

PORTFOLIO

THE PHILADELPHIA SKETCH CLUB • FOUNDED IN 1860

FEBRUARY 2004

Dinner Meeting February 14th

Our Dinner Meeting on February 13th will feature **Margo Christensen** from the Weber art supply company here in Philadelphia. She will address issues confronting quality and safety for those of us who, like Van Gogh, chew on their lead white loaded brushes. Alas, the only imagination is technical imagination, and Margo will tell us about the technical part of our imagination.

John-Nicholas Caterers, Inc.,

There were many favorable comments about the food after the January dinner meeting. This was a welcomed change. We are now using John-Nicholas Caterers, Inc., of 1840 South Camac Street. For the February dinner we will have:

- Spring mix salad with house dressing on the side
- Roast chicken
- Potato medley
- Mixed vegetables
- Rolls and butter
- Cherry glazed cheese cake
- Coffee & Tea

"Artists of the RiverTowns" Redux

"Artists of the RiverTowns" will be on display one more time in Warrington PA. Lynne E. Miller, Chief Administrator for the The Health and Wellness Center of Doylestown Hospital has invited Doris Brandes to mount another exhibit of the show

continued on back cover – Redux

ART NATTERS

Ben Cohen is showing through February at The Inn-Philadelphia on Camac Street. Ben will be showing with members of the Muse Gallery in Old City March 5th to 20th. Also Ben will be showing with Lisa Spera at the Highwire Gallery March 5th to the 28th.

James Freeman is having a one-person exhibition entitled "Twilight Excursions" at the Radclyffe Gallery, 5806 Route 202, Lahaska, PA 18931. The show opened with a reception on January 24 and continues through February 16, 2004. For information call (215) 794-9225.

Addie Hocynec has a solo exhibition currently on display for the month of January at Meadowood at Worcester Retirement Community near Lansdale, PA. She recently gave a talk and sold a number of pieces. She was juried into the 24th Annual Exhibition at Coryell Gallery in Lambertville, NJ. The show opens on February 1st and continues till March 14th. She also had work accepted at the Chester County Art Association's Watermedia show and their Abstract/Non-Representational Show, both shows running until February 14th. She will be participating again this year at Immaculata University's 21st Annual Show from February 7th-15th. Information regarding the show is available at www.immaculataartshow.com.

Donald Meyer will have 14 egg temperas in the Immaculata University Art Show opening February 7th thru the 15th. A huge show is in the works at

Sunset Hill Fine Arts in West Chester for him as well and that will open in June.

Judith Barbour Osborne has two pieces from her latest series – Joy, Momentum and Mercies Series – in the "Alphabets in the Arts" exhibition (curated by Maureen Squires) at Ice House Gallery, Berkeley Springs, WV, January 16 - March 7, 2004. The opening reception was Friday, January 16. Also in the show are national calligraphers Nancy Culmone, Anna Pinto, Karen Charatan, Glen Epstein and many others. "It is as close to PA as West Virginia gets and a 3-1/2 hour drive from Philadelphia if anyone feels like a trek."

Peter Petraglia is one of several artists who are participating in an exhibition at the Hopewell Frame Shop from January 10 through February 28, 2004. The location is 24 W. Broad Street, Hopewell, NJ. For information

Welcome!

ACTIVE

Neesa Becker-Proccaccio
Sharon Kenny
George McMonigle

call (609) 466-0817. Pete is also a participating artist in the "Bread and Roses" exhibition at the Sabine Rose Gallery which runs from January 9 through February 18, 2004. The exhibition explores the relationship between an artist's personal work and the work done for an assignment. The gallery is located at 68 S. Main Street, Doylestown, PA. For information call (215) 489-5700.

Deborah Riccardi has a painting, "Patrick, Papua New Guinea," 42"x62", oil on canvas being in the Juried Woodmere Exhibition which opened on January 24th. She had a charcoal drawing on rag paper, "West Philadelphia" accepted in the Works on Paper Show.

