



PSC PORTFOLIO

october 2003

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The Philadelphia Sketch Club ~ Founded in 1860

Dinner Meeting October 10th

Our speaker for the dinner meeting will be **Cheryl Leibold**, Archivist for the Pennsylvania Academy of Fine Arts. She will be talking about past Sketch Club member **William Cresson**. The Cresson Scholarship was established in memory of him by his parents early this century and Ms. Leibold will detail his life, much of which was researched from the club's archives.

She also found his grave site and will show us the life-size bronze portrait memorial that stands there.



Announcements

Bus Trip to Washington DC

The deadline is fast approaching to sign up for the bus trip. Here is a sampling of what is on display at the National Gallery: The Art of Romare Bearden; The Age of Watteau, Chardin, and Fragonard: Masterpieces of French Genre; and Painting Picasso: The Cubists Portraits of Fernande Olivier. The trip is for Saturday, October 25th. Contact **Diane Podolsky**, Executive Director for more information; (215) 545-7140.

Art Display/Sales Opportunity

John Leshner, a long time member of the Philadelphia Sketch Club and past Treasurer, has an opportunity for our artists to display and sell their paintings. His son Andrew manages Body Rebuilders, a physical therapy center at One Bala Plaza, Suite 134, Bala Cynwyd, PA. The facility there has 4,000 square feet of display space. They have 400 health club members and 1,000 physical therapy clients per month and estimate an average of 700 different people going in and out of their facility each month. They carry \$250,000 in fire and theft insurance. The facility can accommodate wall-mounted items only as there is no space for sculpture. Items displayed would be for sale and the price should include a 30% commission of which 10% will be given back to the Sketch Club. If you are interested for the details of this proposal individually or in groups contact John Leshner at (610) 544-2719.

There is a Lace & Fiber exhibition on display at the Plastic Club from October 5 through the 24. The opening reception is on Sunday, October 5 from 2pm - 5pm. All lace made by members of the Liberty Lacers. Lace making will be demonstrated during the reception.

October 10th Menu

- Homemade spaghetti & meatballs
- Greek salad
- Rolls & Butter
- Homemade Apple crumb cake
- Coffee & Tea

Pete Boyle

Archives

Thanks to those friends of archives, **Donna Ostroff**, **Al Bowe**, **Charles Reeder**, and **Diana Capaldi** who attended our work party on Saturday August 23. The "**D**" **DiStefano** donated archival framed watercolor on silent

auction has achieved a top bid of \$450.00. All proceeds will enrich our club coffers. The painting is on display in the library and the silent auction will end after the October dinner meeting. The Archives gang meet the first and third Saturday mornings each month. Enjoy the fellowship of members interested in the history of our club. - **Dick Cohen**, Archives Chair; 610-352-3562.

Art Natters

Sal Asaro is part of a two artist exhibition entitled "Brushed By Nature" at RF Gallery, 46 West Lafayette Street, Trenton, NJ. The exhibition runs from September 10 through October 3, 2003. For information call (609) 695-0061.

Library

I would like to thank **Frank Foster** for his ongoing work in cataloging the numerous volumes in the library collection. I would also like to thank author and watercolorist **Domenic DiStefano** for his recent book donation to the PSC library. The club would be grateful for the works of any other members who would like to donate their works. Please drop them off to me at a dinner meeting or mail to my office at: 38 Bishop Hollow Road, Newtown Square, PA 19073 - **Pete Quarracino**

Calendar of Events

2003

October

10

October Dinner Meeting

10 & 11

Drop Off for
Photography Show

20

October Board Meeting

26

Reception for
Photography Show
2 to 5 PM

November

14

November Dinner Meeting

24

November Board Meeting

30

3rd Annual Legacy
Show opens
2 to 5 PM

December

5

December Dinner Meeting

13

Holiday Party

22

December Board Meeting

FOR SALE: Genuine school board slate (black), 42" x (varied) 63"/58"/48"/ 54". This is NOT painted masonite. Each rectangle of slate is in excellent condition. Each one: approx. \$30. Buy all and start your own school or panel the kid's room for a chalk/pastel happy heaven. Use as a ready memo pad that is real and not virtual. Great for creative types. – **Des McLean**; (856) 582-3999.

