Mr. and Mrs. Peter Caws and Miss Peggy Rorison, New York, N. Y.

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Margaret Walthour Lippitt was born on November 5, 1872 in Clayton, Alabama and died, July 23, 1964 in Wilmington, North Carolina.

She was reared on the old Clayton Plantation, and in Savannah, Georgia, where she began painting at an early age. Her grandfather, Major General Henry D. Clayton, was President of the University of Alabama at Tuscaloosa. As a young lady, she lived with her grandparents and taught art in a private school for girls in Tuscaloosa. She lived in Washington, D. C. for several years with her uncle and aunt, United States Senator and Mrs. James L. Pugh and studied painting with Howard Helmick. He was a friend and fellow student in Paris of Henry Bacon of Wilmington. While painting in Helmick's class at Blowing Rock, North Carolina, she met her husband, Devereux H. Lippitt.

Her marriage to Mr. Lippitt in 1894 brought her to Wilmington, where he was employed with the firm of Alexander Sprunt and Son. In 1899, she began teaching art classes at Miss Annie Hart's School, which was located on the property of St. John's Art Gallery. After a few years, she went to Paris with a friend, Emmie Wilkins of Savannah, Georgia. They studied painting at the Beaux Arts, where Benjamin Constant was one of their instructors.

In 1905, Mr. Lippitt went to Bremen as head of the German office of Alexander Sprunt and Son. They made their

home there for ten years. As always, Mrs. Lippitt continued her studies, maintaining a studio where she and three of her friends painted. A young German artist came once a week to criticize their work. Later, when they were living in Paris, she studied etching with E. Scott.

She went to New York after Mr. Lippitt's death in 1934, where she studied with Frank Dumond. Mrs. Lippitt had a permanent home in Wilmington but traveled extensively, always studying and painting. She worked with Jerry Farnsworth in Sarasota, Florida and with Weyman Adams in Elizabethtown, New York. Her cottage in Linville, North Carolina became the gathering place for her many artist friends.

Mrs. Lippitt was a thorough and sound craftsman. She learned from many teachers, however, her work has a continuity and style of its own. Her portraits reveal the spirit of her sitters but also bear the stamp of her personality. She painted quickly and surely, and her flowers are as fresh and glowing as the day she captured them on canvas. She painted landscapes on the spot with luminosity and spontaneity. Her joy of life and love of people are preserved in her painting.

Margaret T. Hall  
Director  
St. John's Art Gallery

*The President and Board of Directors*

*of*

*St. John's Art Gallery*

*cordially invite you and your guests*

*to the Members' Preview*

*of the*

*Margaret Walthour Lippitt*

*Retrospective Exhibition*

*Reception*

*Saturday, March 6, 1965*

*Eight until ten in the evening*

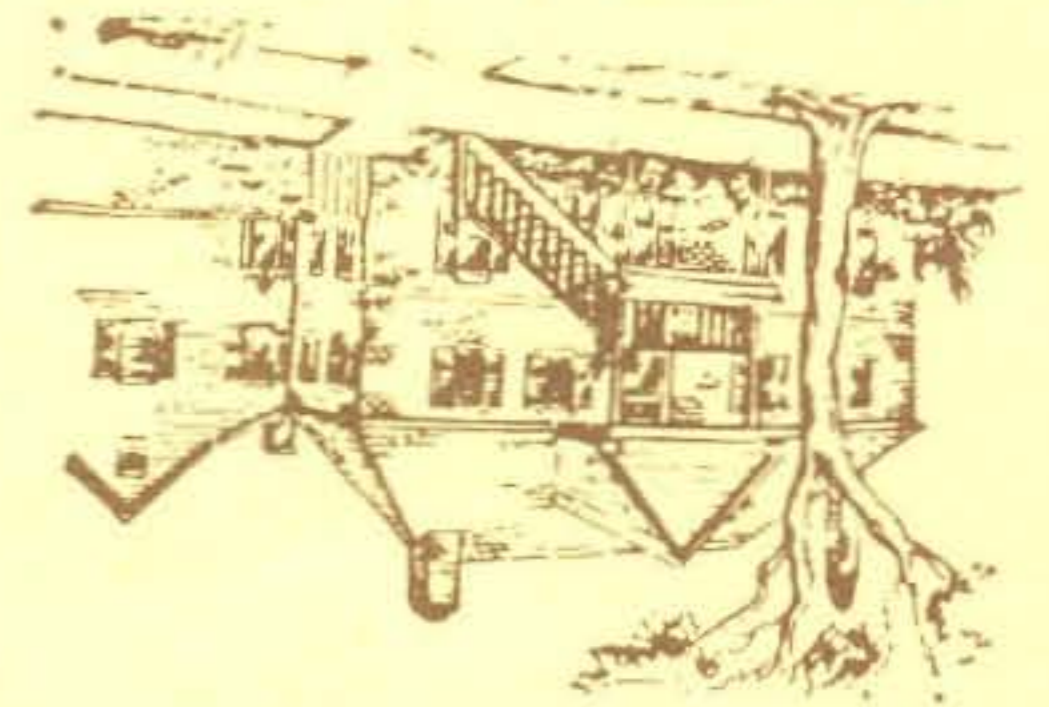
*114 Orange Street*

*Wilmington, N. C.*

Gallery Hours: Mon. - Sat. 10-5, Sun. 2-5  
Closed Sat. and Sun., June, July, August

# NEWS LETTER and INVITATION

St. John's Lodge Built 1804



St. John's Art Gallery, Inc.  
114 Orange Street  
Wilmington, North Carolina 28401

Non-Profit Org.  
U. S. Postage  
PAID  
Wilmington, N. C.  
Permit 326



Gallery members and their guests at the January opening view paintings in the stock gallery recently opened on the first floor at St. John's.

## Sunday Musicale

March 28 - 3:30 P.M.

*Music Of The Romantic Period*

featuring

THE WILMINGTON STRING QUARTET

Sally Moore, *First Violin*

Mary Weaver, *Second Violin*

Laura Howell Schorr, *Viola*

Maurice Shepard, *Cello*

and

Willora Faulkner, *Contralto*