Musings from the Club Office

Company is coming! What is the first thing you do? Probably shove the dirty dishes under the sofa and the newspapers in the closet, or something to that effect. We do this because we want to make a good impression on our visitors. As the PSC becomes a "more public" organization, we get more visitors. The last thing we want is for visitors to get the wrong impression of our beloved building because it is cluttered with leftover artwork and debris. There is also a safety concern regarding too many things lying around. This request is simple: if you have artwork here leftover from a previous show, PLEASE take it home with you! If you know you will be out of town or have an emergency and cannot pick up work on the assigned day, please call me or the exhibition chair and let us know you have a conflict, and approximately when you can pick up your work. A little communication means a whole lot. We also ask that you make sure you discard cups, bottles, and the like in a trash container. Thank you for helping to keep the PSC site the beautiful facility that it is by pitching in this way. – **Diane Podolsky**, Executive Director

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Diane Podolsky

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UPDATES

Archives

Deborah Riccardi, Diana Capaldi and Donna Ostroff toiled away on several Saturday Work parties. Anyone can still join the happy band. Call me, 610-352-3692, or Donna: 215-755-5068.

Secure Storage: We realize there are only limited areas for secure storage at the Club and do desire to meet any temporary security needs. However, you CANNOT restrict access to any file cabinet drawers! Although somewhat inconvenient, there is storage space on the upper shelving of the archives room.

We have also constructed storage space above the Gallery closets on the north end of the gallery. The sections can be locked. Your lock key should be accessible. – **Dick Cohen, Archives**

Development Report

Please see the enclosed letter.

Entertainment

A much belated thank you to all those whose efforts made the Sketch Club's Holiday Party such a success: The tree provider and decorators, the dessert maker, the Fish House Punch creators, the hors d'ouerves contributors, the Purity League auctioneer and donators. It was a great party, much enjoyed by all who attended. – **Arthur Ostroff, Entertainment Chair**

A PARKING TIP: The parking garage at the Holiday Inn Express, on Walnut, between 13th and Juniper, has a Saturday/Sunday special: enter between 7am and 5 pm, stay till midnight: \$6.00!!

House

We are conducting an inventory of lockers in the gallery to determine who still uses their locker for the workshops and who does not. As this issue is clarified, we will be billing for locker use. Club members will be billed \$10 per season and non-members will be billed \$15. A season is September through

June. Leon Graff will be assisting with this task, so if you currently have items in a workshop locker you may be hearing from Leon. Once it is determined that a locker will continue to be used, the occupant of that locker will be billed for half the amount for the remainder of this year, and will receive a new invoice in September 2004 for the whole year. If you have any questions, please speak with me. – **Betty MacDonald, House Chair**

Exhibitions

Works On Paper Show 2004

Wonderful show. Again, hats off to **Greg Lewis** and all those who helped him for their diligent work.

141st Small Oils Show

The 141st Annual Exhibition of Small Oils will be held at the Sketch Club from March 7 through March 28, 2004. A prospectus for this show is included with the Portfolio. Delivery dates for entries are

Who's That? Irma Abramson Shapiro

I have been painting and showing my work since I was a teenager. I have studied over the years at Tyler School of Fine Arts, Moore College of Art, Pennsylvania Academy of Fine Arts, and the Philadelphia Museum of Art. I have studied with Sol Carson, Jimmy Luders, Martin Jackson, and William Greenwood. I am now being represented by Artworks Gallery in Kennett Square, PA.

As a child and young adult, I painted prolifically. I stopped for 20 years, after the death of my mother. My husband was very proud of my art work and had many hung in his medical offices. Before he died, in 1996, he made me promise to return to painting. After such a long absence, this required patience and discipline but helped me get

past the grief and begin life anew.

Since my return to painting, each Wednesday I travel to New York City to a contemporary art course, given by NYU and taught by Douglas Maxwell. The course includes visits to galleries, commentary and discussion. This is a great way to view what's new and the cutting edge in art.

At present, I study and paint with Bill Greenwood. During the good weather season, I invite fellow artists for the afternoon each Monday, to paint on my wooded property. Each week an eclectic bevy of artists can be found painting and discussing art.

