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March 2011 - Newsletter



www.oshkoshfinearts.org

Next meeting:

Tuesday, April 5

(6:30pm at the Senior Center)

Hospitality : Shelley Ingalla & Carol Brown

It's time to get full swing underway
with details of the art fair.

**Help us grow. Pass the newsletter
on to a friend.**

April 2 - (Saturday)
Oshkosh Gallery Walk

April 5 - (Tuesday)
Board meeting at 6:00 pm at the Senoir Center followed by...
Monthly meeting at 6:30 pm at the Senior Center

May 3 (Tuesday)
Monthly meeting at 6:30 pm at the Senior Center

May 7 (Saturday)
Oshkosh Gallery Walk

June 7 (Tuesday)
Monthly meeting at 6:30 pm at the Senior Center

June 12 (Sunday)
Winnebago Art Fair in South Park

Member Opportunity

The Oshkosh SW-Rotary Environmental Beautification committee is organizing a Curb Appeal Award program for Oshkosh residences. A sign indicating the award will be placed in the front yard (with the owner's permission), to encourage the beautification of our neighborhoods and city, one home at a time.

I am appealing to members of OFAA and the Arts community to submit potential designs for this yard sign. The Rotary committee would like to choose the design at their meeting on April 14. The sign should include:

“Curb Appeal” or “Curb Appeal Award”

Rotary Logo – use and design guidelines are available online

Poster sign design that complements/compliments an attractive, well-maintained home and landscaping

I am offering a \$100 honorarium to the winning artist whose design is chosen. Please submit art design digitally, if possible. Deadline for submitting is April 11. Thank you for supporting beautification in Oshkosh.

Please send any questions or comments to: Shirley Brabender Mattox, 233-2833
smattox@ameritech.net.

Member News

Joye Moon has two (2) Oshkosh workshops on April 13 & 16. There is still room available. The subject will be "Easy Going Buildings" set into a landscape.

[NO RULERS PERMITTED!]

You can bring reference photos as well.

Please let Joye know if you want to sign up. \$40 for the day. St. Paul's United Church of Christ at the corner of HWY 21 and Leonard Point Rd. Please arrive about 9:00 because she will start the project at 9:30 promptly!

Breakfast included, OF COURSE!

Kathy Murphy will have two photographs in the "Green Bay Arts Unlimited Spring Art Festival" March 6 through March 27 at the Art Garage.

Karen Kurka Jensen has an exhibit of her sumi-e work at Thimke's Jewelers from March through the end of May.

Karen was recently notified that her April sumi-e classes at the Trout Museum of Art in Appleton were cancelled when the Education Director there quit. She is sorry if anyone tried to register and got no response. She is talking with the Richeson School of Art & Gallery in Kimberly to set up classes and will keep us posted.

Apple Blossom Books

200 E. City Center 920-230-3395

Contact Cindy about the potential of being a guest artist in the store for future Gallery Walk events.

Member Opportunity

Richeson School of Art & Gallery and Bergstrom-Mahler Museum are proud to announce the first Richeson 75 Wisconsin Plein Air Exhibit, to be shown at the Bergstrom-Mahler Museum from July 8 - Sept. 18, 2011.

This competition is open to Wisconsin residents age 18 or over, and the subject is limited to the Wisconsin landscape drawn/painted primarily 'en plein air' (on-site, outdoors). Any 2-D medium will be accepted, except photography or digitally created and/or enhanced work.

Artists must certify that the painting(s) they enter were completed on-site 'en plein air' and identify the location in Wisconsin where it was created. The painting must have been completed after Jan. 1, 2010. For the purposes of this exhibit, a painting/drawing is considered to be created primarily en plein air if only minor cosmetic adjustments were made off-site or in-studio. Art must have been created entirely by the submitted artist and not under the supervision of or with assistance from any other artist.

Deadline for submission-May 13, 2011
All entries to be made online: go to www.bergstrom-mahlermuseum.com

Helen A. Jensen

Helen was born and raised in Whitefish Bay, Wisconsin. Her family's home faced the expanse of Lake Michigan and she learned to love and respect its moods and vagaries. It also provided subject matter for her creative seascapes. *"When I was a little girl, the lake fascinated me because I couldn't see the other side."* Helen's family was musically inclined. Her mother performed and taught classical piano; her father, the violin. They recognized their daughter's potential in her drawings and sketches and enrolled her at the Layton School of Art, now the Milwaukee Art Institute. Her first teacher was the renowned artist, Gerritt Sinclair. Helen completed her education by attending Milwaukee Downer College, the International People's College in Elsinore, Denmark, and the Alliance Francaise, Paris, France.



Helen again pursued her interest in art when she retired from the corporate scene and its hectic pace. No stranger to her beloved countryside in Kingston, she moved to the small village in Green Lake County where the quiet spell of the land infused. The 200-year old home where she resides is on a ridge that looks down over a meadow, the Grand River, and a woods. To the right is a copse where wee animals live; to the left a cornfield well-tended.



Helen spent many winters in Cape Coral, Florida, on the Gulf of Mexico, where she studied with pastel artist Gerrie Phillips.

"I love the bright, vibrant versatility of pastels, from the soft, delicate tints to rich, dark, luminous hues. Pastels are not shy; they don't hide their colors in tubes. Painting with pastels satisfies an impulsive part of me and offers a sense of immediate contact which I find enormously attractive."

Helen's work has been recognized through awards in both Wisconsin and Florida. Her commissioned paintings have captured an enthusiastic following.

Meeting Minutes for Mar. 2011

Peggy McDaniel -- opened the meeting with a welcome back to returning member Rosemary Eiden. Angela Humburg introduced her husband Bill as a guest.

