



ILLINOIS ART LEAGUE

ART NEWS

Over 50 Years of Encouraging Original Fine Art!

Volume 2015 Issue 5

Art-Shows-Art news-Keeping you Informed!

MAY

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Dear Fellow Artists,

It's almost here! Our Spring Membership Show is less than a month away and we need everyone's artwork to make this show a success! The deadline for applications is Thursday, May 21st. We have recently learned that the Peoria Heights Fine Arts Fair has been cancelled for this year. Despite that, we have decided to go ahead with our show, so please get the word out and invite you family and friends. With your help, we can make this a great show!

If you are able to help with the show in any way, please contact our Membership Show chair, Bev Pullen. If you need help getting your artwork to the show, please contact us and we'll do our best to assist you. We have so many talented artists in our league and we can't wait to see all of your beautiful artwork!

Thank you to Carol Romanowski and Leslie Walsh, for all of their efforts to make our Meet and Greet last month a success! It was a fun evening and those attending especially enjoyed the demonstrations put on by fellow artists. Thank you to Mickey Beam, P.K. Bhosale, Ed Levene, Bev Pullen, Ginger Sayles and Cindy Wamack for sharing your many talents with us. We are also grateful to those members who brought the delicious cookies and snacks, making the evening that much more enjoyable.

We have two workshops scheduled this month: Stephen Blackburn's watercolor workshop was held on Friday and Saturday, May 1st and 2nd. All those who attended would agree that it was a wonderful workshop and we all had fun learning a new technique! We are looking forward to Elizabeth Robbins oil painting workshop, which will be held next week, from Thursday – Sunday, May 14 – 17th. What wonderful opportunities to learn and grow as an artist, right here in Central Illinois!

During the month of July, we'll be participating in our annual art show at the downtown Peoria Public Library. Please consider sharing your artwork for this event. This show is free, open to the public, and an excellent opportunity for you to have your work on display. In addition, the show is a chance to showcase the Illinois Art League, and its many talented members, as a vital part of the Central Illinois community. We are currently in need of committee members for this event, as well as volunteers to help out. Please contact us if you're able to assist.

Jackie and Leslie

Please remember to submit your June Membership Show applications before May 21st and best of luck to all of you!

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

~~ Add these new members to your directory~~

- Dale Kuntz 5 Fox Point Pekin, IL 61554 309-346-6742 (oil,watercolor,mixed)
- Laura Bailey 1009 Monroe Dr. Bloomington, IL 61701 309-287-7343 lrowellj@msn.com
- Richard Kirchgessner 4012 W. Virden Peoria, IL 61615 309-692-9073
(painting,photography,sculpture) Dickster5819@sbcglobal.net
- Jeanette Mahoney 2724 W. Reservoir Blvd Peoria, IL 61615 309-339-3806
- Frances Sheets 466 St. Rt 26 Lacon, IL 61540 309-246-2272 fransheets@msn.com

THINGS TO DO AND PLACES TO GO IN MAY

Work Time for **Colored Pencil Artist**

Wednesdays May 6th, 13th, 20th 2:00-4:00 pm North Branch Library (west of Menards)
Contact Person: Karen Buenneke 309-681-0168 karenbuenneke@yahoo.com

COLORED PENCIL EXPRESSIONS

Thursday May 7th, 11:30 Donnelly's near Westlake Shopping Center
Hostess: Rose Sullivan 692-7766 Theme: Red, Blue, Yellow

Pen and Ink Group

Thursday May 14th 1:00-3:00 pm North Branch Library (west of Menards)

All Artist Group

Monday 18th 1:00-3:00 (Moved due to Memorial Day)
Humana Building Hale St. Pioneer Park
Welcome all to work on your individual projects

Praireland Watermedia Society

Thursday May 21st 1:00-3:00 Peoria Heights Library
Hosted by: Sharon Bruell Theme: Using Pastel to Change or Rescue Watercolor
Please bring supplies and small watercolor picture (some supplies will be furnished)

MEMBERSHIP SHOW
MEMERSHIP FORMS DUE BY THURSDAY MAY 21st

HAPPY MEMORIAL DAY



CONDOLENCES BILL HARDIN & FAMILY

His wife Marian Rose Hardin, 88, of Peoria passed away at 10 a.m. Sunday, April 5, 2015

IAL MEMBER EXHIBITS

IAL PEORIA HEIGHTS PUBLIC LIBRARY ONGOING MEMBER EXHIBIT

Exhibiting thru May 4th was Cindy Lawson-Kester and Joe and Carlene Venovich

Cindy Lawson-Kester Normal, Illinois cindyisu2002@yahoo.com

Creating art has taken me by storm! I have been making art for less than three years. I did not grow up believing I had artistic talent, though I have long admired those who do. I did grow up dreaming of having a passion, which never seemed to reveal itself.

A decade ago I dared to try a little sketching and some of my family encouraged me to do more but I did not follow through. Then in early 2012 my husband and I took in a young woman who was going through an emotional crises. By the evening of each day she was almost inconsolable. Out of desperation, I began an "art time" and together we made collages and masks and bookmarks and whatever I could think of to distract her while she talked herself to a more positive place. When it came time for her to leave, I had grown to love this time. A few months later I was in downtown Bloomington alone and with free time, so decided on a whim to step into a gallery. After admiring the work of our talented local artists, I got the courage to ask the gallery director if she knew of someone who provided art instruction. And so it began.