Travel, locally and abroad, gives me inspiration and the opportunity to photograph and sketch landscapes and flowers

Artist ~ February 16, 1935
for future painting subjects. My most recent trip to the Fjords of New Zealand, inspired an entire series of large works, which were in a one-woman show at Inn Philadelphia.

I love brilliant color. I consider color my forté. The juxtaposition of bright and glowing colors stimulates and energizes my art. My brush work is vigorous and textured. I love suprising little dabs of unique and unexpected color in otherwise calm paintings. I like to feel that my work stimulates the eyes of the beholder, as much as it does mine.

I am delighted, surprised and gratified to find my art work in demand. Galleries and art shows welcome my paintings, giving me further motivation and creativity.

A Tour of The Philadelphia Sketch Club

Excerpts from "A Tour of the Philadelphia Sketch Club with Ralph Affleck, Norman Mansell, Herbert Armstrong and Ron Spicer, December 1979"

RS: *Ralph, Norm and Herb: I am sure that all the members of the Club will be grateful to you for taking the time to share your extensive knowledge of the Club with us. There aren't many still around who know the details so intimately and it is a real privilege to have this opportunity to review the history with you. Where would you like to start?*

RA: Thank you, Ron. I am grateful for the opportunity to do this. Let's start with the location. The address of the Sketch Club is 235 South Camac Street. It consisted of three buildings originally: 235, 237 and 239. Three buildings were put together with the walls above and below knocked down. The upper gallery is held together by a number of tie rods without which the building would probably collapse.

The lantern at the upper right of the front door was made in 1928, approximately, by a man by the name of Worthy, a remarkable iron worker, who lived out near Chester Springs.

On the left of the doorway is a sign that was carved by Frank Ferg. When it was deteriorating, Sal Martarano restored it, re-varnished it and gilded it. He has done this twice over the last 20 years, for which the Club is very grateful.

RS: *What do you think is the original date of the sign?*

RA: The original date of the sign is probably around 1930. Above the door is a historical marker which was probably put in place in the early 1970s designating the house as an historical building. Nothing can be done to change the exterior without the approval of the Philadelphia Historical Commission. At one time, at the door step was a foot scraper; it was stolen, of course! I think it was on the left hand side embedded in the brick work. Now, the shutter stops are of the grape pattern, very familiar in Philadelphia, and as far as I know, are the original ones. They have been here since I joined the Club in 1928. My son would give a fortune for this!

February 20th and 21st from 10:00 AM to 5:00 PM. Let's make this a great show by having our PSC members participate. – **Bill Patterson**, *Small Oils Chair*

Keystone Grant House Restoration Report

As previously reported, the masonry restoration work began in early December. Unfortunately, the sub-contractor doing the work progressed with clearing the joints and did not do it to the satisfaction of our architect or the Philadelphia Historical Commission. Repointing of the front of the building is on hold until the architect determines the best method and style of repointing and until there is a stretch of warmer weather. We suspect this work will not be completed until the spring.

Annual Fund Drive

It is still not too late to be part of our Annual Fund Drive. While we have been successful in gaining some grant funds, we still need a successful Annual Fund Drive to meet any

unforeseen developments as the restoration work progresses. Please do all you can to aid our Club. Donations should be sent to the attention of our Treasurer.

Workshop Report Substitute and Regular Monitors Needed

We are in need of a substitute workshop monitor(s) for our Wednesday evening workshop. Models are booked for this workshop through the end of April, so the substitute monitors will only be responsible for opening and closing the workshop, collecting participants' \$\$, etc.. The Wednesday workshop begins at 6:30 pm and ends at 9:30 pm. There are small perks included with this job. Also, we anticipate needing a regular monitor for next year for the weeknight workshop, night to be determined by the availability of the monitor. If you are interested in becoming a monitor, please contact me at the number listed below. – **Kitt Mitchell**, *Workshop (Life, Portrait) Chair*; (215) 732-2282.

Calendar of Events

FEBRUARY

- 1
End of Works On Paper Show
- 13
February Dinner Meeting
- 20 & 21
Drop Off Dates for
141st Small Oils Show
- 22
Philadelphia High School
Students Show Closing
Reception; 2 to 5 PM
- 23
February Board Meeting

MARCH

- 7
141st Small Oils Reception;
2 to 5 PM
- 12
March Dinner Meeting
- 22
March Board Meeting

How To Make A Dinner Reservation

1

Call the club phone number
(215) 545-9298.