■ RESTORED STUDIO SPACE
■ NEW LIGHTING
■ \$100 PER SESSION

TUESDAY: MODEL (LIFE) 12-8
TUESDAY: PAINTMAKING 10-2
WEDNESDAY: MODEL (LIFE) 8:30-9:30
THURSDAY: MODEL (PORTRAIT) 12-8
SATURDAY: MODEL (LIFE) 9:30-12:30

Ben Cohen was juried into the Pastel Society of America 31st Annual Show. The show was on display from September 6 through 28 at the National Arts Club Gallery in New York City. He was awarded 2nd place in the Center for the Arts in Southern New Jersey's Annual Exhibit, which ran from September 8 through 30, in Marlton, NJ. He received an award in Burlington County Cultural and Heritage 27th Annual Juried Show, which runs until October 27 at the Smithville Mansion Gallery, Eastampton, NJ.

Joseph Crilley was the Honored Artist at Phillips' Mill 74th Annual Fall Exhibition which is on view through October 26, 2003. His oil painting "Venice – Ca'Doro" was pictured on the front cover of the exhibition listing. Other PSC members in the exhibition include **Vincent Ceglia**, **Christian Corey**, **Addie Hocyne**, **Pat Wilson-Schmid** and **George Douris**. **Jack Gerber** was one of the jurors for the exhibition. Phillips' Mill is on River Road about two miles north of New Hope. For information call (215) 862-0582.

Domenic DiStefano's prominence at the reception for the 24th Annual Pennsylvania Watercolor Society International Exhibition on September 21, 2003 at Ursinis College, could not be overlooked. Accompanied by not only his lovely wife Georgie, "D" appeared to also have his own personal bodyguard. Did he feel his stature warranted such a measure? Or did he feel the extra security was needed to safeguard his expected prize winnings? Investigation found that the bodyguard was really his nephew who is a quarterback on the Ursinis football team. Domenic did collect an award gaining the Keystone Award for his watercolor "Yellow Sky." **Jean Uhl Spicer** was also in the exhibition and won an Honorable Mention for "Tides Out." The exhibition continues at the Philip & Muriel Berman Museum of Art at Ursinis College until November 23, 2003. He has received several other honors over the summer. He participated in the Mid-West Watercolor Society and received two awards at the North Shore Art Association in Gloucester, MA. He is also featured in a new book published by International Artists that is due out in October. He has presented the Club with a copy of this book for its library (Jean Uhl Spicer is also featured in the book). He will also be one of the award judges for the American Watercolor Society in 2004.

George Douris has a painting and a sculpture in the current show at the club "Artists of the Rivertowns". He also has a ceramic sculpture in the juried 26th Bucks County Chamber of Commerce Show in Warrington, PA during September and October as well as a sculpture in the 74th Annual at Phillips Mill in New Hope, PA. His writing talents were also on display a few months back in the Bucks County Community College newspaper.

The Women's Committee of the Philadelphia Museum of Art has announced the finalists in the 2003 Greeting Card Project. **Cyndy Drue's** photograph, "Independence Hall in Winter," is one of 12 finalists out of more than 500 entries of paintings, etchings, graphics and other photographs received from all over the country. Ms. Drue is a descendent of American Impressionist painter Fred Wagner (1860-1940) whose work is also represented at the Philadelphia Museum of Art. Centenary College named her Distinguished Alumni for her career in radio and television where she was an on-air personality and program producer for WMMR-FM and KYW-TV before getting involved in her photography business.

Harriet Ermentrout and **Vincent Ceglia** are featured artists in upcoming exhibitions at Coryell Gallery, 8 Coryell Street, Lambertville, NJ. Harriet's exhibition will run from October 5 through November 16, 2003. Vince's exhibition will start November 23 and continue through January 11, 2004. For information call (609) 397-0804.

Jim Freeman is part of a two artist exhibition entitled "Bugs, Rust and Decay, atypical landscapes," at the Artists' Gallery, 32 Coryell Street, Lambertville, NJ. The exhibition runs from September 5 through October 5, 2003. For information call (609) 397-4588.