I have now studied for brief periods with two instructors and I take workshops from professionals several times a year. Mostly I paint as much as possible...at least several times a week. In spring of 2013 my first oil painting was accepted by McLean County Art for exhibit in the annual amateur show. I have since had two additional paintings accepted for exhibit there and have been invited to be part of several art shows in other venues. In May, 2013 I co-founded Inside Out: Accessible Art Cooperative in Bloomington where I currently exhibit and sell my work with other local artists, as well as taking a leadership role in promoting local art through frequent events.

My paintings are from life and from reference photos, as well as original creations. Last year I became part of a plein air group and found a new passion...painting outdoors!! I love something about every medium I have tried and find that art confronts me with my many fears, including the judgment of others and my own perfectionistic self. Making art despite these negative voices in my head allows me to transcend these fears, to accept my humanity and to embrace my mistakes. My mantra has become some combination of "Art is not a competitive sport" and "To thine own self be encouraging and fearless". The art community is full of fascinating people who teach me what freedom looks like as well as how to be open and non-judgmental, to see the positive and the beauty in everything and everyone.

I regard my creating time as a large part of my spiritual practice and I know I am to carry this message to would-be artists..."Yes! Create!"

CURRENT EXHIBITORS THRU JUNE 1ST

Sylvia Straw and Debbie Winters

Artist Sylvia Straw

My interest in art goes back to high school in Denver. I truly wanted to go into commercial art with a distinct interest in fashion illustration. Life took its course...a move to NY state, marriage and motherhood. When we moved to Peoria, I did take watercolor classes from Love Murray. It was just a little tease of what was to come when I retired.

Exploring the different qualities of watercolor has been so rewarding. It has given me a renewed awareness of the world around me. There is so much to learn.

Artist Deb Winters

I have always had an interest in and enjoyed art in it's many forms. Fortunately I was able to have a creative outlet during my years in early childhood/special ed. I just never pursued this interest by taking any art classes. Then about ten years ago I took a class in colored pencil. However, it was with my retirement in 2010 that I was finally able to really spend time exploring my artistic side!

Watercolors have always had a special appeal for me and when I retired I was overjoyed to find that Humana Guidance Center was offering such a class. For the last several years I have been painting, sharing and learning with the artists who meet there. It has been such a wonderful experience, one that I hope will continue for many years. Happy Painting!



TUNE IN PLEASE

Wednesday May 20th WEEK TV 5:45 AM

Interview with Leslie Walsh and Jackie Colgan

CONGRATULATIONS

IAL WINNERS 51ST RENNICK SHOW

- BEST OF SHOW Mary Hildebrand "Peaches"
- 1ST PLACE Bill Hardin "Louie Neumiller"
- HORABLE MENTION: Rose Sullivan, Sherri Burritt, PK Bhosale, Jean Fehl, Marjorie Schwebel,

JOIN US FOR THE RECEPTION SAT MAY 16TH FROM 2:00-4:00 AT MAIN BRANCH LIBRARY PEORIA.

CONTEMPORARY ART CENTER ART EXHIBITION

May 1-26th Preston Jackson gallery
Todd Snyder is part of the MAGIC REALISM exhibit at 305 SW Water St. Peoria.
Reception Saturday May 9th 6:30-8:30

THERE'S STILL TIME

A Moment ... A Memory

Exhibit ends May 16th at the Time Gallery 2nd Floor

Levee District East Peoria, IL

To see works by

Sherri Burritt and Florence Gaffney

FUTURE WORKSHOPS

& EXHIBIT OPPORTUNITIES WATERCOLOR WORKSHOP WITH

Tom Francesconi

July 13,14,15 9am-4pm

B.Harley Bradley House

Kankakee, IL

\$250 For more info contact Carol 708-931-3141

Or Pat 815-937-4933 wrightinkankakee.org

PLEIN AIR WORKSHOP AND PAINT OUT

Hosted by: Inside Out: Accessible Art

Cindy Lawson -Kester event. 309-838-9096

May 23/24 We will be holding a plein air paint out in Bloomington which includes an optional oil workshop to be presented by Ken Tiessen. It is a friendly competition and participants will have the opportunity to earn prizes and to participate in the closing art show and sale. <https://www.facebook.com/events/588020794634812/>

Sign up now by mail or in the gallery at

318 N. Main Bloomington, IL.

Buchanan Center for the ARTS

CALL TO ARTISTS

Competition June 9th—July 11, 2015

Last date for entry form and fee Saturday

May 23rd.

309-734-3033 buchannancenter@frontier.com

<http://bcaarts.org>

OTHER RESOURCES FOR ART INFO

Visit ArtsPartners.net

Artists-newsletter@artists-hub.com

www.quadcitiesarts.com art group from quadcities

Offering many classes and art events

<http://artspartners.net/ignite-peoria/>

IGNITE PEORIA Aug 8th Peoria Civic Center