2

After the introduction,
press 2, listen to the
instructions, wait for the
tone, then speak clearly.

3

Leave your name and dinner
reservation information.
The information must be put
on the answering system.
Please spell out your name to
ensure accuracy.

Reservations can be made ANY
DAY after 3pm except
Wednesday on which you may
call any time during the day up
to 6pm. These hours have been
established to avoid disturbing
the workshops in progress.

Sunday – Tuesday;
Thursday – Saturday
Call after 3pm

Wednesday
Call anytime until 6pm

**THE CUTOFF TIME FOR
CALLING IN YOUR
RESERVATION IS 8PM ON
THE TUESDAY PRIOR TO THE
MEETING NIGHT**

The cost for the dinners are:
PSC Members dinner - \$18.00;
Guests: \$20.00.

Registered Attendees: You need
only to call if you are cancelling
or bringing guest/s. We must
know how many guests. If you
fail to show, you will be billed
for the cost of the dinner/s.

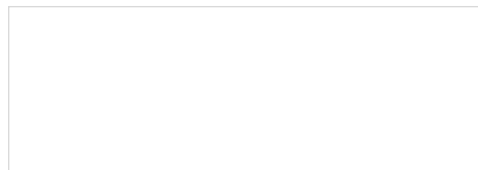
Unregistered Attendees: You
must make a reservation each
time you come to dinner stating
the number of guests you are
bringing. If you fail to show, you
will be billed for the cost of the
dinner/s. Note: If you wish to be
registered as a regular attendee,
you must do so with the
Treasurer. Please do not let this
deter you from attending the
meeting. Every effort will be
made to accommodate you.

New members: Monthly dinner
meetings include a social hour at
6pm, dinner at 7pm and an after
dinner speaker.

PORTFOLIO

The Philadelphia Sketch Club
235 South Camac Street
Philadelphia, PA 19107-5608

ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED



News for The Portfolio?

To submit information or announcements for The Portfolio, please use the following as a guide:

Via e-mail:
sketchnews@yahoo.com

Via regular mail:
Susan Hutton DeAngelus
Editor, The Portfolio
235 South Camac Street
Philadelphia, PA 19107-5608

– or –

Susan Hutton DeAngelus
950 North Fifth Street
Philadelphia, PA 19123.

For all other information, contact the appropriate committee chairperson and they will submit the item with their reports.

**Deadline for
March issue:
February 26th**

Redux

continued from the cover

which appeared in our galleries in 2003. Member **Ed Letven** has been appointed Chairman and has worked out the graphics and marketing strategy for the show along with the Co-Chairs Doris Brandes, Jan Lipes and Gail Bracegirdle. The exhibit which again will show only works by artists featured in Doris Brandes' book will include small to medium size paintings, and sculpture. The show will open April 16th with a VIP evening and close on May 4th. Demos, lectures and special programs are planned throughout the show. That will also include book signings. The Wellness Center is a magnificent new Medical and Health Center and is committed to the support of the arts. They have already developed a significant corporate purchase of art for their walls.

For information contact:

- Ed Letven
(after February 20th)
215-885-5418 or
email: eletven@comcast.net
- Doris Brandes
email: artbuz@erols.com
- Jan Lipes
email: jlipes@voicenet.net
- Gail Bracegirdle
215-638-4614
email: gailnwill@aol.com

Ed has designed all the show materials and those among the Sketch Club members who are in the book will should be receiving the prospectus shortly.

Upcoming Art Events

Moore College of Art & Design
Jörg Immendorff
January 23– March 21, 2004
Annual Alumnae Exhibition & Reunion
February 27 - 28, 2004

PAFA
*African American Artists
Celebrate Community*
now through April 4, 2004

Philadelphia Museum of Art
Manet and the Sea
February 15 – May 31, 2004

Rosenbach Museum and Library
Devil with a Hammer in His Hand
now through February 29, 2004