Jack Gerber and **John Koomar** had paintings selected for a special exhibition that features twelve works by members of the Fellowship of the Pennsylvania Academy of the Fine Arts. The exhibition is on display at United Plaza, 30 South 17th Street, Philadelphia, and will be there for the next two years.

Betz Green has work currently on display at the Frederick Mennonite Community in Frederick, PA until October 27th. For information, contact Starr Darcy at (610) 754-8919 x239. Betz is also selling Iris print reproductions of her work. Contact Betz for further information; (215) 233-8945. She continues her position as Artist-In-Residence (cover illustrator) for the Montgomery County Town and Country Living Magazine.

Alan Klawans' new digital drawings (all in color) will be part of the "Two Guys Four Eyes" [he is sharing the gallery space with Taylor Oughton] exhibition at the Artists' Gallery, Lambertville, NJ. The exhibition opens with a reception on Saturday, October 11, from 2 to 7 PM. It continues through November 2, 2003. For information call (609) 397-4588.

Ed Letven and his wife **Sheila** have been invited to do a "two person show" at Radclyffe Gallery in Lahaska some time in November. This will be the first time that they have ever exhibited together. Sheila is a new member of the sketch club but has been exhibiting as a printmaker, painter and multi media artist for many many years. She is also exhibiting her "Cirque Fantastique," a multi-media installation featuring animal tamers, strongmen & woman, acrobats, and all the excitement of a travelling circus, at West Chester University. Mitchell Hall-The McKinney Art Gallery from September 10 to October 8.

Des McLean received two top Juror Recognition awards by Anne Fabbri in the Camden County Cultural & Heritage Commission, The Camden County Impressions Exhibition, which was on display from August through September.

Donald Meyer has four egg temperas in the members show at MCGOPA's galleries at the *Inquirer* building on River Road in Conshohocken from October 4 through November 17th. The opening reception on October 4 from 3pm - 7pm. There will also be two temperas in the Chester County Art Association's Annual Gala from October 18 through November 15.

Arthur Ostroff had two pieces accepted for the upcoming Works on Paper Show at the Perkins Center for the Arts: a large lithograph and a small water media work.

Pete Quarracino has been accepted to exhibit two paintings the 19th Annual Art Show and Gala Fundraiser at the Chester County Art Association, West Chester, PA from October 19 through November 15.

Grant Committee

The electrical engineer working with our architect recommends complete replacement of the electrical system rather than the upgrade specified in our Preservation Plan. The quote for this work is \$45,000 versus the plan of \$10,000. Masonry quote was also considerably higher than plan. Spot repair and repointing quote was \$52,284 with a \$47,000 add-on if we do 100% repointing. Contractor to requote based on doing 100% repointing in front of building. Higher than expected costs for these items will lessen amount of site drainage issues to be addressed and/or postpone addition of fire escape. Carpentry work to repair shutters and porch and the repainting of outside woodwork will also be done. We will keep you posted on further developments. Nevertheless, we will still be doing a significant amount of work to our dear old building. We did receive notice of an operating grant award from the Pennsylvania Council on the Arts in the amount of \$3,164 for 2003/2004. This is an increase from the \$1,582 received last year.

Who's That? Jack Gerber

Painter – Printmaker – May 19, 1927

I do consider myself – self-taught. I can't remember a time when I was not interested in drawing and painting. That's all I ever wanted to do.

Well there was the Graphic Sketch Club (Fleisher Memorial) – started at 13 – Saturday morning classes. Then a Board of Education scholarship to art school upon graduation from high school.

But first there was the U.S. Navy. I was drafted just as the Atom bomb was dropped. I called and was told, yes I would have to go anyway.

After about a year of service, I started at PCA. This lasted for about a year. It was not for me. I quit and went to work for a year finally convincing my parents that I really wanted to go to the Academy. So I went there for 4-5 years.

At that time I was going against the stream. [I] did not really get along there. I was, I guess, too hard headed. I had to learn at my own rate and in my own way.

Finally upon leaving the Academy was when my education really began. Reading, looking and trying – which is really what I still do today.

Next, I went to work for Triangle Publications in sort of a supervisory position in the Production end. And I stayed there for about 20 years until the Philadelphia plant was closed at the end of the 70's.