Program

Steve Miller demonstrated wood turning.

Treasurer's report

\$10,976.00

Art fair

Rita Mueller submitted the first Art Fair article to the Northwestern.

Jill Marie Soik brought a poster design and all agreed it looked great and met the criteria.

The discussion about children's' activities at the art fair was tabled until **Susan Osland** and others interested could get to South Park and check out the gazebo area. They will bring suggestions back to the group.

Nominating committee--still trying to fill the spots for president and treasurer.

Linda Nolan reported on the New Oshkosh City Requirements include a new fee for the parking/traffic barricades, fire extinguishers at every station that prepares food, food preparation stations must be 20 ft. from any other food station, NO PLASTIC TABLE CLOTHS. We are also required to call Diggers Hot Line for marking of 'risk' areas. The new rulings also exclude all animals from the park. As in past years, we are still required to carry insurance, monitor trash, provide Porta-Potties, dumpster and Auxiliary Police services.

Members' Booth - The following have signed up for the members' booth: Adela Baumhardt, Ellie Buckley, Heidi Burnett, Rosemary Eiden, Joanne Murphy-Herwig, Max Nobbe(not sure), Susan Osland, Jill Soik, Carolyn Sturma, Carol Thomas and Elli Wollangk(not sure).

If anyone else is interested, please let

Carol Thomas know. She will have the sign-up sheet at the meeting in April and also a sheet listing the items you will have on display. Everyone should also sign up for a one-hour time to monitor the booth.

Please send the separate entry form, stating "members' booth," to Kathy Murphy along with a check for \$20.00.

The members' booth is limited to 3 paintings unless there is room for more. If you have art work that won't be hung, or be in the unframed rack, such as note cards, please think of how you are going to display that art work. All work should be labeled with your name, phone number, medium and price (which should indicate tax is included). You may want to bring business cards.

All members' booth participants should help set up at 8:15 and take down at 4:00. Please let me know if you can bring a card table, chair, folding rack, easel or any other needed items.

Plein-air event

Committee has talked with the BID board about a downtown event in Sept. They will be talking to the Farmer's Market organizers next and will report back.

Heidi Burnett started an "inspiration raffle" at the monthly meeting. **Elli Wollangk's** name was drawn and she received a tote bag to keep art project supplies in and at the ready. Next month, Elli will provide the raffle item which is meant to "inspire the artist" and each meeting will see the rotation continue. Members present at a meeting will have the choice of participating in the raffle or passing.

Thank you to **Cori Conrad** and **Jenna Larson** for providing refreshment goodies.

April meeting

Board meeting at **6 pm** for officers and general board members - pretty much everyone listed on the newsletter front page. Bring questions and input about this year's art fair.

General meeting at **6:30 pm**.

Book Review for Mar. 2011

The Tao of Watercolor: A Revolutionary Approach to the Practice of Painting

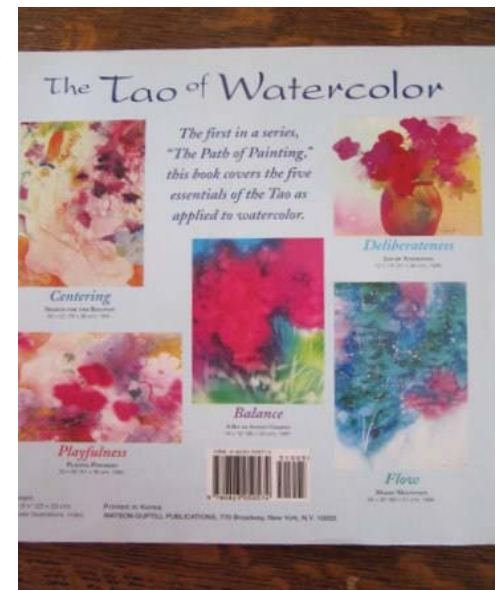
This book is authored by Jeanne Carbonetti. Jeanne has written other books: a few of them, “The Zen of Creative Painting: An Elegant Design for Revealing Your Muse” (1998) and “The Yoga of Drawing: Uniting Body, Mind & Spirit in the Art of Drawing (1999).

As I began to read this book, it brought to mind some of the ideas and techniques shown by Karen Kurka Jensen in her Sumi-e art workshop in January, 2011. This 112 page book has a demonstration in five of the 9 chapters. The five chapters that include demonstrations are shown in the picture below. They are on Centering, Balance, Deliberateness, Playfulness, and Flow. “It presents a philosophical framework for viewing the practice of painting as well as a guide book of techniques to employ.” (p.16).

Jeanne describes a meditative exercise by “embracing the world” to Center ourselves to prepare ourselves to paint. This is similar to how the Sumi-e art painting master prepares to paint. Jeanne provides a simple visualization for Balance; being mindful of the parts in relationship to the whole. Deliberateness is natural for a child but difficult for an adult to learn. “We need to relearn what we knew instinctively as a child.” (p. 48). It is learning to wait until the time is right and let your feelings guide you in making your brush strokes. Then you can be deliberate. The spirit of Playfulness is difficult to describe. It is sort of being a child again, not critical but kind to yourself. “It is responding with the newness of a child’s wonder and the skills of a practiced adult” (p.61). Lastly, Flow is allowing the creative process to happen by trusting in yourself and your art becomes You!

The other chapters in the book describe different techniques such as: washes, atmospheric landscape, composition, ruffling, values, blended wet, color glazing, still life, texture, soft splatter, and wet glazing.

I purchased this book used on Amazon.com. Its published price is \$19.95



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Review submitted by Joanne Murphy-Herwig