



League of Milwaukee Artists

Open Carnivals

November 2010



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From the President's Corner

by Kathleen Flaherty

Dear LMA Members,

Liz Minz has been doing an extraordinary job of finding us top notch presenters who have been demonstrating their expertise at their easels (see articles, Buchs and Bell). We have the opportunity of making it standing room only at these events. Invite your artist friends to join us at our next meeting, November 13th. Guests are always welcome. This may be the introduction to LMA that may motivate them to become a member as well.

After this meeting, board members will be jurying-in prospective members.

Guests may bring along paintings of their own in hopes of being juried-in as new members. Those who wish to apply need to bring three, 2-D original artworks, properly framed, with an artist statement and bio to Mount Mary. These will be accepted by league members in Helfaer Hall:

12:15-1:15 pm Drop off of art at Helfaer Hall.

1:15 - 3:30 pm Paintings will be judged.

3:30-4:00 pm Artists will return for pick-up.

Our speaker this month, November 13th, will be Joye Moon who is a Signature Member of the National Watercolor Society, Mississippi Watercolor Society, and Wisconsin Watercolor Society. Joye has won numerous awards in Regional, National and International juried exhibitions. She will be demonstrating her skill as she shares her journey as a successful watercolor artist. The business portion of the meeting will be shorter to allow for a longer watercolor demonstration.

At our December 11th meeting Allen Caucutt will be critiquing one to two pieces of art per member. There will be a coffee social from 9:00 – 9:30 and our meeting will be eliminated to allow for two full hours of critique. Allen has been an art educator for over fifty years. He has taught in public schools, technical college, and university settings. He has guided numerous student teachers. He has had major artworks in numerous public venues, recently displaying his sculptures at The Cedarburg Cultural Center.

Allen has a reputation of being humorous yet down to earth in his critique of our paintings. He will always give us something to think about in terms of improving our skill.

I'm looking forward to seeing you all at our meetings. I realize members want to network with one another and enjoy a motivating presentation or demonstration, not a lengthy meeting. I am limiting the length of our meetings so we can meet your needs. **See you on November 13th and December 11th.**

Raven Gallery and Framing

in Pewaukee is looking for artists to join their coop gallery. Artists do not have to "man" the gallery. The price for two 8'x4' sections of wall space is \$80/month. The gallery is located at 690 Westfield Way, Pewaukee, WI 53072, right next door to Panera Bread, and gets tons of foot traffic. www.ravengalleryandframing.com



Fred Bell, self-portrait.

Fred Bell - Presenter at Sept. 11th Meeting

- by Kathleen Flaherty

When Fred followed his wanderlust in his twenties, hitchhiking around the country, he found himself at the tip of Cape Cod. There, in Provincetown, he studied under Henry Hensche and met people who were serious about art. Henry promoted daily practice and setting goals. It was an "Aha" moment for Fred and he thought, "I can do this!"

He saw Fred's portfolio and offered him \$20,000 worth of work. With that check in hand Fred invested \$3000 into advertising. He chose a source book, *The Black Book*, was the first. *The Black Book* is one of a number of catalogs advertising world-wide. Illustrators buy a page to advertise their work and what they do. Fred thought if hard times came someone in the world would be prospering. He illustrated 30 books for Leonard, approximately an illustration for each page.

Then the good times ended. Every illustrator was getting a webpage. Even Microsoft got into the act. Fred didn't know how to overcome the competition.

In 2000, Fred went back to painting. He focused on a Wauwatosa landscape idea. He specialized in architecture, home painting done plein air. He found himself coming back full circle to Henche's teachings. At the same time he was studying with Deborah Bremer who recommended working in series. Fred chose babies and self-portraits. He recently was in an invitational show at the Museum of WI Art in West Bend and also in New Bedford, MA.

For LMA members Fred set up his easel and light-heartedly proceeded to paint his self-portrait. He had an ease with his audience and interacted with the crowd. Fred's mantra is, "Painting is fun, not just all work. His advise to painters, "Persistence is the key. Continue to practice, focusing on one thing at a time, i.e., still life. When that gets boring, move on.

There were detours along the road for Fred, periods of time when he didn't paint. He moved to New York City and worked as a graphic designer, later, as a street photographer. In his 40's he pursued the latter and became a photo journalist outside of D.C. At this time he and his wife lived on a 165 acre farm. The picturesque view from his window motivated him to pick up the brush once again.

Upon returning to his roots, Fred worked with a small ad agency in Wauwatosa. From 1992-1997 he developed a business creating illustrations. His clients came from all over the United States and the world via the internet. The experience he gained in his ad agency helped him promote his own work. He was happy to be home and back near his family.