All that time it was like having two jobs, Triangle and my painting. After that time, I was able to devote all my time to art.

I was never really interested in teaching, but did a little in Art Centers in nearby New Jersey – Perkins and the South Jersey Center for the Arts.

Nor was I ever interested in doing commercial art. I felt that all that would spend my energies and I

would really not have time for my first interest.

The job I had at Triangle did not have to do with drawing and painting. It was critical work in the production of TV Guide, 17 magazine, etc. I did not have to spend my creative energies at it – so that was good for me.

With a small income, I was independent and I could continue to pursue my own tracks.

When Triangle closed, I then had time to start experimenting and to get involved with different art organizations in the city.

And it was then that I started to receive awards for my work. This was all very encouraging and it continues to this day. The Sketch Club is one of the many places where I showed my work.

It was great then for a that time there were a lot of separate shows for different media. Small oils, watercolor, pastel, prints, etc. These shows were all incentives to work in different media – even transparent watercolor which I took for a special challenge.

In recent years I've served on the Board of the Fellowship of the Pennsylvania Academy of the Fine Arts and for five years was their President. I ran many shows for the fellowship and the Watercolor club and other art associations. [I have] also juried many shows in the area.

All this activity was good for I was getting a lot of feedback from the community – and this is good for my years.

Now I am just pursuing my crafts and continuing my reading and looking – and painting. And that's me.

Biography as provided by Jack Gerber.

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.

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. Reservation and cancellations cutoff is 6pm on the Wednesday prior to the meeting night.

**Sunday – Tuesday;
Thursday – Saturday**
call after 3pm

Wednesday
anytime until 6pm*

**cutoff time for calling is 6pm on the Wednesday prior to the meeting night*

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.

For the information of new members, monthly dinner meetings include a social hour at 6pm, dinner at 7pm and an after dinner speaker.



PSC PORTFOLIO

235 South Camac Street, Philadelphia, PA 19107-5608

NEXT DINNER MEETING: OCTOBER 10TH

News for the Newsletter?

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

Via e-mail:
sketchnews@yahoo.com

Via regular mail:
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.

Copy deadline for the November issue: October 23rd

Exhibitions

3rd Annual Legacy Show

Last season's Legacy Show (in which the Members offered small works for Holiday shopping for the benefit of the Club restoration) doubled its sales from the prior year. This year, with a goal of "re-doubled" success, we're going to get an early start on advertising this fundraising event to a much broader public, so you'll see ads – but don't forget, the best advertising is word-of-mouth! Mark your calendars for Sunday, November 30 and alert your friends and patrons about attending the 3rd Annual Legacy Show with their check books and gift lists!

From the e-mailbag

The Works of Pennsylvania Painters & The New Hope Circle

Celebrating nearly 25 years of buying and selling Pennsylvania and Bucks County art and the gallery's three-year anniversary in New Hope, Pennsylvania, Gratz Gallery & Conservation Studio will be presenting *The Works of Pennsylvania Painters & The New Hope Circle* in anticipation of the coming opening of the James A. Michener Art Museum – New Hope. The benefit exhibition will feature 18th, 19th and 20th century oils and watercolors by Pennsylvania painters including **Daniel Garber, N.C. Wyeth, Robert Spencer, Edward Redfield, Fern Coppedge, Cora Brooks** and many others. The exhibition chronicles a collection of paintings spanning over two centuries of works by Pennsylvania painters, from **Thomas Sully, Hermann Herzog** and **William Lathrop** to **Harry Leith-Ross, Peter Cook** and **Joseph Crilley**. The exhibition will be on display from Sunday, October 12 through Sunday, November 16, 2003. A preview reception will be held Saturday, October 11th, 6 to 9 pm. A portion of all proceeds from this sale will be donated to the museum. Gratz Gallery & Conservation Studio, 30 West Bridge Street, New Hope, PA. The gallery is open Wednesdays through Saturdays, 10:00 a.m. - 6:00 p.m. and Sundays, 12:00 noon - 6:00 p.m., as well as by appointment. Call 215-862-4300 or visit the website at www.gratzgallery.com.