During this time Fred sometimes did work for free just to get his work seen. At an opportune time Hal Leonard, music publisher,

Thomas Buchs - Presenter at October 9th Meeting

- by Kathleen Flaherty

In high school Thomas took all the art classes he could and got the opportunity to go to a commercial art studio for a day. It was there that he saw what he wanted to do for a living. Tom wanted to become an illustrator. He went to Layton School of Art and during summers he exhibited at art fairs and did pastel portraits. Through the years he has been producing Fine Art, mostly oil painting.



October Playground, by Thomas Buchs

Recently he has been painting plein air; painting from life outdoors. Much of his current work is representative of this discipline. He tries to capture the light and atmosphere of a scene within a few hours. He believes that a painting is not just a two dimensional illusion, but also that of a moment in life, captured by an artist on canvas. He is a founding member of Wisconsin Plein Air Painters Association (WIPAPA.com). Tom's accomplishments in plein air painting events are numerous. Please log on to ThomasBuchs.com and enjoy his artwork and accomplishments.

Tom has been greatly influenced by the works of Dan Gerhartz who was in turn influenced by Anders Zorn, a Swedish

painter from the turn of the century. Tom was also influenced by Jacquinn Sorolla, a Spanish impressionist.

LMA members experienced a delightful morning watching Tom paint an exquisite setting on the grounds of Mount Mary. The blue sky complimented the yellows of the leaves as Tom captured the essence of a sunny, fall scene. The weather cooperated with temperatures in the high 60's. He shared many artistic tips with his audience. His color palette was made up of alizarin crimson, cadmium yellow, sap green, French ultramarine blue, titanium white, and sennelier/Chinese orange. He uses dioxazine purple to mix with any color to get its complimentary color. Tom relies upon his soft filbert brush to work its magic on the canvas. He usually lays on a burnt sienna, acrylic wash as an under-painting.

Tom says one technique that is the key to his success is frequently moving his brush back into his palette for fresh color. That keeps him from overusing the same color in one area. In an hour and a half Tom had completed this painting (see inset). Tom is a new member in LMA and we look forward to seeing many more of his creations.

MARK YOU CALENDAR: The December 11th meeting will begin with a coffee social from 9:00-9:30 a.m.

Meet the Artist - Susan Hale

Get to know your fellow LMA artists through a new series of member biographies. If you would like to be the featured artist, please send your bio info in finished form to Nancy Kolar, along with your picture and any .jpg images to accompany your article.

I have always loved to draw and paint. Living, vacationing, and traveling in the Wisconsin countryside is a constant inspiration to me. It seems everywhere I look I see a painting... sunrises on Lake Michigan, golden hay bales scattered in a farm field, popcorn clouds dancing in a pink sky. Color and pattern are important to me. I interpret onto the canvas the energy and connection to nature I feel as I paint. As van Gogh said, "...real artists paint things not as they are, in a dry analytical way, but as they feel them." I work in oils and like to use a lot of paint. "Let the paint talk," I often say. When I put the paint on thick and luscious, I liken it to frosting a cake. It is so much fun!...and so many colors to use!...and it's not fattening!

Color is magic to me. My paintings are known for their vibrant use of color and sense of optimism. My goal is to impart to the viewer the beauty and energy that comes through me as I witness nature and the landscape. I love to paint outdoors, "plein-air". Entering the various "plein air" competitions throughout the state is always the highlight of my summer.

My art is also inspired by the places I have traveled, Mexico and Italy especially. When travelling, I am always sketching people and places. My first trip to Italy was an epiphany



Susan Hale



"Peace Barn Moonrise", oil painting by Susan Hale

for me as I experienced medieval art and the Old Masters in the flesh for the first time. Impressionism and the magical realism of Mexican art have also influenced me. While travelling is a joy, there is truly "no place like home" as I live in rural Cedarburg, Wisconsin surrounded by farm fields (and mooing cows). Last year I had a show at Edgewood Orchard Galleries in Door County featuring paintings from my walk across England - 192 miles in 17 days! (grueling but gorgeous!) I always keep a small sketchbook diary as we travel and of course take many photos.

Working my way through college by exhibiting and selling at art fairs, I earned a BFA from the University of Wisconsin - Milwaukee. This was hard work as we artists know...half of our "creative" time is spent "schlepping" our artwork from one gallery to another. In my artist's life I have been a weaver, a children's book illustrator, a dollmaker, and a painter.

I am a founding member of the Cedarburg Artists Guild and enjoy volunteering and promoting the arts. Teaching is also one of my passions and I teach oil and acrylic painting at Peninsula Art School in Door County and at the Cedarburg Cultural Center. It is fun to teach other artists to be "free" with color and to use their imaginations. (susanhaleart.com)

MEMBER NEWS

Steven Rademan has a new exhibition of his work at the Leenhouts Gallery, First Unitarian Society located at 1342 N. Astor Street. The exhibit runs Oct. 24 to Dec. 3, 2010.

Elizabeth F. (Betty) Strehow received an honorable mention for a watercolor at the Waukesha County Courthouse Art Show, Oct. 4 - Nov. 2. She has two watercolor paintings in the WCAL Winter Exhibit at the Oconomowoc Arts Center Nov. 29 to Dec. 21; and a large watercolor, titled "Fall-Up North", at the Museum of Wisconsin Art Nov. 10 - Jan. 2, 2011.

Pat Zandron has a show at the Leenhouts Gallery in the First Unitarian Society located at 1342 N. Astor Street. The exhibit, titled "Streets and Structures", runs Dec. 5, 2010 through Jan. 21, 2011, with a reception on Dec. 5th, 3:00 to 5:00 p.m. Hours are Monday through Friday, 10:00 a.m to 4:00 p.m.

JURY IN NEW MEMBERS!

NOVEMBER 13, 2010

Those who wish to apply need to bring three, 2-D original artworks, properly framed, with an artist statement and bio to Mount Mary. Oil or acrylic canvases may be museum mount. Edges must be dry. These will be accepted by league members in Helfaer Hall:

- 12:15 - 1:15 Artists drop off art at Helfaer Hall. Follow signs.
- 1:15 - 3:30 Paintings will be judged.
- 3:30 - 4:00 Artists will return for pick-up.

League of Milwaukee Artists

Reuss Federal Plaza Exhibition Information

The Reuss Federal Plaza at 310 W. Wisconsin Avenue in Milwaukee will host the February 2011 self-juried, non-themed exhibition of the League of Milwaukee Artists. This exhibition will hang from February 26, 2011 through April 1, 2011.

ELIGIBILITY: Open to any artist who is a member in good standing of the League of Milwaukee Artists. Works must be original, and completed in the last 3 years. 100 works are needed for this exhibition; not to exceed 36"x 36" unframed.

ENTRY DEADLINE: Please email a maximum of 3 entries per artist (and name your images as follows: name of artist_title_media_size_price) to Marcia Hero at marciasartwork@yahoo.com by February 1, 2011.

DELIVERY: To the Reuss Federal Plaza on Saturday, February 26, 2011 from 10:00 to 12:00 noon; there is a loading dock on the north side of the building on the alley. We are responsible for hanging all of the paintings, so we will need a couple of persons to help out.

PICK-UP: Saturday, April 2, 2011, from 10:00 to noon. Artists are responsible for delivery and pick-up of their artwork.

REGISTRATION CARD: Cut on dotted lines, fill out one registration card for each entry, and attach to back of artwork.

Name _____

Phone: _____ Email _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Title _____

Date of Work _____ Medium _____

Sale Price _____ Value (if not for sale) _____

Size (H x W framed) _____

Signature _____

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Signature _____



League of Milwaukee Artists
8039 W. Waterford Avenue
Milwaukee, WI 53220

www.leagueofmilwaukeeartists.com

NEWSLETTER INFO . . . The next deadline is **January 15th**. Send articles and member news by e-mail (use the title *Open Canvas* in your subject line) or by regular mail to: Nancy Kolar / LMA
7441 S. Clement Avenue
Oak Creek, WI 53154
nck1@sbcglobal.net

Please feel free to send .jpg images you feel would be of interest to the group. Submissions may be excluded due to space limitations.

Pat Siok is the editor in charge of proofing and mailing the newsletter. All address or email changes should be sent to patsiok@ameritech.net and to Dagmara Costello, Membership, at dagmaradagart@hotmail.com. If you wish to receive your newsletter via email, let Pat know via email patsiok@ameritech.net or call 262-567-8655.



League of Milwaukee Artists

Open Canvas

November 2010

Meeting Information

Meetings begin at 9:30 a.m. and will be held in Helfaer Hall, Mount Mary College, 2900 Menomonee River Parkway.

NO JANUARY MEETING

November 13, 2010
December 11, 2010

February 12, 2011
March 12, 2011

April 9, 2011
May 14, 2011

November 13, 2010

- ▶ **Joye Moon** will demonstrate painting figure/figures on gessoed watercolor paper.
- ▶ **Jury for new members.**
12:15-1:15 pm Drop off of art at Helfaer Hall.
1:15 - 3:30 pm Paintings will be judged.
3:30-4:00 pm Artists will return for pick-up.

December 11, 2010

- ▶ **Christmas social - 9:00 to 9:30 a.m.** Brief announcements.
- ▶ Members will have the opportunity to have work critiqued by **Allen Caucutt**. *You may bring 1 or 2 paintings with the understanding both will be considered but only one will be emphasized.*